

CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

FIELD VISITS

"THE POWER OF A PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH,
PARTNERSHIPS, AND INTEGRATION OF THE HIV
RESPONSE INTO UHC TO END AIDS BY 2030:
LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE AIDS RESPONSE"

for the 51st UNAIDS PCB Meeting
December 12-13, 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

THE 2022 UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD (PCB) FIELD VISITS

THE POWER OF A PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH, PARTNERSHIPS, AND INTEGRATION OF THE HIV RESPONSE INTO UHC TO END AIDS BY 2030: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE AIDS RESPONSE

BACKGROUND

Thailand, as chair of the 2022 UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB), is honored that the 51st PCB will be hosted in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The country notes that this is the first time in 14 years that the PCB meeting will be held outside Geneva.

As part of the 51st UNAIDS PCB meeting, the Thai Government, together with national partners at all levels, is very pleased to organize the **2022 UNAIDS PCB Field Visit** from 12-13 December 2022. This is a great opportunity for board members to experience programmatic implementation and the human-touch while interacting with frontline implementers, communities and people infected with and affected by HIV. Moreover, the planned field visits are directly related to the issues to be discussed at the 51st UNAIDS PCB meetings.

Thailand has the fourth-highest HIV burden based on the number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Asia and the Pacific. In 2021, there were an estimated 520,000 PLHIV and 6,500 new HIV infections in Thailand. The number of new HIV infections has declined by 59% since 2010, reflecting the progress that Thailand has made in recent years. The total estimated AIDS-related deaths were 9,300 in 2021. The number of AIDS deaths has declined by 66% since 2010, with 447,061 PLHIV on ART. Thailand's HIV epidemic is concentrated among key populations, with those most affected being men who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers (SW), transgender people (TG), migrants, prisoners, and people who inject drugs (PWID).

Over nearly four decades, Thailand has demonstrated tremendous progress in its HIV/AIDS program and has been recognized for its regional and global leadership around several innovations in its quest to end AIDS. Throughout 2022 the Thai Government has collaborated with UNAIDS¹ and other partners around key agendas. The first was on Zero Discrimination Day (1st of March) to promote action to eliminate all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination. The most recent partnership was with the Ministries of Public Health and Foreign Affairs from 20-21 October 2022 at the "2nd Asia-Pacific Youth Forum: "Putting Young Key Populations First to End AIDS by 2030". Held in Bangkok, this regional meeting fostered collaboration and partnerships for multi-stakeholder commitment and actions to strengthen HIV programming for and with young people and young key populations.

December 12th is International UHC Day. The Thai government, including the Ministry of Public Health, the National Health Security Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will collaborate with affected communities, PEPFAR, FHI360, the Global Fund, the UN Joint Team on AIDS, and UNAIDS to organize the 2022 UNAIDS PCB field visits under the theme "**THE POWER OF A PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH, PARTNERSHIPS, AND INTEGRATION OF THE HIV RESPONSE INTO UHC TO END AIDS BY 2030: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE AIDS RESPONSE**".

¹ UNAIDS is a Cosponsored Joint Programme of the United Nations, composed on 11 Cosponsors (UNICEF, UNDP, UNODC, WHO, World Bank, UN Women, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP, ILO) and a Secretariat.

OBJECTIVES

1. To demonstrate the practical actions and results/lessons learned of a resource-limited country that has adopted a people-centered approach, forged partnerships with people living with and affected by HIV, and integrated HIV and other health issues under Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and showcase the role of the UNAIDS Joint Programme as well as key partners including PEPFAR and FHI.
2. To inspire and boost determination among country leaders to accelerate progress toward ending AIDS by 2030.
3. To exchange lessons learned and showcase good practices:
 - **Lessons learned from the AIDS response in Thailand and the power of integration of HIV and health services in UHC** – Achieving the 95-95-95 targets and prevention targets through UHC, with community-led health services as part of the health system.
 - **The power of a people-centered approach** – Accelerating progress through community- and key population-led health services and response.
 - **The power of partnerships** – Linking HIV services between the community and health services and achieving the 10-10-10 targets through the Thailand Partnership for Zero Discrimination initiative by promoting a multisectoral approach to eliminate all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

DATE AND TIME

Date: 12-13 December 2022
Time: 12 December: 8.00 - 14.00 hours; 13 December: 7.30 -12.00 hours
Place: Chiang Mai, Thailand
Format: Members of the PCB delegation can select only one site for each day on a first-come, first-served basis.

