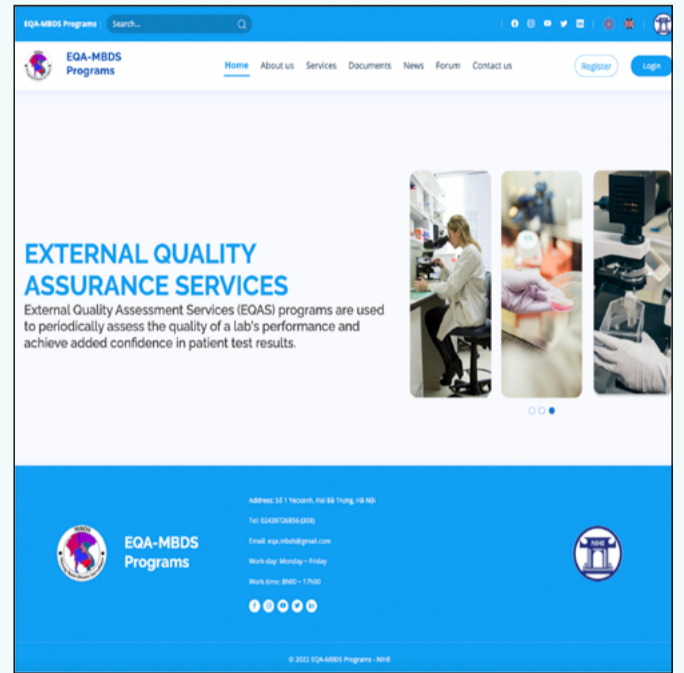




Dear MBDS Colleagues,

The MBDS (Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance) cooperation is a self-organized regional network commenced since 2001. It is a collaboration 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.

The National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), Ministry of Health, Vietnam is collaboration with MBDS Secretariat has developed External Quality Assessment Services (EQAS) program website. This web platform is developed in both English and Vietnamese languages for information sharing and as reference to assess and continuously improve capacity and quality of laboratory management. Interested stakeholders can be shared and exchange information through the forum and Vietnam NIHE is facilitating and regularly updating information and news related with EQA events at <http://eqa-mbds.com/>.



Dr. Nguyen Luong Tam, Deputy Director General, General Department of Preventive Medicine, MOH (MBDS Executive Board), Vietnam and Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Dang Vung, Vice Dean, School of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Hanoi Medical University (Former MBDS Country Coordinator from Vietnam) have attended in the "Vietnam FETP Scientific Conference 2023" in Da Nang, Vietnam on 19 September 2023.

Photo credit to Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Dang Vung, Former MBDS Country Coordinator from Vietnam



Dr. Soawapak Hinjoy, Director of the Office of International Cooperation (OIC), DDC (MBDS Country Coordinator), Ministry of Public Health, Mr. Thapon Tiawsirichaisakul (MBDS Cross Border Coordinator) from Nongkhai Provincial Health Office, Thailand and Dr. Malyvanh VONGPANHYA, Technical Officer Surveillance and Response Division (MBDS Associate Country Coordinator) from Ministry of Health, Laos have attended in the "Meeting to develop the public health emergency response teams for emerging infectious diseases in the border areas & MOU signing between Thailand & Lao P.D.R (Nongkhai & Vientiane Capital) for Development Cooperation on Border Health" on 22 September 2023, which are organized in Nongkhai Province, Thailand

Photo credit to Mr. Thapon Tiawsirichaisakul, MBDS XB Coordinator from Nongkhai Province, Thailand

4 & 20 September 2023: MBDS Secretariat met with UK Health Security Agency team to discuss potential collaboration between MBDS and UK Health Security Agency. During the meeting, MBDS Secretariat has shared experience on cross border information exchange model development and MBDS activities in the Mekong Region.

12 September 2023: Ms. Masha Hamiltan, Director and Editor of Communication, Ms. Busaba Tejagupta, Director - Operations and Grant Management and team from Rockefeller Foundation Thailand have visited to MBDS Office to discuss about MBDS cross border activities and Rockefeller Foundation has uploaded MBDS story in case study of "[Asia's Visionary Early Warning System Enables Swift Public Health Responses](#)".

25 - 27 September 2023: MBDS Secretariat has participated with multisectoral stakeholders in the "2nd 2023 ASEAN Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Programme" which is hosted by the Health Division of the ASEAN Secretariat in Bali, Indonesia. During the meeting MBDS Secretariat has presented in the implemented activities of "Sustain and Strengthen Biosafety and Biosecurity in CLMV countries" and "Overview of MBDS activities" to the participants.

MBDS 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](#).



Build Trust Through Transparency
Collaborate to End Pandemics



REGIONAL ALERTS

Grid of four regional alert cards with titles like 'OCCURRENCE OF DISEASE AT SAME...', 'CAMBODIA BECOMES COVID-FREE', 'HCMC LEARNS FOUR PROFOUND LESSON...', and '10 IN HOSPITAL AFTER FOOD...'. Each card includes a date and a 'READ MORE' button.

RECENT UPDATE

MBDS Secretariat Office has been updating Regional and International disease information on [MBDS website](#) 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 Wisdom Secretariat

