



# Strengthening the CSO Network on Ageing as a Development Partner in South East Asia

**Mid-Term Review Report** 

**External Evaluator: Catharina Maria** 

February-March 2015

### **Executive Summary**

This Midterm Review (MTR) of the Strengthening the CSO Network on Ageing as a Development Partner in Southeast Asia Project was conducted at the halfway point of its four year period (1 February 2013 to 31 January 2017). The project is funded by the European Union (EU) under the call Strengthening the Capacities of Non-State Actors; Actions in partner countries (Multi-country). The MTR involved the project holder, HelpAge International East Asia/Pacific Regional Office (HelpAge EAPRO) and six implementing partner organisations and country offices in six ASEAN countries. A total of 51 informants (20 female and 31 male) participated in this review, through key informant interviews, focus group discussions and an organizational capacity self-assessment online survey.

The Most Significant Change (MSC) that the Review witnessed is the project contribution - through trainings, mentoring, conferences and interactions with other network members - to a major paradigm shift on how the HelpAge Network in region and its members work with and for older people. Increasingly, the network has recognized that older people are a diverse group, not uniformly, nor predominantly frail and vulnerable. In fact, the vast majority of older people contribute immensely to their families, communities, economies and societies. Working with older people means protecting the minority who are vulnerable, but it also means ensuring that the capable majority are engaged, empowered and utilised, and not sidelined because of their age. Older people are a principle tool in the development of their communities and can be engaged to resolve their own problems. Given opportunity, older people can help themselves to fight for equal treatment as citizens, economic independence and proper care. Among network members, one effective way of doing this is through engagement in Older People's Organizations (OPO) and federations.

The Review finds that this new learning does not in any way limit the original purpose of the project as serving the priority needs and rights of poor and vulnerable older persons in the region. In this region with unprecedented population ageing and growing older populations, the policy development and budgetary provisions on ageing are lagging behind, and the social and economic wellbeing of many older people in ASEAN continues to be a concern. The Project is highly relevant in helping to bridge this gap by 1) raising and increasing awareness of rapid population ageing among governments in Southeast Asia and ASEAN; 2) empowering civil society organizations to mobilise communities and represent the views of poor and vulnerable older persons; and 3) strengthening the network on ageing to advocate for strong policies and trial innovative community-based solutions a key development partner in region.

The Review found that the project interventions were effective in achieving its five project results to varying degrees. Most effective are 1) the capacity building component of the project aimed at strengthening organizational and advocacy skills of the network, implementing partners, OPO and OPO federations (Result 1 and 3); and 2) the advocacy work including consultations and lobbying at the national and sub-national levels that came out of those trainings (Result 2). Thus, the remaining two years of the project should pay more attention to how the newly gained skills can be utilized to realize the underachieved project outcomes like expanding the network membership and ensuring that learning is incorporated in other regions (Result 1), providing evidence-based technical advice to develop government policy (Result 2), developing and finalizing the OPO replication strategies (Result 3), ensuring that at least 5 government and regional bodies have social protection measures in place to support income security in old age (Result 4) and more evidence on the results of the project's public and government awareness raising interventions (Result 5).

The project has been quite efficient in achieving quality, quantity, and timeliness of input as can be seen from some of the illustrations provided in the Effectiveness Section. Co-financed by a range of smaller regional and country-based donors, the total project budget is Euro 1,626,982 and Euro 601,831.50 (37%) has been spent by end of January 2015. Project implementation was slowed pending confirmation of co-funding (25% of the total budget), which has now been met with Toyota Foundation in 2013-14 and the new Strengthening Asian Network on Ageing (SANA) Project which started on 1 March 2015. Additionally, the Typhoon Haiyan response pulled away some of the needed human resources to complete the baseline survey, and the complexity of the project design itself caused delay. By the time this review was undertaken, the project had picked up pace and is now on track for the most part as highlighted in the previous section. For those activities lagging behind, the project will require a more targeted implementation plan in the coming two years.

The project uses appropriate and adequate systems and tools to monitor progress and gather data. A baseline was established in 2013 and it provides useful data and information for monitoring and evaluating, after separating out the data from EAPRO and 6 implementing partners/country office. The master M&E sheet and its guideline are very thorough. If used regularly and with additional gender and age columns, the master M&E sheet will be a very effective tool to collect all the data required for project reporting, as well as serving as a self-monitoring tool for partners and HelpAge. Moreover, exchanges, research and reports produced on care, OPOs and social pensions have been a great opportunity to share good practices and learning within and outside the network. Finally, the monthly reporting required from the partner has provided the necessary financial information, but has not been able to give a complete picture of the programmatic side making it hard to see progress against expenditures. This will need to be improved in the coming two years.

The project's technical, social, economic and policy impacts are expected to be sustainable particularly as the OPO, partner and network institutions continue to be strengthened in the coming two years, and if the few risk factors are well managed. Staff members whose capacity is strengthened, the reputation of HelpAge EAPRO as the go-to organization on ageing in the region and linkages with the governments and regional institutions, are likely to be sustained. The improvements for poor vulnerable older persons due to new or strengthened government policies and increased budget allocation, and better social perceptions of the roles and contributions of older people will stay. A strength of this project is how strongly it aligns with the strategies of HelpAge EAPRO, implementing partners and of the network itself. Many of these impacts can be nurtured further utilizing increased opportunities for dialogue, created by the project, between OPOs/federations and local level decision makers and service providers.

These are the key recommendations - divided in 4 categories - which should be discussed in the upcoming Regional Project Management Committee (RPMC) meeting in mid-July:

### **Overall project structure**

- All involved should understand well the expectations to move towards the same goal, while mindful of each other's priorities and organisational approaches.
- The Program Manager (PM) should facilitate a participatory planning of the final two years' activities and budgets.
- The PM should involve the partners more closely in the planning and implementation of regional level activities to build the network, coownership and sustainability.

- EAPRO should be more proactive in collaborating with Malaysian network members and Laos Women's Union on community care, and with other partners in Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, and other NGOs in Indonesia on organizing OPOs.
- EAPRO Regional Programme Managers need to be more engaged and actively contribute to realize the project results in the country that they oversee or area of expertise they have.

### **Project management**

- Exchanges between partners should be facilitated better utilizing the strengths of each partner.
- Capacity strengthening should benefit other staff through mechanisms for sharing the learning in country.
- The country level partners should make sure that OPOs and federations can be sustainable beyond the project by mainstreaming ageing issues into development agendas, building a strong connection with the government and relevant stakeholders, and supporting their fundraising strategies.
- Include "sustainability for project end" on the upcoming RPMC agenda to start thinking about what will happen after the project
- EAPRO Networking and Communication unit should increase support to partners for the implementation of Result 5, the collection of evidence to monitor progress and updating the database.

### **Project monitoring**

- The RPMC should demand that the M&E Master sheet is filled correctly, submitted quarterly, and that consolidated age and sex disaggregated data is presented in their meetings.
- Document and share successful policy advocacy experiences, and sustainable and innovative OPOs in Vietnam and Cambodia.
- The project should keep a database on those trained with their levels prior to and after the trainings and noting whether training action plans are successfully implemented.
- In order to link activity implementation and expenditure, a reporting format that reflects expenditure against activities, should be introduced for a quarterly report. Feedback on the narrative and financial reports submitted should be provided in timely and positive manner to partners, as this will help them to report to a higher quality.
- Specific recommendations for indicator changes and monitoring are provided for Result 3-5.

#### **Opportunities**

- The HelpAge Network should have a clearly articulated purpose that all affiliates and members share and use when speaking with regional and national policymakers.
- Project partners should be selected based on criteria including having a similar vision and mission with the project goal and objectives, the specific technical capacities required, and other criteria determined by the nature of the project.
- Information, Communication and Technology for Development (ICT4D)
  can be used to make it easier for data collection and analysis for such a
  complex multi country project.

