

# **CIVIL SOCIETY ACTION TEAM AP REPORT FOR JAN–MAR 2009**

## **INTRODUCTION (Background Information, Regional Context)**

The GFTAM plays an especially important role in the developing countries of the (AP) Asia Pacific's responses to HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria. Both GFTAM and UNAIDS promote Civil Society (CS) involvement in their activities yet how that translates into action in-country is dependent on a select few and the results often leave representatives of CS especially those from key affected populations (KAPS) less than satisfied. This is complicated by the AP's diversity and the fact that many CS representatives especially those from KAPS are not clear what exactly their role in the AIDS response is and the possibilities that the GFATM has to offer CS.

Partnership at every level is key to successful and meaningful involvement of CS, yet in the AP the limitations to building partnerships come from: insufficient regional coordination, networking, communication and representation; limited skills and experience in resource mobilization, advocacy and organizational management; the lack of harmonization and support from UN, donors and international communities; and political and legal restrictions.

CSAT AP sees its role within the framework of international, regional and national responses as promoting and facilitating these partnerships. Working with International Host ICASO (International Council of AIDS Service Organizations) and the other 5 Regional Hosts provides the CSAT AP an opportunity to not only raise awareness and advocate for the issues unique to AP but to also find commonalities and benefit from the support, experience and wisdom of the other regions Middle East and North Africa, West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

The first Quarter of CSAT Year 02 saw CSAT AP lose some momentum from Year 01 due to the delayed funding and signing the MOU with ICASO. As a result, the proposed focus on AP's KAPS was delayed but CSAT AP was able to sustain work begun in Year 01 and expand coverage to Fiji.

## **GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

- Diversify Funding
- Expand coverage of AP Region
- Focus on CSS for R9-10
- Focus on KAPS (PUD,MSM, SW)
- Strengthen KAPS Networks

## **KEY ACTIVITIES**

- Continued work in Indonesia,
- Promoted CS involvement in GFATM activities through advocacy efforts with GFATM, UNAIDS and others
- Negotiated financial support for Indonesia's selection of SRs and SSRs for their signed Round 8 Proposal along with Malaysia's newly established CCM,

- Worked and provided training and technical assistance to Fiji CCM
- Participated in the UNAIDS Regional Support Team's Regional Management Meeting
- Influenced GFATM proposals for Round 9 by brokering technical assistance that developed accepted Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) components for R9 proposals for Indonesia, India, China, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Malaysia.
- Completed analysis of CCM survey for AP region and Myanmar/Burma
- Networked with APCOM to discuss support for South Asia Regional MSM Proposal

## **PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS BY ACTIVITIES**

### **INDONESIA**

#### Goals and Objectives

- To disseminate broader information on GFATM funding in Indonesia.
- To enhance JOTHI (Indonesia PLHIV Network) capacity to be able implementing GF Round 8 Phase 1 Funding in 12 Provinces.

#### Key Activities

- CSAT section preparation and finishing on JOTHI's website as host in Indonesia.
- Brokering technical support provided by JOTHI to Technical Working Group AIDS preparing Round 9 AIDS proposal.
- Negotiating JOTHI's as well as GWL – Ina (MSM and Transgender network) and OPSI (Indonesia Sex Worker Organization) position as implementing unit of KPAN serve as PR and Provincial KPA serve as SR in Round 8 in 12 Provinces.
- CSAT Indonesia hosted R9 proposal writing workshop for KAPS.
- Negotiate upcoming involvement in TSF Regional meeting to negotiate for more technical support for CS organizations in Indonesia (undertake in KL 13 – 17 April 2009 – soon)
- CSAT AP met with KPAN to identify CS needs to implement R8
- CSAT AP advocated with AusAID to support KPAN in identifying potential SRs and SSRs

#### Progress Towards Results by Activities

##### 1. Networking and Needs Assessment

#### **Outputs:**

- Information about GFATM in Indonesia including Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) uploaded on JOTHI's website in Bahasa (Indonesia version) where all CS in Indonesia can access.
- CSOs and KAPS organizations mapped in 29 provinces
- Needs Assessment conducted

#### **Outcomes:**

- JOTHI's bargaining position as PLHIV organization increased in GFATM grant preparation and implementation.
- Clearly acknowledge of CSAT initiatives in Indonesia.
- 5 KAPS Work Groups established
- JOTHI identified as SR for R9 and 17 SSRs identified for R9 proposal.
- KAPS included in Indonesia's R9 submission.

