



The first HIA for ASEAN Workshop FINAL REPORT

1. The First HIA for ASEAN Workshop entitled “Understanding Health Impact Assessment (HIA): A Foundation for the Well-being of the ASEAN Community” was held from 13 to 14 of February 2012 in Phuket, Thailand. The schedule appears as **Annex 1**. The Meeting was attended by members from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Representative(s) from ASEAN Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Health Organization - South-East Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO), National Health Commission, Thailand, and Thailand’s Ministry of Public Health were also in attendance. The list of participants appears as **Annex 2**.

February 13, 2012: “Status and Path Way of HIA Development in ASEAN Community”

Section 1: Introduction and keynotes

1.1 Opening Session and Keynote Address on “*The Perspective of HIA in ASEAN*” by Mr. Larry Maramis, Director, Cross - Sectoral Directorate ASEAN Secretariat

2. Mr. Larry Maramis delivered his opening remarks by welcoming all participants and gave keynote address to the participants of the first HIA for ASEAN Workshop. He emphasized HIA can do to help achieve the vision of ASEAN 2015 by multi-sectoral integration. The outputs and recommendations of this workshop will have to be presented to the next SOMHD and any of these recommendations can be endorsed by SOMHD and later escalate to AHMM. The interesting of this workshop is that it will use the basis of the flooding in Thailand as a case that examine detail and how the impact of non-health issue can be obligated to health. ASEAN has a strong charter and blueprint underlines each charter. The importance for ASEAN as moving toward the ASEAN Community by 2015, is a much stronger relationship between 3 pillars. This HIA Workshop has strong potential to help to define the strategic relationship between health and environment, health and food security, health and energy security. Further, he expressed his well wishes in the first HIA for ASEAN Workshop.

1.2 Keynote Speech on “*HIA Contribution to the Regional Policy Development: Reality and Possibility*” by Dr. Wiput Phoolcharoen, Chairman of HIA Commission, Thailand

3. Dr. Wiput Phoolcharoen delivered his keynote speech by highlighted that the ASEAN Charter could be maximized as a bridge and inspiration to improve solidity and commitment to assist one another and to work together, not to be individualistic, but to be more open and mutually respectful and feel as part of the real ASEAN community. He also emphasized the need for Health Impact Assessment to be applied as a critical means of scaffolding intelligence to deliberate ASEAN’s 3 creative Community’s pillars. Finally, he welcomes the participants to contribute in these 2 days meeting as creative course of deliberation pertaining to HIA application and guidance for ASEAN in future. His keynote speech appears as **Annex 3**.



Section II: Understanding HIA

Lecture on “How HIA can contribute to improve health and well-being of the ASEAN Community” by: Dr. Decharut Sukkumnoed, HIA Commission, Thailand

4. Dr. Decharut Sukkumnoed commenced with the HIA history since the 1st international conference for health promotion in 1899. He further explained the linkage of Healthy Public Policy under the Ottawa Charter and HIA. Afterwards the methodological development and principles of HIA were clarified. Dr. Decharut raised frequently questions and answered them as follows.: HIA can apply both a policy and project level; HIA can apply both a national and local level; HIA can apply for the approval of policy/project and for a social learning process; HIA can be the expert’s exercise and community’s exercise (community based HIA); HIA can be used for impacts across the border which EU has applied it in EU policies. In addition, Dr. Decharut mentioned how to institutionalize HIA, the positive and negative impacts of regionalization and emerging topics for collaborative HIAs in ASEAN. Lastly the challenges of ASEAN were addressed and how HIA can be applied was answered. His presentation appears as **Annex 4**.

Section III: Experiences on the HIA among ASEAN Member States

3.1 Country Presentation on “Experiences on the HIA”

5. The session was led by Dr. Kitjar Ruangthai, The Federation of Thai Industries, and Ms Indhira Euamonlachat, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Thailand. There were 8 countries that gave presentations on the HIA development in their countries. At least 6 countries in ASEAN from the meeting have guidelines, standards and regulations for HIA. In Cambodia, HIA guideline, procedure is to be developed and consulted with stakeholders and development partners. Some countries implement HIA on EIA such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand, etc. Lao PDR gave the good HIA model of Namtheun 2 Dam but lack capacity to do HIA of many development projects. HIA is not only be done for HIA in EIA but also for public policy. For example in Thailand, HIA development has been developed since the year 2000. There are 4 HIA pathways as follows; E-HIA (Mandate HIA&project level), HIA in Public Policy & Development Plan (Decision-Support HIA), HIA by request (advocacy HIA) and Community-Health Impact Assessment. All country presentations appear as **Annex 5**.

