

Handicap International Belgium Road Safety Program

**Mekong Express
March-April, 2010**

1. Support to Government on Road Safety Management



Under a partial support from HIB, on 27 April 2010, NRSC secretariat conducted training for Kandal Provincial Road Safety Committee (PRSC) on Road Traffic Injuries (RTIs). The training was organized within the compound of the Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport, and was attended by members of PRSC secretariat and trainers at district level.

Remarkably, the training targeted only members of PRSC secretariat, but trainers at district level also attended due to their high appreciation on the training.

2. Road Safety Awareness:

Press Conference on Road Safety

On 2nd April 2010 at Imperial Garden Hotel, Road Safety Program organized a press conference on Dissemination of RCVIS Annual Report and the Research on Cost Analysis of Road Crash in Cambodia in 2009 chaired by H.E. Touch Chan Kosal – Secretariat of State of Ministry of Public Works and Transport and, also, First Deputy Director of the NRSC. There were 74 participants including of honorable guests and reporters. Based on the report, 1717 were killed, which was 4% increased compared to the previous year. The report also found that the road crashes cost Cambodia USD248 millions in 2009. Jeroen Stol – Country Director of HIB in Cambodia mentioned that the amount lost was much more than fund invested in road safety activity in Cambodia.



Photo contest on road safety in Cambodia

In order to promote road safety amongst road users, especially vulnerable road users (youths), and to contribute to the Road Safety Week, HIB organized a photo contest on “Road Safety in Cambodia”. The contest



lasted the whole March 2010. There were 359 pictures submitted to the contest and 27 pictures were selected by a committee consisted of relevant ministries, NRSC, HIB, and professional photographer for prizes.

The selected pictures were exhibited during the National Road Safety Week event, which was held in Siem Reap provincial town in early of April this year.

3. Road Safety Education:

Road Safety Program organized training on Road Safety Curriculum for private lower secondary school teachers in Phnom Penh from 23-24 April, 2010. The training was held in Phnom Penh Pedagogical Center in collaboration with the MoEYS, NRSC, MoI, MPWT, and Phnom Penh Department of Education, Youth, and Sports. 133 participants from 33 schools (out of 36 schools in



Phnom Penh) participated in the two-day training. More than 26,000 copies of student books (grade 7, 8 and 9), teachers' books and other supported materials were distributed. All representatives showed their high commitment in implementing the curriculum at their school because they believed that it would be useful to teach students on how to travel safely, and at the same time, it could show good image of their school on promoting road safety.

4. Community Based Education:

During Khmer New Year, Road Safety Ambassadors (RoSA) in 8 target communes have organized road safety awareness to his/her villagers on Don't Drink and Drive message. Vulnerable road users, from 16-30 years old, were particularly targeted. Mobile loudspeakers were primary tools to aware people during this period. As Road Safety tapes were distributed, each commune road safety commission could spread the message to people effectively. Even most people could not join the awareness raise by RoSA, they still were able to get the message through mobile loudspeaker.

It was a great success that 2 of above communes were highly motivated and deeply concerned about safety of their people. They showed their responsibilities to all people through creative planning and implementing activities; and notably, all of them used their own commune's funds to support those activities. However, HIB and CRY still provided technical assistance for the most effective actions.