

FOCUS

AN ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF COLOMBO PLAN SECRETARIAT

July 2015 to June 2016



COLOMBO PLAN

For Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific



Colombo Plan's 65th Anniversary celebration, 1 July 2016





HIGHLIGHTS

OF ACTIVITIES

July 2015 to June 2016

COLOMBO PLAN
Secretariat



MESSAGE FROM THE **SECRETARY GENERAL**

I am happy to present this Focus magazine with information on the events and activities of the Colombo Plan during the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The Colombo Plan's 65 years of history is unique with many remarkable achievements in the 27 Member Countries. Colombo Plan today is a global example of inter-governmental co-operation promoting the principles of self-help and mutual help.

Secretary General's goodwill visits during the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, to Colombo Plan's National Focal Points in Nepal, India, Singapore, Philippines, Australia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Maldives, Mongolia, South

Korea, Fiji and Papua New Guinea were to renew and strengthen the good will that Colombo Plan has with its member countries.

This magazine also carries information on the Programmes conducted for Private Sector Development (PPSD), Programme for Public Administration and Environment (PPA), and Long Term Scholarship Programme that is offered to the Member States.

The Colombo Plan's Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) which is exclusively aimed at capacity building for drug demand reduction in the Asia and Pacific Region has assisted member countries in enhancing the capacity building programme and in encouraging national

efforts among member countries towards drug demand reduction.

The International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) is the training and credentialing arm of the Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme. During the reporting period, a total of 69 ICCE initiatives have been implemented involving over 1,700 experts, national trainers, trainees and candidates.

The Gender affairs Programme (GAP) is the most recent initiative of the Colombo Plan, implemented to enhance woman and children related development activities in the Member States. During

the period the GAP conducted its 1st Gender Focal Point meeting. Currently the GAP provides assistance to Women Protection Centres and Children Support Centres in Afghanistan and has conducted training programmes on empowering women and sharing best practices with the Government of Indonesia.

I consider it an honour to continue the good work that has been carried out by my predecessors in the past 65 years and I look forward to making the Colombo Plan a more dynamic and vibrant organisation.

Kinley Dorji
Secretary-General
Colombo Plan Secretariat

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Year	Date	Month	Activity
2015	1	July	64 th Anniversary of the Colombo Plan
	21	July	Standing Committee Meeting
	5	August	286 th Session of the Colombo Plan Council
	18	November	Standing Committee Meeting
	2	December	287 th Session of the Colombo Plan Council
2016	31	March	Standing Committee Meeting
	29	April	288 th Session of the Colombo Plan Council



HIGHLIGHTS

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
OFFICIAL VISITS



SECRETARY-GENERAL WITH FOCAL POINT OFFICIALS IN NEPAL

**VISIT TO
NEPAL**

9-12 AUGUST 2015

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan with the Director and the Programme Officer of the Gender Affairs Programme (GAP) visited the National Focal Point in Nepal to discuss on suitable ways of assisting the women and the children affected by the earthquake that struck Nepal, in April 2015 and the aftershock that followed in May 2015

OFFICIAL VISITS

VISIT TO NEW DELHI

8-12 SEPTEMBER 2015

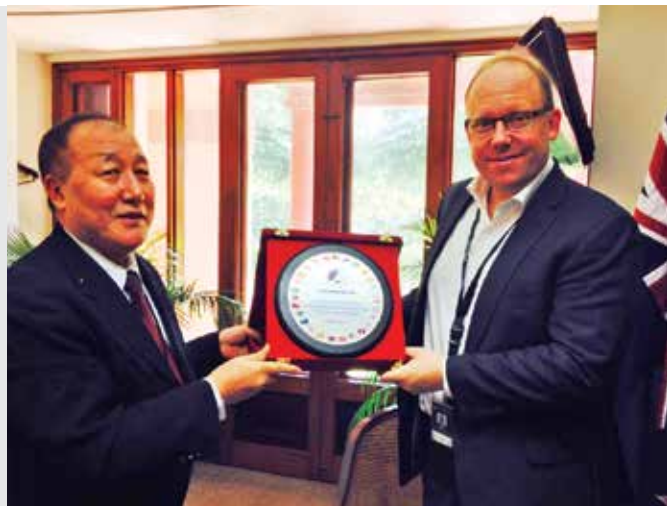


SECRETARY-GENERAL PRESENTING CP PLAQUE TO MR SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAHU

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan and the Officer for Programme for Public Administration, Programme for Private Sector Development and Long Term Scholarship Programme (PPA, PPSD and LTSP) visited the National Focal Point in New Delhi, to strengthen the relationship between the Colombo Plan Secretariat and the Ministry of Economics of India

VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI

10 SEPTEMBER



SECRETARY-GENERAL PRESENTING CP PLAQUE TO HE MR GRAHAME MORTON

The Secretary-General on his visit to New Delhi also met with the Ambassador of New Zealand at the New Zealand Embassy in New Delhi



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN THAILAND

23 & 24 NOVEMBER 2015

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR WORKSHOP ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS GUIDING
PRINCIPLES ON ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT (UNGPS
ON AD) AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT 2 (ICAD2)

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji, attended the 2 day International Conference hosted by the Royal Thai Government on Alternative Development 2, in Bangkok, Thailand, 23 & 24 November 2015.

The Royal Thai Government along with the organizers hosted The International Seminar Workshop on the Implementation of UNGPs on AD and the ICAD 2, 19-24 November with Her Royal Highness

Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand as the Special Honorary Advisor.

The ICAD 2 provided a distinctive opportunity for participants of the Member States of the United Nations and the international community, to build linkages and to foster alliances and the fruitful cooperation on Alternative Development towards the post 2015 (sustainable) development agenda and UNGASS 2016 process.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S OFFICIAL VISITS



VISIT TO PHILIPPINES

6-8 DECEMBER 2015

Secretary-General visited the Colombo Plan Staff College in Philippines on 7 December 2015 to strengthen the kinship between the two organizations. He also discussed of possible future collaborations with the Colombo Plan Staff College in the field of SME Development for the benefit of the member states.

Secretary-General met with the officials of Department of Foreign Affairs, Dangerous Drugs Board and Philippine Commission on Women on 8 December 2015 at the Dangerous Drugs Board in Philippines to discuss the way forward for Colombo Plan's current programmes with the Government of Philippines.





**VISIT TO
SINGAPORE**

9-11 DECEMBER 2015

The Colombo Plan Secretary-General visited the National Focal Agency of Singapore at the Ministry of foreign affairs on 10 December 2015.

The Secretary-General met with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Women's Development and the Central Narcotics Bureau of Singapore to discuss the way forward for Singapore – Colombo Plan collaboration and to strengthen the long relationship Colombo Plan share with the Government of Singapore.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S **OFFICIAL VISITS**



SECRETARY-GENERAL CHAIRING THE MINISTERIAL MEETING

VISIT TO AFGHANISTAN 2-4 FEBRUARY 2016

The Colombo Plan Secretary-General visited Afghanistan to strengthen coordination and collaborations with the various Government Ministries for the implementation of CP projects in the country.

During this occasion, a meeting with the Government of Afghanistan was organized, and was attended by over 9 Ministries including Deputy Ministers and high ranking officials. Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Counter Narcotics (MCN), Education (MoE), Higher Education (MoHE), Youth (MoIC), Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Economics (MoEC), Hajj (MoHRA), and Ministry of Women (MoWA) attended the meeting.



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY MR KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN TO MR AJAZ ALI KHAN, SECRETARY, NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION, MINISTRY OF NARCOTICS CONTROL IN PAKISTAN

VISIT TO PAKISTAN

27 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH 2016

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji during his visit, paid courtesy calls to the National Focal Point, the Drug Focal Point and the Gender Focal Point in Pakistan to renew relationship and assure the commitment of Colombo Plan to assist Pakistan in the discussed opportunities for future collaboration



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY MR KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN TO MR ASHTAR AUSAF ALI, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON LAW IN PAKISTAN



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY MR KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN TO DR ASMAT NAWAZ, JOINT SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION OF ISLAMABAD

OFFICIAL VISITS



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY MR KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN TO MR IBRAHIM SHAHEEB, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALDIVES

VISIT TO MALDIVES

23-26 MARCH 2016

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji paid a courtesy visit to the Foreign Ministry and the Rehabilitation and Treatment Centre (DTRC) in Himmafushi, Republic of Maldives.



REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT CENTRE (DTRC) IN HIMMAFUSHI



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO MS BATTUNGALAG GANKHUURAI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MULTILATERAL COOPERATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

VISIT TO MONGOLIA

16-17 MAY 2016

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan, Mr Kinley Dorji met with Ms Battungalag Gankhuurai, Director General of the Department of Multilateral Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 17 May 2016.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S **OFFICIAL VISITS**



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF COLOMBO PLAN
MR KINLEY DORJI TO HE MR JONGMOON CHOI

VISIT TO **REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

18-19 MAY 2016

The Secretary General of Colombo Plan, Mr Kinley Dorji paid a courtesy visit to the Deputy Minister, HE Mr Jongmoon Choi at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea on 19 May 2016.

During his visit, Secretary General also met with Mr Youn Soo Lee, the Director General of the Capacity Development Department of KOICA



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO MR YOUN SOO LEE,
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF KOICA



SECRETARY-GENERAL WITH AMBASSADOR RAVINDRAN ROBIN NAIR, PERMANENT SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SUVA, FIJI

**PREPARATORY MEETING
FOR THE 45TH CCM IN
SUVA FIJI**

29 MAY TO 1 JUNE 2016

The Secretary-General with his team consisting of the Administrative Officer, Mr Sankha Gamage and Personal Assistant, Ms Dalreen Barthelot met with the Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Ravindran Robin Nair and the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Suva, Fiji to conduct a preparatory meeting on the 45th Colombo Plan Consultative Committee Meeting (CCM) scheduled to take place 6-8 September 2016, in Suva Fiji.



MR KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL WITH MR SAKEASI WAIKERE, CHARGE DE AFFAIRS, FIJI HIGH COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI; MS KELENI SERUVATU, PRINCIPAL FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, OCEANIA, ASIA & RUSSIA BUREAU; VASITI CIRIKIYASAWA, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, OCEANIA, ASIA AND RUSSIA BUREAU MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MS DALREEN BARTHELOT, PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO SECRETARY GENERAL

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
OFFICIAL VISITS



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION PRESENTED BY MR KINLEY DORJI,
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN TO MR WILLIAM DIHM,
ACTING SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

**VISIT TO
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**
2-4 JUNE 2016

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji made a courtesy call to Mr William Dihm, Acting Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs who is the National Focal Point of the Colombo Plan in Papua New Guinea on 3 June 2016.

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
OF THE EMBASSY OF THE
**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC
OF IRAN**
7 JUNE 2016



The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji met the Ambassador HE Mr Mohammad Zaeri Amirani and Third Secretary, Mr Meisam Zakizadeh, of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Sri Lanka.

MEETING WITH THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER OF
**MALAYSIA IN
SRI LANKA**
9 JUNE 2016



The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan Mr Kinley Dorji presenting a token of appreciation to HE Mr Wan Zaidi Wan Abdullah the High Commissioner of Malaysia in Sri Lanka

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
OFFICIAL VISITS



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL VISITS
THE FLOOD VICTIMS IN

**KOLONNAWA AND
MEETHOTAMULLA**



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF COLOMBO PLAN, MR KINLEY DORJI VISITED THE FLOOD REFUGEE CENTRE IN KOLONNAWA AND THE SRI RAHULA VIDYALAYA IN MEETHOTAMULLA ON 17 JUNE 2016



HIGHLIGHTS

SECRETARIAT
VISITS AND ACTIVITIES



MR TAY BIAN HOW PRESENTING CP MATERIAL TO MR ANDRES COLLINS. DR NAOMI DRUMBRELL IS ALSO IN THE PICTURE

COLOMBO PLAN DELEGATION MEETS THE AUSTRALIAN FOCAL POINT IN CANBERRA

The Colombo Plan delegation met with the Australian Focal Point officials on 11 August, 2015 in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, RG Casey Building Parkes Canberra, Australia. The Australian Focal Point was represented by Mr Andrew Collins, Assistant Secretary, South Asia

Regional and Indian Ocean Branch, Dr Naomi Drumbrell Director, South Asia Branch of the South West Asia Division of the Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Secretariat was represented by Mr Tay Bian How, Project Director of ICCE and Mrs Arundathy Gunawardena, Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General.

This meeting renewed the cordial relations between the Focal Point of the Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Colombo Plan Secretariat which came as a long overdue visit from the Secretariat to the Focal Point in Canberra.

VISIT & ACTIVITIES



ICCE MEETS WITH FIJI FOCAL POINT

On 13 August 2015, the Colombo Plan delegation consisting of Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director and Mrs Arundathy Gunawardena, Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General, met with Fiji focal point officials in Suva, Fiji. Present from the Fiji Focal Point were, Mr Parmesh Chand, Permanent Secretary, Public Service Commission; Mr. Ajay Singh, Director Training and Workforce Development,

Public Service Commission; Ms. Vasiti Cirikiyasawa, International Co-operation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ms Vakaoca Kedrayate, Bureau-Oceania, Asia and Russia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This was a preparatory meeting for the next CCM to be hosted by the Government of Fiji. Colombo Plan thanked the Government of Fiji for their generous offer to host the 45th CCM in 2016.



COLOMBO PLAN ORGANISES
**RECOVERY RUN AND
INTERNATIONAL
BAZAAR**

IN CONNECTION WITH THE
RECOVERY SYMPOSIUM IN
COLOMBO

Recovering persons from 23 countries took part in a 'Recovery Fun Run', followed by an International Bazaar in connection with the International Recovery Symposium being held in Colombo, 11 October, 2015.

Over 120 recovering drug users, therapists, trainers and general public took part in the Run, which was flagged off from the Colombo Plan Monument, near Town Hall and culminated at Colombo Plan Secretariat at around 7.30 am.

VISIT & ACTIVITIES

The participants of the Recovery Symposium and the Fun Run also took part in the day long International Bazaar, organized by the Colombo Plan Secretariat at its campus, which showcased the indigenous products from various participating countries. Various Embassies and High Commissions including Indonesia, Maldives, Philippines, Pakistan and other participating countries set up 22 stalls in the bazaar.



23 countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bahrain, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and USA took part in the event.





A MEMORABILIA IS PRESENTED TO THE OUT-GOING PRESIDENT OF THE CP COUNCIL HE MR KENICHI SUGANUMA BY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HE MR. CHANG WON-SAM AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COLOMBO PLAN MR. KINLEY DORJI IN APPRECIATION OF JAPAN'S VALUABLE ROLE AS THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

The 287th Session of the Colombo Plan Council was held on 2 December, 2015 at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel. At this session Japan concluded its term as the President of the Colombo Plan Council and the Republic of Korea was inducted as the Council President for the year 2015/2016.

