

ASBESTOS

NOT HERE. NOT ANYWHERE.

Campaign Evaluation

2020-2024



About the reviewer – Justine Ross

I undertook this evaluation as an independent consultant after completing my term as CEO of the Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency in November 2023. During my 5-year term I participated in campaign activities, however I was not responsible for the campaign's implementation or management and therefore meet the requirement of independence set out in *Independent Review – DFAT's Design and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Standard*.

I have had a long involvement working within government and in partnership with non-government organisations to ban the use of asbestos and eliminate asbestos-related diseases. In 2003 I worked on banning the import and use of chrysotile asbestos. In 2013 I was involved in the development of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and the first Asbestos National Strategic Plan.

Acknowledgements

First, I would like to acknowledge the assistance of the staff of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, including the campaign coordinator and country managers. It may be trite to say but I truly could not have completed this work without their assistance.

Second, I would also like to acknowledge all the consultation participants who so generously made time for me. The participants were so willing to share their views and experiences of the campaign with me that many of the interviews ran over time.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge ABAN convenor Sugio Furuya who kindly provided me with information including the latest consumption and disease data that he compiled. The information was enormously helpful.

Although involved previously in campaign activities, it has not been until undertaking this evaluation that I now fully understand and appreciate the importance of its goal and objectives as well as the complexity of the challenges it faces. It has fuelled my desire to continue to use my expertise, skills and experience to contribute to eliminating asbestos-related disease worldwide by the imposing of country bans and stopping trade.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABAN	Asia Ban Asbestos Network
AC	Asbestos Cement
ACM	Asbestos Containing Materials
ADDRI	Asbestos and Dust Disease Research Institute
APHEDA	Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA
ARDs	Asbestos Related Diseases
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASSEA	Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIIB	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
ANSP	Asbestos National Strategic Plan
ACTU	Australian Council of Trade Unions
ANCP	Australian NGO Cooperation Program
BWTUC	Building Workers Trade Union Confederation
CAMBAN	Cambodian Ban Asbestos Network
CNAP	Cambodian National Asbestos Profile
CIC	Chrysotile Information Centre
CoP	Conference of Parties
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
ETU	Electrical Trade Union
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBD	Global Burden of Disease
HIC	High Income Countries
IBAS	International Ban Asbestos Secretariat
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IDEA	Independent Democratic Association of Information Economy
IPEF	Indo-Pacific Economic Framework
INA-BAN	Indonesian Ban Asbestos Network
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
KEQ	Key Evaluation Question
LAOBAN	Laos Ban Asbestos Network
LFTU	Laos Federation of Trade Unions
LION	Local Initiative for OSH Network
LMIC	Low-Middle and Low Income Countries
MoC	Ministry of Construction
MIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Misereor	German Catholic Bishops Organisation for Development Cooperation
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOLVT	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
MSC	Most Significant Change
NPEAD	National Action Plan for the Eradication of ARDs
NAP	National Asbestos Profile
PGARD	Parliamentary Group for Asbestos Related Disease
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
SEO	Specific Evaluation Objectives
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UMIC	Upper Middle-Income Countries
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VfM	Value for Money
VNBAN	Vietnam Ban Asbestos Network
WHO	World Health Organization

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary	5
2. Introduction and background	6
2.1 Campaign context.....	6
2.2 Project overview.....	7
3. Evaluation Framework	9
3.1 Evaluation purpose and audience	9
3.2 Methodology.....	9
4. Analysis and Findings.....	11
4.1 Significant changes	11
4.2 Effectiveness	13
4.3 Relevance	20
4.4 Long term change and sustainability.....	23
4.5 Cross-cutting issues	25
5. Conclusion and recommendations.....	28
6. Appendices	32

1. Executive Summary

The Asbestos. Not Here. Not Anywhere. campaign is a priority campaign of Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA. The goal of the campaign for 2020-2024 is to contribute to banning asbestos in South-East Asia and reduce further ARDs with a primary focus on Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Vietnam.

The campaign has **made significant progress** since the mid-term evaluation was undertaken despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



At the global level, it has contributed greatly to the global campaign to ban asbestos use with significant progress made at the CoP to the Rotterdam Convention in May 2023 to reform the convention.



At the regional level, the inclusion of bonded and non-bonded asbestos as a prohibited investment activity for Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and proposed for Asian Development Bank funding and for the first time ever the inclusion of asbestos in a regional agreement (IPEF) should lead to a significant decline in asbestos use in the Asia-Pacific region in the future.



At the country level, Cambodia announcing its decision to stop using asbestos in 2025 and Lao PDR considering 2026 as a ban date are significant changes.



At the local level, despite setbacks in Vietnam, within its sphere of influence significant changes have occurred at the local level showing the ability of the campaign to adapt and still make an impact when faced with barriers emanating from the political sphere. In Indonesia, bans have been achieved at the regional level and in disaster situations.

The 2020-2024 campaign evaluation was conducted over February and March 2024. Desktop research and consultation with partners, collaborators and supporters conducted over that period found that:

Effectiveness: campaign implementation was found to be effective at the local, national, regional and global level. Activities considered most effective were those that raised awareness of asbestos exposure risks; built and identified relationships and alliances to work towards changing policy and enacting laws; and influenced regional and global actions to ban asbestos.

Relevance: relevance of the campaign for the partners involved has not diminished. In fact, for some partners it has increased in importance and could become even more relevant if its scope was broadened to encompass other dust hazards and countries.

Long-term sustainability: some changes brought about by the campaign have proven to be sustainable with a drop in asbestos consumption evident in some countries and sectors and requirements and restrictions on the use of asbestos now contained in regional trade agreements and regional development and infrastructure program funding. The campaign is also achieving efficiencies and proved to be value for money for its supporters.

Cross-cutting issues: APHEDA and campaign implementers continued work to ensure that women and People with disabilities are actively involved and have a leadership role in the campaign. However it was found that ongoing work is still required. Child exploitation risks continued to be assessed and managed in accordance with DFAT's policy. The campaign continued its strong OSH focus, however it was found that a stronger focus on environmental health protection could also be of benefit.

A **few barriers** inhibiting progress were identified including:

- resourcing
- COVID-19 pandemic
- asbestos industry actions
- lack of data on disease and use in the four countries
- no or ineffective laws, government corruption and ineffectiveness.

2. Introduction and background

2.1 Campaign context

Asbestos remains a significant occupational hazard with the WHO estimating about 125 million workers are currently being exposed globally¹. A systematic analysis for the GBD Study 2019 found past occupational exposure to asbestos was responsible for 239,333 occupational deaths and accounted for 11.1% of all work-related deaths in 2016.^{2 3} This was more deaths than any other occupational carcinogen. Occupational exposure to asbestos was ranked as the 7th leading risk factor for cancer globally in both 2010 and 2019⁴. Due to its residential applications, it is estimated that asbestos exposure in the home accounts for several thousand deaths annually.⁵

The huge burden and strong evidence base against ARDs have led to multiple international agencies condemning the occupational use of asbestos and advocating for bans. The International Agency for Research on Cancers classifies all types of asbestos as Group 1 agents. In 2013 the World Health Assembly requested the WHO to deliver a global campaign for the elimination of ARDs under resolution 60.26.⁶

The ILO has several instruments that govern the control of asbestos and protection of workers from occupational exposure, notably the C162 Asbestos Convention and R172 Asbestos Recommendation. In 2022 the ILO resolved to include ‘a safe and healthy working environment’ as a fundamental principle and right at work. The 2022 Resolution on the inclusion of a safe and healthy working environment in the ILO’s framework of fundamental principles and rights at work recognises that achieving it requires the active participation of governments, employers, workers and social partners.

The WHO in collaboration with the ILO and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society works with countries to develop a NPEAD that includes developing a NAP. The NAP is an internationally standardised instrument that helps a country assess its baseline situation in relation to ARDs and asbestos use, and its progress toward their elimination.

Two multilateral environmental agreements govern the international trade and management of asbestos. The first is the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade. While asbestos forms of the amphibole group are listed in Annex III of substances requiring prior informed consent from an importing country, chrysotile is not.

The second relevant multilateral agreement is the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. Under Annex 1, wastes containing asbestos dust and fibres are considered hazardous and subject to strict control.

The continued use of chrysotile

Globally, the Asia-Pacific region is the largest consumer of chrysotile, rising in its asbestos use from 14% of global use in 1920-1970 to 64% in 2000-2007 and over 75% today.

Figure 1 below shows that while global consumption has declined from its peak in 1980, there has been a shift in asbestos consumption from HICs to UMICs, and more recently to LMICs. This means that

¹ [Asbestos: elimination of asbestos-related diseases \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/asbestos)

² [VizHub - GBD Results \(healthdata.org\)](https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-comparisons/occupational-exposure-to-asbestos)

³ [Global and regional burden of cancer in 2016 arising from occupational exposure to selected carcinogens: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016 \(bmj.com\)](https://www.bmj.com/content/362/bmj.n1165)

⁴ [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(22\)01438-6/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(22)01438-6/fulltext)

⁵ [Asbestos: elimination of asbestos-related diseases \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/asbestos)

⁶ [Asbestos: elimination of asbestos-related diseases \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/asbestos)

UMICs and LMICs will face growing incidences of ARDs for decades to come due to the latency of these diseases, with their future burdens expected to mirror that facing some HICs today.

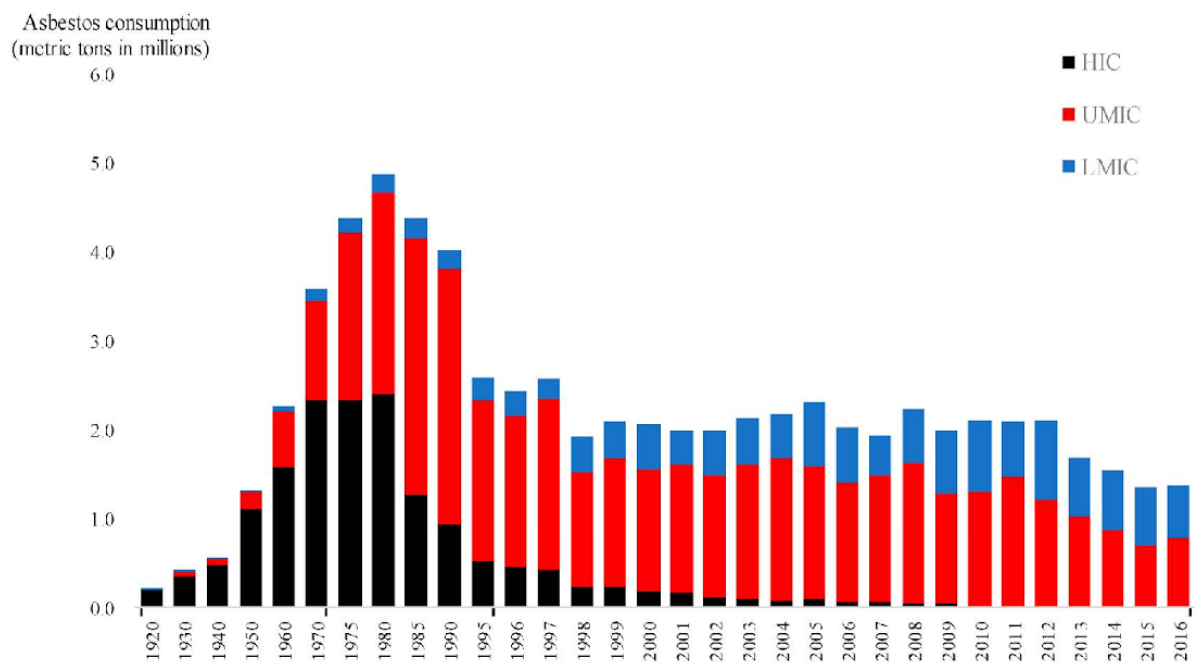


Figure 1: Global Trend Over Time in Asbestos Use of the 3 Country Groups based on National Income Category, HIC: High income countries (N=54), UMIC: Upper middle-income countries (N=51); LMIC: Lower middle income and low-income countries combined (N=57).

2.2 Project overview

The Asbestos. Not Here. Not Anywhere. campaign is a priority campaign of Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA. Asbestos initiatives first started in Vietnam in 2010 and then expanded to Lao PDR in 2011, Cambodia in 2014 and Indonesia in 2015. Since 2016 the campaign has connected networks and expertise across the Asia-Pacific Region with the projects across the four countries and the region brought together into one regional project in 2017 with the Management Committee decision to scale up the campaign.

The goal of the campaign for 2020-2024 is to contribute to banning asbestos in South-East Asia and reduce further ARDs with a primary focus on Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PRD and Vietnam. The campaign supports these countries to implement the WHO and ILO’s strategic framework. It also builds advocacy capacity among civil society coalitions or ban networks to work towards this goal. It builds internationalism within Australia with trade unions and other sections of civil society.

The campaign for the evaluation period had the following specific objectives and a budget of \$2,359,977 (FY20-21 \$734,000; FY21-22 \$793,000; FY 2022-2023 \$832,977):

1. Civil society networks strengthened and advocating bans on asbestos and future ARD reduction in 4 countries
2. Specific planning and regulation support to asbestos bans achieved in all 4 countries
3. Strengthened global regulation of trade in asbestos and ACM

Campaign expenditure for the period being evaluated was:

2020-2021	\$574,473
2021-2022	\$843,199
2022-2023	\$708,764
Total	\$2,126,436

Funding sources over the period were DFAT (via the ANCP program), ASSEA, IBAS, Solidarity Centre, ACTU, ILO, and Misereor. APHEDA's contribution to this expenditure was \$711,573 over three years.

The theory of change for the campaign is illustrated at **Appendix A**.

2017 – 2019 mid-term campaign evaluation

The 2017-2019 mid-term campaign evaluation found that the campaign was being implemented in countries with restricted civil society space and serious risks for civil society actors particularly in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. It found that APHEDA had very high levels of contribution to the most significant changes in Cambodia and Laos and high levels of contribution to the most significant changes in Indonesia and Vietnam. It also found that the pro-asbestos lobby limited effectiveness by influencing government decision makers in all four countries. It found that the four ban networks are vital for long-term changes in policy and systems, however APHEDA's high level of contribution and the resourcing of ban networks are risks for sustainability. It also found that APHEDA directly contributed to the implementation of the ANSP.