### **Table of Contents**

	Executive Summary	2
	Overall project structure	
	Project management	
	Project monitoring	4
	Opportunities	4
	Table of Contents	5
	Acronyms	<i>6</i>
A.	Background	7
В.	Midterm Review	8
	The Review Processes	8
	Desk Review	8
	Tools Design	9
	Data Collection	9
	Data Analysis	
	Challenges and Limitation of this MTR	
	The structure of this report	10
C.	MTR Findings and Recommendations	10
	1. Relevance	10
	2. Effectiveness	12
	Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity	13
	Result 2 Expanded dialogue on ageing issues	17
	Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups	
	Result 4 Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age	
	Result 5: Broadened public and government awareness	
	3. Efficiency	
	4. Accountability and Learning	
	5. Sustainability	29
D	. Recommendations	30
	Overall project structure	
	Management	
	Monitoring	
	Opportunities (emerging)	33
Ε.	References	33
F.	Annexes	34
	Annex 1. List of Informants	
	Key Informant Interview (KII) and Survey	
	FGD - Focus Group Discussion	
	Annex 2 KII Notes with Partners/Country Offices	
	Annex 3 FGD Notes	
	Annex 4 KII Notes with EAPRO Staff	37

### **Acronyms**

ADA Age Demand Action

ASEAN Association of South East Nations
CBO Community-Based Organization

COPAP Confederation of Older Persons Association of the Philippines

COSE Coalition of Services of the Elderly

CSO Civil Society Organization

DSWD Department of Social Welfare and Development

(in the Philippines)

FGD Focus Group Discussion

FOPDEV Foundation for Older People's Development

EAPRO East Asia/Pacific Regional Office

EU European Union

ISHC Intergenerational Self-Help Club
ILO International Labour Organization

INGO International Non-Governmental Organization

MoFA Ministry of Foreign Affair MoSA Ministry of Social Affairs

MoSVY Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation

MTR Midterm Review

NASCOM National Council of Senior Citizens Organisations

NGO Nongovernmental Organization

OPA Older People's Association (Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia)
OPO Older People's Organization (Philippines and language of

Project)

OPSHG Older People Self-Help Groups (Myanmar)

UNESCAP United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia

and the Pacific

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
VAE Vietnam Association for the Elderly

VWU Vietnam Women's Union
WHO World Health Organization
YEL Yayasan Emong Lansia

### A. Background

HelpAge International helps older people claim their rights, challenge discrimination and poverty, so that they can lead dignified, secure, active and healthy lives. HelpAge International is the Secretariat of the HelpAge network that brings together more than 114 affiliates working with older people in over 70 countries. HelpAge East Asia Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) is a regional hub of expertise and knowledge that supports the work of regional affiliates to influence key regional institutions and governments through demonstrating quality implementation of community based and policy level work.

In 2013, EAPRO was awarded a grant from the European Union (EU) to implement a project under the call Strengthening the Capacities of Non-State Actors; Actions in partner countries (Multi-country) entitled Strengthening the CSO Network on Ageing as a Development Partner in Southeast Asia (internally, the project is known as "ASR061" or "AMCo", this report will refer it as "the Project"). This project began on 1 February 2013 and will end on 31 January 2017. The project is co-financed by a range of smaller regional and country based donor funded projects. The total project budget is Euro 1,626,982.

A project manager based in the regional HelpAge International (HelpAge) office in Chiang Mai coordinates the Project. It is implemented partly by 5 partner organisations, namely: Vietnam Association for the Elderly (VAE), Foundation for Older People's Development (FOPDEV) Thailand, Yayasan Emong Lansia (YEL) Indonesia, HelpAge Cambodia and Coalition of Services of the Elderly (COSE); along with the HelpAge country office in Myanmar and HelpAge EAPRO in Chiang Mai. Besides the country-based programmes in the above-mentioned 6 countries, the project also targets Laos and Malaysia.

**The overall objective** of the project is to contribute to the empowerment of civil society in Southeast Asia so it can mobilise communities and represent the views of poor and vulnerable older persons effectively through multi-stakeholder dialogue.

**The specific objective** of the project is a stronger East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing, including 21 members in eight target countries, which is more capable of gathering the views of older people, mobilising their community organisations, and acting as strategic partner with ASEAN and its member governments to address the challenges of rapid ageing.

### There are five defined project results:

- 1. Heightened institutional capacity of the East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing to represent and strengthen its members to address the concerns of vulnerable older people within the region more effectively.
- 2. Expanded dialogue on ageing issues between a well-recognised East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing and ASEAN, the governments of its member states, and other key policy makers in the region.
- 3. In partnership with the Network, strengthened Older People's Organisations and their federations and groups that actively gather constituent views and represent them to local and national governments.
- 4. Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age and expansion of social pensions and other forms of social assistance to vulnerable older people by ASEAN and the governments through East Asia/Pacific Network efforts.
- 5. Broadened public and government awareness of the implications of rapid ageing and the contributions and needs of older people.

Predominantly for internal project use, the MTR made an assessment of progress on the project to date and provided appropriate recommendations for adjustments in design and implementation arrangements for the remaining period of the project.

#### **B. Midterm Review**

The review measured the impact of the Project's civil society strengthening strategies to the specific objective. This involved assessing the improvement in civil society's understanding of what ageing population constituencies really want (disaggregated by age and gender), how well they mobilise these constituencies and how well they represent the views of poor and vulnerable older persons effectively through multistakeholder dialogue. This analysis was achieved by:

- Reviewing target and South East Asian contexts to ensure the project's continuing
   relevance to its current social, legal and cultural frameworks, and comparing these
   with priority issues identified by the constituencies.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of project interventions in influencing changes that directly benefit its constituencies based on well researched needs analysis, prioritization of issues, and sound mobilization and advocacy strategies.
- Determining the **efficiency** of project implementation and budget execution, giving equal importance to timeliness, quality and quantity of the outputs and outcomes.
- Reviewing the Monitoring and Evaluation System to ensure that all project outcomes and outputs are supported by a well-kept and up-to-date data management system.
- Determining the current level of sustainability of project results and impacts and determining potential steps to taken, actors and networks to be engaged, or laws and regulations to be advocated for in the remaining project period to enhance sustainability.

The MTR findings and recommendations were shared with the EAPRO staff directly at a preliminary findings meeting in Chiang Mai on 24 February 2015 and with the project implementation partners and country offices by e-mail. The draft report was shared on 26 March for further review and feedback from partners, HelpAge country offices and EAPRO. The final report and its management response commenting on the process, the utility of the report and a position on the recommendations will then be shared with the European Commission Office in Bangkok.

#### **The Review Processes**

Aimed at providing a snapshot of the first half of the project period, this review process was conducted over 15 days. There were limitations faced, as explained below, that highlight the complexity of this Project and its challenges.

### **Desk Review**

The review was designed in close consultation with the former project manager (who designed the project and managed the first two years of the project) and the current project manager who started in the last quarter of Year 2.

A desk review of various project documents including:

- **Project documents**. The Project proposal, log frame and Year 1 progress report, the baseline study report and its tools, Project M&E Tools.
- **Publications and resources.** Materials produced by the project were reviewed. Project websites, twitter feeds and Facebook pages were visited.
- **Project reports**. Year 2 presentations to the regional programme management committee (RPMC), collated monthly reports, a selection of training reports and financial reports, Policy Recommendations from Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, and a secondment report from Thailand were reviewed.
- Co-funding projects. Proposals, M&E tools and reports (SANA and Toyota Foundation)

### **Tools Design**

The tools to gather information were developed based on the information needs stated in the log frame and the MTR Terms of Reference. The tools aimed to yield a rich body of data for analysis and interpretation into recommendations for future actions to improve the project's performance. These include: KII (key informant interview) Guidelines for project staff (Annex 5-6), FGD Guidelines (focus group discussion) for OPAs and Federations in the Philippines, for staff and OPAs in Cambodia, and for staff in HelpAge International Myanmar (Annex 7), and an Online Survey (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2WH9J77).

### **Data Collection**

There were a total of 51 informants (20 female and 31 male) in this review, with some informants providing the information in multiple ways (See Annex 1 for List of Informants):

- **Key Informant Interviews** were conducted with 9 EAPRO HelpAge Staff and 13 staff from the 4 implementing partners in Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand and 2 HelpAge country offices in Myanmar and Vietnam on 16-22 February 2015.
- **Online Survey** structured based on Effectiveness of the Project in achieving the 5 results, Relevance, Efficiency, Accountability and Sustainability was completed by 5 Partners, HelpAge Myanmar and EAPRO.
- Focus Group Discussions involving 42 informants (18 female, 24 male).
  - o 28 OPA and federations leaders in Cambodia (10 female, 18 male)
  - o 7 staff and volunteer of HelpAge Myanmar (5 female, 2 male)
  - o the Philippines (4 COPAP, 1 Federation and 2 OPO 3 female, 4 male).

### **Data Analysis**

The preliminary findings were generated from the survey and this analysis was compared with key KII findings. The data was triangulated through the presentation, contact with EAPRO and implementing partners/country offices, before the report was drafted.

Collected data was compared with the Year 1-2 Report and monitoring data, individual baseline data, and financial reports to verify results and to confirm attribution to the project.

### **Challenges and Limitation of this MTR**

Originally, a replication of the baseline survey was planned to enable data comparison; however, the baseline survey only focused on Results 1-3. After discussion with project staff, the consultant opted for a simplified survey based on the log frame for all 5 results.

The baseline study involved 12 network members, but the MTR only focused on the 7 implementing partner/country offices and EAPRO as outlined in the Terms of Reference. As a result, comparison was not always straightforward, for example, in comparing organisational income when the baseline figure included 12 organisations whilst the MTR only consulted 7.

There were gaps in the data available, as data collection has not been consistent. The lack of consistency is partly due to inconsistent report quality and regularity, and partly because processes for data collection and verification were not elaborated clearly during project inception. The pool of data available for Year 1 (Y1) and Year 2 (Y2) is incomplete and needs extensive follow up. This will be discussed further in the Accountability Section.