## 2. Brokering technical support to CS organizations

### **Outputs:**

- CSAT Indonesia hosted R9 Workshop for writing GFATM proposal for KAPS.
- JOTHI's technical assistance provider and UNAIDS technical assistance provider in TWG in Round 9 proposal writing

### **Outcomes:**

- Indonesia Round 9 proposal finalized and going for peer review process
- JOTHI's proposal submission to serve as SR in Round 9 in 21 Provinces in Indonesia

## 3. Advocacy for CSO's involvement in GF grant implementation and for access to technical support

### **Outputs:**

- Political promises made by KPAN (National AIDS Commission) to support JOTHI, GWL – Ina and OPSI to be able implement Round 8 fund

### **Outcomes:**

- Partnership between JOTHI, GWL – Ina and OPSI as CS organization with PLHIV and KAPS based members increase and acknowledged by KPAN
- Additional funding secured to support CS in implementing R8

## **FIJI: COMMUNITY SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING (CSS)**

### Activities/Tasks and Schedule

#### Networking and Needs Assessment

- Consultation on CSS; as this was not done in Round 8 to identify capacity needs

#### Brokering Technical support for CS Organizations

- Developed CSS activities for Fiji's Round 9 Proposal Development Process
- Presentation on CSAT and other regional bodies that can provide support on CSS.
- Formulization of the CSS working group in the CCM to develop a CSS strategy and the Prevention component; developed TOR and provide input on the CCM composition.
- CSAT CSS Specialist worked with National and International Consultants to assist in the development fo Fiji's R9 submission

### **Outputs:**

- Needs Assessment conducted
- Development of a PR, SR and SSR criteria to allow for CS organizations to have a chance at being PR; even with limited capacity- intention is to build capacity

### **Outcomes:**

- Process to identify PRs, SRs, and SSRs established
- Building long term capacity for PRs, SRs and SSRs
- CCM Working Group on CSS established
- Managed to get the CCM to allocate a large percentage of activities towards CSS.
- Strategy for CSS; once the SRs have been selected.

## **UPDATE ON CSS WORKSHOP HELD OCT 2008**

The Coalition of Asia Pacific Regional Networks on HIV/AIDS (7 Sisters) (regional host of CSAT in Asia Pacific), CSAT AP, Asia Pacific Network of PLHIV (APN+) and the team for Community Follow-up to the Commission on AIDS in Asia's (CCAA) report - will focus on developing CSS components for Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, China, and India. A Consultation of CS representatives on the CCMs of the selected countries was convened in October 2008 to not only identify issues and assess needs but to develop a strategy for these CS representatives to return to their respective CCMs and advocate for inclusion of a CSS component into their Round 9 proposals which will be due on 1 June 2009. CSAT will coordinate efforts with CCAA, APN+ and Health Development Networks' (HDN) to support the CS representatives from the consultation influence their CCMs to include a CSS component in their proposals for R9 or R10. CCAA developed and submitted a proposal o TSF SEAP for 1 Regional Consultant and 6 local Consultants to work In-Country with the CS representative to develop these CSS components which has been accepted, funded and the regional consultant identified and secured.

Overall: Support, coordinate, maintain communication and periodic review overall project with CSAT AP and partners brokering and or providing technical support for local consultants in China, Malaysia, India, Vietnam and Cambodia:

### **China:**

- Plan, coordinate and periodic review of local consultant's work plan
- Support survey to gather community input and recommendation about community representation in Country Coordinating Mechanism in China Global Fund
- Assist China proposal building team in developing CSS component and integrating those component in the China RCC proposal

### **India**

- Plan, coordinate and periodic review of local consultant's work plan
- Review India's IDU CSS concept paper, provide inputs to the local consultant and support local consultant's involvement in IDU proposal building process
- Support local consultant in mobilizing funding for IDU national consultation
- Assist local consultant in developing CSS concept paper for MSM round 9 proposal & support for its integration in the country proposal