Cambodian mid-term assessment 2022

The mid-term assessment of the Cambodian Eliminating Asbestos Related Diseases Project found it to be an ambitious project with many moving parts—some of which are influenced by national and international events. It found the lack of local data on disease and the presence of products to be a formidable barrier. However, it also found that completion of the second NAP and a commitment to the Road Map towards 2026 and the expansion of awareness and training of construction workers and the community are significant achievements.

It recommended that to progress outcomes a strategic analysis of the challenges and opportunities for each of the project's outcomes should be undertaken. It found that every confidence should be had for the future of the project as APHEDA is clearly highly regarded by all. It found a key change for the future will be how to lessen government and civil society organisations reliance on APHEDA with an expansion of the advocacy and awareness role of CAMBAN.

Progress 2020-2024

The campaign seeks to effect change at the local, country, regional and global level. The campaign has made significant progress since the mid-term evaluation was undertaken despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic.



At the global level, it has contributed greatly to the global campaign to ban asbestos use with significant progress made at the CoP to the Rotterdam Convention in May 2023 to reform the convention.



At the regional level, the inclusion of bonded and non-bonded asbestos as a prohibited investment activity for Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and proposed for Asian Development Bank funding and for the first time ever the inclusion of asbestos in a regional agreement (IPEF) should led to a significant decline in asbestos use in the Asia-Pacific region in the future.



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3. Evaluation Framework

3.1 Evaluation purpose and audience

This evaluation seeks to assess outcomes and impacts of the campaign in the target countries to determine if the following SEOs have been achieved:

1. reach and effectiveness of awareness raising activities
2. reduction in consumption of asbestos that can be reasonably attributed to the campaign
3. legal and policy reform on asbestos e.g. changes to national, regional or global policies, regulations agreement or plans related to asbestos exposure risk reduction and bans
4. evidence of strengthened regional or global level alliances and action attributable to the program
5. the contribution of movement and capacity building in the four countries
6. contribution to the priorities of APHEDA's partners e.g. ASSEA, DFAT , ACTU

The KEQs are contained in **Appendix B** and focus on:

1. **Effectiveness**
2. **Relevance**
3. **Efficiency and long-term impact**
4. **Cross-cutting issues**

The evaluation has followed DFAT's Ethical Research and Evaluation Guidance and was guided by its four principles:

1. **Respect for human beings**
2. **Beneficence**
3. **Research merit and integrity**
4. **Justice**

3.2 Methodology

The method most closely aligned with this outcome evaluation is realist methodology as it acknowledges culture, class, political and economic systems have a real effect on whether programs work; that causation is not a linear process and is based on the assumption that the same intervention will not work everywhere and for everyone.⁷ The appropriateness of selecting this methodology was confirmed by consultation participants who expressed the view that the campaign operates in a complex and dynamic social and political environment that makes a one-size-fits all approach impossible.

Desktop review of all relevant documents

A review of key project documents provided by APHEDA including mid-term and individual evaluations commenced on 22 January 2024 and was completed early February 2024. Media reports including social media were sourced and analysed. Progress reports related to the ANSP and other donors such as DFAT, Solidarity Centre and MISEREOR and IBAS as well as to APHEDA Board were also reviewed. The GBD estimates related to ARD deaths, USGS and UN Comtrade asbestos consumption data were sourced and analysed.

7

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60f7fdf7d3bf7f56824cc634/Brief_introduction_to_realist_evaluation.pdf

Consultation and data collection

To verify and test the insights derived from reviewing existing documentation on the campaign, interviews and surveys were carried out with APHEDA staff and its partners (directly contracted to implement and including government, trade union and non-government registered organisations), collaborators (non-financial support) and supporters (financial support) with KEQs forming the basis for the discussion.

Data collection took place between 9 February and 9 March 2024. The organisations and individuals that could provide further insights and information were identified based on information and advice supplied by APHEDA. Methods for the collection of quantitative data was from surveys and other sources and qualitative data was gained from semi-structured interviews and FGDs (mostly conducted on-line but also in person where possible).⁸ In total 53 people (21 females, 32 males) participated in semi-structured interviews and focus groups. 20 people (8 female, 12 males) completed the survey⁹.

Analysis

The analysis below consists of grouping quantitative and qualitative data into themes based on the KEQs and SEOs. Examples have been selected that show how contextual factors interact with changes arising from the campaign's activities to produce outcomes.

Limitation and constraints

Key limitations relate to data availability and quality:

- the inability to schedule on-line interviews with participants within the timeframe for the evaluation and that field research was only possible in Lao PDR and Indonesia has resulted in the data sample not being truly representative and has impacted gender balance
- there are some uncertainties around disease data due to conflicting results across different GBD platforms, notably GBD Results and GBD Foresight. Such cross-platform inconsistencies are most likely due to GBD Results utilizing more up-to-date GBD 2019 data while Foresight uses GBD 2016 data. GBD Results estimates were preferred where possible, but the trends forecast by GBD Foresight are nonetheless useful in showing the escalating long-term trajectories in the burden of ARDs and the need for urgent reforms.
- there are some uncertainties around consumption data, mainly in relation to UN Comtrade information. While this database is a widely accepted source in physical trade analysis, it can be prone to data discrepancies.¹⁰ However, amounts reported by importing nations are most likely to be lower-limit estimations of asbestos actually imported as given the strong global positions against asbestos, it is unlikely that countries would inflate their import data. There is also a data lag with complete data for all countries only available for 2021.

⁸ See **Appendix C** for full list of stakeholders involved in data collection and the method for collection

⁹ See **Appendix D** for survey results

¹⁰ [Advancing UN Comtrade for Physical Trade Flow Analysis: Review of Data Quality Issues and Solutions - ScienceDirect](#)

4. Analysis and Findings

The analysis and findings are structured by the KEQ and address the SEOs.

4.1 Significant changes

This section addresses KEQs 1, 2 and 3. The following examples were found to be the most significant changes that the campaign achieved since the mid-term evaluation. An example of significant change is provided for each level.



Local – Promotion of environmental health for ethnic minorities and communities in rural and mountainous areas in Vietnam project – relates to SEOs 1, 3 and 5.

This project ran from the beginning of 2022 to January 2024 with existing partner the Bac Kan Women’s Union. It had two main objectives:

1. increase awareness amongst remote ethnic minority communities to reduce the use of AC roof sheeting
2. strengthen collaborative community actions to advocate for the use of non-asbestos roofing materials.

As a result of good project design (i.e. targeting women in a province with a majority ethnic minority, high rate of poverty and high use of AC roof sheet) it was able to have a real positive impact on the lives of the participants and there is a high likelihood that activities will continue beyond the project ceasing.

Key initiatives and activities included:

- setting up of an advisory group consisting of health and safety experts to assist with the development of IEC materials
- providing information through training, media and distributing IECs materials to over 30,000 people in Backan Province
- setting up of a communications group with participants now trained to distribute IEC materials in their area in local language
- holding of a workshop in collaboration with the Vietnam Association for Occupational Safety and Health and involving many ministries which attracted significant [media coverage](#)
- the replacement of AC roof sheeting for 33 houses.

The project was revised significantly both in implementing partners and location, since its commencement in 2021, to overcome the barriers created by Decree No. 80 which has imposed ‘unreasonably burdensome’ requirements on international NGOs restricting the funding of projects as well as hindering the work and endangering the safety of civil society organisations.¹¹ It leveraged the long collaboration with the Bac Kan Women’s Union who were able to use their connections within government to get approval for the project and involve the Department of Natural Resources and Environment to intensify impact. In addition, raising awareness amongst government environmental officials of the hazardous nature of asbestos waste could result in asbestos waste being included in the list of hazardous materials which would further increase the impact. Surveys completed for this evaluation by those involved in the project display high levels of satisfaction with the campaign and the work of APHEDA.

¹¹ <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gld=26885>



Country - Cambodia to stop asbestos use in 2025 – relates to SEOs 3 and 6

Since 2015, APHEDA and its partners in Cambodia, including the BWTUC, MOLVT and CAMBAN, have been warning workers, the community and the government about the devastating and deadly health impacts of asbestos use.

Thousands of people have attended workplace information sessions, national workshops, tripartite dialogues, and days of action organised as part of the awareness campaign aimed at policymakers, construction workers, and other workers from affected industries. The calls for an immediate end of asbestos use and importation of ACMs were finally acted upon by the Cambodia’s Minister for Labour and Vocational Education with his announcement on 7 June 2023 that asbestos will be banned by 2025. The fact that the announcement was made at a meeting with the Australian Ambassador shows the foresight and effectiveness of the campaign enlisting the support of influential partners.

This change is evidence of the campaign’s potential to effect sustainable long-term change through government policy, however there is a significant risk that this change will not be maintained unless it is embedded in law. The launch of the Ministry of Labour’s OHS Masterplan 2023-2027 in July 2023 formalising the announcement and the holding of a tripartite workshop to help plan for the asbestos ban is a positive step in that regard. A further positive development is the Ministry of Construction agreeing to develop a plan for moving forward towards 2025. The deep trust that APHEDA has built up with a range of ministries will also play a vital role in moving forward.



Victory for the ‘No Australian Money in Asbestos’ Campaign – relates to SEOs 2, 4, 3 and 6

In November 2023 release of the draft ADB Prohibited Investment Activities List proposed the removal of the exception that allowed ADB funds to apply to the use of bonded asbestos cement sheeting with asbestos content of less than 20%. It is proposed in the future that the only exception will relate to the disposal of asbestos provided a suitable asbestos management plan is adopted for such disposal. This means that the use of asbestos (bonded and non-bonded) will be a prohibited investment activity that does not qualify for ADB funds as set out in ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement. This impacts nearly US\$70 billion in ADB commitments in 2023-2025.¹²

In March 2022 the ADB also released a guide for the Management and Control of Asbestos to protect workers and communities from asbestos exposure risks as part of its Safeguard Policy.¹³

Prior to this, in May 2021, the AIIB updated its Environmental and Social Framework to exclude ACMs from AIIB-funded. Its funding program was US\$10 billion in FY23.¹⁴

These changes are evidence that the campaign can effect sustainable long-term change. They are also an example of APHEDA’s resoluteness and its ability to form strategic partnerships to achieve results.

¹² <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/908561/esf-prohibited-investment-activities-list-draft.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.adb.org/publications/good-practice-management-control-asbestos>.

¹⁴ <https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/download/environment-framework/AIIB-Revised-Environmental-and-Social-Framework-ESF-May-2021-final.pdf>

There is a negligible risk that these changes will not be maintained in the future as responsibility for harm reduction has been accepted by these institutions as evidenced by the releasing of guidance.



Forming a global alliance to effect change - relates to SEOs 3,4, and 6

The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade requires unanimous agreement from treaty members for an item to be listed on Annex III. Despite chrysotile being recommended for listing by the scientific committee since 2006, its inclusion has been continually blocked by a handful of countries led by Russia. Frustrated by the lack of action in 2020 Solidarity Swiss and APHEDA commissioned former Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Baskut Tuncak to consult with selected parties and alliance members and to draft text for procedural reform to the convention. APHEDA and the ACTU also worked to establish a global alliance of trade unions and NGOs to campaign on the issue and build support for a country-led initiative to amend the convention.

These efforts resulted in 14 countries (Australia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Maldives, Georgia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Togo) co-sponsoring an amendment to provide a mechanism to enable the listing of some hazardous substances onto the convention by a 75% vote when consensus is not possible at CoP11. The result of the vote on the amendment was that 92 countries (70%) supported the amendment and 40 countries opposed. It was unable to secure the 75% of votes required.

There was division among consultation participants about the significance and impact of this change. Despite the amendment not carrying, some consultation participants considered this change represented an effective visionary strategy and showed the benefits of working in solidarity with likeminded parties. The fact that 3 of the 4 campaign countries no longer oppose the listing of chrysotile on the convention was also provided as an example that the campaign can effect sustainable long-term change. However, others said the fact remains that the resistant minority is still a substantial hurdle to overcome (despite the otherwise overwhelming support for the listing amongst parties to the convention) and were concerned the campaign could be ‘back to square one’ on this issue. A view was expressed by a country manager that continuing to raise the issue of deadly chrysotile use in an international forum is important in itself as otherwise it could be seen as not being of concern. In a similar vein, useful suggestions were also provided for considering alternative strategies such as getting chrysotile nominated as an ‘issue of concern’ under the New Global Framework on Chemicals adopted in Bonn in 2023. If successful, a work plan would then be required to be established to guide the implementation of the issue. Another strategy suggested was seeking a United Nations Environment Assembly resolution – see [UNEP/EA.5/Res7](#) for example.

4.2 Effectiveness

This section addresses KEQ 1 and SEOs 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6. It considers the extent to which the goal and objectives were achieved. Through selected examples it assesses how effective the campaign was in bringing about change in relation to the resources at its disposal.

The examples of effectiveness below are additional to those provided in section 4.1.

Building strong relationships and alliances – relates to SEO 4

Almost all consultation participants expressed views on the **highly effective** nature of the relationships that APHEDA’s country managers and the campaign coordinator have developed across all four countries. It was considered by many that their ability to build rapport and regard with governments, unions, international organizations and other groups in civil society was their greatest strength. Contributing to this effectiveness was their ability to gain a deep understanding of the political

dynamics of each country. Many comments were made about the importance of ‘having people on the ground’. In this regard an example was provided by an official at the Australian Embassy in Lao PDR on how APHEDA have actively engaged with the Embassy from the beginning and provided important briefing for the Ambassador and Deputy Ambassador to use when meeting with government counterparts. Evidence of the effectiveness of this relationship is the placing of a billboard outside the Australian Embassy in Vientiane warning of the dangers of asbestos. Also seen as effective was the ability to engage at different levels of government and not just at the high level. One particular partnership that was evaluated in 2022 is the partnership formalized via an MOU between APHEDA and the LFTU. The evaluation found the partnership achieved its key objective and amongst other things mobilised support; engaged high level decision makers; increased awareness; and generated a commitment to a ban.

Providing workers and the community with lifesaving information – relates to SEO 1 and 5

Like above, almost all consultation participants expressed views on the campaign’s **high effectiveness** in raising awareness of asbestos exposure risks, particularly at the local level via the development and distribution of IEC materials. The mid-term evaluation found that communication and asbestos awareness materials could be improved. The desktop review and stakeholder consultation showed an improvement in this regard.

For example, in Cambodia during the evaluation period training-of-trainers asbestos awareness training was conducted with unions like the BWTUC to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to provide face-to-face and social media asbestos awareness information sessions to workers in their sectors and potentially to the broader community. During 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 a total of 1608 workers (858 males, 750 females) attended the training. In Indonesia, LION has been providing training to school students since 2019 and has reached thousands of students including in partnership with the Tokyo Occupational Safety and Health Centre.

