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The Assessment and Mitigation of the Impact of Transport Infrastructure and Services on the Spread of HIV/AIDS



An Annotated Bibliography



UNITED NATIONS

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Impact of Transport Infrastructure and
Services on the Spread of HIV/AIDS

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFPPD	Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
APICT	Asia-Pacific Intercountry Team
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AUSAID	Australian Government's Overseas Aid Programme
DFID	Department for International Development
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Country
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NGO	non-governmental organization
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper
STD	sexually transmitted disease
STI	sexually transmitted infection
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA/CST	United Nations Population Fund-Country Technical Services
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

INTRODUCTION

This annotated bibliography on the Assessment and Mitigation of the Impact of Transport Infrastructure and Services on the Spread of HIV/AIDS provides a thorough introduction to activities in the ESCAP region, and in some cases in other parts of the world, such as Africa. It is to be used as a tool for those working on this highly important issue, and it will provide a clear picture, both of the region and of its activities and research on HIV/AIDS and the transport industry. The bibliography is divided into five main chapters, or areas (a) United Nations publications, (b) country/regional reports, (c) books/journals/magazines, (d) general references and (e) websites. Under each heading activities, projects, reports or publications are listed, each with an abstract where the main objectives and recommendations are reported. Information on how to find additional information or how to procure the document is also provided.

This bibliography is available in hard copy from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development Division (TCTIDD), United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand, Tel.: (662) 288 1371, Fax.: (662) 280 6042 or through email: tctidd.unescap@un.org. It can also be found on the ESCAP/TCTIDD web site: <http://www.unescap.org/tctd/>. We would like to point out that the field is highly dynamic and a lot of activities and efforts are being undertaken, and that the bibliography should be considered an open work. We would be grateful to receive additional input as it appears, so as to be able to continuously update and complete this bibliography. In doing so we may together build a strong knowledge database in the region, of help and interest to everyone engaged in issues of HIV/AIDS and the transport industry.

I. UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS

1. Reduction of HIV vulnerability within the land transport sector: towards a public policy framework for addressing HIV/AIDS in the transport sector

Proceedings from a workshop jointly organized by UNDP/ESCAP/UNAIDS, held in Bangkok, Thailand, 22-23 November 1999. Workshop document, 34 pages, May 2000.

Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 288-2165, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Website: www.hiv-development.org

ISBN: 974-68500-8-3

Keywords: vulnerability, land transport, public policy, workshop, Asia Pacific, Thailand, Myanmar, China, Viet Nam, India, South Africa, reduction programme

Abstract: This report is part of the documentation for a workshop held for member countries in the Asia-Pacific region in Bangkok in 1999. Its purpose was to foster the development of public policy to reduce vulnerability by investigating the land transport sector. The policy would comprise two distinct facets. First, it would complement ongoing efforts by the international community and NGOs, as well as by the public and private sectors to counter the spread of HIV/AIDS among people in the transport sector. Second, it would employ the use of public transport facilities as one of the most effective sites to deliver HIV/AIDS behaviour change communication messages and prevention measures to the general public.

The papers presented at the workshop included the overall picture of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region as well as the situation in individual countries. The countries that shared their experience of the epidemic included China, India, Myanmar, South Africa, Thailand, and Viet Nam. China looked into the situation of HIV/AIDS in the railway sector. The Indian presentations highlighted the efforts undertaken in Tamil Nadu to prevent STD/HIV/AIDS along the highway and the attempts to stop the spread of the disease in the transport sector. Myanmar displayed the experience of the Population Services International Organization, which operates social marketing and communications for health. South Africa presented their HIV/AIDS policy for the transport sector. Thailand presented partnerships where the private sector had collaborated with the government to fight HIV/AIDS. Viet Nam presented the experience of the National Highway One Project.

The recommendations at the end of the workshop called for ministries and agencies involved in the land transport sector to take a more proactive role in the prevention of HIV infection and to care for people living with AIDS. It was agreed that the immediate task was to develop policy and strategic planning frameworks that could be used as reference tools for policy makers in the land transport sector and guide them on how to incorporate HIV/AIDS vulnerability reduction programmes into their overall strategies.

2. Building an alliance with the transport sector in HIV vulnerability reduction

By Lee-Nah Hsu, 10 pages, March 2001.

*Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.
Tel: (662) 288-2165, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Website: www.hiv-development.org
ISBN: 974-680-180-5*

Keywords: alliance, vulnerability reduction, prevention, policy, strategy

Abstract: This document comes in the form of a memorandum. The author is responsible for the UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project. The memorandum focuses on if and how the transport sector may contribute to the reduction of HIV vulnerability. It provides some concrete examples of how the operational efficiency of the transport system can contribute to reducing the vulnerability of its workers and passengers to HIV infection. Some statistics are provided, illustrating the positive correlation between road construction improvement and the increase in HIV prevalence in areas where there are no proactive transport sector HIV prevention policies and strategies.

3. Cambodia HIV vulnerability mapping: highways one and five

Prepared by the National Centre for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD, Cambodia, 19 pages, January 2000.

*Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.
Tel: (662) 288-2165, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Website: www.hivundp.apdip.net/sea.htm
ISBN: 974-68016-7-8*

Keywords: Cambodia, mapping, Highways One and Five, economic liberalization, effective intervention

Abstract: The factors influencing HIV vulnerability in Cambodia are quite numerous. Economic liberalization and intermittent political upheaval have led to an increased exposure to HIV. The increasing mobility of the population, including visitors, refugees and ex-soldiers and rural to urban migration have increased the availability of commercial sex and have resulted in cultural changes regarding, for example, extramarital sexual practices. The mapping project of HIV vulnerability along Highway One and highway Five was initiated to develop the country's AIDS action plan for HIV prevention.

The findings show that while the local responses to the HIV epidemic along the two highways are not well established, factors potentially increasing HIV vulnerability along the two highways and beyond were found to be numerous. The findings also showed that vulnerability was related to changing attitudes and behaviour among men regarding extramarital sexual practices. This was particularly true among relatively highly paid drivers and crews. It is expected that once these two highways are fully operational, the spread of HIV will intensify among the communities along them. Effective interventions to reduce HIV vulnerability are, therefore, vital to the prevention of the epidemic and will need the collaboration of communities, contractors and government authorities.

The report includes questionnaires on land transport, HIV prevalence and behaviour, along with the highway mappings of the five provinces.

4. Population mobility and HIV vulnerability in South-East Asia: an assessment and analysis

By Ronald Skeldon, 27 pages, February 2000.

Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

*Tel: (662) 288-2165, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Website: www.hivundp.apdip.net/sea.htm
ISBN: 974-85835-1-1*

Keywords: population mobility, South-East Asia, Chiang Rai, Thailand, assessment, resilience factor, geographic cluster

Abstract: This report is part of the documentation for a workshop held in Chiang Rai, Thailand, between 10-12 of November 1999 under the auspices of the UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project. The workshop focused on the linkages between population movements, area development, and HIV/AIDS. The objective was to formulate joint action plans among member countries in South-East Asia who share the challenge and risk of dealing with the disease in population movements.

The paper provides a review of existing data in order to identify the significance and the location of various types of migration in the ASEAN region. It specially attempted to identify the intersection/interaction points and patterns. It investigates the behaviour and practice of mobile populations associated with the spread of HIV/AIDS, and identifies both vulnerability factors and possible “resilience factors” to the disease.

The paper contains strategic recommendations for collaboration among countries in the region. The resulting future joint action plans will typically consist of geographic clusters, recognizing the relationships and interactions among individual countries and sectors in the region. Effective approaches in reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS in some specific sectors have been sought out and are supported by the private sector.

5. Early warning rapid response system: HIV vulnerability caused by mobility related to development

By Jacques du Guerny and Lee-Nah Hsu, 18 pages, July 2000.

Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 288-2165, *Fax:* (662) 280-1852, *Website:* www.hivundp.apdip.net/sea.htm

Keywords: Early Warning Rapid Response System, vulnerability, mobility, development, paradigm, proximate determinant

Abstract: Until now, most of the strategies adopted to fight HIV/AIDS have been developed under a health-centred paradigm focusing on three measurements: prevention, care and mitigation of the infection effects. In recent years, a development-centred paradigm has emerged, focusing on social factors such as poverty, income differentials and landlessness. This emerging paradigm is complementary to the health paradigm.

The report highlights the differences between the two paradigms and the rationale for an Early Warning Rapid Response System. It also explores some avenues for establishing such a system.

The health-centred paradigm focuses on the proximate determinants and the consequences of infection at various levels, for example, individual, family. The development-centred paradigm has its main focus earlier in the chain of events leading to possible HIV infection in order to intervene in the dynamics of the relevant development-related factors before they increase vulnerabilities and fuel determinants of higher risk behaviour.

The Early Warning Rapid Response System is another step that attempts to increase the speed of response to situations where there exists heightened vulnerability to HIV. It attempts to monitor more directly the processes that affect vulnerability, with the focus placed on social subsystems rather than on populations traditionally targeted because of assumed high levels of risk behaviour. The methodology typically involves four chronological steps: (a) identification of the situation; (b) assessment of impact on the mobility system; (c) analysis of potential impacts on HIV vulnerability; and (d) development of responses to mitigate the impact of increased vulnerability.

6. Land transport and HIV vulnerability: a development challenge

Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 288-2165, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Website: www.hiv-development.org

ISBN: 974-680-186-4

Keywords: advocacy, strategy and policy development, strategic action, land transport

Abstract: This brochure-like document is published as a call for attention to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the land transport sector. The paper attempts to briefly respond to four questions:

1. Why is HIV/AIDS an issue for the land transport sector?
2. Who should be involved?
3. What needs to be done?
4. How can the land transport sector help?

