Regional: HIV Prevention and Infrastructure: Mitigating Risk in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Project Name: HIV Prevention and Infrastructure: Mitigating Risk in the Greater Mekong Subregion
Project Number: 41353-012
Country: Regional
Project Status: Closed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance: Technical Assistance

Source of Funding / Amount:
- TA 6467-REG: HIV Prevention and Infrastructure: Mitigating Risk in the Greater Mekong Subregion
  Government of Australia: US$ 6.00 million
- TA 6467-REG: HIV Prevention and Infrastructure: Mitigating Risk in the Greater Mekong Subregion (Supplementary)
  Cooperation Fund for Fighting HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific under the Health Financing Partnership Facility: US$ 100,000.00
- TA 6467-REG: HIV Prevention and Infrastructure: Mitigating Risk in the Greater Mekong Subregion
  Cooperation Fund for Fighting HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific under the Health Financing Partnership Facility: US$ 1.00 million

Strategic Agendas: Regional integration
Drivers of Change: Governance and capacity development

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming: Gender equity

Description: ADB’s Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program (RCSIP) for the GMS defines three priority program areas: the development of physical infrastructure, policy and institutional initiatives to maximize the benefits and opportunities from physical infrastructure, and initiatives to address common social development and environmental sustainability concerns. Consistent with this strategy, ADB financing for infrastructure projects in the GMS is growing, particularly in road-related economic corridors. Given that the development of physical infrastructure potentially exacerbates the spread and impact of HIV and that this will limit the potential to benefit from opportunities arising and hinder social development (the second and third priority areas of the RCSPI), ADB recognizes both an obligation to mitigate the HIV risks associated with infrastructure projects and an opportunity to contribute strategically and effectively to the fight against HIV and poverty in the region. In addition, it is recognized that the area of program activity in which this obligation and opportunity exists is specialized and an area where ADB, as a GMS development partner, has a growing comparative advantage.

In the area of HIV, two ADB strategy papers have outlined the priority for ADB in addressing the increased risk of HIV transmission that might arise in association with ADB-supported infrastructure development:
- ADB, 2005. Development, Poverty and HIV/AIDS: ADB’s Strategic Response to a Growing Epidemic. Manila; and

The trust fund established in 2005 with an initial grant of approximately $15 million from the Government of Sweden (HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific Trust Fund) has facilitated actions under both these strategies in recent years. The RETA will further support and strengthen ADB experience and knowledge in these priority areas at the operational level. Moreover, this experience will help facilitate the knowledge and capacity needed for the longer term goal of having a program approach managed and enforced by Government rather than a project-by-project approach driven by donors/financiers.

Impact: The RETA will contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 6, Target 7: to have halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015 in the GMS.

Project Outcome: Reduce the incidence of HIV transmission and prevalence of STIs among workers and communities associated with ADB-financed infrastructure projects in the GMS
Progress Toward Outcome: Ongoing. Details of progress are in the status of implementation below.

Implementation Progress:
Description of Project Outputs:
- Leadership support and associated institutional policies for addressing HIV risks in the context of infrastructure development
- Improved awareness of HIV, AIDS and STI among the workforce of large infrastructure projects, relevant local communities and stakeholders
- Improved availability of HIV and STI prevention commodities (e.g. condoms) and associated social marketing programs
- Improved access to HIV and STI testing, treatment and care services used by staff of construction workforces and affected communities
- Improved HIV and STI monitoring and surveillance systems with indicators for HIV prevention in infrastructure projects
- Functioning project management
- Advocacy materials and events related to the benefits from and implementation strategies for HIV prevention in infrastructure projects
- Functioning project management
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Impact)

Subproject 1: Expanded HIV Prevention Programs

In Laos Northern Economic Corridor

Status: Completed

To ensure that the progress of the implementation of the subproject is sustained after completion of the project, a strengthened local health workforce needs to be developed through capacity building activities. The Gender Integration Plan (GIP) is being reviewed by the health authorities to integrate gender perspectives into the implementation plans of the subproject.

Subproject 2: Research Project A Comparative Analysis of Risk Settings in Infrastructure Projects

In the Northern and Northeast Economic Corridor

Status: Completed

Stories of the Mountain - Joined Patches of Life, and Love in the Modern Time was produced and approved by the Provincial Government Authority and well appreciated by the stakeholders and communities.

