

*Provincial Multi-sector Pandemic
Preparedness in Hanam and Quang Tri
– Practices, Lessons Learnt and Next
Steps*

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Vietnam Red Cross

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Covered by the presentation

1. Pandemic preparedness and response plan in Vietnam at central and provincial levels
2. Pandemic planning efforts by VNRC
3. Provincial multi-sectoral pandemic preparedness plan in Hanam and Quangtri
4. Lesson learned
5. Next steps

H1N1 situation in Vietnam

- First case found in April 2009
- Up to end of August 2010 there are 11,215 lab confirmed cases, of whom 59 deaths. H1N1 was spreading in all 63 provinces.



Total population: 86 million people.
63 provinces/ cities

1. Pandemic preparedness and response plan in Vietnam at central and provincial level

- Central level:
 - Ø Action plan* for influenza A (H1N1) pandemic prevention and control in Vietnam that issued in June 2009
 - Ø Coordinated by National Steering Committee with 11 ministries, governmental agencies and VNRC as representative from mass organizations; chaired by MOH

1. Pandemic preparedness and response plan in Vietnam at central and provincial level *(continued)*

- Provincial level:
 - Ø Provinces were asked to set up provincial committee for pandemic prevention and control as structured at national level
 - Ø Pandemic plan was developed following guideline from national plan*.

2. Pandemic planning efforts by VNRC

- Responded to the Federation in H2P global initiative
- Engaged with in-country stakeholders* in pandemic planning together with the government
- Highlight VNRC's experiences in disaster response and avian influenza, as well as possible impacts by pandemic at community level; advocacy for clear role and division of responsibility among mass organizations
- Established Pandemic Taskforce (inter technical departments) to lead emergency responses and coordination with chapters
- Issued guidelines on flu fighters for chapters, VNRC's members, volunteers and community.

H2P project in Vietnam

H2P aimed at three objects in Vietnam:

- Raised capacity in pandemic preparedness for VNRC and civil society sector
- Trained key personnel in VNRC and civil society organizations in pandemic preparedness and response
- Supported functioning coordination in pandemic in Vietnam*

H2P key achievements

- Finalized countrywide pandemic preparedness plan between VNRC and 04 key mass organizations
- Developed, tested and finalized multisector pandemic plans in Hanam and Quangtri
- Trained 316 national trainers, 1,100 community leaders and 1,100 first responders covering 09 provinces.
- Distributed 5,000 copies of training guides, 500 sets of PPE, thousands of leaflets during H1N1 outbreaks, 04 public campaigns
- Coordinated a various partners: MOH, MOET, 04 mass organizations, WHO, UNICEF, Care, AED, Abt, USAID...

3. Developed provincial multi-sectoral pandemic preparedness plan in Hanam and Quangtri

Steps:

1. Set up provincial pandemic preparedness committee consisting of 01 core planning group* and 01 provincial steering committee**
2. VNRC HQ set up technical advisory group consisting of experts (VNRC, MOH, IFRC, WHO) to bring in additional perspectives in pandemic planning: pandemic phases, designed responses following international pandemic phases and national plan's impact scenarios***; focus on food, livelihood and healthcare; supported whole-society approach and continuation of essential services; experiences from community on-site responses in disasters.

3. Developed provincial multi-sectoral pandemic preparedness plan in Hanam and Quangtri (*continued*)

3. Core group worked closely on drafting the multi sector plan base on existed provincial pandemic actionplan*.
4. Core group chaired meetings with members of the provincial planning committee on multisector pandemic plan
5. Organized tabletop exercise to test the provincial multi sector plan
6. Finalized provincial multisector pandemic preparedness and response plan
7. Provincial People's Committee approved the plan and disseminated the plan too all provincial agencies and districts, communes

Results from multisectoral pandemic plan at provincial level

- Provincial technical departments/agencies and key mass organizations such as associations for youth, women, veterans, farmers developed their pandemic preparedness and response plans.
- At community level, first responders team was set up, trained; coordinated by local RC and managed by community leaders.
- Trained first responders and community leaders were mobilized to implement response activities during H1N1 and other communicable diseases in community.

4. Lesson learned

- Commitment from provincial leaders, the role of commander is important
- Motivating stakeholders' participations contributing to meaningful planning
- Testing to see the gaps of multisector pandemic preparedness plan
- Trained responders and community leaders boosted up confidence of key actors in pandemic preparedness and responses
- Sharing lesson learned and achievement in provincial multisector pandemic plans to both national and community levels.
- Technical and coordination with partners* are essential

5. Next steps

- VNRC continues its work in pandemic through integration of pandemic planning, training and communication tools in community health and disaster programs*
- VNRC works with other partners in bringing the multi-sectoral pandemic plan to lower levels
- Further support whole-of-society approach and more involvement of non-state stakeholders in pandemic preparedness**.

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Thank you for your attention!