The planning process recommended by UNDP, UNAIDS and ESCAP for the land transport sector consists of the following:

- Advocacy
- Involvement of people who can make a difference
- Strategy and policy development
- Commitment of resources and the finding of new resources
- Implementation of policies and strategic actions

7. Report of the Intercountry Meeting of Parliamentarians and Specialists on HIV/AIDS and STDs in East and South-East Asia

Meeting held in Bangkok from 12 to 14 November 1999. Meeting report 104 pages.

Meeting jointly organized by:

(1) AFPPD, c/o The Neurological Research Foundation Building, Sala Pamnak, 312 Rajavithi Road, Phayathai, Bangkok 10400, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 248-6726-7, Fax: (662) 246-8827, Email: afppd@inet.co.th

(2) UNAIDS Asia-Pacific Intercountry Team, Third Floor, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 288-2497-8, Fax: (662) 288-1092, Email: unaids-apict.unescap@un.org

(3) UNFPA Country Technical Services Team for East and South-East Asia, 14th Floor, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

Tel: (662) 280-3320, Fax: (662) 280-2715, Email: cst-Bangkok.unescap@un.org

Keywords: intercountry, parliamentarians, specialist, East and South-East Asia, cause, consequence, preventive programme, policy, legislation, human rights, resource mobilization

Abstract: This report is part of the documentation for a workshop held in Bangkok on 12-14 November 1999, jointly organized by the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Asia-Pacific Inter-country Team (UNAIDS/APICT) and the United Nations Population Fund - Country Technical Services Team for East and South-East Asia (UNFPA/CST).

In total, 36 parliamentarians from 11 countries of East and South-East Asia participated in this meeting. They recognized that they themselves constituted a key resource in the efforts to combat HIV/AIDS as well as other STDs. They committed themselves to this cause and agreed to mobilize support by using their positive influence and prestige. They aimed to accomplish their objectives through efforts involving advocacy, legislation and resource mobilization.

The report contains a thorough documentation of all sessions of the meeting, including:

Chapter I	Plan of Action
Chapter II	Attendance
Chapter III	Opening ceremony and summary of all keynote speakers
Chapter IV	Proceedings in plenary sessions: HIV/AIDS/STDs situation in Asia and the Pacific HIV/AIDS/STDs: causes, consequences, preventive programmes Awareness and advocacy for responses to HIV/AIDS/STDs HIV/AIDS/STDs: Care and support NGO roles in HIV/AIDS/STDs responses HIV/AIDS/STDs: policies, legislation and human rights Governance and HIV/AIDS Young people living with HIV/AIDS Programme support and mobilization of resources
Chapter V	Adoption of the plan of action Statements of commitment by parliamentarians Closing ceremony

The list of participants is also included in the report.

8. A global view of HIV infections

Poster-size map.

UNAIDS, 2001

Available from: UNAIDS, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.
Tel: (4122) 791-4651, *Fax:* (4122) 791-4187, *Email:* unaid@unaid.org

Keywords: global, poster, map, prevalence, epidemic

Abstract: This poster-size map provides up-to-date information of HIV infected populations on a global scale. It contains three pertinent maps, each conveying an important message on the different HIV epidemics around the world. Together, the three maps present an illuminating picture of the magnitude, impact and recent trends of HIV spread in regions, countries and societies, thus providing very useful information on the HIV/AIDS populations worldwide.

The first map presents the prevalence rate of HIV infection among adults at the end of 1999. This map gives a measure of the epidemic in a country, regardless of the size of its population. The second map shows the estimated number of people living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 1999. This measure allows for a better understanding of the magnitude of the resources needed for the care and support of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The third map gives the proportional change in estimated adult HIV prevalence between 1994 and 1999, thus reflecting the recent dynamics of the HIV epidemic.

9. HIV vulnerability and population mobility in the northern provinces of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Prepared by James R. Chamberlain in collaboration with: The HIV/AIDS Trust, Lao People's Democratic Republic, The National Committee for the Control of AIDS, and UNDP Vientiane. 44 pages, March 2000.

Available from: UNDP South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.
Tel: (662) 288-2165, *Fax:* (662) 280-1852, *Website:* www.hivundp.apdip.net/sea.htm
ISBN: 974-85913-8-7

Keywords: vulnerability, population mobility, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Oudomxay, Louang Namtha, Louang Prabang, Vientiane

Abstract: This report investigates the risk potential for the spread of HIV in the northern part of the country along Route 13, which is the main highway. The study focuses on sectors of commerce and business enterprises catering to mobile segments of the population and on the patrons of such establishments.

The report is organized into three parts:

Part I Provides introductory information and an overview of the findings. The existing socio-economic characteristics are described, focusing on women and employment, human development, social capital, commerce, regional economy, and transportation systems. The current pathway and the potential for the future spread of HIV/AIDS are subsequently explored.

- Part II Presents the methodology and a summary of the information gathered for each of the four provinces (Oudomxay, Louang Namtha, Louang Prabang, and Vientiane). Each has its own unique characteristics, but general issues include transportation, labour and establishments frequented by mobile populations.
- Part III Provides recommendations for the National Committee for the Control of AIDS as well as for UNDP on how best to pursue the objectives.

<p>10. AIDS, poverty reduction and debt relief: a toolkit for mainstreaming HIV/AIDS programmes into development instruments</p>

Jointly supported UNAIDS and the World Bank. 47 pages, March 2001.

Available from: UNAIDS, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.
Tel: (4122) 791-4651, *Fax:* (4122) 791-4187, *Email:* unaids@unaids.org
ISBN: 92-9173-051-3

Keywords: poverty reduction, debt relief, toolkit, development instrument, earmarking, channelling, accountability

Abstract: This project attempts to reserve a prominent place for HIV/AIDS on the agenda of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and the Heavily Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) agreements. They include giving greater political attention and increased domestic funding to national HIV/AIDS programmes. This would, in turn, help to forge greater consensus among stakeholders on the primary strategies and medium-term goals in tackling the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The report provides details of the following issues:

- National HIV/AIDS programmes serve as a contribution to poverty reduction
- The essence of programme contents should be a priority in the PRSP and HIPC documents; selected examples of African countries are included
- Use of funds should be released through earmarking, channelling and accountability
- Policies are influenced through coalition building in order to ensure that HIV/AIDS is on the agenda and through the development of a skilful team to manage the process

This document can be used as a toolkit for training at the national and subregional levels for country teams and their partners from NGOs as well as donor agencies. It would enable country teams to develop further materials on scaled-up HIV/AIDS programmes for inclusion in the PRSP and HIPC documents. Recommendations are provided to further improve this toolkit and processes are presented for building coalitions to support national responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

11. Population mobility and AIDS

UNAIDS Technical Update, February 2001, 15 pages.

Available from: UNAIDS, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.
Tel: (4122) 791-4651, *Fax:* (4122) 791-4187, *Email:* unaids@unaids.org
ISBN 92-9173-035-1

Keywords: population mobility, migration, global, prevention

Abstract: Population mobility, migration and HIV/AIDS have become global phenomena at the beginning of this new millennium. Since the emergence of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, concerns have been focused on people moving between countries. It is widely recognized that migrants and mobile populations are more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS. Owing to the large number of migrants and mobile populations in today's world, urgent and substantial actions are critical as a response to this vulnerability. The effectiveness of national programmes to tackle the epidemic must be highlighted.

The report indicates that responses for migrants and mobile people must address HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support throughout their journey – before they leave, as they travel, in communities and countries where they stay, and after they return home. These responses must be based on the social and contextual realities faced by migrants and mobile populations and should be part of an empowerment process that improves their legal, social, economic and health status. Some suggested actions are also provided.

12. Reducing girls' vulnerability to HIV/AIDS: the Thai approach

UNAIDS Case Study, June 1999, 51 pages.

Available from: UNAIDS, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.
Tel: (4122) 791-4651, *Fax:* (4122) 791-4187, *Email:* unaids@unaids.org

Keywords: Thailand, child prostitution, sex workers, Thai Women of Tomorrow, Education Loan Fund

Abstract: This booklet contains a case-study research project in Thailand, undertaken by the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University. The study focuses on the vulnerability of girls in Thailand to HIV/AIDS owing to the fact that young girls particularly from the northern region of the country are at risk of finding themselves engaged in the sex industry at an early age. The study investigates four aspects of the problem. They are:

- Why girls become prostitutes
- Particular vulnerability to HIV/AIDS of sex workers in Thailand

- Strategies for preventing child prostitution
- Implementation of the strategies

Three major projects have been identified and are being undertaken in order to keep children out of the sex industry and to improve their lives in general. They are:

Sema Pattana Cheewit Project (Sema Life Development Project)

This project was initiated to help underprivileged girls enrol in secondary school by providing scholarships of 3,000 baht (approximately US\$ 77) each. This amount is sufficient to cover all educational costs and personal expenses.

Thai Women of Tomorrow Project

This project focuses on the same basic group of children as the first project, but for slightly older girls who have completed Grade 6 but have not progressed further in their education. They will be provided with assistance and advice in order for them to change their attitudes towards prostitution and to provide vocational training to increase their working skills.

Education Loan Fund Project

This project aims to help the children of disadvantaged families, both boys and girls, who have finished Grade 9 and who cannot afford to enter upper-level secondary school, and secondary school graduates who wish to continue to vocational school or university training. These children will be eligible for loans from the fund.

Three provinces in the north, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao, have been selected to participate in the projects.

