



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET
Department of Public Health Sciences
Division of Social Medicine



WHO COLLABORATING
CENTRE
ON
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION

SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

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***** LETTER FROM THE EDITOR*****

Welcome to the twelfth issue of Safe Community Weekly News, the electronic Safe Community Weekly News will be send from Harstad - Norway on behalf of Safe Communities Network.

WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

In this issue:

- CONFERENCE: 13th Int. Safe Community Conference. Prague, Czech.
- SEMINAR: 1st National Seminar on IP and Safe Communities in Laos.
- CONFERENCE: 2nd Asian Regional Conference on Safe Communities.
- INQUIRY: Successful Community Safety Programs.
- GUIDE: Safety in Life Settings: A Guide for Québec Municipalities.

Planning The XIII:th International Safe Community Conference in Prague 2004 is fully underway – getting strong support from Ministry of Health.

The Centre for Childhood Injury Epidemiology and Prevention in Czech Republic has invited the International Safe Community group to share their XIII:th International Conference with the Safe Community development in Czech Republic! The Conference is to be held 2-4 June 2004 just before the International Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion Conference in Vienna, Austria, 6-9th June.



Senator Sona Paukrtova.



Dr Michal Grivna, Minister of Health Dr Marie Souckova,
Dr Alena Steflova and Mr Guldbrand Skjönberg.

The planning is fully underway and at the visit of the Chair of WHO CC Community Safety Promotion, Leif Svanström, and the Head of the Nacka Safe Community in Sweden, Guldbrand Skjönberg the details were discussed. There are also special plans to organise a s.c. Safe Community Travelling Seminar and a Safe Schools Seminar involving Kromeriz – the most developed program in the Czech republic.

The Minister of Health – Dr Marie Souckova – and Dr Alena Steflova – Head of the Division of the Health Developing and Preventive Programs expressed fully their support for injury prevention/ Safe Communities and next years’ conference. Also Senator Sona Paukrtova, Committee on national Economy, agriculture and Transport expressed great interest in Safe Community development!

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1st National Seminar on Injury Prevention and Safe Communities in Laos 12-13 March 2003.



Participants:

- From Ministry of Health: Dept of Curative Medicine, Food and Drug Dept, Hygiene Dept., Budgeting and Planning Dept., Dept. of Personal and Organisation, Inspection Dept.
- From National Institute of Public Health.
- From Hospitals: Mahosot Hospital, Friendship Hospital, Mother & Child Hospital, Hospital 103(Military), Hospital 109 (Police), Orthopaedic Centre, Skin Disease Centre, Eye Treatment Centre, Tuberculosis Centre,
- From Schools: Medical Science Faculty, Health Technology School.
- From Ministries: Communication and Transportation Ministry, Ministry of Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior, dept. of Sport
- From NGO:s: Lao Women Union.
- From local Communities: Health Dept of Municipality, Vientiane Province, Luongprabang Province, Savannakhet Province & Champassack Province.



The Seminar was opened by Dr Somnone Phounsavath, Director of DCM, MoH.



He gave an overview over the injury problem, how wide it is, but he also expressed an optimistic view on the possibility of prevention. He finally introduced Professor Leif Svanström who gave an introduction into the concepts of Injury and Safety. Dr Kongsap Akkhavong, Deputy Director of the NIOPH described the injury panorama in Laos, based on a recent household survey.

Three presenters from hospitals gave their experience based on hospital- based injury surveillance:



**Dr Bounkong Sihavong,
Deputy Director of Mahosot
Hospital.**

**Dr Vanhliam Bualavong,
Deputy Director of Friendship
Hospital.**

**Dr Khampe Phongsavath,
Deputy Director of
Setthathirath Hospital.**

The dominating injury problem: All the initial presenters agreed upon traffic injury being the fastest growing problem in Laos. They quoted international statistics showing Laos as second among traffic injury in Asia. According to one study 80% of all traffic injuries are motorcycle related. This corresponds well with the fact that 77% of the registered motorised vehicles are motorcycles (Year 2000). On motorcycles only 5% wear helmets. Only 1% of the injuries were car related in that study.

