Viet Nam: Second Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Communicable Diseases Control Project

Project Name: Second Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Communicable Diseases Control Project

Project Number: 41508-013

Country / Economy: Viet Nam

Project Status: Closed

Project Type / Modality of Assistance: Loan

Source of Funding / Amount:

- Grant 0450-VIE: Second Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Communicable Diseases Control Project
  - Regional Malaria and Other Communicable Disease Threats Trust Fund under the Health Financing Partnership Facility
  - US$ 2.50 million

- Loan 2699-VIE: Second Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Communicable Diseases Control Project
  - Asian Development Fund
  - US$ 27.00 million

Strategic Agendas:
- Inclusive economic growth
- Regional integration

Drivers of Change:
- Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- Governance and capacity development

Sector / Subsector:
- Health
- Disease control of communicable disease - Health system development

Gender:
- Gender equity theme

Description:
The project follows Strategy 2020, which realigns ADB’s role in the health sector with emphasis on regional, intersector, and interagency cooperation, as also detailed in the operational plan for health. It is in line with ADB’s Regional Cooperation and Integration Strategy, the GMS regional cooperation strategy and the country partnership strategies and country operations business plans of Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam. The project supports regional public goods and capacity towards regional health and economic security and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for reducing child mortality and malnutrition, halting the spread of communicable diseases, and others. Under the leadership of WHO, the Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance Cooperation, the Kenan Institute Asia and other partners, it addresses critical funding gaps for the roll-out of the International Health Regulations (2005) and APSED, as well as regional strategies for the control of dengue and NTDs. Under the leadership of WHO, regional and national aid coordination mechanisms are in place including regular meetings, surveys and publications for aid coordination, technical forums, community of practice groups, and websites.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
Emerging infectious diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), avian influenza, and swine flu have had major economic impacts on productivity, trade, and tourism in the GMS, and continue to pose a major public health concern. New diseases, mostly of animal origin, also pose a constant threat. Dengue, chikungunya, cholera, typhoid, and HIV/AIDS fueled by better connectivity, urban development, and social and environment changes continue to spread in the GMS. Controlling these diseases requires strong surveillance systems, community prevention and preparedness, and quick system response capacities.

Impact:
Improved health of the population in the Greater Mekong Subregion.

Project Outcome:
Description of Outcome:
Timely and adequate control of communicable diseases likely to have a major impact on the region’s public health and economy.

Progress Toward Outcome:
- In 2011: No outbreaks recorded
- In 2012: H5N1 outbreak in two provinces
- In 2013: H5N1 outbreak in two provinces
- In 2014: H5N1 outbreak in two provinces
- In 2015: No outbreaks recorded
- In 2016: Zika virus cases in 11 provinces
- In 2017: Zika virus cases in 06 provinces

All H5N1 outbreaks were reported within 24 hours
All Zika virus cases were reported within 24 hours

In the period 2011-2016, there was no border outbreak in Vietnam. However, clustering of cases was reported in one of the CDC2 AF project provinces, all of which were reported within 24 hours.
The EA will evaluate proper CDC practice and care through the project closing assessment. Data from the survey will be used to report end-of-project value for this indicator.

Supplementary information: the project purchased and distributed to (i) 16 border provinces 16 sets of communication equipment, (ii) 63 provinces 200,000 leaflets, 40,000 posters on Dengue fever and Zika virus, IEC materials, (iii) 182 mobile communication equipment for 182 communes in Dak Nong and Binh Phuoc.

Provinces have also organized communication campaigns to mobilize and raise awareness of communities on prevention of CDs such as HFMD, Dengue fever; campaigns for hand washing with soap, environment cleanup, etc.

Implementation Progress:
Description of Project Outputs:
1. Enhanced regional CDC systems
2. Improved CDC along borders and economic corridors
3. Integrated project management
The project is assessed category C for involuntary resettlement.

The project is assessed category C for environment.

All consultants will be recruited according to ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants. Three consulting firms and 19 individual consultants are provided.

Ethnic groups constitute 31% of the population in the targeted border districts, most of them in the Lao PDR. They suffer disproportionately from common communicable diseases, and have less access to health care because of physical, financial, language, and cultural barriers. The project is assessed category B for indigenous people and is expected to have positive impacts on ethnic groups. The accrual of benefits to ethnic groups is discussed in the ethnic groups plan, and included in the project design. Under the sub-output for community based CDC, the aim is that 50% of targeted villages belong to ethnic groups. This includes training of village health workers and support for healthy village development. The project will also provide scholarships for ethnic group members to become health workers.

The project has actively implemented cross border activities with Laos and Cambodia, ensuring its targets and implementation of plans. Monthly/quarterly provincial Health Department hosted 30 cross border meetings with neighboring country to discuss about health cooperation between the two provinces. Data on district level will be extracted from the results of Project Closing Assessment.


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2. In 2013: 2.6
3. In 2015: 3.9

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The basic competencies of CDCs are defined as a list for the project. The project plan to have the firm to conduct the interview with the leaders of the working units on CDC staff performance. However, competencies are not measured at the individual level.

Output 3. Integrated project management

All targeted provinces develop and implement an annual plan. The approval for Annual Operation Plan was proceeded under regulations.


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Grant 0450-VIE

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Loan 2699-VIE

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Date Generated: 29 September 2023

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