13. Summary booklet of best practices

UNAIDS Best Practice Collection, Issue 1, June 1999, 223 pages. Produced by UNAIDS

Available from: UNAIDS, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Tel: (4122) 791-4651, Fax: (4122) 791-4187, Email: unaids@unaids.org

Keywords: best practices, policy, strategy, access to HIV/AIDS-related drugs, antiretroviral therapy, children and young people, communications programming, community mobilization, counselling and voluntary counselling and testing, health system personnel and training, human rights, ethics and law, injecting drug use, male condom, men who have sex with men, mother to child transmission, prisons, religion, school-based interventions and services, sex workers, sexually transmitted diseases, surveillance and reporting (epidemiology), vaccines, workplace

Abstract: UNAIDS has been requested to provide brief and up-to-date information on the constructive and creative activities that people and organizations are undertaking with respect to HIV/AIDS. This document was produced and disseminated as a practical illustration of experiences from work done around the world.

The objectives of the booklet on best practices are:

- To strengthen the capacity to identify, document, exchange, promote, use and adapt best practices as lessons learned within a country or on an intercountry level as a means to expand national responses to HIV/AIDS
- To promote the application of the best practices process for policy and strategy definition and formulation
- To collect, produce, disseminate and promote best practices

Information has been collected on 50 topics related to HIV/AIDS. The practices described are organized, first, according to their main topic areas. Each practice is preceded by a brief introduction. Since most practices are relevant to more than one topic area, an index is provided at the end of the summary so that practices can be found by their secondary topic areas, as well as by country.

The main topic areas covered are as follows:

- Access to HIV/AIDS-related drugs
- Antiretroviral therapy
- Children and young people
- Communications programming
- Community mobilization
- Counselling and voluntary counselling and testing
- Health system personnel and training
- Human rights, ethics and law
- Injecting drug use
- Male condom
- Men who have sex with men
- Mother to child transmission
- Prisons
- Religion
- School-based interventions and services
- Sex workers
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Surveillance and reporting (epidemiology)
- Vaccines
- Workplace

In addition to the printed issue of this booklet, which will be updated regularly, an electronic version will be made available on the UNAIDS Internet web page at <http://www.unaids.org/highband/bpc/introduction.html>. This will provide access to practices as soon as they are added to the database and allow them to be downloaded and printed as needed.

II. COUNTRY/REGIONAL REPORTS

1. China responds to AIDS: HIV/AIDS situation and needs assessment report

Jointly prepared by the China Ministry of Health and the United Nations Theme Group on HIV/AIDS in China. 40 pages, November 1997.

Contact persons:

Dr. Shen Jie, Director, Division II, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Health.

Tel: (8610) 6403-3127, Fax: (8610) 6401-4332, Email: mddc2@juol.cn.net.

Mr. Liu Kangmai, Chinese Association for STD/AIDS Prevention and Control,

Tel: (8610) 6317-8284, Fax: (8610) 6302-2960. Dr. Emile Fox, UNAIDS Country

Programme Advisor, China, Tel:/Fax: (8610) 6532-5467, Email: unaids@juol.cn.net

Keywords: China, needs assessment, prevention programme, Henan, Shadong, Sichuan, Yunnan

Abstract: A decade prior to the end of the twentieth century, the HIV/AIDS epidemic in China was not very serious compared with other countries, but the Chinese Government realized the epidemic was unavoidable and emerging. Despite the fact that the Chinese Government had made much progress in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention, the problem was too big and too complex and China felt it needed to seek international cooperation to improve their efforts in fighting the spread of the disease. The Ministry of Health and the United Nations Theme Group on HIV/AIDS in China decided to host a donor meeting in Beijing in January 1998. It was proposed that a study be undertaken to investigate the situation, and an assessment of needs was presented at the meeting. This report is the outcome of that work.

The report attempts to achieve a more comprehensive understanding of the situation with respect to the prevalence and trends in HIV/AIDS and the related risk behaviour of the affected populations. It assesses the approaches already undertaken and their level of success. It also clarifies the major needs and requirements, at all levels, of those charged with HIV/AIDS prevention in China.

The assessment methodology consists of four parts:

- (a) A survey by questionnaire, with responses from 24 provinces and a number of local experts;
- (b) Focus group discussions on various topics, including particular at-risk populations such as men who have sex with men;
- (c) Field investigations by three teams: the first team visited Shanxi, Henan and Shandong provinces; the second team visited Urumqi City and Ili Autonomous Prefecture in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Chengdu City and Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan; and the third team visited Yunnan Province;
- (d) Collection of existing documents and published papers.

The report consists of three parts:

- Part I (China and AIDS Today) provides a description of the current HIV/AIDS situation in China and the factors expected to facilitate the future spread of HIV.
- Part II (China's commitment to Fighting AIDS) describes the response of the government and various communities, as well as previous support from the United Nations and the international community.
- Part III (Expanding China's Response to AIDS) outlines what is needed to combat HIV/AIDS and how the international community can support China.

2. Project administered by Voluntary Health Services, Chennai with financial assistance from the United States Agency for International Development under bilateral agreement with the Government of India

Available from: AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Adyar, Chennai 600 113, India, Tel: (9144) 2352965, Fax: (9144) 2355018, Email: apacvhs@vsnl.com

Keywords: sexual behaviour, Tamil Nadu, India, mobile population, urban settlement, prostitution, condom, programme intervention

Abstract: The epidemic of HIV/AIDS in India detected its first case of HIV in Tamil Nadu in September 1986. The AIDS prevention and control project under the Voluntary Health Services has initiated several strategies to prevent the spread of infection in Tamil Nadu. The goal of the project is to reduce the sexual transmission since it is the major mode of transmission, accounting for 80 per cent of the infections in the state.

The project targets populations with high risk behaviour for sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS by attempting to change their behaviour and by encouraging safe sexual practices. Major activities focus on promoting condoms, improving services to prevent and control sexually transmitted diseases, counselling, behavioural changes and research. The project aims to focus on intervention among persons with heightened vulnerability to STD/HIV/AIDS. Targeted groups are identified as follows:

- Mobile people along the highways
- Women in prostitution
- Urban backward settlements
- Tourists
- Clinics

The report covers the following elements of the study:

- Situation assessment
- History of prostitution in Tamil Nadu
- Legal issues of prostitution
- Estimation of people involved in the sex trade in Tamil Nadu
- Profile of respondents
- Lifestyle of women in prostitution and intricacies of the trade
- Sexual practices in the sex trade circuit
- Health seeking behaviour
- Knowledge, misconceptions and practices regarding STD/HIV/AIDS
- Use of condoms
- Programme intervention

3. The crossroads of risk and responsibility: truck drivers and HIV/AIDS in central Viet Nam

By Allan Beesey, funded by AusAID and implemented by World Vision International – Viet Nam. 89 pages, April 1998.

Available from: For further information please contact Allan Beesey, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 10330, Tel: (662) 218 7415 / (662) 218 7419, Fax: (662) 255 1124, Email: abeesey@hotmail.com

Keywords: crossroad, truck driver, Viet Nam, behaviour change communication, prevention programme, village women

Abstract: The first case of HIV infection was found in 1990. Estimations of countrywide infections amount to approximately 100,000 persons. Most cases of HIV/AIDS are found among drug users and in Ho Chi Minh City, but lately infection rates in the provinces are shown to be on the rise. Truck drivers are perceived in many countries throughout the world to be at high risk of contracting HIV and to be an important vector in spreading HIV/AIDS. Viet Nam is not an exception and therefore this study was carried out to find appropriate strategies for the prevention and reduction of HIV/AIDS.

The goal of the project is to devise prevention programmes for the central area of the country in order to fight HIV/AIDS through increasing knowledge and awareness of truck drivers and village women to allow these vulnerable groups to prepare themselves for the disease. The specific objectives are to provide training for local government staff and to conduct a contextual study for implementing behaviour change communication strategies for truck drivers.

The report provides details of the study methodology, results of the findings and the corresponding recommendations. Specific categories of the research include:

- Driver profile and working conditions
- Driving experience
- Prostitution
- Marriage and infidelity
- Male culture and role expectation
- Condom use
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- HIV/AIDS knowledge and awareness
- Living with HIV/AIDS

The report highlights a total of 27 recommendations of which 22 are direct responses to the findings of the above categories and the remaining are general recommendations.

4. AIDS AND TRANSPORT: The experience of Ugandan road and rail transport workers and their unions

Study prepared by Winnie Bikaako-Kajura for the International Transport Workers' Federation, supported by the Dutch trade union centre, FNV. 60 pages, July 2000.

Available from: International Transport Workers' Federation, ITF House, 49-60 Borough Road, London SE1 1DS, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 20 7403 2733, Fax: +44 7357 7871, Email: mail@itf.org.uk
ISBN: 0-901969-42-7

Keywords: Uganda, Trans-African Highway, long-distance trucker, union worker, implication, intervention

Abstract: This study was commissioned by the International Transport Workers' Federation to examine the effects of HIV/AIDS on transport workers in Africa in general by exploring the situation in Uganda. The target populations were long-distance truckers and the communities with whom they interacted, as well as unionized transport workers who were affiliated to the International Transport Workers' Federation.

The research methodology comprised two levels of data collection. Primary data were obtained directly from long-distance truckers by interviewing them at the main border points and stopovers along the Trans-African highway. Secondary data were obtained from the union leadership at the workplace of unionized transport workers.

The report contains four main components as follows:

1. Context of HIV/AIDS in Uganda

This chapter investigates the national HIV/AIDS strategy and policy, as well as HIV/AIDS interventions.

2. Long-distance truckers

This chapter explores the socio-demographic background of the long-distance truckers along the Trans-African Highway. Their behavioural patterns and working conditions are examined.