### **Cambodia**

- Plan, coordinate and periodic review of local consultant's work plan
- Support & assist local consultant in developing CSS concept paper and translating it to budget items

## **Vietnam**

- Consultant selected for CSS component
- CSS component developed
- CSS component accepted for R9 submission

**Output:** CSS components for 5 AP countries developed

**Outcome:** All CSS components have been accepted for R9 submission

## **OTHER CSAT AP ACTIVITIES**

- Completed analysis and compiled AP Region and Myanmar/Burma reports for CCM survey
- CSAT AP visited GFATM secretariat in February to talk about work in Asia Pacific Region, CSS and network with GFATM Asia Pacific Office and CS Partnership staff
- Attended Association of South East Asian Nations' (ASEAN) High Level Meeting on Migration
- Networked with UNAIDS Gender Work Group
- CSAT AP attended UNAIDS Regional Management Meeting (RMM) on operationalizing the MOU between GFATM and UNAIDS
- CSAT AP met with GFATM Director of Asia Office to develop strategy for Asia and the Pacific
- CSAT AP brokered financial support for Malaysia's R9 submission and CCM secretariat

## **The Coalition (7S) Activities For 2008**

As the Asia Pacific hub, CSAT, benefits greatly from the activities of The Coalition (7S) Secretariat so this summary of 2008 activities is included for information. Since the compilation of this information the secretariat has learned that AusAID has committed to supporting the Coalition with Core funding for 3 more years.

## **THE CORE FUNDING**

Year 1 of a two year grant) from AusAID/UNAIDS started 1 March 2008 and ended 28 Feb 2009. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year begins 1 Mar 2009 and ends 28 Feb 2010 at an amount to be determined. The introduction of Civil Society Action Team (CSAT) marked the first program funding that the Bangkok Secretariat was able to obtain outside of AusAID/UNAIDS and was followed by a grant from the Levi Straus Foundation to support the secretariat. Reports with much more detail for all activities are available upon request.

## **POLICY**

- ✘ In April 2007 the Regional Coordinator (RC) was nominated by The Coalition's membership to the role of Asia Pacific NGO Delegate to the UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board (PCB). In 2008, in this capacity the RC contributed substantially to the NGO Report and other decisions at the UNAIDS PCB's 22<sup>nd</sup>, Extraordinary and 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS. The RC represents Civil Society (CS) concerns at the UNAIDS PCB Bureau (composed of the Board Chair and Co-Chair, NGO and UNAIDS Geneva Secretariat), the PCN NGO Communications Facility Work

- Group and the UNAIDS UBW (Unified Budget and Work Plan) Sub-Committee. RC was also able to place coalition member CARAM Asia on the HIV Travel Restrictions Task Force whose advocacy got the member states including the US to remove HIV travel restrictions and again for the UNAIDS 24<sup>th</sup> Thematic People on the Move placed CARAM Asia on the Work Group and Advisory Board.
- ✘ In 2008 The Coalition (7S) secretariat became the GFATM's Regional Communications Focal Point (RFCP) that regularly shares information with CS on Global Fund activities. The RC also works between the GFATM's Communities and Developing Countries Delegation and contributed to the Development of and implementation of the GFATM's Sexual Minorities Strategy.
  - ✘ The Coalition (7S) secretariat (RC and Interim Project Coordinator) participated in the Civil Society Support Mechanism (CSSM) and President of the General Assembly's Civil Society Task Force (CSTF) to the June 2008 High Level Meeting (HLM). The RC as a member of the CSTF nominated and placed CARAM Asia Network Representative Suksma Ratri in the position of Opening Plenary Speaker (CS) that was the highest CS position at the HLM. In addition was able to place various representatives from The Coalition (7S) networks in speaking roles in the CS Hearing and Panels.
  - ✘ UNODC CS Consultation in Vienna July 2008. Working with Coalition member AHRN, the RC attended this meeting in July and along with other CS representatives from Asia Pacific contributed to the recommendations developed which are available in the Beyond 2008 Summary
  - ✘ The RC attended with other Coalition members APCASO and CARAM Asia the Association of South East Asia Nations (ASEAN) Aids Task Force (ATFOA) in October 2008 and the ASEAN HLM on Migration. The recommendations from this meeting are available upon request.

