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**VIETNAM'S POLICY ON HIV/AIDS
PROTECTION IN MOBILITY GROUPS**

Submitted by: Viet Nam

**APEC SEMINAR ON SOCIAL POLICIES FOR MIGRANTS TO
PREVENT THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV/AIDS**

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**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
VIETNAM ADMINISTRATION OF
HIV/AIDS CONTROL**



**VIETNAM'S POLICY ON
HIV/AIDS PROTECTION IN
MOBILITY GROUPS**

9/26/2008

VAC - MOH

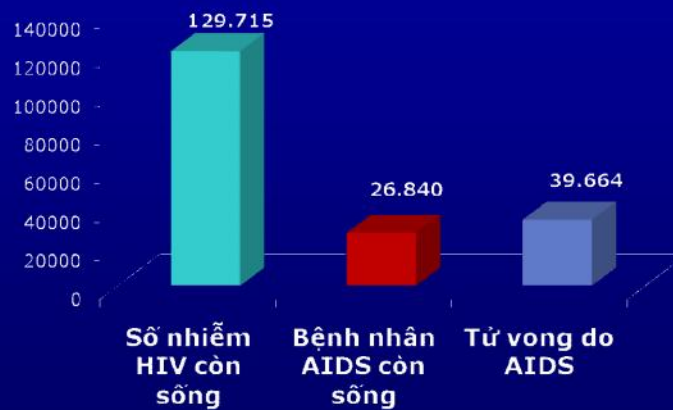
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CONTENT

- Overview on HIV/AIDS situation in Vietnam;
- Overview on Vietnam's reaction to HIV/AIDS;
- Vietnam's policy on HIV/AIDS prevention for migrant and mobile populations;
- Some works have been implementing

