

Thailand AERA 30th Quarterly Activities Report
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Accelerating Economic Recovery in Asia
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Compiled by Paul Wedel, KIA Asia Coordinator for AERA

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Executive Summary

Business Advisory – Trade Capacity Building

The trade capacity building project followed its plan with the second seminar and clinic focusing on export to the U.S. market. The 1-day seminar was organized to help ASEAN exporters of packaged foods learn about opportunities in the U.S. market, its safety, standards and labeling requirements and ways to penetrate the market.

Borderless Action Against Microbes Project (BAAM)

This project to coordinate and enhance cross-border cooperation in addressing key infectious disease threats works with the ministries of public health in the region along with the World Health Organization, USAID and a variety of public health NGOs. K.I.Asia staff participated and supported a WHO SEARO malaria strategy review workshop, a WHO-sponsored informal consultation on containment of multi-drug resistant malaria on the Cambodian-Thai border, the annual ACTMalaria partners meeting and WHO Mekong Malaria Program planning consultations. The K.I.Asia team continued to monitor anti-malarial drug resistance at 9 sentinel sites and supported independent quality testing of the prototype rapid detection test for malaria antigen by the Shoklo Malaria Research Unit;

K.I.Asia public health program manager Jim Hopkins assisted USAID to review its tuberculosis program and helped WHO in its Bi-Regional Cross-Border Meeting on Emerging Infectious Diseases. He and his team also helped the Thai Ministry of Public Health to finalize its 2007 workplans for implementation the Joint Action Programs on avian and pandemic influenza (Thailand, Laos, Cambodia), and disease outbreak response along Thailand's borders with Cambodia and the Lao PDR and to organize a workshop on linking cross-border human and animal infectious disease epidemiological information and communication systems for coordinated surveillance among 16 border provinces in Thailand, Lao PDR, and Cambodia;

The team advised the Karen Education Department, the Karenni Education Department, and the Burmese Migrant Workers Education Committee on development of teacher guides for life skills-based education on avian influenza for refugee camps and schools with migrant workers children. It also provided technical assistance to develop a manual and IEC materials for a lifeskills approach on avian and pandemic influenza to be used by Thai village health volunteers;

K.I.Asia organized workshops and pandemic influenza simulation exercises in Mae Hong Son and Tak Provinces to establish avian and pandemic influenza program coordination linkages between NGOs working in refugee camps and provincial public health, livestock, and Ministry of Interior officials. The Institute also supported a pandemic influenza simulation exercise in Ubon Ratchathani Province with participation of health and livestock officials from Champasak Province (Lao PDR).

Environmental Support Program

The final expenditures were made in this program which completed all activities in the previous quarter.



Business Advisory Center (BAC)

Business Advisory Services – Trade Capacity Building

Capacity building activities continued to unfold in the USAID-funded “Building Trade Capacity in Southeast Asia: Exporting Asian Foods to Global Markets” project. The second seminar in the 3-seminar series titled “Targeting the U.S. Market: Opportunities for Southeast ASEAN Packaged Food” was organized on March 14 in Bangkok.

The seminar had two components to assist participating exporters. The main seminar sessions focused on opportunities for exporting to the U.S. market, lessons learned from successful ASEAN firms in the market and the mechanics of safety, standards and labeling requirements. Another important activity parallel to the seminar sessions was one-on-one consultation with the expert speakers who all had extensive experience with buying for or exporting to the U.S. market. This consultation was particularly helpful in developing a better understanding of US rules and regulations as they apply to specific projects. The one-on-one sessions also helped companies develop their export strategies and channels..

The majority of speakers were American executives representing key organizations, including a prominent importer and marketer of international specialty foods, the International Food Information Council and a successful food exporting process company based in Bangkok. A Bangkok-based Thai sourcing executive of a prominent American food sourcing firm also provided practical insight on exporting to the U.S. market through local representatives of US sourcing firms. This session and the overview of the US market received the most interest from the participants while the two speakers also received the most requests for one-on-one consultation.

In addition, a panel of successful ASEAN exporters from the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand provided an overview of their experiences, tips and recommendations for other exporters to follow their approaches to the market. One hundred participants comprising 89 Thai executives and 11 representatives from other ASEAN exporters benefited from the seminar. Thirty of them took advantage of the one-on-one clinic sessions. The seminar received a relatively high satisfaction rating, as 93% of the participants said that the seminar met or exceeded their expectations. The last event in the seminar & clinic series will follow on April 4 and will focus on China market.