Day 1: 12 December: 4 sites, about 20-40 participants, depend on site
Day 2: 13 December: 4 sites, about 20-40 participants, depend on site

FIELD VISIT OPTIONS

The various sites for the field visits have been reviewed and selected by the working group, led by the Thai Ministry of Public Health.

The field visits will provide an opportunity for the PCB members to observe Community-Led Health Services (CLHS), and Key Population-Led Health Services (KPLHS) for MSM, TG, SW, people who use drugs (PWUD) including PWID, and young Key Populations. The site visits will also showcase the strong partnership of community and health facilities and the multisectoral approach, including through the support of the Joint Programme as well as key partners PEPFAR and FHI , for zero discrimination in action,.

All sites

Thailand is a resource-limited country but has been recognized as one of the leading nations in the Asia and Pacific region and globally to have effectively integrated HIV services into UHC, not only for treatment of all PLHIV, but also prevention and health promotion. Recently, at the 50th PCB in June 2022, the Thai UHC reached new heights by announcing its plan to formally fund CLHS as a part of the national public health service. This also means that participating CBOs will be directly reimbursed by the UHC system for services rendered to PLHIV and Key Populations. This is indeed a milestone toward the goal of supporting sustainable community-led health service delivery and sustainable financing for CBOs.

M-Plus and CAREMAT, Sanpatong and Saraphi Hospital

KPLHS is a people-centered service that demonstrates task-shifting to lay providers who are members of the Key Population communities themselves. The KPLHS providers have been trained to deliver high quality HIV and health services based on actual needs, in a way that is client-centered and stigma-free. Moreover, KPLHS providers are strengthened through in-service training, mentoring, and supervision. There is a national Community Health Worker certification and CSO accreditation system to provide HIV, STI, TB, HBV, and HCV screening, pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP/PEP), dispense treatment via telemedicine, and serve as a link to referral hospitals. KPLHS has significantly contributed to national prevention coverage, and early HIV diagnosis and treatment.

Thai Drug users' Network (TDN), Thanyarak Hospital

Thailand has prioritized equitable and equal access to Harm Reduction and HIV prevention, testing and treatment for PWDU, PWID, and prisoners. The strategy is to leverage innovations such as virtual interventions, HIV self-testing, integrated community-based testing, diagnosis and treatment of HIV, HBV and HCV, counseling and mental health support, and linking the local services with the drug treatment hospital.

Chiang Mai Women Correctional Institution

An integrated HIV/TB programme has been implemented in prisons which combines routine HIV prevention, HIV testing, TB testing, and Cheat X-ray. Prisoners living with HIV and TB are referred for treatment to nearby hospitals. Moreover, there is a plan for follow-up after a prisoner is released, and this is coordinated with an appropriate CBO.

PLHIV groups at Ban-Hua-Rin Health Promoting Hospital

HIV-related stigma and discrimination remain an enormous obstacle to achieving the Ending AIDS goal. The Thai Government is determined to overcome this challenge and has become a member of the Global Partnership for Action to eliminate all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination across 6 settings including health care, education, workplace, community, justice, and humanitarian sectors. At the site, board members will have an opportunity to explore community engagement in reducing stigma and discrimination in the healthcare setting, including CLHS, implementing U=U as a stigma-reduction tool, and the community-led crisis response system for reporting human rights violations and supporting survivors.

THE 2022 UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD (PCB) FIELD VISITS December 12-13, 2022, in Chiang Mai Province

THE POWER OF A PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH, PARTNERSHIPS, AND INTEGRATION OF THE HIV RESPONSE INTO UHC TO END AIDS BY 2030: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE AIDS RESPONSE

December 12, 2022, from 08:00 - 14:00 hrs. (ICT)