OVERVIEW ON HIV/AIDS IN VIETNAM

OVERVIEW ON HIV/AIDS INFECTED PEOPLE ALIVE AND DEAD BY 30TH JUNE, 2008

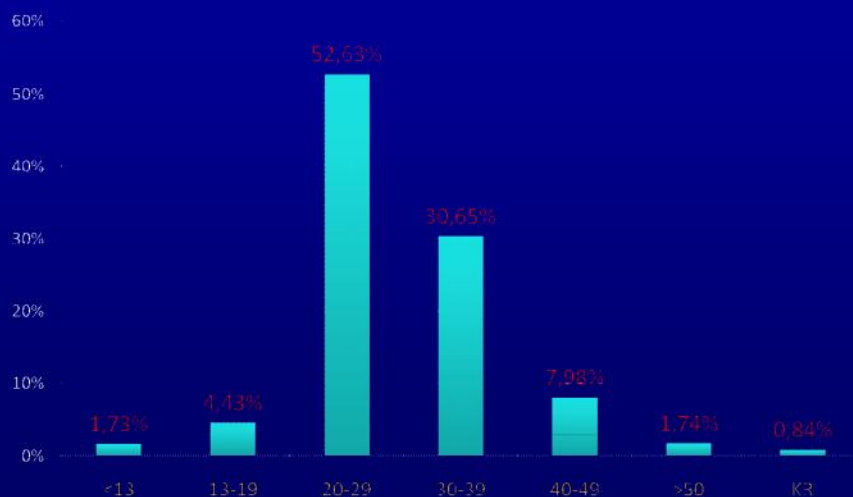


Number of HIV-infected and dead people found each year

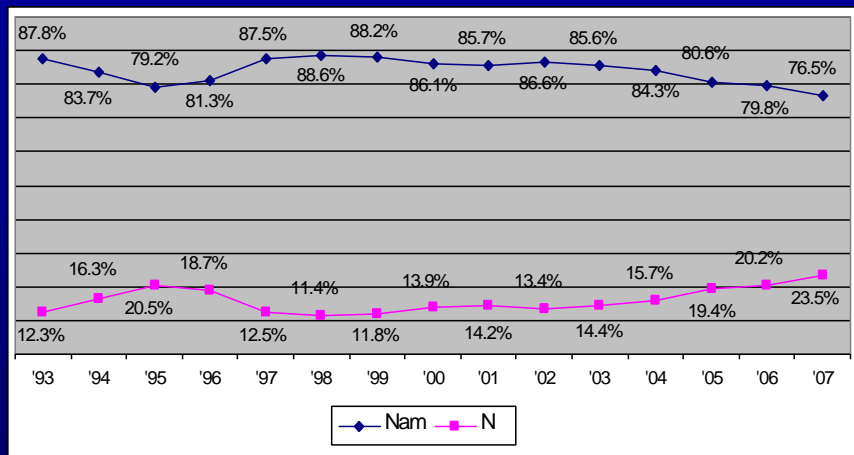


- They survey result shows that the number of HIV-infected, AIDS and dead people have increased year by year. In 2007, the survey result shows that the above-mentioned number seemed to decrease.
- The survey's statistics shows that there is one person found to be infected with HIV every 15-20 minutes.

AGE-GROUP DISTRIBUTION BY 30TH June, 2008



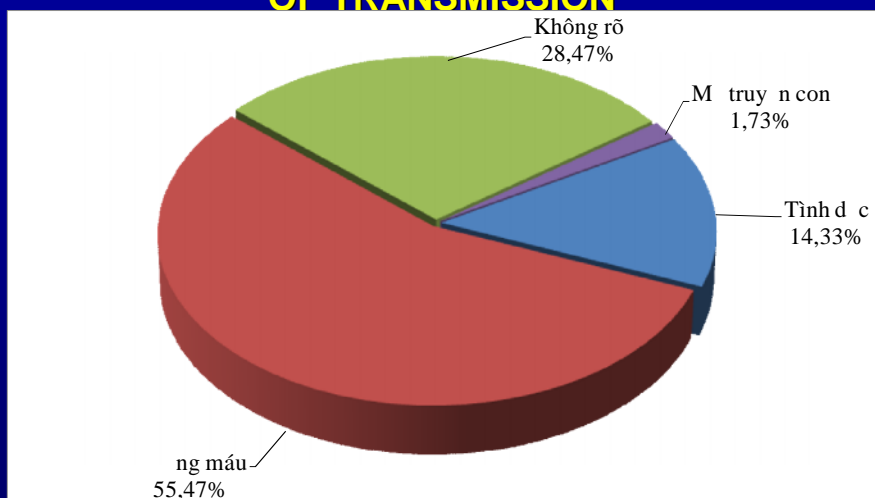
GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF HIV INFECTED CASES



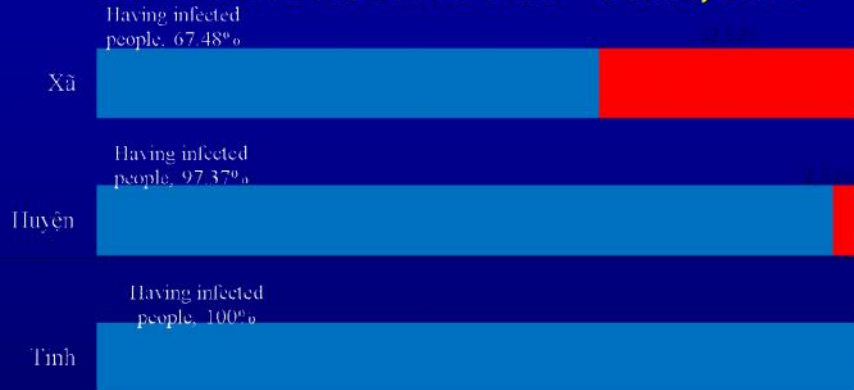
HIV-infected rate of men, 3 times higher than that of women, tends to increase

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DISTRIBUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH WAYS OF TRANSMISSION

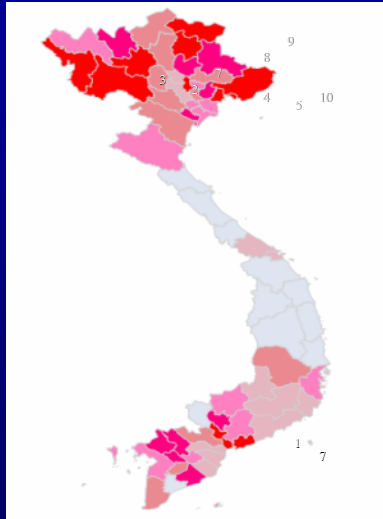


PERCENTAGE OF URBAN AND SUBURBAN DISTRICTS, COMMUNES HAVING HIV/AIDS INFECTED PEOPLE BY 30TH JUNE, 2008



There are more and more urban and suburban districts, communes having HIV infected people.