287TH SESSION OF THE COLOMBO PLAN COUNCIL

2 DECEMBER 2015



VISIT & ACTIVITIES



FLOOD RELIEF TO SRI LANKA

26 MAY 2016

The Secretary-General of Colombo Plan presented 600 foldable mattresses to Dr Amalanathan, Additional Secretary and Mr Chaminda Pathiraja, Senior Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management on 26 May 2016. These mattresses are to be used in camps that have been set up for those who have been displaced as a result of the recent flooding in Sri Lanka.



On 1 June 2016, Colombo Plan further presented the Ministry of Disaster Management with Milk Powder for the victims of the recent floods in Sri Lanka. Ms Savithri Jayakody, Assistant Director and Mr Chaminda Pathiraja, Senior Assistant Secretary received the milk powder from the Officer in Charge Mr Tay Bian How, Director ICCE.



HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAMME FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
[PPA]

PROGRAMME FOR PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT
[PPSD]

LONG-TERM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME
[LTSP]

TRAINING PROGRAMME

“GRASSROOTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWING SUFFICIENCY ECONOMY PHILOSOPHY”



The Colombo Plan in collaboration with Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) launched the training programme for the government officials involved in rural development sector. The programme was conducted for 12 participants from Colombo Plan Member States from 13 July to 14 August 2015. The objective of this programme was to increase participant’s knowledge of community based development as a mechanism to achieve sustainable development.

TRAINING COURSE

FROM SUFFICIENCY ECONOMY TO WEALTHINESS OF THE NATION

The Colombo Plan organized this training programme in collaboration with Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA). This programme was aimed to educate the senior government officials of Sufficiency Economy philosophy which was originated by His Majesty the King Bhumiphol of Thailand to promote smart method of managing human resources. Programme was conducted from 02 to 30 November 2015 with the participation of seven government officials from Colombo Plan Member States.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION SCHEME OF COLOMBO PLAN (TCS OF COLOMBO PLAN) 2015-2016

1. TRAINERS TRAINING ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PROMOTION OF INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITIES



GROUP PHOTO OF THE PARTICIPANTS



Colombo Plan in Collaboration with Government of India organized the “Trainers Training on Entrepreneurship and Promotion of Income Generation Activities” for the government officials of member states. The programme covered the subject areas such as Entrepreneurship Development and Income Generation, Behavioral Competencies for Micro Enterprise, Micro Enterprise Planning and Creation and Management of Micro Enterprise. It was conducted from 01 December 2015 to 01st January at the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development in India.

2. TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “MOLECULAR BIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES FOR RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE AND BIO-MEDICAL SCIENCES



Colombo Plan in Collaboration with Government of India organized the “Molecular Biological Techniques for Research in Agriculture and Bio-Medical Sciences” for the bio-medical professionals from the developing member states. The

programme covered the subject areas such as molecular cloning, gel electrophoresis, molecular blotting and probing, microarrays and allele specific oligonucleotide. It was conducted from 29 February to 29 March, 2016 at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in India.

3. ENVIRONMENT AUDIT



Colombo Plan in Collaboration with Government of India organized the “Environment Audit” for the developing member states. The programme was aimed at the government officials who are involved in

the environment protection and sustainable development. It was conducted from 15 February to 29 March, 2016 at International Centre for Information Systems & Audit in India.

1. INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION



Colombo Plan in collaboration with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) organized this training programme for the government officials who are involved in the field of international trade and

economic development strategy. The training programme was aimed to share knowledge and experience of international trade and economic development strategy of Korea. The training was conducted from 18th October to 07 November 2015.

2. TRAINING PROGRAMME “INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AS A TOOL TO ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES”



Colombo Plan in collaboration with Government of India organized this training programme for the government officials of Member States. The programme covered the subject areas of concept of intellectual

property and rights, utility and importance, documentation and procedures for effective implementation. It was conducted from 21 December 2015 to 08 January at the National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Noida, India.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

THE KDI SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT



Since 2006, KDI School of Korea has been providing Masters Level Scholarships to Colombo Plan Member Countries. Since then 38 students have been graduated from the KDI School under the Colombo Plan Collaboration. Six scholars from Colombo Plan graduated in Master of Public Policy in last December, 2015.



HIGHLIGHTS

DRUG ADVISORY PROGRAMME
[DAP]

DAP ORGANISES THE FIRST SUB-REGIONAL MEETING FOR SOUTH ASIAN DRUG FOCAL POINTS



DELEGATES OF THE DRUG FOCAL POINTS OF SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES WITH SHRI RAJNATH SINGH, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

NEW DELHI – The Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) gathered drug focal point agency officials from the countries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka for the first-ever Sub-regional Drug Focal Point Meeting (SR-DFPM) for South Asia. Co-organising this initiative with DAP is India's Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

As an of-shoot of the 3rd Drug Focal Point Meeting and Expert Group Consultation (DFPM-EGC) held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2014, this sub-regional meeting among

all of DAP's South Asian focal agencies serves as a follow-up platform to strengthen regional networking and address region-specific concerns.

Minister of Home Affairs Shri Rajnath Singh remarked that the sub-regional meeting brings together South Asia closer towards defeating the drug menace as he addressed the assembly during the inaugural ceremony. He went on to say that the meeting attests of India's willingness to 'help neighbouring countries to work on collaborative projects that strengthen cooperation, and [lead to the] development of viable solutions to address the drug problem'.



HE Kinley Dorji, the Secretary-General of Colombo Plan, encouraged the assembly 'as member states, to promote intergovernmental cooperation and come up with action plans that can be implemented through a collective strategy'. He also expressed gratitude to the partner organisers and to the Government of India for hosting the event.

The meeting brought together more than 50 representatives from South Asian government agencies that handle matters on drug use prevention, treatment and control. Countries on observer status, namely United States and Myanmar, also participated in the event.

Key themes of discussions that were presented to the plenary included treatment

standards, child substance use disorder treatment, and law enforcement and supply reduction initiatives.

The two-day SR-DFPM running from 9 – 11 September aimed to (a) review the progress of the drug demand and supply reduction activities and progress in the region since the last meeting, taking note of the various factors which have affected progress; (b) review the progress and challenges of the country-wise action plans proposed in the previous DFPM-EGC; (c) consider the tasks which lie ahead in the drug demand and supply reduction activities in the region, the priorities and the best use of available resources; and (d) facilitate and exchange views on technical cooperation programmes with a view to achieving efficiency and effectiveness.

The meeting's inaugural ceremony also saw the conclusion of the 1st Indian Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention. The youth declaration developed during the recently-concluded youth forum was shared during the opening of the meeting, which was followed by a leading of the youth assembly's pledge by the chief guest.



DAP INITIATED THE FIRST INDIAN YOUTH FORUM - ON DRUG USE PREVENTION



YOUTH LEADERS FROM ACROSS INDIA TOOK PART IN THE THREE DAYS TRAINING IN NEW DELHI

NEW DELHI - DAP initiated the First Indian Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention in collaboration with the Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses, (SPYM) in New Delhi from 6 – 8 September 2015.

'Arise and Awake' was the slogan of the 1st Indian Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention, organised in connection with the Sub-regional Drug Focal Point Meeting with the support of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Youth and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. Over 100 youth leaders from different states of the country took part in this forum.

Dr Thomas Scaria, Senior Programme Officer welcomed the participants and Mr Tay Bian How, Director of ICCE gave the opening remarks. Mr Tay briefed the attendees on the origin and development of DAP's Asian Youth Congress and the Global Forum for Youth Leaders and the importance of youth initiatives in drug prevention.



YOUTH ATTENDING CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Ms Ghasala Meenai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India stressed on the importance of prevention and the role of youth in drug use prevention. She said that the largest youth forums in India like the Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) and National service Scheme can be used for enhancing the youth network in this direction.

The three days youth training was conducted at India International center and the Indian social Institute with DAP resource persons and experts from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) guiding the sessions. The life skills sessions were conducted by DAP team consisting of Antonius Riva Setiawan (Director), Mr Ibrahim Salim, Ms Dichen Choden and Dr Thomas Scaria, who were assisted by youth leaders from India.

The forum drafted an action plan and a youth declaration with their commitment in continuing the drug prevention initiatives in the country with the support of the Government of India, SPYM and DAP.



‘We commit to stay away from the use of all psychoactive substances and work as role model for a drug-free society with our youth initiatives at university and community level’, stated the youth leaders in the Declaration presented before the Indian Home Minister and senior government representatives during the inaugural ceremony of the Sub-regional Drug Focal Point Meeting on 9 September 2015.

The Indian Youth Forum had appealed to the Home Minister of India and other relevant ministries to integrate and promote preventive drug education in the education system in India.



OBSERVING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN SRI LANKA



HE KINLEY DORJI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF COLOMBO
PLAN INAUGURATING THE EXHIBITION

COLOMBO – The Colombo Plan Secretariat sponsored the exhibition on drug use awareness which was held in connection to the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking from 26 – 28 June, 2015. The exhibition was organised in collaboration with the National Dangerous Drug Control Board (NDDCB) of the Government of Sri Lanka. The Colombo Plan stall was set up along with 40 other stalls, showcasing the ill effects of drugs and free distribution of books and other literature on the prevention and management of substance use disorder. The event started with a public meeting and continued for three days which included different awareness programmes.



COLOMBO PLAN EXHIBITION STALL BEING VISITED BY THE PUBLIC

DAP ACTIVITIES



THE HON. MINISTER MR RUWAN WIJEWARDHANE, THE STATE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, WITH THE COLOMBO PLAN COFFEE TABLE BOOK AT THE COLOMBO PLAN COUNTER. DR NILANGA C SAMARASINGHE, CHAIRMAN OF NDDCB AND MR TAY BIAN HOW WERE ALSO PRESENT

HE Mr Kinley Dorji the Secretary-General of Colombo Plan inaugurated the exhibition along with Hon. Minister Mr John Amarathunge, Minister of Public Order and Christian Religious Affairs on 27 June (first day), followed by a public meeting. The Secretary-General in his opening speech lauded the NDDCB for organising this event and promised further support for similar events. He said drug prevention programmes value several times more than other intervention programmes.

Hon. Minister Mr Ruwan Wijewardhane, the State Minister of Defense graced the second day exhibition.

The stall distributed around 3000 books to the public on related to drug demand reduction, which was published by DAP in the recent years. The volunteers from DAP and ICCE who served from 9 am to 10 pm on both the days explained about Colombo Plan and its programmes to the visiting public and answered their queries on drug intervention issues.

The exhibition was a great success as it was thousands of people visited the site and benefited from the free distribution of books and other related materials. It was also an occasion to showcase the contributions of Colombo Plan to its member countries. The event also witnessed several street theatre groups performing street plays on drug abuse.



STREET PERFORMANCE



HON. MINISTER MR RUWAN WIJEWARDHANE

142 AWARENESS EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING



INTER-MINISTERIAL OBSERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL DRUG DAY AT MOIC, KABUL

KABUL – Over 142 events were organised in various provinces to observe the anti-drug day and for public awareness. These activities were initiated by DAP's Preventive Drug Education (PDE) schools, youth organisations and students in coordination with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) and Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) in their respective provinces. Various innovative methods like public display of banners, sports events, meetings and awareness programmes were organised. MoIC also organised one common programme involving various ministries in connection to the day.

DAP in collaboration with MoE and MoIC organised a public meeting involving other ministries, during which Twenty Outstanding Youth Organisation (TOYO) youth groups performed to spread message against drugs. The teachers, schools, provincial heads of MCN and MoE as well as TOYO youth leaders have taken key initiatives in organising the events which included public meetings, awareness cultural shows, debates, sports events and media based campaign. The major event was held in MoIC on 24 June, 2015, which was attended by a large audience including representatives from other ministries.

DAP ACTIVITIES



INTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL MATCH AT MOIC



SPORTS EVENT IN ZAHIR SHAHI SCHOOL IN KANDAHAR

TRAINING ON CURRICULUM 3 OF CHILD SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT CURRICULA BENEFIT SOUTH ASIAN TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS



CLOSING THE TREATMENT GAP. THE CONTINUING TRAINING ON THE CSUDT CURRICULA IS GUIDING TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS IN EMPLOYING EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS SUCH AS MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING FOR CHILDREN IN THE COUNTRIES OF BANGLADESH, INDIA AND PAKISTAN

DHAKA – DAP has completed training for 25 South Asian treatment practitioners and six master trainers on the third curriculum of the Child Substance Use Disorder Treatment (CSUDT) Curricula from 2-6 August 2015 through the funding support of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) Department of State.

Organised through DAP's Child Substance Use Disorder Treatment Project, the continuing training on the CSUDT Curricula was led by Dr Hendree Jones, subject expert and author of INL's global child addiction treatment protocols, with Ms Nancy Dudley, curriculum editor and

Ms Rachel Middlesteadt-Ellerson, one of the contributing authors. The training programme was designed to be highly interactive and used role-plays, group exercises and discussions.

This batch of training participants was selected based on their clinical practice of providing special services for children in the countries of Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. Dr Wasima Rahman from Bangladesh's BSM University commented that the participant composition allows for 'cross-cultural interaction' and makes the participant composition '...rich and [complemented by having] expert trainers'. Curriculum 3—Motivational Interviewing

DAP ACTIVITIES

for Children with Substance Use Disorders discussed the means by which practitioners can utilise Motivational Interviewing (MI) as a tool in their treatment practice with children. It is grounded on evidence-based practices and as participant Bilal Ahmed Naqati from India's Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM) has observed, it helps them to have a 'sensitivity of children's rights' in their practice and guides them in designing age-appropriate treatment plans.

The training was developed to build the capacity of child substance use disorder treatment practitioners leading towards bridging the treatment gap for children. Dr Susanta Padhy from India's Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) noted that the training accomplished its goals as it makes participants 'better equipped to fulfill treatment requirements of children relative to child psychiatry and psychology' while also bringing about 'positive change to them as individuals' through the self-care practices that the curriculum promotes for counselors.

Dr Muhammad Amjad Chaudhry from Pakistan's UMEED Clinic considers the

curricula to be helping support their clinic's work in establishing a dedicated unit to help children towards rehabilitation and recovery. Clinical psychologist Nooreen Begum from the Pakistani Anti-Narcotics Task Force has shared that the training she received on the curricula helps her in contributing to the management of her organisation's facility for women and children.

