



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET  
Department of Public Health Sciences  
Division of Social Medicine



WHO COLLABORATING  
CENTRE  
ON  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION

## SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

NO. 2

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

Welcome to the second 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:

- **PROGRAM: Safe Community Development in Laos.**
- **WORKSHOP: International Safe Schools Activities. Hong Kong**
- **NEWSLETTER: Danish Newsletter on Injury Prevention & Research.**

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### Laos to be the next Safe Community development Asian Country?



Laos is a poor country where also Injury is a problem. In a recent National Health Survey it was established that traffic injuries was among the ten leading causes of hospital admissions in 1996. Traffic answered to 36 percent , home to 24 percent , work place to 14 percent and 26 percent to other causes.

Injury prevention falls under the Department of Curative Medicine at the Ministry of Health, where Dr Somphone Phounsavath is the responsible senior surgeon. He expressed his interest in further future co-operation within the field of Injury Prevention and Safe Community development.



Dr Somphone Phounsavath at the Ministry of Health.

The responsibility for preventive programs and health promotion also falls under the newly established National Institute of Public Health. The Deputy Director Dr Kongsap Akkhavong expressed his interest in a future Injury Prevention/ Safe Community Seminar with interested colleagues in Laos, but also co-operation with Vietnam.



Dr Sivong Sengaloundeth, Prof Leif Svanström & Dr Kongsap Akkhavong outside the newly established National Institute of Public Health.



Salt production workers in Laos.

**International Safe Communities Conference 12**  
**Hong Kong, China 18 March – 20 March**  
**INTERNATIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES**



Max Vosskuhler (Back Left) with Children from Kathryn Hughes Elementary in San Jose California  
Performing for a Contingent from Japan visiting to learn about PeaceBuilders Program.

When the Safe Communities Movement gathers together in Hong Kong this March, we will be bringing a strong focus on Schools through the work and energies of the International Safe Schools Committee, a project in collaboration with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institute. Several events of special note are planned.

The first is the unveiling of: The *Indicators of Safe Schools*. During an hour-long session Professor Leif Svanström, Moä Sundström, Max Vosskuhler and Ellen Schmidt will review the proposed Indicators for International Safe Schools and seek discussion and input.

Second, will be the *1<sup>st</sup> International Educational Leaders Panel on International Safe Schools*. The Committee is in the process of inviting educational leaders from schools throughout the world to join us in Hong Kong to participate on this distinguished panel that will help guide and provide input into the Safe Schools process. We ask that their local municipalities support the leaders in attending the conference and panel. If you have someone you would like to nominate, please contact Max Vosskuhler – [maxvosskuhler@peacefulresources.org](mailto:maxvosskuhler@peacefulresources.org) or Ellen Schmidt – [eschmidt@edc.org](mailto:eschmidt@edc.org), Co-chairs of the International Safe Schools Committee, as soon as possible.

Additionally, committee members and leaders are presenting papers on numerous subjects, such as: the underpinnings of unintentional and intentional injury as it relates to schools and children, what works in schools to prevent these injuries, and how prevention also translates into better academic performance and overall health and why.

Finally, a meeting of the International Safe Schools Committee will be held on 17 March. The time and location are to be determined. Please contact Max Vosskuhler or Ellen Schmidt for more information.

Please join us in Hong Kong to learn how Safe Schools can support your community's effort in becoming safer.

## Danish Newsletter on Injury Prevention & Research



Since year 2000, the National Institute of Public Health has published a Newsletter on Injury Prevention & Research, issued three times annually. The Newsletter covers topics on all types of accidents including accident/injury research and experiences gained in projects on injury intervention. The aim of the Newsletter is to coordinate information and knowledge about injury prevention and research, in order to raise awareness of this issue in general, and to provide a forum for prevention practitioners to share knowledge on current activities as well as providing information on their own projects and ideas.

The target group for the Newsletter is primarily researchers, prevention practitioners, authorities, politicians and other decision-makers, and the news media. The Newsletter also provides news related to the accident and injury sphere in the Nordic countries, the EU and other parts of the world.

We would be happy to receive contributions relating to injury prevention & research from the Nordic countries and others as well. Interested parties may subscribe to the Newsletter (free of charge) by sending their name and address to [ham@niph.dk](mailto:ham@niph.dk) - you will then be included in the mailing list. You may also subscribe to the electronic version of the Newsletter on [www.si-folkesundhed.dk/cuf](http://www.si-folkesundhed.dk/cuf).

The next issue of the Danish Newsletter will be published in April 2003. Deadline is 3 March 2003.

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

<http://www.harstad.kommune.no/om-harstad/Safe-Com-eng.htm>  
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