

"Reject remittances  
as a development  
tool"

"Empower migrants and their spouses  
against HIV-AIDS"

2  
0  
0  
7



"Say NO to mandatory  
health testing"

"Recognise domestic  
work as work"



# CARAM Asia

## Annual Report

# 2007

# celebrated



# CARAM Asia's 10th Anniversary



## The 2007 Secretariat

**Cynthia Gabriel,** Regional Coordinator

**Elizabeth Deveraj,** Finance Officer

**Nova Ceceliana Nelson,** Migration, Health, and Globalisation Programme Officer

**Rathi Ramanathan,** State of Health of Migrants Programme Officer

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**Valentina Soe,** Foreign Domestic Worker Programme Officer

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**Jennifer Joachim,** Administrative Assistant

# The CARAM Asia Vision

All people have the right to stay or move and live and work in dignity, with equal rights, in a society where their quality of life is ensured.



# CARAM Asia Annual Report



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# This is CARAM Asia 2007

Cynthia Gabriel, RC



## 1.1.0 Organisational Context

The year 2007 was a defining one for Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility in Asia - CARAM Asia. Not only did it celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it also welcomed change and the birthing of a new era for the organisation.

Since the 2005 external evaluation, which was carried out to give new direction to the organisation, several recommendations for effective change were made. CARAM Asia stood at an important crossroads at that time, needing to redefine its core programmes, priorities, and structures to keep with the times. Such vast changes propelled its momentum forward, supported strongly by the network's vision, mission, and guiding principles.

Recommendations to move from a focal point organisation into an open network allowing the entry of new membership became a strong reality. This was accompanied by the adoption of an organisational constitution and the convening of two annual general meetings where members decided on crucial policy matters. The secretariat was reconstituted to reflect the growing demands of the network.

“allowing the entry of  
new membership became  
a strong reality.”

Programmatically, CARAM Asia developed a comprehensive 3-year strategic plan (2007-2009) and strengthened its regional direction and interventions. Four main programme areas were identified that built into CARAM Asia's programme objectives. They are:

- The State of Health of Migrants (SoH) (convening organisation Raks Thai)
- Foreign Domestic Workers (FDWs) (convening organisation Lawyer for Human Rights and Legal Aid - LHRLA)
- Empowerment of Migrants Living with HIV and their Spouses (TFEM) (convening organisation Action for Health Initiatives - ACHIEVE)
- Migration, Health, and Globalisation (MHG) (convening organisation Tenaganita)

Each programme area was to have a task force comprising member organisations to lead, and give direction to, the activities. A convenor, selected from among the members, will lead the task force together with the programme officer in charge at the regional secretariat.

### 1.1.1 The Political and Economic Environment and its impact on Labour Migration and Health Issues

International migration, HIV-AIDS, and changes in the nature of healthcare systems are all growing global concerns resulting directly from the process of economic globalisation.

Recent statistics show that mobile populations make up 3%, or about 200 million, of the global population. Due to complex push and pull factors and gender specific concerns, the feminisation of migration has become a fast expanding phenomena resulting in startling statistics where women now total more than 50% of the global migrant population. In countries such as Sri Lanka, Philippines, and Indonesia, the numbers of women who migrate well outweigh their male counterparts.

**“women now total more than 50% of the global migrant population.”**

Discussions on mobility and globalisation have concentrated on the political and economic contexts in which goods, ideas, information, people, and capital circle the globe. Despite the growing attention on migration and its benefits to development, emphasis on the fundamental rights of migrants, as well as their health and well-being, has been notably absent.

The very structure of short term contractual migration, driven by policies such as temporary contracts, the push towards remittances, and single entry visas without the accompaniment of family members, has led to the instability and vulnerability of mobile populations. Language barriers, inadequate pre-departure orientation, and weak protection by home states for their citizens abroad have made the problem significantly worse.

Migrant workers are often targets of restrictive legislation executed on national security grounds, and victimised through social exclusion, stigmatisation, and racist scape-goating.

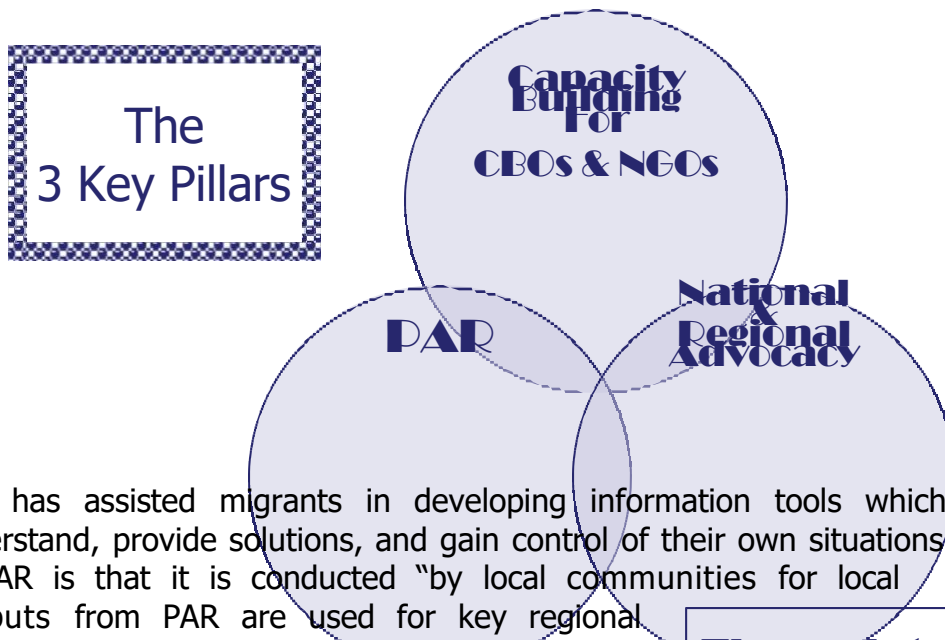
The health status of migrant workers serves as one of the most important and tangible indicators of a migrant’s well-being. Living conditions in many destination countries often reflect an existence of relative poverty, as the migrant worker earns depressed wages lower than that of most local citizens. Poorly ventilated, overcrowded housing and a lack of nutritious food quickly result in the rapid deterioration of a migrant worker’s health.



Migrant workers’ entry into destination countries and their work permits are often facilitated through mandatory health testing of major illnesses, a policy that gains strength from the popular belief that mobile populations are vectors of grave diseases. In many destination countries, deportation becomes a grave and immediate consequence and basic medical care is never given any kind of consideration. When migrant workers are forcefully deported, the absence of referral networks between origin and destination countries have exacerbated their plight and crashed the dreams of those testing positive. This adds to the social costs and untold financial burdens of the family.

## 1.1.2 Strategies

Three key thrusts and pillars which provide momentum to CARAM Asia programmes are participatory action research (PAR), national and regional advocacy, and capacity building for community based organisations (CBOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working with migrant communities. These approaches provide an impetus for the development of research, publications, campaigns, and policy prescriptions for CARAM Asia programmes.



PAR has assisted migrants in developing information tools which empowers them to understand, provide solutions, and gain control of their own situations. The real strength in PAR is that it is conducted “by local communities for local communities”. Outputs from PAR are used for key regional advocacy and capacity building activities aimed at creating a regional response to improving the health and well-being of Asian migrant workers.

**The real strength in PAR is that it is conducted “by local communities, for local communities.”**



## 1.2 Work Programme

The primary challenge for 2007 was to roll out the strategic plan and ensure that the four new programme areas develop soundly to address CARAM Asia’s objectives and goals, further strengthening CARAM Asia’s niche as a leading migrants’ health organisation. Key regional directions include developing strong cross border and regional cooperation, perspectives, and responses. The valuable work at national levels needed to be expanded and new strategies developed involving affected countries, both origin and destination. The setting of benchmarks and standards for better protection of migrants needed to be fortified.

During the early weeks of 2007, the secretariat streamlined and refined further CARAM Asia's operational plans for the year. Steps were also taken to ensure the task forces established at the strategic planning meeting and assigned to carry forward the programme priorities were moved into action. For better communication, task force members were collectively grouped into e-lists to begin programme planning and implementation. Conveners of the respective task forces, together with the secretariat, provided essential initiative in kick starting the momentum of the task forces.



### **1.2.1 Advocacy**

One of the major programme directions in the new strategic plan was to develop a strong advocacy agenda for CARAM Asia in the coming years. The last ten years of CARAM Asia's work has had its strengths rooted in PAR, and how PAR is an effective tool in mobilising local communities to understand their situation better and for effective community organising.

A substantial amount of research findings were produced in the last few years, but more effort could have been made towards wide scale dissemination or, more importantly, using the information effectively so that it could be put to good use through effective lobby and advocacy work.

The SoH task force for example, upon launching the second report with the theme "Mandatory Health Testing", made it a priority to focus efforts on identifying targets and developing clear advocacy activities to promote consciousness on the violations of human rights stemming from mandatory health testing of migrant workers and offering possible solutions or alternatives that can be considered.

The MHG task force and the TFEM decided that among their important starting activities was the need to develop clear positions on issues through position or policy papers. Position papers are an important step in defining the core message and guide us in how to address targets in a more effective way. The MHG produced a clear and comprehensive position paper on migration, health, and globalisation. The TFEM produced a policy paper on the greater involvement of people living with HIV-AIDS (GIPA). The SoH firmed up a policy brief on the issue of mandatory health testing as well.

The FDWs task force launched its Campaign Toolkit followed by a regional training of trainers on how to utilise the toolkit to increase protection for FDWs. In November 2007, the FDW region wide campaign was launched in collaboration with a regional coalition called United for Foreign Domestic Workers' Rights (UFDWRs). National members of CARAM Asia have been contributing to the regionalisation of the campaign by launching it in their respective countries.



The CARAM Asia secretariat also engaged a number of new advocacy initiatives which cut across all task forces and had an impact on the overall growth of the network. As an example, CARAM Asia participated in an important dialogue with Peter Piot, executive director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). CARAM Asia raised important issues at the meeting for his consideration, including access to treatment of migrant workers, the signing of free trade agreements (FTAs) and the direct impact on the cost of medicine. He responded to these remarks saying that UNAIDS needed to expand its scope and concerns, thanking CARAM Asia for its suggestions.

Another example is the sharing of best practices in developing standards on migration and health at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) task force seminar on the protection of migrant workers.

CARAM Asia also started to proactively involve in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on AIDS (UNGASS) mid-term review process that will be held in New York in June 2008. CARAM Asia participated in several country level consultations and have mobilised interest amongst some of CARAM Asia's key members in ensuring greater accountability on the part of governments to combat HIV-AIDS.

Work with intergovernmental platforms, at the sub-regional levels, namely ASEAN and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), developed productively in the year 2007.



## **1.2.2 ASEAN**

Poised to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December of last year, 2007 became a year where the doors of engagement were flung open for civil society groups.

### **1.2.2.1 ASEAN Charter**

First was the ASEAN charter process. Deemed as a landmark and long awaited development, the charter has set into motion the transformation of ASEAN into a rules based grouping.

CARAM Asia participated at consultations on the Economic and Social pillars with the Eminent Persons Group, and worked collectively with other regional organisations, under the guise of Solidarity for Asian peoples Advocacy (SAPA), to produce substantial recommendations for inclusion into the charter.

### **1.2.2.2 ASEAN Declaration on HIV-AIDS**

In January of 2007, at its 12<sup>th</sup> Summit Special Session on HIV & AIDS, ASEAN governments signed onto and launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Work Programme (2007-2010) to combat this

epidemic in the region. Through the Seven Sisters network, of which CARAM Asia is a part, CARAM Asia provided input into the work programme.

### **1.2.2.3 ASEAN Declaration on Migrant Workers**

In January 2007, the ASEAN governments signed a historic declaration to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers. It was a significant step in recognising that migrant workers in ASEAN deserve to be given equal treatment and have their rights protected under a regional agreement.

Despite several shortcomings in the declaration, it was an important step forward. An ASEAN committee was formed to realise the contents of the declaration. CARAM Asia released its position on the declaration and called for universal access to health for migrant workers be upheld. It also called for the ASEAN declaration on HIV-AIDS to be integrated into this declaration to help reduce the vulnerability of migrant workers to communicable diseases.



**“It was a significant step in recognising that migrant workers in ASEAN deserve to be given equal treatment...”**

### **1.2.2.4 ASEAN Task Force on the Drafting of the Multilateral Framework on the Promotion and Protection of Migrant Workers**

As part of the Vientiane Action Plan (VAP) 2006-2010, the drafting of a framework to better protect the rights of migrant workers took off in late 2006 and continued into 2007. A civil society task force was appointed by then ASEAN Secretary General, Ong Keng Yong, to assist in the drafting of the framework.

This is an important standard setting initiative within ASEAN, and as a member of the task force, CARAM Asia has taken steps to actively include perspectives of migration and health into the framework. The process is ongoing, and a first draft is expected to be submitted to the ASEAN Labour Ministers’ meeting in May.