Bangladeshi Department of Narcotics Control's (DNC) Additional Director General Md Amir Hossain attended the closing ceremony and expressed hopes that the Curricula will be effective, and that the trained participants would be able to impart it to other practitioners in their respective countries. He was joined by Director Md. Mofidul Islam of DNC's Division on Treatment and Rehabilitation in attending the ceremony.

Dr Nathalie Panabokke, director of DAP's Child Substance Use Disorder Treatment Project, delivered the closing remarks thanking the training team and the organisational partners who helped made the training programme possible.



INTERACTIVE AND ENGAGING. CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDE MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING (MI) WERE EXPLAINED TO THE PARTICIPANTS THROUGH INTERACTIVE GROUP ACTIVITIES



LEARNING BY DOING. CASE SIMULATIONS AND GUIDED GROUP REFLECTIONS WERE THE MAIN MODALITIES USED IN THIS TRAINING FOR TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS ON CURRICULUM 3 – MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING FOR CHILDREN WITH SUDS

DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMME FOR LAOTIAN YOUTH AND TEACHERS



DAP TEAM AND INTERNATIONAL TRAINERS LEAD BY MR ANTONIUS RIVA SETIAWAN WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LAO YOUTH UNION AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY

VIENTIANE – DAP in collaboration with the Lao Youth Union conducted a four days Drug Use Prevention Training for Youth and teachers. The training aimed to equip the participants with knowledge and leadership skills to promote youth-led initiatives in drug abuse prevention.

The training for youth and teachers were successfully carried out in Vientiane, Lao PDR from 26 – 29 August 2015 with 30 participants each for the two programmes. The group consisted of students and teachers from several city schools and universities.

The joint opening ceremony of the teachers' and youth groups, was graced by Mrs

Vilavone Phanthavong, Secretary-General of Lao Youth Committee Secretariat and Director of Youth Affairs Department, Lao Youth Union. She expressed her gratitude to DAP for bringing in such training for youth and said that Laotian youth are grappling with many issues, the most glaring of which is substance use and abuse. She expressed her aspiration that DAP will continue their effort in the region to combat drug abuse among the population.

The participants also designed action plans for drug use prevention programmes to be implemented in their schools which they presented to the teachers group at



PARTICIPANTS DURING A GROUP ACTIVITY

the closing of the programme. The two training programmes were implemented simultaneously.

The DAP team of resource persons was led by Mr Antonius Riva Setiawan, Director, DAP which included Ms Dichen Choden, Officer in-Charge of the Youth Network;

Dr Thomas Scaria, DAP Senior Programme Officer; and International Resource Persons, Mr Jeremia Ingmar Paath and Mr Yulius Pratama Suharto from Indonesia. The topics covered during the training were understanding addiction, risk and protective factors, life skills and SMART projects among others.



DEVELOPING ACTION PLAN

DAP ACTIVITIES

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF **DRUG SUPPLY REDUCTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS** ON PRECURSOR CHEMICAL CONTROL



PARTICIPANTS WITH MR ANTONIUS RIVA SETIAWAN – DAP DIRECTOR AND MS RACHANIKORN SARASIRI – DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF ONCB AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON PRECURSOR CHEMICAL CONTROL

BANGKOK — The 11th International Training Course on Precursor Chemical Control for Asian Narcotics Law Enforcement Officers was held in Bangkok, Thailand. DAP conducted the eight days training programme which began on 31 August, 2015 in collaboration with the Office of the Narcotics Control Board of Thailand (ONCB).

This training programme saw the participation of 26 participants from 12 different member countries of Colombo Plan and included representatives of premier narcotic control agencies and law enforcement authorities in Asia.

The International Training Course on Precursor Chemical Control has been a fixture on the annual calendar of events of DAP and ONCB for more than a decade. This training programme stands as an example of achieving socio-economic progress through self-help and mutual help, which is one of the fundamental principles of Colombo Plan.

The training covered topics such as current trends in illicit narcotics trafficking, precursor control measures employed by the Government of Thailand, Experiences on Precursor Chemical Control by the Government of India and the Challenges of

DAP ACTIVITIES



MR TATSUO UEDA OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN AND MR KUMAR SANJAY JHA OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONDUCTING THEIR EXPERT PRESENTATIONS DURING THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

New Psychoactive Substances and Precursor Chemical Control by the Government of Japan.

The participants were also given the opportunity to view and experience the practical application of precursor chemical

control through study visits to the Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute, a Chemical Factory in Samuthprakarn as well as the Laem Chabang Port through the facilitation of the Royal Thai Customs Department.



PLANNING MEETING FOR OUTCOME EVALUATION STUDY OF THE **DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMME IN AFGHANISTAN**



DUBAI – DAP in collaboration with INL and PIRE (Pacific Institute of Research and Evaluation) is conducting a study titled ‘Outcome Evaluation of Drug Treatment Programme in Afghanistan: Year One.’ INL has provided the funds for this project to be undertaken over the next 13 months. This study has the primary objective of replicating the 2012 treatment project evaluation study that focused on residential treatment in Afghanistan. This study has the components of (a) assessing changes in illegal substance use and related problems, (b) assessing the implementation of fidelity of the DAP

treatment model across participating drug addiction treatment centres, (c) examining the association between success of former patients and the treatment process, and (d) examining gender and demographic differences in substance use and related problems.

A planning meeting for the treatment outcome evaluation study was held in Dubai from 7 – 9 October, 2015. It was agreed that PIRE will work in collaboration with Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) and Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) to



carry out the project including questionnaire administration and bio data collection. DAP has participated in weekly follow-up discussions and visits to Kabul to formulate the exact research questions, populations of interest, sampling strategy, data collection strategy and post study activities such as dissemination of information. PIRE has provided detailed activity plans to follow these formulated strategies. DAP verified these strategies with relevant parties in Afghanistan and informed the heads of their

institutions, such as Deputy Ministers, for their support.

Sample size has been determined by PIRE after appropriate power calculations, the method of interviewer training and data collection has been determined to be in collaboration with the partners. Field data collection is expected to start by February 2016, once the team is trained on data collection.



NEW DIRECTOR MS MA VERONICA FELIPE

from the Philippines assumed office as the DAP Director in November 2015. She is an academician and ICCE Global Master Trainer. She aspires to expand DAP initiatives by strengthening its networks to fulfill its role of capacity building for DDR within member countries and beyond.

DAP ACTIVITIES

DAP TRAINS SOUTH ASIAN TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS ON CURRICULUM 4 OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT FOR CHILDREN



DHAKA — DAP completed training for 25 practitioners and six master trainers on the fourth curriculum of the child substance use disorder treatment curricula from 11 – 18 November 2015.

With the funding guidance and support of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) Department of State, DAP had enlisted Dr Hendree Jones, subject expert and author of INL’s global child addiction treatment protocols; Ms Nancy Dudley, curriculum editor; and Ms Rachel Middlesteadt-Ellerson, one of

the contributing authors to lead the training that benefits treatment practitioners from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, and six master trainers from the wider global region.

The curriculum that was trained is the fourth among a series of six and explores the complex link between a child’s ‘style of attachment’ and substance use. It is seen to benefit treatment practitioners as it offers practical tools to ensure that their staff is trauma-informed and that their program is responsive to trauma.

Ms Rehana Kader from South Africa and one of the master trainers to be engaged for future dissemination of the curricula, considers the training to be 'relevant and helpful for treatment practitioners working with children'. She further adds that it 'offers practitioners appropriate tools and equips them with knowledge to deal with children who are affected by trauma'.

Another master trainer, Beatrice Kathungu from the Kenyatta University, cited that the curricula 'offer evidence-based methods to treat SUDs among the vulnerable population of children' and that it is 'helpful for treatment practitioners in countries coming from countries who have a large population of children living in the streets who are most at-risk'.

The seven-day training discussed the main subjects on understanding trauma, its adverse effects on a child's brain

development, and effective means of affording treatment services for trauma-affected children with SUDs. Treatment practitioners are also trained to map relevant welfare and treatment services as they provide care for children with trauma.

Dr Nathalie Panabokke, Director of the Child Substance Use Disorder Treatment Project, closed the training and expressed gratitude to the participants, the training team and the governments of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. She reiterated DAP's commitment to equip treatment practitioners with the adequate skills to provide specialised services for children.

The training programme is implemented by DAP through its Child SUD Treatment Project which was established to bridge the need to provide treatment services for children with substance use disorders.



DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMME FOR MYANMAR



DAP TEAM WITH PARTICIPANTS AND INL OFFICIALS FROM THE US EMBASSY IN YANGON, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DRUG FOCAL POINT AND OTHER PERSONNEL FROM GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY

YANGON – DAP organised a training of trainers for drug use prevention among in Myanmar. This programme was a cost sharing initiative with the Substance Abuse Research Association (SARA), a pioneering NGO involved in drug demand reduction in Myanmar. The overall goal of the initiative was to train trainers to conduct drug use prevention programmes for youth with specific social skills to increase their protective factors against drug use.

The training of trainers was implemented in Yangon with 32 participants from 16 – 20 November, 2015, most of them young doctors, psychiatrists, nurses and outreach workers from SARA and other organisations, committed to work closely with young

population in drug use prevention. An action plan was prepared with proposals to address school and out of school youth in life skills training, parish youth groups, University students.

The initiative not only trained the participants in Youth Life Skills but also taught them learner-centered approach to delivering Life Skills. The initiative offered a platform for the participants to exhibit the skills they received during the training in the form of big and small group discussions and presentations, role play and a whole day was dedicated to teach back.

Ms Dichen Choden and Dr Thomas Scaria from DAP led the sessions based on DAP



DEVELOPING ACTION PLAN

module on youth life skills for drug use prevention, which includes topics like Science of Drugs, spectrum of addiction, risk and protective factors, self-esteem, communication skills, assertion skills, decision-making skills and coping skills, and a teach back exercise.

Police Colonel Myint Thein, Joint Secretary of Central Committee for Drug Abuse (CCDAC), Ministry of Home Affairs opened the training and stressed the need for more prevention programmes in Myanmar as more and more youth are initiating drug use each year. With less facilities for treatment

and rehabilitation in Myanmar, prevention programmes have a great role to play, he said. Mr Josh Morris, the INL Director for Myanmar and Ms Shwe Zin Nyunt, Political Specialist, US Embassy attended the opening ceremony along with other dignitaries including Doctors from District Hospital and a former UNODC consultant.

Dr Gyaw said in the closing ceremony that this training has helped his staff to view addiction from a holistic point of view and integrate prevention programmes and peer-led initiatives to prevent drug initiation, rather than focusing on treatment alone.



GROUP DISCUSSION

DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMME FOR VIETNAMESE YOUTH



DAP TEAM WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM, AND OFFICIALS AND STUDENTS OF THE HANOI UNIVERSITY

HANOI – Three different ministries and the Prime Minister’s Office collaborated with DAP in organising three initiatives in drug prevention for Vietnamese youth from 21 – 28 November, 2015. The overall goal of these initiatives were to train youth drug use prevention with specific social skills to increase their protective factors against drug use.

Over 70 youth from the University of Labour and Social Affairs (ULSA) University and the Hanoi University attended the Life skills training on drug use prevention, while over 70 journalists attended a seminar on drug use prevention.

The first training initiative was for 38 student leaders and teachers of ULSA from 22 – 25 November 2015. DAP partnered with the Ministry of Labor, Invalid and Social Affairs (MOLISA) for this programme.

The second training was for 35 youth leaders from Hanoi University from 26 – 28 November 2015. For this initiative, DAP partnered with Ministry of Education and Training (MOET).

Another significant event in Vietnam was the seminar on Drug Use Prevention for 70 journalists from 40 media groups of Vietnam. DAP partnered with the Ministry of Communications and Information

DAP ACTIVITIES



TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF ULSA DURING A GROUP ACTIVITY

to conduct this one day seminar. The journalists who took part in the seminar also drafted an action plan on how they intend to use media for drug prevention messages through various media productions.

The Youth training was based on DAP Module for Life skills in Drug Use prevention,

which had various topics related to drugs and life skills for drug prevention. Mr Duc Nguyen, former Director of DAP and the current Deputy Director for Drug prevention in Vietnam coordinated the programme and Mr Nguyen Xuan Lap, Director General, Department of Social Vices Prevention under MOLISA opened the programmes.



LIFE SKILLS SESSION AT HANOI UNIVERSITY

EXPERT WORKING GROUP MEETING FOR THE REVISION OF PDE MATERIALS IN AFGHANISTAN



THE EXPERT WORKING GROUP

DUBAI – DAP has been implementing Preventive Drug Education (PDE) in Afghan schools since 2010. The first PDE lessons were piloted in the Afghan provinces of Balkh, Herat, Kabul and Nangarhar and later expanded the project to other provinces. With funding support of The Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State, PDE is currently being implemented in 23 out of 34 provinces in Afghanistan.

In adapting best evidence-based practices, an Expert Working Group (EWG) met in Dubai from 17 – 21 January, 2016 to revise the existing PDE materials used in the implementation of PDE in Afghanistan. The group comprised two academicians from the Philippines, three officers from DAP and one from ICCE. The six member EWG worked for

five days and developed five sample lesson plans for elementary, middle school and high school using the 4 A's (activity, analysis, abstraction and application) method so that future lesson plans can be developed based on the set pattern.

The science books of Afghanistan national curriculum has been translated to assist in identifying the topics, and for smooth integration of DAP PDE in the science curriculum.

Currently, Afghanistan has 56 lessons from grade 4 – 12 which were prepared by DAP along with the Curriculum Development Committee of MoE in line with DAP's preventive drug education manual. The revised curriculum is due for pilot testing in Kandahar later in 2016.

PIONEER BATCH OF SOUTH ASIAN TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS COMPLETE TRAINING ON CHILD SUD TREATMENT CURRICULUM



PIONEER BATCH OF TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS AND MASTER TRAINERS FROM SOUTH ASIA TRAINED ON CHILD SUD TREATMENT CURRICULUM

COLOMBO — A pioneer batch of 25 treatment practitioners from the South Asian countries of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan have completed training series on the Child Substance Use Disorder Treatment that ran from 10 – 18 February, 2016.

With funding support of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) of the US Department of State, DAP has initiated the ‘Development and Training of Curricula to Address Child Substance Use Disorder in South Asia’. This year, the project has completed pilot testing the Child Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Curriculum for treatment practitioners from the South Asian countries of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. The curriculum was developed with the aim of addressing the treatment gap for children— as most treatment programmes are designed

for adult patients. As such, the curriculum attends to the unique needs of children and their caregivers impacted by substance use, and life circumstances of various socio-economic, cultural and political situations. It is composed of six courses that capacitate treatment providers in identifying, assessing, and treating children with SUDs by using age-appropriate interventions and methodologies.

