

**TCDC Training course on  
Programme Management of Prevention of Mother to Child HIV Transmission  
(Course Overview)**

**1. Course Title:**

“TCDC International Training Course on Programme Management of Prevention of Mother to Child HIV Transmission (PMTCT)”

**2. Background and justification:**

The Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) Programme has been operating since 2000 under partnership between Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNICEF and government agencies. The major objective of the programme is to make available Thailand's experience in social development with emphasis on women and children's issues to countries in Asia and the Pacific. This experience has been passed on through regular training courses, study visits and follow-up exchange visits conducted in cooperation with government agencies and NGOs. Not only has this experience created an opportunity for countries in the region to learn from Thailand and apply the knowledge and expertise gained in implementing similar projects in their own countries, but also for Thailand to learn and benefit from this regional technical cooperation.

Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) was one of the priority areas for discussion at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS which took place in June 2002. The commitment of the meeting is the goal of reducing the number of children acquiring HIV through mother-to-child transmission by 20% in the year 2005 and by 50% in 2010. At this historic meeting, over 180 member states signed the declaration of commitment on HIV/AIDS. These targets which have been labeled by some people as being rather ambitious are in fact achievable.

For this to happen, however, countries do need to begin to scale up their activities aimed at preventing and stopping mother-to-child transmission of HIV. This is not only going to need money and strong political will, but will in each country among many other things, need a core group of various backgrounds who can then be able to shake things up at regional and country level so that effective and locally feasible scaling up of the PMTCT of HIV can happen.

In recent years, there have been a lot of regional interests in learning from Thai experiences. In order to streamline initiatives and requests in the UNICEF areas of competence, a joint “Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC)” has been developed by the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and UNICEF Thailand. The idea was to offer professionals from other countries a series of training courses, study visits and follow up exchange visits.

The Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Disease Control (DDC) have had experiences in PMTCT and HIV/AIDS programme. The short training course in PMTCT was developed jointly by TICA, UNICEF, Department of Disease Control and Department of Health. The training course will make a significant improvement of knowledge and management skills of PMTCT programme of participants.

### 3. Course Objectives

The purposes of this training course aim to enable participants to;

1. Gain their knowledge and understanding of the magnitude of HIV/AIDS epidemic in women and children.
2. Understand the scientific basis of mother to child transmission of HIV (MTCT).
3. Review and develop guideline of the national policy on PMTCT.
4. Define HIV counseling, explain the role of counseling in the PMTCT programme, understand patient rights related to HIV/AIDS counseling.
5. Identify counseling services required for PMTCT programmes and develop a guideline for counseling systems in their own country.
6. Recognize and eliminate stigma and discrimination against PLWHA in the work place and community.
7. Plan PMTCT programme including the required programme components, staff needed.
8. Utilize the principles of monitoring and evaluation for a PMTCT programme.
9. Develop an action plan for PMTCT programme implementation in their local PMTCT programme.

### 4. Target Audience and Qualifications:

**1. Target audience:** Approximately 25 persons from developing countries in Asia and the Pacific are expected to participate in this course. Initially 2 persons from each country are expected. In addition some countries in Africa will also be invited to participate in this training.

**2. Qualifications:**

1. Health personnel, Doctor, nurse, or counselor, who are responsible in PMTCT programme.
2. Age between 27 to 50 years.
3. Be in good physical and mental health in order to undergo and be able to attend the entire course.
4. Expected to continue working in the PMTCT programme / services after finishing this course.

**5. Course Duration and Dates:** 9 – 20 November 2009 (10 days)

**6. Training Venue:** The training and accommodation will be hold and arranged at Narai Hotel which located on Silom Road, Bangrak, Bangkok.

**7. Organizing Agency:** International Training Center on AIDS, TB and STIs (ITC),  
Department of Disease Control  
Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health

## 8. Application

### 8.1 Application through Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate

This channel is for participants from 16 developing countries including;

Bangladesh	Maldives	Thailand
Bhutan	Mongolia	The Philippines
Cambodia	Myanmar	Timor Leste
China PRC	Nepal	Vietnam
Indonesia	Pakistan	
Lao PDR	Sri Lanka	

Government agencies that wish to nominate applicants for the course must complete and return **three copies** of the Application Form for each application together with an official nominating letter to the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate in their countries, and send one copy directly to the **Director of International Organizations Partnership Branch (Multilateral), Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)**.

Successful government nominated participants will be fully supported by TICA and the UNICEF Thailand. This includes international round-trip tickets, living allowance, accommodation and registration fee for the entire course duration. For more information of the deadline and process of application through this channel, please contact,

Ms. Puangkan Suwannadhat

Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA),

962 Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100, Thailand,

Tel: +662 281 3331 Fax: +66 2 280 3107

Email: [puangkans@mfa.go.th](mailto:puangkans@mfa.go.th)

### 8.2 Application through UNICEF/Ministry of Public Health Channel

UNICEF/UN agencies or organizations that wish to nominate applicants for the course should submit an Application to the UNICEF Thailand. The application forms must reach UNICEF Thailand by 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009. For more information of this channel, please contact

Mr. Wisoot Tantinan

TCDC Focal Person

UNICEF Thailand Country Office

PO Box 2-154, Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel: +66-2 356 9499 Ext 9532, Fax: +66-2 281 6032

Email: [Wtantinan@unicef.org](mailto:Wtantinan@unicef.org)

and copy to [training@itcthai.org](mailto:training@itcthai.org)

### 8.3 Registration fee

**Nominating UNICEF/UN agencies or other organizations** applying through UNICEF/Ministry of Public Health Channel will have to cover the cost of international round-trip air tickets, travel insurance, terminal allowance, reasonable daily allowance and **registration fee of US\$ 2,150**, which will cover accommodations, breakfasts, lunches, domestic airfare to field visits and contribution to course management during the training course.