### **1.2.2.5 ASEAN Civil Society Conference**

In line with the annual ASEAN summit, civil society organisations have organised a parallel ASEAN Civil Society Conference (ACSC). Started in 2005, when the Malaysian government officially hosted a Civil Society Organisations (CSO) meeting alongside the ASEAN summit, this initiative has carried on in 2006 and 2007. In 2007, the ACSC was held in Singapore. CARAM Asia participated in this event, and spoke at the plenary sessions.

CARAM Asia organised a successful launch of the regional campaign on FDWs together with other regional organisations like the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) and the Mekong Migration Network (MMN). Many domestic workers from a CARAM Asia member, the Singapore based NGO called the Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics (HOME), attended the event and shared their struggles and difficulties working as domestic workers in a foreign country.

### **1.2.3 GCC and the Middle East**

The most difficult regions to access when it comes to international labour migration are the GCC and Middle East regions. It remains by far the most populated region for short term contractual migrant labour. In some countries, they make up more than 80% of the workforce and in several of the tiny oil rich nations, migrant labourers comprise 50% of the overall population.

The closed political environments in the Arab world have manifested growing abuses of human rights violations. This is especially true of foreign workers, namely foreign domestic workers, most of whom are women, who work in almost every household in the country.



**“The closed political environments in the Arab world have manifested growing abuses of human rights violations.”**

Some concrete starting steps were undertaken in 2007 to familiarise and introduce CARAM Asia to that region.

#### **1.2.3.1 The Doha Conference**

CARAM Asia recognises that it needs to develop specific strategies to intervene in the GCC on the rights of migrant labour. One such opportunity was the Doha Conference on Migration, organised by the Qatar Human Rights Committee and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

Government officials from Qatar and Kuwait were present, together with a host of several NGOs, the media, and other groups focusing on migrant issues. For the first time, issues were presented and discussed across countries. The conference statement recognised the need for the greater protection of migrant workers. The conference also received substantial media coverage.

Cynthia Gabriel, CARAM Asia’s Regional Coordinator, participated in the conference and presented a paper on the flow of migrant workers from Asia to the Gulf. A follow up event was planned for 2008.

### **1.2.3.2 Research on Migrant Women and their Vulnerability to HIV-AIDS**

To further strengthen the work in the Middle East, CARAM Asia undertook research, commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on the vulnerability of migrant women in contracting communicable diseases such as HIV-AIDS when working in the GCC. Lebanon, UAE, and Bahrain were among the countries selected as part of the study. The study stretches into 2008, and the findings of the research will help us further develop CARAM Asia's base in this area.



### **1.2.3.3 New member from the Middle East Region**

Another significant development is the addition of a new member from Jordan into the CARAM Asia network. It is hoped that with a growing membership, it will signal a growing presence of CARAM Asia's work in the GCC countries and a development of new ground in the work to protect the rights of migrant workers.

### **1.2.4 South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)**

The grouping of South Asian nations is another target for CARAM Asia advocacy. Although members generally find it difficult to access the SAARC official meetings and processes, it was agreed that CARAM Asia will make interventions at Peoples SAARC, the alternative event to the official summit.

Ways to better develop inroads into this mechanism were also discussed at various fora, including the CARAM Asia General Assembly.

### **1.3.0 Network and Alliance Building**

When a new strategic plan prioritises network and alliance building, collaboration and engagement naturally opens up. Such was the experience of CARAM Asia in 2007. Network building became a natural prerogative in line with the objective of building visibility and profiling CARAM Asia as a dynamic regional organisation working on migration and health.

The networks that CARAM Asia are affiliated with include:

- **Solidarity for Asian Peoples Advocacy (SAPA)**

SAPA is a broad based grouping of multi-sectoral organisations working to develop common responses vis-à-vis inter-governmental agencies.

- **The International Federation for Health and Human Rights (IFHHRO)**

The IFHHRO is a global organisation working to promote the right to health as a fundamental human right. The IFHHRO works mainly with medical personnel, has close linkages with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, and provides training for organisations working on health issues.

- **The Asia People's Alliance for Combating HIV-AIDS (APACHA)**

This new coalition, comprising a broad based grouping of NGOs working to combat HIV-AIDS, has networked with CARAM Asia and its members to develop a stronger response on the issue.

- **The International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) & Human Rights Watch (HRW)**

Both are renowned global human rights groups. In 2007, CARAM Asia strengthened its collaboration with the FIDH and HRW. CARAM Asia sees working with human rights organisations as a key strategy to heighten the profile of CARAM Asia's issues and engage them in campaigning for migrants' rights, non-discrimination, and equality. The FIDH has worked with CARAM Asia through its Regional Coordinator, who also serves as its Vice President.

Activities carried out together centre around the Gulf countries, where migrant workers continue to reside in large numbers without adequate protection. HRW has been openly supportive of the FDW Campaign and the right to a paid day off. HRW has been actively campaigning on this issue for some time now, and a deepened collaboration would certainly boost campaign efforts.

- **IBON Foundation, Third World Network, and other trade related groups**

These organisations provide substantial research findings on free trade and human rights issues. CARAM Asia has engaged with them through the MHG task force in conceptualising strong responses for the CARAM Asia network.

- **Migration Working Group (MWG) , Malaysia**

As CARAM Asia is based in Malaysia, efforts were made to ground CARAM Asia in the Malaysian locale. Working alongside Malaysian member Tenaganita, CARAM Asia has developed good working relationships and has profiled itself well in the local NGO scene. CARAM Asia is also fully supportive of the MWG, a loose coalition of Malaysian NGOs who have recently come together to address the problems of mobile populations including migrant workers and refugees.

CARAM Asia has further strengthened collaboration with major institutions and statutory bodies in the country. They include the Malaysian Bar Council, the National Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM), and the United Nations Office for Refugees (UNHCR).

The Seven Sisters coalition, of which CARAM Asia is a member, continues to provide a good networking space for HIV-AIDS issues to be addressed collectively. CARAM Asia continues to press for migrant populations to be recognised as a key at risk group.

United for Foreign Domestic Workers' Rights (UFDWRs) is a leading regional coalition that consists of five regional and international organisations dedicated towards the promotion and protection of the FDWs' rights in the region. UFDWRs is currently campaigning for "Recognition of Domestic Work as Work". CARAM Asia and APWLD are co-hosting the regional coalition. CARAM Asia continues to input the indivisibility of health and human rights of migrants into the coalition's strategies and activities.

#### **1.4.0 Capacity Building**

An inevitable priority area for 2007 was the need to build the capacity of members to meet the goals of the new strategic plan. The uniqueness of CARAM Asia's network is that members come with a wide range of diversity and skills. As such, it is always important to have members level off and sharpen their skills.

A data analysis workshop was among the capacity building programmes organised last year for CARAM Asia's members. This was in line with the SoH research, ensured that all members were familiar with the tools used, and affirmed that they were familiar enough to carry this out within the context of their own country.

The MHG task force carried out a capacity building workshop to build the knowledge of members on the interlinking issues and analysis of migration, health, and globalisation. The TFEM task force had a capacity building workshop for members to better understand the GIPA framework and learn how to integrate it into their work.

The ASEAN Civil Society Conference was utilised as a capacity building platform for CARAM Asia members to better understand the ASEAN process. Members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia attended the conference under the CARAM Asia network.

By the end of 2007, it became apparent that in order to move the network forward with clear advocacy directions, a specialised workshop was needed to help conceptualise CARAM Asia's advocacy and transfer skills to members. This is scheduled for early 2008.

The regional secretariat of CARAM Asia underwent a project management training workshop in the middle of the year. This was done to better manage projects with concrete timelines, determine indicators of progress to chart advancements, etc. It is hoped that such an exercise can be extended to the network to enhance CARAM Asia's overall effectiveness.



**“The uniqueness of CARAM Asia's network is that members come with a wide range of diversity and skills”**

## 2.0 Institution Building

This chapter details the advancements made on the structural and institutional dimensions of CARAM Asia as a growing and leading network on migration and health.

### 2.1 CARAM Asia Secretariat

The regional secretariat at CARAM Asia gradually filled its vacant positions throughout 2007. In February Rathi Ramanathan, programme officer for the SoH task force, joined the secretariat as a full time staff member after ending a contractual assignment with us. In March, information officer Vivian Chong joined the team. In August, Valentina Soe was recruited into the secretariat as the programme officer for the FDW task force.

Given the vacancies, the initial months of 2007 were very hectic as staff members had to adopt double job portfolios. By the end of 2007, the secretariat had a fully staffed team of eight, finalised by the recruitment of Suksma Ratri for the TFEM programme area.

The challenges faced by the new team were enormous. It included balancing old commitments with new priorities, implementing previously planned activities, initiating new projects and activities under their respective task forces, and taking on the many ad-hoc demands and invitations to speak and make presentations to build the visibility of the organisation.



**“By the end of 2007, the secretariat had a fully staffed team of eight”**

**“The challenges faced by the new team were enormous”**

Regular staff meetings (held once every three weeks) were conducted to help make collective decisions, provide progress reports on ongoing work, and tackle obstacles and challenges that impeded the realisation of project objectives.

In July, the secretariat conducted a mid-term review to ascertain the progress being made in carrying out the plans for 2007. Many issues were raised including the challenges of diversity and capacity within the network to meet project demands, the lack of clarity between organisational structures, and the resources required to take on ad-hoc invitations and initiatives.

The review helped point out some challenges that needed to be discussed at a broader level, and the end of year General Assembly provided a space for that.



## 2.2 CARAM Asia Membership

CARAM Asia membership saw sharp growth after the network opened itself up to more members. By the end of 2007, the CARAM Asia network comprised 27 organisations in 16 countries across Asia. CARAM Asia now has 10 members from Southeast Asia, 12 from South Asia, 3 from Northeast Asia, and 2 from the Middle East.

The network is currently heavy on origin countries. Therefore, it has been prioritised to develop partnerships with organisations in destination countries. Emphasis was also placed on bringing more migrant associations into the network to strengthen the voices of the migrant workers themselves.

## 2.3 The CARAM Asia Constitution

Drafting the CARAM Asia constitution was a year-long effort. Commissioned by the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, the constitution was a significant step in determining and defining the mandate and powers of the organisation and how its institutional structures relate to each other.

The constitution was mainly drafted by the CARAM Asia Board of Directors and secretariat. It was adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly in December 2007.

## 2.4 The CARAM Asia Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is elected by the General Assembly. It serves as the main decision making body of the network and is comprised of seven elected members plus the Regional Coordinator, which serves as an ex-officio member.

The Board of Directors met three times last year and offered sound leadership in this year of change. Furthermore, they provided good recommendations for the way forward.

## 2.5 The 2<sup>nd</sup> CARAM Asia General Assembly

The 2<sup>nd</sup> CARAM Asia General Assembly was convened in December 2007, hosted by Cambodian member, CARAM Cambodia. The Assembly was attended by representatives of almost all member organisations and was held a few days prior to International Migrants Day.







The assembly was a significant movement forward for the organisation. Apart from the adoption of the constitution, a new board of directors was elected into office. There was also a special input session on the failure of healthcare systems in protecting the rights of migrants. Following the successful convening of the General Assembly, CARAM Asia celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a dinner and solidarity night where a large quilt was unveiled, patched together by different pieces of cloth from different countries with migrant workers' signatures and messages on them.



On December 18<sup>th</sup>, CARAM Asia members joined a large rally of migrant workers in a 2km march to celebrate International Migrants Day.



## **2.6 CARAM Asia's Application for ECOSOC Status**

CARAM Asia made an application to the Economic and Social Council to be recognised as an NGO with ECOSOC status.

The process is a lengthy one, and CARAM Asia is awaiting a preliminary decision from them. This should happen in 2008.

*Work Programmes*



*The Taskforces of CARAM Asia*

# State of Health of Migrants Programme



## 1.0 Programme Objective

The overarching goal of the task force on the SoH is to utilise action research and advocacy to improve the migrant workers' health and well-being in both origin and destination countries. In line with the goal, 2007 programme objectives were laid down to promote a human rights framework and identify best practices and guidelines for testing policies so as to improve migrant access to HIV-AIDS prevention, care, and support.

## 2.0 Task Force Activities and Outcomes in 2007

Guided by the above objective, the SoH embarked on participatory action research to evaluate the harmful practices of mandatory health testing and develop laws, policies, and services to improve the health outcomes of migrants.

This round of research spanned 16 countries and, for the first time in CARAM Asia's history, two of the countries participating were from the Middle East - Dubai and Bahrain. The other countries covered were Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan, and Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China (Hong Kong, SAR of China).

The first planning and capacity building workshop was held in Nov 3-6, 2006. CARAM Asia members were given capacity building in research methodologies. By the end of the workshop, all country members had developed guidelines, research designs, and work plans. New members, and those requesting assistance, were given additional technical support via country visits. Additional technical was given to members in Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and India.