After attending the first four courses last year, the batch has now completed the six-course training programme. The last two courses provided treatment practitioners with a unique eight-module intervention called Suitcase for Life (Course 5 – The ‘Suitcase for Life’ Intervention Tool) and practical guidance on understanding pharmacological treatment for SUD treatment among children given with medications to ease symptoms



TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS DURING A GROUP DISCUSSION

and suspend disease progression (Course 6 – Principles of Pharmacological Treatment for Children with Substance Use Disorders: A Menu of Options).



TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS DURING A GROUP DISCUSSION

Ms Ma Veronica Felipe, DAP Director; Dr Nathalie Panabokke, Director of the Child SUD Treatment Project; and Dr Hendree Jones, lead trainer and curriculum developer were joined by Dr Andrea Fielder, curriculum expert on pharmacology and Nancy Dudley curriculum editor, in the certificate awarding to the pioneer batch of participants and six master trainers from the wider global region. Dr Panabokke closed the training programme by sharing the Project’s future steps which include provision of technical assistance to child SUD treatment centers.

The Child SUD Treatment Curriculum was developed with the aim of providing



TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM THE CHILD SUD TREATMENT CURRICULUM WHICH EMPLOYS HIGHLY INTERACTIVE TRAINING METHODOLOGIES

treatment practitioners with the tools they need to identify, assess, and treat children with SUDs using age-appropriate interventions and methodologies.

This curriculum is the first of its kind to respond to the unique needs of children with SUDs and their treatment providers. The four courses, trained last year in Dhaka, Bangladesh, include: Course 1 – Overview for Psychosocial Treatment Interventions



TREATMENT PRACTITIONERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM THE CHILD SUD TREATMENT CURRICULUM WHICH EMPLOYS HIGHLY INTERACTIVE TRAINING METHODOLOGIES

for Child Substance Use Disorder, Course 2 – Treating Children with Substance Use Disorders: Special Considerations and Counselling with Children, Course 3 – Motivational Interviewing (MI) for Children with Substance Use Disorders, and Course 4 – Attachment Theory and Principles in Treating Substance Use Disorders in Children Affected by Trauma and Distress.

DAP ACTIVITIES

DAP ASSISTS WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INAUGURAL INDONESIA UNITED STATES DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION WORKSHOP



PARTICIPANTS OF THE INAUGURAL INDONESIA – UNITED STATES DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION WORKSHOP



DR NATHALIE PANABOKKE MAKES A PRESENTATION ON THE TRAINING OF TREATMENT WORKFORCE



MS MA VERONICA FELIPE, DAP DIRECTOR MAKES AN EXPERT PRESENTATION

JAKARTA – The Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State engaged DAP to provide technical assistance to implement this inaugural drug demand reduction (DDR) workshop. The main objective of the workshop was to improve bilateral relations between the Governments of Indonesia and the United States as well as to create a greater understanding of DDR related concerns in each country and opportunities for future collaboration.

DAP ACTIVITIES



WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION

The three day workshop was conducted in Jakarta, Indonesia on 23 – 25 February, 2016 and saw the participation of approximately 80 individuals representing government and civil society of both nations. International organisations such as Colombo Plan, UNODC and WHO also participated in the workshop.

Several government ministries and agencies of Indonesia including DAP Focal Point, the National Narcotics Board of Indonesia (BNN) made expert presentations. US based agencies representing INL, Substance Abuse

Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) and the Pacific Institute of Research and Evaluation (PIRE) made further expert presentations.

Colombo Plan, UNODC and WHO presented their activities in the DDR field. An additional session on training and credentialing programmes of Colombo Plan was conducted during the workshop as well.

The final day of the workshop consisted of a working group discussion to identify gaps in prevention and treatment of drug use in Indonesia. The need for policy reforms, capacity building training, development of structures and systems were discussed during the working group sessions. The outcomes of the working groups were presented as a recommendation for future collaboration on DDR programmes by and between the two nations.



PRESENTATION OF THE WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS DURING THE WORKSHOP

PAKISTAN

DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION STAKEHOLDERS MEETING



PAKISTAN STAKEHOLDERS

DUBAI – According to the UNODC World Drug Report 2015, substance use in Pakistan has increased from 4.2 million users in 2013 to 6.7 million. The increase highlights the need for evidence-based DDR programmes in the country.

DAP organised the 2nd Pakistan Drug Demand Reduction Stakeholders Meeting in collaboration with and financial support of the INL, US Department of State. During the two days' meeting, 29 representatives from INL, Pakistan Embassy in UAE, UNODC, WHO, DAP, ICCE, the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE),

Provincial Governments of Pakistan and the nine NGOs discussed drug scenarios and their DDR efforts in global and Pakistan DDR projects.

Following the 1st Pakistan DDR Stakeholders Meeting, Bangkok in April 2015, nine Pakistani NGOs were awarded project grants after extensive review. The Pakistan project with the overall goal to strengthen the operation and service delivery of substance use prevention and treatment programmes in Pakistan was launched in March 2016.

DAP ACTIVITIES

One of the main concerns raised during the meeting was the increasing numbers of drug users globally in the last few years and the urgent need for evidence-based practices to curb the increasing gap between SUDs and their access to treatment and intervention services. In Pakistan there is an increase in manufacture and use of synthetic drugs which are more addictive, toxic and health damaging. It was also reported that there is an increase in use of tranquilisers, especially among Pakistani women. Pakistan has been identified as a transit point for synthetic drug trafficking and it also shares long porous borders with its neighbour like Afghanistan, the biggest producer of illicit opium in the world.

and sustainable programmes. Some of the recommendations were rigorous awareness campaign, professionalising service providers and involvement of the government. One key point to note in recommendation for policy is allocating employment quota for rehabilitated persons with SUDs for reintegration into family and society. The meeting also recommended that policy makers should take into account that drug use is a global health issue and be given same focus as other diseases such as HIV. As a result of this meeting, it is evident that Pakistan needs to adopt more comprehensive but effective programmes on SUDs to address both demand and supply reduction.



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS' PRESENTATION

As one of the main objectives of the meeting, the Pakistani Provincial Government and NGOs representatives identified gaps and recommended solutions for prevention, treatment and policies in Pakistan. Recurring in all three topics were lack of evidence-based practices, coordination/support from government, understanding of addiction



MR HABIB TAKES PART IN THE GROUP DISCUSSION

The meeting, co-chaired by Mr Habib Ahmed (Communication Attaché of the Pakistan Embassy), Mr Jeffrey Robertson (INL) and Ms Ma Veronica Felipe (DAP Director) was successfully held in Dubai, the United Arabs Emirates from 13 – 14 April 2016.

OUTCOME EVALUATION OF DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMMES IN AFGHANISTAN



OUTCOME EVALUATION OF DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMMES MEETING

COLOMBO – DAP with funding support of INL, conducted the study on the outcome evaluation of drug treatment programmes in Afghanistan. This study has the components of (a) assessing changes in illegal substance use and related problems, (b) assessing the implementation of fidelity of the DAP treatment model across participating drug addiction treatment centers, (c) examining the association between success of former patients and the treatment process and (d) examining gender and demographic differences in substance use and related problems

A training programme to prepare interviewers to administer questionnaire of the study was held in Colombo from 12 – 14 May 2016. The Pacific Institute of Research and Evaluation (PIRE) conducted the training with supervisors of the data collection, ACSOR/D3 Systems Inc., the research company conducting the data collection, representatives of higher education and the Ministry of Counter Narcotics, Afghanistan (as the government partner) in attendance.

TRAINING FOR SELF, PHILIPPINES



PARTICIPANTS WITH THEIR CERTIFICATES

BANTANGAS CITY – As a joint collaboration of Self Enhancement Life Foundation (SELF) and DAP, the training was held in Bantangas City from 10 – 18 May 2016. The training was supported by the Dangerous Drug Board (DDB) and the Department of Health (DOH) of the Republic of the Philippines.

Since its inception in 1992, SELF has provided residential treatment and rehabilitation services to more than 1000 men and women of varied ages who have been diagnosed with SUDs and non-substance dependencies.

A total of 16 clinical staff successfully completed training in Universal Treatment Curricula (UTC) 1 – Pharmacology and Physiology for Addiction Professionals and UTC 2 – Treatment of Substance Use Disorders – The Continuum of Care for Addiction Professionals. The training received good feedback and has achieved its expected outcome of enhancing the participants' competencies. This is evident from the pre/post-tests scores of the participants. The lowest score in the pre-test was 35 percent and 65 in the post-test for UTC 1. In UTC 2, the person who scored

the lowest at 25 percent in pre-test scored 75 percent in the post-test. The tests scores show tremendous improvement in the knowledge of the participants.

Under Secretary Hon. Edgar Galvante, Permanent Member of Dangerous Drug Board in his closing remarks reiterated his infinite support to SELF and made all effort to witness SELF's achievements over the years. He thanked the Founder and President of SELF in citing him as an avid supporter and also conveyed his confidence to the newly appointed Director of DAP, Ms Ma Veronica Felipe and applauded her leadership in making the training possible. He said he looks forward to more programmes undertaken by DAP in the Philippines.

Dr Jasmin Peralta, Programme Manager of Department of Health expressed her views noting the many accomplishments of SELF and its leadership. She thanked DAP for extending this training to the Philippines and especially to SELF and DOH. Unfortunately, for DOH, their participation in this training was hampered by the presidential election. She committed DOH's support and participation in the next cycle of training.

AFGHANISTAN

DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION STAKEHOLDER MEETING



PARTICIPANTS OF THE AFGHANISTAN DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION STAKEHOLDER MEETING

BANGKOK – A meeting of stakeholders working in DDR field in Afghanistan was conducted in Bangkok, Thailand from 20 – 22 May, 2016. This DAP organised meeting with the funding support of INL saw the participation of over 60 participants representing government Ministries, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and international organisations all working to improve DDR efforts in Afghanistan.

The primary objective of the meeting was to enhance cooperation among all stakeholders to work in collaboration for



HE DR FEROUZUDDIN FEROUZ, MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AFGHANISTAN

DAP ACTIVITIES



a set of unified goals such as enhancing the drug treatment system in Afghanistan, enhancing drug use prevention and awareness initiatives through education and enhancing the knowledge of treatment and prevention practitioners on evidence based prevention and treatment methods through capacity building.

The attendance of high ranking officials from the invited parties highlighted the significance of the meeting and ensured fruitful discussion and the formulation of a workable plan of action for future. High ranking officials from the Government of

Afghanistan included HE Dr Ferozuddin Feroz, the Minister of Public Health, who reiterated the stance of the ministry he represented to collaborate closely with entities inclusive of other government agencies, NGOs and international organisations as partners in all DDR efforts.

The Ministry of Counter Narcotics, the Ministry of Culture and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Education represented by its Deputy Ministers as well as the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Higher Education, and the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and the Disabled were also in attendance and

DAP ACTIVITIES



DISCUSSION DURING THE STAKEHOLDER MEETING

actively contributed to the discussions of the meeting. Representatives of 10 NGOs working in Afghanistan was present at the meeting and this enabled the enhancement of mutual cooperation and understanding between NGOs and the government agencies present.

Representatives of the US Department of

State headed by Mr Albert Matano and Mr Brian Morales, representatives of the US Embassy in Kabul, USAID, UNODC and Colombo Plan Secretary-General, HE Mr Kinley Dorji; Ms Ma Veronica Felipe, DAP Director and Mr Bian How Tay, ICCE Director were also in attendance at the meeting. Ms Felipe was the moderator of the event.



MR ALBERT MATANO OF INL ADDRESSING THE MEETING WITH MS MA VERONICA FELIPE SEATED ON THE LEFT



HIGHLIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CREDENTIALING AND
EDUCATION OF ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS
[ICCE]

ICCE ACTIVITIES



The International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) was established on 16 February 2009 as the training and credentialing arm of the Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme. ICCE is an integral part of the global initiative funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State.

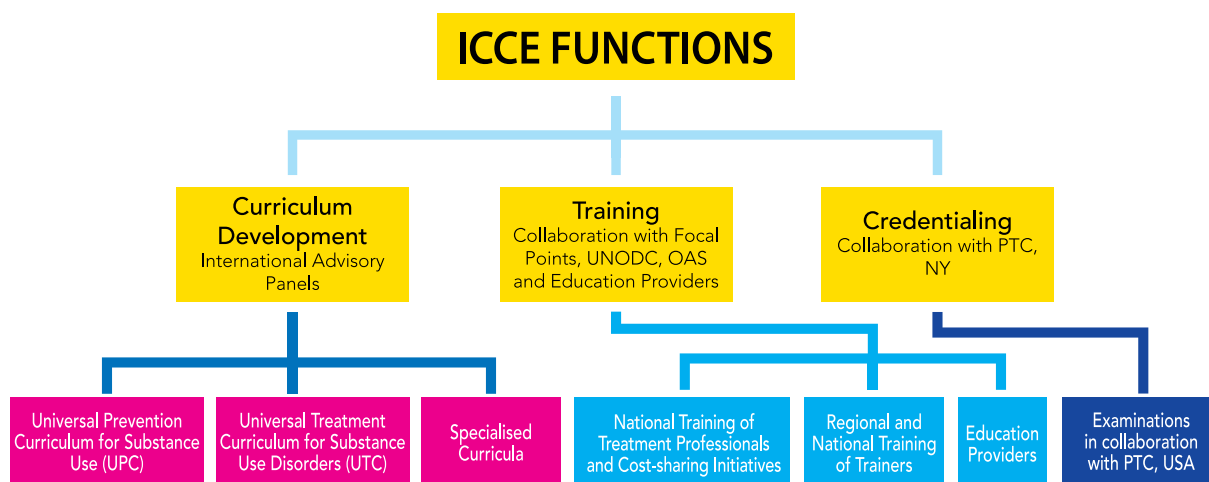
The establishment of ICCE is a response to the long-standing crisis of inadequate evidence-based programmes in the region and the dearth of trained addiction professionals. With guidance from INL, ICCE embarked on this new initiative to develop, expand and professionalise the field of drug demand reduction. As an international certified education provider of the National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counsellors (NAADAC) in USA, ICCE collaborates with NAADAC to ensure the highest standard of quality of its initiatives.

ICCE envisions being the leading global credentialing organisation of drug demand reduction professionals who enhance the health and well being of individuals, families and communities. Aligning with its vision, ICCE's mission is to train, professionalise and expand the drug demand reduction workforce in the region. In order to achieve this, ICCE has set the following goals:

- To create a cadre of drug demand reduction professionals through the enhancement of their knowledge, skills and competence, thereby enabling them to provide quality services for their beneficiaries;
- To provide a global standard that encourages drug demand reduction professionals to continue learning for the purpose of providing quality services to their beneficiaries;
- To focus on the development of the individual professional and provide a formal indicator of his/her current knowledge and competence; and
- To promote professional and ethical practice by enforcing adherence to a Code of Ethics for ICCE Initiatives.