3. Unionized transport workers

This chapter explores the socio-demographic background of the unionized transport workers through their personal files at their workplaces. Their knowledge, attitudes and practices related to sexual activities, regular and casual partnerships with women, condom use and risk perception are investigated. The policy on HIV/AIDS and practices at their workplace are also identified.

4. Implications for intervention

This chapter deals with how to provide effective intervention to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS by focusing on the relationships in which the individuals are involved rather than on the individual.

The recommendations of this study call for three basic requirements as follows:

- Education

Aim to increase awareness of and implications of the HIV/AIDS pandemic

- Collective bargaining for improved working conditions

Negotiate for fewer working hours in terms of work and rest hours, better working facilities at the border and stopovers, and more time with their family

- Care of people with AIDS and mitigation of the socio-economic effects of AIDS among transport workers

Provide incentives for behavioural changes and encourage target groups to act in a non-risk manner to their family and society

5. Socio-economic impact of HIV on the transport sector in India

Draft report by Barun Kanjilal, Indian Institute of Health Management Research and Steven Forsythe, International Family Health. 107 pages, November 21, 1997.

Available from: Department for International Development, India. Plot 5 Block 50F, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, Tel: (9111) 467-3889, Fax: (9111) 467-3896, Email: V-Ganesh@dfid.gov.uk

Keywords: socio-economic impact, India, truck, productivity, stakeholder

Abstract: The trucking industry in India largely consists of small companies with 98 per cent of owners/operators having five trucks or less. Currently the trucking industry is characterized by a strong economic vulnerability. Fuel prices, which account for 60 per cent

of operating costs, have recently increased by 30 per cent, while freight rates have declined by 35 per cent. Meanwhile, the insurance companies have imposed an eight-fold increase in the cost of truck insurance. This has put great strain on small trucking companies, making them no longer able to meet their operating costs, or make capital investment for their future fleet sustainability.

This project has attempted to address the question of how India's trucking industry is affected by rapidly growing rates of HIV/AIDS infection. The study explores four areas: (a) existing economic vulnerability; (b) industry trends; (c) direct and indirect impacts incurred by the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and (d) coping mechanisms.

A number of economic weaknesses within the industry are identified, many of them highly influenced by the detrimental effects of HIV/AIDS on the industry. The loss of productivity incurred by drivers infected by HIV/AIDS is likely to lead to further revenue losses and may eventually force companies out of business. The cost of maintaining the current level of death benefits may overwhelm many businesses. Smaller companies are likely to be less capable of responding to the epidemic.

Owing to impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the industry is likely have less profitable companies, this being especially true for the smaller ones, eventually enabling only large companies to stay in business.

HIV/AIDS among truckers is likely to have negative impacts on all the stakeholders of the trucking industry, particularly insurance and finance companies. Insurance companies are affected by the shortage of skilled drivers. Finance companies are affected by the default rates of payment by truck owners.

The study revealed that only a few companies are prepared to cope with the increasing impacts of AIDS. They may pursue the policy of eliminating benefits for truckers and performing mandatory HIV tests. However, the industry could overcome these adverse impacts by introducing appropriate strategies to cope with the problems, for example, by initiating HIV/AIDS prevention programmes at workplaces and by providing appropriate treatment of workers who have contracted HIV.

6. Trucker project

Project Memorandum, July 1996.

Available from: Department for International Development (DFID) (formerly Overseas Development Administration), DFID Library, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Rd, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8EA, London address: DFID Library, Room V221, 94 Victoria St, London, SW1E 5JL, United Kingdom, Tel: 01355 843599 (East Kilbride); 020 7917 0389 (London), Fax: 01355 844097 (East Kilbride); 020 7917 0005 (London).
Email: library@dfid.gtnet.gov.uk

Keywords: prevention, intercity truck, India, partnership, halt-point, pilot project, substantive project

Abstract: There are approximately three to five million intercity truck drivers and their partners in India. This large population is widely recognized as being at high risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS and for transmitting the disease to others. It is estimated that the number of truck drivers contracting HIV increases at the rate of 1,000 truckers every week.

The goal of this project was to slow down the infection rate of the targeted population in India. The project consisted of two phases, the first one being the pilot project and the second phase consisting of the substantive project. Naturally, the second phase would only be undertaken upon successful completion of the first pilot project phase.

The purpose of the pilot project was to design and test a national STD/HIV prevention programme for truckers and their sexual partners, including sex workers, and to assess the feasibility of improving health-care facilities for truckers in order to reduce the risk of the target group being exposed to the disease. The outputs of the pilot project include:

- An established network of NGOs to operate the STD/HIV prevention programmes
- Minimum standards for all operational aspects
- Good governance and management structure
- Franchising packages for information, education, communication and condom promotion
- Development of partnerships with industry
- Development of partnerships with private practitioners

The purpose of the substantive project was to improve access to health services by creating a network of approximately 300 health-care centres or “healthy trucker halt-points” throughout the country. The locations of these key halt-points are those normally used by truckers for rest, recreation and for the trans-shipment of their goods. Another condition for the location of these key halt-points was that no trucker should need to drive for longer than one day to access the services. This established network could support health care for one million truckers a year and treat 300,000 STD patients. These centres will be managed by a variety of sector providers including NGOs, and private and public sector organizations. The provided services include peer counselling, condom use promotion and standardized STD treatment.

7. Wheeling and dealing HIV/AIDS and developments on the Shan State borders

By Doug J. Porter, supported by UNDP HIV and Development Programme, the UNDP Mission in Yangon, the Institute of Economics in Yangon and Australian National University. Draft Report, 112 pages, April 1994.

Available from: Contact Doug J. Porter, Australian University, Canberra ACT 0200, Fax: (616) 257-1893, Email: dporter@coombs.anu.edu.au

Keywords: wheeling, dealing, Shan State, border, Golden Triangle, regional transformation, development activities

Abstract: This draft report forms an early part of a study project to investigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS in Shan State, Myanmar and in the region referred to as the Golden Triangle.

The report contains four main sections summarized below:

- Section I This introductory section reviews some basic facts of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region, as documented in the national statistics. Although the data are not new to the involved specialists, it is believed that sector and local groups may not be aware of the degree to which the epidemic is biased toward activities and localities in which they are engaged.
- Section II Presents an overall context that should be understood by all people concerned with HIV/AIDS. It identifies main political and economic events, which, since the late 1980s, have set the direction of change in the Shan State. The latter part of the section reviews the socio-demographic characteristics of the Shan population including settlement, administration, environment, agriculture, village economy, health-care and food adequacy.
- Section III This section describes the regional transformation. It is divided in three parts. The first deals with the development of transport systems and road networks. The second deals with settlement and trading from past to present. It focuses on a regional scale and on the border areas. The third part concerns migration and population movements, both internal and cross-border movement and migration. Tourists and visitors have also had significant impact in this aspect.
- Section IV The last section explores the interventions in respect to HIV/AIDS and how these interventions are dependent on, and reflect, socio-economic changes. It specifically focuses on certain aspects of the general population, such as labour, ethnics and military. Some suggestions on future research and development activities are provided.

8. Rapid assessment of seafarer vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and drug abuse: Vietnam findings

Produced by the Vietnam Seafarers Research Team. Working Report, 143 pages, Undated.

Available from: Care International Secretariat, Boulevard du Regent, 58/10, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium, Tel: 32-2-502-43-33, Fax: 32-2-502-82-02, Email: info@care-international.org

Keywords: rapid assessment, seafarer, drug abuse, Viet Nam, Hai Phong, Da Nang, Rach Gia, Can Tho, maritime industry

Abstract: The first case of HIV infection in Viet Nam was reported in 1993. Since then, the number of people infected with HIV/AIDS has been increasing. It was found that the early cases of patients were intravenous drug users and they still constitute the largest portion of the HIV positive population.

Seafarers are one of largest mobile population groups along the lengthy coastline of Viet Nam and they are considered to be a group with a high risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. This study is the first to look into the vulnerability of seafarers and their risk behaviour and associated factors so that an intervention health-care programme can be provided to cope with the problems.

In this study, four seaport sites were selected to be assessment sites, Hai Phong, Da Nang, Rach Gia and Can Tho. These ports were chosen based on their volume of maritime activities in relation to international communication links and domestic connection routes, accessibility to the sites and involvement of agencies in the area which would facilitate the assessment. The methodology was to interview key informants for data collection and to investigate their behaviour and social contacts in order to assess their vulnerability.

The report covers the following areas:

- HIV/AIDS and drug abuse situation in the chosen communities
- Behaviour and lifestyle of seafarers in the community and aboard the ships
- Health knowledge and emotional status
- Sex partners of seafarers
- Condom access and use
- STD infection and treatment
- Seafarers living with AIDS
- Seafarers drug use
- Community response

The report contains a sample of the questionnaires used for interviewing individual informants and groups, including the port administration, department of fisheries, health administration, police, health workers, pharmacists, boat operators, boat captains, seafarers, drug users and sex workers.

9. Profiling the maritime industry and responses to HIV and drug use among seafarers in Ranong, Thailand

Produced by the Thailand Seafarers Research Team. Working Report, 68 pages, Undated.

