



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

HTF 07/2008A/02

**HIV/AIDS PREVENTION POLICY AMONG
MIGRANT WORKERS AND FOREIGN SPOUSES
– CHINESE TAIPEI'S EXPERIENCE**

Submitted by: Chinese Taipei

**APEC SEMINAR ON SOCIAL POLICIES FOR MIGRANTS TO
PREVENT THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV/AIDS**

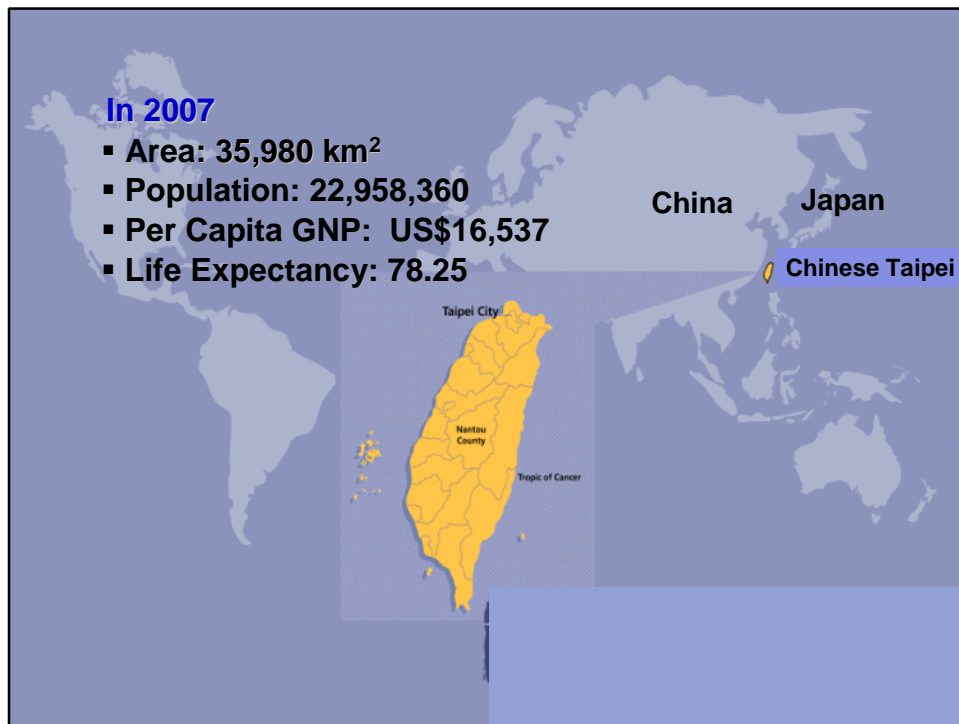
**Ha Noi, Viet Nam
18 – 19 September 2008**

 **HIV/AIDS Prevention Policy
among
Migrant workers and Foreign Spouses**

Chinese Taipei's experiences

Yen-fang, Huang

Centers for Disease Control
Department of Health
Chinese Taipei



The Number of Foreign Labor in Chinese Taipei

Economies	Total	Housekeepers & Caretakers	Other Jobs
Indonesia	125,450	109,714	15,736
Thailand	84,730	1,638	83,092
Philippine	85,489	23,164	62,325
Viet Nam	78,457	33,779	44,678
Mongolia	10	3	7
Malaysia	11	-	11
Sum	374,147	168,298	205,849
	(100%)	(45%)	(55%)

Data from Council of Labor Affairs, Chinese Taipei (July, 2008)

Population of Foreign Spouses in Chinese Taipei, 1987-2007

Economies	Foreign Spouses	Percentage
Viet Nam	78,611	19.7%
Indonesia	26,176	6.6%
Thailand	8,988	2.3%
Philippine	6,139	1.5%
Cambodia	4,574	1.2%
Japan	2,629	0.7%
China	250,160	62.7%
Hong Kong or Macau	11,207	2.8%
Others	10,236	2.5%
Total	398,720	100.0%

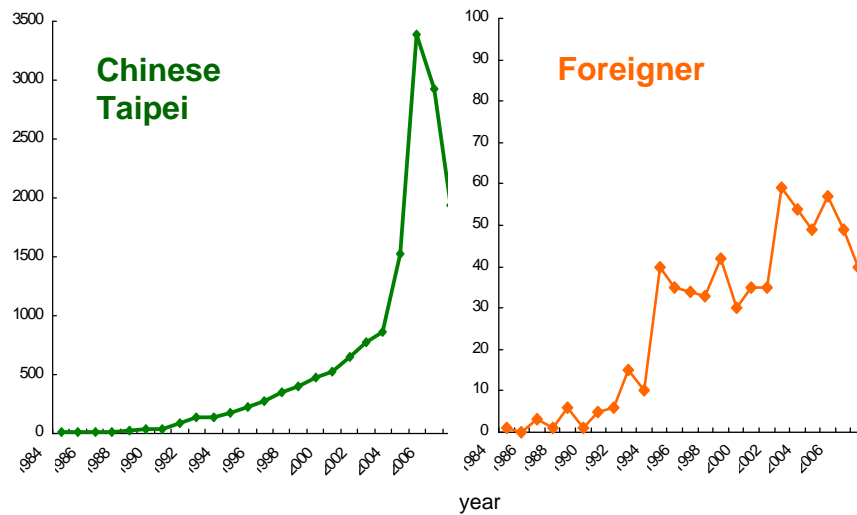
Data from Ministry of Interior Affairs , Chinese Taipei (Nov, 2007)

