



# Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance (MBDS) Newsletter

Issue 15

July to September, 2012

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*“The tour for introduction of MBDS Foundation and seek for opportunities to collaborate, to get support is the preliminary step for further resource mobilization.”*

## MBDS Delegation's trip to Singapore on 15-16 August 2012

Dr. Bounlay Phommasack, Chair of MBDS Foundation from Lao PDR, along with Dr. Sok Touch, country coordinator from Cambodia, Dr. Nguyen Dang Vung, Foundation Board member from Vietnam, Dr. Moe Ko Oo, Foundation Secretary, engaged in MBDS future collaboration activities with Ministry of Health (MOH), Singapore, Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) and Temasek Life Science Laboratory (TLL) during August 15-16 2012.

Dr. Joanne Tay, Deputy Director and team from Singapore MOH kindly welcomed MBDS RMC Team and presented the history of Disease Surveillance, challenges, future directions and an insightful overview of S-FETP program. MBDS delegation agreed to sign MOU with Professor Richard Coker from London School Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for future collaboration.



*MBDS Delegation with Singapore MOH Officials*



*Meeting of MBDS Delegation and ASEF*

MBDS delegation met with the representatives from ASEF, Mr. Karsten Warnecke (Deputy Executive Director), Mr. Paul Koh (Director, Public Affairs), Ms. Anjulanandran (Deputy Director, Intellectual Exchange), Ms. Sunkyoung Lee (Project Manager, Intellectual Exchange). The meeting featured the introduction of MBDS Foundation Vision and Mission and sharing experiences from ASEF sustainability strategy.

On 16 August, MBDS delegation met with TLL officials Mr. Peter Chia, Chief Operating Officer and Ms. Chook Mee Lan, Head faculty service and Biosafety were seeking for the opportunities and getting support for MBDS member countries. MBDS delegation had a chance to learn the mobile laboratory equipment at TLL office.



*Temasek Life Science Laboratory*

**“Initial vision: reduce morbidity and mortality caused by outbreak-prone priority diseases”**

MBDS Cross Border Strategy Implementation with Disease Surveillance Information Sharing



**MBDS** has prioritized 18 infectious diseases with standardized frequency and format for exchanging information among Cross-Border Provinces in member countries: Cambodia, Yunnan and Guangxi provinces of China, Lao, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand along the Mekong river.

**Frequency of prioritized diseases exchange information**

- Within 24 hours of Diagnosis** :: H1N1, AFP, SARS, Cholera/ Severe Diarrhea, Encephalitis, Tetanus, Meningitis, Diphtheria and PHEIC
- Every Monday of the week** :: Leptospirosis, Chikungunya, Dengue Fever, Typhoid Fever and Measles
- Every 5<sup>th</sup> day of each Month** :: Malaria & Pneumonia
- Quarterly (Every three months)** :: HIV/AIDS & Tuberculosis

Detail information can be seen in :: [http://www.mbdsoffice.com/crossborder\\_menu.php](http://www.mbdsoffice.com/crossborder_menu.php).

**24 hours MBDS Cross-Border Report from Jan-Sep 2012**

The following table represents infectious disease cases within 24 hours reported from MBDS region, namely Stung Treng, Banteay Meacheay, Takao, Kampot, Koh Kong cross-border provinces from Cambodia, Dongxiang cross-border from Guangxi province, China, Savannakhet, Champasak, Borikhamxay cross-border provinces from Laos and Mukdaharn, Chiang Rai, Sakaao, Nongkhai cross-border provinces from Thailand from January to September 2012.

Country	Province	Disease	Number of cases
Cambodia	Stung Treng	Severe Diarrhea ( AWD)	546
	Banteay Meacheay	H5N1	1
		Severe Diarrhea	603
	Takao	Meningitis	28
		Severe Diarrhea ( AWD)	20426
	Kampot	Meningitis	57
Koh Kong	Severe Diarrhea ( AWD)	6568	
	Severe Diarrhea	2377	
China	Dongxiang	Severe Diarrhea	60
	Savannakhet	AFP	2
Laos	Champasak	Severe Diarrhea	144
		Meningitis	5
	Borikhamay	Severe Diarrhea	1102
		Meningitis	13
Thailand	Mukdaharn	AFP	1
	Chiang Rai	Encephalitis	11
		Tetanus	2
		Meningitis	17
	Sakaao	Diphtheria	1
		Encephalitis	1
		Meningitis	6
		Nongkhai	Diphtheria

## Useful link and Up coming International Events

It is a great opportunity to introduce a useful website; European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and two upcoming events from International Society for Infectious Disease (ISID), which are International Meeting on Emerging Disease Surveillance (IMED) and ICID 16<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID).

**The European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**, an EU agency with aim to strengthen Europe's defenses against infectious diseases, was established in Stockholm, Sweden in 2005. ECDC plays an important role in the surveillance of infectious diseases in the EU and shall maintain the databases for epidemiological surveillance. ECDC collected data for case-based reporting from the Member States for the routine surveillance of the 46 diseases together with SARS, West Nile Fever and Avian Influenza.

<http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/Pages/home.aspx>

**ISID**, created in 1986 by a merger between the International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID) and The International Federation on Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (IFIPD), has been dedicated to improving the care of patients with infectious diseases, the professional development and standing of clinicians and scientists in the field, and the control of infectious diseases around the world.

The two upcoming events from ISID include the fourth International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, IMED 2013 to be held in Vienna, Austria from February 15–18 2013.



Abstract submissions and registration are now available and please check the website, <http://imed.isid.org>, for the list of abstract topics on the IMED 2013.”

16th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID) will be held in Cape Town, South Africa, from April 2 – 5, 2014. The meeting will cover all of the fields in infectious diseases and give particular attention on the major infectious causes of death in Africa and elsewhere, which include AIDS, malaria, TB, pneumonia and enteric infections including typhoid fever and diarrhea.

The deadline for abstract submission will be in December 2013, and for further information please visit the web site: [www.isid.org](http://www.isid.org).



## Update News

### 124 Children were killed by Dengue in Cambodia

**PHNOM PENH**, Sept. 8 (Xinhua) -- At least 124 Cambodian children were killed by dengue fever in the first eight months of this year, a 158 percent rise from only 48 deaths in the same period last year, according to the report of the National Center for Parasitology, Entomology and Malaria Control on Saturday.

Some 30,760 dengue fever cases were reported during the January- August period this year, an increase of 179 percent compared with 11,020 cases in the same period last year, the report said.

The province with the highest death toll is Banteay Meanchey with 20 deaths, followed by Siem Reap with 18 deaths and Kampong Cham with 16.

Source ; [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/health/2012-09/08/c\\_131836650.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/health/2012-09/08/c_131836650.htm)



### Unknown Insect in Vietnam

A local clinic in Huong Son Ward in the central city of Hue reported on September 8 that in the last few days about 200 households living in Huong Son Resettlement Area had expressed concern about a skin infection that seemed to be caused by an unidentified insect that seemed to sting during night time.



Residents living in the area described the insect as being twice the size of a normal ant, with a red body, black wings, and a pointed tail. These creatures came out mostly at night, flew around the house and could even penetrate through a mosquito net and bite people.

The insect bite stings and the skin itches and the wound festers, soon after which high fever sets in. So far it is believed that the insects generate at the same time as the harvest crop.

Source ; <http://www.saigon-gpdaily.com.vn/Health/2012/9/102682/>



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<http://www.mbdsoffice.com>