Many views were expressed about the importance of ensuring IEC materials are ‘fit for purpose’ in that they are simple, given the difficulty in getting people to understand the nature of the risk. Views were also expressed about the importance of tailoring materials. For example, Lao PDR consultations raised the importance of tailoring information to be relevant at all levels (i.e. workers, community and consumers) including for ethnic groups. During a consultation session in Indonesia with victims and unions requests were made for more information about the risk of disease following exposure. It was also raised that women are not getting enough information on the issue and a suggestion was made to target women directly with awareness materials including through social media. Such a awareness raising was also seen as a way of educating government officials about asbestos dangers by making it personally relevant to them, their family and their community. An overall impression was gained that there had also been improvements in that regard since the mid-term evaluation. In terms of tailoring for ethnic groups the *Promotion of environmental health for ethnic minorities and communities in rural and mountainous areas in Vietnam project* was provided as a good example to follow.

There was resounding consensus among consultation participants that asbestos awareness information sessions for workers, including targeting younger workers, and information campaigns through union communication channels and social media were critical for preventing exposure to asbestos fibres. The survey results show that the provision of awareness raising has been effective in protecting workers from asbestos exposure. However, there was also the view that awareness raising as a tool on its own can’t bring about the long-term systemic changes that are required.

Influencing through the effective use of mass and social media – relates to SEQ 1 and 3

The desktop analysis and consultation showed the campaign’s **effective** use of both mass and social media in order to influence decision-makers, challenge the pro-asbestos lobby and influence public opinion. In Vietnam the campaign continued to attract strong media coverage including TV reporting during the period. Likewise in Cambodia the meetings and workshops that were held in 2022 and 2023

attracted significant media coverage. In Lao PDR the LFTU used its media channels to raise awareness including radio and the use of community loudspeakers in communities around the factory areas. The same is the case in Indonesia with coverage also in Australia by ABC News.

The mid-term evaluation found that the campaign or the ban networks did not have a strong social media presence in Cambodia, Laos or Vietnam and that in these countries there was a lot that could be learnt from LION/INABAN's active approach to social media. The desktop analysis showed an improvement in Cambodia with the BWTUC raising awareness through Facebook, YouTube and TikTok. In Lao PDR, the asbestos billboard outside the Australian Embassy was promoted successfully through both mainstream and social media. However, Lao PDR country manager made the comment that social media is still not really an effective medium and it will be necessary for the LFTU to transition to it from traditional media. In contrast, LION/INABAN said social media continues to be their most effective strategy, with one organic post about asbestos removal training reaching 3,000 people. Its highest reaching post during the period was about the Cianjur earthquake cleanup which had 26,000 views on TikTok. In total in 2022 and 2023 there was over 877,173 reached and 38,468 active engagements across social media platforms in Indonesia, Cambodia and Laos PRD.

Collecting evidence and data to support policy reform – relates to SEO 3

The desktop review and consultation revealed two **highly effective** examples of attempts to fill the data gaps that are being exploited by the asbestos industry.

During the period LION continued with its strategy of attempting to uncover new cases of ARDs with the Symposium and Workshop on the Diagnosis of Asbestos-Related Diseases for Indonesian Health Practitioners held in June 2023, at Binawan University, Jakarta. This was supported by ASSEA, ADDRI and APHEDA (joint workshop) providing the trigger for the university to include the issue as a priority in its strategy and three students now working on the issue as part of their final task.

With support from the ILO, APHEDA Cambodia in cooperation with Eurocham and the Board of Engineers Cambodia of the MoLVT surveyed representatives of 50 companies in the construction sector on their ACM use. The information obtained not only helped with the updating of the Asbestos National Profile but will provide the important evidence governments need to enact regulatory reforms.

High level meetings to coordinate actions to effect change - relates to SEO3

The holding of high-level meetings which bring together government ministers and officials, representatives from non-government and international organisations and experts continues to be a **highly effective and efficient** way to gain new commitments or renew previous ones. For example, the holding of a high-level meeting in January 2024 that included Australia's Deputy-Ambassador to raise awareness of the project 'Awareness on Occupational Safety and Health, Asbestos Hazard In Lao' has provided the platform to reinvigorate government commitments post the pandemic. The result of the meeting was that the Minister for Industry and Commerce will assign the Department of Industry to discuss with APHEDA and LaoBan progressing work to raise awareness and to stop importing and asbestos use. APHEDA and LaoBan will provide technical support or funding to draft OSH law. The Ministry of Health will take responsibility for developing a strategic plan. In person consultation with the Director-General of the Department of Health confirmed that the next steps were to move towards a ban but also highlighted the frustrating nature of progress with the suggestion also made that more workshops with high-ranking officials and experts were necessary along with the obtaining of more data from like countries. A newly-established committee of government and non-government representatives to progress actions held its first meeting on 1 March 2023 to implement a multi-pronged strategy to achieve banning by 2026.

Innovative pivoting to combat the asbestos industry – relates to SEQs 1, 4 and 5.

The desktop review and consultation revealed two **highly effective** examples of tackling the issue from a different public policy perspective to lessen the influence of the asbestos industry.

Consumer advocacy

In 2023, LION filed a consumer lawsuit regarding providing correct information for consumers for ACMs. They are still waiting on the results of the administrative process from the Ministry of Trade's sub-office regarding the registration of LION as a Non-Government Consumer Protection organization (one of the requirements for a lawsuit).

Reducing asbestos exposure rise following disaster events

Following a 5.6 magnitude earthquake in Cianjur-West Java November 2022 there were high volumes of asbestos in the building debris. The earthquake damaged 53,408 houses and more than 800 public facilities such as schools and health facilities. Due to the high use of asbestos roof sheet in residential and commercial buildings there was a very high risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres for rescue (SAR) workers and local communities.

Following the earthquake, LION and INABAN carried out targeted training for SAR personnel and other humanitarian workers to raise awareness of asbestos-related diseases and how to avoid exposure to the deadly fibres while undertaking their essential work during natural disasters. Dr Anna Suraya from Binawan University in partnership with LION have pivoted this action by submitting two grants to map asbestos roofing and overlay areas of seismic activity to assess future risk and to develop a certified training module for SAR workers cleaning up asbestos after such events. If successful this work will be partly funded by the Ministry of Higher Education. They have also enlisted resistant infrastructure specialist, Dave Hodgkin to assist with this work. This effective adjusting of strategy—to come at the issue from the perspective of disaster resilience rather than environmental health—is designed to lessen the influence of the asbestos roof sheet industry.

Bringing Eurocham and Austcham into the campaign

New to the campaign are the industry organisations Eurocham and Austcham. They have the potential to be powerful allies and could be effective in isolating the asbestos industry and assisting in the transition to non-asbestos products. For example, in Lao PDR Eurocham has committed to leading a joint statement from foreign chamber countries that have already banned asbestos, calling for a ban in Lao PDR. They will also seek for the ban issue to be part of high-level dialogue with the Lao Prime Minister in the next Eurocham regional dialogue meeting. Austcham is putting list of requests by APHEDA to their Board.

Factors limiting or risking the campaign's effectiveness

Resources

Human more so than financial resources was the factor most commonly cited by consultation participants as posing a potential risk to the campaign's ability to bring about change. Many views were expressed about the goodwill and dedication of the people involved in the campaign which made it easy to develop strong and productive relationship. View were also expressed about how critical to success it has been to have people with the right skills, capabilities and knowledge including interpersonal skills in the country offices and the in asbestos ban groups. Succession planning in the asbestos ban groups was also raised as a concern. Some country managers mentioned how it was difficult to obtain staff as it is not a common issue and they are competing for staff with other INGOs as well as the public and private sectors. Resources within the governments of the four countries was also an issue consistently raised in the consultations. Concerns were expressed about key people moving on and not being replaced (Lao PDR), and in all countries the issue ranks low in a long list of priorities, so government resources are unable to be allocated. Similar concerns were raised about the asbestos ban groups with concern expressed that although it is possible to attract people with the skills, expertise and authority they may not be able to devote the time.

COVID-19 pandemic impact

The COVID19 pandemic impacted the region during 2020 and 2021. It had the effect of delaying planned activities in the four countries. However, nearly all planned activities were able to proceed, with some transitioning to online formats. For example, the asbestos ban networks in all four countries continued meetings internally via Zoom or physical meetings depending on the state of the pandemic. The Campaign Coordinator was also absent from the region during some of that period. Its impact was significant in Lao PDR where 2020 had been set as the year for banning asbestos. The ministry with the responsibility for leading implementation - the Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion - also had to take on responsibility for leading the pandemic response. The WHO official in that country also considered that '2 years was lost to COVID' as they were unable to work on anything else. The fact that the campaign has been able to pick up again following the pandemic displays its strength.

Unconscionable tactics of the pro-asbestos lobby

As identified in the mid-term evaluation by far the biggest factor limiting the campaign's effectiveness remains the manipulation tactics of the pro-asbestos lobby/industry.

The pro-asbestos lobby, led by the International Chrysotile Association, has continued to capitalise on the lack of local data and expertise surrounding ARDs to falsely promote the safe use of asbestos.¹⁵

Multiple examples were provided from all countries on the industry's spreading of misinformation; the 'getting to' government officials following positive announcements and the industry's ability to disrupt and block change.

- In Lao PDR - the posting of misinformation on the Department of Industry's website as a result of industry lobbying¹⁶.
- In Cambodia – the lobby's tactics and actions intensified in response to the 2025 ban including writing to the MoLVT following the announcement
- In Indonesia – it is believed the lobby's influence is interfering with the development of clinical diagnosis guidelines for ARDs.
- In Vietnam – the lobby's influence continues to delay approvals including resulting in it taking two years to approve the office registration

The pro-asbestos lobby has also been able to influence mainstream media in the four countries. The political influence the lobby can wield particularly due to its closeness to Russia results in disputes between ministries within government making change difficult to achieve. It also impacts the campaign's effectiveness at the global level. Concern was expressed during consultation that this situation could worsen with the ongoing war in Ukraine.

The findings of the mid-term evaluation to strengthen regional approaches to expose and counter the lobby remains relevant and some of the initiatives above go to achieving that.

Failure to list chrysotile asbestos on the Rotterdam convention

Connected to above the failed attempts to list chrysotile on Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention was regarded as a significant barrier to achieving bans at the country level. Although listing chrysotile asbestos on Annex III is not a ban it is used by many countries to trigger national bans. One union participant expressed the view that achieving the listing would have a great effect in this regard but doubted that would happen considering the convention to be irredeemably broken. His preference was to push for a stand-alone asbestos convention along the lines of the Minamata Convention on

¹⁵ [Safe use manual \(chrysotileassociation.com\)](https://www.chrysotileassociation.com/)

¹⁶ [\(ខ្មែរ\) - Department of Industry \(moic.gov.la\). Department of Industry and Handicraft, Ministry of Industry and Commerce visited the roof-sheet factories across the country - Department of Industry \(moic.gov.la\)](#)

Mercury.¹⁷ During consultation an Australian Government official expressed the concern that the lack of a strong strategy for pesticides meant that they were not prepared for the tactics of the United States at CoP11. The suggestion was made to build an alliance with agriculture counterparts to confront the US and the powerful agricultural industry group CropLife.

Lack of local disease data and diagnosis expertise is masking the issue

A central theme that arose during consultations was that the ‘invisibility’ of victims was hindering change. Overall, there is a lack of data around ARDs with many LMIC not having the requisite cancer registries and surveillance programmes¹⁸. Mesothelioma in particular presents difficulties due to underreporting due to no diagnostic technology or medico-social infrastructure^{19,20}. These factors have combined to see a consistently low level of reliable data reported to the WHO by LMIC in relation to mesothelioma deaths.²¹ This is illustrated by comparing GBD estimates for HIC and UMIC with LMIC with deaths from mesothelioma being reported by the WHO for 2017 (see figure below).

	High Income	Upper Middle Income	Lower Middle Income
GBD estimates	17460	7358	5090
Reported to the WHO	13920	1252	4

Yet as it is known, simply because ARDs have not been reported or diagnosed does not mean there are no victims.²² The GBD 2019 estimates a current and growing number of deaths from occupational exposure to asbestos.²³ As the latency periods of current exposures expire, these estimates are projected to increase.²⁴ Currently, in all four counties lung cancer is one of the top 3 cancers. This is concerning given that smoking and asbestos have a synergistic relationship, with the likelihood of lung cancer when exposed to both risk factors being higher than the sum of each individual risk factor.

Increasing evidence based on data from 56 countries suggests that current and historical asbestos consumption can help predict future incidence and mortality of ARDs as cumulative asbestos use is related to cumulative mortality due to mesothelioma.²⁵ This indicates that even if the low rates of ARDs

¹⁷ [Homepage | Minamata Convention on Mercury](#). The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury.

¹⁸ Leong SL, Zainudin R, Kazan-Allen L, Robinson BW. Asbestos in Asia. *Respirology*. 2015 May;20(4):548-55. doi: 10.1111/resp.12517. Epub 2015 Mar 29. PMID: 25819225

¹⁹ [Burden of mesothelioma deaths by national income category: Current status and future implications](#)

²⁰ Ke, H, Kao, S, Lee, K, Takahashi, K, Goh, HP, Linton, A. The minimum standard of care for managing malignant pleural mesothelioma in developing nations within the Asia-Pacific Region. *Asia-Pac J Clin Oncol*. 2022; 18: 177–190. <https://doi.org.ezproxy.library.sydney.edu.au/10.1111/ajco.13611>

²¹ Chimed-Ochir O, Arachi D, Driscoll T, Lin RT, Takala J, Takahashi K. Burden of Mesothelioma Deaths by National Income Category: Current Status and Future Implications. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020 Sep 21;17(18):6900. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17186900. PMID: 32967259; PMCID: PMC7558158. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7558158/>

²² [Experience of Japan in Achieving a Total Ban on Asbestos \(nih.gov\)](#)

²³ Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Results. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2022. Available from <http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results>. (Accessed October 6, 2022)

²⁴ Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). **GBD Foresight Visualization**. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2018. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-foresight>. (Accessed 30/9/2022)

²⁵ Park EK, Takahashi K, Hoshuyama T, Cheng TJ, Delgermaa V, Le GV, Sorahan T. Global magnitude of reported and unreported mesothelioma. *Environ Health Perspect*

in certain LMIC are accurate, the current use of asbestos is likely to lead to a surge of mortality in the coming decades.²⁶

A feasibility study conducted by The Centre for International Economics for ASSEA demonstrated that the burden of ARD can be estimated for Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Vietnam based on publicly available information through a reliance on the GBD study. However, it also found that more accurate estimates of the burden will require access to in-country ARD specific health costs data and stakeholder consultations to understand how disease costs are calculated and any data limitations.

