



Regional Workshop

Implementing the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies (APSED III) in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Progress to Date and Opportunities for Enhancing Regional Health Security

19–20 November 2018

Pakse, Champasack Province, Lao PDR

CONCEPT NOTE

The Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED) is the common strategic framework for World Health Organization (WHO) member states of the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen regional and core capacities to effectively detect, prepare for and respond to threats posed by emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) and public health emergencies. APSED was first launched in 2005 and reviewed in 2010 and subsequently, focus areas were expanded from 5 to 8 (Surveillance Risk Assessment and Response; Laboratories; Zoonoses; Infection Prevention and Control; Risk Communication; Public Health Emergency Preparedness; Regional Preparedness, Alert and Response; and Monitoring and Evaluation).

APSED is still highly relevant as the region is still vulnerable to EIDs and public health emergencies and the focus areas are still appropriate after years of implementing the strategy. APSED relies on a systems approach to build capacity and preparedness.

The 2016 WHO review of APSED indicated improvements in areas such as surveillance systems; training in field epidemiology programs; rapid response teams; coordination between human and animal health ministries and for zoonotic disease; communication capacity for public health events; contingency planning; regional surveillance and information sharing; and national planning and monitoring and evaluation systems.

However, there has been limited or mixed progress in risk assessment capacity; infection prevention and control; establishment of emergency operations centres; and strengthened point of entry systems.

Although overall, there has been clear improvement in APSED implementation, progress in individual countries varies significantly.

The latest iteration of APSED, APSED III the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies, looks to confront health security threats and to build on the achievements of APSED 2005-2016.

Since 2016, Cambodia, Lao, Myanmar and Vietnam have had joint external evaluations (JEE) conducted with evidence of progress in core capacity areas, although more improvement is required. The regional workshop is an opportunity to review APSED implementation since 2016 and to identify key issues in maintaining and strengthening IHR capacities at both national and provincial levels in CLMV countries.

General Objective of the Regional Workshop:

To assess implementation aspects of APSED III for GMS countries to enable improved national and regional planning and knowledge for emerging infectious diseases and implementation of strategies for enhanced health security.

Specific Objectives:

- To review emerging issues and the progress of implementing APSED, including the national status of IHR core capacity requirements.
- To identify required improvements to countries' plans, based on JEEs, to effectively implement APSED III
- To assess optimal approaches to maintaining and strengthening core IHR capabilities and resources and support required
- To identify potential for enhanced collaboration between GMS countries to confront emerging diseases and public health emergencies
- To identify key areas of APSED improvement and to recommend practical solutions and interventions

Expected outcomes:

- A road map for GMS countries to continue maintenance and development of IHR core capacities
- Outline of plans for enhanced intercountry collaboration and intersectoral cooperation on health security
- Identification of potential regional cooperative activities required for effective implementation of IHR and APSED III
- Identification of relevant knowledge products outlining best practice and experiences from GMS countries
- Agreement of GMS countries on regional priority activities and actions based on findings and recommendations from the Workshop

Venue:

Arawan Riverside Hotel, Pakse, Champasack province, Lao PDR: 19–20 November 2018

Tel: +856 (031) 26034550 000; Fax +856 (031) 260678 188. Email: www.arawanhotel.com, sales@arawanhotel.com, arawan.hotellao@gmail.com.

Who should attend:

Specialists and senior personnel from various APSED/IHR related sectors (e.g. laboratory, surveillance and response, zoonoses, policy, POE, risk communication etc) should attend the workshop

AGENDA

Day One: 19 November 2018

8:00 – 8:30 **Registration**
Organizers – Department of Communicable
Disease Control (DCDC), Lao PDR

Opening **Host:** Department of Communicable Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Lao PDR

Session:

8:30 – 9:00	Welcome	Champasack Provincial Health Department
	Introduction and objectives of the regional workshop	Dr. Rattanaxay, Director-General, DCDC, MoH, Lao PDR
	Perspective from MoH, Lao PDR	Dr. Kyi Thar, Public Health Specialist, GMS Health Security, ADB
	Perspective from Asian Development Bank	
9:00 – 9:10	Opening of workshop	A/Professor Phouthone Muongpak, Vice Minister of Health, Lao PDR
9:10 – 9:30	Keynote Address: APSED Strategic Overview	Dr. Anthony Eshofonie, WPRO
9:30 – 10:00	Group photo and coffee	

Session 1: Country progress in implementing APSED since 2016: assessment of existing gaps and challenges, best practice and lessons learned