The ToR for this review required an investigation into the age and sex disaggregation of data. However, the review did not find disaggregated data, with an exception of data

from HelpAge Cambodia (Rec.11).

### The structure of this report

Illustrative examples of project progress are provided (not exhaustive) and relevant recommendations are presented under 5 headings: 1) Relevance of the project; 2) Effectiveness of the Project looking at the achievements of its five results; 3) Efficiency; 4) Accountability and Learning; and lastly 5) Sustainability. A Recommendation Section at the end is divided into four categories: 1) Overall project structure, 2) Management, 3) Monitoring, and 4) Opportunities (emerging).

If a recommendation is provided to any paragraph, a link from the paragraph to the relevant recommendation is provided; for example, clicking (Rec.1) links to Recommendation no. 1. At the end of each recommendation, a reverse link is provided to the relevant text.

### C. MTR Findings and Recommendations

A major paradigm shift of how the Network on Ageing and its members' work with and view older persons as a resource, and not a burden, people who can resolve their own problems, and not just wait for assistance is the project's Most Significant Change (MSC). Partners explain that most older people are able bodied (with only 7-8% need supports or disabled) who live very healthy active lives, people who have a range of needs (beyond needing care), people who are entitled to equal treatment as citizens and economic independence. Given the opportunity, particularly through OPOs and federations, older people can help themselves, other older people and society. This change was not solely a result of this project, but of years of work on these issues and communication with older people. However, the trainings, mentoring, conferences and interaction with other members of the network from this training have accelerated this change process.

At the HelpAge regional conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand (1-4 September 2014) participants agreed that policies, practices and social behaviours that harness the potential of people in later life have to be advocated for now. Older people should be recognised for the many contributions that they make, and their contributions facilitated and encouraged. A series of actions from the conference highlight three aspects of this discussion: health as a precondition for older people's active contribution, older people as an economic resource, and perceptions of older people in society and the media.

There is evidence in this report highlighting how this shift has translated into the partner work in responding to natural disasters. In this example, older people mobilized themselves to obtain assistance. The example shows how older people organized themselves and advocated for their priority issues, and how they accessed funding to manage their own needs.

### 1. Relevance

The Review found that the project is highly relevant to the priority needs and rights of poor and vulnerable older persons in the region. Ageing issues have rapidly become urgent, especially in the developing world, with both the number and proportion of older people in the population increasing at unprecedented rates. However, the policy development and budgetary provision for ageing is lagging behind, and the social and economic wellbeing of many older people in ASEAN continues to be a concern.

Many older people do not yet have regular, decent levels of income or access to quality healthcare, which are the main concerns of older people. Basic provision for these basic needs cannot be realized without policy reform and adequate planning and budget provision. The risk of this is that living standards, not just for the older population but for all of society, will be affected adversely (GAWI 2013, pa. 5). In the South East Asia

region where the number of older people is expected to triple to 1,265 million by 2050 with one in every four people over the age of 60, the needs of older people have yet to be considered a sufficiently important and urgent issue.

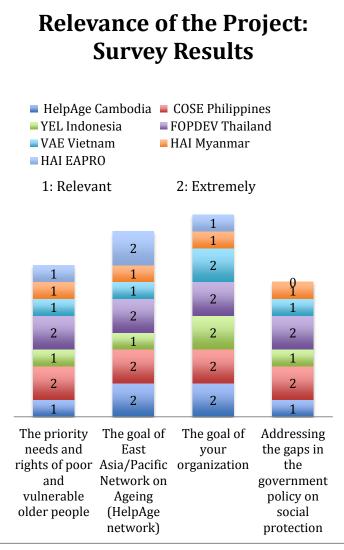
The Project is highly relevant as it helps 1) increase awareness of rapid population ageing in governments in Southeast Asia and ASEAN; 2) to empower civil society organizations to mobilise communities and to represent the views of poor and vulnerable older persons; and 3) to strengthening the network on ageing to advocate for strong policies and trial innovative community-based solutions as a key development partner.

The East Asia Pacific Network on Ageing, also called the HelpAge Network, covers 17 countries in the region. While targeting 21 members in 8 target countries, the Project is directly implemented in 6 countries with 5 local NGO partners, HelpAge Myanmar, and HelpAge EAPRO as implementers.

Even though the Network goal is not articulated in any documents, the staff of partner organizations and HelpAge are very clear about what the network is trying to achieve, and how the Project contributes to it. These are some of the member's explanations of where the Network and the Project objectives overlap:

- To improve organizational capacity of network members through sharing of best practices, what work wells and what doesn't so we can develop our own models, and support national level policy development (Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam, and EAPRO)
- To support dialogue between CSOs in the region in order to influence ASEAN Secretariat and national governments on
  - ageing issues and to take into account older people in their programs and activities (Myanmar, Cambodia, the Philippines, and EAPRO)
- To work progressively towards become a leading network in the region and the leading organization in the country on ageing issues to advocate for older people at the national and regional levels (Thailand, EAPRO)
- To build the OPOs capacity in the country and ASEAN, to connect them to wider civil society, to empower them to give voice to the poor, vulnerable older people in SE Asia and to improve the quality of life of older persons (Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, and EAPRO)

One event of note is the biennial HelpAge regional conference, which brings together all network members. Each conference a thematic area is prioritized by the network based on the rising needs and the gaps in service provisions and legal frameworks that members observe in their respective countries. In 2014, the theme was Older People in



Ageing Societies: Burden or Resource? This served as a major contributor to this project's MSC. The conference debated how societies could best maximise the vast potential of older citizens while minimising social and economic tensions associated with population ageing (Rec.3).

The project has a broad scope and was developed based on gaps in the work of the East Asia Pacific Network on Ageing. Review responses were quite uniform that the project is highly relevant to their individual organization's goal and the needs of their beneficiaries, the poor vulnerable older people in their target areas. Interviews with the project implementers highlighted the different starting points in organizational capacities and maturity, Older People's Organizations and their federations in the six target countries. To illustrate:

- VAE in Vietnam said that the project was very timely as it really supported them to improve nationwide capacity to advocate for the replication of the intergenerational self-help club (ISHC) model and contribute to the revision of the elderly law.
- The goal matches with HelpAge Cambodia's mission to help older people by helping them to expand their local work to a nationwide network and to better strengthen their advocacy efforts.
- In the Philippines, the project has been used to further influence other networks on how work with older people, and to build a coalition on issues of ageing including anti-discrimination.
- The Age Demands Action (ADA) campaign on access to health, on rights, and on a UN convention on the rights of older people contributes to promote ageing issues, the needs and priorities of older people, is directly planned within Result 5 of the Project. The Project implementers are encouraged to choose ADA themes that best suit their organizational vision and mission to conduct their country level campaign.

Looking closely to the project, the flexibility of its scope has made it possible for the partners to build on their own strengths and expand their works, or focus on most pressing needs of the poor vulnerable people in the country through grassroots organizing or policy advocacy (Rec.1).

### 2. Effectiveness

The Review found that the project interventions were effective in achieving its five Project Results to varying degrees.

The most effective are:

- 1. Result 1 and Result 3. The capacity building component of the project aimed at strengthening organizational and the advocacy skills of the network, implementing partners, OPO and OPO federations.
- 2. Result 2. Advocacy work including consultations and lobbying at the national and sub-national levels that came out of those trainings.

In fact, the project has overachieved some of the outputs for trainings and consultations/meetings with the government, partially because the indicators are not sufficiently explained, resulting in over-reporting. For example, a meeting with the Minister of Social Affairs is reported as having similar significance to a consultation meeting planned by the partner/OPO with project funds where a policy recommendation was proposed.

The remaining two years of the project should pay attention to how the newly gained skills can be utilized to realize underachieved project results including:

- expanding the network membership and ensuring that learning is incorporated in other regions (Result 1),
- providing evidence-based technical advice to develop government policy (Result 2), developing and finalizing the OPO replication strategies (Result 3),
- ensuring that at least 5 government and regional bodies have social protection

- measures in place to support income security in old age (Result 4)
- demonstrating clearer evidence on the results of the project's public and government awareness raising interventions (Result 5).

### Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity

**Result Statement:** Heightened institutional capacity of EA/P Network on Ageing to represent and strengthen its members to address the concerns of vulnerable older people within the region more effectively.

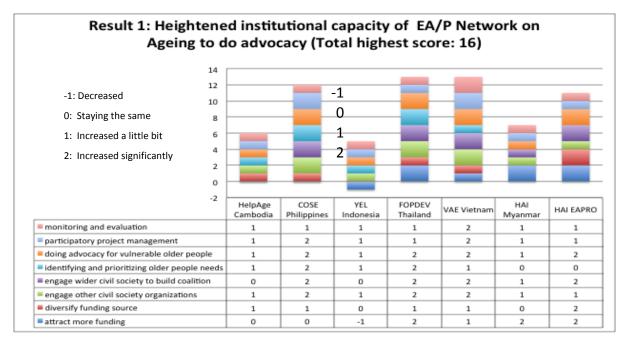
Starting at very different levels of capacity, the review showed that the organizational and advocacy capacity of the seven project implementers has increased significantly, demonstrating high achievement for Result 1 of the project.