The last years have seen a 7% yearly growth of GNP leading to increased possibilities to buy motorised vehicles. Now with Chinese vehicles replacing Thai vehicles to half the price there will be even bigger growth. In Laos every day 20 cases of motor vehicle accidents occur every day – predominantly motorbikes.

The first day of the Seminar was concluded by a presentation by Mr Thongvanh Phetthaviseng, Director of Road Traffic Safety Division, representing the Ministry of Communication and Transportation. He focussed on in spite of infrastructure investment in roads etc. they lack serious resources for transport injury prevention.



The second day of the seminar was started by a presentation on the Social Security System of Laos by Dr Vanxay Souvannamethy, Deputy Chief of Health Insurance Division.

The rest of the morning was related to presentations on Safe Community strategies and indicators by Professor Leif Svanström. In the afternoon there were group works related to

1. How to set up a national Injury Prevention/ Safe Community program?
2. How to develop local Safe Community programs?

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2nd Asian Regional Conference on Safe Communities

Institute of Child and Mother Health (ICMH)

Dhaka, Bangladesh

15 – 17 February, 2004

Dr. AKM Fazlur Rahman
Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Institute of Child and Mother Health (ICMH)
Matuail, Dhaka 1362, Bangladesh
Fax: +880-2-7512672
Email: fazlur@citechco.net

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INQUIRY:

SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMS?

Dian Hudson from The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Division of Safety Research, Alaska Field Station is looking for examples of unusual partnerships, or new safety promotion ideas that I can share with others in the next year.

Diana is willing to ask the people who works with safety promotion if they would email her an example of two of the community safety programs in their area that they are most proud of?

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

Diana Hudson MPH
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Division of Safety Research, Alaska Field Station
4230 University Drive, Suite 310
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Email: dhh8@cdc.gov

SAFETY IN LIFE SETTINGS : A GUIDE FOR QUÉBEC MUNICIPALITIES

Safety : a Right for Citizens and Families; an Added Value for Municipalities

Safety is one of the fundamental elements which concern the families. A safe municipality makes life more pleasant for the families living there and is likely to attract new citizens and new families on its territory. In fact, municipalities generally hold the levers of intervention necessary to enhance the safety of the population. Each municipal service has a role to play in the development of safe life settings.

A Guide to Enhance Safety

Considering the problems of safety experienced in municipalities, the importance of safety in the eyes of the community, and capacities that members of the town council hold, this Guide suggests a process which a municipality can set up to enhance the safety of the population living on its territory. It emphasizes the role of consultation, dialogue, engagement of the milieu, and partnership.

This Guide is a tool to counter the difficulties related to safety enhancement. It is intended for the actors concerned with safety enhancement of the population within each municipality. More specifically, it is addressed to the mayors, advisers and city councillors, local government officers, partners of the municipality, as well as to the citizens, and the families.

The Guide was designed so that each municipality which chooses to use it, large or small, urban or rural, with or without serious problems of safety, can be inspired by it.

The following is to inform you that the Guide on how to improve safety in life settings that we developed for municipalities have been translated in English and is now available in pdf. format on the

This is how to get to the document:

Go to the web site of the Institut national de santé publique du Québec. www.inspq.qc.ca go to the right hand side of the window and then down until you find the title "[Safety in life settings](#)".

The guide is also available in French on the site : from the home page, click on "Documentation", then on "Recherche de publication", [Sécurité dans les milieux de vie - Guide à l'intention des municipalités du Québec](#)

Please send your activities, programs and reports via post/ e-mail to the editor: Yousif Rahim yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no,

Yousif Rahim
project leader "Safe Community"
Phone: +47 770 27 138 / 971 44 182
Fax: +47 770 27 101
E-mail: yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no
<http://www.harstad.kommune.no/om-harstad/Safe-Com-eng.htm>
<http://www.safecommunity.net/>