3.2 Open Discussion on “Future Development of HIA in ASEAN Community”

6. The open discussion was led by Dr.Thanawat Imsomboon, The Independent Commission on Environmental and Health and Ms.Siriwan Chandanachulaka, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand. Recommendations from the participants on future development on HIA in ASEAN Community can be concluded as follows:

1. Advocacy and awareness creation on HIA
 - Conduct HIA advocacy meeting(s) with high level officials
 - Raise political commitment
 - Promote the HIA activities
 - Build common understanding of HIA
 - Inform National Ministries and other sectors on HIA
 - Create ASEAN declaration on HIA (long term plan)
 - Write an HIA statement



- Include HIA into joint ministerial statements
 - Integrate HIA into other IAs (EIA, SIA, SEA)
 - Review the existing values of HIA
2. Institutionalization of ASEAN HIA
 - Align with the existing ASEAN and other regional platforms
 - Use existing ASEAN mechanisms (Task force, focal point)
 3. Human resource development for HIA
 - Create a large group of HIA practitioners
 - Run capacity building workshops and trainings
 - Train & involve community & civil society on HIA
 - Train & involve local authority on HIA
 4. Research & development
 - Methodological development
 - Explore effective tools eg. health surveillance, epidemiology, risk management
 - Conduct HIA on common issues such as climate change, flood management, waste management, etc.
 - Use HIA to produce better baseline KPI of the ASEAN blue print, MDG
 5. Networking
 - Share Information on current HIA/EIA practices of ASEAN
 - Set regular meetings, teleconference, web publication, mailing list, articles
 - Provide Advisory & Expertise services
 6. Securing Financial Resource for ASEAN HIA
 - Involve multi-stakeholders including private sector, investors, banks
 - Funds from WHO, UNDP

February 14, 2012

Section IV and Parallel session 1

ASEAN Focal Points on HIA: “Future Development of HIA in ASEAN Community”

7. The parallel session 1 was led by Dr. Wiput Phoolcharoen, Chairman of HIA Commission, Thailand. The purpose of the session was to reach the agreement on the framework, Term of Reference (TOR) of ASEAN Focal Point Health Impact Assessment (AFPHIA) and work plan. The discussion started with the presenting the summary of recommendations from first day meeting by the secretariat. Then the Meeting had an extensive discussion and agreed on the Draft Framework Entitled “Health Impact Assessment (HIA): A Foundation for the Well-being of the ASEAN Community” and the draft term of reference of ASEAN Focal Points on HIA. However the work plan will be discussed after the 7th SOMHD. The draft framework and the draft term of reference appear as **Annex 6**.

Section IV and Parallel session 2

HIA Practitioner Network in ASEAN “Proposal Development on Flood Management of Capital Cities and HIA in ASEAN”

8. There were three speakers in this section as follow: 1) HIA and Flood Management: The Challenge for Southeast Asian Cities by Dr. Decharut Sukkumnoed, HIA Commission, Thailand 2) Health Action in Flood Crisis by Dr. Roderico Hood Ofrin, Regional Adviser, WHO-SEARO, and 3) Strengthening Risk Governance Capacities for Climate Risk by Sanny Ramos Jegillos,



Practice Coordinator a.i. and Regional Programme Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, UNDP. The speakers addressed the risks from climate change, flood and other disaster that was very crucial for the Southeast Asian cities. However, in coping with new and more complicated risks and vulnerabilities, climate change adaptation and disaster management requires not only technical solutions but also public participation and institutional changes. In this complicated tasks, it is very important to applying evidence-based social learning process. HIA can be one of the most useful tools for addressing such risks.

9. The possible contribution points of HIA have been investigated through disaster management process. Principally, HIA can be very useful for a) future exposure analysis, b) risk assessment, c) the impact assessment of different adaptation strategies, d) suggesting for innovative and integrated solutions and e) addressing the institutional traps. As earlier mentioned, if HIA can deliver what mentions in its underpinning values, HIA can, at some certain level, avoid these institutional traps, which undermine the capacities and potential of the society to manage risk. Through this perspective, it is very critical to apply HIA in collaborative real case studies of risks management in the regime of climate change and disaster within the Southeast Asian cities. Their presentations appear as **Annex 7**.