- 1. The network and its members' combined annual organizational income has increased more than the 20% targeted,
- 2. All but two partners have alternate sources of income,
- 3. 10 interactions with other CSOs and networks with a goal of joint proposals and income have been initiated
- 4. The network's website is launched updated monthly.

The project has overachieved in the capacity building aspects of Result 1 with 37 trainings conducted and 77 trainings attended, out of 14 planned. The challenge for the coming two years is to support those trained to apply newly acquired skills, and to ensure that the remaining seven secondments (out of ten planned) can be planned well by mapping the needs and strengths of the network members (Rec.6). Furthermore, more attention should focus on ensuring that the project will expand its membership with ten additional new organizations (only one potential new member was identified todate), and that three additional network members outside the eight target countries incorporate learning from the project into their works.

There has been a major increase of organizational annual income. This increase can be partly attributed to training on fundraising and proposal writing, as well as technical support from EAPRO in proposal development. There was an increase from USD 8,400.000 combined annual income at baseline in 2012 to USD 13 million in 2014 based on MTR survey data from EAPRO, 2 country offices and the 4 partners. The partners, except for YEL and HA Cambodia (localised in 2012) said that they have diversified their income and secured funding from alternate sources (Rec.9).

Below is an illustration from the MTR Self Assessment Survey of how partners perceive the increase/decrease of their institutional capacity two years into the project. The chart shows the highest growth were from the 4 bigger organizations: COSE, FOPDEV and VAE, and EAPRO. HelpAge Myanmar is very strong, but this project makes up a very small proportion of their overall programme, while HA Cambodia has started to feel pressure on how they will survive as a local NGO after the project ends. YEL has explained that they chose to stay at their current size and believe it would be unwise to expand during the project, as they may lose support and funding afterwards.



Some of the key achievements in Result 1 implemented in the first two years are:

- 1.1. Conduct 14 training workshops to build capacity of 21 Network organisations on advocacy, resource development, financial and contract management, and monitoring and evaluation: 37 trainings conducted and 77 attended. Some key events referred to in the review are:
- Project Management Training on EU Project contract management, monitoring, and financial reporting for 18 senior management, project officers and accountants in Year 1, and refresher trainings in Cambodia and Vietnam in Year 2.
- COSE Strategic Planning on Advocacy and Network Mapping and Media
   Communication Workshop resulted in a Joint Advocacy Plan, and a Common Policy
   and Advocacy strategy of COSE and COPAP where key issues in the present older
   people-related laws, policies and plans were identified and corresponding strategic
   actions are formulated.
- 5 day Training in Vietnam on Community Driven Development (CDD) was conducted in Vietnam from 12-16 January 2015, where 33 development practitioners (16 from HelpAge East Asia/Pacific Network) from 15 organizations from 12 countries gained knowledge, developed tools and abilities on various approaches on CDD, and learned more about ways to empower local communities, especially older people to work for their own development.
- The findings from the OPO assessment in year 1 fed into a regional training on OPO development and federation building held between 11-16 November 2013 in Manila, for 15 network staff (from HAC, HelpAge Myanmar, National Young Women's Associations Myanmar, HAIV Vietnam, FOPDEV, Thailand, YEL, Indonesia, and VAE), led by COSE, supported by HelpAge regional office. The training involved a field visit to local OPOs and their federations, and to a local authority practising participatory development.
- In addition there were training sessions such as community organising and participatory action research, and the Confederation of Older People's Associations (COPAP) in the Philippines also ran sessions to share experience in building up a national federation of OPOs. Anecdotal evidence of knowledge increase and newly acquired skills used were shared by those interviewed showing the high quality of training provided (Rec.13)
- 1.2 Hold special sessions at the 2014 and 2016 HelpAge East Asia/Pacific Regional Conferences to share experience of the action with the wider the East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing:

The HelpAge Network Asia/Pacific Regional Conference: Older People in Ageing Society, Burden or Resources?" was attended by 214 participants (23 funded/co-funded by the project) from 29 countries in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 1-4 September 2014 - looking at how to redesign our societies to take full advantage of the positive aspects of population ageing and mitigate risks as all countries attending will have more than 21% older population (those aged 65+) in the coming decades. The conference influenced the paradigm shift on the way the country partners do their works with the older persons in their country, having a more nuanced approach which harnesses the potential of older people to contribute to the solutions of their own problems and accompany them to advocate for the change they want, as well as providing support to the minority of them who require it.

The project partners also participated in a regional workshop in Bangkok, 27-28 Jan 2015: "Community-based social care: What is the role of the State?" and a sub-regional workshop on the Rights of Older People in Bangkok from 29 September - 1 October 2014, co-organised by UNDESA, UNESCAP, APF and HelpAge where national experiences in implementing laws, policies and programmes for social integration and protection of older persons were shared.

- 1.3. Organise 10 short term secondments between different East Asia/Pacific network members to promote inter-agency learning and skill sharing and South-South exchange: 3 Short-term secondments between different East Asia/Pacific network members to promote inter-agency learning and skill sharing and South-South exchange have been conducted:
- A one-month secondment from HelpAge Secretariat to the regional office to help develop the baseline survey, monitoring and evaluation framework, and develop the role of the Regional Network Support Officer.
- In Year 2, a secondment from FOPDEV to HA Cambodia on communication and advocacy and from FOPDEV to the Philippines on December 1-20, 2014 to learned about community development theories and techniques, OPAs capacity building, federation formation and work, and issues identification and analysis of older person's situation and the government/local authority policies to compare with Thailand.
- A secondment from HelpAge Philippines finance to EAPRO.

Other opportunities to share work and key learning have been provided at regional trainings and at RPMCs, and a more ad-hoc direct exchange like FOPDEV support to COSE in the Typhoon Haiyan response in producing two videos (Rec.6).

- **1.4. A Network Coordination function to promote interaction among the network members, facilitate knowledge sharing and support new members is established.** The EAPRO regional structure was reviewed and, as a result, network development and communication were made into one team with Teerapong Laptwan as the Regional Network and Communication Manager from April 2014, and team members focusing on Publications and PR. This has resulted in more proactive engagement with other agencies including the UN, ASEAN Secretariat and other regions.
- 1.5 East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing members collaborated with external agencies to build coalitions and broaden membership of the East Asia/Pacific Network.

There have been limited efforts to increase formal membership in the network in the last 2 years. More informally, the increase of attendance at the HelpAge conference from 114 participants from 53 organisations from 28 countries in 2012 to 215 participants from 110 organisations from 29 countries in 2014 is a good indicator of wider network growth.

There were seven organizations from ASEAN countries that attended in 2014 that were not there in 2012. Their participation showed interest on what the network has to say. The project will be measuring the expansion of the network to new organisations more closely under the SANA project which will co-finance this Project.

In project countries, there has been significant engagement with external agencies, including:

- The establishment of the first Myanmar Ageing Network to share experience, provide technical assistance to each other, coordinate efforts to obtain resources for work with older people, and to increase awareness on the ageing issue. HelpAge in Myanmar also have started discussing new organizations to expand the network, including 'Home for the Age'.
- YEL has been working closely with Alzheimer's International in Indonesia to raise awareness of issues faced by carers looking after people with dementia, and in contributing to the draft of the national long-term care policy to be launched in May 2014.
- Broader network relationships forged through the regional conference and sectoral work in the ASEAN countries, including Yakkum and Mohammediyah in Indonesia, will be encouraged to take up formal network membership.
- COSE is actively engaged in the Coalition of Advocates on the Rights of the Elderly (CARE) that was behind in the organization's advocacies on the UN Convention, Elder Abuse and monitoring of the Philippine Plan of Action for Senior Citizens for 2011-2016. COSE also took part in the Alternative Budget Initiative (ABI) Consortium Meetings that enable them to contribute to the government budgetary process and to mainstream ageing issues within the network. ABI subsequently supported the alternative budget proposal of COSE particularly on Social Pension.

# 1.6 Create and maintain a website intranet for members of the East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing as a platform for information sharing.

The website for members of the East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing - http://ageingasia.org/ - is a platform for information sharing. It was developed in a participatory manner, soft-launched in June 2014 and then shared at the regional conference in September 2014, and is updated at least monthly. It is reader-friendly and has photos and information on the recent activities of the network and its members, well written human interests stories, quick links to important key ageing issues – policies in ageing, Care, or Health, relevant resources and secondary data for the 6 countries. Site traffic and new visitors are tracked but a detailed analysis of time spent on the website is not monitored and there is not yet any functionality enabling direct contributions to website content.

# 1.7 Develop and implement a participatory project management and M&E framework, which includes partner capacity self-assessments, baseline survey, mid and final evaluations.