10 PROVINCES WITH HIGHEST RATE OF HIV INFECTION AMONG 100,000 PEOPLE



1. HCM city:	515,23
2. Son La:	483,87
3. Dien Bien:	382,92
4. Hanoi:	327,88
5. Hai Phong:	324,55
6. Ba Ria Vung Tau:	320,74
7. Yen Bai:	305,25
8. Bac Can:	286,24
9. Cao Bang:	280,40
10. Quang Ninh:	263,81

In the last 2 years, number of HIV-infected people founded has increased in the Northern mountainous provinces, changing the HIV pandemic's map in Vietnam

Evaluation of the pandemic's trend

1. HIV transmission in Vietnam is still in the period of focused pandemic. There is a high rate of HIV infection in heroin-mainlined group and prostitutes while this rate is low in other groups:
 - The heroin-mainlined group accounts for 28.6% (Quang Ninh 54.5%; Ho Chi Minh city 47.61%; Hai Phong 46.25%, Can Tho 45%, Thai Nguyen 40.75% and Dien Bien 36,83%).
 - Prostitutes account for 4.4% (Can Tho 33.86%, Hanoi 14.25%).
 - Pregnant women account for 0,37%, people testing for military service 0,16%.
2. HIV pandemic seems to level off. However, HIV pandemic has not been basically controlled in Vietnam.
3. There are various risks for pandemic boom.

OVERVIEW ON HIV/AIDS PREVENTION IN VIETNAM

ISSUE OF GUIDING DOCUMENTS

1. Instructions No 54/CT/TW dated 30th November, 2005 by the Party Central Secretariat on "Improvement of guidance on AIDS prevention given the new situation."
2. The Law on HIV/AIDS prevention was adopted by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 29th June 2006.
3. The National Strategy for HIV/AIDS prevention towards 2010 and the vision 2020 were ratified by the Government in March 2004.

ESTABLISHMENT OF STRUCTURE FOR ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 1. 1. Establish the National Committee for prevention of AIDS, drug and prostitute chaired by Deputy Prime Minister.
- 2. Establish Department for HIV/AIDS prevention under Ministry of Health (VAAC). VAAC has the function of the State management, organize the implementation of activities for HIV/AIDS prevention nationwide.
- 3. Set up Centre for HIV/AIDS prevention at provincial level;
- 4. Functional staffs for HIV/AIDS prevention are available at suburban district and commune level

INTERDISCIPLINARY COORDINATION AND COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION

- 1. Many Ministries and branches have intensified the instructions to carry out activities for HIV/AIDS prevention.
- 2. Religious, social and non-governmental organizations have actively participated in communication activities, taken care of HIV/AIDS infected people at home, given physical and mental assistance for HIV/AIDS infected or affected people. These organizations play an active role in changing discriminating attitude with HIV/AIDS infected people..
- 3. HIV/AIDS infected people have actively participated in programs for HIV/AIDS prevention through activities of caring and assisting each other, coequal education for group with high risk of HIV infection.

MOBILIZATION OF CENTRAL AND LOCAL BUDGETS

- 1. 1. The State budget for HIV/AIDS prevention program has annually increased:
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 - - Period 1995-1999: 45-55 billion VND per year
 - - Period 2000-2003: 60 billion VND per year
 - - Period 2004-2005: 80 billion VND per year
 - - 2006: 82 billion VND.
 - - 2007: 105 billion VND;
 - - 2008: 111 billion VND
- 2. Yearly budget of provinces is about 15 billion VND