No or ineffective laws

Indonesia is the third highest consumer of asbestos in the world despite a 1980 OSH law stating that asbestos may only be used if other less hazardous materials are not available - and that if used precautions must be taken. It also requires general workplace protections, including a worker's right to information about the health effects of asbestos, a health check-up, and personal protective equipment. It also specifies that the company should provide designated clothing for work that should be cleaned and kept inside the company to protect workers' families from being exposed.

However, like many other UMIC, Indonesia faces a problem with OSH law enforcement. In Cambodia and Lao PDR slow progress is being made to enact OSH laws. In Vietnam Decree no.09 promulgated by the Government while on its face encourages the use of substitute fibre; sets an exposure limit; and requires the Prime Minister to develop a roadmap to limit the investment and expanding of AC roofing manufacturing facilities, is in effect, a ruse for continued 'safe use'.

Corruption and government ineffectiveness

Two of the four countries - Lao PDR and Cambodia – rank extremely low on the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators for government effectiveness (e.g. quality of public policy formulation and implementation and the quality of the civil service and the degree of its independence from political pressures) and control of corruption (e.g. the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain, as well as "capture" of the state by elites and private interests) suggesting these are powerful barriers to change – see **Appendix E**. These issues were cited by consultation participants as reasons why progress is slow or there is a tendency to take 'one step forward and two steps back' in efforts to convert commitments into action. For example, in Vietnam bureaucratic delays in the approval process for a partner organisation resulted in some projects being unable to proceed during the evaluation period. Also in Vietnam the Vietnamese government stepped back from the 2018 Prime Minister's public commitment to ban asbestos use in the construction sector by 2023 with the name of the 2022 roadmap changed from 'roadmap to stop using chrysotile' to 'improve chrysotile management in production', due likely to pressure from the Ministry of Construction and the Roof Sheet Association.

These factors are also likely to account for the lack of agreement across relevant ministries within government to progress bans which is particularly the case in Lao PDR and Cambodia. The effective regulation of asbestos requires governments at all levels across a range of areas working together to ensure that actions are coordinated. It is a common experience across all countries for one ministry to veto progress towards an asbestos ban.

Effectiveness conclusion

At the local level all campaign activities were important and necessary. Strategies seen by consultation participants as vital were those that raised awareness of asbestos exposure amongst workers and the community. It is difficult to say how much this also contributed to the goal of achieving national bans but evidence from other countries has shown it is an important component of achieving that objective. However, at the same time many participants pointed out that awareness raising is a lower order

²⁶ LE GV, Takahashi K, Park EK, Delgermaa V, Oak C, Qureshi AM, Aljunid SM. Asbestos use and asbestos-related diseases in Asia: past, present and future. *Respirology*. 2011 Jul;16(5):767-75. doi: 10.1111/j.1440-1843.2011.01975.x. PMID: 21449920

control and ultimately workers and the community will not be safe until the hazard is eliminated by imposing country bans and through the effective management and removal of the legacy asbestos.

At the national level, relationship building and forming alliances to work towards changing policy and enacting laws was also seen as an effective vital strategy, but its success depends on stability with changes within government; key personnel within organisations; global factors like pandemics, wars and economic downturns presenting risks to achieving that aim. A view was expressed during consultation that the fact that many governments have been on the verge of banning but have not perversely shows the campaign's effectiveness.

At the regional level, efforts during the period to influence regional initiatives have proven to be very effective and should result in a decline in consumption as the asbestos industry becomes isolated with institutional and country commitments to use alternative products.

At the global level, views were divided on attempts to change the Rotterdam Convention. However, it was the consensus view that it is important to 'stay the course' not only because of the moral obligations to do so but also due to concerns that vacating might send the wrong message to the asbestos industry.

4.3 Relevance

Through selected examples this section considers the extent to which the goal and objectives of the campaign are consistent with partner requirements, country needs, global and regional priorities. This section addresses KEQ 2 and SEOs 2-6.

Relevance of campaign to APHEDA - relates to SEO 6

The campaign directly relates to the core values of Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA - solidarity, movement building, partnership and justice. It directly links to APHEDA's theme one; rights and safety at work and trade union development.

Relevance of the campaign to the union movement – relates to SEO 4 and 6

It was expressed during consultations with the ACTU and some of its affiliates that the campaign is **extremely relevant** to the union movement. The campaign connects directly with the Australian trade union movement to its core position of extending solidarity to partners and unions outside of Australia. The issue of preventing asbestos exposure remains a high priority issue for unions whose members have been at the greatest risk in the past, present and future. It was considered by one union official as 'an amazing issue to build internationalism around' and by another as 'reflecting the very nature of the union movement'. Further, UnionsWA considered the campaign in Indonesia has been helpful for its international strategy and considered it to be a 'good fit' because of the strong connection between WA and Indonesia and given the tragedy of Wittenoom.

During consultation it was very simply put that it is a justice and moral issue for the union movement and it is not possible for the movement to sit back and see the Australian experience repeat itself. However, the lack of immediacy is a problem for its members as many are now a generation or two removed from victims of Australia's past use. What did however make the issue relevant to workers today was the fact that prohibited asbestos imports may land on Australian worksites due to continued global use. It was this issue that highlighted the necessity for the campaign and during consultation some union participants expressed their concern that in recent years it had gone a little of the radar. It was considered that not enough connection was being made to consequences of continued use in the Asia-Pacific region to Australian workers. ASSEA on its website maintains information on tests and detections by the Australian Border Force as well as safety alerts and recalls issued by the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission. The information shows there has been an increase in both tests and detections since 2020.

Relevance of the campaign to the Australian Government – relates to SEO 3 and 6

ASSEA said during consultations that the campaign is **extremely relevant** to implementing the ANSP. It was considered that ASSEA would not be able to achieve the international element of the ANSP without APHEDA's advocacy and assistance with building institutional capacity within the countries to effect government policy and regulatory change. The dual objectives of discharging a moral obligation and protecting Australian workers from prohibited asbestos imports is once again reflected in ANSP Phase 3 2024-2030 – to which it is expected all Australian governments will sign up to in the first half of 2024. The view was expressed that the campaign will become even more relevant under the new Phase 3 ANSP as there will be a separate National Action Plan for International Action and that there will be increasing opportunity to leverage Australia's commitment to capacity building under that plan not only in relation to asbestos and ARDs but also silica and silica-related diseases. The view was also expressed that the partnership with APHEDA is an efficient pooling of resources because there is no need for ASSEA to duplicate what APHEDA was already doing, and it would be difficult and resource intensive for ASSEA to 'start from scratch'.

Further evidence of the relevance of the campaign to the Australia Government was Australia co-sponsoring the proposal to amend the Rotterdam Convention at CoP 11 and the convening of a high-level meeting in Siem Reap during ASEAN Cambodia 2022 by the Assistant Minister for Trade the Hon. Tim Ayres. Several onshore and offshore DFAT officials also highlighted its importance and relevance to Australia's trade and foreign strategic objectives.

However, from consultations with representatives from the Australian Government it became clear that a more joined up approach was necessary with some government officials not aware of the nature of the involvement of other officials in activities related to the campaign. There is the concern that too much responsibility is being delegated by government officials to APHEDA. ASSEA expressed the view that if they understood the bigger picture better it would make it easier for them to ensure they were making the necessary connections across the Australian Government. This could also be achieved by APHEDA presenting to the Intergovernmental Committee that has been established to implement the ANSP which includes officials from DCCEEW and DFAT. The recommendation in the mid-term evaluation that APHEDA and ASSEA develop a shared plan, including six monthly updates in Canberra, to raise the profile of the campaign with Ministers and MPs remains relevant and a PGARD meeting would be the appropriate forum for this to occur with all relevant government officials also attending. ASSEA conferences also provide a forum for this to occur. It is important that through such events concrete commitments are sought and obtained from government.

Relevance of the campaign to ADDRI – relates to SEO 6

ADDRI considered the campaign to be **highly relevant** to its international priorities as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Elimination of Asbestos Related Diseases. It helps facilitate connections for ADDRI to networks, citizens, health professionals and civil society groups outside of Australia. An example that was provided was the joint workshop. It is now proposed to hold similar events in Lao PDR and Vietnam. ADDRI also considers that the campaign kept the issue of asbestos on the radar during the COVID-19 pandemic and although progress was impacted it was not 'back to scratch'. However, ADDRI also considers that it would be of more relevance if the focus moved more into public health and away from OSH. ADDRI would also like to see a broader country focus with Thailand and other large asbestos using countries included within its scope.

Relevance of the campaign to the four countries – relates to SEO 5

The desktop analysis and consultation showed the campaign remains **extremely relevant** to all four countries albeit for slightly different reasons. Common to all though is that it provides a mechanism to reach government policy-makers to convince them that the time to act is now.

- *Indonesia is the country most likely to repeat the Australian experience*

Unlike Indonesia, Australia did mine asbestos extensively, but the two nations still have relevant similarities. Firstly, they share similar at-risk industries such as the processing of raw asbestos into ACMs, along with workers in construction and automotive repair. Secondly, the two nations apparent consumption reached similar levels. Australia's apparent consumption of asbestos never exceeded 100,000 tonnes annually like Indonesia, but it did peak above 90,000 tonnes in the mid-1970s.

Considering these similarities, Australia's experience may help indicate the length of Indonesia's future burden. GBD study data forecast that Australian deaths due to occupational asbestos exposure will continue to rise to at least 2040, which is roughly 65 years after peak consumption. While the Australian and Indonesian experiences are not identical, this nonetheless suggests that Indonesia may continue to see rising deaths at least 65 years after peak consumption even if asbestos consumption drastically declined today. This equates to the late 2070s, showing the prolonged burden of ARDs facing the nation.

- *Vietnam's death rate projected to be the highest in South-East Asia*

Vietnam is the country projected to have the highest number of deaths and highest death rate amongst all South-East Asian nations by 2040 (3,832.55 deaths at 2.28 deaths per 100,000).²⁷ Under a worst-case scenario these figures grow to 6,530.85 deaths and 4.43 deaths per 100,000. In 2022 it was the seventh highest consuming country in the world.

- *Lao PDR has the highest asbestos consumption per capita amongst Asia-Pacific countries*

Despite its relatively small population of 7,379,358,²⁸ Lao PDR has the highest asbestos consumption per capita amongst Asia-Pacific countries.²⁹ Concerningly, Laotian regulations deem chrysotile to be of 'medium risk', a clear contradiction of WHO and IARC positionings.³⁰

- *Cambodia on the verge of a ban to avoid future disease burden*

Cambodia neither mines nor manufactures asbestos, with all consumption occurring via importation of ACMs.³¹ As there has been relatively minimal historic use it is important to try to convince the government that safe alternatives can avoid a future large health and economic burden.

Relevance of the campaign to regional and global asbestos ban networks – relates to SEO 1 and 4

The views expressed by those leading the Asian and International asbestos ban networks also showed the campaign to be **highly relevant**. There was high regard for APHEDA's work and appreciation of the important contribution the campaign makes to advancing regional and global asbestos bans. Like the view expressed by ASSEA, ABAN viewed the strong connections that are formed particularly at the political level in the four countries as extremely important. Similar comments were made by IBAS. In addition, support that has been provided to grassroots groups like LION, INA-BAN and VNBAN enables the campaign to have impact at both the local and national level. It also contributes to ABAN and IBAS' coalition building efforts helping them to achieve their objectives. ABAN would like to see the campaign expand to other ASEAN countries and some Indian states if possible.

Relevance of the campaign to International Organisations – relates to SEO 4.

The desktop analysis and consultation showed the campaign is also **highly relevant** to organizations such as the WHO, ILO and US Solidarity because it achieves their policy goals and objectives for very little outlay, i.e. it assists countries to implement international recommendations and is a tripartite issue that advances labour rights. Officials from the WHO offices in Vietnam and Lao PDR think it is

²⁷ Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). **GBD Foresight Visualization**. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2018. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-foresight>. (Accessed 30/9/2022)

²⁸ [Population, total - Lao PDR | Data \(worldbank.org\)](#)

²⁹ [Media Release: Laos takes steps to end asbestos \(apheda.org.au\)](#)

³⁰ National Asbestos Profile, Lao PDR, 2017

³¹ National Asbestos Profile, Cambodia, 2023

important and significant that APHEDA is the only INGO in the region focusing on asbestos issues. In a move that will strengthen the relationship with WHO, APHEDA is in the process of registering under the WHO Framework of engagement with non-State actors (FENSA) for technical collaboration. The WHO official from Lao PDR said that the campaign would be of more benefit to the WHO if it focused more broadly on the dust hazards associated with lung disease. With occupational lung disease being a priority of the country, it was considered that expanding the campaign in this way would allow the WHO in partnership with APHEDA to provide more support to the relevant ministries (including public works).

Relevance conclusion

The desktop analysis and consultations showed that the relevance of the campaign for the partners involved has not diminished. In fact, for some partners it has increased in importance and could become even more relevant if its scope was broadened to encompass other dust hazard and countries. Further, it was pointed out during consultations that even when bans are in place there will still be an on-going role for the campaign as the focus shifts to safe management, removal and disposal of legacy asbestos. ASSEA, ADDRI, ABAN and WHO all said the campaign's relevance could be enhanced by ensuring campaign activities are directly aligned with their strategic priorities. It was also mentioned by workers and victims during Indonesian consultations that they are being exposed to new dust hazards such as silica and graphite as a shift to alternative materials and products slowly takes place. Dr Anna confirmed that silica-related diseases will become a 'huge issue' for Indonesia in the future given that silica exposure can increase the risk of tuberculosis (with 2nd highest rate in the world) even in the absence of silicosis.

To maintain continued relevance, it is recommended that APHEDA considers the feasibility of broadening the scope of the campaign to encompass other dust hazards and countries. This should be following consultation with DFAT, ASSEA and ADDRI to ensure new funding can be obtained.

4.4 Long term change and sustainability

This section addresses KEQ 3 and SEOs 2, 3, 4 and 5. It considers the extent to which the changes brought about by the campaign are sustainable and, in particular, whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after donor funding and support has been withdrawn. It also considers the extent to which the campaign is achieving efficiencies and can be considered value for money.