Borderless Action Against Microbes Program (BAAM)

The Borderless Action Against Microbes Program aims to strengthen national capacities and regional collaboration for effective surveillance, prevention and control of locally significant infectious diseases, including malaria and dengue fever, and emerging infection diseases such as potentially pandemic avian influenza. Strategic actions include development of replicable models of collaboration in trans-boundary infectious disease control including: monitoring and responding to the emergence and spread of resistance to antimicrobial medicines, counterfeit and substandard medicines, and sub-optimal public/private sector provider and consumer medicine use practices that contribute to antimicrobial resistance and treatment failures. In tandem with capacity building for measures undertaken by the public health system, BAAM supports health system reform to enable community action and empowerment through school life skills-based health education and participatory learning and action processes for a long-term effect on community health behaviors.

Project Activities Implemented This Quarter

During the reporting period from January through March 2007, activities implemented included the following:

Border Collaboration on Infectious Disease Control

Joint Action Programs on Infectious Disease Control in Border Areas: BAAM co-organized with RTG MOPH a meeting to finalize the 2007 workplans for implementation of activities in the Joint Action Programs for collaboration on avian and pandemic influenza (Thailand, Laos, Cambodia), and disease outbreak response along Thailand's borders with Cambodia and the Lao PDR.

BAAM staff participated in the WHO Bi-Regional Cross-Border Meeting on Emerging Infectious Diseases, including delivering a presentation on the Joint Action Program for cross-border collaboration on Thailand's borders with Cambodia and the Lao PDR.

Malaria

Coordination with WHO and regional malaria programs: BAAM participated in a WHO SEARO malaria strategy review workshop, a WHO-sponsored informal consultation on containment of multi-drug resistant malaria on the Cambodian-Thai border, WHO Mekong Malaria Program planning consultations, and in the annual ACTMalaria partners meeting.

Sentinel site monitoring of anti-malarial drug resistance: BAAM continued to support the RTG Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases in conducting therapeutic efficacy and in vitro sensitivity monitoring of the currently of the currently used front line anti-malarial drugs continued in 9 border provinces under the malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative.

Research and development of an affordable, reliable, locally-produced rapid test for malaria antigen: The Royal Thai Government National Institute of Health and the Bureau of Vector Borne Disease (MOPH) provided 600 units of the prototype rapid diagnostic test for malaria to the Shoklo Malaria Research Unit, which conducted independent testing of the quality through field-testing in Tak Province.



Malaria Control in Tourism Areas Related to Burmese Migrant Laborers: BAAM held further consultations with the RTG-MOPH Bureau of Vector-borne Disease and IOM regarding initiating a project to identify areas of high risk for malaria and develop special measures for activities in tourism areas in Phang Nga and Phuket Provinces experiencing outbreaks related to Burmese migrant laborers.

Avian and Pandemic Influenza

Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Planning: BAAM staff participated in the Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance network Executive Board meeting and a regional pandemic influenza tabletop exercise.

In coordination with IRC and provincial public health offices, BAAM organized informal consultation workshops and pandemic influenza simulation exercises in Mae Hong Son and Tak Provinces to establish avian and pandemic influenza program coordination linkages between NGOs working in refugee camps and provincial public health, livestock, and Ministry of Interior officials. Agreements were reached on initiating and coordinating animal and human surveillance and response to avian influenza outbreaks in the camps.

BAAM supported an avian and pandemic influenza simulation exercise in Ubon Ratchathani Province (Thailand) with participation of health and livestock officials from Champasak Province (Lao PDR).

BAAM provided technical assistance to the RTG-MOE in developing guidelines for school pandemic preparedness planning.

Cross-border surveillance reporting: BAAM met with the RTG MOPH to plan a workshop on linking cross-border human and animal infectious disease epidemiological information and communication systems for coordinated surveillance among 16 border provinces in Thailand, Lao PDR, and Cambodia.

