

Indigenous Peoples Plan: Ethnic Groups Plan: A Summary

September 2012

REG: Greater Mekong Subregion Capacity
Building for HIV and AIDS Prevention Project

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 15 September 2012)

Currency unit	–	kip (KN)
kip1.00	=	\$0.0001252
\$1.00	=	KN7,989.50
Currency unit	–	dong (D)
dong1.00	=	\$0.0000479
\$1.00	=	D20,840.00

ABBREVIATIONS

EGP	–	Ethnic groups plan
Lao PDR	–	Lao People's Democratic Republic

NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to US dollars.

This Ethnic Group Plan is a document of the borrower. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of ADB's Board of Directors, Management, or staff, and may be preliminary in nature.

In preparing any country program or strategy, financing any project, or by making any designation of or reference to a particular territory or geographic area in this document, the Asian Development Bank does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.

INDIGENEOUS PEOPLES PLAN: ETHNIC GROUPS PLAN

1. A significant proportion of the population in the target provinces in both the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and Viet Nam are from ethnic communities, who are among the poorest and most marginalized households. There are several key factors which increase the vulnerability of ethnic groups to HIV transmission. Firstly, their physical, cultural, linguistic and social isolation create disadvantages regarding access to health and education services as well as to information that may hamper actions to prevent HIV transmission. Secondly, remoteness and associated poverty coupled with education, the ability to speak the majority language, and improved transport and communication links are facilitating young men and women to migrate from ethnic minority communities in search of opportunities. In some cases, this mobility brings these young men and women into circumstances where they are at-risk of HIV infection. Sexual traditions in some ethnic groups may also increase the risk of young women contracting HIV. In the Lao PDR, the National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan recognizes young people as having increasing vulnerability to HIV, especially if they have multiple sexual partners. Recent research by UNICEF also indicates that most sex workers and high-risk male having sex with men (MSM) are young (some even underage), and thus are extra vulnerable biologically and socially due to more peer pressure and fewer negotiation skills. Further, high-risk activities such as drinking, multiple sex partners and drug use appear to be increasing among younger men in Viet Nam, suggesting that marital infection will continue to rise. Detailed analyses of ethnic groups in the Lao PDR and Viet Nam are attached as supplementary documents. The purpose of the Ethnic Groups Plan (EGP) is to outline the potential impacts of the project on ethnic groups; specify actions to address the impacts and help improve the distribution of project benefits to the ethnic communities. During project preparation ethnic communities and their representative were consulted with the use of key informant or focus group discussion techniques guided by semi-structured questionnaires, in both Viet Nam and the Lao PDR. Consultation with ethnic group stakeholders will take place regularly throughout program implementation.

2. The below actions will support integration of ethnic peoples' needs and interests into each of the project outputs, and ensure effective participation and access to the benefits of the project. Where impacts on ethnic groups are positive, measures will be identified to enhance and ensure equitable sharing of benefits. Where impacts are potentially negative, appropriate mitigation measures will be identified. The below table outlines anticipated positive and negative effects and recommendations to enhance/mitigate impacts.

Project Output	Anticipated Positive Effect	Anticipated Negative Effect	Proposed measures to mitigate impact
Output 1: Strengthened planning and management capacity at national, provincial and district levels	At risk ethnic groups and ethnic groups living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA) benefitted by enhance services	Possible exclusion of issues and needs of ethnic communities as a result of limited awareness amongst national, provincial and district staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure key issues related to service delivery needs of ethnic groups are integrated into provincial and district response plans and appropriate budgets allocated. • Ensure ethnic community leaders are identified, consulted and targeted for information awareness on HIV/AIDS response plans. • Viet Nam: Ensure 20% of candidates selected for long term training are from ethnic groups.

Project Output	Anticipated Positive Effect	Anticipated Negative Effect	Proposed measures to mitigate impact
Output 2: Enhanced capacity to provide quality and accessible services to people vulnerable to HIV transmission	Increased understanding and capacity of health staff to meet the needs of and deliver appropriate services for ethnic communities	No foreseen negative effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lao PDR: Ensure the development of national guidelines and SOPs address ethnic communities' needs and behavioral factors and social contexts which can support or hinder prevention efforts. • Training needs assessment of health staff to include an assessment of their knowledge of the key ethnic group vulnerabilities. • Ensure that all the ToT, training and communication materials developed/ adapted for the various service providers integrate issues and needs of ethnic communities. • Ensure that 100 % of provincial/ district/ village level ethnic health staff is trained through the various trainings provided by the project (relevant for their positions). • Monitor the proportion of ethnic people accessing services relative to the total population of the ethnic community and report data by sex, age and ethnicity as well as type of services accessed.
Output 3: Improved access to HIV prevention outreach among target populations in communities and cross-border areas	Increased knowledge amongst the ethnic communities on HIV prevention and increased ability to protect themselves	No foreseen negative effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure mapping of risk behaviors and KAP of ethnic groups by gender and age. • Lao PDR: Ensure training of district officials in participatory mapping processes includes a module on ethnic group issues and vulnerabilities. • Ensure assessment of KAP of ethnic groups present findings disaggregated by sex and age and separate consultations are held with men and women. • Ensure that IEC/BCC and peer education materials present positive images and integrate issues and information and life skills needs of ethnic groups. • Ensure all materials are produced in appropriate ethnic language and disseminated through appropriate media and channels accessed by ethnic communities. • Lao PDR: Target 50% of peer

Project Output	Anticipated Positive Effect	Anticipated Negative Effect	Proposed measures to mitigate impact
			educators supporting an ethnic community to be from the same group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of ethnic group people reached through the project disaggregated by sex and ethnicity correctly identify HIV transmission and means of prevention.
Output 4: Effective and sustainable regional collaboration to strengthen HIV response established	Issues and priority needs of ethnic groups integrated in regional policy dialogue and interventions.	No foreseen negative effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All joint studies include consultation with ethnic communities and report data by ethnicity and sex.

BCC = behavior change communication, IEC = information, education and communication, KAP = knowledge, attitude and practices, PLHA = people living with HIV/AIDS, SOP = standard operating procedure, TOT = training of trainers.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

3. **Implementation Arrangements:** For the Lao PDR, the overall responsibility for the implementation of the EGP will rest with Center for HIV/AIDS/STI at the national and provincial commune council authority and district commune council authority at the sub-national levels. For Viet Nam, the overall responsibility for implementation will rest with Viet Nam Authority of HIV/AIDS Control at the national and provincial AIDS committee at the sub-national level. Non-government and mass organizations such as Women's Union and committee for ethnic minorities will be consulted and engaged in the planning and implementation of the actions. The EGPs will be tailored to provincial contexts, based on research findings during baseline assessments. These specific local level EGPs will contain timelines and responsibilities for action and monitoring. Implementation arrangements and estimated costs of the EGPs are part of the overall project arrangements and total budget. The monitoring of the EGP will be part of the overall monitoring and evaluation framework for the Project. Quarterly and annual reports will include a specific summary of progress toward implementing the EGPs.