## NETWORKING

- ✘ **Working Associates:** The Coalition (7S) is a Regional organization and most of the work at national level would be done by the Coalition partners or in partnerships with other organizations such as APCOM, HDN, international Red Cross and International HIV/AIDS Alliance which the RC has actively cultivated relationships with in the last year.
- ✘ **PLHIV:** As a staff person hosted by APN+ the 7S RC and Secretariat has publicized The Coalition (7S) with the APN+ representatives drawn from 32 national networks in 28 countries. The 7S Secretariat works more closely and intensely with the national PLHIV Networks in Malaysia and Indonesia and to a lesser degree with Lanka Plus (Sri Lanka).
- ✘ **Cambodia and Vietnam:** The Coalition (7S) has been working with National Country Platforms in these countries to implement the MSCVSP. Attended the National Meeting of the HIV/AIDS Coordination Committee (HACC) in Cambodia to promote Minimum Standards and CSAT.
- ✘ **Thailand:** have been working with AHRN to outreach to the People Who Use Drugs (PUD) community. The secretariat working in partnership with AHRN has convened several meetings with this community including one to promote the UNAIDS 22<sup>nd</sup> PCB Meeting in Thailand (40 Thais attended), regular meetings with the 12D groups (PUD Coalition in Thailand) and individual activists of the

Thailand PUD community. We are also in touch with Raks Thai (Brahm Press CARAM Asia representative to The Coalition (7S) is staff there), Thai Red Cross, Thailand Treatment Action Group (TTAG) and working in partnership with Women of APN+ (WAPN+) have just begun outreach to Thailand's Positive Women's Network

- ✘ **ATFOA:** As a member of the ASEAN AIDS Task Force (ATFOA) the RC networks with the various CS representatives and other partners that attend and where appropriate support various activities with the ASEAN secretariat.
- ✘ **GFATM CCM:** Through CSAT has worked with GFATM CS CCM members in Indonesia, India, China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia. (See CSAT Reports)
- ✘ **CS Workshops:** CSAT staff also attended 2 regional workshops in Kuala Lumpur hosted by TSF where we were able to promote our GFATM activities and outreach to others involved with CS in a host of other AP countries.
- ✘ **GFATM:** Other GFATM activities have helped to promote 7S to other national organizations out side of AP especially via the Communities and Developing Countries Delegations
- ✘ **MSM/TG:** The RC has been working with the APCOM Secretariat to coordinate efforts and maximize resources that has allowed outreach to National MSM and TG activists.
- ✘ **PUD:** The RC has also been doing outreach to the Regional PUD communities through INPUD Asia and the National Drug Users Network in Indonesia

#### **INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCES**

- ✘ **ICAAP:** The organizing of ICAAP 9 is currently underway. The RC is working closely with the International Advisory Committee (IAC); APN+ and APNSW who represent The Coalition (7S) on the IAC, APCOM, several Indonesia National Networks that work with or represent KAPS and co-chairs of 7 CS Forums that will take place pre-congress as well as the Local Organizing Committee. The LOC has requested that the RC have more of a presence in country in the time leading up to 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP in Indonesia. This will be dependent on the budget funded for the next period. In addition The Coalition (7S) will support 4 booths in the Exhibition area which will highlight KAPS, those being PLHIV, Sex Workers, People Who Use Drugs and MSM/TG. The respective networks being APN+, APNSW, APCOM and INPUD-Asia.
- ✘ **IAC MEXICO CITY:** APNSW and AHRN represented the Coalition interests on the International Planning Committee. The Secretariat was asked to host the Asian Networking Zone in the Global Village which was agreed to and provided a high profile for the Coalition's Secretariat who in addition to co-hosting one of the performances in the opening Ceremony and on the Global Village Stage saw its Coalition members active in the Special Session for Asia, PLHIV Forum, Global MSM Forum, PLHIV Focus Group for Future IACs, various CSAT Sessions, sessions on the Independent Commission on AIDS in Asia and a meeting with UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon.