Implementation of 9 action plans

1. **Program of information, education and communications to change acts of HIV/AIDS infectious prevention; coordinate with programs for evil, drug and prostitution prevention to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission**
2. **Interventional program to minimize bad affects by HIV/AIDS transmission**
3. **Program for caring and assisting HIV/AIDS infected people**
4. **Program for HIV/AIDS supervision and program evaluation**
5. **Program for HIV/AIDS treatment**
6. **Preventive program for Mother-to-Child HIV transmission**
7. **Program for management and treatment of bacterial contamination through sex**
8. **Program for safe blood transfusion**
9. **Program for capacity building and international cooperation for HIV/AIDS prevention**

Vietnam's policy on HIV/AIDS prevention in mobility group

**THE MOBILITY GROUP IS IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF
PRIORITISED GROUPS OF HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

Definition:

“The mobility group are people who often live far away from their families, change their accomodation and working places”

(Law on HIV/AIDS prevention, article 2, provision 14)

Mobility people are one of groups given priority to access to information, education and communication on HIV/AIDS prevention together with other following groups:

- a) HIV infected people and their families' members;
- b) Drug users and prostitutes;
- c) People infected with sexually transmitted diseases;
- d) Homosexual people;
-) Mobility group;**
- e) Pregnant women;
- g) People living in remote areas with difficult socio-economic conditions.

(Law on HIV/AIDS prevention, article 11, provision 2)

Mobility people are identified as a prioritized group for intervention of STI preventive program towards 2010:

- STI infected people;
- HIV infected people;
- Prostitutes;
- Drug-like addicted people;
- Male homosexual people;
- People at the age of 18-50;
- **Mobility people**

The National Action Plan on information, education and communication to change acts of HIV/AIDS prevention towards 2010 sets priority for the followings:

- HIV infected people and their family's members;
- Drug users, sex workers and sex clients;
- STI people and their partners;
- Homosexual people;
- **Mobility people;**
- Women within the age of parturition, including pregnant women;
- Teenagers;
- People living in remote areas with difficult socio-economic conditions...

The National Action Plan for intervention to minimize preventive impacts of HIV infection identified intervened groups as follows:

- **Sex workers and sex clients**
- **Intravenous drug users;**
- **HIV infected people;**
- **Homosexual people;**
- **Mobility people;**



Vietnam's policy on HIV/AIDS prevention for mobility people is stipulated in the following legal documents:



THE NATIONAL STRATEGY ON HIV/AIDS PREVENTION FOR THE MOBILIZATION OF BUSSINESS' PARTICIPATION IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION (quoted)

- Encourage enterprises, business associations, private organizations to participate actively in activities for HIV/AIDS prevention.
- Formulate and promulgate policies and concrete principles on the implementation of activities for AIDS prevention at working places;
- Enterprises should have principles and policies on information provision for HIV/AIDS prevention of officers and workers.
- Integrate communication of AIDS prevention into healthy entertaining programs in enterprises;

ANTI-HIV/AIDS LAW SPENDS THE WHOLE ARTICLE 14 ON REGULATIONS OF ANTI-HIV/AIDS AT WORK

1. Employers assume the responsibilities below::

- a) Organize propaganda and education programs on anti-HIV/AIDS methods, and anti-discriminatory treatment against the HIV-infected employees in their agencies, organizations or units;
- b) Arrange jobs which are appropriate to the health and qualifications of the HIV-infected people;
- c) Create favorable conditions for employees to attend anti-HIV/AIDS activities;
- d) Other responsibilities relating to anti-HIV/AIDS according to law

ANTI-HIV/AIDS LAW SPENDS THE WHOLE ARTICLE 14 ON REGULATIONS OF ANTI-HIV/AIDS AT WORK (CONTINUED)

2. Employers are not allowed to behave as followed:

- a) Stop labor or working contract; or create difficulties in employees' working time due to their HIV-infected state;
- b) Force the health-qualified employees to change the job they are assuming due to their HIV-infected state;
- c) Reject raising salary, promotions or do not guarantee employees' legal rights and benefits as they are HIV-infected;
- d) Require employee candidates to conduct HIV test or show HIV test results, reject their recruitments due to their HIV-infected state, except for regulations at Item 3, Article 28 of this law.

