

MR. SINGKHAM YAMUD, 56

Village Health Volunteer (VHV) and Malaria Post worker (MP)

Mr. Singkham aged 56 years is a Village Health Volunteer (VHV) and malaria post worker (MP) of village no.1 Baan Huy Mae Mai, VaLey Subdistrict, Phobphra District, TAK province. He provided one corner in front of his grocery store for the “Border Malaria Education and Consultation Corner – BorMECC” for malaria checkpoints, information sharing, and consultations in the area.

School named “Vector-Borne Disease Unit”

He was infected with malaria at the age of 18, and his health issue was unimproved even after treatment. Later he was transferred to the Hospital for treatment. His behavior as a “Heavy drinker” was a main problem. The head of the Phobphra Vector-Borne Disease Unit (VBDU) inspired him to join his team. After attending a three-day training in Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS), his first job was running IRS in the communities during the daytime. In the evening, the head of VBDU monitored his medication. Finally, he recovered from malaria and withdrew from alcoholism.



Malaria work

The cycle of his working life was as a VBDU’s IRS worker during malaria outbreak season and farming. The VBDU provided annual refreshment training for the IRS before the high malaria season starts. After joining the VBDU for a few years, he was trained and certified to do a finger prick and prepare blood films for the authority to do a malaria diagnosis by microscopy. As a result of that, later he was known as an IRS worker and blood sample collector for malaria active case detection.

Malaria Post worker – MP

Due to his experiences at VBDU, three years before Mr. Sing joined as a Malaria Post worker (MP) in his community. As an MP worker, he could do malaria rapid diagnostic test (RDT) screening. He supported setting up a “Border Malaria Education and Consultation Corner” (BorMECC) in front of his grocery store. Most of the community members and migrant workers took an RDT service for Malaria in the MP and awareness raising and other relevant services and language translation services from the BorMECC volunteers. If the test is positive, he transfers the case to the hospital for test confirmation and treatment. After the test confirmation, he does a treatment follow-up.

Collaborative work with other local networks and support from local people he is able to successfully implement his work. His network consists of a subdistrict public health hospital, Phobphra VBDU, the World Vision Foundation Thailand, and the migrant communities.

Apart from the malaria post work, as a Village Health Volunteer (VHV), he also provides a service in health consultation for other health issues, for example, dengue, NCD, diarrhea, etc. The important thing is that community members, especially migrant workers, trusted him because he works with a service mind, and truly hopes to make everyone free of malaria.

“ The VBDU changed my life.”

