



The Road Traffic Injuries Research Network is pleased to announce the successful participating sites for its first multi-centre research study:

“Facilitating Reductions in Non-Standard Motorcycle Helmet Use”.

After issuing a call for proposals in April, we were overwhelmed by responses from more than 30 institutions. To ensure a very transparent and equitable review of applications, we firstly identified all Conflicts of Interest with respect to Board members and the Secretariat. These individuals were then excluded from the development of the selection criteria and the subsequent selection process.

Each application was scored by two independent reviewers based on 10 selection criteria. These included but were not limited to: the academic qualification of the principal investigator; having RTI research experience including demonstrated experience with road side surveys; the ability of the institution to establish multi-disciplinary workgroups; having access to research tools and support including an ethics review board; and the host institution's capacity to manage funds.

Additionally, as there were multiple applications from a number of countries, a further criteria that was applied - in the interests of ensuring a truly international study - was that only the highest scoring application from each country would be funded.

While originally we had anticipated funding 5 participating sites, with the support of additional funds from WHO and the World Bank, we have been able to support a further 5 sites.

The successful ten countries, institutions and principal investigators are listed below:

- **CHINA:** The China-Australia Partnership for Health, The George Institute for International Health (Principal Investigator: Dr. James Yu)
- **GHANA:** The Building and Road Research Institute (Principal Investigator: Dr. Francis Afukaar)
- **INDIA:** The National Institutes of Mental Health and Neurosciences (Principal Investigator: Dr. G. Gururaj)
- **MALYASIA:** University Putra Malaysia & University of Malaya (Principal Investigator: Dr. Kulanthayan Mani)
- **MEXICO:** The National Institute of Public Health of Mexico (Principal Investigator: Ms. Elisa Hidalgo Solorzano)
- **NIGERIA:** College of Medicine, University of Ibadan (Principal Investigator: Dr. Eme Owoaje)
- **PAKISTAN:** Aga Khan University (Principal Investigator: Dr. Junaid Razzak)

- **SRI LANKA:** University of Peradeniya (Principal Investigator: Dr. Samath Dharmaratne)
- **THAILAND:** Faculty of Public Health, Thammasat University
(Principal Investigator: Dr. Nuntavarn Vichit-Vadakan)
- **VIETNAM:** Hanoi Department of Public Health (Principal Investigator: Dr. Tuan Pham)

Please join us in congratulating these institutions and investigators on their successful bids to be participating centres in the network's multi-centre study. Data collection for this research is expected to begin in early 2007 and finalization of the study projected to occur by the end of that year. The RTIRN looks forward to presenting the results of this study in the near future.

Finally, our thanks to the other institutions and investigators that submitted applications. We are disappointed that we could not fund you all, but look forward to working with you in the future and to engaging with other partners in conducting road traffic injury research.

For more information about RTIRN please go to <http://www.rtim.net/>