Life skills-based education for infectious disease behavior development/change: BAAM Program Manager James Hopkins held consultations with Save the Children/US (Vietnam) and Enfants et Developpement (Vietnam) regarding collaboration on developing teachers guides for a life skills-based approach to infectious disease prevention and control in schools. They will coordinate with UNICEF in Vietnam to find out their interest.

BAAM staff met with the Karen Education Department, the Karenni Education Department, and the Burmese Migrant Workers Education Committee to make plans to organize workshops on adapting the BAAM-developed Thai teacher guides for life skills-based education on avian influenza for use in refugee camps and schools with migrant workers children.

BAAM provided technical assistance to the RTG-MOPH to develop a manual and IEC materials for a life skills approach to BCC on avian and pandemic influenza to be used by village health volunteers.

Coordination and networking: BAAM staff participated in monthly meetings of the Burma Border AI Task Force for coordination of response by international agencies



and NGOs, and in the inter-agency information sharing/coordination meetings on avian influenza.

Other Infectious Diseases

BAAM staff participated in a review of the USAID RDMA's tuberculosis program and consultations on formulation of future strategy.

Global Development Alliance Partnerships for Avian and Pandemic Influenza Prevention and Control: In this quarter, contracting for the Influenza Foundation Thailand (IFT), and three projects in Vietnam were completed. Implementation of the approved projects and their work progress are as follows:

1. IFT organized a press conference and train-the-trainer workshops on AI preparedness planning for the private sector and general population in Thailand from February – March 2007. Sixty participants attended these events.
2. AVSF has completed the development of English and Vietnamese manuals and test on the “Diagnosis of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza” and “Outbreak Investigation and Epidemiology.” The manuals have been approved by Vietnam’s Department of Animal Health. Currently, AVSF is conducting rapid market appraisal for duck and chicken production and designing district poultry development plans. In March 2007, AVSF was awarded a Phase II grant of 45,000 USD to expand its information dissemination and training activities, bringing the total funding to 100,000 USD. The Phase II agreement is currently under review and expected to be signed by April 2007.
3. AFAP experienced a two month initiation delay due to additional time required by Hoa Binh provincial authorities to approve the project. As a result, the project began in March 2007 instead of in January. Tasks completed to date include organizing one monthly district vet network meeting and two workshops for 23 Village vet workers and four Commune vet workers to enhance the capacity of para-vets on AI epidemiology and poultry biosecurity. Additionally, 27 sets of veterinarian equipment were dispersed at the end of March.
4. CRS signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nghe An and Thanh Hoa Provincial People’s Committees, established provincial and district-level management boards, and gathered baseline information to review existing AI activities. Additionally, CRS coordinated with AVSF to use AVSF’s provincial-level AI training materials on the Prevention and Control of AI in small-scale poultry, Epidemic Survey, and AI diagnosis. CRS conducted a 7-day training course that began on 30 March 2007 using those materials.

During the second round of proposal submission, two proposals were approved. The first proposal, from Colgate Palmolive Co., Ltd., received funding approval for 79,160 USD. Colgate will increase awareness on AI preventive measures and the importance and benefits of hand-washing and good personal hygiene among school children and the general public. The second proposal from Agrisource Co.,



Ltd. received funding approval of 254,089 USD. Agrisource will deliver AI messages to targeted audience through the media, workplace education, and information toolkits.

Major Activities Planned for the Next Quarter

Major activities planned for the next quarter from April through June 2007 include the following:

- Co-organizing with the RTG MOPH a workshop on linking cross-border human and animal infectious disease epidemiological information and communication systems for coordinated surveillance among 16 border provinces in Thailand, Lao PDR, and Cambodia;
- Co-organizing with the RTG MOPH a workshop to develop guidelines for joint cross-border Surveillance and Rapid Response Teams (J-SRRTs) to investigate outbreaks of avian influenza and other significant infectious diseases in 16 border provinces of Thailand, Cambodia, and Lao PDR.
- Organizing annual review of the results of monitoring anti-malarial drug resistance and drug quality in 9 sentinel sites, including a meeting of the Thailand National Malaria Drug Policy Committee;
- Support training for malaria program staff implementing therapeutic efficacy monitoring;
- Independent quality testing of the prototype rapid detection test for malaria antigen by the Shoklo Malaria Research Unit;
- Conducting consultations with the RTG-MOPH Bureau of Vector-borne Disease and IOM to formulate a project to develop special measures for activities aimed at elimination of malaria transmission in tourism areas in Phang Nga and Phuket Provinces experiencing malaria outbreaks related to Burmese migrant laborers;
- Organize workshops with the Karen Education Department, the Karenni Education Department, and the Burmese Migrant Workers Education Committee to adapt the BAAM-developed Thai teacher's guides for life skills-based education on avian influenza for refugee camps and schools with migrant workers children;
- Organize consultations and pandemic influenza simulation exercise workshops in Kanchanaburi and Ratchaburi Provinces to establish avian and pandemic influenza program coordination linkages between NGOs working in refugee camps and provincial public health, livestock, and Ministry of Interior officials;
- Provide technical assistance to RTG-MOE to develop a manual for school pandemic preparedness planning;
- Participate in the RTG MOPH Burma border health meeting;
- Participate in the USAID RDMA partner's meeting;



