

MAP OF VIET NAM

Source: UN Data



Summary

This project supports the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Viet Nam by raising awareness of policy makers and health service providers on the physical, social, and mental well-being of migrants.

The project will build a knowledge base on the importance of meeting the health needs of migrants and provide recommendations on how to better integrate migrant health into public health policies.

Background

Twenty years of economic reforms in Viet Nam have resulted in considerable economic growth and rapid changes in migration patterns with larger urban areas attracting considerable numbers of migrants. There are an estimated 16-18 million unregistered migrants in Viet Nam, many of whom have difficulty accessing housing and social services.

*IOM IS COMMITTED TO
THE PRINCIPLE THAT
HUMANE AND ORDERLY
MIGRATION BENEFITS
MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY*

Migration Health Capacity Support

In addition to internal migration, out-migration from Viet Nam, in the form of temporary labour migration, is increasing. Currently there are an estimated 500,000 documented Vietnamese migrants working in over 40 countries worldwide.

Migrants often face special health vulnerabilities related to the nature of their migration and mobility, cultural beliefs and practices, gender, living conditions, access to services, and language barriers. Additionally, health promotion programmes are often not “migrant-friendly” and when they do specifically target migrants, they often increase stigma and discrimination.

During the 61st World Health Assembly in 2008, Member States passed a resolution on the health of migrants, calling

for equitable access to health promotion, disease prevention, and care for migrants, as well as research, migrant-sensitive policies, and advocacy.

Viet Nam’s Ministry of Health, with support from IOM, is therefore working towards implementing activities on improving the health of migrants.

Objective:

To support the progress of the Government of Viet Nam towards achieving the objectives of the Health of Migrants Resolution of the World Health Assembly, particularly to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Health towards achieving the objectives and strategies of the Resolution, and including migrants and mobile populations into national health programmes and policies.

Project at a Glance

Target Area:	Viet Nam
Timeframe:	Apr. 2010—Dec. 2012
Donor:	IOM
Project Partners:	Ministry of Health (Viet Nam)
Target Beneficiaries:	International and internal migrants

Target Beneficiaries:

Primary Group: Government officials within the Ministry of Health (and other relevant ministries)

Secondary Group: Internal and international migrants

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IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation internationale pour les migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Activities and Outputs:

- **Desk Review:**
A comprehensive review of policies, programmes, and literature related to migrant health is complete.
- **Consultation Workshop:**
A consultation workshop was organized in June 2011 to identify different stakeholders and their role in the area of migration and health. Approximately 60 to 70 officials from different sectors of the Government and civil society organizations participated in this consultation workshop. It was one of the first workshops in Viet Nam which generated a broad discussion



Regional Consultation Workshop, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
Photo © IOM 2011.

about migration and health across ministries.

- **Research on Migrant Health:**
A report on migrant health is complete, based on original, qualitative data. The report provides a policy gap analysis and recommendations on improving migrant health through policy tools.
- **Issue paper:**
Based on initial qualitative data, an issue paper will place the migrant health challenges in Viet Nam in the context of global standards and good practices, and provide recommendations for a national plan of action.
- **Policy Workshop:**
A policy workshop will be held to discuss issue paper recommendations. It will serve as a forum between experts and government officials on global good practices in migrant health.



Migrants in dirty and difficult jobs in Viet Nam.
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IOM's Migration Health Division

IOM's Migration Health Division (MHD) aims to meet the needs of Member States in managing health related aspects of migration, and to promote evidence-based policies and comprehensive preventive and curative health programmes which are beneficial, accessible, and equitable for vulnerable migrants and mobile populations.

The Migration Health Division works in five interconnected strategic functions to address the migration health challenges throughout the migration process: Advocacy; Health Policy Development; Health Service Delivery; Capacity-Building; and Research and Dissemination.

Other IOM Migration Health Projects in Asia and the Pacific

Sri Lanka	<i>Technical Cooperation Strategy With the Government of Sri Lanka on Migration, Health and Development</i>
Cambodia	<i>Strengthening Migrant Health Structures & Services in Selected border Provinces of Cambodia</i>
Thailand	<i>Migrant Health Project, Tak and Chiang Rai Provinces</i>

For further information on Migration Health projects in the region, please contact:

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