### 2.1 Output 1:

- A rights based framework on health testing that extends to treatment, care, and support.

The second State of Health – Mandatory Health Testing Data Analysis Workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from March 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The objectives of the three-day workshop were to review results of collected data, to share insights for regional

analysis, develop policy recommendations on national and regional levels, to identify advocacy issues and activities, and finally map the next steps towards a regional publication.

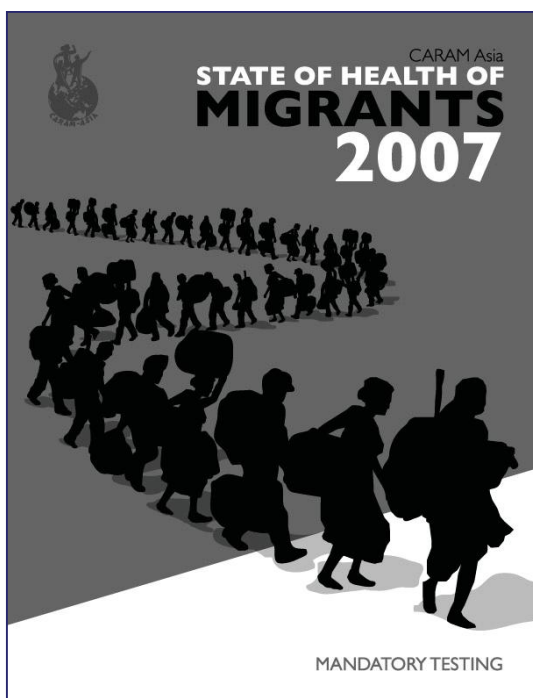
## 2.2 Output 2:

- A regional analysis based on the migrant friendly framework that was developed in the first workshop in Bangkok in 2006. The framework is based on the principles of non-discrimination, is responsive to the contexts of migrants, and is conducted in an enabling environment aimed at improving the health and well being of migrants.
- Policy recommendations that CARAM Asia would be able to advocate at the regional level.

A regional analysis workshop took place in May where members, selected based upon geographical representation and advance research skills, gathered with the secretariat and a consultant, Vrije Universiteit Medical Center (VUMC), to discuss drafting a regional analysis and recommendations. VUMC was tasked with writing the first draft based on the developed process and structural indicators.

## 2.3 Output 3:

- A migrant-friendly testing position
- A second draft of the regional analysis



## 2.4 Launch of the Regional Publication

The 240 page long regional publication entitled *State of Health of Migrants 2007 – Mandatory Testing* was published in time to be launched at the 2007 International Conference on AIDS in Asia (ICAAP). The publication contained the following chapters: introduction, methodology, country reports, regional analysis, migrant friendly position, regional recommendations, annexes with impact indicators, and a glossary.

The task force viewed ICAAP as the best platform for the publication launch. The report was launched August 21<sup>st</sup> at a lunchtime satellite session entitled *Migrant Friendly Testing*. Elijah Fung (St John's Cathedral HIV Education Centre) spoke on behalf of

destination countries and Andrew Samuels from Community Development Services (CDS) for origin countries. Brahm Press, convener of the SoH task force, presented the migrant friendly testing recommendations. Prasada Rao, Regional Director—Asia Pacific of UNAIDS, was the guest of honour. The event was attended by over 90 participants, including representatives of the International Labor Organisation (ILO), UNDP, International Organisation for Migrations (IOM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Sri Lankan Department of Labour, SAARC, CARAM Asia members, and 30 Sri Lankan migrant representatives from the Migrant Services Centre (MSC).

CARAM Asia also presented a paper at the symposium entitled *Health and Human Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia*. The symposium was co-chaired by the Sri Lankan Minister of Labour, Mr. Athauda Senevirathne, and the ILO Regional Specialist on HIV, Mr. Eric Carlson. Other speakers included ILO Technical Officer Ms. Ema Naito, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Senior Advisor on HIV-AIDS Mr. Ian McLeod, and Dr. Sepali Kottegoda of the Women and Media Collective.

## 2.5 Outcomes from the research findings

- The research findings were shared at the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNAIDS technical consultation on scaling up HIV Testing and Counseling in Asia and the Pacific. A recommendation on referral mechanisms for deported migrant workers was captured in the report entitled *Scaling Up HIV Testing and Counseling in Asia and the Pacific*.
- CARAM Asia was invited to be the co-chair of the UNAIDS International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions. The recommendations from the task team will be presented at the International AIDS Conference in Aug 2008.
- UN Regional Task Force on Mobility and HIV Vulnerability Reduction in South East Asia and Southern Provinces of China (UNRTF) has committed to fund a multi-stakeholder dialogue in 2008.

**CARAM Asia was invited to be the co-chair  
of the UNAIDS International Task Team on  
HIV-related Travel Restrictions**

## 3.0 Lessons Learnt

Lessons learnt from the Mandatory Health Testing round of research and publication based on the evaluation conducted on Oct 15, 2007:

- Members need to strengthen their links with other HIV-AIDS support groups so as to access more migrants with HIV-AIDS

- Guidelines need clearer standards on PAR for uniformity in research (i.e. - minimum and maximum numbers of focus group discussions (FGDs) and in-depth interviews (IDIs) as well as acceptable standards of representation of groups by occupation, ethnicity, sex, HIV status, stakeholder's status, etc.). A manual is now being published that will address this concern in the next round of research.
- The publication was lengthy. CARAM Asia needs to consider other options such as publishing an abbreviated report with an introduction, methodology, regional findings, analysis, and recommendations. Members can then print the long reports, guided by a base set of CARAM Asia recommendations to support national level advocacy.

Targeted materials and messaging like policy briefs and summary reports (policy briefs with recommendations and a shorter regional analysis attached) need to be distributed to key stakeholders as part of the advocacy strategy.

#### **4.0 Moving Forward**

National members have been encouraged to publish national reports and conduct advocacy activities with financial support from CARAM Asia. An advocacy planning subcommittee, based on geographical representation and technical skills, has been formed to assess spaces and platforms for strategic intervention in 2008.

The International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions will be developing a set of recommendations that will support CARAM Asia advocacy efforts. The UNRTF, a platform to sensitise and engage key stakeholders, will be part of a longer strategy for CARAM Asia to influence positive changes in policies on mandatory health testing at regional and sub-regional levels.

Please refer to ANNEX B for the SoH Programme 2008 Implementation Plan.



# Migration, Health, and Globalisation Programme



## 1.0 Objectives of MHG Task Force

Conscious of the intense nexus between neo-liberal globalisation and migration, CARAM Asia realised the need to address the impact of neo-liberal globalisation structures, strategies, and policies on migrant communities' rights and well-being.

Upon analysis, CARAM Asia identified gaps within the current globalisation discourse including the failure to address migrant community health rights and well-being and the aggressive push for developing nations to utilise labour migration and remittances as a tool for development. This realisation led to the development of the CARAM Asia MHG programme in 2007. The CARAM Asia MHG programme aims to strengthen PAR, analysis, and awareness on the impact of neo-liberal globalisation strategies and policies on migrant workers' health, quality of life, and well-being.

## 2.0 MHG Programme Activities 2007

### 2.1 MHG Capacity and Perspective Building Workshop – June, Kathmandu, Nepal

#### 2.1.1 Workshop Activities

The need for CARAM Asia to understand the interplay and linkages of three key areas, migration, health, and globalisation, resulted in the implementation of a three day perspective and capacity building workshop for CARAM Asia network members.



CARAM Asia strengthened its perspectives and analysis on migration vis-à-vis globalisation at the Nepal capacity building workshop in order to formulate solid interventions for migrant communities.

Six external resource persons and two members from within CARAM Asia were invited to help crystallise and refine the MHG focus areas. The workshop objectives were met as a result of active participation from 27 participants representing about 15 CARAM Asia members.

This workshop met its objective in that it strengthened members' migration and neo-liberal globalisation perspectives and leveled the positions on migration and globalisation amongst CARAM Asia members.

Participants applied and translated local and country experiences into a regional and global analysis of migration.

## **2.1.2 Output:**

The first output of the workshop was the development of four MHG Key Focus Areas for CARAM Asia to push forward, desired health outcomes, and how to improve the well-being of migrant worker communities. The workshop also identified key issues for a CARAM Asia MHG Position Paper.

### **2.1.2.1 Key Focus Area 1**

This KFA addresses the failure of healthcare systems in meeting the needs and rights of migrant workers. This focus area aims to:

- Address neo-liberal policies and strategies leading to labour migration, demographic changes, and privatisation of healthcare which impact and influence the health system and delivery of health services to migrant workers.
- Identify factors resulting in migrant workers not receiving adequate access to healthcare and services in both origin and destination countries.
- To push for equitable and accessible healthcare and social services for migrant workers in both origin and destination countries.

### **2.1.2.2 Key Focus Area 2**

KFA2 analyses the role of World Trade Organisation (WTO) policies (General Agreement on Trade in Services - GATS Mode 4), FTAs, and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) in influencing labour migration. This focus area aims to address unfavourable characteristics of contemporary migration seen as the following:

- Forced labour migration
- Labour flexibilisation (casualisation of labour, contractualisation (outsourcing), and deregulation of protective mechanisms)





- Temporary labour migration
- Feminisation of migration

### **2.1.2.3 Key Focus Area 3**

KFA3 examines the impact of neo-liberal agreements such as WTO Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), FTAs, and TRIPS+ with regards to the social costs on migrant worker communities. Specific emphasis is placed on:

- The increased vulnerability of migrant workers to HIV infections and transmission due to the process of economic and political globalisation.
- Advocate and push for States to reclaim their role in providing basic social services to all, including affordable medication for migrant workers.
- Access to antiretroviral (ARV) drugs for migrant workers.

### **2.1.2.4 Key Focus Area 4**

KFA4 examines development aid and its conditionalities, as well as looks into the growing dependency on remittances as a financing tool for development. This focus area will aim to:

- Develop new fora to challenge the prevailing idea of remittances as a tool for development and promote the need to emphasise the quality of life of migrants and their communities as a means to sustainable development.
- Empower migrants to participate in the discourse of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA).
- Develop a monitoring mechanism for the effectiveness of ODA and its benefit to migrant communities.

### **2.1.3 Formulating CARAM Asia's position on Migration, Health, and Globalisation**

The process of writing the program position paper took place after the perspective building workshop in Nepal. Discussions and analysis from this workshop were pulled together to provide a broad framework for the MHG Position Paper. The position paper clearly articulates CARAM Asia's stance on migration and its characteristics in the context of economic and political globalisation, migration, and co-development as well as weakening health systems and their impact on migrant communities.

The MHG Position Paper will be used as a guiding document for the strategic direction of the MHG programme. This position paper will also be widely used by CARAM Asia's members when advocating and raising issues pertaining to migration, health, and globalisation.

**Output:**

A CARAM Asia MHG Position Paper was developed as a framework and point of reference for the overarching issues regarding globalisation and migration. It can be accessed at [www.caramasia.org](http://www.caramasia.org).

## **2.2 MHG Strategic Planning Workshop – November, KL, Malaysia**



As a follow up to the capacity building workshop in Nepal and the identification of the four Key Focus Areas, the MHG task force carried out a strategic planning workshop in November. This workshop was aimed at building a conceptual framework for the key focus areas and to strategise activities and outputs for each focus area. Twelve MHG task force members participated in the planning workshop, which was held on November 14-16 in Kuala Lumpur.

Participants were successful in meeting workshop objectives aimed at identifying key CARAM Asia positions related to MHG:

- Identify opportunities, challenges, strategies, activities, and indicators in line with the four MHG key focus areas
- Map critical spaces and platforms for CARAM Asia to push the MHG focus areas forward.

The workshop ensured continuity to the capacity building process started in Nepal. The programme ensured space for active debates, discussions, and exercises to plan and map the type of action research, advocacy, and capacity and coalition building for implementation in line with the four MHG key focus areas.

A step by step process was taken to develop a 2 year strategic MHG action plan. First, breakout groups drew out a framework for each key focus area. Then they mapped out strategic community spaces, stakeholders, and members for intervention. After laying the foundation for each focus area, the MHG process of prioritisation and consolidation of regional MHG activities for 2008-2009 took place.

### **2.2.1 Output:**

The CARAM Asia MHG task force Strategic Plan as mapped out in ANNEX C.

## **2.2.2 Lessons Learnt**

- The task force recognised the need to bridge the current discourse on globalisation and migration. The current discourse fails to look into the impact of globalisation and migration on migrant communities' health and quality of life. Evidence based advocacy which engage migrant communities will be required to bridge this gap.
- Migrant communities and associations should be given more space and capacity in order to strengthen community response to issues concerning globalisation and migration. CARAM Asia will embark on a series of initiatives with migrant associations and rural communities to strengthen community engagement.

