A Volunteer Based Model of Providing Care at Home for Vulnerable Older People: Experience from ASEAN

IFA conference
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President
HelpAge Korea
Volunteer based home care of Korea

- Homecare agency
  - Recruit neighborhood as volunteers
  - Train volunteers as caregivers
  - Encourage volunteers to visit as long as possible

- Volunteers
  - Visit older people at home once a week
  - Chatting, housekeeping, personal cares
  - 1 year commitment for one older person
  - Report activities at monthly meeting
Volunteer based home care of Korea

- Older people
  - Poor under poverty line
  - Living without enough care giving support by family
  - Having difficulties in ADL and IADL
Volunteer based home care of Korea

- Develop first model as a first community based program in 1987 learning from the UK by HelpAge Korea
- Influence GO to formulate government policy for expansion in 1989
- Integrate home care into Law for the Elderly in 1993
Volunteer based home care of Korea

# of NGOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># of NGOs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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Challenges to share with ASEAN countries

- HelpAge International suggested HAK to share with HelpAge network in Asia & Pacific in 1999
- Korean GO supported to organize workshop on home care for ASEAN countries in 2001
Older people at risk in ASEAN countries

- It is estimated that the proportion of older people over 60 years in the South-east Asia will triple between 2000 and 2050.
- However the responsibilities for the care of older people by young family members are getting weaker due to growing nuclear families, prevailing migration, and increasing participation of women in the work force.
Older people at risk in ASEAN countries

- The risks of neglecting older people at home and community are increasing while the family members remain the primary caregivers under the low priority of aging issues and limited coverage of health and social service by governments.
Home care Project in ASEAN countries

- Funding: Korean-ASEAN cooperation Funds
- Implemented by HelpAge Korea with HelpAge International
- Participated by Ministry of Social Welfare and Ministry of Health in 10 ASEAN countries
- The project supports ASEAN countries in implementing the volunteer based home care model adopted from the Korean model but adapted to suit the local socio-cultural and economic context.
Partner organizations of HelpAge network

1. Brunei – MCYS*
2. Cambodia – HAI Cambodia
3. Indonesia – YEL
4. Laos – Red Cross
5. Malaysia – USIAMAS
6. Myanmar – National YMCAs
7. Philippines – COSE
8. Singapore – Tsao Foundation
9. Thailand – FOPDEV
10. Vietnam – RECAS
Achievements

- 1\textsuperscript{st} phase (2003~2006)
  - Develop a good practice by a pilot project
    - all 10 countries

- 2\textsuperscript{nd} phase (2006~2009)
  - Expansion implemented by NGO supported by GO technically and financially
    - Indonesia(8), Myanmar(24), Philippines(3), Vietnam(7)

Cambodia
Achievements

- 3rd phase (2009~2012)
  - Develop national guideline
    - Indonesia (approved), Philippines (approved), Myanmar (a draft), Vietnam (in process), Cambodia (in process)
  - Integrate into law
  - Design delivery system
  - Expand nationwide
Impact

- Traditionally acceptable
- Providing cheap services utilizing volunteers
- Encouraging community to care for vulnerable older people
- Successfully implementing community based programme
- Challenging government’s priorities on ageing
Challenges

- More older people living alone and need more home care in the provincial level
- Slow responses from local governments
- Limited budget for implementation
- Need more advocacy to the high level position of government
What next under ASEAN project?

- Capacity building of GO and NGO in central and local level
- Support to raise awareness to the public, central government, local authorities etc.
- Network meeting among ASEAN countries
- Enhancing relationships with stakeholder at country level and regional level (ASEAN senior officials meeting, ministerial meeting)
- Assisting develop SOMSWD’s strategic framework of ASEAN 2011-2015
THANK YOU!