Available from: Thai Business Coalition on AIDS, 65.62 Chamnan Phenjati Business Centre, 6th floor, Rama 9 road, Huaykwang, Bangkok 10320, Thailand.
Tel: +662 643 9892 1, Fax: 662 643 9894, Email: tbca@ksc.net.th
and World Vision Foundation of Thailand – Suphanimitr Foundation, 582/18-22 Sukhumvit 63, Klongton, Watana, Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Keywords: seafarer, maritime industry, drug use, Ranong, Thailand, incarceration, occupational hierarchy

Abstract: This study is part of an umbrella project looking into the vulnerability of seafarers in respect to HIV/AIDS in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. Existing studies have indicated that seafarer behaviour is highly risky. The objective of the study is to identify practical means for preventing and caring for seafarers with HIV/AIDS or with drug dependency. Ranong, a seaside province of Thailand where a large maritime industry is located, has been selected for a national sub-study.

The principal objectives was to investigate the following:

- Maritime industry in Ranong and Thailand as a whole
- Seafarer health-care services
- Private sector seafaring
- Key issues for the maritime industry
- Profile of seafarer vulnerability to HIV/AIDS/STD and drug abuse
- Role of the private sector and NGOs

The study focused on the following elements of the seafarer vulnerability profile:

- Factors influencing the risk behaviour of fishermen and their wives
- Impact of incarceration
- Impact of the financial situation and wage system
- Impact of alcohol
- Impact of boat type
- Impact of occupational hierarchy
- Impact of purchasing vessel activity
- Impact of middlemen in securing sex
- Impact of the perception of women
- Impact of the comparative cost of sex
- Impact of condom availability
- Sexual bridging between seafarers and truck drivers
- STD treatment seeking behaviour
- Drug abuse among Burmese fishermen

The study recommended that the government agencies and the private fishing industry cooperate for the reduction of HIV vulnerability of seafarers. Key sectors in the work towards reducing vulnerability include the Ministry of Public Health, the Port Department and recruitment agencies. It was strongly recommended that workplace policies and strategies be developed for the industry.

10. Rapid applied research and HIV/AIDS/STD prevention and care for mobile populations in the Lao People's Democratic Republic

By Irene Bain Ph.D., Consultant to UNICEF EAPRO. Working Report, 120 pages, March 1998.

Available from: UNICEF and UNDP

Keywords: rapid applied research, prevention, mobile population, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Vientiane, Louang Namtha, Oudomxay, Savannakhet

Abstract: This study looks into the HIV/AIDS/STD vulnerability of mobile populations in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The study is conducted in two different phases:

The objectives of Phase I are:

- To expose the existence of STD/HIV/AIDS among mobile populations to the national government and NGOs so that the responsible agencies can address the issues promptly and properly
- To conduct tests and employ parts of the rapid research guidelines in order to obtain information from a broad range of key informants
- To form a knowledge base and a team of supportive members to work and share data and provide suggestions for the reduction of vulnerability

The objectives of Phase II aim to refine the suggestions resulting from Phase I into practical programme responses to help prevent the spread of the disease and to care for the patients.

The key mobile population groups investigated in this study consisted of:

- Transport workers
- Legal and illegal migrant labour
- Traders
- Ethnic minorities
- Commercial sex workers

The study has selected high-risk communities in the four provinces as follows:

Vientiane Municipality	(Focus on rural-urban migration for factory employment and market trading)
Louang Namtha	(Focus on international labour movements particularly from China, transport workers and ethnic groups)
Oudomxay	(Focus on international labour movements, transport workers, and ethnic groups)
Savannakhet	(Focus on rural-urban migration for factory employment and on international movement from Viet Nam to Thailand)

The recommendations suggest initial activities building on existing capabilities and interests of responsible agencies to address HIV vulnerability.

11. Ethnographic study of long-haul truck drivers for risk of HIV infection: Thai edition with executive summary in English

By Yothin Sawaengdee and Pimonpan Isarabhakdi, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University. Supported by AIDSTECH/Family Health International under a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Agency for International Development. 82 pages, June 1991.

Available from: Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, 25/25 Moo 3, Phuttamonthon 4 Road, Salaya, Phuttamonthon, District Nakhon Pathom, 73170 Thailand
ISBN 974-587-186-9.

Keywords: ethnographic study, long-haul truck drivers, risk, infection, amphetamines, truck-stop, commercial sex workers

Abstract: This report was probably the first study investigating the behaviour and the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS of truck drivers in Thailand. There were over 200,000 men driving 10-wheel trucks who spent the majority of their time away from home. The study was carried out during the years 1990-1991, upon the first case of reported HIV infection in 1986.

The objectives of this study were:

- To investigate the lifestyle and behaviour of long-haul truck drivers and how they are related to drug abuse and casual sexual activities
- To identify appropriate measures and programmes to provide knowledge on HIV/AIDS among truck drivers

The findings indicated that nearly all Thai truck drivers took amphetamines during their working trips. They also usually visited prostitutes at truck-stop brothels. The majority of truck drivers preferred to switch partners. Few of them used condoms because they stated that they felt less pleasure. They believed the brothels were safe and that HIV positive prostitutes would not be allowed to service clients. They also believed that local and low-fee prostitutes were the least risky because the foreigners would not purchase those women. All the truckers had heard of HIV/AIDS, but they paid very little attention since they felt it was far from their daily life and thus did not concern them. At the time of the study no health information campaigns were directed toward this group.

The study recommended strategic programmes to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS among truck drivers:

- Initiate HIV prevention programmes for truck drivers to alert them of the high risks of contracting and spreading HIV/AIDS
- Conduct educational campaigns to truck drivers through printed materials and messages at truck stops
- Provide better recognition of truck drivers for their contribution to economic growth and social responsibility

12. Prevention of STD/HIV/AIDS along the highway: AIDS prevention and control project

Report 68 pages.

Available from: Voluntary Health Services, Adyar, Chennai 600 113, India.

Tel: (9144) 235-2965, *Fax:* (9144) 235-5018, *Email:* apacvhs@giasmd01.vsnl.net.in

Keywords: prevention, India, Tamil Nadu, highway, awareness, condom, counselling, treatment

Abstract: The number of HIV infections in India is reported to be on the sharp rise in recent years. In 1998 the country's rate of infection was 23.64 per thousand and no decrease in infection rates has been detected. More significantly, uneven distribution of infection is found between different parts of the country. Tamil Nadu has been identified as the state with the highest prevalence.

The AIDS prevention and control project's goal is to reduce sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS in Tamil Nadu. The project aims to enforce prevention programmes on population groups considered to have high risk behaviour. The intervention programmes contain:

- Care and prevention by giving counselling, treatment and follow-up
- Behaviour change communication to raise awareness in the community
- Condom promotion and improved logistics for distribution
- Increase knowledge on correct and consistent usage of condoms

This report is an illustration of the designed prevention programme targeting truck drivers and their partners. In this report, six case studies of individual interventions are cited as an illustration of the success of the project. In each case, the project councillor has intervened in each individual's risk behaviour.

This project has claimed to be very successful and to have significant beneficial impacts upon the implementation of intervention programmes. Results have shown that:

- There is more openness concerning sex, homosexuality and STDs
- Truck drivers and women involved in commercial sex along the highway make use of the distributed communication materials
- There is a higher level of awareness on STD/HIV/AIDS among target populations
- The number of truck drivers having sex with non-regular sex partners has decreased significantly
- The practice of safe sex using condoms has increased

13. The trucking industry in India: an overview

By Razia Grover prepared for the Overseas Development Administration. 26 pages, November 1995.

Available from: Department for International Development (DFID), India. Plot 5 Block 50F, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, Tel: (9111) 467-3889, Fax: (9111) 467-3896, Email: V-Ganesh@dfid.gov.uk

Keywords: trucking industry, India, booking agent, broker, union, manufacturer, road accident, transport authority

Abstract: This report provides an overview of the trucking industry in India. In 1992 the network of roads across the country was approximately two million kilometres. The number of goods transporting vehicles or trucks registered in 1993 was estimated at over 1.6 million compared with only 370,000 passenger vehicles. The majority of people travel on the railways.

The report provides an insight into the problems of the trucking industry. The root problem can be traced back all the way to the British colonial era. The British brought the railways to the country and protected them from any competition from other modes of surface transport, in particular, road transport, which at that time was wholly run by individual native entrepreneurs. Even until recently, the trucking industry has survived on its own with very little government support and with many rules and regulations. In addition, it has to rely on poor infrastructure with little development. The involvement of heavy vehicles in road traffic accidents is very high, accounting for 45 per cent of the total number of road accidents. National economic loss owing to road accidents is estimated at more than 16 billion rupees annually, representing one per cent of total gross domestic product.

The report explores the different actors of the trucking industry, including:

- Trucking companies
- Booking agents
- Brokers
- Trucker unions
- Truck drivers
- Truck manufacturers

The report also looks into the government regulations on the trucking industry and found that several levels of authorities have control over trucks and their operations. At the highest level, the Ministry of Surface Transport is empowered to oversee the industry nationwide. There are also transport authorities at the state and regional levels. The primary function of these state and regional transport authorities is to issue laws related to licensing issues and taxes, including collection.

The report includes a list of related organizations and associations of truck drivers and trucking operators/owners. Although the report does not specifically focus on the issue of HIV/AIDS, it does touch upon the support of all related agencies to implement health prevention programmes for the truck drivers and members of the industry.

14. A brief summary of the private transport sector involvement to prevent the spread of STD/HIV among the workforce: healthy highways project

Supported by the National AIDS Control Programme and Department for International Development, India. 16 pages.