## **3.0 Moving Forward – Key Initiatives in 2008**

Moving forward in 2008, the MHG task force will focus on action research which aims to conduct a reality check on the conditions of work, burden of debt, social costs, and quality of life for migrants. It will also attempt to challenge the reliance of remittances as a tool for development.

First, through this action research, CARAM Asia is seeking evidence to challenge and provide alternatives to the current migration discourse which promotes remittances as a tool for development as it is gaining momentum within the context of neo-liberal globalisation policies and structures. Second, this research will also explicitly define and highlight non-monetary indicators and dimensions on the quality of life of migrant communities. Third, CARAM Asia envisages that the research will provide a platform for migrant community perspectives on remittances as a tool for development and identify the reality of conditions of work, burden of debt, and social costs as a result of the unwavering reliance on remittances as a tool for development. Finally the research will address dependencies on remittances and its role in inducing forced re-migration and neglecting genuine sustainable economic development.

In the area of regional advocacy, the MHG programme will use existing advocacy platforms such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) to highlight issues on neo-liberal strategies and policies impacting migrant communities. The MHG programme will also utilise the UN Special Procedure mechanisms by engaging with the UN Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers in a joint effort with other CARAM Asia task forces.

The MHG programme will also strengthen coalition and movement building. Community based interventions and engagements will include CARAM Asia's participation as a Steering Committee member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Rural Women's Conference (ARWC). In this capacity, CARAM Asia will bring forward issues pertaining to migration vis-à-vis neo-liberal globalisation and its impact on rural women in Asia. Engagement with migrant communities will also take place throughout the action research process which will provide a platform for migrant community voices. MHG will also participate in strategic coalition building through new formations such as the International Migrants Alliance (IMA) to be formed in Hong Kong, SAR of China 2008.

# Empowerment of Migrants Living with HIV and Their Spouses Programme



## The Task Force for the Empowerment of Migrants Living with HIV and Their Spouses

All TFEM programmes and activities are based on the needs of migrants living with HIV. In recognition of the needs of migrants living with HIV and adopting GIPA principles, CARAM Asia conducted a Regional GIPA Workshop in June 2007. This workshop was held in order to familiarise all of CARAM Asia's members and members with GIPA Principles. The TFEM, as the task force focusing on the empowerment of migrants living with HIV and their spouses, was responsible for managing the involvement of these groups. In order to implement the GIPA Principles, migrants living with HIV were involved at all levels of programming, including programme design, implementing, monitoring, and evaluation. The adoption of these principles is also an answer to the needs of migrant living with HIV.

**“In order to implement the GIPA Principles, migrants living with HIV were involved at all levels of programming...”**

### 1.0 TFEM Key Activities

The TFEM carried on four types of activities within the year. Each key activity had its own objective.

#### 1.1 PAR:

- To address the stigma and discrimination of HIV positive migrants and their spouses at the regional and international levels.

Type of activity conducted: research and documentation of a HIV-positive migrant's life.

#### 1.2 Capacity Building:

- To build the capacity of HIV positive migrants and their spouses, empowering them to be more meaningfully involved.

Type of activity conducted: A regional GIPA workshop for HIV positive migrants and their spouses; actively looked for the opportunity to send HIV positive migrants to regional and international workshops and training in order to build their capacity.



### **1.3 Advocacy:**

- To enable HIV positive migrant workers and their spouses to be meaningfully involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programmes and policies addressing HIV–AIDS issues.

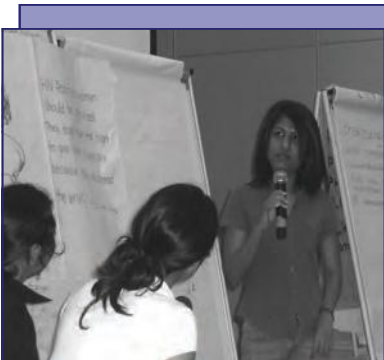
Type of activity: participated in the 8th ICAAP in Sri Lanka; developed CARAM Asia’s GIPA policy and statement; developed Information Education and

Communication (IEC) materials; linked up and involved with regional and international bodies (e.g. ASEAN, UNRTF, CSO Forum, etc).

### **1.4 Coalition and Alliance Building:**

- To network and bring migrant workers’ issues to the agenda of other local, national, regional, and international NGOs and CBOs working on HIV–AIDS and migrants issues.
- To build the understanding of other networks regarding the importance of cross-cutting issues between migrant issues, HIV–AIDS issues, women’s issues, human rights issues, and law and policy issues.
- To facilitate access to reintegration programmes, especially CST for HIV positive migrants and their spouses.

Type of activity: established a referral network for HIV positive migrants and their spouses; established links with other regional and international networks of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV); produced a regional directory of service for HIV positive migrants’ needs



### **2.0 Task Force Activities and Outcomes**

Based on the four key activities, the TFEM conducted several activities. These were designed to accommodate the needs of migrants and their spouses living with HIV. GIPA principles are the core ingredient in the TFEM. As such, the involvement of migrants living with HIV must be done at all levels.

## 2.1 Participation at the 8th ICAAP in Colombo

Riding on the success of a previous ICAAP conference which raised the visibility of the issue of recognising the rights of domestic workers, CARAM Asia identified the 8<sup>th</sup> ICAAP as an opportunity to revitalise and regain the momentum that has waned since Colombo. This was also inline with CARAM Asia's migrant workers task force objectives:


- To recognise domestic work as a socio-economic activity and to have it included under national employment acts or labour laws.
- To protect and promote the health rights and well-being of FDWs, including the reproductive health and sexuality of FDWs at all stages of migration.

Second, in fulfilling its regional advocacy objective, CARAM Asia had launched its second SoH report on mandatory health testing. Health and United Nations officials, including human rights commissioners from the Asia Pacific region, attended the conference. The presence of key stakeholders at the ICAAP offered an opportunity for CARAM Asia and its members to frame mandatory health testing in the context of human rights.

### 2.1.1 Overall Objectives

- A space for migrant workers, including FDWs, to articulate their concerns and issues
- To ensure that the rights of FDWs and the removal of mandatory health testing of migrant workers is on the agenda of policymakers
- Skills building for CARAM Asia members
- Raise the visibility of CARAM Asia and its work

CARAM Asia participated at the 8<sup>th</sup> ICAAP via its membership with the Seven Sisters which organised the Community Forum (CF). The CF brought marginalised communities together to identify and exchange views on key issues of concern as well as emerging issues. It allowed local, regional, and international communities to share experiences, knowledge, and skills. The communities collectively strategised on how to ensure that their issues were not kept on the sidelines by raising questions at the plenary and parallel sessions. Moreover, the communities proposed that a statement be drafted that was intended to influence the overall call of action at the end of the conference.



The Community Forum brought marginalised communities together to identify and exchange views on key issues of concern...

CARAM Asia also ensured that migrant workers participated at the CF via its members MSC and CDS. CARAM Asia facilitated a session on how to move forward with the campaign to ensure that the rights of domestic workers and the removal of mandatory health testing of migrant workers are on the policymaker's agenda.



CARAM Asia lobbied for speakers from the network to speak on the domestic workers campaign and issues. With this opportunity, CARAM Asia reassessed what happened after Colombo.

CARAM Asia recommended Khun Promboon Panitchpakdi of Raks Thai as a plenary speaker for the track entitled *Scaling up Prevention, Treatment, Care, and Support*. As convener of the SoH task force, CARAM Asia encouraged Promboon to utilise the opportunity as a panel speaker to talk about the outcomes and recommendations derived from CARAM Asia's Mandatory Health Testing research. His paper focused on the regional PAR findings of the SoH project. As planned, by attending all sessions, CARAM Asia's members were able to "mainstream" the issue of the discriminatory nature of mandatory health testing of migrant workers.

Recognising that CARAM Asia's members' skills in advocacy needed to be built up, members attending the ICAAP were encouraged to attend skills building workshops during the conference.

### **2.1.2 Outputs of the activity:**

This activity raised the visibility of CARAM Asia's work. This was done through participating via exhibitions, both at the community forum and the Asia Pacific Village (APV). CARAM Asia arranged and managed activities at the Network Space for Migrant Workers at the APV.

Also, the second SoH report launch raised CARAM Asia's visibility. CARAM Asia sent out a press release entitled "No to Mandatory Health Testing on Migrant Workers" in conjunction with the ICAAP.



### **2.2 First Regional GIPA workshop**

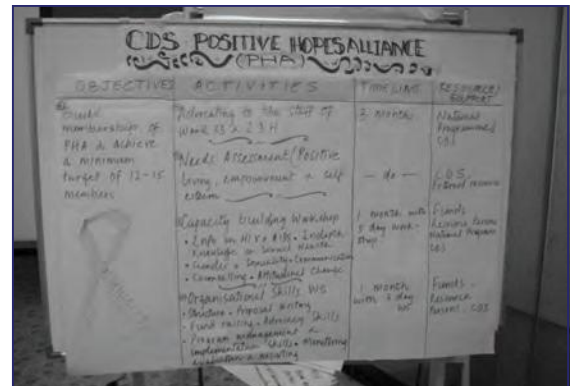
This workshop, with 22 CARAM Asia members participating, was held in Kuala Lumpur on June 27–29, 2007.

### 2.2.1 Objectives of the workshop:

- To introduce and strengthen perspectives and capacity of the CARAM Asia network in understanding the concept and tools of GIPA for practical application.
- To enable CARAM Asia members to integrate and implement GIPA principles in their local and national level programmes, policies, and processes.

### 2.2.2 Outputs of the workshop:

- Framework for a CARAM Asia GIPA policy for network wide adoption.
- Country or Member plans of action for GIPA implementation and a network wide implementation plan for the GIPA policy.



## 2.3 Second Regional GIPA workshop

This 16 participant workshop was held in Manila in October 24–26, 2007.

### 2.3.1 Objectives of the Workshop

- To establish a regional working group among migrant workers and their spouses living with HIV who are involved in CARAM Asia’s member’s programmes.
- To raise awareness and deepen understanding of migrant workers and their spouses living with HIV on gender, sexuality, and migration issues.
- To determine capacity building needs in terms of knowledge and skills for consideration in CARAM Asia’s capacity development plans for migrant workers and spouses.
- To follow up on planning and the recommendations discussed at the 8th ICAAP, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

### 2.3.2 Output of the Workshop

- Action Plan for each country was developed.
- CARAM Asia GIPA policy and statement development – a draft of the statement was developed in December 2007.



The statement comes from a list compiled as the result of a brain storming session in the Regional GIPA workshop in Kuala Lumpur

- Link up with the Asia Pacific Network of PLHIV (APN+) and the Women of APN+ (WAPN+).
- Involved in the UNRTF CSO Forum meeting in Laos in November 2007

The strategy to proceed with pending activities was included in the upcoming year's implementation plan as a priority. This can be found in ANNEX D.

### **3.0 Lessons Learnt**

- Adequate knowledge of HIV-AIDS and a good referral system are two of the most important things for migrant workers. In addition, Pre-Departure Orientation Programmes and Reintegration Programmes are essential. Support from other PLHIV, migrant networks, and NGOs are needed in order to update CARAM Asia's members with the cross-cutting issues between migration and HIV-AIDS.
- It is essential to establish multilateral dialogue between origin countries and destination countries. This forum should be established to accommodate the discussions among stakeholders in both countries to resolve the existing issues of migrant workers and HIV-AIDS.
- The task force considers the urgent need for greater involvement of PLHIV, and in this case migrants living with HIV, important. The task force also considers the need for empowerment of migrants living HIV, after reintegration to their home country, essential.
- In 2007, the TFEM had planned several activities which unfortunately could not be fully accomplished due to technical obstacles. The absence of a Programme Officer in this task force for more than a year had a sizeable impact on programme implementation.

However, most of the 2007 planned activities were successfully conducted.

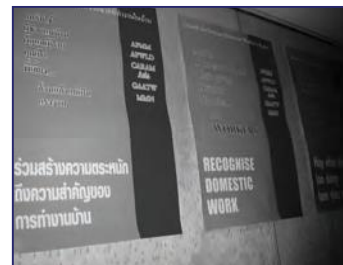


Workshop participants expressing themselves through art.

### **4.0 Moving Forward**

By adopting the GIPA Principles, TFEM committed itself to increase involvement of migrant workers at all levels of the programme, from design to implementation. Going forward, all programmes related to migrants living with HIV will need to be derived from the needs of the migrants themselves.

# Foreign Domestic Workers Programme



## 1.0 Context

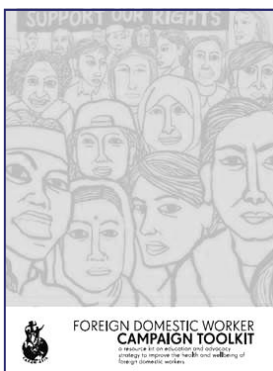
To increase the protection and promotion of the rights, specifically health rights, and well-being of FDWs throughout the migration process, CARAM Asia designated a task force to address the issues faced by FDWs in 2006. FDWs represent the most vulnerable category of workers. Being excluded from legally protected occupations, women domestic workers are isolated from mainstream labour, social, and health protection laws and policies. That means FDWs do not enjoy the minimum standards of employment that other workers do such as a weekly day off, standard working hours, and a minimum wage. To overcome the existing challenges of FDWs in asserting their workers' rights, CARAM Asia has decided to campaign for the recognition of domestic work as work by extending key labour protections to domestic workers.

