

Programme Background

The Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) Programme has been operating since 2000 through partnership between the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UNICEF Thailand. 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 developing countries. 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, but also for Thailand to learn and benefit from this regional technical cooperation.

Course Background

PMTCT was one of the priority areas of discussions at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, which took place in June 2002. At this historic conference 180 member states signed the declaration of commitment on HIV/AIDS with 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.

For this to happen, countries need to begin to scale up their activities aimed at preventing and stopping mother-to-child transmission of HIV. This requires a core group of experts with various backgrounds who can then be able to drive the effort 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 this issue from the Thailand's Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Disease Control (DDC), who have had experiences in PMTCT and HIV/AIDS programme.

In order to streamline initiatives and areas of competence, the short training course in PMTCT was developed jointly by TICA, UNICEF, Department of Disease Control and Department of Health. This will make a significant improvement of knowledge and management skills of PMTCT programme of participants.

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.

Qualifications

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

Course contents

The contents of the course consist of

- PMTCT Overview
 - Pathogenesis of mother-to-child HIV Transmission
 - Strategies for PMTCT including 4 prong /component ;
 - 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
- Field visits

Course Information

The course is offered to candidates nominated by government agencies or sponsored by UNICEF/UN or other organizations from developing countries in Asia and Africa.

The Royal Thai Government through the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and the UNICEF Thailand provide financial support for successful **government nominated participants who apply through Royal Thai Embassy**. This includes international round-trip tickets, living allowance, accommodation and registration fee for the entire course duration.

On the other hand, nominating UNICEF/UN agencies or other organizations that apply through the UNICEF Thailand will have to cover the cost of round-trip air tickets, travel insurance, terminal allowance, reasonable daily allowance and **registration fee of US\$ 2,050**, which will cover accommodations, breakfasts, lunches, transport to field visits and contribution to course management.

Director of International Organizations Partnership Branch (Multilateral), Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)

962 Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok
10100, Thailand,
Tel: +66-2 281 3331 Fax: +66-2 280 3107
Website: www.mfa.go.th

Wisoot Tantanin TCDC Focal Person UNICEF Thailand

PO Box 2-154, Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel: +66-2 356 9499 Ext 9532, Fax: +66-2 281 6032
Email: wtantanin@unicef.org

How to Apply

All candidates must be officially nominated by their respective governments, UNICEF/UN agencies or other organizations in their own countries.

▪ Procedure for Application of Government Officials

Government agencies from following countries are encouraged to apply through this channel.

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

Nominating government agencies 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)** at the address indicated on this leaflet. For more information and the deadline for application through this channel, please contact Ms. Puangkan Suwannadhat, e-mail: puangkans@mfa.go.th

▪ Procedure for Application of candidates supported by UNICEF/UN agencies or other organizations

An application form should be submitted to the UNICEF Thailand by **31th January 2010**.

Organized by International Training Center on AIDS, TB and STIs (ITC)

Bureau of AIDS, TB and STIs
Department of Disease Control
Ministry of Public Health
88/21 Tiwanon Road, Muang District
Nonthaburi 11000, Thailand
E-mail : training@itcthai.org

The Royal Thai Government and the UNICEF Thailand

present

Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) Programme



Programme Management of Prevention of Mother to Child HIV Transmission (PMTCT) 15 - 26 February 2010



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unite for children