Available from: Department for International Development (DFID), India. Plot 5 Block 50F, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, Tel: (9111) 467-3889, Fax: (9111) 467-3896, Email: V-Ganesh@dfid.gov.uk

Keywords: intercity truck driver, private sector, goods transport, booking agent, broker, India Motor Transport Congress, authority

Abstract: The goal of the Healthy highways project is to slow down the spread of HIV/AIDS among the intercity truck drivers, their crews and sex partners in India. The target population is estimated at 4.5 to 5 million people. The project has a nationwide intervention approach through the following programmes:

- STD diagnosis and treatment
- Condom use promotion
- Behaviour change communication

This brief report summarizes the activities and outcomes of the invention programmes for private sectors in the trucking industry. Specific groups in the industry involved consist of:

- Goods transporting companies
- Truck/lorry owners
- Booking agents
- Brokers and vehicle suppliers
- All India Motor Transport Congress
- Truck drivers
- Government authorities
- Other indirectly related private sector organizations, for example, truck manufacturers, finance companies, tyre and battery manufacturers

Achievements and constraints encountered during the project have been identified. Issues that need to be further investigated are recommended. Possible roles for different specific groups in the trucking industry who can help in achieving the goal are also identified.

15. Mongolian railways HIV/AIDS/STI awareness and prevention project

Technical Expert supported by Thai Red Cross HIV/AIDS Research Centre. Funding support by UNICEF Regional Office. Final Report, 27 pages, 2001.

Available from: UNICEF Assistant Representative, Sukhbaatar District, Ulaanbaatar – 46 Mongolia, Tel: 976-11-312185, 312183, 312197, 312201, 312213, 312217, Fax: 976-11-327313, Email: unicef@magicnet.mn, UN Website: <http://www.un-mongolia.mn/unicef>.

Keywords: Mongolia, railway, awareness, prevention, peer educator, condom, Thailand Red Cross, “Trust” condom

Abstract: Mongolia has only two reported cases of HIV infection, but they do have an annually increasing number of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Accepting the fact that the HIV epidemic has penetrated into the population, the country has decided to undertake awareness and prevention activities for HIV/AIDS/STI in its railway sector. The railway system provided transport services to 4.4 million passengers in 2000. The railway agency employs 13,000 staff. Together with its associated network of services, such as communities, hospitals and universities, the entire system has a population of 43,000.

During the one-year duration of the project from December 1999 to November 2000, a number of prevention and awareness activities were undertaken as follows:

- A workshop for information dissemination with a component of needs assessment of mobile target groups undertaken five months prior to project commencement
- Training of 35 railway peer educators and 12 peer educators from NGOs to facilitate training through participatory activities
- Production of 300 Peer Education Workplace Manuals for peer educators, based on the Thailand Red Cross AIDS Research Centre Manual “Friends tell friends”
- Production of 5,000 railway posters, 20,000 information leaflets for railway employees, 120,000 information booklets for passengers and 3,000 pocket calendars
- Distribution of the Mongolian “Trust” condom in railway stations (though unable to distribute condoms at the time of report preparation)
- Purchase of 40,000 condoms for peer educators to use in their education programmes

16. Mongolian railways' peer-based STD/HIV/AIDS prevention project curriculum

Jointly developed by the Mongolian National AIDS Foundation, Mongolian State Railways and the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre. Supported by UNAIDS.

Available from: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre, Programme on AIDS, 1877/1, Rama IV Road, Phatumwan, Bangkok 10330, Tel: (662) 256-4107-9, Fax: (662) 254-7577.

Keywords: Mongolia, railway, peer-based, prevention, curriculum, decision-making, cause and consequence

Abstract: This curriculum-like manual contains a set of learning activities that will help build and strengthen life skills, as well as promote sexual behaviour change.

The methods used in the training should facilitate active involvement and skills development by working in small groups and pairs, brainstorming, role play, drama, case studies, visualizing, touching, listening, moving etc. More importantly, at the end of each activity, the learning needs to be summarized. The training facilitators need to link the results of the activity with the objectives of the activity to enhance the development of skills. Summaries should be drawn from the participants first before the facilitator contribution. The learning should provide mental stimulation to participants, otherwise activities and games only possess elements of participatory “fun” rather than “skill” development.

The contents of the designed curriculum are categorized into five units, each of which contains a number of activities:

Unit I: Decision-making

Goals and expectations
Someone close to us
My child

Unit II: STD/HIV/AIDS and prevention

Stop, Think, Go
Condom time bomb
I can do it
Who has the AIDS virus
Travel network
The spreading of HIV and STD

Unit III Cause and consequence

STD identification
Take a spin
Alcohol and safe sex
Beginning-middle-last
What is the man/woman thinking

Unit IV Relationships
101 ways to say I love you
Clear communication

Unit V: Summarization
True or false

This hands-on curriculum should be used in other countries as well in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the method.

17. **Mobility and HIV/AIDS in the Greater Mekong Subregion**

By Supang Chantavanich with assistance from Allan Beesey and Shakti Paul, Asian Research Centre for Migration, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand; in consortium with World Vision Australia and Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research. 127 pages, 2000. Sponsored by the Asian Development Bank and UNDP.

Available from: Asian Development Bank, P.O. Box 789, 0980 Manila, Philippines,
Tel: (632) 632-4444, Fax: (632) 636-2444
ISBN 1-875140-48-4

Keywords: mobility, Greater Mekong subregion, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Thailand, Yunnan, China, migrant, mobile population, hot spot, typology

Abstract: The Greater Mekong subregion stretches over 3,000 miles of the Mekong River in South-East Asia. The surrounding countries comprise Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and Yunnan Province of China . Mobility of the population in this region is not a new phenomenon. During the late 1970s to 1980s over three million refugees, predominantly from Cambodia and Viet Nam fled political conflict in their countries. In recent years the cause of mobility has changed and most migrants cross borders in the region to seek better economic opportunity rather than to flee political conflict.

This report is probably one of the most thorough and comprehensive studies of population mobility in the Greater Mekong subregion with respect to the emergence of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The situations that cause mobile people to be more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS are complex and require a thorough understanding of the particular situation. Certain occupational groups are likely to have a higher risk for acquiring HIV/AIDS than other groups. Among these high-risk groups are transport workers, fishermen and seafarers, mobile traders, government officials stationed at borders etc. To assess the risk situations of these groups, it is necessary to classify them by their patterns and degree of mobility, as well as by age, gender, marital status, occupation, income etc. It is equally crucial to understand details of particular geographical locations, the so-called hot spots of HIV vulnerability.

The report provides detailed contents of the research with an overall review of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region and specific information and findings for individual countries. For each country the report provides a breakdown into the following components:

- Country profile
- Population migration and mobility
- Typology of migrant and mobile population
- HIV/AIDS situation

A number of findings worth pursuing are identified in the report. A few are highlighted as follows:

- Risk behaviour of individuals and population groups are heavily influenced by the risk situations they are in
- Hot spots emerge from the convergence of mobile populations and the rise of entertainment and commercial sex establishments
- Most hot spots do not have well targeted intervention programmes to prevent the spread of the disease
- Discrimination against migrants in a foreign country may increase their HIV vulnerability

The report recommends continuous monitoring of the situation in these high-risk spots in the border areas.

18. Knowledge, attitude and sexual practices of taxi and truck drivers in the Philippines

By D.E. Gust, C.M. Dumayag, E. Santos, F.L. Baco. Occupational Safety and Health Centre, Department of Labour and Employment, Philippines. 39 pages.

Available from: Occupational Safety and Health Centre, North Av. cor. Science Road, 1104 Diliman, Quezon City, Tel: 928-67-55, 929-60-36, Fax: 929-60-36, Email: oshcdole@skyinet.net

Keywords: socio-demographic characteristics, transport industry, social environment, attitudes and practices, cross-sectional survey

Abstract: This project was undertaken by the Occupational Safety and Health Centre of the Department of Labour and Employment in the Philippines. The objective of the study was to investigate the socio-demographic characteristics of drivers and owners of vehicles in the transport industry, their working and social environment, knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to HIV/AIDS/STD.

The methodology is based on a structured cross-sectional survey of drivers, helpers and managers. Their profiles, understanding and knowledge with respect to the disease was studied between late 1997 and early 1998. The sample size involves 200 taxi drivers and 100

truck drivers and helpers. The findings reveal that the majority of drivers had heard of HIV/AIDS/STD but they had misconceptions about the causes and modes of transmission. Some of the other key findings are as follows:

- Drivers appear to be vulnerable to infection owing to their lifestyle away from home
- About half of the interviewees admit having had sex with persons other than their wives and less than one fourth of these used condoms
- Most of the interviewees were responsive to HIV/AIDS/STD preventive measures
- Owners of vehicles were willing to support government efforts to curb the spread of the disease

The study recommends that urgent action should be undertaken, emphasizing the provision of accurate information and intensive and continuous education to drivers, helpers and operators. The outcome of the study can be used as a basis for the further development of policies and sustainable programmes to fight HIV/AIDS/STD in the transport industry of the nation.

19. The art of policy formulation: experiences from Africa in developing national HIV/AIDS policies

By John Stover and Alan Johnston. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development, under Contract No. CCP-C-00-95-00023-04. August 1999, 37 pages.

Available from: The POLICY Project, The Futures Group International, 1050 17th Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036. Tel: (202) 775-9680, Fax: (202) 775-9694, Email: policyinfo@tfgi.com

Keywords: POLICY Project, family planning, reproductive health programmes, policy process, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia, model for policy formulation

Abstract: The goal of the POLICY Project is to create supportive policy environments for family planning and reproductive health programmes, including HIV/AIDS, through the promotion of a participatory policy process and population policies that respond to client needs. The project has four components: (a) policy dialogue and formulation; (b) participation; (c) planning and finance; and (d) research. It is concerned with cross-cutting issues, such as reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender, and intersectoral linkages.

