

Press Release

The 8th International Conference on Public Health among GMS Countries ***Moving toward the Universal Health Coverage: Strengthening Quality of Care***

SOKHA HOTEL AND RESORT, PHNOM PENH CAMBODIA
November 05 - 06, 2016

Annually, the six countries (Cambodia, Yunnan – China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam) with 13 universities in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Public Health Academic Network take turns hosting the International Public Health Conference with the aim of enhancing regional capacity to address major public health needs and challenges through the delivery of public health education, research, and policy advocacy for the improvement of population health and health equity.

This year, the **School of Public Health of the National Institute of Public Health** is hosting the **8th International Conference on Public Health among GMS Countries** with the main theme entitled ***Moving toward the Universal Health Coverage: Strengthening Quality of Care***. This is the first of its kind to be conducted in Cambodia where the field of Public Health is relative new, even among medical professionals, despite having employed many public health professionals in the ministry's health system.

Hosting the International Conference on Public Health in Cambodia is a golden opportunity for the National Institute of Public Health to showcase the important role of public health in improving the health of people in the country and in the region. Hopefully, this conference will serve as a starting point to engage more stakeholders to promote public health interest in Cambodia.

An estimated 400 participants will discuss and share their expertise, experiences, new research findings, and lessons learned at the conference. They are faculty members and students from all schools of public health of the GMS Public Health Academic Network. Also public health experts from WHO, Belgium, US-CDC, Germany, and Singapore are invited to talk and share their diverse public health expertise on health systems, universal health coverage (UHC), quality of health care, linking health policy to implementation, public health education and challenges in implementing UHC.

In total, we have about **185 abstracts for both oral presentations and poster exhibitions** from diverse public health topics including burden of diseases (both communicable and non-communicable), public health intervention and health promotion, determinants of health, universal health coverage and quality of care. In addition, we have plenary sessions from public health experts who will present keynote speeches on the UHC and SDGs, global lessons on how to achieve UHC, Cambodia's UHC policy and health strategy as well achievements and challenges, examples of quality care implementation methods and the success of UHS in Thailand, followed by panel experts discussing their experiences of implementation and challenges.

Further contact:

Assoc. Prof. Chhea Chhorvann, MD, MPH, PhD
Director, National Institute of Public Health