A participatory project management and M&E framework, which includes partner capacity self-assessments, baseline survey, and midterm review is developed and in use. The Master M&E sheet was developed in May 2014. However, the late development and weak application of the M&E framework have hindered project monitoring (Rec.11).

A Regional Project Management Committee (RPMC) was formed and has had 5 meetings to learn about project updates, challenges and plans. There have been regular monitoring visits to the 6 countries to discuss country strategy, objectives and annual plans/budgets (Rec.11). An external audit firm was contracted to carry out the annual expenditure verifications.

**1.8 Annual seminar in Brussels with beneficiaries of EC grants:** The EU Training Seminar on "Project Management and Monitoring of Implementation" on 7-8 November 2013, in Brussels has helped the project manager to ensure better consistency with Commission regulations for NSA/LA Programme.

### Result 2 Expanded dialogue on ageing issues

**Result Statement:** Expanded dialogue on ageing issues between a well-recognised EA/P Network on Ageing and ASEAN, the governments of its member states, and other key policy makers in the region.

High performance overall. Result 2 has seen 49 consultations and 13 instances of the provision of policy recommendations to national government as well as eight regional consultative meetings on issues affecting older persons.

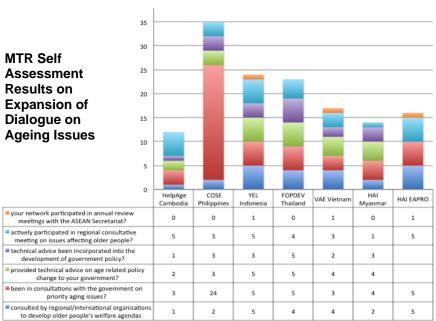
Technical advice has been provided by the network has been incorporated into development of government policy in two countries.

- In the Philippines, COSE, as a member of the Monitoring Board for the implementation of the Expanded Senior Citizen Act 2010, has successfully advocated for the increase of budget for the social pension from PHP 1.5 billion pesos in 2013 to PHP3.1 billion and PHP5.9 billion for 2014 and 2015 respectively. COSE has also successfully advocated for the expansion of PhilHealth Insurance from just indigent senior citizens to a universal provision for all senior citizens.
- In Cambodia, guidance and technical assistance for the upcoming review of the National Policy on Ageing with the Cambodian Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) provided by HAC is being integrated into the revised policy.
- Additionally, at least 3 regional/international organisations have used network expertise for developing agendas on older people's welfare and development. Although some of these activities might not directly use project funding, the staffs doing the work were paid by the project and the increased capacities of staff (also gained through the project) has influenced their more positive approach to ensure

that older people can take have a voice for their own development.

As can be seen on the chart, there have been many activities contributing to expanding the dialogue on ageing at the country level as well as the region.

Although there are information gaps, these illustrations along with the outputs listed below provide a good illustration of progress towards Result 2.



- 2.1 East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing members participate in at least 32 consultations (1 per country per year) with national governments on priority ageing issues: the members participated in 49 consultations with national governments on priority ageing issues.
- In the Philippines, COSE was involved in 24 consultations at the national level during the first 2 years of the project, including with the National Coordinating and Monitoring Board (NCMB) on the implementation of Expanded Senior Citizens Act of

- 2010 (RA9994) to present the Coalition of Advocates on the Rights of the Elderly (CARE)'s proposal for a stronger role of CSOs in monitoring the plan and actual budget spending.
- In Indonesia, YEL was involved in 5 consultations, including as part of a TWG to persuade the Minister of Health to include long-term care in the National Development Agenda 2014-2019, focusing on family and community care and in Year 2 to advocate for Home Care/visits by local health centres to home-bound older persons.
- In Thailand, FOPDEV was involved in a series of consultations at provincial and national level to share policy recommendations to strengthen OPOs in the country.
- In Vietnam, VAE invited the government officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affair and Ministry of Labour and Invalid and Social Affair to a "Rights for Older People Workshop" and the ministries agreed to work with VAE to get ready to participate in Open-Ended Working Group on Aging of UN in New York.
- In Myanmar, a Legal Review Workshop finalized a draft of Myanmar's National Law on Older People with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement involving government representatives, 24 members from Myanmar's Ageing Network (initiated by HelpAge Myanmar) and the national Older People's Federation.

2.2. East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing members actively participate in 16 regional consultative meetings on issues affecting older people: Actively participated in 8 regional consultative meetings to date, including:

 Presentation at the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD) held in Siem Reap between 3-7 September 2013 by senior management from the HelpAge Regional Office, HelpAge Cambodia and COSE from Philippines

 The Programme Manager presented at the ASEAN GO-NGO forum held on 3 September 2013

 EAPRO Director presented on ageing issues at the ASEAN to the senior ministers meeting.

 The project sponsored attendance at a network and experts Care meeting in 2014 and a community based Care workshop exploring the role of the state on 27-28 January 2015; Health financing and social protection hosted by WHO where HAC presented on health care and home care through informal social safety net (OPOs) approach;

Other events involved a regional workshop and comparative study on Social Pensions in ASEAN in the Philippines; regional meetings in Chiang Mai, Kuala Lumpur and in Seoul, South Korea and a Social Protection Workshop organized by UN-ESCAP in Bangkok. (Rec.7)

Minda (68, Female Federation President) said: "Because of our social pension, we can receive Php 1 500.00 for 3 months. It is of great help already. We can buy medicines. But they want to increase the Php 500.00 if possible. There are so many people who receive the pension. All of them are happy because COSE and COPAP help them a lot. COSE and COPAP are not the ones who give the money, but their efforts pushed these into law." (FGD facilitated by Aura, COSE)

### 2.3 Provide technical advice to at least four governments on age-related policy change. It has been accomplished in 2 countries.

- As a member of the Monitoring Board for the implementation of the Expanded Senior Citizen Act 2010, COSE participated in the Technical Working Group, led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to develop the Regional Workshop of Social Pensions (Activity 4.2), and the budget planning process for DSWD - advocating successfully for the increase of budget for the social pension from PHP 1.5 billion pesos in 2013 to PHP 3.1 billion for 2014.
- HelpAge Cambodia provided some guidance and technical assistance to the process for the review of the National Policy on Ageing with the Cambodian Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY). Many inputs were integrated into

the process.

**Ministries of Social Welfare in 6 countries (out of 5 planned)** engaged network members and OPO leaders in implementing national government priorities under the ASEAN Strategic Framework for Social Welfare and Development.

- COSE said that the Project gave the opportunity to engage with other government entities and expand networks, thus, raising their profile and strengthening its advocacy works resulting in better collaboration and increased policy dialogues with the government, especially the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW).
- This project pushed FOPDEV to work on national level policy advocacy and raised their visibility as a partner by the government on ageing issues. During the project period, FOPDEV has become a leading organization in the provincial and national level, receiving a government award as best all-around organization benefitting older persons. Meanwhile, YEL was told that although the Ministry of Social Affairs was very supportive of their struggle, it was the People's Representatives (DPR) who made decision on the budget for MoSA and has shown very little understanding of ageing issues (Rec.□)

### 2.4 Annual review meetings between ASEAN Secretariat & East Asia/Pacific Network on Ageing:

One meeting (out of 4 planned) was conducted in Indonesia with the HelpAge Regional Director and project manager and the Executive Director of YEL meeting with representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat (Deputy Secretary-General and the Head/Assistant Director of the Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community). The meeting resulted in a shared understanding of the project and how it relates to supporting the ASEAN Strategic Framework on Social Welfare and Development and other relevant forthcoming ASEAN events, and how the Secretariat can help Member states to achieve the project objectives. Regular communication and meetings have been conducted at various regional events since then.

### Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups

**Result Statement:** In partnership with the Network, strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups that actively gather constituent views and represent them to local and national governments.

Result 3 has been achieved well in some aspects including that the government of Vietnam (one out of four governments planned) has developed a strategy for the replication of the OPO model at the national level. The advocacy for and actual replication of OPOs is ongoing at different levels of development in the 6 implementing countries and Vietnam continues to champion its IHSC model. The project is on target for 50% expansion of community-based Older People's Organisations by the network by the end of the second year of the project. In the past two years, Indonesia has started 32 OPOs, Vietnam has started 240 ISHCs, and HelpAge in Cambodia has been approached to support the development of OPAs in Siem Reap. There was an increase of OPAs/federations and government representatives as the country offices and partners have been making conscious efforts to encourage the OPA/Federations to arrange for meetings with the government officials and invite them to meetings. 218 OPO leaders (out of 200 planned) joined the 33 trainings conducted resulting in 8 advocacy strategies. The progress is not equally distributed among 6 countries, and the measurement for improved capacities is hard to apply.

**3.1 Promote and establish federations of Older People's Organisations in 4 countries:** OPOs in all 6 countries where the project has focused, have shown very promising progress in terms of their independence to organise themselves, in engaging with local government and in doing domestic fundraising towards more sustainable organizations.

