



Fast Track the MSM Response in Asia!

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What I will cover

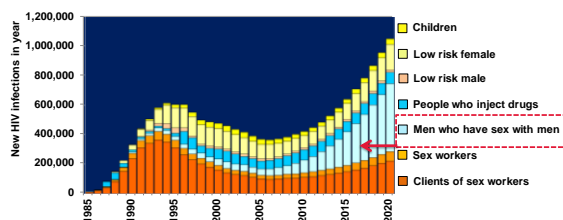
- Regional MSM realities
- APCOM and its strategies and current programmes
- Australia's support to the MSM response
- Need for much more support to fast track the MSM response



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The modelling done in 2008 shows the expanding HIV epidemic among MSM



Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on Commission on AIDS in Asia 2008

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Regional Overview



APCOM ICAAP10 'Ordinary Lives: Extraordinary People' photovoice

- By 2015 it is estimated that 5,000,000 people in the region will be living with HIV.
- Close to a thousand new HIV infections occur each day – or 350,000 a year
- HIV is concentrated in key populations – Commission on AIDS in Asia predicted that if no action was taken to increase the investment to MSM programming then they will account for nearly 50% of new HIV infections by 2020
- An overwhelming majority (95%) of new infections within key populations occur in young people between the ages of 15 to 24.
- HIV in Asia and the Pacific is geographically concentrated, particularly in major cities and capitals.

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Regional Overview

- Overall declining infection rates, increasing numbers on ARV, some increases in domestic funding.
- Many challenges remain – range of legal and other barriers (laws, stigma & discrimination); policy and programme neglect of key populations (especially MSM, transgender populations, sex workers, people using drugs) with rising infection trends.
- Treatment coverage is 51%, which is below the global average. Most people start treatment late, with implications for treatment effectiveness, individual health and long-term survival.
- Punitive laws and practices that criminalise same-sex behaviour are still prevalent in 18 out of the 38 countries
- Many countries will graduate to middle- and upper-middle income status in coming years – no longer eligible for international donor support.



APCOM ICAAP10 'Ordinary Lives: Extraordinary People' photovoice

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12 countries

In Asia and the Pacific the following countries contribute to 90% of PLHIV and 90% of new infections:

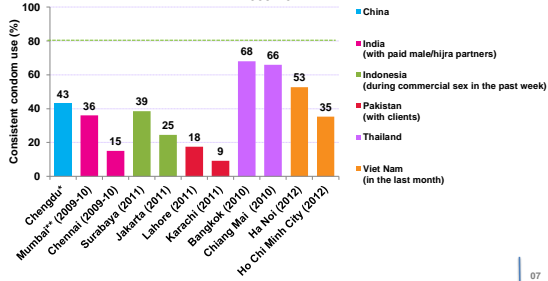
Low Income	Lower Low Middle Income	Upper Low Middle Income	Upper Middle Income	Not eligible
Cambodia	India	Indonesia	Malaysia	China
Myanmar	Pakistan		Thailand	
Nepal	Papua New Guinea			
	the Philippines			
	Vietnam			

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Low consistent condom usage

Proportion of consistent condom use among men who have sex with men, 2009-2012

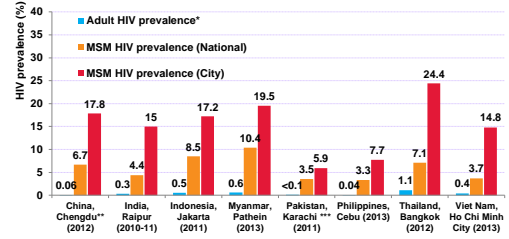


Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on Behavioral Surveillance Surveys and Integrated Biological and Behavioural Surveys

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MSM in cities: At least 2 times higher than national MSM HIV prevalence in most countries

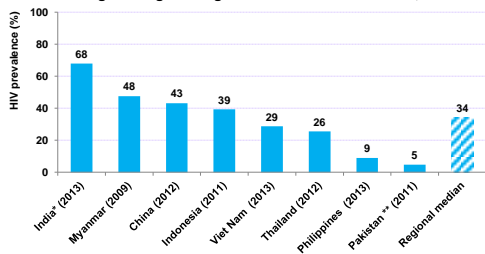


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How to ensure "no one left behind" if 2 in 3 MSM do not even know their HIV status

HIV testing coverage among men who have sex with men, 2009-2013

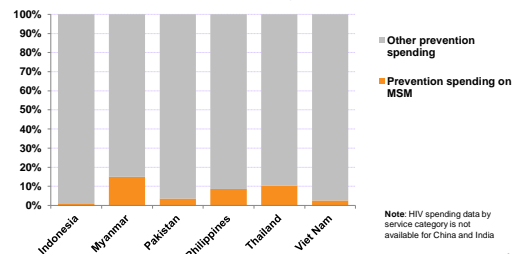


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Spend does not match the need

Prevention spending on men who have sex with men out of total prevention spending, 2010-2012



