



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Empowering youth in Thailand: Opening of the first Road Safety Center for immersive learning for secondary students

SONGKHLA, Thailand – June 13, 2022

To achieve the target Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents, *Chevron Street Wise* program will celebrate the launch of the first Road Safety Learning Center for secondary students in Thailand, at the Woranari Chaloeem secondary school.

The *Chevron Street Wise* program is inherently aligned with the Global Plan as part of the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021 – 2030 and Thailand's National Road Safety plan. At the core of this program, all activities engage our youth to be a part of the solution to empower safer road users. Because safe mobility and easy commuting to school are at the heart of access to education.

Road Safety context in Thailand

Children are one of the most vulnerable road users. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death for children and young adults (5-29 years old) globally. In Thailand, according to a Ministry of Public Health report assessing the impact of road crashes between 2011 to 2019, over 26,000 children had died in a motorcycle crash and 265,758 were injured on the roads.

The main victims were the age group of 15-19 years, followed by the age group of 10-14 years. Among them, 72% learned to drive a motorcycle from family members and friends, 87% did not pass the safety training, 86% did not have a driving license, and 55% had motorcycle crashes on 100-110 CC.

The Woranari Chaloeem school, a new project school of the program, is located in a city with dense traffic. This unsafe environment highly impacts the commuting of vulnerable road users, including school children and pedestrians. Students come to schools by different means - 20% have their own motorcycles, 30% walk to school, 50% use public transport - and we have to protect them all by engaging them more.

Youth engagement for road safety

Youth engagement is critical to building sustainable community impact. Today's youth are more interconnected - absorbing the world's knowledge, expressing themselves passionately, and fighting for positive change around the world. The *Chevron Street Wise* program has already reached more than 1.3 million views in Thailand through the tiktok challenge 'Safe travel to school' involving primary and secondary schools nationwide.



PRESENTS

Mrs. Pornsuree Konanta, Corporate Affairs Manager at Chevron, shared "Youth empowerment and engagement should always be at the heart of initiatives to improve global road safety. Young people are effective advocates for road safety among their peers when they have access to engaging and interactive programs and resources. Thus, giving them interactive tools to learn independently and speak up about road safety is of utmost importance'.

Road Safety Learning Centers

The Road Safety Learning Centers are designed as an interactive road safety teaching area, to raise road safety awareness among the secondary students at the school. Students will be able to explore hands-on different road safety topics such as 'how to be safe on the road' at the newly installed *Chevron Street Wise* Road Safety Learning Center.

The Road Simulation establishes an innovative road safety teaching tool for the students. Through the simulation, students will be able to practice life-saving road safety skills and learn how to be safe when traveling to and from school. In secondary school, the program focuses on riding safety and regulations regarding driving licenses.

Fah*, Grade 11 student and Student Council President, shared "The established Road Safety Learning Center is very interesting and helpful. Because it is realistic with various lights, bright colors, attractive, and suitable for setting up in school. This year we have a Student Council of 30 members, who are sharing the responsibility of overseeing the Center. We will also rotate to educate children and students who are interested in road safety information."

This first Road Safety Learning Center at Woranari Chaloeem secondary school will be managed by the students themselves, under the responsibility of the Student Council. The students will use the Road Safety Learning Center as a common area, where they can enjoy participative activities, experiment road simulations, and test their road safety knowledge together.

**Pseudonym has been used in accordance with AIP Foundation's Child Protection Policy & Code of Conduct and upholding article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of The Child*

At the launching ceremony, AIP Foundation will be honored to welcome:

- Mrs.Pornsuree Konanta, Corporate Affairs Manager at Thailand Exploration and Production Co., Ltd.
- Mr. Jetsada Jitrat, Governor of Songkhla Province
- Mr. Anan Phudgate, Director of Woranari Chaloeem School

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About Chevron Street Wise Program

Chevron Thailand has partnered with AIP Foundation since 2014 to implement the *Chevron Street Wise* program to create a safer environment for road users – especially young children – through education, awareness-raising, as well as stakeholder and community engagement. The project has benefited more than 30,000 children, parents, teachers, and community members who have demonstrated improved road safety knowledge and skills.

About AIP Foundation

For over 23 years, AIP Foundation non-profit organization has been dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low and middle-income countries. For over 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 or connect with us on Twitter @AIPFoundation. <https://www.aip-foundation.org/>

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