In addition to the examples provided under section 4.1 other events that are likely to result in long term changes are:

Long-term trend indicates a drop in consumption – relates to SEO 2

From the data that was available for the evaluation period the desktop analysis showed little movement either way in consumption levels for the 4 countries (**Appendix F**). It was therefore necessary to look at consumption over a longer period to detect trends, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Vietnam there has been a decline in both the imports of raw asbestos and the number of AC roof sheet manufacturers since 2015. In 2015 Vietnam imported almost 60,000 tonnes and in 2022 that had dropped to around 30,000 tonnes. There has also been a decline in imports in Indonesia with 120,000 tonnes imported in 2015 and 102,000 tonnes in 2022. There was a clear drop in consumption during the first year of the pandemic 2020 with only 86,000 tonnes imported. Consumption in Cambodia continues to decline but in Lao PDR there has been a concerning increase based on the latest import figures available of ACM, which could be due to the number of roof factories that have closed during the period.

Shared learnings – relates to SEO 5

During consultation country managers acknowledged that the differences between the countries in terms of consumption, culture, class, political and economic systems impact whether the campaign's interventions will work or not. However, they also identified opportunities for shared learnings arising from the similarities between the countries including asbestos industry targeting and tactics; the lack of data and victims (which was providing an excuse for government inaction) and low levels of awareness. It was considered that changes in 'sister countries' prove to be more relevant than those in UIC which means that achieving a ban in one of the countries could have a significant knock of effect.

Continuing contribution of the asbestos ban networks – relates to SEO 4 and 5

The asbestos ban networks in each of the countries continue to prove their effectiveness in contributing to sustainable long-term change. Views expressed during consultation highlighted their importance due to their ability to establish strong political connections which enables the campaign to achieve impact at the national level. Many views were expressed about their ability to raise awareness at the local level by contributing to IEC activities.

The mid-term evaluation raised concerns about their sustainability and since that time a SWOT analysis has been conducted for each of the groups. In addition, a theory of change process has been raised and trained in four countries and completed in two. The strengthening of LAOBAN as a result of it being registered as an OSH Association so that can be the umbrella for future LAOBAN activities following a two year process is hoped to have secured its political future. Civil society groups are severely restricted in Lao PDR and require registration to be officially recognized so the registration of LAOBAN as an OSH Association is a significant breakthrough for Lao civil society more broadly. However, it was pointed out during consultation there are significant setting up issues to address including the development of an MOU with the LFTU to secure its financial future. It was also expressed that APHEDA's continued support will be vital for its success. The Association will be reviewed by the Ministry of Home Affairs and its association status could be at risk if establishment and work is not advanced.

LION has also taken action to secure the future of INA-BAN, however it is still a loose network and improvements are needed to build its capacity. One of the reasons for the establishment of a profit organisation LION Pariwara is in order to achieve sustainability for its campaign work.

The Review of Progress Mid Term Assessment 2022 for Cambodia found that CAMBAN needed to expand its membership to include those with relevant skills and influence. The country manager considers there may be lessons to be learnt from the Lao experience and the establishment of a boarder OSH network may provide it with a clearer focus and achieve that objective.

It was raised by many consultation participants that because these groups are an important part of an effective ban strategy it is vital for financial support to be maintained. Also stressed was the importance of establishing victims' groups because the voices of real victims are very important in getting governments to act. It was mentioned several times that once bans are achieved there will still be an on-going role for these groups in supporting victims and ensuring the remaining legacy is managed and removed safely.

Inclusion of asbestos for the first time in a regional trade agreement – relates to SEO 2 and 3

The inclusion of asbestos as an issue to be address under IPEF was considered by DFAT to be a significant milestone as it is the first regional trade agreement (under Pillar II Supply Chain) where there is a commitment by partners to co-operate to eradicate ARD in the Asia-Pacific region.³² Under Pilar II Parties have agreed to cooperate to provide technical assistance and capacity building to prevent ARD

³² [Indo-Pacific Economic Framework | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade \(dfat.gov.au\)](#)
[indo-pacific-economic-framework-prosperity-agreement-relating-supply-chain-resilience.pdf \(dfat.gov.au\)](#)

and to promote transition from the use of asbestos to safer alternative products in IPEF supply chains. Pillar 1 Trade of IPEF is still being negotiated and it is hoped with the absence of India that a stronger commitment to banning asbestos will be obtained.

There is \$25 million in funding over 4 years across IPEF that could be tapped into for use in Indonesia and Vietnam but not Lao PRD and Cambodia. It could also be used to expand the campaign to Thailand and India. DFAT considers the campaign to be significant to achieving this milestone and it could be a vehicle for capacity building moving forward.

Value for money – relates to SEO 4

Campaign expenditure over the period was **\$2,126,436** which resulted in achieving both efficiency through the delivery of outputs and effectiveness via outcomes. Examples of outcomes and outputs are provided in **Appendix G**.

The campaign proved to be value for money for its supporters. Funding from organisations like the Solidarity Center showed how a small contribution can have a big impact in Cambodia. It is a mutually beneficial arrangement where APHEDA benefits from drawing a powerful organization into the campaign and where the Solidarity Center achieves its objectives for very little outlay. The same is true for ASSEA, union supporters, other international organisations and INGOs – they use the campaign and APHEDA to achieve their objectives in the area where starting from scratch would be enormously expensive. The campaign's top-down approach of trying to achieve change at the policy level is also an efficient use of resources. Desktop analysis and consultations showed that the campaign could benefit from more efficient implementation which as expressed previously could be achieved through better communication with partners, collaborators and supporters to ensure there is an alignment of objectives, less duplication and more efficient allocation of resources.

Long-term and sustainability conclusion

It was commonly expressed during consultation that effecting change in a complex, multifaceted dynamic environment takes time and commitment. The examples above show the need to plug away at the issue and at the same time be nimble-footed when changes occur. Although the four-country strategy has had a setback in Vietnam during the period, with the possibility of new funding channels opening up there are opportunities for possible expansion. In addition, the historic announcement in Cambodia in May 2023 of a ban date could influence other countries in the region.

4.5 Cross-cutting issues

This section addresses KEQ 4. It considers the extent to which the campaign integrates and, therefore, contributes to advancing a number of important issues.

Gender equality

The desktop analysis and consultation showed improvement since the mid-term evaluation in ensuring that women are actively involved and have a leadership role in the campaign. Examples provided of achieving a high representation of women in leadership positions include APHEDA Vietnam's partnership with Backan Women's union organizing workshops and training courses for local people, ethnic minorities and government staff. In Indonesia, LION has increased the number of women working for the organisation and now ensures women are included in program planning. There is also a high representation of women in INA-BAN and women's participation in the campaign in Lao PRD was also strong.

However, in relation to it being effective in improving key gender inequalities it showed that more work was needed. In this regard, the campaign is still very much gender blind with no specific strategy to communicate to women about the risks of asbestos exposure, particularly given that the exposure time for women should be less than men and that they can experience occupational, para-occupational and

non-occupational exposure. The gender analysis conducted in 2022 showed that the impact of asbestos exposure on women is not well understood or highlighted. The recommendations from that analysis that a gender communication guide be developed, that indicators are selected and a specific budget allocated remain relevant.

Disability inclusion

In relation to disability inclusion, disability rights organisations are asked to engage with the campaign and People with disabilities are involved in some ban networks and LION. Although people who are affected by asbestos-related disease are People with disabilities, there is still more work to be done to ensure the campaign incorporates disability inclusion within its design and implementation. This is important given People with disabilities can be more at risk if they develop ARDs. Targeted IEC activities are also necessary.

Child protection

In relation to child protection there was no evidence from the desktop analysis or consultation that the risks of child exploitation are not being assessed and managed in accordance with DFAT's Child Protection Policy. However, many views were expressed about there was not enough focus on asbestos exposure risk to non-workers including children e.g. how/whether children are at risk and impacted by asbestos exposure at work, in the home and the community. As one person said, it is 'doubly tragic' when companies that use asbestos also exploit child labour. However, they considered the bigger problem to be child labour. As with the two cross-cutting issues above the IEC activities could focus more on how children are exposed.

Environmental safeguards

It is well known that asbestos use has a negative impact on the environment and can lead to significant land contamination. The presence of ACM in the built environment also increases the vulnerability of communities to disasters and the impacts of climate change.

The desktop analysis and consultation showed how in Indonesia environmental sustainability is effectively being factored into the campaign with:

- Bandung City Assembly extending the ban on the use of asbestos to new private houses in 2020.³³ (Unfortunately with passing of an omnibus law there is a concern that with a shift in authority from district to national that this has been overridden.)
- The Ministry of National Development Planning saying that they will progress the making of a regulation prohibiting ACMs being used in new developments, especially in the planned new capital city of Nusantara.
- The Indonesian government prohibiting the use of asbestos materials in government buildings despite representations made by the fibre cement association.
- The Ministry of National Development Planning stating that the use of ACM in houses should be avoided in order to achieve 'liveable' status.

A broader environmental strategy could be developed to spread the advocating of such initiatives to the other three countries to broaden the base and make it more impactful and relevant to citizens and their governments.

OSH

For obvious reasons traditionally the campaign has focused strongly on the risks of occupational exposure to asbestos. There was no evidence from the desktop analysis or consultation that not enough attention was being given to this cross-cutting issue. On the contrary, there was some concern

³³ [BREAKTHROUGH! Indonesian City of Bandung Expands Asbestos Ban - Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA](#)

expressed that the focus is too strong. However the dominate view was that the strong focus should continue because this enables the engagement of Australian workers and unions among other things. It was also regarded as appropriate given a safe and healthy working environment is now a fundamental principle and right at work. Given the role of trade unions in bringing about the asbestos ban in Australia it could be effective for the campaign to form part of a trade union strengthening program more broadly. The impression gained from in country consultations with unions is that surprisingly there is not enough appreciation of the impact they can have.

Cross-cutting issues conclusion

There was concern expressed during consultation that not enough attention is being given to the particular needs of women, People with disabilities and children in regard to asbestos exposure risks. In some countries focusing specifically on these groups was regarded as important because of their participation in the workforce. It was also regarded that engaging women was a good way to get the message out to the community and focusing on children and People with disabilities was also effective in achieving cut through with the public and government.

There was also concern expressed during consultation that the campaign's traditional focus on OSH could be inhibiting progress. It was considered that if the issue was elevated to a public health issue and effort was directed towards getting clinicians trained to detect disease that would be more effective in putting pressure on governments. Likewise, approaching the issues from the perspective of environment safeguarding was also regarded as an effective alternative. Although a view was expressed that it is still first necessary to convince governments that it is a risk to health and then convince them that this risk increases with climate change and living in disaster prone areas. The dominate view was that it is correct to focus on the workplace and that the public health benefits flow from that - not the other way around. However, the COVID-19 Pandemic showed that a hand in glove approach can be effective. It is also the case that the best lens to use is going to vary country to country and will depend on who is the lead ministry in a country at any particular point of time.

5. Conclusion and recommendations

Despite considerable setbacks and barriers, positive change and impact were evident during the evaluation period and progress was made towards achieving the campaign's goal and objectives. The desktop review and consultations revealed evidence that it continued to:

- mobilise and build support for asbestos bans and the eradication of ARDs
- contribute to solidarity, equality, justice and movement-building
- effectively engage high level decision makers helping to generate commitments towards a ban
- increase awareness of asbestos exposure risks increasing the protection of workers and the community
- influence consumption within some countries and regionally through trade policy and agreements.

The recommendations below are made within that context – they seek to ensure the campaign remains effective and relevant and that sustainable long-term change is achieved. They are based on the many suggestions that were received during consultation about how the campaign could be 'more effective, more impactful' by continuing with a multifaceted approach that comes at the issues from a social, political, economic and legal perspective.

For the consultation participants the issue of asbestos use continues to be a justice issue. It was clear for many it would be unconscionable knowing what is to occur in the future not to continue to play a role in helping to prevent the projected rising and severe death and disease toll in the coming decades in the four countries from entirely preventable ARDs.

Although the goal of achieving an asbestos ban was not achieved in any of the countries during the evaluation period – something that many had wished for – there was still overwhelming consensus and support for continuing to pursue that goal particularly in light of the success of the campaign in achieving ban announcements in three countries. Although several suggestions were made to state the goal as *eliminating ARDs*.

It is known from the Australian experience that it takes continued public lobbying from unions, a small group of scientists, asbestos victims and activists and the generation of intense media coverage to challenge the powerful and influential asbestos industry to put sufficient pressure on policy makers. With the reality being that the types of actions and changes necessary to bring about a ban in the four countries taking longer than in Australia there needs to be a commitment to staying the course.

Many countries have already developed a NAP and have the support of anti-asbestos coalitions. With more accurate estimates of the future burden of ARDs, increased diagnostic capabilities and greater public awareness catalysed via victim's groups and activists, the momentum towards a ban should continue to grow.

As more than one consultation participant pointed out, there is a significant risk that any winding back of the campaign's activities now would result in emboldening the asbestos industry which could result in increased consumption and risk. The overwhelming support was for continuing activities at current levels and expanding if feasible and if it did not risk current efforts.

Recommendations

1. Maintain focus on the four countries and consider expansion

It is recommended that a feasibility study is conducted to explore the merit and viability of expanding the campaign into other high consumption countries and to include other dust hazards.

It is also recommended that the study considers enhancing campaign connections with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program - PacWaste Plus regional asbestos project. That project is assisting 13 Pacific Island countries move towards imposing asbestos bans.

The desktop analysis and consultations showed that the relevance of the campaign for the partners and supporters has not diminished. However, to enhance its relevance some consultation participants would like to see an expansion of the campaign into high consumption countries like Thailand and India (ABAN, ADDRI) and to include other dust hazards, in particular silica, into the campaign (ASSEA, ADDRI, WHO, Binawan, ACTU).

2. Maintain level of funding and tap into new funding sources

It is recommended existing funding levels are maintained and new sources are tapped into given that the desktop analysis and consultation provided no evidence for ending or winding back campaign activities. It is not recommended that resources are prioritised in any particular way or for any particular country. Given the dynamic nature of the environment, it is important that resource allocation remains flexible.

It is also recommended to explore options for merging or aligning the campaign with other APHEDA priorities and activities to create efficiencies.

3. Strategic workforce planning for the campaign

It is recommended that APHEDA undertakes workforce planning in relation to the campaign to consider if there are any gaps between current and future workforce capacity and capability.

It is also recommended that this considers the staff resources that are necessary to provide support to the asbestos ban groups in each country to ensure grassroots movements remain strong.