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
08:00 - 08:30	Registration			
08:00 - 09:00	Introduction - Overview of the Thai national HIV program, and the provincial network for ending AIDS in Chiang Mai (video and presentation) - Orientation of field visits			
	Key Population-Led Health Services (KPLHS) targeting MSM, TG and MSW By M-Plus	Key Population-Led Health Services (KPLHS) targeting MSM, TG, MSW and PLHIV By CAREMAT	Harm Reduction and health services for People who use drugs (PWUD) and inject drug (PWID) By Thai Drug User's Network (TDN)	Community engagement and Stigma and Discrimination (S&D) reduction By PLHIV Network
	20 persons	20 persons	20 persons	40 persons
09:00 - 09:30	Depart to M Plus Foundation	Depart to CAREMAT Foundation	Depart to the Thai Drug User's Network	Depart to the Baan-Hua-Rin Health Promoting Hospital
09:30 - 12:00	Visit M Plus Foundation: <i>M Plus Foundation is a key population-led organization specializing in preventing HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), sexual health, and LGBTQ rights in Thailand. M Plus mainly campaigns and drives activities in HIV prevention in Thailand.</i>	Visit CAREMAT Foundation <i>CAREMAT Foundation is a key population-led organization promoting access to health services and supporting the quality of life for LGBT people.</i> Participants will have the opportunity to visit comprehensive HIV services provided by the key population-	Visit the Thai Drug User's Network (TDN) <i>The Drug User's Network is a group of PWUD and PWID to improve the quality of life of drug users and their families and provide equal protection of human rights and human dignity.</i> Participants will visit and meet with the TDN team and	Visit PLHIV groups at Ban-Hua-Rin Health Promoting Hospital <i>The PLHIV groups of Sanpathong District include Jai-Kao-Jai-Rao Group, Pra-San-Jai Group, and V-power, are members of the Thailand Network of PLHIV (TNP+). They are one of the first initiatives to reduce stigma and discrimination in community. Subsequently, the country has implemented S&D reduction</i>

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
	<p>Participants will have the opportunity to visit comprehensive HIV services provided by key population-led organizations and discuss with them on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPLHS and its contribution to the national and provincial response • Integration of services: HIV prevention, community-based HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis C testing services, PrEP/PEP, tele-counseling and mobile VCT • Innovation on using social media • Partnership with hospitals • Real-time monitoring system • Integrated S&D reduction as part of the cascade of services • Address young MSM, TG, SW 	<p>led organization and discuss with them on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPLHS and its contribution to the national and provincial response • Integration of services; HIV prevention, community-based HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis C testing services, PrEP/PEP, tele-counseling and mobile VCT • Partnership with hospitals • Real-time monitoring system (CAREMAT application) • Integrated S&D reduction as part of the cascade of services • Linkage with hospitals to support retention in HIV treatment among HIV+ MSM • Social enterprise initiative (ACTSE) 	<p>other supporters to discuss about working on harm reduction, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-in center harm reduction services • Reach and recruit through community-based testing and treatment for HIV, HBV and HCV • Linkage for Methadone treatment with hospital <p>Afterward, participants will visit a community in the working area of TDN, to meet with community volunteers to discuss their role and work on harm reduction.</p>	<p><i>operations in healthcare facilities and expanded into operations based on the multisectoral partnership to end stigma and discrimination.</i></p> <p>Participants will meet PLHIV groups and discuss with them and the Chiang Mai community engagement team HIV-related S&D reduction with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role and involvement of PLHIV groups, Wat-Hau-Rin (temple), and Health Promoting Hospital in HIV-related S&D reduction and social support for PLHIV in community. • HIV-related S&D reduction in healthcare facilities and promoting U=U in the health service system and other sectors in society • Multidisciplinary team for S&D reduction in the justice sector through advocacy for laws to eliminate discrimination against individuals and the rights protection system.
11.45 - 12.00	Leave for Shangri-La hotel	Leave for Shangri-La hotel	Leave for Shangri-La hotel	
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch will be served at the Shangri-La hotel	Lunch will be served at the Shangri-La hotel	Lunch will be served at the Shangri-La hotel	Lunch will be served on site
13:00 - 14:00	Discussion - lessons learned and their application (Shangri-La Hotel)	Discussion - lessons learned and their application (Shangri-La Hotel)	Discussion - lessons learned and their application (Shangri-La Hotel)	Discussion - lessons learned and applications at site

Note:

1. Times may vary from group to group. It depends on the place visited.
2. Participants in **Groups 1, 2, 4** will be encouraged to visit **Sanpathong and Sarapee Hospital** on December 13, 2022, to gain an overview of the linkage between KPLHS/community-based organization/PLHIV groups and the hospitals, including the integration of HIV services with UHC, and from a case study of Chiang Mai as part of the national program.
3. Participants in **Group 3** will be encouraged to visit **Thanyarak Hospital** on December 13, 2022, to gain an overview of the harm reduction program of Chiang Mai and from a case study of Chiang Mai as part of the national program.