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ✘ **Working Agreement:** The Coalition contacted the Technical Support Facility (TSF) South East Asia Pacific (SEAP) with request for a consultant to develop in consultation with Coalition members a Working Agreement (WA), the first such document for the Coalition. A consultant was selected who met with

members of the previous management Committee (MC) in March 2008 to develop a work plan, agree to a process and identify sources of information and content. A first draft of the WA was developed and circulated to MC and Secretariat staff in April 2008 for feedback. CS representatives familiar with the Coalition's history and work were invited to give feedback as well. The Working Agreement was presented to Coalition members at a Face-to-Face consultation in Bangkok in May 2008. Agreement was reached on the 6<sup>th</sup> WA Draft and the coalition members were invited to consult with their broader constituents through June 2008. An agreement was reached to bring together a smaller group in July to review and approve a final working draft. All together 10 Drafts of the WA were developed and the 10<sup>th</sup> Draft was accepted at a meeting of Network representatives as a working document. The plans are for the Secretariat staff to operationalize the WA and provide feedback to the Coalition at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) planned for November. The WA will remain a working draft for the period through November 2009. The WA is such that annual updates can be made at the Coalition's AGM to keep content relevant. For more information see final meeting Report of ***Developing the Foundation By Which We Work May 2008*** and the ***Draft Developing the Foundation By Which We Work II July 2008***

- ✘ **New Management Committee:** The terms of the previous MC ended in May 2008. Elections were held in June and new Representatives from the following networks were elected CARAM Asia, and APNSW, with APN+ continuing in it's permanent seat (a concession to GIPA) and AHRN continuing to provide continuity from the previous MC. CARAM Asia, APN+ and APNSW representatives are all based out of Thailand but each of those networks have Bangkok based representatives who committed to supporting and mentoring our new MC members.
- ✘ **Financial Management System** Worked with the APN+ Accountant on the creation of a financial system for the Coalition (7S). has improved from non-existent to fully functioning. A monthly report is generated and quarterly audits are conducted.
- ✘ **Coalition Communications:** Secretariat staff developed a basic brochure describing the Coalition using information from the WA to be distributed in Mexico City at the 17<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference (IAC). An agreement was reached that this document would suffice for the time being and that the Secretariat would further assess the need and what content should be included before contracting a graphic designer or a large printing was needed. Discussion for the design and content to update the Coalition's web page and possibly a new Coalition logo were started at the Coalition's July meeting.

## **RESTRUCTURING**

The restructuring will continue with a focus on rebuilding the Coalition on the recommendations that stem from the Commission on AIDS in Asia Report and particularly Key Affected Populations (KAPS). The secretariat will see the integration of the prioritized KAPS those being People Who Use Drugs (PUD), Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM), Sex Workers (SW)) into the Coalition (7S) Membership, Representation & Infrastructure along with Founding Members this will be done via the following



- ⌘ Identify strategies (strategic plan, timeline, resources needed, etc) to integrate KAPs into Coalition
- ⌘ Identify possible supporting partners in country that would be able to assist in identifying, mapping & measuring needs of the region's KAPS
- ⌘ Identify and Outreach to potential regional partners that would be able to assist in identifying, mapping & measuring needs of the region's KAPS
- ⌘ Identification of community-based organizations serving KAPS needs in participating countries (TBD) in terms of organizational management, service delivery, and participation in decision-making level
- ⌘ Key Recommendations targeting KAPS and advocacy briefs based on CAA recommendations for KAPS led advocacy at international, national and or local levels
- ⌘ Integration KAPS reflected through Coalition proposals

**Other activities**

- ⌘ Updated website and Coalition Brochure
- ⌘ Possible name change (Koalition of Asia Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Networks (KAP NET possibility)
- ⌘ Conduct External Evaluation of Coalition Restructuring/Move to Bangkok from 2007-2009
- ⌘ Signed MOU with Regional Partners
- ⌘ Develop Strategic Plan for Coalition Beyond 2010