Several concerns were expressed during consultation about the future human resourcing of the campaign in terms of ensuring people with the right skills, capabilities and knowledge continue to be involved.

4. Develop data collection strategy to support regulatory reform

It is recommended that a clear data strategy is developed to ensure data is centralised. NAPs and NPEADs can continue to be vehicles for this to occur but they need to be living documents to ensure they contain as much detailed and accurate data given that asbestos consumption can be a predictor of future incidence and mortality of ARDs. Data centralisation could occur as part of reporting progress against the targets in the Asbestos National Strategic Plan and access to data could be provided via ASSEA's website or dataplace.gov.au.

It is also recommended that as part of this process consideration be given to establishing registries of people with past and/or current exposures to asbestos and those diagnosed with ARDs.

During consultation it was frustrating to constantly hear that despite the overwhelming international evidence about the harmful effects of chrysotile asbestos that there is not enough evidence and data to 'convince' government officials that it is dangerous.

5. Conduct country-specific regulatory impact analysis

It is recommended in consultation with ASSEA a country-specific economic analysis of each country's situation is conducted to strengthen the argument for a ban. It could also cover the regulatory impact of imposing bans including the move to alternatives and closure of factories.

Countries that have banned asbestos have not experienced an observable negative economic impact. They have however suffered - in addition to the human costs of ARDs - significant economic burdens for asbestos-using nations, including medical, removal and potential compensation.

6. Strategy to promote the use of alternative products and combat the influence of the asbestos industry

It is recommended that strategies should be explored to determine how to support more local or international companies to manufacture and distribute non-asbestos alternative products in countries that signal their desire to transition out of asbestos.

It is also recommended that a clear unified strategy across the four countries is developed to combat the influence of the asbestos industry that is communicated to partners, collaborators and supporter.

The asbestos industry continues to fight for increasingly diminishing but highly lucrative markets, putting profits before safety by attempting to mislead nations into believing that there are no health consequences from chrysotile asbestos exposures. Clearly in some countries, the absence of alternative roof sheet manufacturing acts to assist the continuation of asbestos roof sheeting.

7. Continue to facilitate the building of partnerships and alliances

It is recommended that APHEDA continues to ensure partnerships and alliances are made and maintained between:

- Government to government
- Union to union
- University to university / research institutions
- Industry to industry.

A clear strength of the campaign is its ability to form strong partnerships and build alliances.

It is also recommended to schedule regular meetings with key partners, collaborators and supporters to ensure that priorities remain aligned and efficiencies can be realised through effective collaboration.

8. Develop communication plan or strategy

It is recommended to develop campaign and country specific communications plans or strategies to ensure IEC initiatives have clear objectives; target specific audiences and address a specific problem within a set timeframe.

It is clear there is an ongoing need for targeted awareness raising activities to keep workers and the community informed and safe. This is also important as IEC initiatives as part of the broader strategy can assist with achieving policy change at the national level.

9. Continue advocacy at international and multilateral fora

It is recommended to continue to advocate for reform to the voting procedure for the listing of chemicals on the Rotterdam Convention so chrysotile and the pesticides that are also being blocked from listing form part of future strategy.

It is also recommended that at the same time alternative strategies such as getting chrysotile nominated as an 'issue of concern' under the New Global Framework on Chemicals adopted in Bonn in 2023 or seeking a United Nations Environment Assembly resolution are explored with DCCEEW.

It is clear that the issue of asbestos use continues to be a justice issue for the Australian union movement and it is not possible for it to sit back and see the Australian experience repeat itself. Further motivation for Australia is that a global ban would stop asbestos products entering Australia unlawfully. .

10. Engagement and visibility at the political level

It is recommended in consultation with the ACTU, ASSEA and ADDRI to work towards putting forward a diplomatic and trade agenda to help overcome the impact of the asbestos industry.

The launching of ANSP Phase 3 this year with its own international action plan for international engagement presents an opportunity for enhanced engagement with relevant Australian Government ministers – Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations; Minister for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water; Minister for Trade and Minister for Health.

11. Deeper engagements with mainstream industry bodies

It is recommended that connection is made with country chambers of commerce and that links to strategic partnerships between Australia and the four countries - like the Cambodia Australia Partnership for Resilient Economic Development and the Australia Indonesia Partnership for Economic Development (Prospera) - are also explored.

The asbestos industry is in decline globally and is not a mainstream industry in most countries. There remains an opportunity to bring other industry players on board to support asbestos bans particularly those that have transitioned to safer products and these should be encouraged to be more active.

12. Greater incorporation of cross-cutting issues aside from OSH

It is recommended that an environmental strategy is developed so ensure environmental sustainability and the consequences of climate change are factored into the campaign.

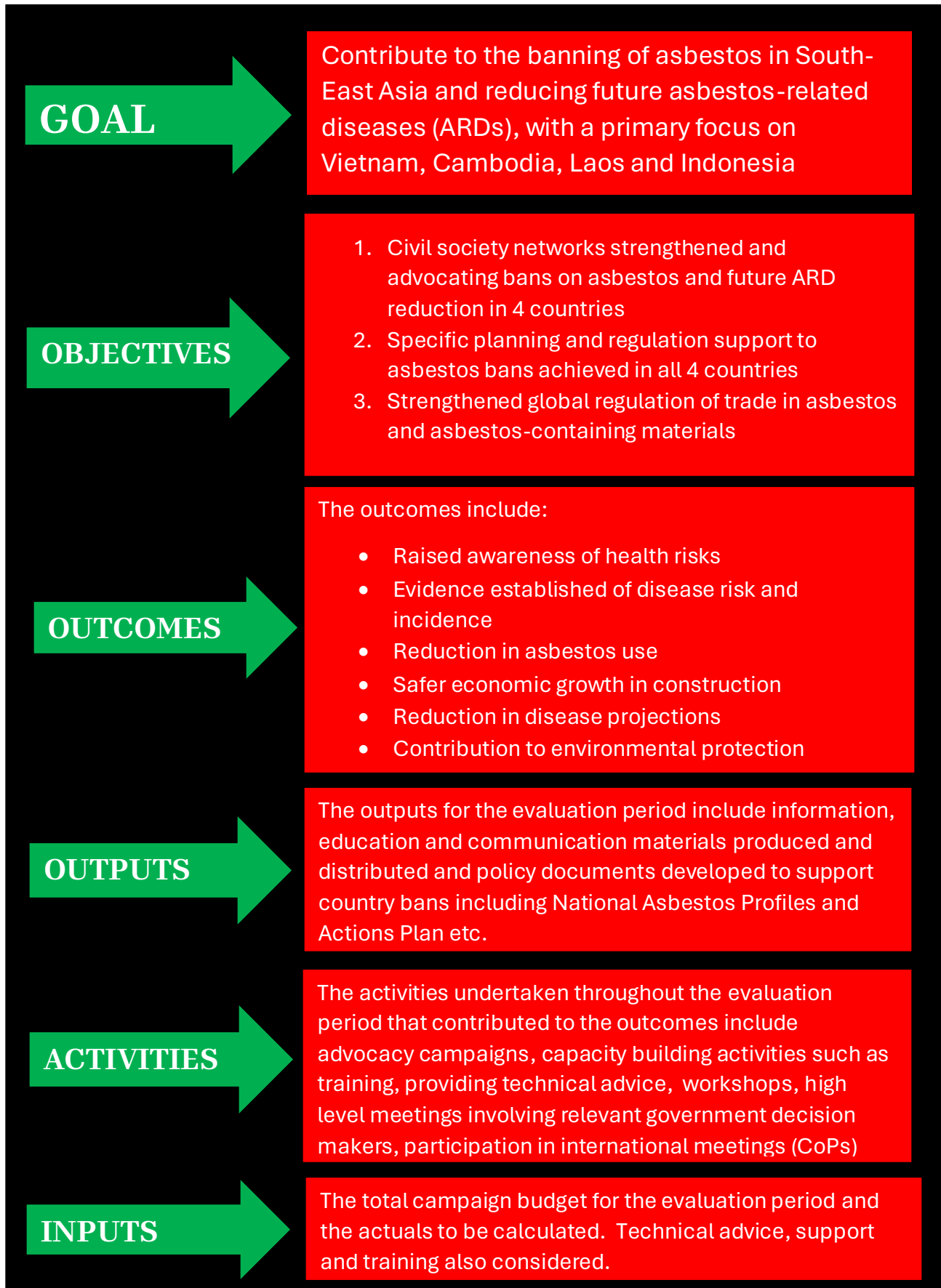
It is also recommended that as part of recommendation 8 the communications plan covers how IEC activities can focus more on how women, people with disabilities and children are impacted by asbestos exposure.

Since the mid-term evaluation effort has been made to strengthen the focus on gender and disability in the campaign. However, more focus is required in addition to a stronger focus on environmental protection. In relation to child protection, desktop analysis and consultation showed that the risks of child exploitation were being assessed and managed, however suggestions were made to include in IEC material more warning on the asbestos exposure risk to children.

6. Appendices

Program Logic / Theory of change

The logic diagram for the campaign is set out below. The outcomes as well as the outputs; activities and inputs for the period have been compiled and analysed to determine if the objectives and goal of the campaign have been achieved.



Key Evaluation Questions (KEQs)

1. In terms of **effectiveness**:

- a. In which areas has the program been successful?
- b. What strategies have proved most successful?
- c. What has been the perceived quality of APHEDA's engagement with partners, coordination, and technical inputs?

2. In terms of **relevance**:

- a. How relevant is this campaign in terms of need and to partners?

3. In terms of **efficiency** and **long-term impact**:

- a. How has the program performed in terms of value for money?
- b. Is it bringing sustainable long-term change (behaviour, policy, systems)?
- c. How has the program engaged with networks and stakeholders?
- d. What are the lessons learned between country campaigns on asbestos banning and eliminating ARD?

4. In terms of **cross-cutting issues**: How does the campaign engage and contribute too:

- a. Gender equality
- b. Disability inclusion
- c. Child protection
- d. Environmental safeguard
- e. OSH

Consultation participants

Date	Name	Organisation	Gender	Method	Key issues discussed
9 Feb	Shane McArdle Peter Tighe Paul Basitan	ADDRI ADDRI/ASEA	M M M	Virtual	Barriers Expansion of the campaign to other countries and hazards Relevance to ADDRI
9 Feb	Kate Lee	APHEDA	F	Virtual	Barriers Relevant to campaign to APHEDA & Unions Relationships Resourcing/budget Sustainability Value for money Cross-cutting issues
12 Feb	Andrew Dettmer	AMWU	M	Virtual	Barriers including Rotterdam Achieving sustainability OSH Prohibited imports
13 Feb	Tristan Koens	DFTA IPEF Trade Negotiations Section	M	Phone	IPEF Barriers
13 Feb	Veasna Nuon	APHEDA	M	Virtual	Barriers Progress in Cambodia Sustaining change Relationship with partners, collaborators and supporters Future strategy
14 Feb	Michael Wright	ETU	M	Virtual	Relevance to ETU Prohibited imports Barriers Impact of campaign to global ban efforts Future of the campaign once bans are achieved
15 Feb	Rachel Burgess Branch Head	Dept of Climate Change, Energy and Environment and Water	F	Virtual	Rotterdam Conventions International Environmental agreements and conventions
15 Feb	Liam O'Brien Deborah Vallance	ACTU	M F	Virtual	Capacity building Prohibited imports Barriers

					Rotterdam Convention Silica WHO & ILO – OSH fundamental principle
15 Feb	Phillip Hazelton	APHEDA	M	Virtual	Progress in four countries Barriers in four countries Country asbestos ban groups Rotterdam Convention Global and regional alliances Sustainability
15 Feb	Julia Collins	ASSEA	F	In Person	ANSP Engagement Government co-ordination Campaign impact Silica
15 Feb	Peter Stokes	APHEDA Vol	M	Virtual	Asbestos training Role of unions Grass roots movements
16 Feb	Sugio Furuya	ABAN	M	Virtual	Regional ban initiatives Barriers Rotterdam Convention Expansion of the campaign to other countries Victims
16 Feb	Hang Hoang	APHEDA	F	Virtual	Barriers Progress in Vietnam Sustaining change Relationship with partners, collaborators and supporters COVID-19 impact Consumption patterns Rotterdam Convention Future strategy
21 Feb	Bounmy Souvannalath	Australian Embassy Lao PDR	F	In person	Embassy engagement and assistance Barriers
21 Feb	Head of Health Promotion and Labour Safety Association	Health Promotion and Labour Safety Association	M	In Person	Resources Effective strategies Barriers Setting up of OSH Association Data/research gaps
22 Feb	Khamchan Sivanthong	LFTU	M	In Person	Capacity of the LFTU Awareness raising Relationship with APHEDA Barriers

					Future strategy
	Dr Oyuntogos Lkhasuren	WHO Lao PDR	F	In person	NPEAD/NAP Dust hazards Covid-19 impact FENSA Barriers Future strategy
22 Feb	Focus session with APHEDA Lao PRD office	APHEDA	F x 2 Mx 1		Barriers Progress in Lao PDR Sustaining change Relationship with partners, collaborators and supporters COVID-19 impact Consumption patterns Data/research gaps Future strategy
22 Feb	Phouthone Muongpak	Red Cross President Lao PDR	M	In person	Barriers Past strategy
22 Feb	Megan Jones Dan Heldon	Australian Ambassador Lao PRD Deputy Ambassador	F M	In person	Embassy engagement and assistance Barriers
26 Feb	Dr. Bouakeo Suvanthong,	Ministry of Health Lao PDR	M		Government priorities COVID-19 impact Data/research gaps Future strategy
29 Feb	Dr Anna Suraya Dr Mia Srimati	Binawan University INA-BAN	F F	In person	Development of clinical guidelines Future strategy / environment/disaster Barriers Priorities of the university Silica
29 Feb	Focus group with Victims from Cibirong and unions from Kawawang		F x 5 M x 10	In person	Awareness raising Compensation Women Dust hazards Alternative products
1 March	Philip O'Donoghue	UnionsWA	M	Virtual	Relationship with Indonesia Value for money Barriers Prohibited imports
1 March	Focus session with LION staff	LION	Fx4 Mx4		Barriers Progress in Indonesia

					Sustaining change / effective strategies Relationship with partners, collaborators and supporters COVID-19 impact Consumption patterns Data/research gaps Future strategy
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Female = 21