**SOME SANCTIONS ON ANTI-HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES AT WORK
(EXCERPTS FROM DECREE 45/2005/CP-)**

- **2. Impose pecuniary penalty of as much as VND 5.000.000 to 10.000.000 for one of the behaviors below (excerpts):**
- **c) Bases on HIV test results to decide employee recruitments or school enrolments, except for special cases according to law;**
- **d) Manufacturing and business units do not provide information on HIV precautionary methods for employees;**
- **e) Fires employees or expels students from school as they are HIV-infected.**

**SOME SANCTIONS ON ANTI-HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES AT WORK
(DECREE 45/2005/CP- CONTINUED)**

- **3. Solutions:**
- **Compels employers to reaccept HIV-infected employees and arrange other appropriate jobs for them;**
- **Or compels schools to reaccept HIV-infected pupils or students...**
- **In case of violating provision 2 of this Article.**

ANTI-HIV/AIDS LAW SPENDS THE WHOLE ARTICLE 16 ON ANTI-HIV/AIDS REGULATIONS FOR MOBILITY GROUP

1. People's Committees at commune level assume the responsibility of disseminating information on anti-AIDS for immigrating residents;

2. Owners, managers of service business units (residence); bus stops, ports; tourism, and other cultural and social services) are responsible for organizing anti-AIDS activities for service-users

ANTI-HIV/AIDS LAW SPENDS THE WHOLE ARTICLE 16 ON ANTI-HIV/AIDS REGULATIONS FOR MOBILITY GROUPS (CONTINUED)

3. Heads of health-check agencies at border-crossing has the responsibility of disseminating information on anti-HIV/AIDS for coming, leaving or transited people.

4. Agencies, organizations having activity of bringing Vietnamese people to work or study overseas are responsible for propagandizing and educating laborers and students on HIV/AIDS precautionary methods.

THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION TO CHANGE HIV/AIDS PREVENTION BEHAVIORS

Places crowded with mobility people are identified as one of 4 prioritized areas of the program:

- a) Huge construction, especially traffic ones;
- b) Stations, harbours, port;
- c) Markets, especially focal ones;
- d) Industrial and processing zones;
 -) Areas for mineral exploitation and processing;
- e) Border gates, especially ones by land;
- g) Units of transport and aquatic and seafood exploitation and processing;
- h) Guest houses, dormitory and places for workers;
- i) Units of armed forces.

REGULATIONS ON ANTI-HIV/AIDS AT WORK IN ANTI-HIV/AIDS LAW (CONTINUED)

- Article 03: ‘Anti-HIV/AIDS principles’, Item 2 (Principle 02 in the 4 principles):
 - Conduct interdisciplinary coordination and mobilize the society in preventing and fighting against HIV/AIDS;
 - Combine anti-HIV/AIDS activities with economic and social development programs.

Interdisciplinary coordination:

With the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Society Affairs, Vietnam General Confederation of Labor, VCCI playing crucial roles and the participation of other ministries, industries, organizations in accordance with vertical orders from central government to commune level; domestic NGOs; community-based organizations...

DECREE NO. 108/2007/N -CP, ISSUED IN 26/6/2007, SPENDS THE WHOLE ARTICLE 15 ON "INTEGRATION ANTI-HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES WITH ECO-SOCIO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS"

- **11. When outlining economic and social development programs or plans for ministries, industries and People's Committees at various levels, anti-HIV/AIDS activities must be included following principles as followed:**
- **a) – Assign quotas and concrete anti-HIV/AIDS activities for People's Committees at various levels, ministries, industries directly participating in anti-HIV/AIDS activities, or**
- **-Analyze the impacts of economic and social development programs or plans on anti-HIV/AIDS activities of ministries, industries not directly involving in anti-HIV/AIDS activities**
- **b) Set the budgets for carrying out concrete anti-HIV/AIDS activities;**
- **c) Regulate responsibilities of agencies, organizations, units in cooperating with local health agencies in charge of anti-HIV/AIDS mission to conduct anti-HIV/AIDS activities.**
- **2. Economic and social development programs or plans of ministries, industries, People's Committees of various levels can only be ratified when meeting the regulations in Item 1 of this Article.**

THANK YOU

