Motorcycles make up 70% of the vehicles involved in road traffic crashes in Cambodia and account for most of the traffic-related deaths. Three-quarters of these motorbike fatalities suffer serious head injuries. Pedestrians are the second most vulnerable group, representing 13% of all road fatalities.

In early 2009 a new order came into force in Cambodia to increase the enforcement of existing traffic laws, including the law requiring motorcycle helmet use. Following the enactment of this order, helmet wearing increased from 45% in January 2009 to 65% at the end of 2009. Nonetheless, helmet wearing remains low among motorcycle passengers while rates among drivers are lower during dusk and night time periods.

Drink-driving is considered to be an important concern in the country. While the precise contribution of alcohol to road traffic crashes is not known, an estimated 12% of road crashes and 17% of all road traffic fatalities involve alcohol. Young people are considered to be at high risk, notably during the evening and night time.

Road traffic crashes kill approximately 1,717 people in Cambodia each year, with most of these fatalities (over 60%) occurring among riders of motorized two- and three-wheelers. Data over the last 5 years show a doubling in the number of road traffic fatalities while the number of registered vehicles has increased by 142%.
The overall goal of RS10 Cambodia is to support the Cambodian Government in the implementation of their national objectives to prevent death and serious injury on the country’s roads. The focus will be on increasing motorcycle helmet use and reducing drink–driving particularly during the evening and night time periods.

The objectives of the project in Cambodia are to:

- Develop or strengthen road safety legislation as it relates to drink–driving and helmet use;
- Increase public awareness around the two risk factors through the development and implementation of a mass media campaign;
- Improve enforcement in the three project sites through capacity development and training as well as increase the perceived level of enforcement;
- Increase the capacity of local organizations to advocate and raise awareness about road safety and targeted interventions; and
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of the interventions.

Activities to be implemented during the first phase (2010–2011) of the project include:

- Strengthening the enforcement capacity for drink–driving and helmet use through a series of workshops and other training programmes for police.
- Advocating, educating and communicating to the general public about drink–driving and helmet use through appropriate social marketing strategies and expanded enforcement programmes.
- Building capacity about road safety for professionals.

**Drink–driving law**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BAC limit – general population</th>
<th>0.05 g/dl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Random breath testing and/or police checkpoints</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road traffic deaths involving alcohol (estimate)</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Helmet law**

| Set nationally | Yes |
| Applies to all riders | Yes |
| Helmet standard mandated | No |

**Phnom Penh Municipality**

Population (2009): 2,000,064

**Kandal Province**

Population (2008): 1,265,085

**Kampong Speu Province**


The boundaries shown on the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the WHO concerning the legal status of the country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

**International Consortium partners:**

**WHO**  
Responsible for overall coordination of the consortium partners; providing financial and technical support to elements relating to social marketing, enforcement operations, legislative review and revision and the procurement of enforcement equipment.

**GRSP**  
Responsible for capacity development.

**JHU**  
Responsible for ongoing monitoring and impact/outcome evaluation of the programme.

All consortium partners will provide technical support to the Government of Cambodia throughout the implementation of the programme.

**National partners:**

- National Road Safety Committee
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Public Works and Transport
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
- Phnom Penh Municipal Police
- Handicap International Belgium
- Cambodia Red Cross

**National partners:**

**Source:**  
Global status report on road safety, WHO, 2009  

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