SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF HIV / AIDS ON HOUSEHOLD VULNERABILITY AND POVERTY IN VIETNAM

Presented by Dr Ngo Thi Thanh Huong (Alice)

Abstract

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is an important global public health issue. The social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS flows from an increase in premature morbidity and mortality caused by the epidemic. Many studies have documented that HIV/AIDS affects and impacts household level poverty first, and then has an effect on the extent and depth of poverty at a national level. In Vietnam, in spite of significant attempts in mitigating HIV/AIDS impacts, the HIV epidemic has been spreading from high risk groups to the general population. Statistical data shows that HIV prevalence among people age 15-49 increased from 0.44% in 2003 to 0.54% in 2007. While the incidence of HIV infection is increasing, care and treatment services for PLHIV are not available. This calls for a study that can provide for a suitable platform to assess, and analyze the current problems associated with the economic impact of poverty on household vulnerability and poverty. Updated and current understanding of the social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS will also inform the implementation of focused support and mitigation interventions alongside targeted prevention activities in order to minimise the social and economic consequences of HIV experience by many other countries. Additionally, at present, Vietnam is implementing the Socio-economic Development Strategy 2001-2020. Information from this study will provide crucial evidence to advocate for the integration of HIV prevention and control activities into socio-economic development planning/policy making.

When: Tuesday 12 October 2010
Time: Presentation from 10.30 -11.30 am
Where: Health Sciences Boardroom 400:405
Tea and coffee will be provided.

About the Presenter

Dr Ngo Thi Thanh Huong graduated as a Medical Doctor from Hanoi Medical University in 2006. In 2008, she gained a Master of Arts in Population and Reproductive Health in Institute of Population and Social Research – Mahidol University and a Master of Science in Gender and Development Studies in Asia Institute of Technology in Thailand. Currently, she is working in the Faculty of Public Health and Center for HIV/AIDS Research and Training in Hanoi Medical University. She lectures in epidemiology and social research methods. Her current research interests are in population and community health and sexual health, with a focus on HIV/AIDS and reproductive health among vulnerable people such as women, migrants and people living with HIV. She is also interested in anthropology, behaviour science and gender perspectives in her research.