ICCE FUNCTIONS

Every year ICCE implements initiatives in 42 countries, reaching beyond the borders of Colombo Plan member countries. These initiatives can be divided into three broad categories: training, curriculum development and credentialing.



During the reporting period, a total of 69 ICCE initiatives have been implemented based on the above three primary ICCE functions. In total, these initiatives involved over 1,700 experts, national trainers, trainees and candidates.



INTERNATIONAL RECOVERY SYMPOSIUM, 2015



In an attempt to educate the public about recovery, thousands of prevention and treatment professionals come together annually with persons in recovery and their families, to celebrate the success stories of these persons in recovery at the Recovery Symposia. Since 2004, Colombo Plan has been supporting several recovery symposia conducted by countries in Asia such as India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. This year, Colombo Plan and ICCE celebrated recovery by taking the tradition of the symposium to a global level. This international recovery symposium (IRS), held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 9 to 13 October 2015, highlighted the value of peer support in

educating, mentoring and helping others in accordance with the international theme, Recovery: Visible, Vocal and Valuable. Over 150 delegates from 22 different countries participated in the event.

The IRS 2015 was a huge success through participation from countries in the region and beyond including Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bahrain, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and USA.

In conjunction with the IRS event were several activities that promoted a healthy

ICCE ACTIVITIES

lifestyle, camaraderie, family bonding and networking components that are essential in the recovery journey of an individual. In addition, ICCE also conducted five concurrent training tracks, namely; Recovery in Focus, Case Management and Crisis Intervention for Addiction Professionals, Working with Families and Community-based Recovery Support System Part 1 and Part II.

Colombo Plan would like to acknowledge

the support of its partners, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board of Sri Lanka and SOLACE Sabah without whom, this event would have not been possible and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs for funding support. Colombo Plan would also like to thank the various embassies in Sri Lanka for their participation at the International Bazaar, namely; Bhutan, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam.

ISSUP INAUGURAL MEETING AND INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP



ICCE organised the Inaugural Meeting for the International Society of Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Professionals (ISSUP) from 6 to 11 July 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The ISSUP Meeting signified the formal establishment of ISSUP as

an organisation that links substance use prevention treatment workforce for professional networking and capacity-building in order to support and strengthen the global drug demand reduction initiative. In conjunction with the meeting, ICCE also

ICCE ACTIVITIES

organised a Prevention Expert Advisory Group Meeting (PEAGM), a Treatment Expert Advisory Group Meeting (TEAGM) as well as the Expert Working Group Meeting (EWGM) on Translation and Adaptation of UTC Curricula 3 and 4 into Russian, alongside the training programmes given below:

- **UPC 1:** Introduction to Prevention Science
- **UPC 5:** School-based Prevention Intervention
- **UPC 6:** Workplace-based Prevention Interventions
- **UTC 2:** Continuum of Care for Addiction Professionals
- **UTC 4:** Basic Counselling Skills for Addiction Professionals
- **UTC 5:** Screening, Intake, Assessment, Treatment Planning and Documentation for Addiction Professionals
- Recovery Coach (RC)
- Working with Families
- Refresher Course and Examination

Over 300 prevention and treatment practitioners were trained through the training workshops that were conducted.

ICCE COMMISSION



As the policy-making body that oversees and ensures the highest quality and standard of ICCE credentialing training initiatives, the ICCE Commission convened on 7 – 9 July 2015 in conjunction with the ISSUP Inaugural Meeting and International Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand. This 5th

ICCE Commission Meeting was attended by 31 delegates from 23 countries. The ICCE Commissioners of each country presented their country updates on implemented ICCE initiatives. Amendments to the ICCE policy and procedures with respect to the Executive Board and membership were discussed and approved by the ICCE Commissioners.

VIENNA DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION MEETING



Over 200 participants from 85 countries gathered at the Vienna International Centre in Austria from 7 - 12 December 2015. Top on the agenda was to review the Universal Prevention and Treatment Courses. Another was to discuss and disseminate the most recent findings in the prevention of drug use and treatment of disorders emanating from or exacerbated by the same.

In attendance were the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) staff, representatives from five international organizations, namely Colombo Plan, World Health Organization, Organization of the American States, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the African

Union. Others attending or facilitating were delegates from member states, non-governmental organizations, researchers and scholars.

The five days were fully engaged with scheduled and side meetings. The first day was dedicated to the review of the Universal Prevention and the Universal Treatment courses with the intent of formulating approaches for technical and cultural adaptation and translation. Issues of dissemination were also delved into. The next three days were dedicated to scientific consultations in which 30 presentations on a wide range of drug-related themes were made. The purpose of these was to prepare for the 2016 United Nations Special Session

ICCE MEETINGS

of the General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS). The fifth day revolved around developing the International Standards for Treatment of Substance Use Disorders.

Colombo Plan was involved in numerous side meetings during those five days. Among these was the meeting convened by INL for the International Organizations in the Drug Demand Reduction field to showcase their initiatives and explore avenues of collaboration and networking. The other was the INL Focal Point meeting for orientation on INL operations and expectations. In this, the INL staff were furnished with a comprehensive INL Field Guide. The meeting with the African Union representatives appraised the initiatives

that have been undertaken in the African continent and deliberated in those that are envisaged for the future.

There were several other side meetings convened by Colombo Plan. These included meetings with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Maldives, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines and South Africa. Each of these deliberated on the country-specific initiatives, achievements, challenges and recommendations for the way forward.

The meeting was successful towards achieving the group's goals of promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction interventions in the world.



ICCE MEETS WITH PROFESSIONAL TESTING CORPORATION (PTC), NEW YORK



On 21 - 23 October 2015, Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director, Ms Winona Pandan, ICCE Curriculum Development Coordinator for Treatment and Dr Riza Sarasvita, Director of Community-based Drug Treatment at the National Narcotics Board (BNN), Indonesia had a meeting with PTC officers headed by Ms Vicki Gremelsbacker, PTC President with Ms Sherry Frier, Vice President for Testing Services, Ms Jill Rooney, Vice President, Financial Services and Mr Shakil Ahmed, Director of Technical Services to discuss ICCE collaboration with PTC.

As the educational testing provider of ICCE on its credentialing examinations, PTC provides technical assistance in the areas of test development and computerised as well as paper-based test administration. During the meeting, the terms of agreement and scope of services of PTC to Colombo Plan

ICCE in the areas of test development and administration were discussed.

A follow-up meeting was also held for three days on 17 – 19 December 2015 in Kuala Lumpur to review the ICAP and ICPS test items. ICCE convened two item review meetings to evaluate the quality of ICPS and ICAP questions. Keeping in mind the levels of credentials, the panel members ensured that the questions are appropriate for the levels that they are being used for and that the domains prescribed in the credentialing criteria are covered. Following the finalisation of the ICAP Level 1 examination questions, Dr Riza Sarasvita of BNN, Indonesia, translated the question into Bahasa Indonesia. This is in preparation for the ICCE credentialing examination in Indonesia in the first quarter of 2016.

ICCE MEETINGS

ICCE MEETS WITH THE DIET IN TOKYO



ICCE officers met with and apprised representatives of government departments associated with drug demand reduction and members of the National Diet of Japan on ICCE training and credentialing initiatives through meetings held in Nara and Tokyo

on 30 October 2015 and 2 November 2015 respectively. The Japanese representatives in the meeting showed interest in ICCE training and emphasised the need for strengthening treatment and rehabilitation programmes.

ICCE MEETS WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JAPAN



Japan became a member of Colombo Plan in 1954. On 2 October 2015, Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director, Ms Susmita Banerjee, Training Executive and Ms Winona Pandan, Curriculum Development Coordinator for Treatment paid a courtesy call and attended a brief meeting with the Colombo Plan focal point in Japan, Mr Keiichi Hara,

Director, Country Assistance Planning Division I, International Corporation Bureau and Mr Yuya Uozumi, Deputy Director from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The meeting aimed to renew the collaborative relationship with Japan and update the focal point on Colombo Plan initiatives.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITH AUSTRALIA



The Colombo Plan delegation met with the Australian focal point officials on 11 August 2015 at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra, Australia. The Australian Focal Point was represented by Mr Andrew Collins, Assistant Secretary, South Asia Regional and Indian Ocean Branch, Dr Naomi Drumbrell, Director, South Asia Branch of the South West Asia Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Secretariat was represented by Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director and Mrs Arundathy Gunawardena, Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General.

The Colombo Plan delegation also met with officials of the Department of Health

in Canberra. The main objectives of the meeting were to brief the Australian Government on the activities and initiatives of Colombo Plan and ICCE in the field of substance use, prevention and treatment as well as update the Australian Government on worldwide training and credentialing of addiction professionals to include Australia in the various Colombo Plan programmes. The meeting was attended by Dr Robyn Davies, Assistant Director, IDIRP, Department of Health, other officials of the Ministry and Prof. Ann Roche, Director, NCETA, Flinders University.

EXPERTS REVIEW ADVANCED LEVEL UTC IN MALAYSIA



On 21 - 26 September 2015, ICCE convened the 2nd Expert Working Group meeting at the Grand Millennium, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where the following Advanced Level curricula were reviewed, UTC 9: Pharmacology and SUD; UTC 11: Enhancing Motivational Interviewing Skills; UTC 12: Cognitive Behaviour Therapy; and UTC 18: Clinical Supervision for SUD.

The meeting was aimed at assessing the content of each curriculum and review the organisation of material to ensure that it provides the information that is meant to enhance the knowledge and skills of individuals in the particular area of the curriculum. It also meant to identify gaps and offer recommendations towards the enhancement of each curriculum.

The EWG was led by Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director together with Ms Winona Pandan, ICCE Curriculum Development Coordinator for Treatment in attendance.

The following experts who participated in the meeting, have been working in the field of substance use disorders treatment and have been actively involved in ICCE training initiatives, namely, Dr Sivakumar Thurairajasingam, Dr Mahmood Nazar Mohamed, Dr Miriam Cue, Dr Sun Min Kim, Dr V. Thirumagal, Dr Beatrice Kathungu, Dr Richard Gakunju, and Dr Morekwe Selemogwe. The curriculum developers, headed by Ms Shirley Mikell, Ms Angela Beckett and Dr Stephanie Lusk, facilitated the discussion and compiled the recommendations of the EWG.

In conjunction with the EWGM, six Malaysian national trainers and one ICCE global master trainer from Kenya were awarded their ICAP credentials. The review meeting successfully met its purpose and provided clear guidance for the curriculum developers to follow in the development of the four curricula.

EXPERTS REVIEW ADVANCED LEVEL UTC IN DUBAI



On 19 to 21 November 2015 ICCE convened the 3rd Expert Working Group meeting in Dubai, UAE to review the first draft of three Advanced Level UTC curricula; UTC 10: Managing Medication Assisted Treatment Programmes; UTC 15: Skills for Screening Co-occurring Disorders; UTC 17: Case Management Skills and Practices.

Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director, led the EWG assisted by Ms Winona Pandan, ICCE Curriculum Development Coordinator for Treatment. Ms Shirley Mikell and Ms Angela Beckett of SME Consulting LLP were present with the curriculum writers Dr

Stephanie Lusk and Ms Alexa Spencer. The following selected experts working in the field of substance use disorders treatment were invited to review and assess the content of each curricula, namely, Dr Igor Koutsenok, Chief, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section, UNODC; Dr V. Thirumagal, Consultant, TT Ranganathan Clinical and Research Foundation; Dr Sun Min Kim, Associate Professor, Adama University; Dr Shamil Wanigaratne, Adviser to the President, National Rehabilitation Centre; and, Dr Rakesh Lal, Director, National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre.

ADAPTATION AND TRANSLATION OF UTC CURRICULUM

PAKISTAN



ICCE convened an Expert Working Group Meeting (EWGM) on translation and adaptation of the Basic Level UTC Curricula 4, 6, and 7 from 17 to 22 August 2015 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The contracted translator and the following Pakistan national trainers were part of the expert working group: Dr Muhammad

Chaudhry, Mr Jawwad Shujaat, Mr Naeem Asif, Dr Tallat Abid and Ms Saira Sultana. The Urdu dictionary published by the National Language Authority, Government of Pakistan was used as a main source of reference. Following the post-meeting final expert review, the curricula were finalised and submitted to ICCE.

ADAPTATION AND TRANSLATION OF UTC CURRICULUM

AFGHANISTAN AND CENTRAL ASIA



ICCE also continues to facilitate the translation and adaptation of Basic Level UTC for Afghanistan and Central Asia that required for UTC training initiative implementation of echo-trainings. In view of this a four-day Expert Working Group Meeting (EWGM) was held from

9 to 13 October 2015 at Hilton Colombo Residences, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The meeting reviewed the translation of the UTC Curriculum 5 into Dari, Pashto and Russian languages and its adaptation to the regional context. Following this meeting the EWG experts have conducted the post-EWGM final review.

ICCE TRAINS KOREAN NATIONAL TRAINERS



The TOT for Korean addiction professionals first started in 2013 after the signing of MOU between Colombo Plan ICCE and the Korean Association of Addiction Professionals (KAAP). A total of 16 addiction professionals participated in the first cycle of training, which covered UTC 1 & UTC 2 from 30 March – 6 April 2013. It was followed by the second cycle which covered UTC 6, UTC 7 & UTC 8 from 22 – 30 June 2013. The third cycle covering UTC 4 & UTC 4A was conducted from 16 – 24 November 2013. The last cycle of training covered UTC 3 & UTC 5 with 14 participants successfully completed the training, which was conducted from 7 – 14 December 2015.

The training was a cost - sharing initiative organized by the Korean Association of Addiction Professionals (KAAP) and conducted by Colombo Plan ICCE with funding from INL, US Department of State.

Upon completion of the TOT and full Korean translation of the curriculum

manuals, it is possible for Korean national trainers to implement the ECHO training more systematically and more rigorously. They will also promote credentialing among Korean addiction professionals and at the same time work more closely with international trainers and practitioners.

The Korean national trainers who had successfully completed their training would like to express their gratitude to Mr Tay Bian How, Director ICCE, Prof Cho Hyun Seob, Colombo Plan ICCE Commissioner for Korea, Winona Pandan and Susmita Banerjee for their support and continuing care for the national trainers in making the completion of the training possible. They also appreciate the effort of all the trainers who have been with them throughout the four cycles of training.

