



## MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY

WHO Collaborating Centre for Primary Health Care Development  
ASEAN Institute for Health Development

### ANNUAL REPORT

#### 2005- 2006

The World Health Organization confirmed the redesignation of ASEAN Institute for Health Development as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Primary Health Care (PHC) Development on 1 October 2004, for the period lasting through 30 September 2008. The terms of reference and the work plan were revised.

#### **A. The Terms of Reference Were:**

1. To serve as a resource centre for “clearing house” activities with respect to dissemination of PHC information in the Region,
2. To organize inter-country training courses on subjects relating to PHC development and “Health for All” efforts as required by the organization.
3. To provide expertise for inter-country collaborative research projects on Primary Health Care development as required by the organization.
4. To provide technical support in monitoring PHC development as required by the organization.
5. To serve as a resource centre for quality assurance in the district health system using a PHC approach.

#### **B. Work Plan (1 October 2004 – 30 September 2008)**

1. Information system management for PHC development: AIHD’s new role as a WHO Collaborating Centre,
2. Capacity building on planning and management skills for middle management health professionals and Thai international health experts, with emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention programmes,
3. Modification of PHC system to support the Universal Health Coverage Insurance Scheme (i.e. 30 Baht Programme) in Thailand.
4. Community-based health care programme empowerment for the elderly through participatory action research (PAR),
5. Strengthening of community-based health programmes for migrant workers in border areas

## 1. Implementation of the Work Plan

**Activity 1:** Information System Management for PHC Development: AIHD's New Role as a WHO Collaborating Centre

### **Explanation:**

- 1.1 Database development for "Health Researchers in Thailand". This initially included a list of 67 Thai experts (also part of Activity 2),
- 1.2 AIHD collaboration with the Asia- Pacific Sociological Association (APSA) with respect to organizing a 3-day conference entitled, "The 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Asia- Pacific Sociological Association on Human Security in the Asia Pacific Region", held from 16-18 December 2005,
- 1.3 AIHD collaboration with the UNDP, with respect to organizing an 11-day workshop entitled, "The International Training Course on Early Warning Rapid Responses System", held from 17-27 January 2006,
- 1.4 AIHD collaboration with WHO.CC & Thailand Centres of Expertise, with respect to organizing a meeting entitled, "Sustainable Development and Environment (SDE) Sub-network Meeting", held on 10 November 2005. The main objectives of this session were as follows:
  - (1) To share the experiences and extraordinary practices of sub-network members,
  - (2) To identify common interest in the managerial and administrative process so that it will can impact upon decision making with respect to implementation of specific on-going programmes,
  - (3) To develop recommendations to conduct effective future activities.

**Activity 2:** Capacity building on planning and management skills for middle management health professionals and Thai international health experts in Thailand, with an emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention programmes.

### **Explanation:**

- 2.1 Consultative meeting and literature review undertaken to identify the needs' assessment,
- 2.2 Workshop conducted with respect to curriculum development,
- 2.3 Workshop conducted for health professionals and potential Thai international health experts,
  - 2.3.1 Reviewed a list of 180 potential candidates Thai experts, and recruited the final cohort of trainees,
  - 2.3.2 Conducted a training course on "Strengthening the Competencies of Thai Experts to Support Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in the Field of HIV/AIDS and Primary Health Care". The trainees were divided into 2 groups. The first group was trained from 14 -16 November 2005, while the second group was trained from 21 – 23 November 2005.

The training schedule was identical for both groups.

- 2.4 Interactive learning: Through the use of a participatory process for interactive learning, trainees were able to more easily share their experiences and knowledge with lecturers/facilitators,
- 2.5 Evaluation: An evaluation was conducted, aimed at obtaining trainee feedback related to the performance of lecturers/facilitators as well as course content. Trainees found several sessions dealing, for example, with management issues and report writing to be very specific. Two very useful suggestions, from this evaluation, were that the training program should consider conducting an immediate follow-up practice field study in selected neighboring countries, and that future continuing education should be scheduled as part of the training course,
- 2.6 Documentation: A report was written and dissemination entitled, “Strengthening Competencies of Thai Experts in Support of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in the Field of HIV/AIDS and Primary Health Care”.

**Activity 3:** Modification of the PHC system to support the current Universal Health Coverage Insurance Scheme (i.e. 30 Baht Programme) in Thailand

**Explanation:**

According to TOR#5 [i.e. “To serve as a resource centre for quality assurance in district health system using a PHC approach”], AIHD determined that its proposed active role with respect to quality assurance in support of the National Health Security Office was over optimistic. However it could nevertheless undertake and participate in research and development projects aimed at improving the cost-effectiveness of community-based health care programmes implemented as part of the provincial/district health systems, based upon a PHC approach. These initiatives included the following:

- 3.1 A Community Survey for Evaluation of Healthy Families According to the National Indicators,
- 3.2 The Evaluation of Healthy Communities Development Projects of 17 Local Self-Governments in 8 Provinces of Central Thailand (2006-2008),
- 3.3 A Survey of the Accessibility to Education-based Information on Avian Influenza for Rural People in Thailand (2006-2007),

**Activity 4:** Community-based health care programme empowerment for Quality of Life (QOL) development of the elderly through Participatory Action Research (PAR).

**Explanation:**

- 4.1. A brainstorming workshop was conducted among key stakeholders that included the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, AIHD and the Life Development Foundation (NGO), aimed at starting the Partnership Development for Inter-sectoral Coordination and Multi-

disciplinary Collaboration Approach Project. The research proposal was based on the results of a workshop entitled, “Integrated Planning and Strengthening Partnership Approaches for Community – based Quality of Life Development for the Thai Elderly”,

- 4.2. Establishment of a Steering Committee and a Research and Project Management Committee that was fully attended by all concerned partners,
- 4.3. Selection of Kanchanaburi Province as the Project pilot intervention area

**Activity 5:** Strengthening of community -based health programmes for migrant workers in border areas.

***Explanation:***

- 5.1 Investigation of health systems available and the health situations for migrant workers in border areas. This initiative would support follow-up for and the monitoring of PHC-MAP course trainees sponsored by the American Refugee Committee (ARC) in Kanchanaburi,
- 5.2 Based upon PHC MAP Modules, the research group reviewed and revised the modules so that they could be appropriately used in support of human capacity building activities for District Health practitioners and for supervisory staff in the Project intervention area,
- 5.3 Training of facilitators to properly use the training modules in Kanchanaburi, Chumphon and Ranong Provinces in order to create District Health Trainers Taskforces

## **1. Collaboration between AIHD and WHO**

AIHD has regularly communicated and consulted, as well as arranged visits and undertaken collaborative activities, with WR staff in Thailand and WHO/SEARO officials. It also assisted the WR and the WHO WPRO offices to organize and conduct a short-term training on “Health Services Management with Emphasis on Hospital Service” for two health professionals from Mongolia.

## **2. Collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres**

AIHD has actively engaged in close collaboration and coordination with WHO Collaborating Centres and National Centres of Expertise in Thailand and within the region. This has included the HIV/AIDS RCC Project, and the international programme for Master of Primary Health Care Management (MPHM), and other international short-term training courses.

AIHD has also increasingly played an active role of WHO CC/PHC not only through the WHO Network of Collaborating Centres and Centres of Expertise in Thailand (NEW-CCET), but also by working directly with the Office of the WHO representative for Thailand.

With respect to activities undertaken as part of the HIV/AIDS RCC Project, AIHD used this opportunity to serve as a coordinating fulcrum for related ASEAN international health and WHO bi-regional international health (WHO SEARO and WHO WPRO) activities.