- In Indonesia during, the recent flood in Tegal Alur and Bukit Duri, South Jakarta,
  OPOs have organized themselves to mobilize support and aid for the affected
  families, with limited technical support from YEL.
- In Batambang, Cambodia, OPAs managed to mobilize enough resources to organize 100 plus older persons to develop key advocacy messages and deliver them to the district government, with only technical assistance and water from HAC.
- In Myanmar, a Township Network Committee meeting was held in Kanyin Kwin village, Chaung Thar where the elected representatives from the 10 Township level Older People Self-Help Groups (OPSHG) shared their experiences, discussed the weaknesses and challenges faced, and decided on a contribution of 10,000MMK per OPSHG to the Federation committee fund for their own sustainability.
- In the Philippines, COPAP was better equipped for advocacy in the national level through technical support provided by COSE (e.g. provision of actual data and related documents and orientation workshops on government process). The regular dialogue and planning sessions with COPAP, OPOs, and their members led to the development of a position paper, project proposals and policy recommendations resulting in PhilHealth for a pilot of free health insurance for poor older people aged over 75 years old in 2013 while the law (RA 9994) was amended to Universal PhilHealth Coverage to all Senior Citizens in October 2014.
- In Vietnam, the project has helped in standardizing the capacity building strategies of 850 OPOs (Intergenerational Self Help Clubs). 20 ISHCs have started local fundraising through donation boxes and VAE weekly newspaper for the elderly (read by 30,000 people nation-wide); 6 stories featuring poor older people in the newspaper raised USD 1,000 and helped 20 vulnerable older people.
- **3.2** Train 200 representatives of Older People's Organisations and established federations of Older People's Organisations in developing and communicating advocacy strategies on older people's issues. 198 have been trained, however, it is difficult to determine the increase of knowledge and skills gained, because the current indicator only monitors the number trained (Rec.13 and Rec.32):
- In Cambodia, HAC organized training on advocacy and communication on 25-27 February 2014 where 25 participants (13 female, 12 male) from OPA Federations in Moung Ruessei, Aek Phnom, and Preah Netr Preah district developed their strategic and action plan for the advocacy campaign.
- HAC conducted Advocacy Training for 6 federations and HAC staff 43 people (16 women) in Battambang where 1) ADAs campaign strategy and fundraising, and 2) income generation and age friendly livelihood activities for more stable older people's federations were planned.
- The older people trained by the project have managed to raise more strategic issues in meetings in Thailand, like income security or access to local level health funds, instead of demanding assistance only (Sawang, FOPDEV, Thailand). OPA seminars have been conducted in Chiang Mai and Bangkok; and OPA exchange visits were done in Lampang, Pichit, Chinat, and Mae Hong Son provinces.
- In Myanmar, Good Governance and Accountability training on 27-28 July 2014 was attended by 18 older people federation leaders to strengthen their organizational capacity. A workshop on the Formation of OPSHG Federation was held on 6-7 February 2014 at YWCA Office, Yangon with 5 members from each Township Network Committee.
- In the Philippines, Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP) Orientation Seminar for 3 batches (80 OPO leaders, 6 COSE Staff) resulted in a better understanding on the process and plan for better collaborations for participating OPOs.
- **3.3.** Twelve consultations (out of 24 planned) between national government and OPO representatives through the OPO federations to discuss priority issues of older people were conducted and have helped improve the older people's situation in the country. Although the indicator 50% of surveyed OPOs report an increase in local service as a result of dialogue between OPOs/ Federations and Local Authorities cannot

be determined at this point (Rec.11), these are some examples to illustrate it:

- In the Philippines, COSE and COPAP's Joint Advocacy plan has contributed to the
  passage of an Act Providing for the Mandatory Philippine Health Coverage for All
  Senior Citizens (Republic Act 10645), the creation of Committee on Older Persons
  headed by Department of Social Welfare and Development to advocate for a UN
  Convention on the Rights of Older People and the TWG in Elder Abuse, the drafting of
  an Alternative Bill on Creation of Council on Senior Citizens, and the budget
  allocation for Training of Home Care Volunteers.
- In Indonesia, as a result of advocacy and campaigning of CSOs and OPOs, throughout 2013 and early 2014, the Jakarta Administration was very supportive of the campaign to make Jakarta a WHO Age Friendly City. The movement calling for this important step hopes that a formal declaration will be made by May 2015. A 1-day seminar on Age Friendly City and the poverty reduction programme (PPKB) was held in November 2014 and drew a great deal of media interest.
- In Thailand, as a result from the International Day of Ageing dissemination seminar, the Senior Citizens Council of Thailand has recognized the importance of building the capacity of OPAs to advocate to local government to secure resources locally from mechanisms such as the Lottery Fund.
- In Cambodia, a meeting between OPA federation members and commune council members with the deputy provincial governor of Battambang requested a pension for older people above 65, support and budget for OPA replication, and free health service access for older people.
- **3.4** No Regional workshop with ASEAN, national governments and civil society (out of 1 planned) has yet been implemented. Aimed to promote the replication of Older People's Organisations and their respective federations in the eight target countries, the conference is planned for 4th quarter 2015 in Cambodia. This is a priority activity of the ASEAN strategic framework for Social Welfare and Development, under the theme Promoting the Establishment of Older People's Associations in ASEAN member states.

Collaboration with both the government of Cambodia and the ASEAN secretariat is underway to ensure that project partners (HelpAge Cambodia and HelpAge EAPRO) are able to support the planning and content of the workshop. This year, HelpAge Cambodia provided technical support to MoSVY in Cambodia to submit a proposal to ROK-ASEAN to co-fund the regional.

Another achievement was the proposal to the ASEAN Senior Officials of Social Welfare and Development to establish an ASEAN Commission on the Rights of Older People, proposed by DSWD Philippines, which is currently under consideration.

- **3.5** Two (out of 8 planned) in-country exchange visits (150 people) for OPO members to share key learning and experiences in building federations and advocacy success was conducted. Cross regional exchanges (2 planned) have not yet happened under the project. It is hoped that one exchange will take place alongside the regional ASEAN OPO meeting at the end of 2015 (see 3.4).
- On 20 and 22 July 2014, HelpAge Myanmar hosted an exchange for nine participants from the Ageing Network Group members from Yangon (HelpAge, YWCA, Save the Aged (STA), Karen Baptist Church (KBC), Myanmar Christian Council (MCC) and Support Group for Elderly Doctors) to visit Pyin Oo Lwin OPSHGs in Kyar Twin Yay and Baw villages. The OPSHGs demonstrated the different activities of older people and how OPSHGs tailor activities to locally identified needs. The participants said that the exchange gave them many ideas for their work in the ageing network and for the participation of older people in their target areas.
- In Indonesia, an exchange visit was held for members of OPAs in South Jakarta to OPAs in Depok. Also, an in-country exchange between Jakarta, Yogyakarta and Aceh is planned so the OPAs can learn from each other. Impact analysis will be done in the three target areas at a later stage as requested by MoSA.

### Result 4 Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age

**Result Statement:** Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age and expansion of social pensions and other forms of social assistance to vulnerable older people by ASEAN and the governments through the Network efforts.

Result 4 was written with the Philippines in mind; nevertheless, there are some 7 government programmes to improve income security in old age which have been adopted or expanded in four countries as reported by COSE: 1, YEL: 2, FOPDEV: 3 and VAE: 1. Thailand and Vietnam (2, out of 5 planned) have developed on-going mechanisms for policy dialogue on income security in old age with regional bodies; and the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam with the government. The number of older people gaining increased access to social assistance or new grants on a regular basis in the 6 (out of 8 planned) target countries is increased by 123% (exceeding the target of 40%) compared to project baseline – 533,965 older people reported in the MTR survey consisting of 500,000 people in the Philippines, 30,000 in Indonesia, 3165 in Thailand and 800 in Vietnam have gained increased access to social assistance or new grants on a regular basis due to the project (Baseline data: 239,560 people).

# 4.1 Co-host one regional conference on social pensions in Philippines for a minimum of 60 representatives from government, civil society and interregional organisations

The Philippines was selected as the target country for a review of existing arrangements for social pensions in specific geographical areas because there has been some criticism of the delivery of the social pension programme. Beyond this study, taking the political opportunity that an election in 2016 represents, a feasibility study will develop a range of options for the development and financing of an improved social pension model. To date, one regional conference on social pensions in the Philippines for 60 representatives from respective governments of ASEAN member states, civil society and interregional organisations was conducted in Manila in March 2014. This was directly led and mostly funded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines with technical guidance from the regional offices of the World Bank, ILO and UNFPA (Rec.15.c).

# 4.2. Commission research (one out of two planned) and publish (0 out of 2 planned) studies on income security in old age in the ASEAN region.

COSE's is working to achieve change to the social pension system in the Philippines. They want to ensure that the pension is available to all older people. This work will be strengthened by the studies commissioned through the Project. COSE has commissioned the University of the Philippines Population Institute to conduct a study review the current pension system in two geographic areas and a review of policy options for the development of the Social Pension is planned in 2015 with technical support from HelpAge London.