The FDW task force set the following objectives for its programme in 2007:

- To promote and protect the rights and well-being of FDWs, including their reproductive health and rights;
- To recognise domestic work as a socio-economic activity; and
- To campaign to have domestic work included under national labour laws and employment acts, or to establish a separate domestic workers act.

## 2.0 Task Force Activities and Results

### 2.1 FDW Campaign Toolkit Launch



For the campaign, CARAM Asia decided to produce a campaign toolkit. The objective was to provide a resource for the implementation and launch of a regional campaign, to stimulate thinking about how the regional campaign may be planned and executed, as well as building capacity and persuading domestic workers and support groups to take the campaign forward.

The FDW task force completed and launched the Campaign Toolkit on the 1st of May 2007, in Jakarta, drawing a plurality of stakeholders involved in the migration of women for domestic

work. FDWs, NGOs, the National Commission on Women's Human Rights of Indonesia, ILO Technical Specialists, representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, and the Indonesian Labour Ministry were present at the launch. The FDW task force believes that FDWs are in the best position to advocate for their rights.

However, there are many obstacles hindering FDWs in their struggle. The toolkit is intended to serve as a living document that guides FDWs and activists when they begin to organise and mobilise for change.

**“The FDW Task Force believes that FDWs are in the best position to advocate for their rights”**

Additionally, the toolkit is designed so that new action tools deemed important to FDWs can be added. The toolkit reflects the concerns and suggestions of FDWs, as former FDWs were part of the toolkit production team. The toolkit includes techniques and methods for organising and mobilising, what advocacy and lobbying are all about, as well as practical information such as how to use media and how to involve migrant communities in the campaign. The toolkit also provides ways, and the means, to use the existing international human rights mechanisms (UN Special Procedures, Reporting to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women [CEDAW] Committee, and the Migrants Human Rights Convention) in efforts towards advancing the rights of FDWs.

### **2.1.1 Output**

FDW Campaign Toolkit printed and distributed to various stakeholders in 22 different countries in Asia

### **2.1.2 Outcome**

Wide distribution of the toolkit to strategic stakeholders aimed at popularising the toolkit, and subsequently, the issues relevant to FDWs

## **2.2 Regional Strategy Meeting**

The toolkit launch was followed by a regional strategy meeting bringing together several international and regional groups working to promote the rights of migrants. The UFDWRs coalition, comprised of the APWLD, the Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM), the Asia Migrant Centre (AMC), CARAM Asia, the Global Alliance Against Trafficking of Women



(GAATW), and the MMN, was born out of the regional strategy meeting. CARAM Asia is co-hosting the secretariat together with APWLD. This is the first regional network solely dedicated towards the promotion of FDWs' rights. At the strategy meeting, group participants unanimously agreed to have a campaign for the recognition of domestic work and have it included under national employment acts or laws.

### 2.2.1 Output

Proceedings, photos, a statement, establishment of a network comprising various groups from different movements

### 2.2.2 Outcome

The creation of a new network or coalition totally dedicated to the issues of FDWs in Asia, making the campaign stronger and enabling greater outreach for the FDW campaign.

## 2.3 Regional Training of Trainers



Mapping out the campaign strategy...

The first task force meeting was held in Jakarta to plan for the Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on the Campaign Toolkit and to plan for the translation of the kit into various national languages. As scheduled, the Regional ToT took place from August 26-28, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, attended by trainers and activists working with FDWs from twelve different countries in Asia. The three day training was facilitated by experienced trainers and facilitators from the field. The training enabled interactive exchanges and discussions among the participants

fostering an enhanced understanding of FDWs issues. It also identified the skills needed to train FDWs. Towards the end of the training, each country member came up with national plans to continue working with FDWs using the toolkit. For national level plans, translation of the manual is the top priority. At the second stage, when the translation of the toolkit is completed, most of the groups will be campaigning for FDWs on the issues connected to access to health care, the one day off campaign, and the right to information. The policy advocacy priorities are to strategise how other groups will be sensitised to FDWs issues and how the issues will be taken forward; to further explore ways and avenues to link the national level FDW campaign, collectively, to the regional level.



### 2.3.1 Output

Proceedings, campaign plans, photos, a statement

### 2.3.2 Outcome

National level campaigns -- "One Paid Day Off a Week", "Right to Information", and "Access to Health" for FDWs are launched in the members' respective countries, ultimately leading to the formation of a region wide campaign for FDWs. These national level campaigns will feed into the overarching goal of the FDW campaign "the promotion and protection of the rights of FDWs by recognising domestic work as work."

## 2.4 Translation of the Campaign Toolkit

With a goal of ensuring more active participation among FDWs in the planning and implementation of the campaign, more support will be necessary to grow and strengthen the FDWs movement. To maximise utilisation of the toolkit by FDWs, the FDW task force decided to translate the entire toolkit into seven different languages representing the languages of

**"The translation process incorporates adaptation of the toolkit into different national contexts, using examples and case studies from the respective country."**

the members' communities (Bahasa, Burmese, Tamil, Thai, Singhalese, Urdu, and Nepalese). Some translations are done and being edited, while others are at the last stage of translation and printing. The translation process incorporates adaptation of the toolkit into different national contexts, using examples and case studies from the respective country. The English version

is assessed as Filipino centric in terms of cases studies and examples used, but national members involved in the translation process are encouraged to use commonly known cases and examples from their countries. Once it is finalised, the translated toolkit will be used in national level activities, i.e. workshops and training with FDWs, in consultation with other groups working on the same issue. In an attempt to popularise the toolkit, it will be disseminated to other stakeholders involved in the migration process in members' countries.

### 2.4.1 Output

Translated the Toolkit into seven different languages

## **2.4.2 Outcome**

To maximise the understanding and use of the toolkit by FDWs in their own languages. The toolkit is to be used as a tool for organising and mobilising for change as well as a resource for advocacy and lobbying for FDWs issues.

## **2.5 National Level Activities**

After the toolkit translation is completed, National level activities will take place where the translated toolkits and national campaigns will be launched. Plans are set to take advantage of upcoming special days concerning FDWs such as International Migrants' Day (December 10<sup>th</sup>), International Women's Day (March 8<sup>th</sup>), May Day (1<sup>st</sup> May), and coinciding dates with the People's SAARC. On these special days, the FDW task force members will have coordinated actions among the task force members' countries calling for the rights of FDWs and drawing public attention towards the issues of FDWs. The purpose of coordinated action is to highlight the lack of protection for FDW rights. Regionalised responses and coordinated actions are deemed to be effective in raising awareness on the on-going discrimination and exploitation against FDWs in destination countries.

### **2.5.1 Output**

Reports, photos, media releases

### **2.5.2 Outcome**

To popularise the campaign at the national level, drawing the attention of key stakeholders and the public

## **2.6 Regional Campaign- One Paid Day Off Campaign for FDWs**

The FDW task force of CARAM Asia is determined to create enabling conditions and to tackle the constraints hindering the organisation and mobilisation of FDWs. One of the constraints identified by the task force is the lack of a weekly day off. Therefore, after consultation with the task force members' communities, it was decided to address the pressing need of FDWs (lack of a weekly day off) by kick-starting the "One Paid Day Off A Week" campaign under the overarching advocacy framework for *the recognition of domestic work as work*.

With its objectives of 1) inputting strategies and steering national level processes for greater protection of FDWs; 2) developing regional responses to influence policies and a regional advocacy plan; and 3) introducing and linking the issues of FDWs to other social movements,

UFDWRs has embarked on the regional level campaign "Recognise Domestic Work as Work." The first component of the campaign is – "One Paid Day Off A Week". UFDWRs feels that the fight for one day off for FDWs is an essential step towards emancipating housebound workers whose basic workers' rights are completely dependent on the goodwill of employers. Without a day off, domestic workers are not able to seek health services, mobilise and organise among themselves, and pursue psycho-social needs. The campaign was successfully launched at the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Civil Society Conference in Singapore. The launch of the campaign drew the attention of labour unions and rights groups from other social movements to the issues of FDWs. It was the best venue to launch the regional One Paid Day Off A Week campaign, as there were many groups from various sectors present at the conference. One of the highlights of the launch was that FDWs associations and groups based in Singapore joined the regional campaign.

**"...the fight for one day off for FDWs is an essential step towards emancipating housebound workers"**

### **2.6.1 Output**

The launch of the campaign, photos, statement release, and campaign materials

### **2.6.2 Outcome**

The launch of the campaign was witnessed by civil society groups from different social movements, therefore FDWs issues were being highlighted at the broader social movement level. More importantly, the launch benefited from the presence of members who were part of the multi-lateral framework for the protection of migrants drafting committee. One of the drafting committee members extended the opportunity to cooperate on the special mentioning of FDWs' concerns in the framework. As of this writing, UFDWRs is in the process of providing input into the framework.

## **3.0 Lessons Learnt**

- The FDW task force and its members have been documenting, publishing and bringing the issues of FDWs into different arenas, but nothing is as powerful and empowering as their own voice. The campaign needs greater participation of FDWs on board. Therefore, the *One Day off Campaign* is vital. Without a day off, the housebound FDWs cannot come forward to raise their agenda and voices.
- The need to revisit campaign frameworks is recognised by the task force in order to strategically forge appropriate alliances and prioritise activities.

- The task force still needs to identify its target audience and deploy tactics that match the self-interests of that audience.
- The task force has to involve other people and groups who share its views and may be able to support and help the campaign at the national level.
- The resources and technical capacity of the task force members on campaigning could be strengthened more through a capacity building workshop on campaign strategy.

#### **4.0 Moving forward**

The task force considers the pressing need for legal recognition of the importance and value of women’s domestic work as a priority for its intervention in coming years. Most obstacles faced by FDWs arise from a lack of legal recognition of their work as work and them as workers. The legal recognition and protection of domestic work represents the basis for all efforts to ensure the rights of FDWs are protected and promoted. The FDW task force will participate in the process leading up to the establishment of the ILO convention on Domestic Work. During this critical juncture in pushing for the legal protection for FDWs, the task force will hold a consultation with NGOs and CBOs working on FDWs issues to have a clear legal definition of domestic work. The task force members will diligently implement their national level campaign plans (one-paid-day off a week, the right to redress, and the right to information) on top of their existing programmes for FDWs. The FDW task force of CARAM Asia will continue to serve as a co-secretariat to the UFDWRs regional coalition while strengthening the campaign with its special input on the health and well-being of FDWs.

In the coming years, the challenge for the task force is to embrace the involvement and broaden the participation of FDWs’ voices in policy discussion, critiquing campaign strategies, analysis, and development of protection mechanisms and programmes. FDWs are the best resource for providing the programmatic framework and perspective as they are directly affected by these policies- health and immigration.

Please refer to ANNEX E for the FDW Programme 2008 Implementation Plan.





# Information & Communication

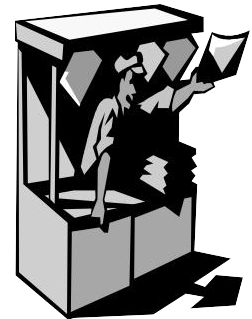


## 1.0 External Communication

### 1.1 Media

Media engagement was identified as a strategy to highlight issues and raise awareness among governments and the public. CARAM Asia's engagement with the media on issues related to migrant workers and their health rights has helped raise the network's profile in these areas. Such profiling efforts increase the possibility for future media interviews and engagement with government agencies or other stakeholders.

The secretariat has acknowledged its prior limited success in engaging media organisations. To rectify this, CARAM Asia has strengthened its collaboration with network members in implementing country level media plans. The network laid the ground work for media advocacy by gathering a media list with contact details of local and international media outlets based in Malaysia, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, SAR of China, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka.



Last year, a combination of 16 releases, statements, features, and letters were sent to the media responding to policy changes, criticisms by government officials, and in conjunction with special occasions. The compiled media list assisted us in targeting outlets that might carry a particular story or that would be open to CARAM Asia's advocacy efforts. As a result of the media initiative, CARAM Asia was able to garner public media exposure at least once a month six times in 2007. The highlight was May, where CARAM Asia had eight media exposures. The network's articles and statements were also published on the websites of other NGOs like APACHA, a network of NGOs and CBOs working on the issues of HIV-AIDS in Asia.