- Participate in the APEC training on management of simulation exercises organized by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center;
- Participating in monthly meetings of the Burma border task force on avian influenza, and the inter-agency information sharing/coordination meeting on avian influenza;
- The management team for the Global Development Alliance Partnerships for Avian and Pandemic Influenza Prevention and Control plans on-site visits to all of the projects in Vietnam to assess progress.



Environmental Support Program

Sustainable Enterprise Initiative

Final expenditures were made in the second quarter of FY2007 to complete the program.



Project Matrices

Note: Project information on types of activities now completed – SME consulting, bank training, business support organization partnerships, regulatory dialogue and education – can be found in matrices in previous reports.

Avian and Pandemic Influenza Projects

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>AGRISOURCE: Building Partnerships for the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza (PAI) in Thailand</p>	<p>The alliance, lead by AgriSource, will utilize untapped resources from more than 17 agribusiness and media organizations to communicate with and change behavior among agricultural workers, backyard poultry producers, and other at-risk individuals in rural communities. They will deliver messages to these target groups through three integrated channels (media, workplace education, and information toolkits) and related primary activities.</p>	<p>The goal is to reach out to poultry industry workers, backyard producers, and other at-risk individuals in rural communities, focusing on behavior change and communications related to animal and human health.</p>	<p>AgriSource, Internews, ICDC,</p>	<p>The proposal is in the process of being modified. The agreement is anticipated to be signed by Feb 2007.</p>
<p>INFLUENZA FOUNDATION THAILAND: Proposal for Activities on Influenza Pandemic Preparedness for the Private Sector and General Public in Thailand</p>	<p>Influenza Foundation Thailand (IFT) and partners will implement the Influenza Pandemic Preparedness program to prepare for an influenza pandemic in Thailand. The program will develop a handbook to serve as a guideline for pandemic preparedness planning for business that includes risk management and business continuity planning (BCP) using participatory methods to adapt international practices into a Thai context. The program partners will also develop a Flu Information Pamphlet to give workers basic information on pandemic influenza. The alliance partners will organize and host capacity building workshops for private sector organizations that offer concrete advice on how to write BCPs. Finally, the alliance partners will launch a communications program on influenza for the general public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase understanding of the risks of an influenza pandemic among strategic sectors of the economy, including small and medium-sized enterprises, public utilities, and the banking sector. • To facilitate and support pandemic preparedness planning for strategic sectors of the economy through the participatory development of sector-specific guidelines. • To give pandemic influenza planning knowledge to the private sector • To increase the general public's knowledge of influenza prevention and control. 	<p>Roche, Sanophi, Esso, IFT</p>	<p>Proposal is in the process of modification and refinement. It is expected to be submitted in its final form in January 2007.</p>