Finally, it is their intention to continue cooperation and networking with Colombo Plan ICCE to address the global problem of addiction.

TRAINING ON UTC IN MYANMAR



Since the inception of the Stakeholders Meeting in Naypyidaw Myanmar, Colombo Plan is working very closely with the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control to continue training treatment professionals in Myanmar. Recently, ICCE conducted the 2nd Training of Trainers on UTC Curriculum 1 (Physiology and Pharmacology for Addiction Professionals) and Curriculum 4 (Basic Counselling Skills for Addiction Professionals) in Yangon on 14 - 23 December 2015 at Micasa Hotel. A total of 25 participants from the Ministry of Health, UNODC, SARA, MANA and a local civil society attended the training. This is the

follow-up training to the UTC Curriculum 2, which was conducted in Bangkok during ISSUP. Dato' Zainuddeen bin Abdul Bahari, Haji Yusof Ismail, Achmad Abdul Rahim Nuhung and Ms Susmita Banerjee led the trainings. This training facilitated an opportunity to teach back the curricula and also network among the participants. This will foster future collaboration between different stakeholders to provide continuous and comprehensive demand reduction services in the country. Upon completion, participants will conduct echo trainings to local practitioners in regions where drug use is a major health problem.

TRAINING ON UTC IN PAKISTAN



ICCE in collaboration with Narcotics Control Division, Ministry of Interior and Narcotics Control, Pakistan successfully completed the last two cycles in the series of Trainings of Trainers for Pakistan addiction treatment practitioners on Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC).

Both cycles of training were held at Marriott Hotel, Islamabad. The third TOT in the ICCE project in Pakistan, attended by 19 national trainers, was conducted on 26 October - 3 November 2015. This training covered Curriculum 6 on case management; Curriculum 7 on crisis intervention; and Curriculum 8 on ethics for addiction professionals.

Following the third TOT, on 9-17 December 2015, ICCE implemented the fourth TOT in the project, attended by a team of 17 national trainers. This programme

covered Curriculum 3 on common co-occurring mental and medical disorders and Curriculum 5 on screening, intake, assessment, treatment planning and documentation for addiction professionals. ICCE global master trainers from Kenya, Pakistan and Philippines facilitated both training programmes.

In a continuous effort to promote evidence-based practices in addiction treatment in Pakistan and contribute to improvement of the quality of treatment services and care for persons with SUDs and their families in Pakistan, ICCE will continue conducting echo-trainings on the curricula. The echo-trainings for addiction treatment providers from governmental and non-governmental organisations in various provinces of the country, will be facilitated by the team of Pakistan National Trainers.

TRAINING ON UTC IN KAZAKHSTAN



Since 2014, ICCE in partnership with the Ministry of Healthcare and Social Development of Kazakhstan, U.S. Embassy in Kazakhstan and in collaboration with UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia, has been implementing the training initiative on Basic Level UTC.

The Training of Trainers (TOT) on Case Management, Crisis Interventions and Ethics for Addiction Professionals (UTC 6, 7 and 8) conducted in Astana, Kazakhstan from 16 to 24 November 2015, is the second

cycle of training for the initiative. A total of 30 addiction treatment professionals, including psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers from 15 provinces of the country, attended the training programme facilitated by ICCE external trainers from India, Kenya and Philippines.

With 11 echo-trainings conducted in various cities after the first cycle of training, Kazakhstan still holds the leadership in knowledge dissemination in the Central Asian region.

TRAINS GLOBAL MASTER TRAINERS - DUBAI



ICCE started training a new group of global master trainers in early August 2014 in Dubai, UAE. This initiative was in response to the increasing global demands for training and certification of addiction professionals. This group had undergone several trainings in a few locations and this last round which

covers UTC Curriculum 3 (Common Co-occurring Mental and Medical Disorders: An Overview for Addiction Professionals, and Curriculum 8 (Ethics for Addiction Professionals) ended in Dubai.

ICCE TRAINING

This last cycle of training saw the global master trainers in very high spirits and classroom charisma was filled with enthusiasm as always where they were fully engaged with interactive presentations, group exercises and case studies that stimulated their thinking. The training started off with Curriculum 3, facilitated by Ms Winona Pandan, Colombo Plan, ICCE, Dr Yatan from India and Dr Vicky from Korea. Mr Tay Bian How, Director, ICCE, together

with Ms Cindy Biding from Malaysia and Ms Matilda Omollo from Kenya facilitated the training on Curriculum 8.

The global master trainers will now prepare to sit for the ICCE examination, which will enable them to get their credentials. Four of the global master trainers, Ms Kegomoditswe Manyanda, Dr Beatrice Kathungu, Ms Mar. Natividad Clara Abas and Dr Edna Luz Abulon, have already passed and received their ICAP II credentials.

TRAINING ON UTC FOR NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE (NRC), ABU DHABI, UAE



ICCE in partnership with the National Rehabilitation Centre, Abu Dhabi successfully completed the training of trainers on the Basic Level UTC Curriculum for NRC trainers. Training on UTC Curriculum 4A: Psycho-education for Clients and Families, was conducted on 7 - 10 September 2015. Curriculum 4A is a specialised skills-based course that provides informative, educational material and skills enhancement exercises for psycho-education sessions that are appropriate in any treatment stage of clients and families. The training underlines the importance of psycho-education not just for clients but also, most importantly, for their families. A group of 20 participants attended this training.

A four-day training covering Curriculum 5: Screening, Intake, Assessment, Treatment Planning and Documentation for Addiction Professionals was conducted on 6 – 9 December 2015, which was a skills - based training focused on effective and integrated screening, assessment and treatment planning and highlighted the importance of implementation. A group of 18 participants from NRC, local universities and hospitals with various professional competencies i.e. psychiatrists, nurses, public health educators, university instructors and guidance counsellors attended the training. Training on UTC Curriculum 5 is the culmination of the training series on the Basic Level UTC for UAE.

TRAINING ON UTC IN WEST AFRICA



Two cycles of trainings were conducted with a total of 18 participants, in Accra, Ghana from 27 July to 7 August 2015 and 3 to 11 September 2015. The training covered Basic Level UTC 6, UTC 7 and UTC 8. The participants were from the Ministry of Health, Narcotics Control Board (NACOB), education services and various Non-Governmental Organisations working in the field of drug demand reduction in Ghana. The training also included teach-back sessions where the participants were given the opportunity to practically demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired from

the training sessions. The trainers were Ms Ma Veronica Felipe, Dato Zainuddeen bin Abdul Bahari and Mr George Murimi.

A fourth and final cycle of UTC training was conducted from 3 to 11 September 2015 in Aburi, Ghana. This was a combined training programme for Ghanaian national trainers and Liberian addiction treatment practitioners and included a Refresher Course on the UTC curriculum. The trainers for this cycle were Ms Ma Veronica Felipe, Mr Sonam Jamtsho and Dr Sun Min Kim.

UTC TRAINING IN THE BAHAMAS



ICCE conducted the last training cycle on the Basic Level Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC) for 22 Bahamian addiction professionals on 26 - 30 October 2015 in Nassau, Bahamas. The training covered UTC 5: Intake, Screening, Assessment, Treatment Planning and Documentation - a knowledge and skills-based curriculum. The curriculum provided conceptual information and skills-based

activities that were meant to enhance and strengthen counsellors' competency in providing these services to their clients. The trainers were; Ms Winona Pandan, ICCE Curriculum Development Coordinator for Treatment, Dr Riza Sarasvita, Director, Community-based Drug Treatment, BNN, Indonesia and Mr Oloo Evans Ochieng, Counsellor, SAPTA, Kenya.

ICCE TRAINING

UPC TRAINING IN SRI LANKA, MALDIVES, KENYA, PHILIPPINES AND BHUTAN



In continuation of its efforts to disseminate the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use (UPC) to countries in the region, over the course of five months, ICCE rolled out UPC TOTs for national trainers in five countries.



A total of 16 Maldivian national trainers attended the first training cycle from 2 to 11 August 2015 in Male, Maldives. The participants were prevention practitioners representing the National Drug Agency (12), Society for Women Against Drug (1), JOURNEY (1), Ministry of Education (1), Ministry of Home Affairs Juvenile Justice Unit (1).



23 Kenyan national trainers were trained on 7 to 17 September 2015 in Nokuru, Kenya on UPC Curriculum 1 and 2. The participants were drawn from NACADA and county government administrative units. Following this 16 National Trainers from Philippines were trained from 24 to 30 September 2015 in Palawan, Philippines on UPC Curriculum 5 – School based prevention intervention.



In collaboration with the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB), ICCE conducted the Training of Trainers on UPC 1 from 9 to 17 October 2015 at the NDDCB Auditorium. The participants consisted of 20 national trainers representing NDDCB (17), Enlightenment Through the Rehabilitation Service Movement (1), Dharmavijaya Foundation (1) and Sri Lanka Federation of Non-Governmental Organisations Against Drug Abuse (1).



After the successful implementation of the first cycle of the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) Series 1, Curriculum 1 - Introduction to Prevention Science and Curriculum 2 - Physiology and Pharmacology for Prevention Specialist Training in Bhutan held in April 2015, ICCE in partnership with the Bhutan Narcotics Control Agency (BNCA) conducted the second cycle of the UPC Series, Curriculum 5 – School-based Prevention Interventions and Curriculum 6 – Workplace-based Prevention Intervention from 13 to 22 November 2015 in Bhutan.

ICCE ROLLS OUT UPC IN TBILISI, GEORGIA



The TOT on UPC Curricula 1 and 2 from 24 November to 2 December 2015 at the Ilia State University, Tbilisi marked yet another milestone for the International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) as it extended its training borders to Georgia.

The eight-day TOT aimed to introduce the participants to the science of prevention, as well as the science of addiction, and the basics of physiology and pharmacology.

At a brief ceremony held on the first day of the TOT, Dr David Otiashvili, Director, Addiction Research Centre, Georgia welcomed the 14 participants who comprised several university staff from the Institute of Addictology at Ilia State University, Addiction Research Centre, Georgia, clinical psychologists, narcologists, medical doctors, senior nursing staff, mental health personnel and social workers. Dr David expressed concern about the lack of sustainable institutional mechanisms supporting evidence-based drug universal prevention programmes in schools in present day Georgia. Prevention activities are still limited to campaigns, which are unplanned and have yet to be evaluated according to the European standards

of prevention science. In view of this, institutional mechanisms of drug demand reduction still need to be developed in the country. He hoped that the participants would be able to gain insights from the two core curricula of the UPC training series. In response to this, Dr Josephine Choong, Curriculum Development Coordinator (Prevention) gave the assurance that she and two other UPC Global Master Trainers from Kenya - Dr Richard Gakunju and Ms Susan Maua – would do their level best to share their knowledge and skills about current trends in prevention programming using evidence-based interventions as provided in the UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention.

At the closing ceremony, Dr Josephine Choong commended the participants for their participation and commitment to the eight-day TOT and the valuable experiences in the field that was shared during the large group discussions. In response, Dr David Otiashvili expressed his appreciation to Colombo Plan and the trainers for sharing their experiences. On behalf of the participants he articulated their interest to continue with training on the remaining curricula of the UPC series.

**ICCE
INITIATIVES IN
JAPAN**

The Training on UTC Curriculum 7 (Crisis Intervention for Addiction Practitioners) was held from 29 September to 1 October 2015 at Nara Prefecture Community Hall in collaboration with “The Oneness Group” - an NGO working towards Drug Demand Reduction in Japan. This was the first training

on the UTC Curriculum to be held in Japan. A total of 46 participants representing NGOs, Health and Welfare Centre of Yokohama City, DARC, pharmaceutical administration and legal offices participated in the programme.

ICCE BEGINS UTC AND UPC TRAINING IN FIJI

ICCE conducted its first training on prevention and treatment for Fiji from 2 to 13 November 2015. The 14-day training was organised in Suva in collaboration with the Public Service Commission, Government of Fiji and aimed to provide an overview of the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use (UPC) and the Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC) to the government departments and other stakeholders working in the field of drug demand reduction in the country. The training covered three UPC curricula - Introduction to Prevention

Science, Physiology and Pharmacology for Prevention Specialists and one UTC curriculum that is Treatment for Substance Use Disorders - The Continuum of Care for Addiction Professionals. The participants were from Fiji Correction Service, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Fiji police force, Public Service Commission Training Division, Fiji National University, Social Welfare University and Church. A total of 24 participants completed the training on the prevention curriculum, while 23 participants completed the training on the treatment curriculum.

COST-SHARING INITIATIVES

ICCE BEGINS UTC TRAINING IN INDIA



ICCE conducted the training of Indian national trainers on nine Basic Level UTC curricula from 7 September to 17 October 2015 in New Delhi, India. The training was jointly funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State through Colombo Plan ICCE and the National Institute of Social Defence, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. Twelve trainers from India, Thailand,

Bhutan, Philippines and Malaysia alongside ICCE trainers conducted the training sessions.

Upon completion of the training, 15 Indian national trainers and 3 Indian addiction professionals took the ICCE Level I examination and one Indian addiction professional took the ICCE Level II examination on 19 October 2015.

ICCE CREDENTIALING



ICCE in collaboration with Professional Testing Corporation (PTC), New York, USA conducted three ICCE examinations for a total of 138 addiction treatment professionals during the period July to November 2015. The examinations were conducted in Thailand, Ghana (for Ghana and Liberian addiction treatment professionals) and India.

VENUE	DATE	MODE	NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	NUMBER OF PASSED CANDIDATES
THAILAND	11 JULY	PENCIL AND PAPER	86	64 (74%)
GHANA (FOR LIBERIA PROFESSIONALS)	12 SEPTEMBER	ONLINE	15	5 (33%)
GHANA (FOR GHANAIAN PROFESSIONALS)	12 SEPTEMBER	ONLINE	18	17 (94%)
INDIA	19 OCTOBER	ONLINE	19	15 (79%)

ICCE CREDENTIALING

ICCE APPROVED EDUCATION PROVIDERS

With the objective of enhancing the international prevention and treatment capacity, ICCE appoints education providers to disseminate training and education to those who are seeking to become certified professionals and those who want to maintain their certification.

Any organisation or individual that provides training in the drug demand reduction can be an ICCE Approved Education Provider. Currently ICCE has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with thirteen organisations as listed below.