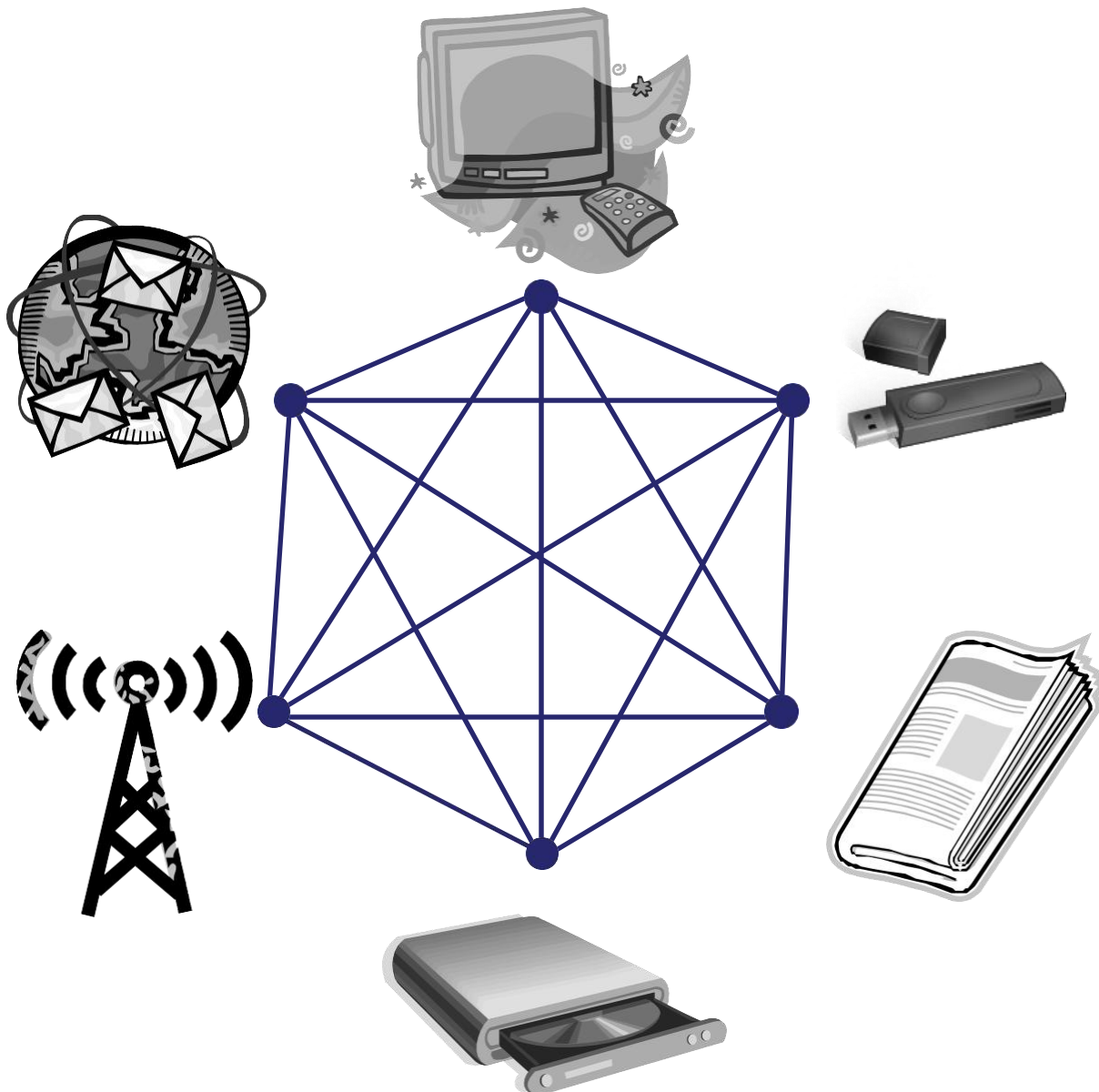
The most notable media exposure was an open letter to governments in Asia calling on governments to accelerate their scale up of AIDS treatment. While CARAM Asia was just one voice, joining other civil society groups in collectively pushing the issues of HIV-AIDS in the public sphere, its focus on the migrant population's needs differentiated it from the rest. It is this differentiation that caught the media's attention. As a result,



CARAM Asia's open letter was reported in international news agencies and republished in various print and internet media. CARAM Asia representatives were also interviewed by international radio outlets such as the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and a German radio station that broadcasts in the Asia Pacific region.

Another notable success story was CARAM Asia's published press release on how mandatory health testing is not a public health solution. The story elicited a published response by the Malaysian Health Minister as well as a citizen's letter to the editor. CARAM Asia was able to counter both publicly utilising the same media. Such exposure brings greater public attention to the issue and stirs open debate.

Please refer to the following tables for the 2007 initiatives that successfully engaged the media for publication or broadcast.



# Proactive Engagement with the Media

Published Date	Issue	Strategy	Outcome
May 3, 2007	<p>Launch of the <i>Foreign Domestic Worker Campaign Toolkit</i>. The toolkit equips advocates to campaign for the recognition of domestic work as work.</p> <p>Press Release Title: <b>The Unrecognised Worker</b></p>	<p>1) Organised a joint press conference with an Indonesian member. A press release regarding the launch was sent to Indonesian journalists prior to the event.</p> <p>2) A Sri Lankan member also sent out the press release as a joint statement with CARAM Asia to the Sri Lankan press.</p>	<p>Published:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>Women Gateway</i> (Indonesian magazine)</li> <li>2) <i>Sri Lanka daily</i> (Newspaper in Sri Lanka)</li> </ol>
May 22 to 26, 2007	<p>Accelerate the scale up of AIDS prevention and treatment for migrant communities.</p> <p>Title of Letter: <b>Open Letter to Governments in Asia</b></p>	<p>Joined global civil society calls for action for the scale up of treatment. The secretariat wrote an open letter to governments in Asia that was sent out to regional and Malaysian media.</p>	<p>Published: Print and Online media</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>Associated Press (AP)</i> (International news wire)</li> <li>2) <i>International Herald Tribune, France</i> (International newspaper )</li> <li>3) <i>Pravda</i> (Russian news website)</li> <li>4) <i>Jakarta Post</i> (Indonesian newspaper)</li> <li>5) <i>Sunday Times</i> (Sri Lankan newspaper)</li> <li>6) <i>Malaysiakini</i>, (Malaysian online news website)</li> </ol> <p>Broadcast interview:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>BBC Indonesia</i> (International Broadcasting Corporation)</li> <li>2) <i>Asia Compact</i> (the Asia Pacific branch of prominent German broadcasting agency, Deutsche Welle News)</li> </ol> <p>Health and Medical community websites that picked up the news from AP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>Kaiser network.org</i></li> <li>2) <i>CDC daily news digest: from National Prevention Information Network</i></li> <li>3) <i>Medical News Today</i></li> </ol>

## Proactive Engagement with the Media (continued)

<p>June 6, 2007</p>	<p>Migrants in Asia, their vulnerability to HIV-AIDS, and their needs that are not being addressed by States.</p> <p>Feature title: <b>Migrants and HIV/AIDS in Asia</b></p>	<p>1) Sent a feature to an international media organisation based in the US. The feature called on G8 governments, who at the time of publishing were about to meet, to scale up AIDS treatment programmes targeting migrant populations.</p> <p>2) Submitted another feature for publication on the website of another regional NGO. A timeless article, it has become a permanent fixture on their website.</p>	<p>Feature Published:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>World Press</i> (international media based in New York)</li> <li>2) Asian People's Alliances for Combating HIV &amp; AIDS (APACHA) website (network on HIV-AIDS in Asia)</li> </ol>
<p>Aug 16, 2007</p>	<p>Civil society groups have joined together to form a coalition to campaign for a day off from work for foreign domestic workers.</p>	<p>A Malaysian press reporter was invited to interview us on the issues of foreign domestic workers.</p>	<p>Published: <i>The Sun</i> (Malaysian newspaper)</p>
<p>Aug 22 to 26, 2007</p>	<p>Objection to the practice of mandatory health testing on migrant workers and publicising findings from the <i>State of Health of Migrants 2007: Mandatory Testing</i> report.</p> <p>Press Statement title: <b>No to Mandatory Health Testing on Migrant Workers</b></p>	<p>Invited journalists to the launch of the <i>State of Health of Migrants 2007: Mandatory Testing</i> report at the 8th International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>A press statement to regional and national Sri Lankan and Malaysian press was also issued.</p>	<p>Published:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>Tidings</i> (The official ICAAP newspaper)</li> <li>2) <i>The Sunday Times</i> (Sri Lankan newspaper)</li> <li>3) <i>PlusNews</i> (PlusNews is part of IRIN, the humanitarian news and analysis service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)</li> </ol>

## Proactive Engagement with the Media (continued)

Published Date	Issue	Strategy	Outcome
Dec 2 and 3, 2007	<p>Issued CARAM Asia's position on World AIDS Day stating an objection to mandatory health testing on migrant workers.</p> <p>Press Statement title:  <b>1) World AIDS Day Statement</b></p> <p><b>2) Mandatory Testing Not Public Health Solution</b></p> <p>Letter title:  <b>Mandatory Testing Not Public Health Solution</b></p>	<p>1) Sent a statement to regional and Malaysian media. Malaysian Health Minister responded through the media.</p> <p>CARAM Asia issued a second statement in reply.</p> <p>2) Following the media coverage on the issue, a reader sent a letter to the local newspaper arguing against CARAM Asia's position.</p> <p>CARAM Asia replied to the letter in the same space in the newspaper.</p>	<p>Published as a News item on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>News Straits Times</i> (Malaysian newspaper)</li> <li>2) <i>BERNAMA</i> (Malaysia's national news agency)</li> <li>3) <i>The Star</i> (Malaysian newspaper)</li> </ol> <p>Published in the Letters Section in newspapers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>News Straits Times</i> (Malaysian newspaper)</li> <li>2) <i>The Sun</i> (Malaysian newspaper)</li> </ol>
Dec 15, 2007	<p>CARAM Asia's International Migrants' Day celebration urged governments to "Stop Violence Against Migrant Workers".</p> <p>Press release title:  <b>Stop Violence Against Migrant Workers</b></p>	<p>1) CARAM Asia, in partnership with member CARAM Cambodia, organised a press conference and rally in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.</p> <p>2) Wrote a press release and circulated it to regional and Cambodian media.</p>	<p>TV &amp; radio stations in Cambodia that broadcasted our events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) TV9</li> <li>2) National Television Kampuchea (TVK)</li> <li>3) CTN (the channel is also available in the United States of America)</li> <li>4) Radio Free Asia (RFA)</li> <li>5) Voice of America (VOA)</li> <li>6) Radio France International (RFI)</li> <li>7) FM102</li> </ol>

## Reactive Engagement with the Media

Published Date	Issue	Strategy	Outcome
Apr 16 and May 25, 2007	Restriction of migrants' movement in Malaysia and Thailand  Press Release: <b>No to Restriction of Movement</b>	Released a press statement responding to new policy changes in Malaysia and Thailand sending it to both regional and Malaysian media.	Published: 1) <i>Aliran Monthly</i> , (Malaysian magazine) 2) <i>Migration Malaysia</i> (A website on migration issues in Malaysia)
Oct 11, 2007	The reason for abuse of foreign domestic workers. Called for the recognition of domestic work as work protected under labour laws.	Capitalised on a journalist's request for an interview by responding on foreign domestic worker abuse.	Published: <i>Aljazeera.net</i> (web version of international news agency)
Oct 16, 2007	The need for the Cambodian government to negotiate for better protection of their migrant workers' rights	A journalist interviewed CARAM Asia and CARAM Cambodia to respond on the situation of Cambodian migrant workers in Malaysia during a training workshop hosted by CARAM Cambodia.	Radio stations in Cambodia that broadcasted the interview with CARAM Asia: Radio France International (RFI)
Nov 22, 2007	Critique on the content of the ASEAN Charter that failed to protect and promote migrant workers rights  Press Statement title: <b>ASEAN Charter Marginalised Migrant Communities</b>	Issued a press release criticising the contents of the newly developed ASEAN Charter and sent it to regional and Malaysian press.	Published: 1) <i>Malaysiakini</i> , (Malaysian online news website)

## 1.2 General Public

CARAM Asia used various information and communication tools to inform the public of its position and activities. These include:

### 1.2.1 Website

Since CARAM Asia restructured its membership and programmes, the network revamped its website to reflect its new advocacy focus. The organisation invested time throughout the year to make the website more user-friendly. CARAM Asia also strove to keep the website fresh, frequently updating it with recent developments on pertinent issues and CARAM Asia initiatives. These frequent updates contributed to the development of an archive on the website, turning it into an information portal on policy changes related to migration and HIV as well as trends and analysis. The website also has an online archive of all CARAM Asia's publications, including 11 issues of the e-newsletter and its bumper issue.



Besides fulfilling its objective to profile the work of CARAM Asia, the website also profiled its members through links to members' websites. As for members without their own website, CARAM Asia hosted web pages for them. Members' activities were also reported on the news and e-newsletter sections of the CARAM Asia website.