- IEC Lao side: Produced two radio drama CDs (titled The Tingtong Melody and Return of Tingtong) which was aired over local radio from October to November 2010. IEC Viet Nam side: A 60-minute DVD with 3 episodes, entitled Love

Subproject 3: Research Project A Comparative Analysis of Risk Settings in Infrastructure Projects

In the Northeast and Northwest Economic Corridor

Status: Completed

- Final draft submitted in January 2011 and approved by ADB

Subproject 4: Case Study on the Cross-Border Transport Agreement: Georgia-Moldova

International Conference on AIDS (ICAP) in Bangkok.

Subproject 5: Research Project A Comparative Analysis of Risk Settings in Infrastructure Projects

In the Central and Southern Economic Corridor

Status: Completed

- Final summary report prepared and submitted in March

Subproject 6: Awareness, Prevention, and HIV/AIDS Training Programs among the Southern Coastal Groups

In the Rural and Remote Areas

Status: Partially Completed

- Review mission conducted in February 2012. The Mission participated in the closing workshop which presented lessons learned and key successes.

- Subproject implementation with two partners – WOMEN and the Ministry of National Defense (MoND) with WOMEN working with 3 vulnerable groups in Gernany City and NHM conducting educational sessions and distributing condoms to uniformed service personnel

- Review mission was held in February 2012. The results of the final review mission were also shared during the Completion Workshop conducted in December 2012. Post-project planning was done jointly by the national agencies, local health offices and project implementation partners.

- The 4th GMS Workshop on HIV Prevention and the Infrastructure Sector in the GMS was held on 26-27 October 2011 in Hanoi, Viet Nam. A post-workshop session among participating countries to discuss ongoing efforts to revise and update the GMS HIV Prevention and Mitigation Plan (2013-2020) was organized.

- Subproject 1: Expanded HIV Prevention Programs

In the Northeast and Northwest Economic Corridor

Status: Completed

- A review mission was held in February 2012. The results of the final review mission were also shared during the Completion Workshop conducted in December 2012.

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- The Dissemination (end of project) Workshop was held on 22 June 2011.

- Held cross border meeting and National Steering Committee meetings;
- Cross border validation meetings (in Lao PDR and Viet Nam) which provided a good opportunity for all participants and stakeholders to learn from each other how to implement the interventions in their countries.
- In addition, a cross border exchange between the Lao and Viet Nam PWTs was arranged in May in Houaphan. The exchange provided a good opportunity for the implementers to discuss their experiences with the exchange team.
- Participatory workshops for sustainability development were conducted during the workshop(s) which encouraged a good number of stakeholders to participate and learn from the discuss about the lessons learned and guidelines for conducting sustainability planning.

- The July 2008 Risk Management Strategy (RMS) was implemented in all projects.
- The RMS was implemented in all projects.
- The RMS was implemented in all projects.
- It was also held in February 2012. The results of the final review mission were also shared during the Completion Workshop conducted in December 2012.
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design
Consultations through meetings, regional forum discussions and site visits have been held with the following stakeholders:
- Ministry of Transport, Viet Nam
- Vietnam Administration of HIV/AIDS Control (VAAC), Ministry of Health, Viet Nam
- UNAIDS Viet Nam
- Savannakhet Provincial Health Department (LAO)
- Bokeo Provincial Health Department (LAO)
- Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post, and Construction (MCTPC), Lao PDR
- Center for HIV/AIDS/STI (CHAS), Lao PDR
- Population Services International, Vientiane, Lao PDR
- UNAIDS Regional Support Team Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand)
- Ministry of Public Works and Transport (Cambodia)
- National AIDS Authority (Cambodia)
- Department of Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
- Ministry of Rail Transportation, Myanmar
- Ministry of Home Affairs, Myanmar
- UNAIDS-Myanmar

The project also links closely, and complements, other initiatives in the region such as the Joint UN Initiatives on Mobility and HIV/AIDS in Southeast Asia (UNIMA), CSEARHAP and the AusAID Regional HIV and AIDS Regional Project. In implementation, SEHS will also liaise closely with RSDD in its coordination of ADB’s involvement in the Joint Initiative for Mitigating HIV/AIDS in the Infrastructure Sectors as well as with the development partners to that initiative in the GMS region.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services
Consultant services were required to develop, coordinate, and implement the proposed TA activities. SEHS staff oversees project implementation with support from a program coordinator and a program assistant. Consultant inputs, including inputs from monitoring and evaluation and gender specialists, are required. To implement the subproject activities, ADB recruited organizations or individual consultants, depending on the design of the subproject, in accordance with ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2007, as amended from time to time).

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Timetable

Concept Clearance 18 Mar 2008
MRM -
Approval 24 Jun 2008
Last Review Mission -
PDS Creation Date 25 Apr 2008
Last PDS Update 30 Sep 2014

TA 6467-REG

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Financing Plan/TA Utilization

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