



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.

# COVID-19 situation in Mekong Region (As of 1 April 2021) Country Total Cases Active Cases Critical Recovered Deaths

Cambodia	2,440	1,238	-	1,191	11
China	90,217	187	2	85,394	4,636
Lao P.D.R	49	4	-	45	-
Myanmar	142,434	7,428	-	131,800	3,206
Thailand	28,863	1,343	1	27,426	94
Vietnam	2,603	209	-	2,359	35

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

# **MBDS Foundation Activities**

MBDS has organized "Regional Collaborative Event Base Surveillance Mobile Application Training" in Bangkok, Thailand on 29 March 2021. Dr. Soawapak Hinjoy, Director, Office of International Cooperation, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand (MBDS Country Coordinator), MBDS cross border health officials and MBDS Secretariat were participated in this training. Currently, 4 MBDS Thailand cross border province (Mukdahan, Chiang Rai, Nan and Nongkhai) reporting all public health events with this mobile application and this training to expansion of another 4 cross border provinces from Thailand (Sakaeo, Trat, Tak and Ranong).



This mobile application is to support the sharing of public health related event-based surveillance information in real time reporting among cross border provinces from MBDS countries. Public health, veterinary health, environmental events, including images and Geo-location are reported in this android mobile operating system. This application development is initiated by Canada's Global Partnership Program for Cambodia, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV countries) and the expansion to Thailand Cross Border Provinces is supported by The Rockefeller Foundation



Reported by Ms. Jittra Thajeen, Assistant Project Coordinator, MBDS Secretariat

# **MBDS Regional Activities**



Dr. Pasakorn Akarasewi, MBDS Foundation Board, Thailand and Mrs. Punchawee Sukbut, MBDS Cross Border Coordinator from Mukdahan Provincial Health Office, Thailand has participated in the "Workshop for human health development in preparation of guidelines for prevention and control of Melioidosis" on 16 March 2021 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Credit photo to Mrs. Punchawee Sukbut, MBDS XB Coordinator from Mukdahan Province, Thailand

Dr. Malyvanh VONGPANHYA, Technical Officer Surveillance and Response Division, DCDC, Ministry of Health, Lao P.D.R (MBDS focal of Lao P.D.R) has participated in the "Subnational EOC and IMS training to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacity in Lao P.D.R for Luangprabang Province" on 29 March – 1 April 2021 in Luangprabang Province, Laos.

Credit photo to Dr. Malyvanh VONGPANHYA, MBDS focal of Lao P.D.R



Dr. Soawapak Hinjoy, Director, Office of International Cooperation, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand (MBDS Country Coordinator) and MBDS Cross Border Coordinators from Mukdahan, Chiang Rai, Nan, Ubon Ratchathani and Nakhon Phanom Provincial Health Offices, Thailand have participated together in the "National Joint Risk Assessment (JRA) Pilot Workshop " on 23 – 26 March 2021 in Nonthaburi Province, Thailand.

Reported by Mrs. Punchawee Sukbut, MBDS XB Coordinator from Mukdahan Province, Thailand

# **Upcoming International Events**

MBDS Regional Table Top and Simulation Exercise (May 2021) Cambodia experience on MBDS Event Based Real Time Surveillance Application (May 2021)

### **Recent Update**

MBDS Secretariat Office has been updating Regional and International disease information on MBDS website

# **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 <u>MBDS website</u>.

Sincerely yours,

MBDS Foundation Secretariat



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