There were hardly any website visitors in April 2007, but by the end of 2007 there were an estimated average of 80 visitors per day. This is a positive start, however there is still a need to popularise the website. The secretariat will continue to engage web masters of other sites to provide links to the CARAM Asia website from theirs. CARAM Asia would also like to introduce the organisation's website content to civil society groups, encouraging them to utilise CARAM Asia's information portal as a data resource. Details about efforts to popularise contents are mentioned in the section on "civil society groups" in this report.

### 1.2.2 E-newsletter

A monthly e-newsletter was introduced towards the end of 2006, with the secretariat enhancing its contents and layout periodically in 2007. The objective of the CARAM Asia e-newsletter is to provide updates and information on activities within the network and highlight CARAM Asia's participation in key regional and international meetings. It also aims to share useful readings on migration and HIV-AIDS. In the spirit of continuous improvement, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the publication was carried out. About 90% of the respondents who had read the e-newsletter said that it had met its objective.

Here are some comments by respondents:

“It is not a cut and paste job! And priorities are given to important issues.”

“We are informed of the activities within CARAM, including participation in key regional or international meetings.”

However, the secretariat faced the challenge of limited internet accessibility among members that impinged upon the readership of the monthly publication.

Comments by members below illustrated the points:

“We have constant power load-shedding (four hours per day). So when the power comes back the mailbox is flooded with mails. Since we have to work when the power is on, I only read or search for issues which are directly needed most.”

“We newly bought computer. In future I will see”.

Competing organisational tasks and priorities also challenge the frequency of readership. Therefore the secretariat took the steps below to address these challenges:

- As members are busy with other priorities, the secretariat had started emailing partial contents of the e-newsletter to personal and organisational emails. Since one member even suggested a shorter version of e-newsletter, the secretariat will work towards providing concise contents on the e-newsletter to cater to quick reading.
- Although some members have internet accessibility issues, the internet is increasingly seen as an important alternative communication tool around the world. Therefore, the network still needs to pursue electronic dissemination of information over CARAM Asia’s website and through the e-newsletter.
- Continuous submission of member articles to the e-newsletter show that it is now being used as a tool to inform the public about their activities.

### 1.2.3 Bumper Issue of the newsletter is published

A bumper issue of CARAM Asia’s newsletter was published in August 2007 and also made available on the website. Compared to the e-newsletter, which acts as a monthly update on the network’s activity, the bumper issue of the newsletter is a timeless publication stating clearly the network’s positions related to its four programmatic areas. The newsletter presented critical analysis on issues not commonly exposed in other publications, yet timely on recent developments in the field of migrant workers and HIV work.





## **1.3 Civil Society Groups**

The secretariat identified key players, external to the network, who are crucial to bring forth migrant workers issues to the various advocacy platforms. These key players include migrant workers associations, NGOs & CSOs working on HIV and health issues, as well as United Nations agencies. To further CARAM Asia's outreach to these groups, the secretariat has created an internal database of these vital players. Every month, an update is sent to this contact list, highlighting CARAM Asia's activities, announcements, and initiatives. The objective of this is not only to feed information to these groups and associate CARAM Asia with migrant workers' health issues, but also to facilitate coalition building.

## **2.0 Internal Communications – List serves as an Internal Communication system among CARAM Asia Members**

There was the need for more communication among members to further strengthen understanding and relationships since the network's membership was opened to many new NGOs and CBOs for the first time in 2006. The secretariat used one general list serve to communicate with all members and four other list serves specific to each of its task forces. This resulted in vibrant news updates and enhanced communication among members in 16 countries. These list serves were utilised to brainstorm ideas, suggest activities, and exchange strategies. The task force specific list serves also facilitate programme discussion and implementation. These list serves have become the chosen standard of communication for members and therefore, the list serves have become a representation of the secretariat's information exchange channel for some members.

As CARAM Asia co-chairs a new coalition, UFDWRs, the secretariat created a new list serve as a communication tool for the coalition members which span the Asia Pacific region. As with CARAM Asia's other list serves, UFDWRs members have utilised this tool to share perspectives on foreign domestic workers issues, update each other on advocacy activities, and plan for campaigns including the official launch of the coalition itself at the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Civil Society Conference.



# **Financial Disclosure**

**&**

# **Reference Annexes**



# Financial Report and Analysis

## Source of Income

In 2007, grants received and receivable were RM1,922,144. CARAM Asia's source of funds was from the DGIS, Netherlands.

## Expenditures

In 2007, CARAM Asia's total expenditure amounted to RM1,750,655:

RM922,003 Programme costs

RM489,285 Human Resource costs

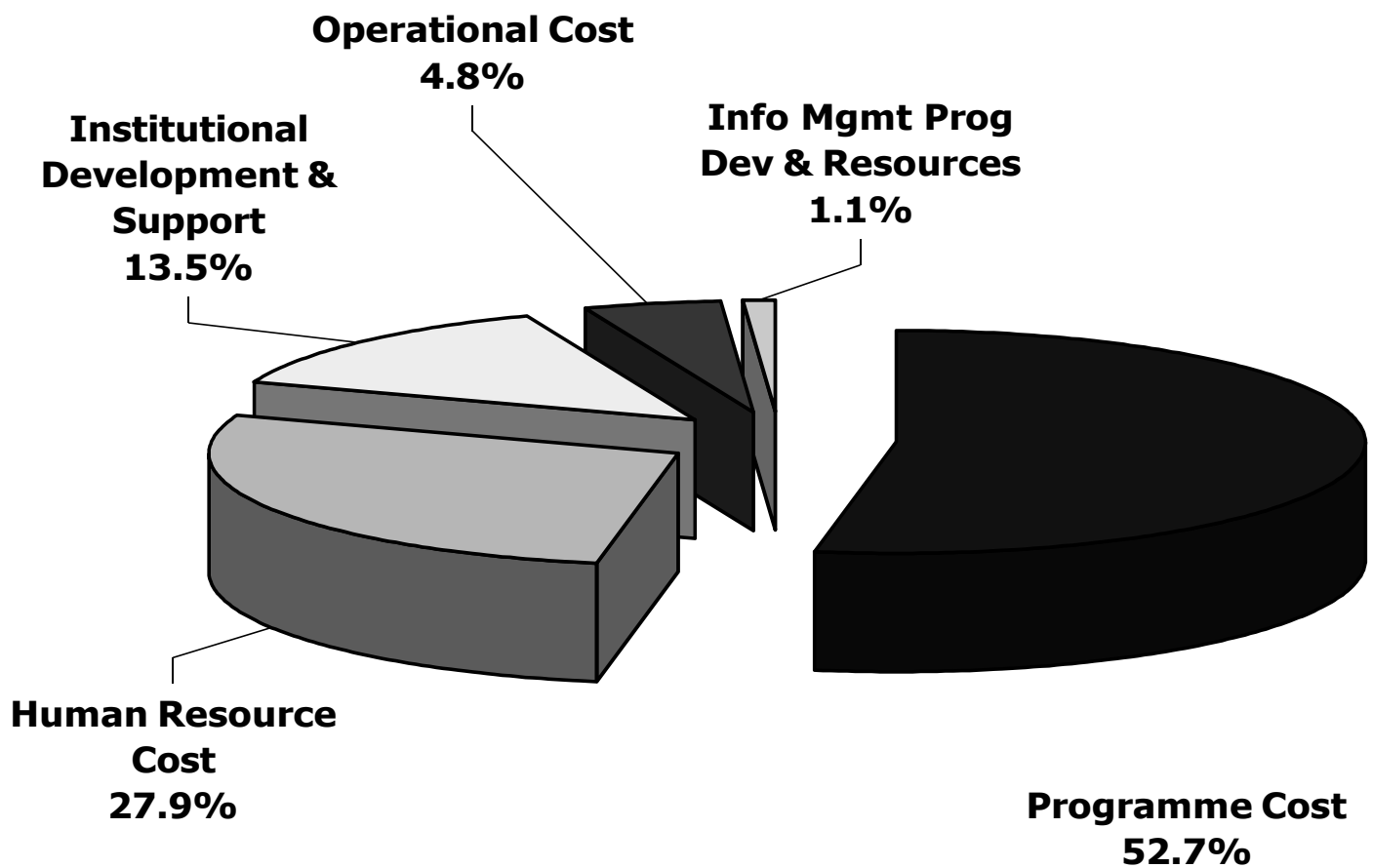
RM235,983 Institutional Development & Support costs

RM 84,271 Operational costs

RM 19,113 Information Management Programme Development & Resources

There was an increase of 32%, or RM424,830, in overall expenditures. This was due to an increase in the programmes conducted during the year.

# Expenditures breakdown (by percentage)



# ANNEX A:

## List of Meetings Attended



<b>World Social Forum</b>	<b>Nairobi 18-24 January 2007</b>
<b>SAPA General Forum</b>	<b>Bangkok, 2-4 February 2007</b>
<b>UNRTF Steering Committee Meeting</b>	<b>Bangkok 2 March 2007</b>
<b>FIDH Seminar on Migration</b>	<b>Lisbon, 20 April 2007</b>
<b>FDW Toolkit Launch</b>	<b>Jakarta, 1 May 2007</b>
<b>Dialogue with Peter Piot</b>	<b>Bangkok, 6 May 2007</b>
<b>FIDH Doha Conference on Migration</b>	<b>Doha, 10-11 June 2007</b>
<b>Refugee Roundtable</b>	<b>Kuala Lumpur, 12 June 2007</b>
<b>CARAM Capacity Building Workshop on Globalisation</b>	<b>Nepal, 12-14 June 2007</b>
<b>DGIS Briefing on SRHR</b>	<b>Bangkok, 17 June 2007</b>
<b>UNHCR World Refugee Day Carnival</b>	<b>Kuala Lumpur, 20 June 2007</b>
<b>SUARAM Status of HR 2005 Publication</b>	<b>Malaysia, 23 June 2007</b>
<b>GFMD</b>	<b>Brussels, 7-9 July 2007</b>
<b>FDW ToT</b>	<b>Chiang Mai, 28-30 July 2007</b>
<b>UNRTF Steering Committee Meeting</b>	<b>Bangkok, 11 July 2007</b>
<b>ASEAN Meeting on HIV-AIDS Declaration</b>	<b>Singapore, 25-26 July 2007</b>
<b>SAPA Working Group on the HR Council</b>	<b>Bangkok, 29-30 August 2007</b>
<b>MWG Advocacy Workshop</b>	<b>Malaysia, 14 August 2007</b>
<b>ICCAP</b>	<b>Sri Lanka, 19-23 August 2007</b>
<b>ASEAN TF on Migrant Workers</b>	<b>Bangkok, 31 August 2007</b>
<b>Consultation with the UNSR on VAW</b>	<b>Manila, 12-13 September 2007</b>
<b>World Forum for Democracy</b>	<b>Manila, 19-23 September 2007</b>
<b>ASEAN Civil Society Conference</b>	<b>Singapore, 21-23 November 2007</b>
<b>UNRTF Biannual Meeting</b>	<b>Laos, 6-9 December 2007</b>
<b>CARAM General Assembly</b>	<b>Phnom Penh, 14-16 December 2007</b>

## Annex B: SoH 2008 Implementation Plan

No	Objectives	Activities/strategies	KPIs/Outcomes	Target/stakeholder	Date/Venue
1	<b>To influence positive change in policies on mandatory health testing at regional and sub regional levels</b>	<b>CAPACITY BUILDING</b>			
		Participating at the AP UNGASS preparatory meeting	Knowledge building and preparation for UNGASS 2010	Members	May 3-4 2008
		Writing and publishing national reports	8 national reports	Governments	2008
		<b>ADVOCACY</b>			
		Present lobby document to PCB UNAIDS	Explore the option of putting MHT on the agenda (i.e. - identifying allies)	UNAIDS	Dec 2008 in Geneva
		Develop recommendations for the UNAIDS Task Team, of which CARAM is a member, on the issue of long term travel restrictions for HIV positive people.	Recommendations adopted by governments in Asia	Government	Beyond IAC 2008
		AFOA (ASEAN HIV task force)	Develop a mechanism to influence the task force	ASEAN senior health officers	Oct 2008 (3 <sup>rd</sup> week)
			Raise MHT at upcoming meetings		
		People's SAARC- hold a workshop	Under the SAARC regional strategy (2006-2010), to lobby against MHT using the theme of migrants and to distribute our position paper	Feed into the SAARC summit	July 27 -3 Aug 2008

