



Thailand's Annual International Training Course (AITC)

Course Information

Ending HIV-related Stigma in Health Facilities to Fast-Track 90-90-90 Targets 22 June – 3 July 2020

Closing date for application: 1 April 2020

TICA : Thailand International Cooperation Agency is a national focal point for Thailand's international development cooperation. TICA was established in 2004 to realize Thailand's aspiration to be a contributor of development cooperation. Believing that global challenge are best addressed by international cooperation and global, especially through the concept of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, TICA continues to realign our focuses in order to deliver Thailand's commitment to be a relevant partner in global agendas including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

AITC : Annual International Training Course was initiated in 1991 as a framework in providing short-term training for developing partners. Today, the AITC remains one of TICA's flagship programmes. It offers not only a training experience, but also a platform in exchanging ideas and establishing professional network among participants from across the world.

DAS : Division of AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections is under Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, DAS has initiated its establishment of the International Training Center (ITC) in June 2004. ITC is established as an excellence center for providing technical assistance, transferring knowledge and capacity-strengthening international participants in a

continuing, regular and efficient manner. Throughout our significant experiences and expertise in Thailand in implementing effective HIV programs, ITC in collaboration with many international agencies, Thai academic institutes, and experts have developed and conducted various HIV/AIDS and STIs training programs regularly for national and international health care personnel and program managers. The training courses and study visits were arranged by both annual scheduled and upon ad hoc requests from the other countries or donor agencies.

AITC Theme : Public Health

Stigma and discrimination (S&D) is a key obstacle for the achievement of the SDGs which aims to end AIDS by 2030. Generally, fear of stigma and discrimination is the main reason why people are reluctant to access and retention in care for effective treatment and prevention for a better quality of life. One study found that participants who reported high levels of stigma were over four times more likely to report poor access to care. This contributes to the expansion of the global HIV epidemic and a higher number of AIDS-related deaths. Also, an unwillingness to take an HIV test means that more people are diagnosed late, when

the virus may have already progressed to AIDS. This makes treatment less effective, increasing the likelihood of transmitting HIV to others, and causing early death. In addition, people who are at risk but not infected yet may get prevention services to remain HIV negative.

Course Objectives

This training course aims at sharing Thailand's knowledge and experiences in reducing stigma and discrimination in healthcare settings to fast-track 90-90-90 targets and ending AIDS by 2030. At the end of this course, participants are expected to;

- 1) Better understand on the concept, factors, impacts of stigma and discrimination in health facilities, as well as having positive attitudes toward PLHIV and key affected populations, the mean of post-test scores is significantly higher than that of the pre-test.
- 2) Can develop an action plan for reducing stigma and discrimination related to HIV and key affected populations in their settings using the lesson learned from the training.

Also, the knowledge/skills gained from the course could be applied to the work responsibility of participants. In addition, if the curriculum and the training are achieved, it will be proposed to organize the on-site coaching under the South-South Cooperation in order to strengthen the S&D reduction program in their countries.

Course Methodology

Training methodologies to be used during this training course include;

- 1) Lecture;
- 2) Discussion;
- 3) Group work;
- 4) Demonstration;
- 5) Practical exercise;
- 6) Field visit.

Assignment and Evaluation

1) Assignment

- In-class participation.
- Submission and presentation of "Country Report" which contains information on the current situation and challenges facing farming practices in participant's respective countries.

2) Evaluation

- Knowledge, attitudes, and skills of participants will be evaluated by using pre-test and post-test questionnaires. A Pre-test will be applied before the initiation of the training course and a post-test will be conducted using the same questionnaire at the end of the course. The results will be made known to each individual with the average score of the class. At the completion of training, it is expected that the mean of post-test scores will be significantly higher than that of the pre-test.
- Also, at the end of the training course, participants will be required to evaluate the overall training in terms of the session's usefulness, materials, and the information and knowledge gained. Recommendations and suggestions on the training curriculum will be needed.
- All participants with at least 80% of training attendance will be given a certificate of attendance issued and signed by the Department of Disease Control.

- 3) Attendance - Participants are required to attend all activities organized during the course. TICA reserves the rights to revoke its fellowship offered or take appropriate action in case a participant is in attendance of less than 90 percent of the training hours.

Course Outline

This training course focuses on what is S&D and how to reduce S&D in health facilities. Topics of the training are such as;

- 1) Concept of S&D and human rights;
- 2) Concept of 3x4 package of stigma and discrimination reduction in health facilities;
- 3) Demonstration: S&D-5 activities of participatory training;
- 4) Practice: S&D-5 activities of participatory training;
- 5) Concept and method of continuous quality improvement (CQI);
- 6) S&D measurement and M&E;

Participant Criteria

Applicants should have the following general qualifications:

- 1) Age 27 to 50 years old.
- 2) Be in good physical and mental health in order to undergo and be able to attend the entire course.
- 3) Have a good command of spoken and written English.

As well as, should have the followings specific qualifications:

- 1) Work in HIV/AIDS Program as
 - National HIV program officer in management/coordination level.
 - Subnational HIV program officer in management/coordination level.
 - Hospital sector in management/coordination level.
 - Civil Society Organization/NGO (must have project in cooperation with national AIDS program office/subnational HIV program office/ hospital.
- 2) Have experiences/skill in facilitating activities of participatory training.
- 3) Expected to continue working in stigma and discrimination reduction program/project after finishing this course.

Application

- 1) Candidates must be nominated/ endorsed by their respective governments of the eligible countries/territories by the closing date for application.
 - 2) Complete nomination documents must be submitted to TICA through the Royal Thai Embassy/ Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations/Royal Thai Consulate-General accredited to eligible countries/ territories.
- (See “List of Eligible Countries” for more information)

Number of Participants

20 persons.

Selection and Confirmation

- 1) Selection of participants will be given priority to applicants from countries in Asia and the Pacific Region.
- 2) Particular attention shall be paid to the candidates’ background, their current position, and practical use they expect to make of the knowledge and experience gained from training on the return to their positions.
- 3) Selection of participants is also based on geographical distribution and gender balance.
- 4) Successful applicants will be informed approximately
- 5) Successful applicants must return duly completed and signed acceptance form by the deadline to confirm their participation in the programme.

Training Institution and Venue

The training and accommodation will be held and arranged at Holiday Inn Bangkok Silom hotel which located on Silom Road, Bangkok.

Terms of Awards

AITC Training Fellowship* includes training fee, return economy-class airfare, accommodation, allowance, insurance, airport transfer and social programme.

* Subject to rates and conditions established by TICA

Contact

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For more information on qualifications, application forms, and application procedures, please visit our website at <http://www.tica.thaigov.net/main/en/information/73803-Annual-International-Training-Course.html>

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