NO.	ORGANISATION	DATE OF MOU SIGNING
01	KOREAN ASSOCIATION OF ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS (KAAP)	22 DECEMBER 2012
02	T.T. RANGANATHAN CLINICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION	27 FEBRUARY 2013
03	NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE (NRC)	1 JULY 2013
04	DANGEROUS DRUGS BOARD	07 APRIL 2014
05	ONENESS GROUP	27 MARCH 2015
06	THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF NURSING AND PRINCESS MOTHER NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT	10 JULY 2015
07	LIVING FREE FOUNDATION, INC	10 JULY 2015
08	SERENITY IN THE STEPS	10 JULY 2015
09	SEAGULLS FLIGHT FOUNDATION, INC.	10 JULY 2015
10	CYBERJAYA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES	01 SEPTEMBER 2015
11	DRUG FREE PAKISTAN FOUNDATION	13 OCTOBER 2015
12	KASIH MULIA FOUNDATION	13 OCTOBER 2015
13	SUPPORT FOR ADDICTIONS PREVENTION & TREATMENT IN AFRICA (SAPTA)	02 DECEMBER 2015

ICCE signed MoUs with four Education Providers during ISSUP International Workshop conducted from 6 – 11 July 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Thammasat University Faculty of Nursing, established on June 28, 1996 aiming to be one of Thailand's foremost leaders in nursing education, technology, research, ethics, and a model of health promotion together with **The Princess Mother National Institute on Drug Abuse Treatment (PMNIDAT)** signed the MoU as ICCE Approved Education Provider on UTC on 10 July 2015.

ICCE CREDENTIALING



MOU Signing with Faculty of Nursing of Thammasat University and Princes Mother National Institute on Drug Abuse Treatment

In addition, three non-profit organisations in the Philippines i.e. Living Free Foundation Inc. (LFFI), operating since August of 1998 focusing on the recovery and continuing care activities of individuals and families affected by substance use disorder, Serenity in the Steps (SITS), formerly known as Serenity at the Quarry, Counselling and Consultancy facility focused on servicing treatment needs

of People with Substance Use Disorder and Seagulls Flight Foundation Inc. (SFFI), one of the most trusted and professional entities in the field of substance use treatment and rehabilitation in the Philippines with 16 years of experience also signed MoUs for ICCE Approved Education Providers on 10 July 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand during the ISSUP International Workshop.



MoU signing with Living Free Foundation Inc., The Philippines



MoU Signing with Serenity in the Steps, The Philippines

ICCE CREDENTIALING



MoU Signing with Seagulls Flight Foundation Inc., The Philippines

Two more organisations in the field of drug demand reduction joined as ICCE Approved Educations Providers during the International Recovery Symposium held from 9 – 13 October 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Drug Free Pakistan Foundation (DFPF), partner organisation of New Horizon Care Centre (NHCC) in Karachi, Pakistan which

has been working since 2002 in the field of Drug Treatment and Prevention signed the MoU as ICCE Approved Education Providers on 13 October 2015. The MoU with Kasih Mulia Foundation (KMF) which was founded on October 21, 1998 with the vision to provide service of loving care for humanity also signed the MoU on the same day.



MoU Signing with Drug Free Pakistan Foundation, Pakistan



MoU signing with Kasih Mulia Foundation, Indonesia

Support for Addictions Prevention & Treatment in Africa (SAPTA), Kenyan-based international NGO founded in 2004 also become an ICCE Approved Education Provider on 2 December 2015.

ICCE INTERNATIONALISATION

The first half of the year 2016 can be highlighted for collaborations with Universities around the world for the implementation of ICCE Prevention and Treatment Curricula.

INCEPTION OF ICUDDR



ICUDDR Delegation

The establishment and launching of the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) at the culmination of the Meeting for University Education Providers is a significant milestone for INL's global initiative to train, expand and professionalise the drug demand reduction workforce. Besides the usual dissemination strategy through training on the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use (UPC) and the Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC), there is now an additional strategy through integration of these two curricula into the university system.

Funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State, the meeting for University Education Providers was carried out in Honolulu Hawaii. This meeting was attended by representatives from INL, Colombo Plan ICCE, The

Inter - American Drug Abuse Control Commission, Organisation of American States (CICAD/OAS), SME Consulting, and ISSUP. Twenty university lecturers from Asia, Africa, Middle East, United States and Europe gathered to look into possibilities of propagating the Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC) and Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use (UPC) through the university system.

Discussions on the meeting were based on disseminating the UTC and UPC curricula within universities. The important objective of this meeting was to share the UTC and the UPC curriculum (free of charge) by establishing Education Provider Agreements while structuring it in a way that maintains the integrity of the curriculum content. The gathering also looked into optional process of credentialing of addiction professionals through the university programmes.

ICCE INTERNATIONALISATION

ICCE MEETS WITH UNIVERSITY EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN KOREA



With President of Namseoul University, Dr Chung Ja Kong

Since its establishment, ICCE has trained addiction professionals in Asia Pacific, Central Asia, the Caribbean and Africa. ICCE training has been disseminated through the training of trainers for national trainers and echo training in countries throughout the various regions as well as through cost-sharing initiatives. ICCE has expanded its initiatives through organisational education providers. In this regard, on 23 May 2016, ICCE Director, Mr Tay Bian How had a meeting with 320 addiction professionals including representatives from 12 universities in Korea. At the meeting, Mr Tay presented, among other things, the ICCE dissemination strategy, the prevention and treatment curricula as well as the credentialing process and the way forward for universities to play a part in the training and credentialing of addiction professionals. There was a keen interest for

universities in Korea to become university education providers.

At the same time, Mr Tay signed MoUs with two universities, Chungnam and Namseoul University. These two universities will soon be integrating the ICCE curricula into their certificate and graduate courses respectively.



After signing the MoU with Chungnam University

ICCE LAUNCHES COLOMBO PLAN ICCE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME 2016/2017



After signing the MoU with Mahidol University

In its continuous efforts to address the global need for a skilled Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) workforce and sustain the dissemination of the treatment and prevention curricula, the International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) is launching the ICCE Fellowship Programme in August 2016. This initiative, implemented as part of the Colombo Plan's flagship Long-term Scholarship Programme (LTSP), brings mid-career addiction professionals from Asia and Africa to further enhance their professional development in the addiction treatment field in participating universities in the Asian and African regions.

This is a Postgraduate Diploma Programme which offers wide opportunities for both academic and professional development through taught courses, besides attending conferences, networking, and acquiring practical work experiences inclusive of clinical attachment. Upon completion of the Programme, Fellows will need to write

any of the ICCE credentialing examination offered at three levels, namely: International Certified Addiction Professional I (ICAP I), International Certified Addiction Professional II (ICAP II) and International Certified Addiction Professional III (ICAP III).

The ICCE Fellowship Programme will be implemented in collaboration with three universities, that is, Cyberjaya University College of Medical Sciences (CUCMS), Cyberjaya, Malaysia, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, and Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya. Successful candidates for the ICCE Fellowship who are sent to CUCMS and Kenyatta University will undergo the Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Science, while those sent to the ASEAN Institute for Health Development (AIHD), Mahidol University will undergo the Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Studies.

ICCE INTERNATIONALISATION



Meeting with Botswana Ministry of Health Officials

ICCE CONDUCTS TAILORING VISITS TO BOTSWANA AND NAMIBIA

With a view to expanding the global reach of ICCE training initiatives, ICCE and INL officials conducted tailoring visits in Botswana and Namibia in February and March this year. INL Senior Advisor William McGlynn and ICCE Training Coordinator for Africa George Murimi conducted a two-day visit to Botswana from 29 February to 1 March while ICCE Director Mr Tay Bian How joined Mr McGlynn in Namibia to conduct the visit from 3rd to 4th March.

In Botswana, a series of meetings were held with ICCE Global Master trainers, officials of the American Embassy in Botswana and Ministry of Health led by Deputy Permanent Secretary Dr Jibril, teaching faculty of the University of Botswana, and the staff of the Botswana Substance Abuse Social Network (BOSASNet), staff of the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), Gaborone and Sbarra Psychiatric Hospital Clinical and Administrative Personnel. During these meetings, the INL and ICCE officials were provided with an overview of the alcohol and drug situation, and the health sector operations in the country in relation to HIV/ AIDS. Insufficient resource allocation for drug demand reduction initiatives and research gaps on the drug situation in the country were highlighted by officials of the University of Botswana and BOSASNet.

ICCE INTERNATIONALISATION



At Ministry of Health and Social Services

In Namibia, the ICCE and INL officials held meetings with representatives from the US Embassy and Namibian Ministry of Health and Social Services. Providing an excellent overview of the situation in Namibia, Deputy Chief of Mission Jon Kowalski and Political officer Steve Mraz of the US Embassy, highlighted the government's interest in supporting treatment and prevention of substance use. Elaborating on the treatment and prevention situation in the country, Ms Petronella Mesabane, Director of Social Welfare of the Ministry of Health and Social Services, stated that the government is reviewing a new draft law and a five year strategic plan on prevention and treatment. She also indicated interest in creating a cadre of dedicated trainers and expanding outreach on drugs in medical

facilities, schools, and churches. The ICCE and INL officials also visited the Etegameno Rehabilitation and Resource Centre and Rehoboth Outreach and Counselling Centre, both providing treatment for persons with Substance Use Disorders.

The tailoring visits to Botswana and Namibia were successfully concluded with both countries agreeing to implement UTC and UPC trainings, and organisations from both countries expressing interest in becoming ICCE education providers. The trainings will be conducted on a cost-sharing basis and will commence in the course of the year. Further on, it is envisaged that the ICCE trainings will be mainstreamed within the respective countries' educational and professional development frameworks for purposes of perpetuity and sustainability.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

EXPERT WORKING GROUP REVIEW MEETING ON UTC ADVANCED LEVEL



Expert Working Group Review Meeting in UAE

ICCE convened the Expert Working Group review meetings (EWG) in its effort to facilitate the completion of the Advanced Level UTC courses development. The EWG review is the first of the seven-step of curriculum development process. It aims to assess the content of each curriculum and look into the content, structure and organisation of materials. It also tries to ensure that the materials contained the latest and up-to-date information that will enhance the knowledge and skills of practitioners in particular areas covered by the course. The process is also meant to identify content gaps and offer recommendations for its further development.

Two cycles of EWG meetings were organised during the period of January to June 2016. The review meeting on 17 - 19

January 2016 in Dubai, UAE, focused on UTC Courses 11: Enhancing Motivational Interviewing Skills, and Course 13: Contingency Management. On 17 – 19 February 2016 in Colombo Sri Lanka, another group reviewed UTC Courses 11: Enhancing Motivational Interviewing Skills, and Course 13: Contingency Management.

Aside from the writers and ICCE officers, members of the EWG were selected based on their subject matter expertise and extensive experience in the field of SUD treatment. Everyone was very committed to the task as they thoroughly went through the content of the manuals under review. They made detailed recommendations to ensure that the core foundational concepts are clearly explained and skill building exercises are integrated. The review of UTC



Expert Working Group Review Meeting in Sri Lanka

Advanced Levels manuals was completed through collaborative efforts of the Expert Working Group members and the objectives of the meetings were achieved. This last cycle brought to completion the process of review for the new Advanced Level UTC Courses.

ICCE AND APSI CONVENE UPC IMPLEMENTERS SERIES CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS MEETING



Ms Maria Skirk of INL making her presentation

The UPC-I curriculum developers team meeting that convened in Washington on 27th - 29th April 2016 comprised INL staff (2), Colombo Plan ICCE (2), APSI staff (4), ISSUP (1), and curriculum developers (14), and university representatives (3).

The meeting highlights included the following:

- Curriculum Development Process and Meeting with University Education Providers by Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director.
- APSI presented an update of the Western Hemisphere Training on the UPC-C Course 3: Family-based Prevention Interventions on 4th - 9th April 2016 in El Salvador.
- UPC-I Presentations by the respective curriculum developers included CORE Course, Family-based Prevention, School-based Prevention, Workplace-based Prevention, Media-based Prevention, Environment - based Prevention, Community - based Prevention and Monitoring and Evaluation.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

EXPERT WORKING GROUP MEETING TO REVIEW UPC-I CORE COURSE



Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director addressing the Expert Working Group



Expert Working Group Meeting in progress

An Expert Working Group Meeting (EWGM) for the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use - Implementers Series (UPC-I), CORE Course commenced at the Hilton Colombo Hotel, Sri Lanka on 1st -2nd June 2016. The panel of prevention experts comprised Professor Dato' Dr Mahmood Nazar Mohamed (Malaysia), Ms Tanita Nakin (Thailand), Ms Teresita Pineda (Philippines), Ms Francis Grace Duka-Pante (Philippines) and Ms Susan Maua (Kenya). Also in attendance were Dr Ahmad Khalid Humayuni (CP DAP, Afghanistan), two ICCE trainers, namely, Ms Susmita Banerjee and Mr George Murimi, and Ms Susan B. David (US) who are also part of the curriculum developers for this course convened together.

The two-day meeting was chaired by Mr Tay Bian How, ICCE Director and coordinated by Dr Josephine Choong, Curriculum Development Coordinator (Prevention). The review process of the CORE Course was guided by the following Terms of Reference: Respect, Science-driven, Citation of referenced material, Appropriateness to the field, setting, culture and language Continuity of content/ Flow, Inclusion of Trainer Notes / Instructions / Resource Pages, and Make learning fun/experiential learning. The comments of the panel were focused on three aspects, namely, Content, Structure and Delivery. Upon completion of the EWGM, both the curriculum developer and panel made significant contributions towards the revision of the first draft of the CORE Course.

ICCE COMMENCES TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON UTC FOR TANZANIA



Tanzanian National Trainers

In a population of 51.7 million people, there are only less than 10 drug treatment centres in Tanzania, an inordinately low figure calling for up scaling of drug intervention measures.

It is for this reason that from 22nd February to 3rd March 2016, The International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals with funding from the Bureau of International Narcotics & Law Enforcement Affairs, US Department of State commenced the UTC trainings in the country. This was done in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Social Services, Elderly, Women and Children. The training covered Universal Treatment Course (UTC) 1 and 2 on Physiology and Pharmacology, and Continuum of Care for Addiction Professionals respectively. This first cycle of the UTC trainings in Tanzania was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

There were 15 participants being trained as trainers. They were drawn from various sectors including mental health, academia,

and non-government organisations. The overall goal of the training programme was to equip local addiction treatment professionals with the latest knowledge of evidenced-based practices in addiction treatment and enable them to integrate these practices into their clinical work.

Following the teach-back sessions during which participants demonstrated their capacity to disseminate the content in the echo-trainings that would follow, these National Trainers are now tasked to implement echo training to their fellow addiction professionals, as a strategy adopted by ICCE in all the countries it has initiatives in.

Overall, the trainees expressed satisfaction with the trainers, training methodology and training materials which they described as structured, informative and user friendly. Many of them said that in their years of training and being trained, they had not come across as comprehensive yet comprehensible course as the UTC. What a compliment!

