

eNewsletter: No.93

Dear MBDS Colleagues,

he MBDS (Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance) cooperation is a self-organized regional network commenced since 2001. It is a collaborative effort among six Mekong Basin countries: Cambodia, China, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam under the Health Ministerial MOU. It aims to strengthen national and regional capabilities in infectious disease surveillance, inter-regional collaboration, outbreak response and information sharing for rapidly and effectively control Public Health Threat.



Mr. Sok Samnang, Deputy Director of the Communicable Disease Control Department, Ministry of Health, Cambodia, and an MBDS Country Coordinator visited MBDS crossborder provinces to oversee the implementation of the MBDS EBS mobile application and also discussion and gave guidance to MBDS focal points on the usefulness of this system for quickly sharing health event among MBDS countries cross border provinces.

During this visit, the CDC Department officially provided 3 computer laptops to 3 MBDS focal points of MBDS cross-border provinces namely Svay Rieng, Tbong Khmum, and Stung Treng for real-time EBS reporting, data analysis, and integration process in Cambodia. These laptops were supported by DFTA through PSI/Cambodia for Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) to strengthen surveillance systems in Cambodia.

Currently, the MBDS EBS mobile application has been implemented in 7 MBDS crossborder provinces in Cambodia:

- 1. Stung Treng
- 2. Banteay Meanchey
- 3. Takeo

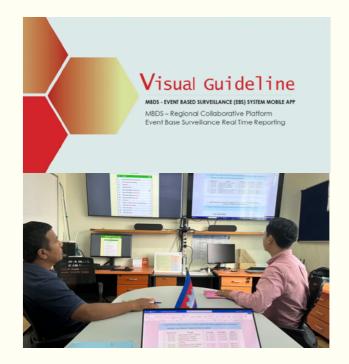


4. Kampot 5. Koh Kong 6. Tbong Khmum and 7. Svay Rieng

his MBDS EBS mobile application plays a significant role in health event sharing among MBDS countries cross-border provinces for real-time alert. Thanks to MBDS Secretariat and Canada's WTRP, this real time event sharing application supports MBDS cross-border provinces well prepared in advance for any unusual event occurring along the border sites. This application also can be adapted and expanded to use with other ASEAN countries.

In Cambodia, this EBS real-time event sharing information has been included in the weekly surveillance report and shared with other relevant stakeholders and partners. Cambodia CDC has developed the EBS reporting multimedia and uploaded in MBDS YouTube.

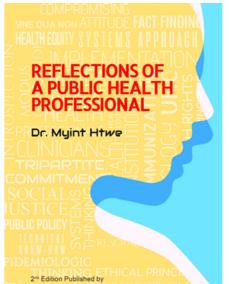
Reported by: Mr. Sok Samnang, MBDS Country Coordinator, Cambodia



BDS has published a series of four electronic books for aspiring public health professionals and academics. Dr. Myint Htwe, a former staff member of the WHO Regional Office for Southeast Asia (SEARO) and former Health Minister from Myanmar, is the author of these books. The articles were written from his experience and a practical perspective from developing countries with limited resources. He has developed (i) Reflections of a Public Health Professional; (ii) Health System Challenges: A Developing Country Perspective; (iii) Tackling the Challenges of the Healthcare Delivery System in Developing Countries; and (iv) Cross-Cutting Health Issues in Countries with Limited Resources.

The first book gave an overview of public health scenarios and healthcare delivery system-related issues in developing countries. The important role of research is also highlighted. The second book depicted the challenges encountered in running the healthcare delivery system in the context of a developing country. The third book proposes actions to tackle the challenges of the healthcare delivery system. The fourth book illustrated the general cross-cutting issues encountered in resource-limited countries. It also categorized the 102 articles of the four books under the rubrics of (i) public health; (ii) population health; (iii) hospital systems; (iv) health systems; (v) health programs; (vi) communicable and noncommunicable diseases; (vii) collaboration; (viii) health information; (ix) human resources for health; (x) methodology; (xi) beyond-the-box thinking; and (xii) research. The author tried his best to cover crucial issues in the domain of public health and propose some solutions to overcome them. In the context of resource-constrained countries, a number of creative ideas, concepts, and potential courses of action are mentioned. Health system issues, as addressed in the books, can also provoke the minds of different types of healthcare workers and act as a catalyst for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the healthcare delivery system.

The MBDS anticipates that the books will empower public health professionals in their endeavor to make logical and strategic decisions. All in all, MBDS believes that the books will serve as one small brick to make our public health system solid, adaptable, robust, and responsive.





Dr. Myint Htwe

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Dr. Myint Htwe

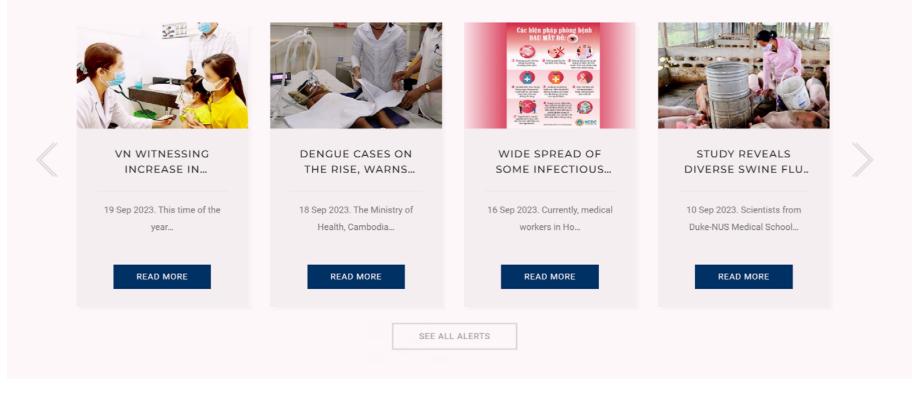


Dr. Myint Htwe



BDS is regularly updating regional alerts related to public health events including COVID-19 situation, progress of vaccination, measures and information related with public awareness. These regional alerts are available in this MBDS webpage.

REGIONAL ALERTS



RECENT UPDATE

MBDS Secretariat Office has been updating Regional and International disease information on <u>MBDS website</u> and those updates can be easily accessed via MBDS Facebook, MBDS Instagram, and MBDS Twitter.

USEFUL LINKS

MBDS has been updating useful links (Disease Surveillance Networks, Health Related Links, Links for Disaster Management, Research Links, Global Conference Alerts and Others Links) on MBDS website.

Sincerely yours, **MBDS** Foundation Secretariat





















Connecting Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance



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