

# Service Workers in Groups (SWING)

Funding period: 2007-2012

Country: Thailand

Program: HIV prevention among Male Sex Workers (MSW)

HIV prevalence among MSM in Bangkok is 30.7% (2007) for MSM using venues to engage in sex. SWING is a key player working according to its mission to support MSW quality of life and prevent HIV with this at risk population.



## 2 Levels of Capacity Building

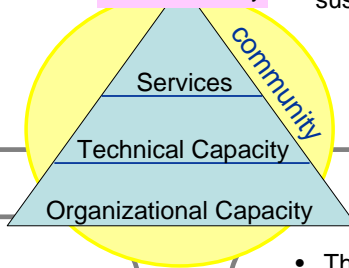
### Community Level

SWING works with the **sex workers at community level** to build **community capacity**,

- recruit and train sex workers to work as staff
- responsive to the needs of sex workers and
- increase sex worker involvement in HIV prevention, education, and stigma reduction
- increase gatekeeper involvement including bar owners and the police



Service Delivery



## Program Results

- Community's own response. 90% of SWING staff are former sex workers.
- Involvement of sex workers in stigma reduction intervention in a health facility
- 7,000 MSW in Bangkok and Pattaya or 84% of the total MSW population in both areas participate in SWING's interventions yearly.
- Condom revolving fund developed to enhance sustainable supply of condom/lube for MSW



### Organizational Level

through tailored organizational capacity building plans

- In 2008 SWING completed an OCA self-assessment exercise with Pact support.
- In 2009, Pact worked with SWING to develop its first strategic plan.
- SWING works with FHI to develop technical capacity and document its condom revolving fund.



- Through OCA, SWING sees itself more clearly, aware of its strengths and gaps that they need to fill
- SWING is aware of its long term goal and is working towards it.
- Staff are empowered through the processes and have worked in a more concerted effort
- A document on how to set up a condom revolving fund run by the community will be available for replication



## What makes this a success story?

- The linkage between SWING's development as an organization and its standing as a representative and liaison with the sex workers in Thailand.
- SWING has developed itself from a service recipient organization to a service provider organization. SWING has trained and involved in the government sector's work with sex workers in both Thailand and Malaysia.
- An OCB case study of SWING will be developed in FY10 to document the keys to its early success with the sex worker community.



A non-formal education class for sex workers

Social service activity conducted by sex workers



## Future replication

- SWING is working with the GFATM to scale up its work to new geographic locations.
- SWING's program and strategy will enable expansion by documentation of the SWING model
- SWING envisions that they will become a learning center that will offer TA to other organizations interested in learning about how to work with sex workers in Thailand.



SWING members attending Buddhist ceremony