Reported HIV Cases by Economies in Chinese Taipei, 1984-2007

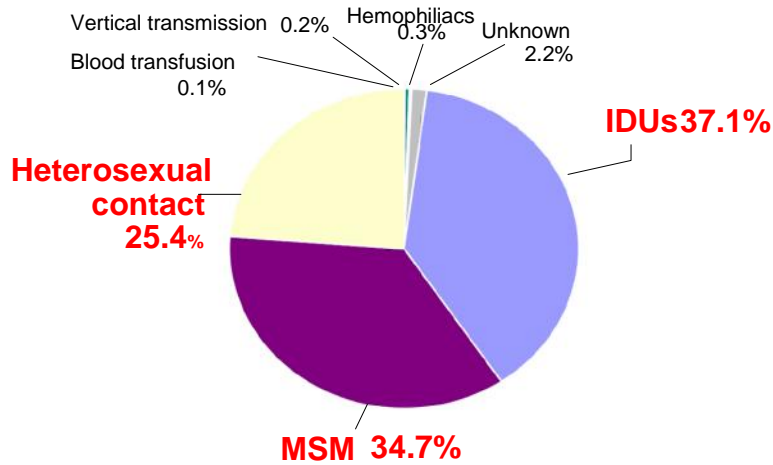
Status	HIV(+)	
	N	(%)
Chinese Taipei	15,011	(96)
Foreigner	640	(4)
Total	15,651	(100)

- Cumulative reported AIDS cases : 4,250
- Cumulative AIDS-related deaths : 1,870

Reported HIV Cases by Year and Economies in Chinese Taipei, 1984-2007



Cumulative HIV/AIDS Reported Cases by Mode of Transmission, 1984-2007



Cumulative HIV Reported Cases by Economies and Mode of Transmission in Chinese Taipei, 1984-2007

Mode	Foreigner	%	Chinese Taipei	%	Total	%
Heterosexual	<u>402</u>	<u>62.8</u>	3,573	23.8	3975	25.4
MSM	79	12.3	<u>5,347</u>	<u>35.6</u>	5426	34.7
IDUs	24	3.8	<u>5,785</u>	<u>38.5</u>	5809	37.1
Hemophiliacs	0	0	53	0.4	53	0.3
Transfusion	0	0	16	0.1	16	0.1
MTCT	3	0.5	25	0.2	28	0.2
Unknown	132	20.6	212	1.4	344	2.2
Total	640	100	15,011	100	15,651	100

Reported Foreign Cases of HIV by status in Chinese Taipei, 1984-2007

	HIV(+)	
	N	%
Foreign worker	160	25%
Foreign spouse	141	22%
Other	339	53%
Total	640	100%

Political Leadership

AIDS Prevention and Control Committee

Chairman: Minister of Health

Committee: Representatives from 13 ministries and NGO, scholars and the infected

Secretary General: Director of CDC

AIDS Control Program in Chinese Taipei

Prevention : Stop new infections

- ◆ Health education
- ◆ Safe blood transfusion
- ◆ Harm reduction program

Detection : Early case finding

- ◆ HIV/AIDS case report
- ◆ Voluntary counseling and testing
- ◆ Active surveillance
- ◆ Lab Q. A. for HIV testing

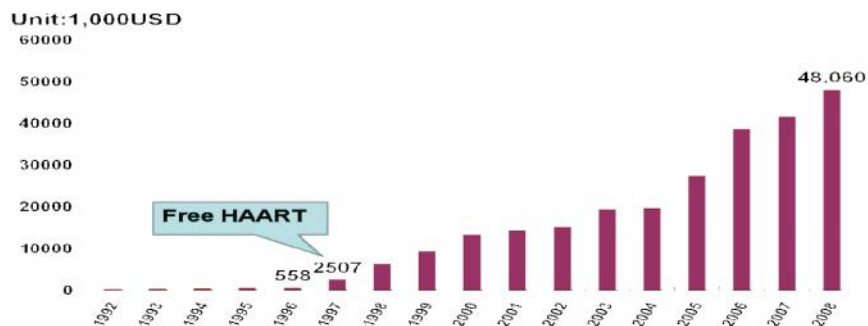
Care for the infected

- ◆ Free HAART policy
- ◆ Mid-way homes

Care and Treatment

- ◆ Free medical care with AZT since 1988
- ◆ Free HAART since 1997
- ◆ 41 designated HIV/AIDS hospitals

The Budget Expenditure of HIV Treatment by Year in Chinese Taipei, 1992-2008



HIV Prevention for Foreign Workers

Government: Council of Labor Affairs
Department of Health
NGO: Chinese Taipei AIDS Foundation

Strategy

- Council of labor affairs have ordered the training course for labor health & safety admin must include HIV education unit by Labor Safety and Health Act since 2008
- Department of Health asked designated hospitals to provide HIV education through the process of foreign labor health checkup
- “Big hug with the infected” campaign-NGO train the infected enters factories to give talk

“Big hug with the infected” campaign



HIV Prevention for Foreign Spouses

Government: Ministry of Interior Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Health
NGO: Chinese Taipei AIDS Foundation
etc...