This report is one of those written within the POLICY Project and the information is derived from presentations and papers delivered at a workshop held in Geneva on 27 June, 1998, entitled “The Art of Policy Formulation: Experiences from Africa.” Participants from nine Anglophone African countries attended the workshop representing Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia. The report consists of four main components:

1. The policy process-theoretical frameworks

The process of developing, approving, and implementing HIV/AIDS policies differs in each country and for each issue. However, some underlying processes are common to most efforts. A better understanding of these processes can improve efforts to facilitate policy development and achieve better outcomes. This section briefly reviews the literature describing the general process of policy development.

2. The HIV/AIDS policy process-case studies

This section reviews the experience of the nine African countries in the development of national HIV/AIDS policies. It provides details of the approaches used by the countries and discusses some major policy obstacles and solutions to them.

3. Comparative analysis of the policy process

The country case studies suggest that the theoretical frameworks outlined earlier capture much of the policy-making process. Nonetheless, the frameworks need elaboration to provide a better description of the process as it has unfolded in Africa.

4. Key policy issues

National HIV/AIDS policies and operational policy guidelines have addressed a broad array of policy issues. Specific issues range from medical and care guidelines to policies affecting access to services to human rights and anti-discrimination. All policies are addressed in this section.

This report can be regarded as a model for formulating policy to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

III. BOOKS/JOURNALS/MAGAZINES

1. No place for borders: the HIV/AIDS epidemic and development in Asia and the Pacific

Edited by Godfrey Linge and Doug Porter, Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, Commonwealth, Department of Human Services and Health. 191 pages, 1997.

Available from: Allen & Unwin, 9 Atchison Street, St. Leonards NSW 2065, Australia.
Tel: (612) 9901-4088, Fax: (612) 9906-2218, Email: frontdesk@allen-unwin.com.au
ISBN 1 86448 307 5

Keywords: border, Asia Pacific, labour migration, economic growth, Melanesia, South-East Asia, NGOs

Abstract: HIV/AIDS emerged relatively late in the Asia-Pacific region, but is now spreading rapidly – so rapidly that within less than a decade proportions will dwarf the epidemic in Sub-Saharan Africa, which has until now remained the focus of the world’s attention. By the end of 1995 the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that there were already some 3,700,000 HIV-positive children and adults. It projected that the number of adults who would be infected with the HIV virus each year in this region would rise until the year 2000 when it would peak at around 1.3 million.

The main purpose of this book is to provide a better understanding of a variety of perspectives of the HIV/AIDS problem. The ‘borders’ in the title of the book refer not just to political lines on maps, but also to the lines that people draw in their minds.

The book contains thirteen articles from different perspectives, as listed here:

1. HIV/AIDS and development
2. The situation now and possible futures
3. The use and misuse of epidemiological categories
4. The HIV/AIDS epidemic in a changing region
5. International female labour migration: implications of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Asian region
6. HIV/AIDS and Malaysian economic growth: national and regional dimensions
7. Economic impacts of HIV/AIDS mortality on households in rural Thailand
8. Adding to the Pacific “nightmare”
9. HIV/AIDS in rural Melanesia and South-East Asia: Divination or description
10. Non-government organizations: imperatives and pitfalls
11. Enhancing national capacity through HIV action research
12. On the borders of research, policy and practice: outline of agenda
13. Epilogue

The first three articles provide an overall context of HIV/AIDS in the region and the world. The following six articles focus on specific aspects of the epidemic in different countries. The next three articles consider the roles that are being played, or that should be played, by NGOs, international agencies, academics and researchers. The editors, in an epilogue, identify some of the moral dilemmas that face mankind in relation to this disease and its treatment, making an argument that future control of the disease lies in our ability to speak plainly on HIV/AIDS.

2. Trucking through the AIDS belt

By Ted Conover. An Article from the Book “The Best American Essays 1994”, edited by Tracy Kidder and Robert Atwan, pages 16-56.

Available from: Houghton Mifflin Company, 215 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10003, United States. Also available on: <http://www.tedconover.com/trucking.html>

Keywords: AIDS belt, Trans-African Highway, Somalia, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, truck convoy, turnboy.

Abstract: This story is a long personal essay by Ted Conover who travelled with a convoy of four trucks along the Trans-African Highway. Their journey originates from the port of Mombasa in Kenya, passing through Tanzania, Rwanda, and ends in Burundi.

At a truck stop during his journey, outside Nairobi at the Athi River Weighbridge Station, the author met a medical doctor named Job Bwayo. Dr. Bwayo has a Ph.D. in immunology and works at the University of Nairobi doing research on sexually transmitted diseases among prostitutes. In 1989, he received a grant from overseas universities and opened a free clinic at the Athi River for truck drivers and others in the area. He found, through blood tests on his patients, that drivers coming from central Africa had higher rates of HIV infections than those from other parts of the continent. Drivers from Rwanda had a rate of 51 per cent. From Uganda the figure was 36 per cent, and drivers from Kenya showed infection rates of 19 per cent. The commercial sex workers’ infection rates were between 34 to 88 per cent. At that time, out of the total fourteen million population infected with HIV worldwide, more than eight million are in sub-Saharan Africa.

The author rode on a truck with a driver named Bradford and a turnboy named Obadiah. While travelling, the subject of HIV/AIDS was brought up to try and assess the impact of the disease among the people along the highway belt. The truckers were aware of the disease, but it did not seem to bother them enough to change their perceptions and behaviour.

The author describes one night when the convoy had to stay overnight in Mwanza in Tanzania because of a shortage in the supply of fuel. He described the scenes in the hotel where he noticed the AIDS warning posters, but activities in the bar at the hotel did not seem to be affected by these messages. His trucker companion, Bradford, had struck up a conversation with a woman and they left together at the end of the evening.

Their journey continued and they stopped overnight in pass-by towns like Shinyanga and Runzwewe, both in Tanzania, before they entered Rwanda. During the journey they faced truck breakdowns and having to stay overnight on those occasions provided the opportunity for the men in the convoy to have meals, drinks, and chat on a variety of subjects including women and HIV/AIDS. During a delay in Kigali for several days owing to the clearance of paperwork and customs, the city was in the midst of political turmoil and the author had to take refuge at the American embassy for his safety. The next destination was Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, and it was the end of the convoy trip.

The interest of this story is that the author picked up so many details of his companion truckers' perceptions and behaviour from their daily activities. In conclusion, it seems that no matter how bad the situation was in those central African countries and no matter how high the vulnerability of the HIV/AIDS epidemic was to them, they tended to enjoy their life as usual.

3. The India-Nepal partnership: building cross-border collaboration in areas of affinity

Extracted from "AIDS captions" Publication Volume III, No. 2, July 1996.

Available from: AIDS captions, Family Health International, 2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 700, Arlington, Virginia 22201, United States. Tel: (703) 516-9779, Fax: (703) 516-9781.

Keywords: cross-border, India, Nepal, partnership, mobile population, intervention, zero point, Prithvi Highway, Highway 28

Abstract: This article describes the background of the collaboration between HIV/AIDS prevention projects on both sides of the India-Nepal border. The joint efforts have brought about a model for cross-border interventions to reach mobile populations at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.

The border site employed for the model development is the "zero points" on the national highway 28 in Raxaul, India, meeting with the zero point on the Prithvi Highway in Birgunj, Nepal. An average of 2,000 trucks pass through these points every day. Both Raxaul and Birgunj are large and sprawling cities separated from each other by only a few hundred metres.

To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS among truck drivers and their companions who regularly cross the India-Nepal border, the project in Raxaul is collaborating with the AIDSCAP Project in Nepal. Staff from both sides of the border work together in the planning and training of personnel in order to ensure the consistency of the project goal.

4. “Special Issue: Migration and HIV/AIDS”, International Migration, Quarterly Review, Vol. 36(4) 1998

Edited by Reginald Appleyard and Andrew Wilson. Prepared jointly by UNAIDS and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Available from: Blackwell Publishers Ltd., 108 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1JF, United Kingdom and 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148, United States.
ISSN 0020-7985

Keywords: International Migration, UNAIDS, International Organization for Migration, Africa, South-East Asia, Eastern Europe, Community of Independent States, Mexico, Central America, cross-border

Abstract: This is a special issue of the *International Migration*, which contains research outcomes of cooperative efforts by two international organizations, UNAIDS and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in their search for knowledge and understanding of one of the most important issues of the 1990s, namely HIV/AIDS.

The book contains six articles, all related to migration and HIV/AIDS in general, and for different regions of the world:

- West and Central Africa
- Eastern and Southern Africa
- South-East Asia
- Eastern Europe and the Community of Independent States
- Mexico and Central America

The first article provides an overview on how these two key issues, migration and HIV/AIDS, came about in the fourth quarter of the last century. It was estimated that over 30 million persons worldwide have been infected with HIV. At the same time, about 100 million persons moved within or between nations each year, while almost 40 million were migrating population. This article reviews current knowledge about migration and HIV/AIDS, and identifies priority areas and issues for research and intervention. The long-term objective of this work is to strengthen the joint actions of IOM and UNAIDS and other key players on the global, regional, and country levels in order to cope with these two critical issues at the operational level.

The next two articles focus on two different regions in Africa. One is West and Central Africa and the other is East and South Africa. For the first region, research findings indicate a complex relationship between migration and HIV infection. Not all migrants have the same risk of infection and thus do not contribute equally to the spread of HIV. For the second region, it was found that very little research had addressed the issue of the relationship between migration and HIV/AIDS.

The following article investigates the issue of HIV and mobile populations in the Mekong Region countries consisting of Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. Distinct groups of people include cross-border and domestic migrants, sex workers, truck drivers, fishermen, seafarers and traders. The situation of individual countries is reported.