10. In order to reach the meaningful collaboration on applying HIA in ASEAN countries, to identify issue, scope of HIA framework is required as well as the step of HIA implementation in ASEAN mechanism. Final conclusion from all participants is described below.

HIA issues on climate change and disaster management

1. Risk and Vulnerability mapping
 - Intensive risks
 - Extensive risks
2. Climate change
3. Risk reduction
 - Protection
 - Accommodation
 - Retreat/resettlement
4. Preparedness
5. The relation of impacts of climate changes and disaster and MDGs
6. Response
7. Recovery /rehabilitation
8. Collaboration
 - Multi-sectoral levels
 - National and international levels
9. Evaluation/lesson learnt related to institutional traps

Nine components to bring HIA into ASEAN Community

Joint ASEAN Report on Human Health affected by Climate Change and Disaster will be a strategic entry point to raise the awareness of all sectors on the relationship of health impacts from climate changes and disaster by applying HIA as a critical tool. However, to produce this paper, the following components have to be considered

1. Mechanism and Opportunities



- ASEAN: Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (ADDMER) ratified by 2009 and ASEAN Standard Operation Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (SASOP)
 - UNDP/WHO
 - Mekong Commission
- 2. Timing**
- Pre- assessment before disaster
 - Recovery or rehabilitation
- 3. Communication**
- Joint ASEAN report
 - Launching Conference
- 4. Activities/cases**
- Proposal development
 - Initial case studies
 - Institutional framework
 - Capacity building
 - Documentation
 - Indicators/tools
 - Working group for Capacity Building and Indicators
 - Website as the database of HIA expanded from Thailand's website, facebook
- 5. Potential Funding Sources**
- UN, WHO, Donors, Country Contribution, Risk assessment with ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)
- 6. Governance**
- Working group
 - Institutional body
 - Strength or expertise of each country
- 7. Advocacy**
- Climate change get more attention and opportunity than disaster
- 8. Methodology**

All participants agreed to start promoting HIA in ASEAN mechanism and public by applying communication strategy with the aims to increase awareness of how HIA could contribute to better climate changes and disaster management leading to better health outcomes especially the vulnerability's. HIA is not only fit the regime of risk management but also other development frameworks. HIA can also be applied as a good input to evaluate the progress of MDGs. To promote HIA in the public, the content and space is required leading to the idea to launch conference as a tool for sharing vision on risk and finally will be a good input to have joint ASEAN report on climate change and human health. This conference is recognized as opportunities calling for knowledge, collaboration and awareness among sectors and ASEAN countries. Before the conference, the four task forces have to be conducted as follows:

- Create web-site by National Health Commission Office, Thailand
- Review the issues of climate change and human health; institutional framework; and case studies from other regions
- Develop tools and indicators



- Do case studies (positive and negative impacts as well as innovation) and HIA application in different ways

9. Time table

- February 2012: To held the 1st HIA for ASEAN Workshop for ASEAN Focal Point on HIA
- 26th March 2012: 7th SOMHD, to report to the meeting on the success of the 1st HIA for ASEAN Workshop and to endorse on TOR, framework and work plan
- May 2012: Set up a technical workshop to share experiences
- June 2012: First announcement in Rio+20 using leaflet and website
- 2013: Conference Launching
- 2015: Submit the Joint ASEAN Report

Section V: Closing Remarks

11. In the closing remarks, Mr. Larry Maramis and Dr. Wiput Phoolcharoen, expressed their appreciation to all for the active participation and contribution during the workshop. The first HIA for ASEAN Workshop had successfully met each meeting objective, agreed on the draft Framework on “Health Impact Assessment (HIA): A Foundation for the Well-being of the ASEAN Community” and the draft term of reference of ASEAN Focal Points on HIA, and developed proposal of HIA issues on climate change and disaster management in ASEAN including its action plan. Mr. Larry Maramis noted that this meeting was supported by the National Health Commission, Thailand. Gratitude was also expressed to all Member States for their active contributions during the Meeting, which made the Meeting productive and achieves all objectives.