Note: HIV spending data by service category is not available for China and India

Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on www.aidsinfoonline.org

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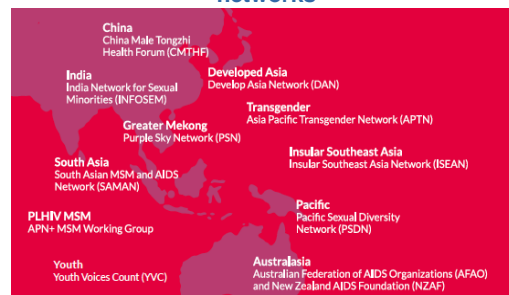
Working for and with the community in the region



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A coalition of MSM and transgender community networks



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Raising our game. Raising our voices: The APCOM 2014-2019 Strategic Plan

Goal: Improved sexual health through increased investment, coverage and quality of sexual health services for our communities

Strategic Results:

- 1 – Advocacy for sexual health services
- 2 – Advocacy for an enabling environment for supportive policies
- 3 – Gathering, generating and sharing strategic information
- 4 – Building a cadre of advocates at all levels



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Strengthening the skills of community leaders



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Strategic Information Development and Sharing



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Engagement with the Global Fund



Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka,

- Supporting the Regional study on violence against sexual minorities
- South Asia urban response on health services to address HIV among MSM and TG people
- Organisational system strengthening and capacity strengthening

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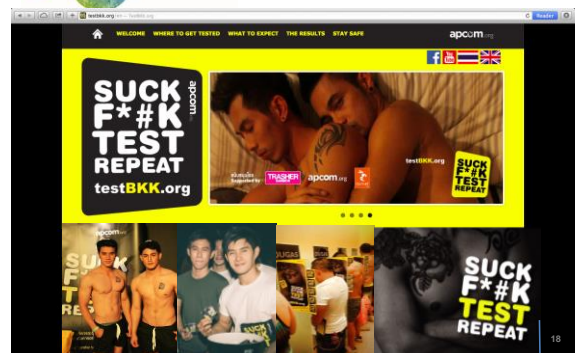
Advocacy for an Enabling Environment for access to HIV Services



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Promote HIV Testing



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Regional HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Program

The program links Australian organisations with counterparts in the Asia Pacific region

Goal: Strengthened role of organisations and individuals in the Asia-Pacific region to respond effectively to HIV/AIDS

Program purpose: To foster strategic partnerships and linkages between Australia and the Asia-Pacific region to increase the capacity of partners to contribute to effective HIV responses.

Program objective: To develop the capacity of the most affected communities and their peer-based organisations to actively participate in national and regional responses to HIV



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Country level Partnership

Network	Working in
Bandanh Chaktomok (BC)	Cambodia
Malaysia MSM and TG Network (mySEAN)	Malaysia
Myanmar MSM Network (MMN) Myanmar Youth Stars	Myanmar
GWL-INA	Indonesia
Lao Positive Health Association (LaoPHA)	Laos
Dangal	The Philippines
The Poz Home Centre	Thailand
Vietnam National MSM and Transgender Network (VNMSMTG) Vietnam Community Development (VCDL)	Vietnam

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Regional Level Partners

Network	Working in
Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV (APN+)	Asia Pacific
Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTn)	Asia Pacific
Islands of Southeast Asian Network (ISEAN)	Insular Southeast Asia
Pacific Sexual Diversity Network (PSDN)	The Pacific
Purple Sky Network (PSN)	Greater Mekong Region
Youth Voices Count (YVC)	Asia Pacific

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rapapp Capacity Strengthening for MSM and transgender networks

Assess 11 Key Areas

- **Network Function:** governance, membership, key population involvement, partnerships
- **Network Activities and Action:** advocacy priority, strategic information usage and development, communication
- **Network organisational development:** staffing, project design, technical capacity, financial management, resource mobilisation



Key findings	
STRONG	GAPS
Partnership and Networking	Capacity to mobilise resources and expand long-term funding base
Membership	Finance and administration systems and procedures
Technical capacity	Governance
Communication with members and stakeholders	Advocacy capacity

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Evaluation findings

- 1: Strategic and logical initiative considering the HIV context in Asia and the Pacific, the needs of MSM and transgender organizations and the stage in development of APCOM.
- 2: Systematic approach to capacity building based on a well-conceived package of support, combined with straightforward project management.
- 3: Strong peer-based and partnership approach, based on strong inter-personal communication.
- 4: JumpStart enables APCOM to further get to know the needs and dynamics of its constituency and to build its credibility and profile among civil society in Asia and the Pacific.
- 5: JumpStart produced invaluable lessons learned that should be incorporated into the future work of APCOM/AFAO and others working in this field.
- 6: Value of AFAO and its International programme to help strengthen APCOM through peer-peer learning and sharing the Australian experience.

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Conclusion

- MSM programmes under financed, particularly on prevention, community institutional capacity strengthening and sustainability
- HIV epidemic in the region will continue to rise if we continue what we are currently doing
- Invest in community

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