Male = 32

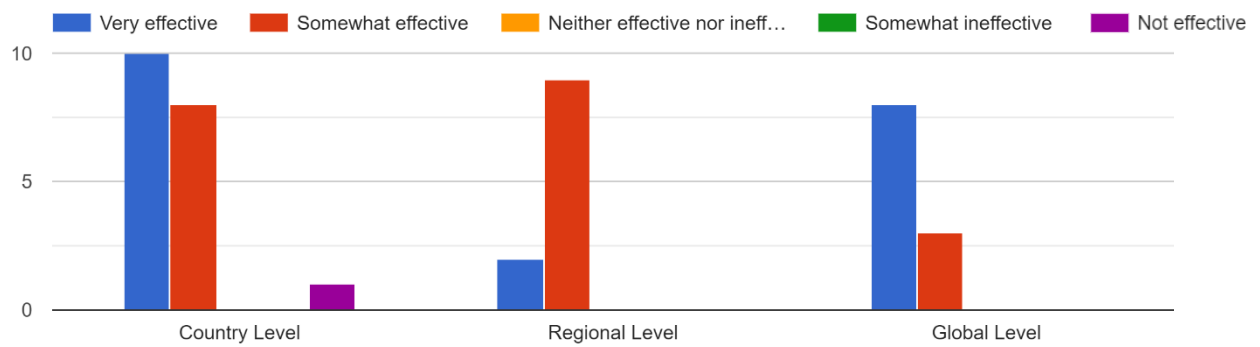
Total = 53

Survey responses

20 responses (F = 8 M=12) received from:

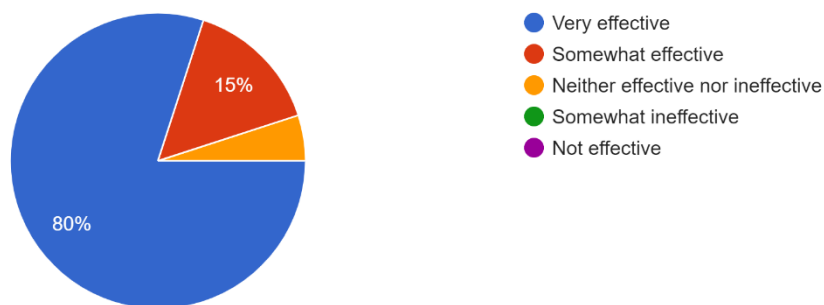
- Solidarity center
- ILO
- IBAS
- Vietnam Occupational Safety and Health Association
- Members of the Bac Kan Women’s union
- Members of the BWTUC
- Solidar Suisse
- IDEA
- C.CAWDU
- Board of Engineers Cambodia

How effective do you think the Asbestos Not Here Not Anywhere Campaign is in achieving long-term change at the levels below



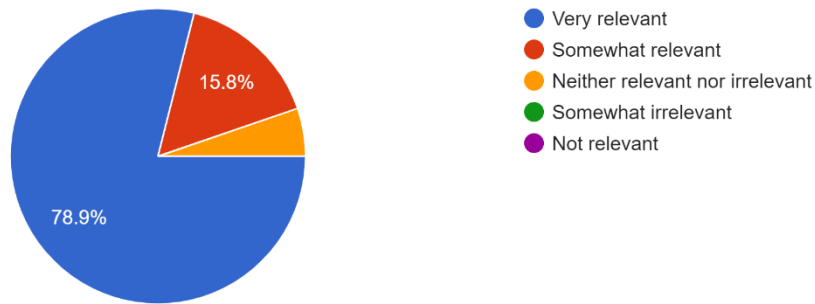
How effective is APHEDA’s engagement with you and your organization?

20 responses

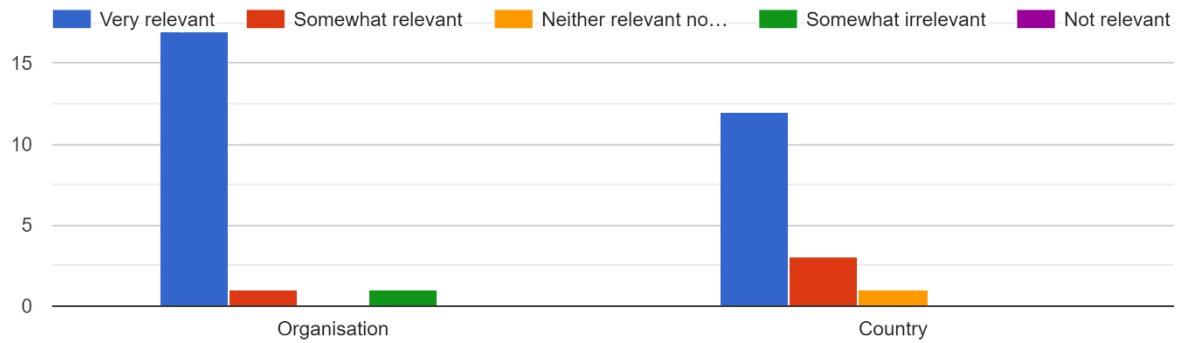


How relevant is the Campaign to the efforts to ban the use of asbestos?

19 responses

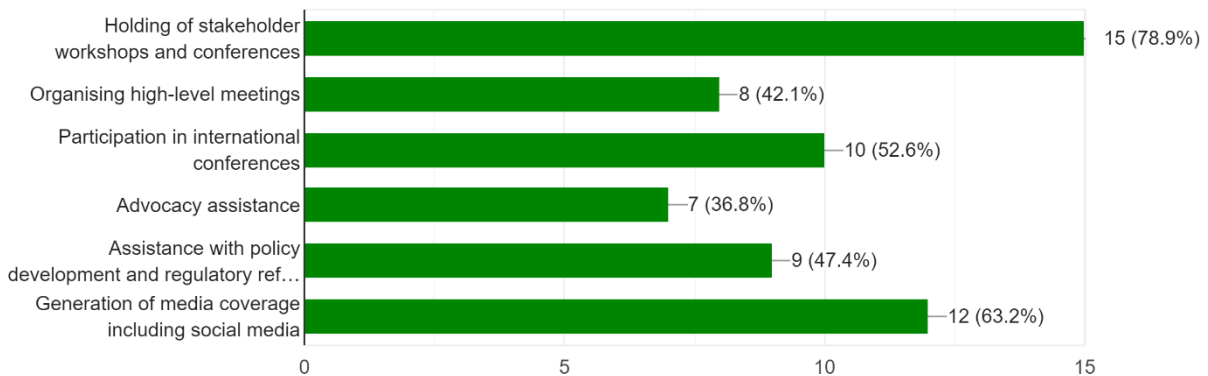


How effective is the campaign in achieving capacity building within your country and organisation?



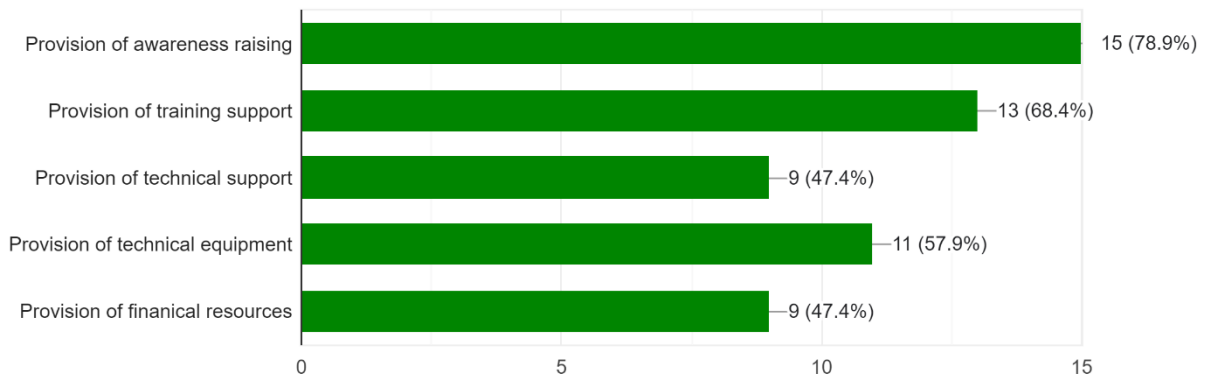
Tick the top three activities you think have been the most effective in achieving regulation or bans on asbestos

19 responses



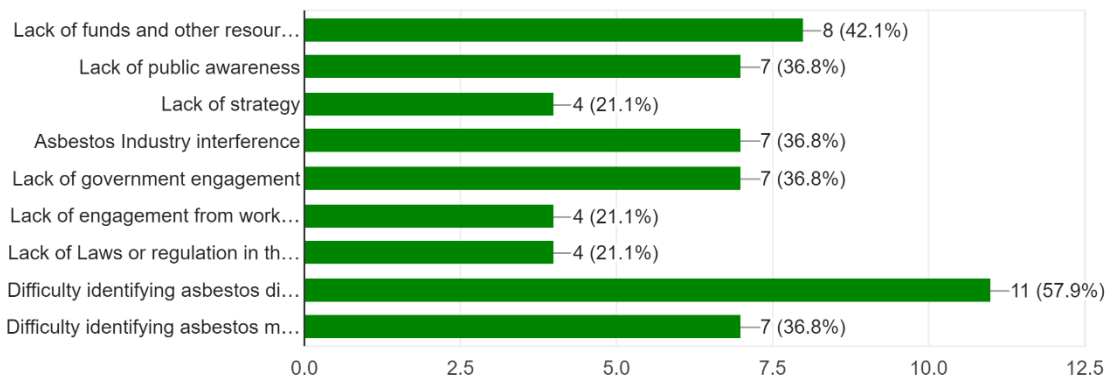
Tick the top three activities you think have been the most effective in protecting workers from asbestos exposure

19 responses

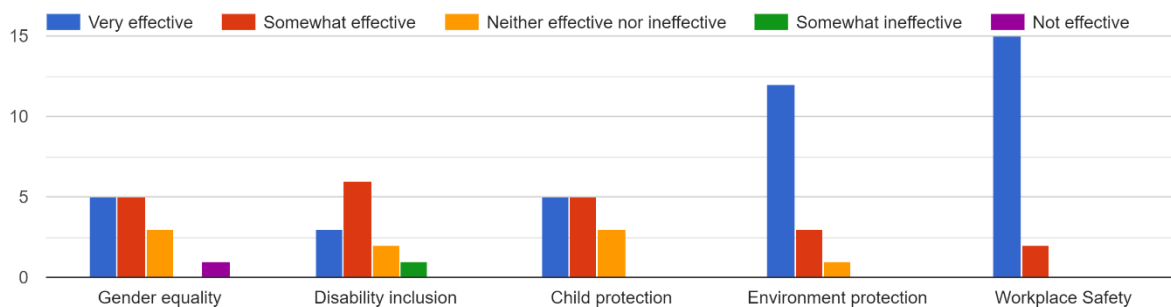


What factors do you think limit the campaign's effectiveness?

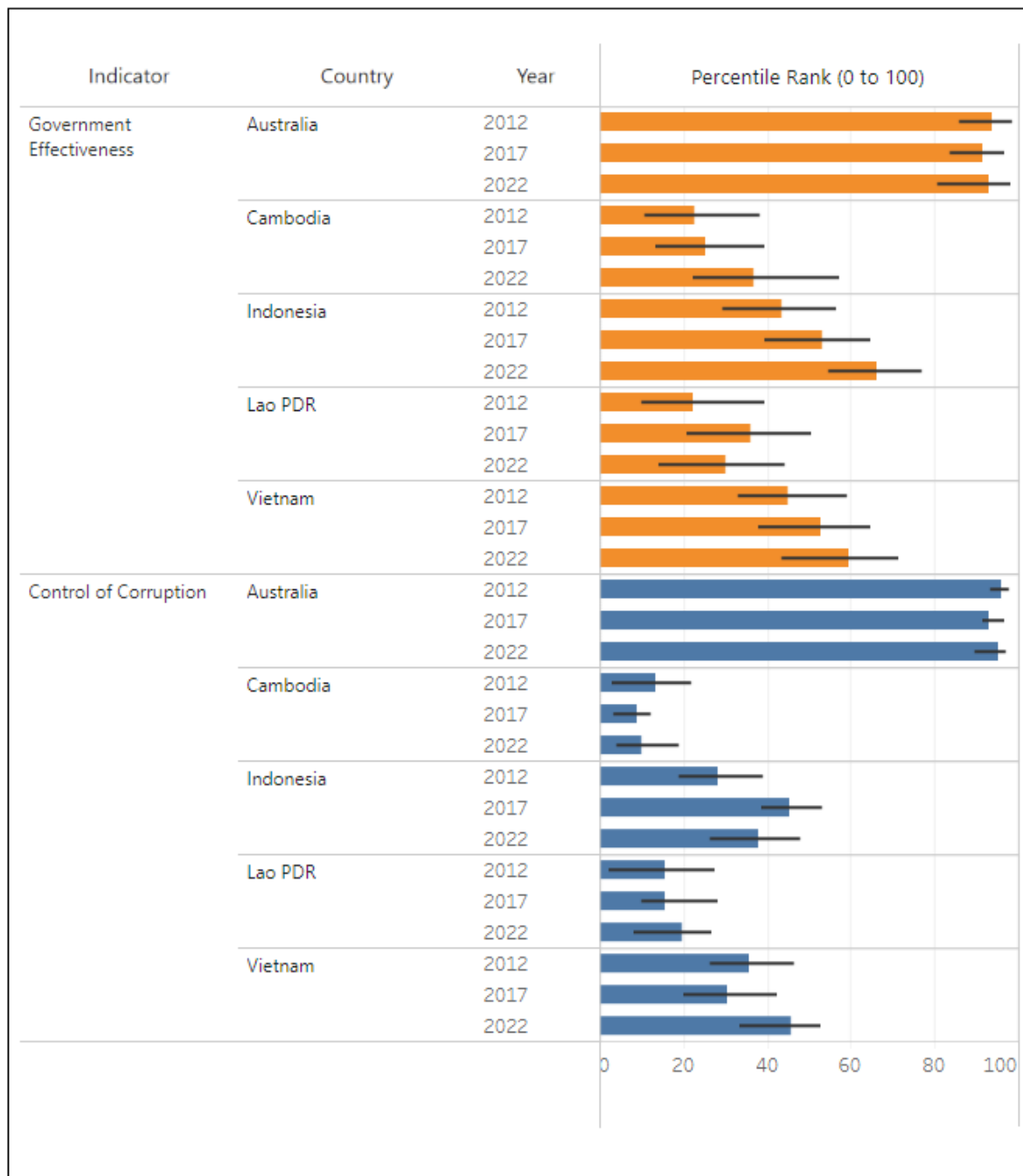
19 responses



How effectively is the campaign in integrating the following:







World Bank - Worldwide Governance Indicators



Source: Worldwide Governance Indicators (www.govindicators.org)

Consumption data 2018-2022

SE Asian Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cambodia 	156 tonnes raw fibre	207 tonnes raw fibre	202 tonnes raw fibre	288 tonnes raw fibre	Nil
	6 705 446 kg ACM	8 910 366 kg ACM	8 451 727 kg ACM	5 251 624 kg ACM	4 667 233 kg ACM
	ACM Trade value US\$ 1 684 965	ACM trade value US\$ 3 373 415	ACM trade value US\$3 297 037	ACM trade value US\$1 279 793	ACM trade value US\$ 1 579 080
Indonesia 	110 000 tonnes raw fibre (Trade value US\$54 822 302)	122,000 tonnes raw fibre (Trade value US\$ 58,009,947)	86,200 tonnes raw fibre (Trade Value US\$ 40 364 910)	130,000 tonnes raw fibre Trade Value US\$ 62 783 586	104,000 tonnes raw fibre Trade value US\$ 62 434 529
	8 210 903 kg ACM	8 407 741 kg ACM	7 784 757 kg ACM	10 732 377 kg ACM	11 944 302 kg ACM
	ACM Trade value US\$31 006 213	ACM trade value US\$22 975 621	ACM trade value \$19 273 183	ACM trade value \$22 450 490	ACM trade value US\$25 733 521
Lao PDR 	481 tonnes raw fibre	524 tonnes raw fibre	641 tonnes raw fibre	1,800 tonnes raw fibre	1,050 tonnes raw fibre
	3 026 354 kg ACM	7 778 036 kg ACM	11 411 222 kg	20 834 287 kg	No data in Comtrade
	ACM Trade Value US\$1 426 057	ACM Trade value US\$3 419 533	ACM Trade Value US\$ 3 121 154	ACM trade value US\$ 5 615 959	No data in Comtrade
Vietnam 	26,000 tonnes raw fibre	22,200 tonnes raw fibre	35,100 tonnes raw fibre	30,700 tonnes raw fibre	26,800 tonnes raw fibre
	2 582 956 kg ACM	4 116 255 kg ACM	3 436 837 kg ACM	Incomplete kg value in Comtrade	Incomplete kg Value in Comtrade
	Trade Value US\$6 570 270	Trade value US\$ 6 634 142	Trade value US\$8 368 959	Trade Value US\$7 354 306	Trade value US \$7 788 935

Asbestos consumption 2010-2022

Vietnam: Asbestos & ACMs 2010-2022



tons

Year	USGS	UN comtrade							
	Consumption	Import				Export			
	Asbestos Fiber	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320
2010	67,400	?	?	?	?	?	1,003	?	?
2011	60,400	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
2012	78,900	?	?	?	?		?	?	?
2013	57,800	?	?	?	?		832	?	?
2014	52,900	?	140	?	?		2,978	?	?
2015	61,300	?	67	?	?		4,083	?	?
2016	58,100	58,106	?	?	?		5,948	?	?
2017	43,100	43,120	?	?	?	2	7,849	?	?
2018	26,000	24,264	?	?	556	6	9,748	?	?
2019	22,200	29,964	?	?	?		13,393	?	?
2020	35,100	29,549	?	?	?		?	?	?
2021	30,700	29,092	?	?	562	3	5,055	?	?
2022	26,800	19,096	?	?	?	102	?	?	?

USGS: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/asbestos-statistics-and-information>

US comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (access: January 24, 2024)

blank = no data, ? = only trade value data is available, red = total of reported net weights.

Indonesia: Asbestos & ACMs 2010-2022



tons

Year	USGS	UN comtrade							
	Consumption	Import				Export			
	Asbestos Fiber	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320
2010	112,000	111,849	1,738	2,853	295		8,692	74	63
2011	124,000	124,049	611	3,738	527		3,520	126	163
2012	162,000	162,418	1,316	2,761	844		2,350	53	28
2013	148,000	156,050	774	3,368	748	0	1,768	144	26
2014	109,000	109,687	927	2,904	930	558	682	177	18
2015	120,000	120,458	964	2,720	543	217	924	128	4
2016	114,000	114,640	823	2,839	842	159	8,713	66	15
2017	105,000	109,036	460	3,105	783		8,914	34	8
2018	110,000	109,842	354	3,696	466		6,810	104	16
2019	122,000	122,142	269	3,830	479		4,888	97	4
2020	86,200	86,199	537	3,456	336		5,844	175	1
2021	109,000	130,038	286	5,024	398		5,888	211	8
2022	104,000	103,747	337	5,604	398		3,999	945	14

USGS: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/asbestos-statistics-and-information>

US comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (access: January 24, 2024)

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Cambodia: Asbestos & ACMs 2010-2022



tons

Year	USGS	UN comtrade							
	Consumption	Import				Export			
	Asbestos Fiber	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320
2010				8					
2011				1	9				
2012			22	11					
2013			76	5					
2014		231	103	51	3		20		
2015		215	141	15	0			0	
2016	203	203	129	10	4			0	
2017	88	88	?	?	7			?	
2018	156	156	?	?	10				
2019	207	207	8,468	113	39				
2020	203	203	8,335	39	8		12	2	
2021	216	288	5,227	8	0				
2022			4,630	18					

USGS: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/asbestos-statistics-and-information>

US comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (access: January 24, 2024)

blank = no data, ? = only trade value data is available, red = total of reported net weights.

Laos: Asbestos & ACMs 2010-2022



tons

Year	USGS	UN comtrade							
	Consumption	Import				Export			
	Asbestos Fiber	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320	Asbestos Fiber 2524	Asbestos Cement 681140	Asbestos Textile 6812	Asbestos Friction 681320
2010	587	159	?	?					
2011	371	?	?	?					
2012	175	0	?	?					
2013	631		?	?					30
2014	540	?	825	?			?		2
2015	562	2	903	?					
2016	534	1	?	?	?				
2017	554	3	?	?	?				
2018	481	0	?	?	88				
2019	524		6,795	487	14				
2020	641		10,041	666	37				
2021	1,800	36	17,830	1,495	14				
2022	1,050								

USGS: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/asbestos-statistics-and-information>

US comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (access: January 24, 2024)

blank = no data, ? = only trade value data is available, red = total of reported net weights.

Examples of campaign Outputs and Outcomes 2020-2023

Outputs and outcomes	2020 and 2021	2022 and 2023 (and 2024)
Common	4 Ban networks advocating for asbestos disease eradication and bans following COVID-19 prevention methods	4 Ban networks advocating for asbestos disease eradication
	2 x Information education and communication (IEC) materials	1 regional ban network meeting completed to build capacity
	Government plan to ban asbestos in two countries	Technical support and training with 87 trainings on asbestos across the 4 countries plus 13 policy workshops
	AIIB procurement prohibition on the use of asbestos.	Government plan to ban asbestos in two countries
	Asbestos removal training tour for nine ban asbestos campaigners and union leaders from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos and Vietnam to train in best practice removal and regulations.	Strong and active engagement on social media on asbestos awareness in 3 countries (Indonesia, Cambodia and Laos) with over 877,173 reached and 38,468 active engagements
		3 countries support listing of chrysotile asbestos in Rotterdam Convention
		10 women supported in leadership positions, 236 trained in gender issues/women's rights and 138 in Disability awareness and inclusion
		Proposed ADB procurement prohibition on the use of asbestos.
		Eleven delegates from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Indonesia attended the 2022 Asbestos Safety and Management Conference held in the Blue Mountains
		23 participants from organizations in the network took part in the SEABAN and ABAN conferences in September and October 2021.

Lao	4000 IEC booklets printed with 2000 distributed	2-days workshop was organised by Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion (DHHP) of Ministry of Health (MOH). on 2-3 Jun. 2022 for 58 participants
	1 x training for journalist on regional and national action	Established monitoring, evaluation and ARD disease surveillance framework including updating National Asbestos Profile, collecting and sharing data and information on ACMs, its imports, production and volume of asbestos containing wastes.
	LAOBAN and LFTU advocacy with world day event, distribution of IEC and advocacy with government	Commencement of updated NAP for Laos
	LFTU survey of 7 asbestos roof sheet factories to determine number of workers and amount of asbestos (number of factories reduced by 50% since campaign commenced)	Australian Embassy placed a billboard outside the Embassy in Vientiane advocating for a ban on asbestos
	The first meeting of the National Committee on Eliminating Asbestos Related Diseases, under the Ministry of Health held February 2021 Co-Chaired by Minister of Health, Director WHO Laos and Deputy Ambassador Australian Embassy. Participation and presentation by ASEA Director, APHEDA and ADRI.	LAOBAN achieved Association status and is registered to work on OSH issues
	A new range of asbestos awareness posters and leaflets were also produced including - 1 x awareness video	A new range of asbestos awareness posters and leaflets were also produced 1000 booklets produced and distribution commenced
	Medical checks for 496 persons around asbestos factories	Agreement signed with MOH re support to National Action Plan implementation and will

	294 Luang Prabang (173 Females and 15 workers from roof sheet factories) and 202 Vientiane Province (160 Female and 38 workers from roof sheet factories).	continue to develop the next 5 year National Action Plan (2023 – 2027).
	Awareness raising among University Students (112 students including 45 Females) Survey of construction material retailers – 8 stores survey (71 persons 24 female).	Holding of high level meeting to raise awareness of occupational health and safety asbestos hazards in Lao PDR Jan 2024 Setting up of a national committee to provide a focal point for national action in March 2024
Cambodia	200 Construction workers completed asbestos and covid awareness training including use of PPE BWTUC	Social media 6x posters and 3 x Facebook frames produced featuring ‘did you know’ social media campaign for use in 2022 Cambodia
	200 policy makers at MOLTV aware of asbestos hazard and need for regulations	2 x videoclips Cambodia from ABAN Conference featuring CAMBAN members
	CAMBAN new members with IECs more confident to advocate publicly	CAMBAN led advocacy campaign amongst key populations
	IEC video on asbestos awareness produced and distributed as well as COVID awareness incorporating asbestos risks	2 nd Asbestos National Profile and Action Plan launched
	291 workers completed workplace information sessions.	Awareness campaign based on National Action Plan launched
	BWTUC launched Facebook Live with weekly asbestos hazard awareness programs attracting 1,000 viewers per week	Health checks of workers in asbestos factories used to progress policy advocacy
	1 x laptop computer provided to Camcontrol to link with PLM microscope previously provided.	Ministerial meetings to promote consumer protection regulation and action in regard asbestos (Ministry Manpower, Industry Maritime issues and Investment, Bappenas as coordinating gov’t

	1 x leaflet to promote asbestos testing laboratory completed (attached)	agency, Consumer Protection stakeholders). Workshop held with representatives from government. Roundtable led by Australia's Assistant Minister for Trade; Cambodian government officials and Cambodian trade unions
		<p>Education for workers in the construction and other sectors and activities with Cambodian Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction and MOLTV</p> <p>Launch of OSH Masterplan 2023-2027 formalising announcement by the Royal Government of Cambodia (Minister of Labour) in June 2023 that country will ban asbestos use in 2025</p> <p>Facilitation of training for trainers workshop for CAMBAN unions on asbestos exposure risk</p> <p>National Workshop on moving forward with Asbestos Related Activities within the OHS Master plan and launch of materials for construction workers on asbestos awareness</p> <p>APHEDA support by Building and Wood Workers Trade Union in Cambodia (BWTUC), resulting in 403 workers trained in person between June and July, 2023</p> <p>An employer survey conducted with around 50 companies and over 100 engineers on knowledge and use of asbestos, along with asbestos samples prepared for testing by the Ministry of Commerce, collected valuable data</p> <p>Online digital campaigning using social media channels focused</p>

		on short messages about asbestos dangers in Cambodia
Indonesia	1 x online workshop (26 persons) completed 26 June 2021 with Bandung City Assembly	Increased active involvement of cross-sectoral organisations from victims, workers, consumers, universities, and society in the campaign to ban asbestos in Indonesia
	Regional ban on asbestos in Bandung City. Asbestos bans in Central Sulawesi in post-disaster housing construction	LION mobilised victims of asbestos disease in Java to International Workers Memorial Day at events in Central Java.
	1 x guideline for COVID 19 risk and health and safety	Enhanced capacity for diagnosis of asbestos-related diseases through Australian led training for cancer specialists with Binawan University
	IEC audio and video documentary developed and published	LION scoping and delivery of training for construction workers
	Journalist network established	LION Health checks for workers in the asbestos industry
	500 workers received COVID 19 risk information during international safety day	LION production of awareness materials for workers and the community
	Expansion of social media platforms (40,000 workers and community reach FY20/21	LION initiating legal action regarding consumer protection for the labelling of ACM and registration of LION as a non-government consumer protection organisation
	Communication package developed of booklets, flyers, posters, banners and t-shirts	Training of construction workers to help identify, manage and remove ACMs
	Development of victim organisations in the cities of Karawang and Bekasi in West Java and Demak in Central Java	Production of induction video on how to manage and remove ACMs
Vietnam	5 workshops and training on labelling, regulation advocacy and hazard awareness	Increased awareness of asbestos exposure risks and environmental hazards amongst remote ethnic minority communities with promotion of environmental health for ethnic

		minorities and communities in rural and mountainous areas in Vietnam
	Training courses in Lao Cai Province Northern Vietnam – 60 participants at district and ward level (23f & 37m)	Strengthened collaboration to advocate for use of non-asbestos roof sheeting and legacy asbestos management
	Increasing asbestos awareness among provincial authorities, workers and the community -1x guidebook completed 500 copies printed -1x Asbestos Awareness Video	Three trainings of awareness raising of environment and health for local people in 3 communes in Bac Kan province
	Ethnic minorities in 4 provinces increased awareness	Replacement of asbestos roof sheets with safe materials in Bac Kan province
	Guidebook on reducing asbestos exposure risk and asbestos removal	50,000 flyers and brochures printed on human health affects of asbestos and how to stay safe when using asbestos containing materials
	Sharing lessons on gender and disability	Workshop held on "Protecting public health and the environment live safe". by the Women's Union of Bac Kan province in collaboration with APHEDA and the Vietnam Association for Occupational Safety and Health held a workshop
	An asbestos workshop November 11, 2021, with campaign partners, representatives of MOH and MOLISA and media, served to also launch a new 3-year program focused on awareness raising among ethnic minorities and advocacy to policy makers	