



Build Trust...  
Through Transparency...  
Collaborate to End Pandemics.!

## Dear MBDS Colleagues,

The MBDS (Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance) cooperation is a self-organized sub-regional network commenced in 2001. It is a collaboration effort among six Mekong Basin countries including Cambodia, China, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. It aims to strengthen national and sub-regional capabilities in infectious disease surveillance and outbreak response, especially on 18 currently designated priority diseases including Ebola, MERS, Zika, Malaria and Dengue to rapidly and effectively control them.

In collaboration with different Ministries and partners, MBDS member countries are trying to contain coronavirus pandemic situation with respective countries' National Action Plan, and Infectious Disease Act/Law. Countries provide useful and up-to-date information to public on national portals such as Ministries' website, social networks, TV and Information Education Communication (IEC) materials.

There are National level committees for prevention, containment, control, settlement, information dissemination, public support and law enforcement. All member countries are preparing hospital case management facilities, quarantine facilities, PPE supply, dis-infection at public areas, border areas quarantine, strengthening lab testing capacity and logistics management for pandemic situation.



*Thailand's Experience In  
The COVID-19 Response*



Editor  
Supakit Sirilak, MD, MPH  
August 2020

**Ministry of Public Health, Thailand** has developed a book in the COVID-19 response. It aims to share Thailand's experience in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak and to provide policy lessons for other countries to overcome this disease.

It also mentioned "Both mandatory and voluntary measures were implemented to contain the outbreak, including the cancellation of public gatherings, remote working measures, the closure of entertainment and sport venues. The highlight is the social campaigns to **"Stay home, Stop the virus, Save the nation"** in fighting against the virus. The Thai government also provided free of charge treatment to all COVID-19 patients, including non-Thai citizens, covering diagnostic testing and treatment expenses as a means to control the spread of the virus. Travel restrictions both nationally and internationally were also enforced in the first week of April 2020.

As a result, Thailand was able to flatten the COVID-19 curve with limited local transmission by early May 2020. Thailand has been recognized as the top country in making the most progress toward curbing the spread of the pandemic, according to the Global COVID-19 Index (GCI, 2020)."

Please kindly see the document in [MBDS website](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/).

### COVID-19 situation in Mekong Region (As of 31 August 2020)

Country	Total Cases	Active Cases	Critical	Recovered	Deaths
<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>85,048</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>80,177</b>	<b>4,634</b>
<b>Lao P.D.R</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Myanmar</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Thailand</b>	<b>3,411</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3,252</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Vietnam</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>32</b>

(Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>)

## MBDS Foundation Activities

MBDS has presented "Event-Based Surveillance (EBS) Mobile Application for Regional Collaborative Platform" to policy makers, senior officials, academia, and partners in the webinar hosted by The Rockefeller Foundation on 26 August 2020.



This application is developed to support the sharing of public health related event-based surveillance information in timely manner which includes evidence-based reporting at MBDS Cross Border Provinces of MBDS countries.

This mobile application is a real time reporting system using images, and location of all emergency events. It is developed for the Android operating system and applicable to mobile phones, tablets and similar devices. The reported information will be shared with email alert system to stakeholders.

Event-Based Surveillance (EBS) Mobile Application is initiated by Canada's Global Partnership Program in Cambodia, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV countries). The expansion to Thailand Cross Border Provinces will be supported by The Rockefeller Foundation.

- Reported by Ms. Jitra Thajeen, Assistant Project Coordinator, MBDS Secretariat

Mukdahan Provincial MBDS Cross Border Coordinator and local ICT lead has visited to MBDS Secretariat on 14 August 2020 for implementation of "Regional Collaborative Platform" (Event-Based Surveillance Mobile Application) in Thailand Cross Border Provinces. Both discussed about activity timeline, development, modification, and training for real time reporting application to other cross border provinces.

- Reported by Ms. Jitra Thajeen, Assistant Project Coordinator, MBDS Secretariat



## MBDS Regional Activities



Dr. Htun Tin, Deputy Director General, MOHS Myanmar (MBDS Associate Executive Board) has participated the "Detailed measures to be taken to prevent further epidemics of COVID-19 in Rakhine State" on 25 August 2020 at Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

- Shared by MOHS, Myanmar



MBDS Cross Border Coordinator from Nongkhai Provincial Health Office (Thailand) participated in the "Screening Thai people that travelling from Lao PDR before sending to Quarantine 14 days" on 21 August 2020 at Nongkhai Province, Thailand.

- Reported by Mr. Thapon Tiawsirichaisakul, MBDS XB Coordinator (Nongkhai Province, Thailand)

## Upcoming International Events

- Workshop on "Strengthening capacity of Quality assurance among ASEAN Member States", Hanoi, Vietnam (TBD)
- MBDS Partner Collaboration Forum, Vientiane Capital, Lao P.D.R (TBD)
- Launching of MBDS Real Time Event Base Surveillance Application, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (TBD)
- Workshop on Training for EBS application for Cross Border Provinces in Thailand (October 2020)

## Recent Update

MBDS SO has been updating Regional and International disease information on [MBDS website](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/)

## Useful links

MBDS has been updating useful links (Disease Surveillance Networks, Health Related Links, Links for Disaster Management, Research Links, Global Conference Alerts and Others Links) on [MBDS website](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/).

Sincerely yours,  
MBDS Foundation Secretariat

