

Asia-Pacific Region

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Overview

- Harm reduction
- Response to COVID-19
- Gender-based violence
- Mental health

Harm reduction

- ❑ Many countries have implemented harm reduction programs (i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam)
- ❑ Most of the found programs were led by NGO/civil society in collaboration with government agency and public health sector
- ❑ Problems: Legal issues and law enforcement dilemma
- ❑ Challenges: Narrow scope/limited to a specific area
- ❑ Good practice: Police mediated Legal and Social Assistance to Drug Users in Vietnam
 - Community-based program
 - Strong cooperation led by police

Response to COVID-19

- A variety of ways in respond to COVID-19 in Asian countries
 - Technology-based response (Robot, mobile phone, drone)
 - Community-based response (Volunteers)
 - Media-based intervention (Spreading awareness)
- Law enforcement agencies partnered with public health sector
- Depending upon resources
- Good practice: Village health volunteer in Thailand
 - Home visit for those returning from risk areas
 - Preliminary health check & report
 - Working together with local police officers
 - ❖ Local quarantine & Home quarantine

Gender-based violence

- Some countries have vigorously implemented programs related to gender-based violence including India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Maldives
- 2 categories of programs: 1) Prevention-oriented focusing on men/offenders 2) Victim Assistance-oriented focusing on providing help to victims
- Mostly led by NGOs/Civil society
- Narrow scope/limited to a specific area
- Good practice: RABTA in Pakistan
 - Police based response/training
 - in partnership with the **Islamabad Capital Territory Police (ICTP) and National Police Bureau (NPB)** the National Police Academy (NPA), provincial police training wings and various police colleagues and schools
 - building the capacity and enhancing the sensitivity of the police personnel to effectively respond to women and children; survivors of violence

Mental health

- Many mental health-related programs were implemented in Asian countries
- Mostly carried out by government agency and health care sector
- Limited roles of law enforcement agencies
- Good practice: A psychological autopsy project for suicides in South Korea
 - To analyze the causes of suicides and prevent it since 2015
 - K-PAC(Korea Psychological Autopsy Checklist)
 - Police providing the information on suicide victims
 - The Ministry of Health and Welfare, Central psychological center conducting PA and analysis of the cases

Envisaging the Future
