

MID-BCC – Communications for Change in Infectious Diseases in Greater Mekong Subregion

Technical Assistance:
EID Guideline
Dissemination in School
and Community

Lessons Learned Forum
September 5-6, 2012
Mercure Hotel, Vientiane Capital



Background

- From the gains of avian influenza and H1N1 experience, the government of Lao PDR came up with the *Guidelines on Prevention of Infectious Diseases in School*.
- The guidelines provide general principles and guidance to school administrators and teachers to open discussion of infectious diseases in class.
- It also provides suggested actions on how to prevent infectious diseases in the school, and how to manage and report cases of infectious illnesses to the health care center or hospital.

Background

- ❑ The guidelines discuss 30 infectious diseases, among which include avian influenza (H5N1 virus), H1N1 virus, dengue fever, and malaria.
- ❑ The activity was strongly supported by the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES).
- ❑ NEIDCO commissioned the national IEC Task Force to lead a three-day training for teachers and officials in three provinces --- Bokeo, Luang Namtha and Luang Prabang.

Objective

- To expand the discussion of infectious diseases through the education sector.

The education sector is a member of the multi-sectoral group which has supported the national infectious diseases of 2011-2016.



Luang Namtha

Discussion between the health officers and school administrators.

Finding the connection between teachers' role in sustaining a healthy community.



Bokeo



□ Planning for curriculum integration

Luang Prabang



- Integration in the lesson plan, classroom, and outdoor activities

Results

- Trained 96 school administrators, teachers and health officers on how to use the EID guidelines in school and community
- Integration of school officials in the planning process for infectious diseases surveillance
- Integration of hygiene messages in the current school curricula and activities

Results

- The training opened the opportunity for the provincial health sector work closely with the education sector in health promotion.
- The activity generated the support of national and local leadership

Lessons Learned

- The education sector is an important partner in health promotion.
- The village teacher as a community leader is at the center of community development activities among village people. The village teacher is able to motivate people and earns respect in the community

Lessons learned

- The school and teachers have a big role in reducing the risk of infectious diseases.
- The school has the role of providing the enabling environment for knowledge and practice of good health – the key to producing healthy citizens in the future
- Monitoring the successes of such initiative should be established.