



Terminal Evaluation



Thailand-Cambodia Development Cooperation Programme on Health (2017 - 2019)

Program Outline



Objectives

- To enhance the prevention and control of communicable diseases and emerging and re-emerging diseases across Cambodia-Thailand border.
- To strengthen capacity of health personnel and referral system between Cambodia and Thailand to provide effective medical services between Thailand and Cambodia.



Duration 2017 - 2019

Implementing Agencies



Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

(Trat, SaKaeo and Surin Public Health Offices)



Ministry of Public Health, Cambodia

(Kohkong, Banteay Meanchey and OddarMenchey Public Health Offices)



Budget Total : 44,503,365.50 Baht

Program 1: Communicable Disease Surveillance, Prevention and Control in Border Area; including Emerging, Re - emerging Disease

Program 2: Medical and Public Health Staff Capacity Building

Program 3: Referral System Improvement

Program 4: Sister Hospital Development

Evaluation Results

External Evaluators : Dr. Somkid Prabpai, Kasetsart University and team

The Evaluation was based on OECD criteria. Overall, public Health and medical personnel participating in the programme have knowledge and skills that can be applied in preventing and controlling of communicable diseases and emerging and re-emerging diseases across Cambodia - Thailand borders.

Relevance

- Overall, the programme was found to be very relevant considering different dimensions of relevance.
- It was well designed by using Logical Framework, in which indicators, methods of conducting activities and monitoring and evaluation were defined. Therefore, staff could perform the work and monitor the implementation according to the defined plan and objectives effectively.
- The programme was aligned with the Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy of Thailand as well as the Health Strategic Plan of Cambodia.
- The activities and outputs of the projects were consistent with the intended goal, projects' objectives and 'One - health' approach.
- In addition, the implementation of all activities also strengthened collaboration between Thai and Cambodian health personnel.



Effectiveness

Program 1

1.1 Project on Malaria Elimination along Cambodia - Thailand Borders

Overall, result of the implementation achieved the defined objective.

Public Health and medical personnel participating in the projects have knowledge and skills that can be applied to the work of their organization effectively.

1.2 Project on Public Health Emergency Response

At the time of the evaluation, overall result had not met the objective, but staff gained knowledge and experience in surveillance and emergency response. RRT is established, but still lack of knowledge and expertise in disease investigation.

1.3 Project on Point of Entry Development

The results of all three project sites had not achieved the objectives in developing a real-time information exchange system. It is lack of persons who responsible for communicable disease information, but staff can use social media to notify the outbreak.

Program 2

2.1 Project on Health Workforce Capacity Building in Health Service, Nursing and Communicable Disease Management

- Staff had knowledge in disease control and prevention planning and were able to apply knowledge gained in work.
- For the maximum benefit of applying knowledge to use in nursing management, participants f or training should be nurses who are supervisors or department heads rather than general ones.

2.2 Project on Training of Trainer on the Field Epidemiology

- There were epidemiologists according to the set goals.
- However, those who had been trained were unable to apply the knowledge in work, since epidemiology is a difficult body of knowledge and language problems.



Effectiveness

Program 3

- The competence of Cambodian health personnel were improved in terms of providing emergency medical services (EMS).
- In Koh Kong - Trat area, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) can be developed well for patient referral, but the other two areas have yet to be completed.
- Overall, Koh Kong - Trat was the most effective in terms of the referral system, medical device system and buildings, followed by Bantea Meanchey - Sa Kaeo. and Oddar Meanchey - Surin respectively.

Program 4

- Results of the projects in all 3 areas were in line with the specified goals.
- However, cooperation between Oddar Meanchey Hospital - Prasat Hospital, Surin province had not yet achieved the objective since the project started to operate later than the other two areas.

Efficiency

- The amount of inputs distributed by TICA was very productive comparing to the outputs.
- Thai and Cambodian staff had established strong communication and coordination mechanism by conducting frequent meetings and discussions.
- Except the projects on "Public Health Emergency Response" and "Promoting 'One Health' approach", the implementation of all projects met their objectives. However, it is consistent across the world which accepts that "The One Health Development Project" is difficult to do, but it should be done because it is a soft skill development which requires time and continuous practice for success.



Impact

- The capacity building activities organized by the projects have a potential to bring positive impact to medical and public health personnel in preventing and controlling of Malaria at the border of both countries.
- Malaria volunteers can provide self-care services and advice to patients in the community.
- Referral system and coordination between staff of both countries have been developed more systematically.
- Quality of emergency care service has been improved due to the support of essential medical equipment, ambulances, patient care buildings and trainings.
- Close cooperation between public health personnel of the two countries has resulted in a better exchange of knowledge, information and consultation on public health issues.



Sustainability

- According to the Cambodian government's public health policy, there is a high possibility that the success of the programme will be sustained at the institutional level.
- To maximize the benefits of the organization, the recruitment of personnel for the training must be appropriate and correct in the line of work and should be regular personnel in that area to avoid moving to work elsewhere.
- Referral system across Cambodia - Thailand border, which has developed both personnel and common standard practice (SOP) in preparing patients for referral, will be a sustainable activity in the future, including standardization of referral system within Cambodia.
- The programme on development of sister hospital has projects that promote cooperation between Hospitals in Cambodia and Thailand. In the future, even without budget support, this programme can carry out personnel exchange activities, study visit and counseling for further development of personnel and patient care methods.
- Building support must consist of equipment support, medical equipment including training the users to be able to use them properly. And the hospitals should have maintenance units to take care of the equipment as well as maintenance budget.



Recommendations

Based on the findings of the evaluation;

1. All stakeholders / beneficiaries should be informed of the programme's/projects' goal, objectives and work plans together throughout the programme/project cycle, from planning, during implementation and at the end of the project.
2. In case of budget limitation for staff training, the organizers should consider the number of training days and the number of participants to suit each course. This will help to better develop knowledge and skills of participants.
3. The support of medical and other equipment should take into account the ability to use, maintenance, electricity and maintenance budget. Some hospitals are able to adapt the existing ambulances to be more efficient and suitable for their areas which also help to save the budget.
4. The development of the referral system should also involve private sector. Public health personnel of the Cambodian sister hospitals should also be trained in medical knowledge.
5. The development of surveillance and emergency response system should be classified as a National Pan in order to change the culture of hospitals' corporate administration and should be studied and developed within the context of Cambodia's corporate culture.