<p>AVSF -“Strengthening the Capacity of Veterinarians and Poultry Farmers to Control Avian Influenza Outbreaks in Viet Nam</p>	<p>The project will consist of five primary components that include avian influenza diagnosis, avian influenza epidemiology, animal health information system, bio-safety and safe poultry production, and wide scale dissemination of materials and results. . Specifically, the project will build capacities in the detection of avian influenza and its epidemiology as well as in the animal health information system. In addition, the project will use the distribution networks of provincial veterinary sub-departments and the sales forces networks of private agriculture companies to disseminate key avian influenza messages and materials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build the capacity of public and private veterinarians to conduct clinical and laboratory diagnosis including the use of rapid tests such as Flu-Detect. • Build the capacity of public and private veterinarians to use epidemiological data to manage AI outbreaks. • Upgrade the Animal Health Information System including regular disease reports and monthly veterinary bulletins featuring avian influenza news. • Increase the number of small to mid sized poultry farmers who implement bio-safety and poultry handling measures. 	<p>AVSF, Pfizer, Dept. Animal Health</p>	<p>First Agreement signed and funds transferred. A second award for 45,000USD was awarded. The proposal is under revision and will be submitted by Feb. 2007.</p>
<p>AFAP: Targeting Avian Influenza in Hoa Binh and Surrounding Provinces</p>	<p>This project will work with 4,000 local paravets, poultry farmers and community members, as well as district level government staff, to strengthen capacity in poultry biosecurity and detection, diagnosis, monitoring and control of AI. Additionally, this project will secure the input from private sector livestock companies and work with them to foster an engagement in AI prevention between community and government resources and the private sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen the local, district and provincial capacity in poultry bio security and in the detection, diagnosis, monitoring and control of AI outbreaks. • To facilitate coordinated private sector engagement in AI prevention and control strategies in Hoa Binh and surrounding provinces. 	<p>1. AFAP 2. Hai Nguyen Company, 3. Thanh Tho Company 4. Luong Son District Vet Station, 5. Luong Son District Peoples Committee</p>	<p>Oct-Dec 2006: Agreement was approved by USAID and sent to AFAP for a signature.</p>



<p>CRS: “Ensuring Safe and Sustainable Small-Scale Poultry and Livestock Raising Among Vulnerable Communities in Viet Nam”</p>	<p>Community AI Information, Education and Communication, Strengthened AI skills and knowledge of local extension staff, Bio-secure livestock practices among vulnerable families, Community based, participatory surveillance and early warning structures, Links with livelihoods alternatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote alternative livelihoods as one method of the expansion of opportunities to vulnerable families to diversify their livelihoods, further reducing threats arising from poultry production. • Local governance structures of target communities organize participatory early warning (surveillance, detection, reporting) mechanisms on AI and other infectious animal diseases. • The knowledge and skills of target local extension personnel in the management of infectious animal diseases, especially AI, is strengthened. • The poultry rearing practices of targeted rural communities are more bio-secure. 	<p>Provincial Peoples’ Committees in both provinces, including the Coordinating Committees, the Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development, and the Provincial Veterinary Offices. District level People’s Committees Son Hao Ltd Co for Construction and Livestock/Poultry development, Ho Viet Linh Farm, Hai Hao Livestock co-operative, and Thanh Hoa Joint Stock Company for Seeds and Poultry Development.</p>	<p>Oct-Dec 2006: Agreement was approved by USAID and sent to CRS for a signature.</p>
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Malaria Projects

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
The Study of Antimalarial Drug Use Practice in Thailand / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	<p>This activity consists of phase I, problem identification. Initial data collection will take place on the eastern border of Thailand with Cambodia. Since a study took place in Cambodia in October 2002, there may be a comparison of information across the border with Cambodian colleagues to identify potential areas of collaboration and joint approaches. It is anticipated that once the approach is developed for eastern Thailand, it will be adapted to the specific local conditions in other border regions, such as on the Thai-Burmese border, and that those areas will also be surveyed.</p> <p>The overall objective of this activity is to enhance the capacity of national and local counterparts to systematically identify and monitor community-level drug management practices and use and disseminate this information to develop policy and programmatic interventions.</p>	<p>Specific Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a Thailand-specific assessment and monitoring tool, which can be applied in border areas in Thailand 2. Develop the capacity to adapt the tool to local circumstances and apply it in selected areas 3. Analyze the findings to identify key drug use problems that may require additional exploration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Vector Borne Disease (Sub-Grantee) • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • Office of Disease Control Chonburi • Management sciences for Health Chantaburi Province • Vector-borne Disease Control Center, Vector-borne Disease Control Units in Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts 	<p>Data collection is completed and final analysis is underway.</p> <p>Preparations are underway to expand coverage to the Thai-Burma border at sentinel surveillance sites in Mae Hong Son and Tak Provinces.</p>



BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Strengthening of Sentinel Surveillance System for Anti-malarial Drug Resistance in Thailand / Surveillance of MDR Malaria</p>	<p>With the Malaria Group of the Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases (MOPH) as focal point, the ADR surveillance network comprises malaria clinics under responsibility of regional Vector Borne Disease Control Offices 1-5, provincial and district community hospitals, and academic field research stations. Nine border provinces with high malaria incidence are selected as sentinel sites, <i>i.e.</i>, Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Tak, Kanchanaburi, Ranong, Ratchaburi, Ubon Ratchathani, Chanthaburi, and Trat. Main activities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training on <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment and <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study; 2. <i>In vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment of the first line treatment regimens; 3. <i>In vitro</i> sensitivity study of the currently used anti-malarial drugs; 4. Establishment of an information center for ADR network at the Malaria Division. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish a network of sentinel surveillance sites for monitoring anti-malarial drug resistance in Thailand 2. To study the current situation of anti-malarial drugs in Thailand both <i>in vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> and including using HRP2 drug sensitivity assay 3. To strengthen the cooperation among sentinel sites in country and among neighboring countries towards sharing anti-malarial drug resistance information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Malaria Group, Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases 2. Provincial and district hospitals 3. Mahidol University 4. Siriraja Hospital 5. Thammasat University 6. The Royal Thai Armed Forces Research Institute for Medical Science 7. WHO 	<p>Initial and refresher training completed; sentinel surveillance by <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy study, <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study, and HRP2 assay of the currently used anti-malarial drugs is on-going in 9 sentinel sites.</p> <p>Results of monitoring drug resistance in were analyzed at national technical workshops in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005. Revised standard treatment regimen has been finalized. The national malaria drug policy committee has revised manuals on treatment guidelines for physicians and health workers; mefloquine-artesunate combination therapy is now used nation-wide since October 2004.</p>



BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Community-Based Malaria Control Along the Thai-Cambodia Border Through Civic Partnerships in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces / Health System Reform –Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models</p>	<p>The main concept of the project is to strengthen community involvement in malaria control and toward self-reliance in the long run through the process of standardized method of working for prevention, cure, and control, by community-based work to improve the potential of community and local agencies to address the malaria problem by themselves with support by related health personnel and other multi-disciplinary teams.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To initiate malaria epidemiology information center in the community. 2) To improve prevention in high-risk groups. 3) To promote community participation in solving problem of prevention in high-risk groups, and promote use of dipstick test for early diagnosis. 4) To promote community participation to address malaria with support by government organizations 5) To build capacity of health personnel and volunteers, including health personnel from Cambodia border areas if requested to create a network for disease control by communities themselves in the long run. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi and Trat Provincial Public Health Offices • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Schools • High-risk groups • Village health volunteers • Government agencies • Community leaders 	<p>Orientation workshops on conducted, community civil-society forums on malaria problem, analysis, and action planning conducted in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces.</p> <p>Training on use of GIS for malaria control conducted in Chantaburi Province.</p> <p>Workshop conducted on community epidemiology for multi-sectoral local malaria control core participants in Trat Province, and training held on improved diagnosis and treatment of malaria in Trat Province.</p> <p>Community malaria core teams established and trained; stakeholder awareness and planning sessions conducted for community-based control projects; community malaria information centers established.</p>



BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Developing and producing dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection / Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment</p>	<p>Preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies, followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both <i>P. falciparum</i> and non-<i>P. falciparum</i>.</p> <p><i>General objective: To locally produce a rapid, simplified, reliable and maximized sensitivity dipstick dye immunoassay utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibody against pLDH and pGAPDH for detecting malaria antigens of falciparum and non-falciparum malaria in human blood by using our national resources.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To raise/characterize MAb against pLDH and pGAPDH, maximize test sensitivity, genetic diversity to the <i>P. f.</i> parasite population, and not react to non-malaria antigen. 2. To develop a rapid, simplified, sensitive, and specific dipstick assay to detect asexual erythrocytic stage of <i>P.f.</i> and non-<i>P.f.</i> 3. To increase sensitivity, aiming at 100% for densities of >100 parasites per μl blood in four species. 4. To improve readability of tests (better signal intensity & avoidance of mix-ups). 5. To evaluate relative sensitivity/specificity of the antigen detection dipstick method for <i>P. f.</i> malaria field diagnosis compared to microscopy. 6. To set up a quality control system for sensitivity and specificity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases, Department of Disease Control, MOPH 2. National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	<p>Cloning and expression of pLDH in <i>E. coli</i> by genetic engineering obtained expressed fusion protein. By affinity purification, the protein obtained had high purity and good yield, and these proteins show the pLDH enzyme activity; Pre-immunized sera of rabbits were determined for the reactivity with pLDH and GST proteins by western blot analysis. Reactivity of the immunize sera was characterized by western blot analysis, followed by standardization of ELISA assay, determination of appropriate blocking solution in ELISA assay, and titration of polysera. 4 LDH and 4 GAPDH clones with an acceptable level of response have been produced for use by NIH on the prototype dipstick.</p>



BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>The project builds partnerships to develop a model for a school-based approach to community action against malaria as a strategy for developing knowledge, attitudes, skills and behavior necessary for community-based self-reliant action against malaria in highly endemic border. The model comprises the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A process for participatory learning and action against malaria by the school and community; • Use of case study approach on a whole school basis to study the local malaria situation and identify alternative solutions; • Use of life skills education methods to enhance the case study approach and develop/change behavior to prevent and reduce malaria; • Development of learning materials to support discovery learning; • Mobilization of communities for self-reliant action against malaria; • Technical support for schools and communities; • Leveraging resources from local sub-district councils to support community malaria prevention and control plans and projects <p>Phase II (replication trials) began in October 2002 with expansion to include 40 schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To strengthen capacity of schools and teachers to facilitate participatory learning and action by students and communities to prevent and control malaria. 2. To raise awareness and mobilize community action to prevent and control malaria. 3. To set up an example of a working model with multi-sectoral organizations collaborating as equal stakeholders. 4. To build on lessons learned and best practices for expansion of coverage to other endemic border areas facing increasingly multi-drug resistant malaria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education - Office of National Primary Education Commission: Office of Special Projects, Office of Supervision and Standards, Offices Provincial Primary Education Commissions in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, Trat • Health Behavior Development Group, Malaria Division • Regional Disease Control Offices, Vector Borne Disease Control Centers and Units • The Life Skills Development Foundation • Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai • Border Patrol Police Bureau 	<p>Phase I (model-building): 200 teachers, principals, education supervisors from 25 schools in 4 districts received 25 days of training in 5 workshops. Students completed community malaria situation assessments, analyzed alternatives, and shared with community leaders in consultation workshops to reach consensus on action plans and projects. Community-generated malaria control projects received funding support. A participatory process evaluation was conducted in August 2002. Phase II: 109 grade 4-9 teachers/ supervisors from 15 expansion schools received 15 days training, conducted surveys of health problems, malaria KAP, analysis of community malaria situation and alternatives for action. Phase III: 230 grade 4-9 teachers from 46 expansion schools received 7 days training on revised curriculum on mosquito-borne diseases.</p>



BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Thailand Roll Back Malaria Strategic Planning Workshop / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a multi-agency gathering of key stakeholders in malaria control. Working group sessions were held to obtain input on key strategies for renewed joint efforts to control malaria with special focus on border areas and multi-drug resistant malaria. Deliberations focused on the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis, treatment, case management • Community/household prevention • Epidemiology, surveillance, mapping, GIS • Decentralization, health system reform, responsibilities, and processes for community participation • Staff capacity building and training methodologies • Participatory learning processes, and prototypes for action in target communities • International organizations and their contribution to Thailand Roll Back Malaria <p>The thematic working groups presented results of their discussions in the form of recommended strategies, activities, support needed, and potential partner agencies for comments and plenary discussion.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To seek approaches and mechanisms for mutual cooperation for more successful malaria control. 2. To provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to present experience and share ideas to move toward formulation of key joint strategies for collaboration in systematically advancing as appropriate and necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH • Mahidol University • Thai and US AFRIMS • Royal Project Bureau • Royal Thai Army • Border Patrol Police • Hilltribe Welfare Division, Ministry of Labor • Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board • Office of the National Primary Education Commission • The Life Skills Dev. Foundation • IMPECT • IRC • ACTMalaria • MSF • PATH Canada • UNICEF • WHO • USAID 	<p>Workshop completed in July 2000. Participants from the wide range of organizations involved in anti-malaria efforts in Thailand were able to achieve consensus on four principal strategies for rolling back malaria in Thailand.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surveillance and response: epidemic preparedness, prevention and control 2. Early diagnosis, prompt and effective treatment 3. Household and community prevention 4. System reform to support local self-reliance in malaria control 5. Collaboration and coordination with equal partnerships among local implementing agencies <p>Program strategies, operational strategies, and potential partner agencies were compiled into a national strategic framework for Roll Back Malaria in Thailand.</p>