# 4.3 Sponsor 3 (out of 1 planned) government representative from 1 (out of 4 planned) countries in the ASEAN region to attend a training course on 'Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes'.

One representative from the Philippines Ministry of Social Welfare attended this course. Since the course, the representative, a civil servant, has moved position. This course was conducted in Chiang Mai from 29 September -11 October 2013, and attended by over 95 participants from 28 countries. In the past two years, funding from other sources has brought government officials from other ASEAN countries: Laos (10), Vietnam (>15), Indonesia (>5), Myanmar (6), Thailand (>3).

In August 2014, the President of Myanmar appointed a High Level National Social Protection Committee chaired by the Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MSWRR), including HelpAge International to implement a life-cycle approach for the social protection needs of people of all ages and social pension provision for older people.

### Result 5: Broadened public and government awareness

**Result Statement:** Broadened public and government awareness of the implications of rapid ageing and the contributions and needs of older people.

The project has delivered a significant amount of outputs to Result 5. 8,881 older people have been involved to build awareness of the implication of rapid ageing and the contribution and needs of older people though its three times a year Age Demand Action (ADA) campaigns. There have been 186 (out of 100 planned) references in print and online media to issues of ageing and the work of the network, 42 articles and 17 publications published, and 20 references (out of 3 per country planned) by government officials about ageing and older people. There was no baseline data to illustrate the increase in percentage for this result. The regional communication training conducted at the beginning of Y3 has clarified what the partners and HelpAge offices should do to report on this Result 5 supported by systematically collected direct quotes, links and clippings.

# 5.1 One study on the social and economic implications of ageing (out of 3 planned) in the ASEAN region was conducted and widely disseminated.

The study was a situational analysis of care for older people conducted in 14 countries in South East Asia and some of its neighbour states to develop a typology of care to contribute to a common understanding and evaluation of the current state of care. The research report 'Care and Ageing in South East Asia' recommends community-based care models to NGOs, care providers and policy makers.

### Specifically It recommends:

- 1. that care and health services are provided to rural and isolated poor older populations and that social networks are facilitated for older people and their carers:
- 2. that volunteerism in older people is developed resulting in improvements in wellbeing as well as contributing to the expansion of services;
- 3. that volunteers and carers are trained to ensure consistent quality of care and to foster social networks.

A more in depth study of examples of replicable and effective models of community care in South East Asian countries were explored in a regional workshop "Community-based social care: What is the role of the State?" by EAPRO in collaboration with the Thailand Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, attended by 70 participants, including government representatives, social workers, academics and experts from East and Southeast Asia.

**5.2. Network-led annual campaigns and awareness raising by older people were conducted in 6 countries (from 5 planned).** Around1<sup>st</sup> October, International Day of Older Persons (IDOP), Network-led annual campaigns involving 3,544 older people in Year 1 were conducted in five ASEAN countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Thousands of people attended the IDOP Campaigns in Year 2 in Cambodia, the Philippines Indonesia, and Myanmar with the focus on demanding additional budget for old age allowances and improved health care assistance for vulnerable older people.

- The campaigns had over 80 media hits covering major nationwide media outlets.
- In Indonesia, the Executive Director of YEL appeared on National Television (TVRI) in May 2014 to raise awareness of all stakeholders that older persons were not just recipients of support, but could and should participate in enhancing their quality of life as also drivers of development.
- In Myanmar, an OPSHG 8-minute video documentary demonstrated the positive impact of OPSHGs, and project pamphlets in Burmese were printed for IDOP events in Nay Pyi Taw.

- A forum on Elder Abuse in the Philippines was successful in (1) increasing awareness on elder abuse in the Philippines; (2) promoting a rights-based approach to older people development; (3) drawing public interest in preventing and addressing elder abuse; and (4) eliciting support to the UN Convention on the Rights of Older People, involving 9 COSE Staff, 25 Media, 40 OPO leaders, 14 NGOs and 18 Government officials.
- **5.3.** In the first two years, the project developed and disseminated a range of communications material on the needs and contribution of older people in the **ASEAN region.** The numbers reported in the self-assessment for this activity is very high at 511, however, there is no evidence supporting it. Closer monitoring and collection of quotes, clips or recording has been planned after the communication workshop in January 2015 (Rec.10)
- In the Philippines, the project supported three regular weekly one-hour radio programmes in Davao, Camarines Norte, and Cebu with older people trained as anchors by COSE and COPAP presenting topics related to the rights of the older people and issues raised by listeners such as violations in the laws for older people.
- A series of major television network interviews with the Executive Director of COSE
  has raised general public awareness, government and concerned agencies on the
  need to properly implement the existing laws for older people.
- In Cambodia, two OPA leaders and the communication and advocacy officer of HAC spoke on a one hour live Radio Talk show on Chamka Chek Radio, Battambang discussing "Older people: a burden or a resource?"
- More support for country level communication materials production from EAPRO is currently organised through regular Skype conference and discussions in a closed Facebook group for the communication staff from each implementing organisation.
- Social media has been used in the project to broaden public awareness of the implications of rapid ageing and the contributions and needs of older people.

Communications mechanisms identified through the review include:

- The Ageing Asia (<a href="http://ageingasia.org">http://ageingasia.org</a>) website is user-friendly and updated regularly. It contains information about the partners, countries and project activities;
- FOPDEV's website is in both English: http://fopdev.or.th/en/ and Thai: http://fopdev.or.th;
- COSE blog https://cosephil.wordpress.com has no recent entry in 2015;
- YEL website <a href="http://www.gerbanglansia.org/yel.htm">http://www.gerbanglansia.org/yel.htm</a> has not been updated recently.
- VAE website, http://hoinguoicaotuoi.vn/, is available only in Vietnamese.
- HAC and HelpAge Myanmar websites found. HAC has also made ADA petitions on the rights of older people through Facebook and Twitter reaching 517 people.
- Facebook pages of HelpAge EAPRO, FOPDEV, VAE, HelpAge Cambodia and HelpAge Myanmar, and COSE were found and read, and they have been recently updated with activities, photos and articles.

### 3. Efficiency

The project has been quite efficient in achieving quality, quantity, and timeliness of input as can be seen from some of the illustrations provided in the Effectiveness Section. The project spending was slow in the first 2 years pending confirmed co-funding (25% of total budget), which has now been met with Toyota Foundation and SANA Project

starting on 1 March 2015. By the end of January 2015, Euro 601,831.50 (37%) has been spent from the total project budget, Euro 1,626,982.

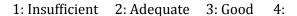
Additionally, the Typhoon Haiyan response pulled away some of the needed human resources to complete the baseline survey, and the complexity of the project design itself caused delay. By the time this review was undertaken, the project had picked up pace and is now on track for the most part as highlighted in the previous section. For those activities lagging behind, the project will require a more targeted implementation plan in the coming two years.

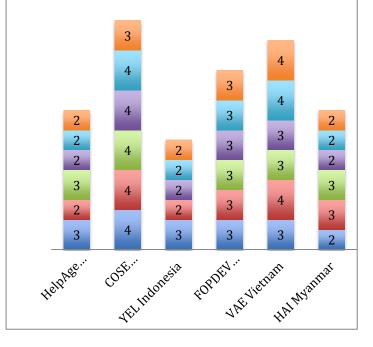
One identified risk that has impacted the project, is the project partners' responses to natural disasters. Most obviously Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, as mentioned above, slowed activities from November 2013 for several months. In Vietnam, VAE responded to typhoons in the Hanoi area in November and December, and project areas in Indonesia (Jakarta in January 2014 onwards) and Cambodia (Battambang and Banteay Meanchey, in September and October 2013) suffered flooding that also delayed or curtailed some of the planned activities.

### **Efficiency of the Project:**

Self-assesment survey results

- The technical support to help with the reporting process
- The technical support to help implement project activities
- The technical support for planning and budgeting of project activities
- The coordination and communication with PM





Meanwhile, strategic partnership arrangements to support the project have been made and continue to be fostered with ASEAN Secretariat, UN ESCAP, and relevant ministries in each of the 6 target countries in the short 2-year period.

#### **Coordination and Communication**

2 partners, VAE and COSE, saw the project as having excellent coordination and communication with the network. Both were very clear about what they planned to accomplish within the Project from the start (see chart). FOPDEV office proximity to EAPRO helped with communication as they can just walk over and vice versa when things needed to be clarified. HA Cambodia and YEL only marked adequate, as there were many different people from the region contacting the partner. This has been clarified now with the PM (Clare Danby) as the main focal point for the project, Jongjit

Inkeaw (Finance Manager) for financial matters, Caitlin Littleton (Programme Officer) for M&E, and Eduardo Klien (Regional Director) for any other bigger issues.