Strategy

- Provide free universal HIV VCT for pregnant women include foreign spouse since 2005
- Change immigration related regulation
- HIV prevention education campaign through local health bureau

Case analysis of HIV vertical transmission till 2003 in Chinese Taipei

9 MTCT cases were reported

- ◆ The age from 1 to 8 years old
- ◆ They were born to 8 HIV infected mothers
- ◆ None of the mothers had been tested for HIV
- ◆ Three mothers were immigrants from other Asian Economies

10.2% of neonate's mothers per year are from foreign spouses recently in Chinese Taipei



Free universal HIV VCT for all pregnant women since 2005

The Result of Universal HIV Screening for Pregnant Women in Chinese Taipei

Year	2005	2006	2007
Total Screening Number	235,791	199,428	206,165
Total Screening Rate	99%	95%	98%
Proportion of foreign spouse	9.9%	9.5%	7.9%
HIV positive number	28	31	7
Native spouse	21	25	5
Foreign spouse	7	6	2
Positive Rate (per 100,000)	11.9	15.5	3.4

The Procedure for Foreign Spouses to Apply for Chinese Taipei Permanent Residence



★ Mandatory health checkup with HIV test
HIV positive means failure to the application



Break some of Family, children loss mother

Change immigration related regulation

1990~2000

AIDS Prevention and Control Act

Reject all visa applications for foreigners with HIV, which also include foreign spouses.

2000~2005

AIDS Prevention and Control Act

Add: If DOH can prove that the foreign spouses are infected by their native spouses, or infected in the process of domestic medical care, DOH shall notify the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the immigration office that the HIV positive result may not be used as the sole reason to deny their applications for residence or permanent residence

Change immigration related regulation

2005~2007

AIDS Prevention and Control Act

Added : Individuals with HIV who apply for visas, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may issue them short-term visas for no more than fourteen days at one time

2007~now

HIV Infection Control and Patient Rights Protection Act

Added : The citizens without household registration who have relatives within the second degree of kinship who have household registration in Chinese Taipei, DOH shall notify the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the immigration office that the HIV positive result may not be used as the sole reason to deny their applications for residence or permanent residence.

Chinese Taipei's HIV Prevention Strategies for Foreign Spouses

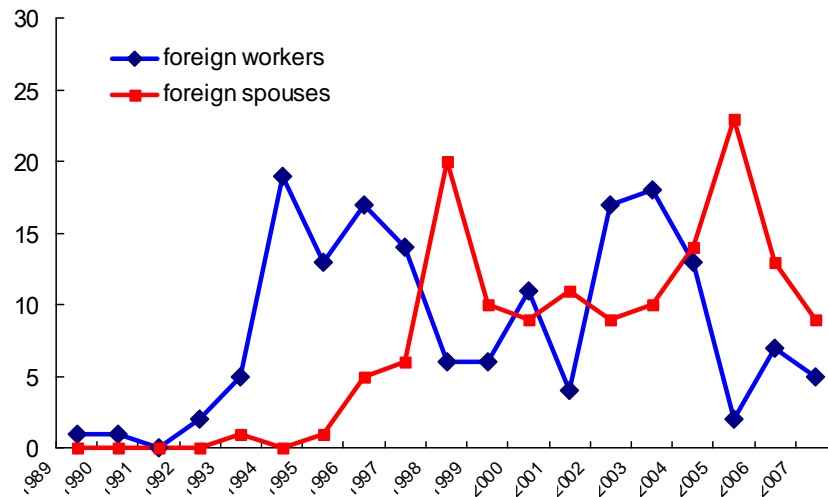
- Assisting foreign spouses to insure the Health Insurance.
- Formulating the “Project of Reproductive Health Management for Foreign Spouses”, providing all foreign spouses at a childbearing age about reproductive health education.
- Providing prenatal health checks and allowance for translation fee to foreign spouses
- Training of HIV prevention foreign spouses volunteers- Reproduction health care interpretation for foreign spouses
- Creating many economies's language teaching materials

HIV Prevention Education campaign



Through HIV prevention campaign, the correct rate of HIV knowledge was from 45% of pre-test to 85% of post-test

Reported Foreign Workers and Foreign Spouses of HIV by year, 1989-2007



Conclusion

- In recent years, data from foreign workers and foreign spouses may suggest that **our effort is presumable positive.**
- However, more emphasis is still needed for a better **protection of the right of HIV infected foreign spouses in Chinese Taipei.**



Thanks for your attention!