

EVALUATION SUMMARY - FXBVILLAGE BURIRAM

In October 2009, an external evaluation of FXBVillage Buriram in Thailand took place. The evaluation was conducted by Graduated School, Thaskin University and was supported by FXB. This document is meant to provide an executive summary of results and achievements of the program that have been highlighted by evaluators.

The program covered three districts in the Northeastern province consisting of 45 small villages. Under the program, the total beneficiaries stand at 368 from which 214 are child beneficiaries and 154 are adult beneficiaries consisting of 80 families.

Overall Results and Achievements

According to external evaluators, all the program objectives set were well achieved. From the analysis of survey data, it is found that children and families have been strengthened to be able to care for themselves. Targeted children received proper care from adults, stigma and discrimination against children affected by HIV has been reduced, children received sufficient nutrition which resulted in better health and lower illness, children were educated with HIV prevention life skills, children have access to educational opportunity in higher level and basic needs and rights are assured as the program managed to relate target beneficiaries with stakeholders in community.

Specific Result Areas

<i>Areas</i>	<i>Specific results</i>
Health, nutrition and medical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children are found to have much better sanitation, health and nutrition condition in general, - No children are found to have malnutrition problem and all of them eat three times a day, - HIV+ beneficiaries manage to receive ART medication under the government's health insurance package which is free. FXB facilitates to complete documents as well as pays for transportation, - HIV+ children are in better health condition and got sick with opportunistic infections less than often.
Access to education opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under FXBVillage program, 100% of primary school children went directly to secondary school. At national level, only 40% of those children go to secondary school, - No student dropped out because of poverty or HIV related stigma or illness, - Most of the children had more confidence in getting higher education (thanks to social development), - 33 youths were supported in vocational training.
Psychosocial support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Psychosocial support takes various forms like one on one counselling, family counselling and group activities, - Counselling focused on various living difficulties, income earning, domestic problems, sadness, etc., - Beneficiaries have shown a great deal of confidence in handling their own problems and moved on with life. They could smile and laugh.
Income Generating Activities (IGAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From the evaluators perspective, it is evident that beneficiary families are in better economic status, - Income increases from \$ 3-4 a day at baseline to \$ 5-6.5 a day at the end of the program, - Each family was supported to have a small kitchen garden and small livestock. It allows families to grow their own food and perhaps to make a little a profits with the surplus, - Collective IGAs were set up to have the skilful family members help the families in terms of skill building and to serve as strong forum of experiences exchange and knowledge sharing in the community and importantly to advance as a group making income towards cooperative concept.
HIV/AIDS prevention with child rights protection and human rights promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youths have better understanding and knowledge on HIV prevention and also have better understanding about their rights and how to protect themselves, - Voluntary Counseling Test was encouraged and good referring system set up with local facilities while pre and post counseling was offered, - 2'500 youths from 19 communities and 25 schools received knowledge on HIV prevention with child and human rights promotion, - Child rights network and mechanism in community was created as well as effective system to provide the children with care and protection.
Participation and satisfaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child beneficiaries: satisfaction is very high. They expressed that FXB implemented the program very well with specialized staff. They also have better confidence in pursuing higher education, - Beneficiary families: the aspect that beneficiaries appreciate the most was the IGAs. They were appropriately supported and the program provided them with all necessities in conducting the IGAs with close and continuous guidance and assistance, - Apart from economic aspect, beneficiaries felt that there is hope in life and were motivated to better their lives with the support received and serious involvement of their families and community, - All core partners found the program implementation very satisfactory and very effective.

Conclusion

From the evaluators standpoint, overall evaluation of the program was very positive despite the country's political situation which is rather unstable. Staffs and country director are really committed and qualified. Besides, the design of the program is thoughtfully crafted with broad coverage of important component.