Implementation of health sectors development in Lao PDR.

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Country situation

- Lao P D R is a small country with the area of 236,800 km₂
- Population of 6.5 million,
- 17 provinces, 144 districts
- 5,812 villages.
- Tropical climate

The goals of MOH

- The Lao government has determine Health Sector Development Plan to re-enforce the health care for the population.
- Taking the prevention as main task and treatment as the important task in order that all citizens could be healthy and could participate in the national socialeconomic development process.
- The health care system has been improved with the government's direction, combined with the external contribution though the international cooperation.

Health profile

- Government health facilities:
 - 4 Central hospitals, 4 special centers.
 - 16 provincial hospitals, 127 district hospitals.
 - 835 health centers, 5239 drug kits.
 - Number of doctor is 2.4 per 10,000 people.
 - Number of nurse is 7.5 per 10,000 people.
 - Number of health center staff is 2.3 per health center.
- Private health facilities:
 - 254 private clinics.

Main activities

- Following the implementation of health development plan in line with 6 programs
 - Program for Hygiene and health promotion
 - Program for Curative
 - Program for food and drug
 - Program for Human Resource development
 - Program for Health Research
 - Program for management planning and finances.
- Encouraging health care by upholding prevention as a primary task and treatment as an important task
- Collaborating with different sectors and authorities in order to raise people's awareness for making their lifestyles
- Following the hygiene and disease-prevention principle;
- Promoting people to visit health facilities.

Achievements

- MoH has supported the implementation of health policies by taking disease prevention,
- Health promotion as first and treatment as important
- Joint modern international medicine and traditional medicine to meet public demand for healthcare.
- Improve central and regional hospitals together with expansion of basic services and health services network into the countryside
- Expansion of the development of model healthy villages,
- Prevent and control severe communicable diseases in time
- Reduced the mother and child mortality rates
- Development of education and public health.

Challenges

- Health care is not responsive to the demand of the people in term of the quantity and quality, particularly in the rural and remote areas.
- People are suffering from infectious diseases, malnutrition.
- Technical competency of the staff is still low.
- Inadequate medical doctors.
- Enrolment of health insurances is not widely active. Only 4.7% of the labour in the whole society are currently insured.

Health Sector Development Plan to achive MDGs.

- Strengthening the health system
- Improvement of organization, quality and expand health service capacities.
- Expansion of health sector and all economic sectors to develop health services.
- Develop of sustainable health financial system.

Main key objectives by 2015

- Maternal mortality ration: 260 / 100,000 live births
- Infant mortality rate under one year: 45 / 1000 live births
- Infant mortality rate under 5 year: 70 / 1000 live births
- Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source (targeted at 80%)
- Proportion of population with access to an improved sanitation (targeted at 60%)
- Control of malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS
- Life expectancy: 68.3 years old.

Health Sector Development Plan to achieve MDGs 2015.

- Increasing and strengthening cooperation within the Ministry, between ministries, provinces, districts, villages, all development partners through sector wide coordination mechanism by implementing the Vientiane Declaration
- Self-promoting, self-strengthening before seeking assistance
- Using achievements as a benchmark for the quality of implementation
- Expanding the coordination with health development partners and promote private investment into development in order to raise quality in provision of services relating to health
- Securing of assistance and the mobilization of investment to construct modern private hospitals in the capital and in certain provinces.

Measures and Methods

Measures

- Understand and perform correctly and creatively in line with government policies.
- Improve the organization to strengthen all departments working in line with principle of consensus in the decision marking by enforcing the public and social hierarchy.
- Increase awareness and seek more cooperation and investment for health sector form all economic sectors.

Methods

- Focusing onto grassroots level by implementing programs, projects and cooperate over implementation to focus on MDGs through training, guiding, monitoring and assess efficiently.
- Increase health education ad hygiene prevention so that is strong, regular, and reaches out into all communities in accordance with the eight components of Primary Health Care policy in the process of creating Model Healthy Village.
- Actively develop and strength staff so that they gain more knowledge and skill political ethnics, revolutionary qualify qualities, compassion, and service-mindedness.
- Implement Presidential Degree and Notice effectively in conjunction with the expansion and centralize all health insurance schemes.

Thank you very much