December 13, 2022, from 07:30 - 12:00 hrs. (ICT)

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
07:30 - 08:00	Registration			
	Universal Health Coverage Scheme (UHC)	Universal Health Coverage Scheme (UHC)	Harm Reduction and Drug Treatment services	Integration of HIV/TB programme for closed setting population
	40 persons	20 persons	40 persons	20 persons
08:00 - 09:00	Depart to Sanpatong Hospital	Depart to Sarapee Hospital	Depart to Thanyarak Chiang Mai Hospital	Depart for Chiang Mai Women Correctional Institution.
09:00 - 10:30	<p>Visit Sanpatong Hospital</p> <p><i>Sanpatong Hospital is a 130-bed community hospital located in San-Pa-Tong District. The hospital is one of the hospitals that have a long experience in providing antiretroviral drugs. The hospital also has participated in delivering PrEP and linking with groups of PLHIV and community-led organizations in providing HIV services.</i></p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to visit the HIV-related services of the hospital, and also discuss the following:</p>	<p>Visit Sarapee Hospital</p> <p><i>Sarapee Hospital is a community hospital located in the Sarapee District of Chiang Mai Province. The hospital aims to promote the good health of the people, happy staff, and the Sustainable District Health System Network.</i></p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to visit the HIV-related services of the hospital, and also discuss the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the health service in the hospital and Sarapee District 	<p>Visit Thanyarak Chiang Mai Hospital</p> <p><i>Thanyarak Hospital is under the Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Public Health. The hospital provides treatment, rehabilitation, and supports for drug and substance abuse patients.</i></p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to visit services for PWUD with HIV, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for PWUD including Matrix Program, Therapeutic community and FAST model, Community-Based Treatment (CBTx) 	<p>Visit Chiang Mai Women Correctional Institution.</p> <p><i>Chiang Mai Women Correctional Institution is a women's prison in Chiang Mai, Thailand, operated by the Department of Corrections. Most inmates had committed crimes related to recreational drugs.</i></p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to visit and discuss on HIV-related services for female inmates, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UHC for populations in confined settings: Thais and non-Thais

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the health service in the hospital and Sanpatong District • Development of HIV services • Involvement of PLHIV and Key Population in HIV-related services provision • Central Lab network, including CD4 and viral load testing for HIV • Stigma and discrimination reduction intervention <p>Also, the provincial and national HIV program manager and relevant organizations will share experiences on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of HIV Services into UHC and benefits packages under the Universal Health Coverage Scheme • Certification system and domestic financial support for community-based organizations and lay providers to deliver HIV services in the national healthcare system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of HIV services and friendly HIV services through one-stop services • Involvement of PLHIV and Key Population in HIV-related services provision • AIDS Network of Sarapee District <p>Also, the provincial and national HIV program manager and relevant organizations will share experiences on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of HIV Services into UHC and benefits packages under the Universal Health Coverage Scheme • Certification system and domestic financial support for community-based organizations and lay providers to deliver HIV services in the national healthcare system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm reduction services for PWUD and HIV • Buprenorphine treatment • The linkage of HIV and relevant services with Civil Society and community-led organizations <p>Also, the provincial and national HIV program managers and relevant organizations will share experiences on the national program, its success, and challenges in preventing HIV among drug users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMTCT and comprehensive testing and prevention package including HIV, STIs, HCV, and Routine TB testing after chest X-ray • Treatment for prisoners living with HIV and TB by linkages with a hospital • Drop-in center • The Good Health Good Heart Project (Rat-Cha-Tha-Pan-Suk Project) <p>Also, the Department of Correction and relevant organizations will share experiences on the national program, its success, and challenges in preventing HIV among drug users.</p>
11:00- 12:00	Return to lunch at the Shangri-La Hotel	Return to lunch at the Shangri-La Hotel	Return to lunch at the Shangri-La Hotel	Return to lunch at the Shangri-La Hotel

Note: Times may vary from group to group. It depends on the place visited

The number of people applying for each group is limited to not more than 20-40, depend on sites, and on a first-come, first-served basis.

The deadline to sign up for a site visit is December 1, 2022. Sign-up will be closed if a group has reached capacity.

Also, if any group has fewer than five people signed up to participate, the organizer reserves the right to cancel that site visit.