## 9. Course contents:

### 9.1 Course Outline:

The training course consists of classroom lectures, presentations, demonstration and group practices. The intended small number of participants accepted to the course will ensure greater time and attention at practice sessions. The pre- and post-test will be administered to evaluate and ensure participants' learning and skill improvement. The content of the course consists of:

- PMTCT Overview
  - Pathogenesis of mother-to-child HIV Transmission
  - Strategies for PMTCT including 4 pronged /component ; primary prevention of HIV infection among women, prevention of unintended pregnancies among HIV infected women, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and provision of appropriate treatment ,care and support to HIV infected mothers and their infants, and families.
  - PMTCT National Policy
- PMTCT Services Component
  - Management of PMTCT Programme Implementation;
    - Services on HIV prevention in youth and adult in reproductive age (stay negative)
    - Services on prevention of unintended pregnancies among HIV infected women (positive prevention)
    - PMTCT services
    - Care and support for HIV affected and infected children
  - Laboratory testing for PMTCT programme
  - Drug and supply procurement system
- HIV/AIDS counseling
  - Role of counseling in PMTCT programme
  - Effective counseling system in successful PMTCT
- Stigma and Discrimination
  - Stigma and Discrimination in Health Care Settings and community
  - Impact of Stigma and Discrimination
  - Interventions to Reduce Stigma and Discrimination
- Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Introduction of M&E
  - Indicators for PMTCT programmes
  - Planning a project monitoring system
  - Using data to inform and plan for programme improvements
- Programme Implementation plan
  - Conducting a programme Needs Assessment
  - Development of PMTCT Implementation Plan
  - Creating an Implementation Plan
  - Development of Action Plan Time frame using Gantt Chart
- Final discussion

## **9.2 Field trips are as follows:**

- 9.2.1 Rajavithi Hospital, Bangkok (PMTCT services)
- 9.2.2 Queen Sirikit Institute of Child Health (Children hospital) (Treatment, Care and support for HIV infected children)
- 9.2.3 Bamrasnaradura Institute, Nonthaburi (PMTCT services, Laboratory system)
- 9.2.4 Thai Red Cross, Bangkok (Anonymous clinic)
- 9.2.5 Chiang Rai Regional Hospital (PMTCT/ treatment, care and support for children/referral system at regional hospital)
- 9.2.6 ACCESS, Chiang Rai (Care and support for HIV infected and affected children)
- 9.2.7 Mae Chan Hospital, Chiang Rai (PMTCT/ treatment, care and support for children/at community hospital)

## **9.3 Advance assignments:**

Participants are required to prepare their Country profile on HIV/AIDS and PMTCT programme consisting of :

- Demographic data
- Situation of and HIV/AIDS including HIV prevalence among pregnant women
- Epidemiology/ Policy/ HIV/AIDS
- Maternal and child health services system
- HIV counseling and testing services
- Care service for HIV infected mother and children
- PMTCT programme implementation including M & E/ Public Health Services System
- Community participation in health care systems especially PMTCT programme

**10. Training Language:** English language

**11. Course Methods:** Classroom lectures and discussion, presentations and demonstration, Group practices and field study

## **12. Course Outcomes and Evaluation:**

### **Outcomes:**

It is expected that the training course will produce participants with updated knowledge of PMTCT programme. The participants will also understand and are able to perform skills to develop their PMTCT programme based on their countries situation. In addition, the participants will be capable of responding to HIV/AIDS problem in mother and children considering political, economical, social and cultural characteristics in their own countries. The programme will be implemented in their countries. The network of technical cooperation on PMTCT and other HIV/AIDS interventions among participants will be developed.

### **Evaluation:**

In addition to evaluation of each session of the training course in terms of its contents, clarity, coverage, lecturer, teaching methodology, training materials, at the end of the training course, participants will be required to evaluate the overall satisfaction of the course, the knowledge gained, the usefulness/relevancy to their job and other administrative/logistic arrangement. Comments and suggestions for the purpose of future improvement of the course are also encouraged.

Furthermore, a carefully prepared set of test will be administered before the start of the training and at the end (pre- and post –test) to assess level of knowledge gained. The results will be made known to each individual participant, with the whole class average scores on the pre-test, post-test and the differences.

After completion of the course, well participated participants will receive a certificate of attendance, issued and signed by the Director-General of Department of Disease Control, Director-General of Department of Health, MoPH and D-G of TICA and UNICEF representative.

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