ICCE TRAINING

ADVANCED LEVEL UTC TRAINING COMMENCES IN THE BAHAMAS



A group activity

Continuing the successful implementation of ICCE initiatives in the Western Hemisphere, the UTC Advanced Level training series was launched in the Bahamas with the training of trainers on Working with Families affected by Substance Use Disorders. Twenty-two drug addiction professionals, who had recently completed the basic level UTC series, participated in this training programme conducted from the 26 to the 30 of April 2016 in Nassau, Bahamas.

This five-day advanced level course focused on SUD treatment in the family context. Participants were taught the theoretical basis for understanding how SUD can lead to dysfunction in the family and how family dysfunction can also lead to substance use problems. The different levels and types of interventions with families were discussed. All participants without exception displayed a high level of commitment which was

reflected in their active participation in the activities designed for the course. This particular course on the family invoked much interest and passion among the participants who had much to share with regards to their own varied experiences.

This was a particularly proud occasion for the Bahamian addiction professionals as two of their colleagues were selected by ICCE to assist in the training. The two Bahamian trainers conducted themselves impressively, sparing no efforts to ensure that their responsibilities were carried out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

This initiative was conducted in collaboration with the Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre with funding support from the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), US Department of State.

A PARTICIPANT'S REFLECTIONS

Monday the 25th of April 2016, marked the sun set of the genesis of our journey thru The Columbo Plan. Feelings of accomplishments were high: but with participants the dawn of Tuesday 26th, new challenges arose that these (20) twenty renewed enthusiastic professionals bravely embraced.

Burgeoning feelings of Bahamian pride saturated the atmosphere as Dato proudly conveyed that not one, but two of our very own transitioned from trainee to trainer and would be co-facilitating the sessions.

There wasn't a dull moment in the sessions, as the focal point was on the family; a topic that we all hold dear to our hearts. Emotions were high with laughter, and occasional brief silent tears as our able lecturers invoked our hearts thru the learning experience.

We were exposed to practical, attainable evidence based theories to aid in the recovery process of the family unit.

The ICCE training sessions couldn't have graced our shores at a more opportune time, as this unquenchable epidemic (SUD) seeks to dominate our family life, school system, the community and ultimately by extension, our country.

Thank you ICCE, not just for recognizing our need for help thru innovative, practical, evidence based training, but for so adequately bringing deliverance to the Bahamas with such Eloquence.

Abigail Pyfrom

A PARTICIPANT'S REFLECTIONS

David Nathan Bayever,
Deputy Chairperson, Central Drug Authority South Africa.

"We are encouraged knowing that we are aligning ourselves with an advanced, appropriate and current strategy having heard from the experts about the advances that have been made in the field of SUD. We have fortified our thinking and acknowledged that we need to influence a paradigm shift in the treatment arena. We will be strategising and presenting Deputy Minister with a plan of action that will penetrate deep down into the hot spots in all nine of our provinces in South Africa, including Limpopo....."

ICCE ROLLS OUT TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON UTC FOR SOUTH AFRICA



South African National Trainers

South Africa has made significant strides in the fight against drugs and substance abuse. A firm zero-tolerance and comprehensive approach to tackling drugs has worked to some extent in trying to keep the population free from drugs. However, new emerging trends indicate that, in recent years, more young substance abusers aged below 20 years have been arrested. The South African Central Drug Authority (CDA) has received numerous requests from less privileged populations for placement into treatment facilities. A significant rise in 'cluster abuse' of Nyaope, a powerful depressant and hallucinogen (combination of heroin, marijuana and others...), has been noted among many youth. The profiles of youth abusers have also changed, with many coming from middle-class families and those doing well in school. The South African National Drug Master Plan (NDMP) concludes that there is dire need of

developing toolkits for parents, educators and youth counsellors to raise awareness on drug related issues.

It is against this backdrop that the collaboration between the CDA and the International Centre for Education and Credentialing (ICCE), Colombo Plan was conceived. The collaboration is to train trainers of trainers from significant sectors mandated by legislation to combat Substance use and abuse in South Africa, including community partners, NGO's, CSO's etc.

The first cycle of training of trainers on UTC 1 and 2 for South Africa took place from 4th to 14th May, 2016 in Pretoria. Participants were drawn from the CDA, government ministries, addiction programmes and social work within a wide framework of backgrounds.

COMPLETION OF TRAINING ON UTC BASIC LEVEL FOR BANGLADESH



A group discussion

The International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) conducted the Training of Trainers (TOT) on Basic Level Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance use disorders Addiction (UTC) Curriculum 3; Common Co-occurring Mental and Medical Disorders and Addiction Professionals for the national trainers of Bangladesh from 29th to 31st May 2016. This three-day training was attended by 14 Bangladeshi national trainers of varied backgrounds from government and non-government organisations. This marked the completion of ToT on UTC Basic Level for Bangladesh.

The opening ceremony was graced by Mr Khandakar Rakibur Rahman, Director General of Department of Narcotics Control, Ministry of Home Affairs of Bangladesh. The training was facilitated by Ms Aditi

Ghanekar (India), Dr Danai Indrakamhaeng (Thailand), and Mr Clemente A. Abella Jr. (Philippines).

Upon completion of UTC 3, ICCE conducted a Refresher Course from 1st to 4th June 2016 for the national trainers of Bangladesh to prepare them for ICCE Level I online examination.

In addition to the thirteen national trainers of Bangladesh, seven national trainers of Pakistan who had not obtained their credentials also participated in the Refresher Course and sat for the online examination held at Bangladesh Computer Council in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The participants expressed their sincere gratitude to ICCE for the knowledge and wonderful experience gained through the Basic Level UTC training series.

ICCE CREDENTIALING

SIXTY ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS FROM TEN COUNTRIES GET CREDENTIALLED BY ICCE

The International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals successfully conducted five examinations from January to June 2016 in different regions of the world. The details of examinations conducted are as follows:

	DATE	NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	NUMBER OF PASSED CANDIDATES	MODE	
NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS	29 TH JAN 2016	22	21 (95.45%)	PENCIL	ICCE I: 22
ABU DHABI, UAE	9 TH & 10 TH MAR 2016	8	6 (75%)	PENCIL	ICCE II: 8
NONHABURI, THAILAND	7 TH APR 2016	24	14 (58.33%)	ONLINE	ICCE I: 24
DHAKA, BANGLADESH	5 TH JUN 2016	20	19 (95%)	ONLINE	ICCE I: 20
NAIROBI, KENYA	18 TH JUN 2016	38	PENDING	ONLINE	ICCE I: 16 ICCE II: 22
	TOTAL	112	60		

During the last six months 60 addiction professionals in the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Botswana, Kenya, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and United Arab Emirates obtained their credentials through ICCE.



HIGHLIGHTS

GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMME
[GAP]



Colombo Plan has been working on Gender issues and development since 2007 by facilitating training programs in member countries and providing shelter for women and child victims of violence in Afghanistan. In 2011, the Afghanistan Women Shelter Fund was established, assisting women run NGOs providing shelter services and access to justice for Afghan women. The importance of establishing a specific program for women and children was recommended during

the 43rd Consultative Committee Meeting in Manado, Indonesia in 2012 and in the 282nd Council Meeting held on 7 May 2014 in Colombo. As approved by the Colombo Plan Council, the Colombo Plan established the Gender Affairs Program in May 2014. In the same year, the Afghanistan Women shelter fund was expended to 11 provinces in Afghanistan under the Gender Affairs Program of the Colombo Plan.

OBJECTIVES OF THE GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAM

- To increase awareness on gender equality and development, women and child rights and gender issues among member countries through workshops and trainings
- To raise funds on gender capacity building and support direct empowerment such as economic development, protection, education and health programs for women
- To support member countries through Government and Non-Government agencies to implement global gender standards on women and children
- To conduct research on gender, women and child development issues
- To share technical skills, resources, capacity and experiences on gender, women and child development among the member countries
- To represent the Colombo Plan in International forums to upgrade knowledge and to share our collective experiences

The Gender Affairs Program in Afghanistan works on women's access to justice and child protection issues through the Ministry of Women Affairs, Afghan Shelter Network, Child Protection Network, EVAW Commissions and I/NGOs.

AFGHAN WOMEN SHELTER FUND (AWSF)



The Afghan Women Shelter Fund (AWSF) works to increase access to justice for Afghan women and girls who have survived, or are at risk of gender-based violence. These shelter facilitates providing safe refuge, legal and mediation assistance, medical assistance, psychosocial support, counselling, and skills training to survivors of gender-based violence. In addition, the

organizations work to promote awareness on women's rights, particularly as it relates to the elimination of violence against women.

During the period July 2015 – June 2016, the Afghan Women Shelter Fund supported over 1,842 new cases where women in Afghanistan seek access to safe shelter. A total of 2,366 beneficiaries received legal



assistance and legal counselling while the formal justice sector resolved over 405 cases and through mediation. More than 1,033 women were reintegrated with their families and over 5,504 beneficiaries benefitted from psychosocial counselling. The program has also empowered women victims of violence by providing vocational trainings and literacy courses to over 3,545 beneficiaries. Awareness and outreach programs on women's rights sensitizing communities on social development and women have reached out to over 6,228 people.

ASSESSMENT OF SHELTERS

During the period, in addition to regular stakeholder coordination, monitoring and review of the project's implementation, the Gender Affairs Program completed an organizational capacity assessment of all the shelters covering Governance/ Leadership, Administration, Human Resource Management, Financial Management and Organizational Management. Based on this study, an Institutional Management Plan was drawn up with the consultation of Afghanistan implementing partners and discussed at the AWSF Workshop held in Kabul in December 2015.

SHELTER EXPANSION

The project during the period, review of over 45 proposals received under the new Request for Proposals for increasing access to justice

for survivors or those at risk of experiencing gender-based violence and/or trafficking in persons, was completed. Based on this, in December 2015, the Gender Affairs Program together with the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) conduct consultations with the Ministry for Women's Affairs and Minister for Labor, Social and Martyrs and Disabled for scaling up projects in Provinces where the services were unavailable.

The program also undertook an Audit from 2012 – 2015 of the AWSF program and its partners.

SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES ON WOMEN PROTECTION

A study tour was undertaken for Ministry of Women and shelter stakeholders to Indonesia to facilitate sharing of best practices for Afghan stakeholders on shelters and women protection with a focus on how national to provincial government level collaboration, linkages, coordination, referrals, protection mechanisms and economic empowerment of women takes place in Indonesia that counters violence against women. This first study visit was attended by 17 Afghan participants and it was held in in Yogyakarta, Indonesia during 4th – 9th October 2015. The program was attended by the Minister of Women Affairs from both countries and hosted by the Governor of Yogyakarta and

GAP ACTIVITIES

Ministry of State Secretariat in Indonesia. Following this visit, the two Women Ministers have strengthened their bilateral engagement on women and their ongoing MOU between the two Ministries.



AFGHANISTAN CHILDREN SUPPORT CENTER FUND (ACSCF)

In Afghanistan, most children affected by the conflict have limited access to education, adequate food, clean water and protection. In particular, children who live with their mothers in prison do not have access to many fundamental rights. According to the law in Afghanistan, children up to age of seven years are allowed to live with their parents in the prison. However, the conditions in the prison are not conducive to raising children. To address the gap caused by the lack of attention, Children Support Centers (CSCs) were set up to provide alternative care for this vulnerable population.

To support these center providers to ensure children safe shelters, adequate food and clean water and most importantly free education, the Colombo Plan with the support of the US Government Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) established the

Afghanistan Children Support Center Fund (ACSCF), under the Gender Affairs Program in May 2014.

During the period July 2015 – June 2016, the project provided safe homes for 530 children across three regional centers. Children in the centers were provided with education, where 567 children attended classes in Islamic studies, Dari, Mathematics, computer and English. In addition to the course work 403 children attended public schools.

In this period, 31 children were successfully re-integrated with their families which is the most challenging factor for the centers where most children are abandoned or usually not taken by families. The social workers visits the families frequently to assess the progress and 214 follow up visits have been made during the period.

GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAM IN MEMBER COUNTRIES



In July 2015, planning was undertaken with the Government of Indonesia who approached Gender Affairs Program to provide technical training to member countries on women and child development.

Memorandum of Understanding was signed for Training on Family Planning – open to all member countries for the duration 2015-2017 through the Gender Affairs Program and Government of Indonesia’s South South and Technical Cooperation

Training Course on Empowering Women through Family Planning and Economic Development Interventions is one of its series of workshops designed to share Indonesian experiences with Colombo Plan member countries in empowering women through Family Planning Interventions at

the grass-root level. Under the CPGAP, the first training on Empowering Women through Family Planning and Economic Development Intervention, was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 13th to 19th September 2015, with the participation of 17 member countries. The second training was held in 23rd – 27th May 2016 in West Sumatera, Indonesia. The workshop was



GAP ACTIVITIES

attended by participants from 11 member countries.

The programs were held in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia - Ministry of State Secretariat, National Population and Family Planning Board, and the respective Local Governments in Indonesia.

In addition with the Government of Indonesia under South South and Technical Cooperation, a second MoU was signed with the Gender Affairs Program to hold a program on Sharing Best Practices on Violence against Women in 2015 and another program on Women in Leadership in 2016 for member countries.

The first program on Sharing Best Practices on Violence against Women was specifically

scheduled for Afghanistan stakeholders and was held from 4th – 9th October 2015, in Yogyakarta.

Additionally, the Gender Affairs Program undertook a scoping visit to Nepal in August 2015, with the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare to the most earthquake affected areas of Sindhupalchowk District for developing a specific program to support vulnerable women and children.



FIRST GENDER FOCAL POINT CONFERENCE

26TH – 27TH NOVEMBER 2015



Following the Council approval of the new Gender Affairs Program, 22 Member countries officially confirmed Technical and Policy level focal points for the Colombo Plan Gender Affairs Program.

The Colombo Plan Gender Affairs Program successfully launched its first Gender Focal Point Conference from November 26th to 27th 2015, in Colombo with the participation of senior level delegates from 20 Colombo Plan member countries.



GAP ACTIVITIES



The two day conference held at Hilton Colombo was inaugurated by the Minister of Women and Child Affairs, Hon. Ms Chandrani Bandara in the presence of distinguished guests representing various Embassies and High Commissions in Sri Lanka.

Visiting dignitaries and participants from Ministers, Secretary, Under Secretary, Advisor and Chief Director levels from various Women Ministries and Departments

across member countries shared their inputs towards creating a gender equality perspective in the region on development goals. The conference is expected to further lead to Action Plans from all member states which will serve as a roadmap for future cooperation through the Gender Affairs Programme to ensure women and child development across the region.



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