



Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Best Practice and Experience Sharing Workshop on the Importance of Improving Commuting Safety for Cambodian Workers

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia – December 1, 2023

As part of the *Commuting Safety for Cambodian Workers (CSCW)* program, funded by USAID and in partnership with Solidarity Center, AIP Foundation cordially invites you to join the Best Practice and Experience Sharing Workshop on December 1st, 2023. This will be the concluding workshop of the CSCW program.

Cambodia's garment sector growth over the last decade has been impressive. The sector contributes to more than 70% of Cambodia's total exports and increased from \$962 million in 2000 to more than \$11.2 billion in 2021. However, worker safety has lagged behind due in no small part to the hazards of commuting to work, which have resulted in high numbers of injuries and fatalities. The daily commute to and from work puts the lives of more than 870,000 Cambodian garment and footwear industry workers working at over 1,000 factories across the country at risk.

The National Social Security Fund reported 3,275 road accidents involving garment and footwear factory workers, almost 4,000 workers were injured and more than 63 died when commuting to and from work in 2022. The collective vehicles they rely on for daily transport are often overcrowded, unregistered, and not properly maintained. Yet, a majority of factories do not have a policy in place to ensure commuting safety for workers.

Join us for a full-day event aimed at highlighting the best practices of program-supported factories and special economic zones (SEZ) that can be replicated by other factories and/or SEZs struggling to improve road safety conditions. The workshop will bring together stakeholders in the program's implementation to highlight the successful activities and methods of model factories at the conclusion of the CSCW program.

What: Best Practice and Experience Sharing Workshop as part of the *Commuting Safety for Cambodia Workers* program

Who: H.E Minister of Labour and Vocational Training (TBC)

H.E Mrs. Min Meanvy, Secretary of State of Public Works and Transport and Secretary-General of the National Road Safety Committee (TBC)

Senior Representative from Solidarity Center

Mr. Kim Pagna, Cambodia Country Director of AIP Foundation

Participants from government institutions, development partners, civil society actors, private sector, trade union representatives, representatives from program factories and relevant stakeholders.

When: Friday, December 1st 2023

Where: Himawari Hotel, Phnom Penh, Sisowath Quay, 12207 Cambodia (TBC)

Why: The objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- To showcase successful models for safe commuting with a focus on the outcomes and overall assessment of *CSCW*, as well as share overall best practices, highlight program activities, and provide a platform for speakers to voice how *CSCW* has helped unions and road safety.
- To highlight the successful activities and methods of model factories at the conclusion of the *CSCW* program.
- To focus on the promotion, outcomes, and sustainability of the Road Safety Policy.

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About USAID

USAID was founded in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy and serves as the lead agency of the U.S. Government for foreign assistance. Since 1992, USAID has invested over \$1 billion toward Cambodia's development.

About The Solidarity Center

The Solidarity Center is the largest U.S.-based international worker rights organization helping workers attain safe and healthy workplaces, family-supporting wages, dignity on the job and greater equity at work and in their community.

About AIP Foundation

AIP Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low and middle-income countries. For over 24 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://twitter.com/AIPFoundation).

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