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REGIONAL APPROACHES TO HIV AND MOBILITY IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

Submitted by: CSEARHAP

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CSEARHAP – REGIONAL APPROACHES TO HIV AND MOBILITY IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

Nguyen Hoang Diep CSEARHAP

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CANADA SOUTH EAST ASIA REGIONAL HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

CSEARHAP (see RHAP) n.

- An initiative sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).
- 2. A four-country programme serving regional HIV/AIDS prevention partners.
- 3. A programme specifically targeting mobile and migrant populations.



Project Background

- Goal: To reduce HIV vulnerability of migrants and mobile populations (MMP) in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS).
- Purpose: To strengthen the national response of Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Lao PDR by operationalizing the Regional Strategy and associated country work plans
 - Integrated & Targeted Response
 - Gender-sensitive manner
 - Result-based management

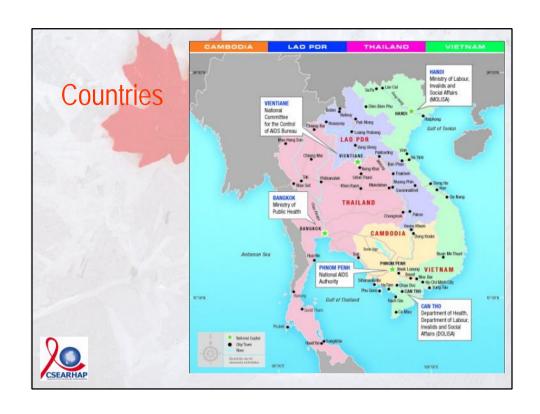


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Stakeholders

- Primary
 - National AIDS Agencies
 - Mobility Technical Working Group
- Secondary
 - Civil Society
 - Private Sector
- Strategic alliances
 - UNESCAP, IOM, APN+, Red Cross, Policy Project, Migrant Forum in Asia.







Components:

- Policy and Advocacy;
- Planning;
- · Capacity Building;
- Demonstration Projects; and
- · Regional Coordination.



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Principles

- Founded on the Regional Strategy on Mobility and HIV Vulnerability Reduction - GIPA & MIMP
- Gender and human rights approaches; safe mobility model, sustainability, enhanced capacity.



Policy and Advocacy

- · At national level:
 - Review of legal and policy determinants of vulnerability (National Policy Self Audits Baseline and Evaluation)
 - Identification of priority issues
 - Develop policy recommendations
 - Promote advocacy for specific policy change.
- Strengthen policy implementation and feedback through provincial partners.



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Planning

- Inclusion of appropriate responses to migration and mobility in national strategic plans and/or operational plans
- Support development of national strategies on mobility and HIV
- Capacity building in resource tracking, mobilization and allocation



Capacity building

- Based on identified needs but with some consistent themes
- Country specific needs such as provincial database development (Thailand)
- Enhanced coordination & collaboration among countries & sectors



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Demonstration Projects

- Test new approaches, monitor, revise & scale up
- Small, time-limited initiatives (linked to other national / cross-border projects) to apply skills and demonstrate enhanced stakeholder capacity
- Selected as UNAIDS Best Practices: Cambodia and Vietnam



Regional Coordination

- Increased local ownership & commitment
- · Strengthen multiple sector involvement
- Focus on Partnership
- Link & support country response
- Improve donor coordination
- Create sustainable communication & information sharing systems
- Share resources/Resource mobilization



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Regional Coordination

- Mobility AIDS Partnership (MAP-4): Four country forum with participation of INGOs, donors and key regional stakeholders (e.g. APN+, MFA) twice yearly prior to UNRTF
- UN Regional Task Force on Mobility and HIV Vulnerability Reduction (UNRTF) – CSEARHAP supports participation and regional coordination



Lessons learned

- Policy changes do not mean the job is complete
- Level of Awareness: The awareness among host ministry officials of the project is important to limit delays in implementation



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Lessons learned

- Impact of government policy on HIV vulnerability: Widely varying in the four countries
- Baselines / Evidence: Back bone of specific interventions and needed advocacy tool to build political support



Lessons learned

- Defining the target population: International and domestic migrants – Too broad; Not all of them are at equal risk
- Cross-border collaboration is enhanced once the joint work plan is developed and operationalized



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Recommendations

- Dealing with HIV mobility related issues needs holistic right-based & multi-sectoral working approaches
- The identification of "hot spots" increases the efficiency of the programs. Thus, information/ data & system is needed to be developed to monitor and assess the situation



Recommendations

- Ongoing mentoring and technical support is critical
 - to maintain the capacity of National MTWG
 - to ensure the continued cooperation between MOH and respective ministries in response to HIV and mobility
- Creating a a safe place for voices of migrants to be heard at high level and to influence high level policy