Chairperson:

Co-chair: Dr. Krang Sidonn, Cambodia

10:00 – 10:15	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>Cambodia</i>	Dr. Teng Srey, CDC Department, MoH, Cambodia
10:15 – 10:30	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>Lao PDR</i>	Dr. Rattanxay, DCDC, MoH, Lao PDR
10:30 – 10:45	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>Vietnam</i>	Dr. Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy GDPM, MoH, Vietnam
10:45 – 11:00	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>China</i>	Dr. Yang Mingdon, MoH, China
11:15 – 11:30	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>Malaysia</i>	MoH, Malaysia
11:30 – 11:45	APSED current situation: gaps, challenges and lessons learned: <i>Thailand</i>	Noparat Mongkalagoon, Department of Disease Control, MoPH, Thailand
11:45 – 12:15	APSED country situations: common issues, common solutions, learning from regional experience	Plenary discussion 1
12:15 – 1:30	Lunch	

Session 2: Implementing and monitoring APSED and IHR

Chairperson: Cambodia

Co-chair: Malaysia

1:30 – 2:15	Country experiences with joint external evaluations: main issues and follow up on recommendations	Country presentations
	Cambodia	CDC Department, MoH, Cambodia
	Lao	Dr. Viengsavanh Chantoumphone, DCDC MoH, Lao PDR

	Vietnam	Dr. Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy GDPM, MoH, Vietnam
	Thailand	Kesanee Sriruksa, Department of Disease Control, MoPH, Thailand
	<i>Malaysia and China to present if JEE conducted</i>	MoH, Malaysia and China
2:15 – 2:30	Resource implications and potential constraints in implementing APSED III	Cambodia
2:30 – 3:15	Panel discussion: APSED implementation at the national and sub national levels: roles and responsibilities	Moderator: Dr. Anthony Eshofone
	Cambodia Dr. Teng Srey	
	Lao PDR Dr. Rattanaxay	
	Vietnam Dr..Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy	
	USCDC Dr. Joshua Mott, Infectious Disease Program	
	ADB Dr. Kyi Thar	
3:15 – 3:30	Coffee break	

Session 3:	Groupwork
-------------------	------------------

3:30 – 5:00	<p>Topics</p> <p>Maintaining and strengthening core IHR capacities in the 8 Focus Areas</p> <p>APSED implementation at national and subnational levels</p> <p>Enhanced collaboration between GMS countries</p> <p>Key areas of APSED implementation: a road map to guide GMS countries</p>	
	<p>Outline of tasks for groups</p>	DCDC
	<p>Assignment of participants to groups</p> <p>Group 1: Strengthening core IHR capacities</p> <p>Group 2: APSED implementation nationally and subnationally</p> <p>Group 3: Enhanced intercountry collaboration</p> <p>Group 4: APSED country implementation plans</p>	
6:30 – 9:00	Welcome dinner	

Day Two:	20 November 2018
-----------------	-------------------------

8:30 – 8: 45	Recap and follow up of Day One issues	Workshop Rapporteur and Dr. Rattanxay, Lao PDR
--------------	---------------------------------------	---

8:45 – 11:00	Groupwork continues	
--------------	----------------------------	--

Groupwork presentations

Chairperson:	Dr. Kyi Thar	
Co-chair:	Thailand	

11:00 – 12:15	Group presentations	Presenters from Groups 1-4
12:15 – 1:30	Lunch	

Concluding Session:

Chairperson:	Dr. Rattanaxay	
Co-chair:	Vietnam	
1:30 – 2:30	Implications of group findings for APSED III implementation, capacity building, IHR roll out and regional cooperation	Plenary discussion 2
2:30 – 3:15	Conclusions and recommendations What we need to do to implement APSED III effectively Implementing the Focus Areas How we will maintain and strengthen core capacities and consolidate progress How we can collaborate better regionally Agreement on monitoring future progress on health security	Plenary discussion 3 and presentation of recommendations
3:15 – 3:30	Coffee break	
3:30 – 4:00	APSED implementation under the Health Security project APSED III implementation: perspective from Cambodia APSED III implementation: perspective from Vietnam APSED III implementation: perspective from Thailand APSED III implementation: perspective from China APSED III implementation: perspective from Malaysia	Dr. Kyi Thar Dr. Teng Srey Dr. Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy Thailand China Malaysia
4:00	Closing of the Workshop	Dr. Rattanxay, Lao PDR