# SoH 2008 Implementation Plan (continued)

		<p>Planning meeting with the SoH task force towards having multi-stakeholder dialogue with the UNRTF</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder dialogue</p>	<p>Preparatory meeting and planning for 2008</p> <p>To sensitise heads of national governments for origin and destination countries on the nexus between labour, migration and health</p> <p>To secure a commitment by the heads of state to agree to take the issue of mandatory health testing to other foras.</p> <p>At a minimum, we would want governments to recognise the importance of adopting rights based testing practices and policies.</p>	<p>Members</p> <p>Heads of governments, UN agencies</p>	<p>May 5<sup>th</sup> 2008 Bangkok</p> <p>?</p>
		UNSR Intervention	Raise the issue of MHT at the HRC	Human Rights Council (states are members)	End of 2008
		IAC	Focused participation at identified sessions		August
2	<b>To integrate migrant and HIV issues into SRHR programmes and services targeted to migrants.</b>	<p><b>Capacity Building</b></p> <p>Develop a PAR manual and tools</p> <p><b>Research</b></p> <p>Production of action research in five countries</p> <p>Planning meeting</p> <p>Workshop to develop research</p>	<p>Publication to be shared with our network, future PAR workshops, and other NGOs using PAR</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>	<p>Resource - especially for new members</p>	<p>Middle July</p> <p>May 2008</p> <p>? Aug 2008</p>

## Annex C: MHG 2008 Implementation Plan

Strategy	Activities	Timeframe	Remarks
		2008	
<b>Participatory Action Research (PAR)</b>	<b>PAR for KFA 4</b> - Reality check on migrants' work conditions, debt burden, social costs, and quality of life. To challenge remittances as a tool for development.	X	The issue of remittances as a tool for development is gaining momentum. As such, challenging the arguments for remittance use as a development tool will result in further dialogue and new perspectives.
	1. PAR Planning workshop	x	
	2. Data Gathering	x	
	3. National Analysis	x	
	4. Regional Analysis	x	
	5. National and Regional Workshop		
	6. Publication of Report		
	<b>PAR for KFA 1 + 3</b> - Conduct PAR on the privatisation of healthcare as well as the WTO-TRIPS and their impact on Migrant Workers.		
<b>Capacity Building</b>	Consultations with migrant associations on aid effectiveness and remittances as a tool for development.	X	Consultations with think tanks and experts in neo-liberal globalisation in Asia will feed into and strengthen the PAR process.
<b>Advocacy</b>	Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)  Develop a lobby document  Develop new for a and allies for advocacy at the GFMD in the Philippines.	X	The GFMD platform can be used to raise an alternative view on remittances:  1. As conclusions of the PAR will still be unavailable, CARAM will prepare a lobby document for the GFMD.  2. Work with Philippine groups to get data on the Philippine situation. This will be a starting point for the PAR.  3. In Manila, to look into identifying areas for collaboration and joint actions with other members for resistance against the current GFMD platform



# MHG 2008 Implementation Plan (continued)

	<p>Produce a documentary film focusing on issues and linkages between migration, health, and economic and political globalisation as well as the link between deregulation, contractualisation, the global subcontracting of labour, and the diminishing of rights.</p> <p>Indonesia – Malaysia, India – Jordan.</p>	X	<p>Use for training communities, in university curriculum, by international groups, etc.</p> <p>It will be a bilateral effort between CARAM members in identified origin and destination countries.</p>
<b>Coalition and Movement Building</b>	<p>1. Participate in the people's movement to emphasise the connections between globalisation and migration – Asian Rural Women's Conference.</p>	X	<p>CARAM is on the Steering Committee. The objective of CARAM Asia's participation in the ARWC is to place issues concerning rural women and migration on the agenda. The ARWC will be held in India for 2 days and will include 1000 rural women. Starting with workshops, listening to rural women's voices, and cultural performances, it will culminate with a caravan from Arakkonam to Chennai on March 8. A declaration of rural women concerns and issues will be made.</p>
	<p>Joint consultation with other regional groups on Migrant Worker concerns. i.e. The UNSR on Health and Rights of Migrant Workers.</p>	X	
	<p>Bring migrant community representatives of CARAM members to the International Migrant Alliance (IMA) in Hong Kong, SAR of China 2008</p>	X	
	<p>1. Linking and forging alliances with key anti-privatisation organisations (national, sub-regional, regional, and international), human rights groups, women's groups, and health initiatives organisations.</p>	X	<p>Ongoing: CARAM seeks to first identify spaces across sectors to ensure the presence and visibility of issues concerning migrant workers are raised at various platforms.</p>
<b>Note:</b>	<p>Plans identified are outcomes from the MHG Strategic Planning Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, November 2007 and are subject to refinement or change depending upon developments related to the issues concerned.</p>		

## Annex D: TFEM 2008 Implementation Plan

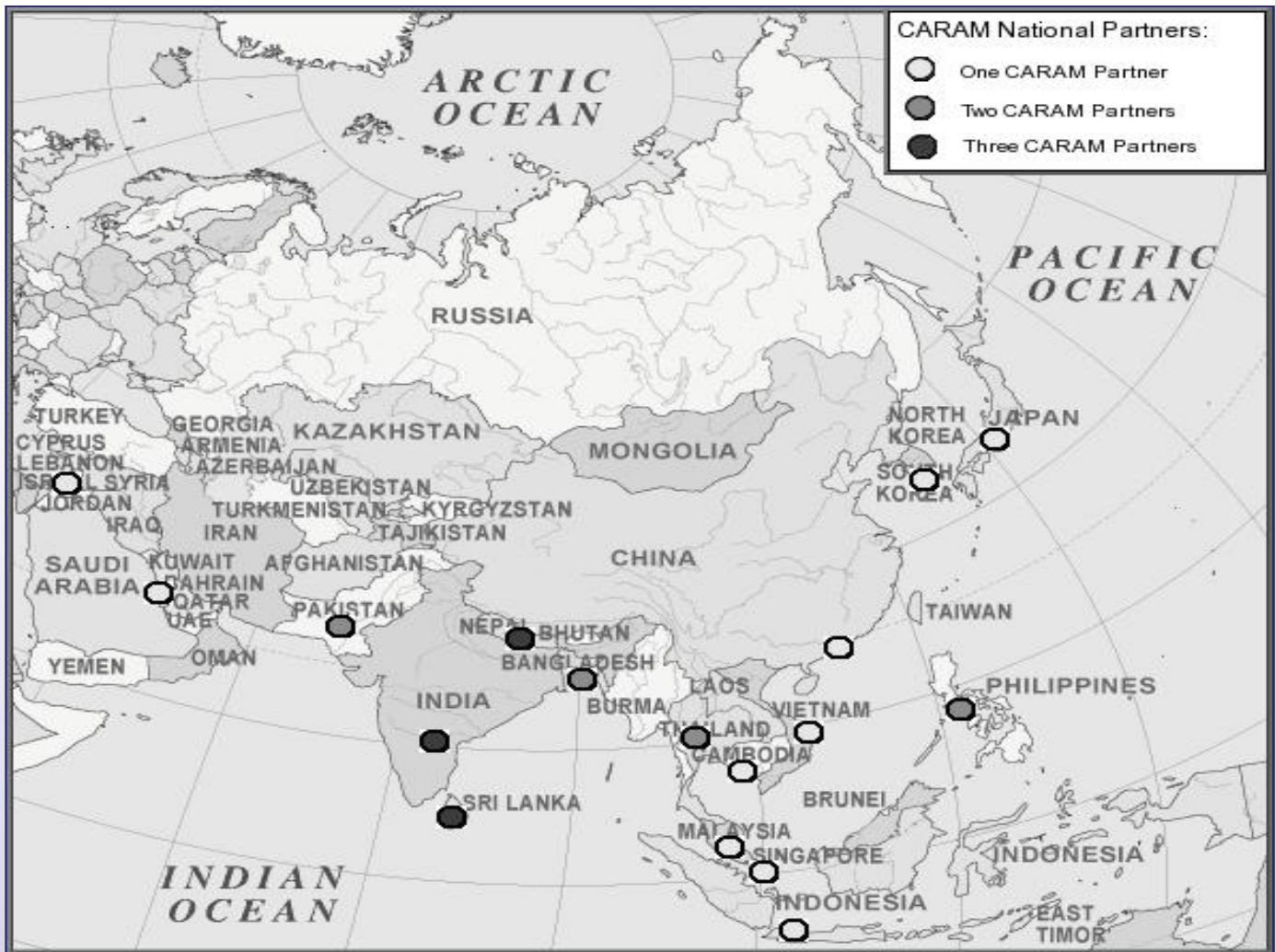
Objectives	Strategies	Activities	KPIs/ Outcomes	Stake- holders	Outputs Required	Timeline/ Venue
1. To enable positive migrant workers and spouses to be meaningfully involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programmes and policies addressing HIV-AIDS issues	<b>PAR</b> To conduct action research in order to bring out the concerns of migrant communities and support evidence based advocacy	Research and documentary of HIV positive migrants	Documentation	HIV positive migrants and spouses  National Members	Documentation in the form of a Life Story book of HIV positive migrants	March to November 2008 – in countries
2. To address the stigma and discrimination of positive migrants and spouses at the regional level	<b>Capacity Building</b> To build the capacity of migrants in their mobilising and organising efforts  To build the capacity of CARAM members to push forward migrant workers' rights	Deepening GIPA workshop for HIV positive migrants and spouses	Meetings and discussion sessions with migrants in the members' countries	HIV positive migrants and spouses  National members	Action plan	June 2008 – Thailand

## TFEM 2008 Implementation Plan (continued)

	<p><b>Advocacy</b> To engage with different regional platforms, stakeholders, and migrant groups for policy advocacy and improvement of the status of migrants</p> <p>GIPA Policy final drafting</p>	<p>Participation of HIV positive migrants in regional and international events such as meetings, conferences, etc.</p> <p>Implement the GIPA Policy within the CARAM membership</p>	<p>Sessions, meetings, and discussions within HIV positive Migrants</p> <p>Implementation of GIPA Policy</p>	<p>HIV positive migrants</p> <p>CARAM's members</p>	<p>Advocacy plan</p> <p>Advocacy activities</p> <p>GIPA Policy Paper</p>	<p>August 2008 – Mexico</p> <p>May 2008</p>
<p>3. To facilitate access to reintegration programs, especially CST, for positive migrants and spouses</p>	<p><b>Coalition/Alliance Building</b> Network to bring migrant worker issues to the agenda of other local, national, regional, and international NGOs and CBOs working on social development, human rights, women's rights, and migrant issues</p>	<p>Exchanging information, cross-cutting movements, dialogues, meetings, discussions</p>	<p>Referral system for HIV positive migrant workers in Asia</p>	<p>HIV positive migrants and spouses</p> <p>National partners</p> <p>National and regional HIV positive networks, NGOs, CBOs</p>	<p>Directory book of the CST services</p>	<p>September 2008</p>

# Annex E: FDW 2008 Implementation Plan

No	Objectives	Activities/strategies	KPIs/Outcomes	Target/stakeholder	Date
1	<b>To recognise domestic work as socio-economic activity through inclusion under national labour laws and employment acts by amending existing legislation or developing new laws to protect FDWs</b>	<p><u>ILO Convention on Domestic Workers in 2010</u></p> <p>Have the FDW TF get involved with the process leading to the development of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention through national trade unions in order to ensure that the right and access to health and treatment is reflected</p>	<p>The ILO platform can be used as a space to raise the needs and concerns of the FDW task force's communities</p>	<p>ILO</p> <p>Governments</p> <p>Task force members</p>	Throughout 2008
2	<b>To protect and promote the health rights and well-being of FDWs, including their reproductive health, at all stages of migration by campaigning for a weekly day off and the recognition of domestic work as work</b>	<p>To organise a campaign strategy meeting on <b>"One Paid Day Off"</b> as part of the <b>"Recognition of Domestic Work as Work"</b> in Jordan</p>	<p>Gain an understanding of the building blocks for a successful campaign,</p> <p>Learn tips and strategies for successfully completing a campaign,</p> <p>Discuss new approaches to campaigns and campaign planning, and</p> <p>Receive tips on resource mobilisation (economic, intellectual, human) and maintaining quality staff for the campaign.</p>	<p>Task force members</p> <p>Groups campaigning for FDWs issues</p> <p>Relevant agencies</p>	August 25-28, 2008
3	<b>To strengthen inter-sectoral engagement and cross movement building by integrating FDWs issues in women's movements, SRHR movements, Trade Unions, and migrant positive movements</b>	<p>Contribute as Co-Secretariat for UFDWRs and actively participate with five regional and int'l networks in the greater region wide FDW campaign: Recognise Domestic Work as Work</p> <p>To hold a campaign strategy development meeting</p> <p>Participate at the International Migration Alliance (IMA) HK</p>	<p>To engage the UNSR process as a campaign strategy, to collectively develop the legal definition of domestic work, and to campaign for the recognition of domestic work as work leading to legal protection.</p> <p>Develop a concrete plan of action for the region wide campaign</p> <p>To reach out to FDW/migrant associations for campaigning</p>	<p>UFDWRs FDW TF members</p> <p>Core committee of UFDWRs</p> <p>CARAM Asia partners</p>	<p>Bangkok May 4<sup>th</sup> 2008</p> <p>May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008</p> <p>June 14-15 2008</p>



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