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Participatory action research planning workshop in Chantaburi Province / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	Following on focus group discussions conducted with more than 200 malaria high-risk villagers in Chantaburi Province, MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized a planning workshop with local government officials, informal employers and high-risk forest-related occupation groups from Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 2. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 3. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Marines • Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshop completed in August 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002. Implementation underway on community-level epidemiology system using GIS and community awareness raising interventions.
Participatory action research planning workshops in Trat Province / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized two planning workshops in Trat, with local officials, employers, subdistrict council members, and high-risk forest-related groups from Bo Rai, Muang, and Klong Yai Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas. These workshops were followed by consultations with key officials of Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 on formulating a proposal for subgrant support from BAAM.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 5. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 6. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • , MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Army and Marines • School Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshops completed in November 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002. Implementation underway on community-level epidemiology system and community awareness raising interventions.



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USAID Roll Back Malaria Partners' Meeting: Informal Consultation on Monitoring Anti-malarial Drug Quality and Use Practices / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a series of meetings from September 12-14, 2001 for consultations on monitoring drug quality and use practices among representatives of USAID Roll Back Malaria partners in Thailand, Cambodia, the U.S.A, and WHO.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To identify issues related to drug quality control and drug use practices in border areas; To identify priority actions to initiate study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices as components of sentinel surveillance; To identify potential implementing actors in study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices; To identify opportunities for technical cooperation, and support needed to implement study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USAID WHO Royal Thai Government Ministry of Public Health Cambodian Ministry of Health US Pharmacopeia Management Sciences for Health ACTMalaria KIAsia - BAAM PCU 	The consultation meetings are completed. The consultations resulted in identification of important issues and priority actions needed to initiate/implement study and monitoring of drug quality and drug use practices as integral components of sentinel surveillance of anti-malarial drug resistance with a focus on Thailand and Cambodia.
Training of village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members / <i>Health System Reform – Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with VBDO Nos. 1 and 2 to organize 2 training workshops for village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members on in-depth community malaria situation analysis; prevention, control and treatment of malaria; and coordinating planning for community action against malaria.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To improve knowledge, and behavior related to malaria. To understand analysis of risk and community malaria epidemiological situation. To prepare for collaboration with schools in analyzing alternative actions and formulating community malaria action plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VBDO No. 1 and 2, VBDCs and VBDOs Village health/malaria vols Sub-district councilors Provincial Primary Education Offices The Life Skills Development Foundation BAAM PCU 	Training workshops were completed in February 2002. Volunteers and sub-district council members from communities served by 25 schools in 4 districts have increased knowledge about malaria, situation/risk analysis, and are prepared to collaborate in school-community malaria action planning workshops in July 2002.



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Write shop to summarize one year implementation of the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with the Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission to organize a write shop to summarize implementation at the whole-school level and at each grade level from kindergarten to grade 9 under the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project.	1. To summarize results of first year implementation including learning processes, curriculum linkages, and teaching plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission • Provincial and District Offices of Primary Education • The Life Skills Development Foundation • BAAM PCU 	Writeshops completed in April 2002, 2003, 2004. Representatives of 40 schools in 4 provinces summarized implementation, learning processes, content, life skills, problems & solutions, results, benefits.
Transfer of technology training on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies / <i>Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment</i>	Dr. Pongwit Bualombai of the Malaria Division was sent to the University of Manchester to participate in a short training course on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies. If this is successful, it will be followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both <i>P. falciparum</i> and non- <i>P. falciparum</i> .	1. Transfer of technology on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaria Division, Department of Communicable Disease Control, MOPH • National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	Dr. Pongwit Bualombai is undergoing training at the Department of Molecular Biology, University of Manchester, and will return in July.