The fifth article focuses on the Eastern European countries and the former Republics of the Soviet Union. Despite intensive labour migration from the former Republics, in-depth research on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS among migrant populations is non-existing. Eastern European countries, except for Yugoslavia and Romania, are quite free from wars and disasters and do not have large mobile populations. The level of HIV infections in this region remains low but is increasing. For both regions, the lack of knowledge on the epidemic is likely to cause a wider spread among migrant populations. Prevention programmes and research are, therefore, urgently required.

The last article covers Mexico and Central American countries. Little data are available on HIV/AIDS in the region and available data are mainly related to Mexico. Data on HIV/AIDS in the migrant populations of Central America concern mostly migrants in their places of destination, i.e., Mexico and the United States of America. Owing to strict measures in the United States, undocumented migrants who may have significant impact on the spread of HIV/AIDS are not included in the record.

IV. GENERAL REFERENCES

1. Guidelines for rapid applied research on mobile populations: planning and implementing STD/HIV/AIDS prevention and care

Co-funded by FHI, Ford Foundation, UNAIDS AP ICT and UNICEF EAPRO for the UNAIDS AP ICT Taskforce on Migrant Labour and HIV Vulnerability. 88 pages, January 1998.

Available from: UNDP/UNOPS South-East Asia HIV and Development Project, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand, Tel: (662) 288-2205, Fax: (662) 280-1852, Email: leenah.hsu@undp.org

Keywords: rapid applied research, mobile population, behaviour surveillance survey, prevention programme

Abstract: These guidelines provide a step-by-step methodology for the Behavioural Surveillance Survey used in prevention programmes to detect the emergence of HIV/AIDS and monitor epidemic trends. The procedure consists of repeated cross-sectional surveys of selected population subgroups currently or potentially at risk for HIV/AIDS and/or other STD infections.

The Behaviour Surveillance Survey is a system for quantitatively monitoring and assessing sexual behaviour change. It consists of structured questionnaires administered periodically to samples of target groups in specific geographic areas by trained personnel. The collected data provide ongoing measurements of key project indicators, such as the number of sex partners, type of sex partners, condom use, self-reported STD symptoms, exposure to prevention, and communication with sex partners regarding condom use and HIV/AIDS.

The advantage of the Behaviour Surveillance Survey is that it may provide advance warning of an impending HIV/AIDS epidemic. Responses to questions on behavioural practices provide risk and vulnerability profiles that may guide prevention programmes. Even after an epidemic has spread, the survey can help track behavioural changes within the epidemic, serve as a guide to social adaptation to the threat of HIV/AIDS, and help evaluate prevention programme effectiveness among targeted populations.

2. Maps of international borders between mainland South-East Asian countries and background information concerning population movements at these borders

By Aaron Stern and Dr. Lawrence W. Crissman. Supported by Asia Near East Bureau of USAID and Family Health International. 82 pages, February 1998.

Available from: The Asian Research Centre for Migration, Institute of Asian Studies, 7th Floor Prajadipok Rampai-Pani Building, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 10330, Thailand. Tel: (662) 251-5199, Fax: (662) 255-1124
ISBN: 974-637-636-5

Keywords: border, map, South-East Asia, population movement

Abstract: This document provides basic maps for the mainland South-East Asia region focusing on the border descriptions. Seven countries are included in the display:

1. China
2. Viet Nam
3. Lao People's Democratic Republic
4. Cambodia
5. Thailand
6. Myanmar
7. Malaysia

The maps illustrate border areas and primary transportation infrastructure, for example, roads, railways, airports, ocean ports as well as cities.

Notes and comments for each border include:

- Laws and regulations affecting migration
- Border-crossing processes
- Infrastructure
- Trade and business
- Labour migration and commercial sex
- Health issues
- Tourism

It should be noted that the maps presented in the document are very basic with graphic information only to understand the border phenomenon. Statistics provided should be treated with caution as they may be unofficial or erroneous and the data should be clarified further if they are to be used for policy formulation.

3. Needs assessment on cross-border trafficking in women and children: the Mekong Subregion

Prepared by Therese M. Caouette for the United Nations Working Group on Trafficking in the Mekong subregion. 56 pages, 20 February, 1998.

Available from: Please send an Email to: trafficking.mekong@un.or.th or
Tel: (662) 288-2213, Fax: (662) 280-0556

Keywords: needs assessment, cross-border, trafficking, women and children, Mekong subregion

Abstract: Human trafficking is a complex reality that has expanded with rapid economic developments and social transformation. Women and children are the most vulnerable as they are easily exploited. It has been found that the Mekong subregion (Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, Yunnan and Quangxi Provinces of China) is an important source of transiting and receiving people.

The study looks into two critical issues:

- (a) Trafficking of women and children, mostly underprivileged and extremely vulnerable to abusive treatment;
- (b) Cross-border trafficking within the Mekong subregion, highlighting the issues that require the most urgent coordinated responses.

The study identifies the key interventions initiated by other entities, including government, non-government, international, and private organizations under the following categories:

- Prevention
- Laws, policies and judicial system
- Protection, assistance, return and reintegration
- Research and advocacy
- Subregional coordination

The study also identifies the most relevant issues for United Nations interventions and provides the following suggestions for immediate action:

- (a) To improve communication and information dissemination throughout the Mekong subregion on trafficking issues;
- (b) To incorporate trafficking issues into the wide range of development and poverty alleviation programmes of the United Nations;
- (c) To develop ongoing systems for coordination and cooperation among the involved sectors and to establish a forum as a venue for discussion.

The study recommends a preparatory assistance phase that would lead to project proposals for United Nations programmes on trafficking in the Mekong subregion.

4. Potential for spread of HIV/AIDS on the Lao-Vietnamese border, Sepon District, Savannakhet Province

Rapid Assessment Report. CARE International in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. 11 pages, 1998.

Available from: Care International Secretariat, Boulevard du Regent, 58/10, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium, Tel: 32-2-502-43-33, Fax: 32-2-502-82-02, Email: info@care-international.org

Keywords: rapid assessment, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet Nam, Sepon District, Savannakhet Province, infection, risk

Abstract: CARE International in the Lao People's Democratic Republic has undertaken a rapid assessment in Savannakhet Province as a potential site for HIV/AIDS prevention in the border area. The objectives of the study are to:

- Identify factors leading to HIV/AIDS infection risk
- Obtain information on the health-seeking behaviour of the mobile population and the availability of STD treatment services
- Assess the level of knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and practices relating to HIV/AIDS among key groups

The study reveals that the populations in the border area are at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS because of the following factors:

- Government officials of both sides, policemen and custom officers, engage in negotiated sexual activity in the Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Residents in the district are poorly educated, enjoy less employment opportunities and endure economic hardship. Local women have a tendency to engage in commercial sex
- Increase in trade activities along the border will bring more people to the area and this is likely to increase the risk of HIV/AIDS

High-risk groups are identified as follows:

- Female beer bar workers
- Border officials
- Businessmen
- Long-distance truck drivers

HIV/AIDS prevention programmes did not exist at the time of the assessment. Although health services are available, the facilities are very poor. Condoms are available in drug stores. A few cases of STDs surface weekly according to information from pharmacists.

5. Approaches to applied research: mobile populations and HIV vulnerability

Working Report, 130 pages.

Available from: UNICEF Office for Thailand, 19 Phra Atit Road, P.O. Box 2-154, Bangkok 10200, Email: thailandao@unicef.org, Tel: (66-2) 280-5931, Fax: (66-2) 281-6032

Keywords: applied research, mobile population, high risk, cross-border, South-East and East Asia

Abstract: South-East and East Asia have experienced unprecedented levels of population mobility as a consequence of emerging economic opportunities. Mobile populations are a high-risk group for contracting HIV/AIDS. Experience has indicated that it is not the character of migrants per se, but rather the migration environment that exposes people to infection.

This project attempts to:

- (a) Know where and how to start interaction with communities and what further research is likely to be required at later stages of project involvement;
- (b) Identify pilot activities, which allow for building the trust necessary to further understand and act on participant needs.

The approach of this study includes both indirect research on available information, such as publications addressing HIV/AIDS issues in mobile populations and direct research on populations with large mobile components or on other issues affecting HIV/AIDS transmission. The study focuses on the following mobile groups:

- Cross-border migrants
- Domestic migrants
- Commercial sex workers
- Mobile workers, such as truckers, fishermen
- Tourists

The study investigates the HIV/AIDS and migration situations in several countries of the region including Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. The study also attempts to define the linkages between research and planning on how to cope and manage the epidemic. Human rights is another important issue in the study.

The report provides informative data and references for all the countries investigated.

V. WEB SITES

1. South Africa Department of Transport web site

<www.transport.gov.za>

This website is a very useful and informative source on transport-related work in South Africa. Examples of HIV/AIDS related projects and activities undertaken by the Department that may be found are as follows:

- Policy document on HIV/AIDS and other STDs in the workplace
- Trucking against AIDS in the road freight industry
- HIV/AIDS campaign in the transport sector
- Transport industry must do more to address the spread of HIV/AIDS
- HIV/AIDS programme for 2001 – National Bargaining Council and Road Freight Association
- A sense of duty or a sense of survival
- HIV/AIDS fact summary
- “Men make a difference” speech by Minister of Transport, Mr. Dullah Omar

2. Philadelphia Inquirer Newspaper Online

<<http://www.maykuth.com>>

This is a series of 12 articles entitled “African Odyssey” written by Andrew Maykuth, the Inquirer’s Johannesburg bureau chief who travelled through East Africa, accompanying a food-aid truck from Kenya to Uganda and into Sudan in 2000. The author tells of his daily experiences as he and his companion travelled on the Trans-African Highway.