Research Project: “…………………………………”

Information for potential participants

We are from the [Insert DPO or self-help group name].

In partnership with …………………… and the University of Melbourne (Australia), we are undertaking a study for research purposes to determine how people with disabilities are participating in road planning in ………… and how roads are impacting on their lives.

We would like to invite you to participate in this research project. We invite you to participate in a number of activities over the next four weeks including group discussions, a group walk around your community, taking photographs with a camera (which we will provide you), and making a poster out of these photos. A member of the research team will visit this village on four separate occasions to run these activities. Participants will meet the researcher at [insert meeting point here]. Group discussions will take no longer than 2 hours; the walk will be no longer than 90 minutes; participants will have the camera for a whole week to take photos during their daily activities; and finally making the poster will take approximately 1 hour.

These activities will provide information about how people with disabilities currently use roads in your community and the things they like and dislike about the roads and other infrastructure.

The findings from this study will be used to develop guidelines on disability inclusion in road planning and development in ……………, and there will be tools and trainings developed for road and disability stakeholders. The findings will also be included in a research report and may be published at a later date. Participants will receive a copy of the poster at the end of the study, and you are welcome to access a copy of the research report once complete.
Participation in this study is voluntary. If you decide to participate, you can do so independently, with support from your parent or guardian, or your parent or guardian could participate on your behalf. If you decide to participate, you are also free to withdraw from the research activities at any stage. If you decide not to participate or chose to withdraw from the study, you will not be disadvantaged in any way and will still have the same access to all the services and support of [insert DPO or self-help group name].

Group discussions will be audio recorded to ensure that we make an accurate record. Your name and contact details will be kept in a separate from any information that you supply during the study and we will remove any references which might allow someone to guess your identity. The findings from these research activities will be combined with findings from other communities, as well as findings from research with road decision-makers. We will store the recordings and notes from these research activities for 5 years in the University of Melbourne, after which they will be destroyed.

This project has been approved by the Health Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) at the University of Melbourne in Australia. If you would like to contact the HREC, please contact the Executive Officer, Human Research Ethics, University of Melbourne on phone: +61 83442073 or fax: +61 93476739.

If you would like to speak to someone locally about the conduct of this study, please contact ..........(Research Officer) on +675 ### ###.

Thank you for your time.

Principal Investigator:
Associate Professor ########, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne: (email@unimelb.edu.au)

Other researchers:
Ms ########, Institute for ########, University of Melbourne: email2@unimelb.edu.au

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