

Migration, Health and Globalisation Strategic Planning Workshop

BOX 1: Four MHG Key Focus Areas

FOCUS 1:

Address the failure of healthcare systems to meet the needs and rights of migrant workers from the context of globalisation.

FOCUS 2:

Analyse the role of WTO policies (GATS Mode 4), FTAs and IFIs in influencing labour flexibilisation and the removing of labour and health rights of migrant workers.

FOCUS 3:

Examine the neo-liberal structures and agreements such as WTO, FTAs and TRIPS+ in terms of the social costs on migrant worker communities and their increased vulnerabilities to HIV infections and transmission.

FOCUS 4:

The role of donors:

- Examining development aid and conditionalities and looking into the growing dependency on remittances as a financing tool for development.
- Analysing the Global Fund and its role in the issues related to migration, HIV and AIDS and healthcare systems in order to highlight the real needs of migrant communities in developing countries.

Taskforce members broke out into workshop groups based on the four MHG Key Focus Areas (Box 1) and actively carried out debates, discussions and exercises to plan and map the type of action research, advocacy and capacity building for implementation in line with the four MHG key focus areas.

A step by step process was taken to develop the MHG action plan. First, breakout groups drew out a framework for each key focus area, then they mapped out strategic community spaces, stakeholders and partners for intervention. After laying the foundation for each focus area a process of brainstorming potential MHG action plans and prioritisation of regional MHG activities for 2008-2009 took place. Workshop participants produced a strategic action plan for the CARAM Asia MHG programme focus areas which will also be shared at the CARAM Asia General Assembly.