



# Applying Lessons in East Asia – Building a Program

**Maria Margarita Nunez,**  
Transport Specialist, EASTR  
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## Applying Lessons in East Asia – Building a Program

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- In the fight against AIDS the World Bank is providing support for mitigating the spread of HIV/AIDS through transport sector projects in East Asia. The activities are focused on the awareness and prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS in the areas surrounding the improved roads



**Lao PDR. Northern Economic Corridor Project  
ADB Credit No. 1998-Lao (SF)**

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**Scope of the Project:**

- upgrading the existing 228 km road between PRC and Thailand to a seven (7) meter wide paved road;
- an area development plan; and
- capacity building in environmental and social monitoring



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## Area Development Plan Component

- to ensure that the development benefits reach the people living in the project area, the resources they rely on are protected and developed in a sustainable way, and the adverse impacts are mitigated



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- The road construction and improvement was found to potentially lead to short-term and medium-term negative impacts in terms of higher incidence of sexually transmitted diseases (STD), HIV/AIDS, drug use, and trafficking of women and children



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The spread of HIV/AIDS currently does not appear to be of epidemic proportions, but official data indicate increasing levels of infected people

- from 504 cases at the end of 1999 to 1700 at the end of 2003, and
- the number of deaths from HIV/AIDS increasing from 24 in 2001 to 200 in 2003



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### Activities under implementation:

- Village awareness and prevention
- Service worker awareness and prevention
- Construction worker awareness and prevention
- Public awareness campaign in priority business
- Capacity building for project working teams and the Government counterparts



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- The project development objective is to assist the Kingdom of Cambodia to enhance the livelihood of the peoples residing in the provinces of Kampong Thom, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear and Siem Reap by providing sustainable access to markets and essential services





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- The community awareness component integrates communities and their representatives in the improvement of local road safety, as well as the awareness and prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS that are often associated with transport services, in the areas surrounding the improved roads in the four project provinces



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- The MPWT and the MRD will target key road sections with an AIDS awareness program including standard contractual clauses in the works contracts to address both the behavior of road workers and the requisite outreach to surrounding village residents



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HIV has spread to the general population in almost every province and the major mode of transmission is heterosexual sex.

- The HIV prevalence rate is 2.6%
- about 170,000 adults live with HIV
- In 2003, approximately 15,000 AIDS deaths were reported



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Main activities under implementation are:

- Rapid Assessment in target areas;
- Provide knowledge and life skills on HIV/AIDS and STD to the contractors' employees, and local communities along the roads under construction, including some local entertainment venues;
- Provide Information, Education and Communication materials;
- Provide counseling and advise to contractors' employees, high-risk groups of local community to find counseling with local service centers and partner NGO's centers