



មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលសិក្សាគោលនយោបាយ  
CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES  
FOR CAMBODIA DEVELOPMENT



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AIP Foundation launches the results of the Feasibility Study providing practical solutions to address dangerous garment and footwear factory transport in Cambodia**

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia – October 4, 2021

As a breadwinner for your family, your goal is to make sure they are always fully cared for. However, no one should be forced to risk their lives to serve warm food at the table. This is the reality more than 700,000 factory workers face every day in Cambodia. Road crashes do not only impact the lives of workers, but also the lives of the 2 million family members they support.

In April 2021, AIP Foundation, with support from VF Corporation, officially launched the Feasibility Study for the *Prevention & Participation* (P&P) program with the Centre for Policy Studies. The Feasibility Study aimed to examine and identify best methods and practices to transition from unsafe collective transport to safer alternatives thereby saving lives.

We are now delighted to announce the virtual consultative meeting on **‘the Results of the Feasibility Study on the options to facilitate the transition to safer passenger (factory workers) transport vehicles’** which will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. This consultative meeting aims:

- to present and gather feedback on the results of and recommendations from the feasibility study;
- to discuss the challenges and opportunities in implementing the recommendations from the feasibility study, in particular, seeking the possibility to transition from flatbed cargo trucks to safer vehicles (van/bus/minibus or at least proper seats.) for factory workers;
- to identify the priority which is in line with the government’s plan for transitioning to safer vehicles;
- to explore funding sources to support the options to transition to safer vehicles.

Representatives from the National Road Safety Committee, Ministry of Public Works and Transportation, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training-National Social Security Fund, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Economy and Finance, the General Commissariat of National Police, and government bodies from sub-national level, industrial stakeholders, civil society organizations, will be in attendance.

AIP Foundation, VF Corporation, Solidary Center and, Centre for Policy Studies, will also welcome the attendance of representatives from the private sector, development partners, trade unions and driver associations, garment and footwear brands and factory management staff and Road Safety Working Groups.

The feedback will be framed by the following two discussion topics; the challenges and opportunities in implementing the recommendations from the feasibility study and the priorities which are in line with the government’s plan for transitioning to safer vehicles as well as funding sources to support the options to transition to safer vehicles.

“The Consultative meeting will engage both stakeholders and road safety leaders to provide experienced advice and practical solutions. The results of the Feasibility study mark a milestone in safeguarding the lives of factory workers who commute daily,” shared Mr. Kim Pagna, AIP Foundation Country Director in Cambodia.

Mr. William Conklin, Solidary Center Cambodia Country Program Director shared, “this meeting is pivotal, as it brings together multi-sector experience and interest in addressing systemic transport issues, including creating safer vehicles, affecting Cambodia’s many factory workers”. AIP Foundation and VF Corporation will use the results of the study and the solutions and improvements drawn from the consultative meeting to implement strategies and activities moving forward.

“The results of the Feasibility Study represent a new opportunity for real life-saving change on the ground by transitioning to safer vehicles for vulnerable road users”, said Graham Cronshaw, VF Corporation Country Director in Cambodia.

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### **About the P&P Program**

The P&P program, which will take place between 2020 and 2024, will be progressively implemented at 13 factories supplying VF Corporation, reaching approximately 41,000 workers and drivers across 6 provinces. The program aims to improve worker transport (vehicle and driver licensing), reduce dangerous driver behaviours like overtaking, distracted driving, and non-helmet wearing, and improve infrastructure and traffic management around factories. AIP Foundation will continue to work with the government for policy and legislative change. In addition, AIP Foundation will build capacity and factory support to own and sustain initiatives and identify and implement measures that promote the transition to safe and seated passenger vehicles, driven by appropriately qualified drivers.

### **About VF Corporation**

Founded in 1899, VF Corporation is one of the world’s largest apparel, footwear and accessories companies connecting people to the lifestyles, activities and experiences they cherish most through a family of iconic outdoor, active and workwear brands including *Vans*®, *The North Face*®, *Timberland*® and *Dickies*®. Our purpose is to power movements of sustainable and active lifestyles for the betterment of people and our planet. We connect this purpose with a relentless drive to succeed to create value for all stakeholders and use our company as a force for good. For more information, please visit [vfc.com](http://vfc.com)

### **About AIP Foundation**

AIP Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low and middle-income countries. For more than 20 years, AIP Foundation has been delivering effective road safety programs in locations across Asia and Africa. To find out more, visit [www.aip-foundation.org](http://www.aip-foundation.org) or connect with us on Twitter @AIPFoundation.

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