The project objectives and results were initially difficult to see discretely as the results speak to on-going organisational core work. The more established partners could easily see how to use additional resources to expand their work. Others needed additional guidance on what activities they could carry out within the scope of the project. This lack of clarity has been rectified through mentoring visits and RPMC meetings. By the time that the MTR took place; most of the partners and HelpAge staff were well aware of the project's objectives, and accomplishments. In HelpAge Myanmar, only the Deputy Country Director was managing activities, so the program staff only learned about what the project is trying to achieve through the FGD for this MTR.

### Resources to implement the project

Although graded quite positively in terms of having sufficient resources to implement the project, there were a few improvements identified for and by the partners and EAPRO staff. In terms of human resources for the project, the country implementers believe that additional staff would help them to implement the project better. So far, most partners/country offices have one 100% fully paid staff, and small percentages of the Executive Director and Finance Manager's time. In HelpAge Myanmar, they have yet to have a dedicated project officer for the project, while FOPDEV Thailand opted to have 2 project officers at 50% each instead.

In term of financial management, the EAPRO Finance Manager shared that there was an induction for the partners on the four-year budget as well as the procedures of submitting an annual plan along with its budget, the quarterly request for transfers and monthly liquidation. It helped that the implementers are existing partners and two country offices of HelpAge so EAPRO is well-acquainted with their financial systems (Rec.2). The monthly financial report has been submitted in a timely manner, at times there has been under spending reported due to external factors, such as political instability or the delay of activities planned by other partners.

### **Technical support**

The chart shows that the partners' self-assessment of technical assistance they received for planning, budgeting and reporting is positive, ranging from adequate to excellent. It is important to note that the partners had very different starting points in terms of capacity, background and interests, so the project has facilitated them to learn from each other's strengths and also provided opportunities for larger partners to grow.

It was planned in the proposal that COSE would lead in support to the development of OPO federations, FOPDEV would lead in developing media, VAE would lead in best practices for monitoring implementation of policy, and YEL would lead in coordinating with the ASEAN Secretariat, in collaboration with HelpAge Korea. In implementation, these partners were actively involved, but were not sufficiently engaged in the planning and preparation of activities. This could be a great way to provide opportunities for new experiences for partners (Rec.3).

### 4. Accountability and Learning

This section discusses accountability and how well the learning generated from the project has been documented, communicated and incorporated in the project as well as used to inform future policy and practice. The Review has also considered how well M&E systems are functioning in order to guide implementation, report on progress, and prepare for the final evaluation; if key risks being identified and managed; and if delivery arrangements are flexible enough to respond appropriately to opportunities, risks and beneficiary feedback.

As can be seen in the chart on the right, most of the implementing organizations believe that the objectives and expectations have been explained well to them.

Cambodia had some difficulties at the beginning to fit this project with what they were doing as they have a very strong community level OPA focus on service delivery, while this project required them to engage in policy dialogues and advocacy, as well as doing more public awareness raising on ageing issues.

Similarly, FOPDEV staff understood the project would be focused on working with the OPA in their area only, but the baseline study clarified that the scope of the project is nation-wide.

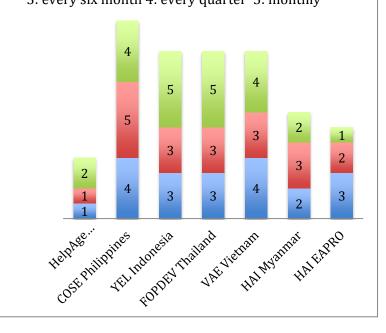
HAC felt that the objective and project expectations were only explained to them once, and HelpAge Myanmar wrote that it happened twice during the life of the project.

HelpAge Myanmar's Deputy Country Director also stressed that continuity wasn't supported because it was not always the same staff member participating in the regular RPMC meetings, project trainings or workshops.

# Accountability: Self Assessment Survey Results

- Beneficiary feedback is collected
- Opportunities and risks are reviewed to determine the need for strategy change.
- The project objective and expectations are explained well

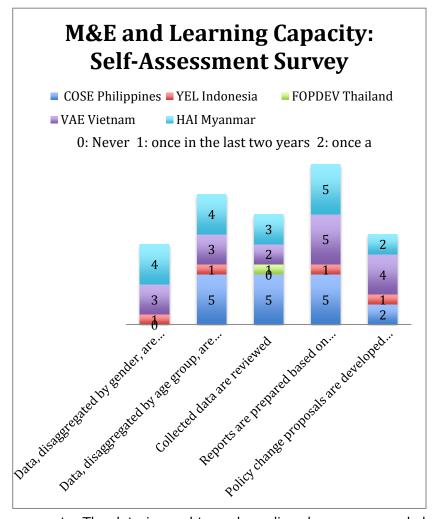
0: Never 1: once in the last two years 2: once a year 3: every six month 4: every quarter 5: monthly



Although COSE reported that the project expectations were explained to them clearly every quarter, COPAP and Federations only knew the objective vaguely from participating in the baseline study. Aura explained that this is likely due to the fact that COPAP tends to shy away from a project-based approach, favouring advocacy in a broader sense, which contributes to improving the life of older persons in the Philippines.

Opportunities and risks to determine the need for strategy change are reviewed monthly by COSE in the Philippines as it strengthens their policy advocacy work. They look for opportunities at the local and national levels, as well as collaborations with different advocacy groups outside their current networks (LGBT Group, Elder Abuse Group, Persons with Disability Group, and Religious and Indigenous Group) to work on a larger anti-discrimination in general, beyond but inclusive of age discrimination. The other

implementers reviewed the risks and opportunities every six-months or annually when the progress report was prepared or when it was discussed during RPMC meetings.



All implementers of the project have been collecting data of beneficiaries of their interventions at different levels of details.

VAE has the most complete data of the older people from 2014-2018, using 68 indicators to help verify those entitled for social pension. Their data are digitized and disaggregated among others by gender, age groupings, urban/rural, social status, rich/poor, health status, and living conditions.

HelpAge Myanmar monitored activities regularly and all the projects and disaggregated data according to gender and age group; while COSE does not record gender disaggregated data.

Myanmar, the Philippines and Vietnam partners use their data to prepare monthly and quarterly

reports. The data is used to make policy change proposals by VAE, and once a year by HelpAge Myanmar and COSE (Rec.11).

The Master M&E excel sheet that was developed by EAPRO at the beginning of the project and finalized in Year 2 is considered a very good tool to help partners to monitor their progress and to stick to the plan. It is supposed to be submitted per quarter, but the information was not very clear some believed it should be submitted annually, or only when asked by EAPRO. However, with consistent coaching, there have improvements in data quality although it is still seen as a major taxing task by some partners (Rec.11).

The monthly financial report (mainly financial liquidations) is usually on-time, but monthly narrative reports are often not submitted. When submitted, the monthly program report does not directly link with the financial report; similarly, the financial report has no information on which activities were paid for by the budget. This makes it hard to make the donor annual report, even for partners who submitted the monthly program report as budget expenditures need to be checked to see what activities in the partners' reports were actually paid for by the project.

VAE, FOPDEV and COSE have many achievements but the question is how to attribute them to the project. More timely feedback on budgets, work plans and reports could ensure that any missing information is filled when activities are still fresh in the memory of project staff (Rec.14).

### 5. Sustainability

**Technical impacts**: The project will strengthen the technical skills of network members (including partners), OPO, target governments and other stakeholders. As the report shows, the project has provided numerous opportunities to build capacities that will stay with partners, the country offices and the network itself beyond the life of the project due to good staff retention. Most staff members working and paid for by the project,

with the exception of communication staffs hired for the project, are long time employees (Rec.30).

The chart on the right shows how the partners/ country offices in five countries assessed how their capacities will continue to expand beyond the project; while Cambodia said that it would continue as normal.

All partners have said that they will continue similar approaches like capacity building of OPOs, advocacy to the local and national government and many others, started/ strengthened through this project in their other projects.

EAPRO suggests the linkages and engagement in country, across countries and regions with the new organisations and networks built during the project will continue to be fostered and strengthened.

### **Sustainability: Self Assessment Survey** -1: will not be as good as during the project 1: will continue as normal 2: will continue to ■ The linkages to new organisations and networks built during the project ■ The staff trained during the project ■ The OPAs that the project helped initiate ■ Implementation of government policies benefitting older people that the project contributed to. 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 antiodia<sup>1</sup> Cose Philippines For DEV Thailand VAE Vietnam Myannar HALE ARTO

Although there is no plan as yet for a similar project, linkages have started to be built on certain campaign themes at the region. HelpAge EAPRO is in a good position financially with UNFPA funding and from a private foundation for large regional projects.

**Social Impact:** The main social impact of the project is improved living conditions for poor vulnerable older persons that will benefit from the government policies and budgets allocated for them (as described in Result 2 and 4).

More social support has been gained through the older persons involvement in OPOs. There are increased levels of social interaction and political participation at the local level due to increased opportunities for dialogue between OPOs and federations, local level decision makers and service providers. This has resulted in a greater understanding of the needs and constraints of older people, and improved service delivery (Result 3).

Sustainability of OPAs differs between countries as starting points were very different. In Vietnam, for example, the standardized, innovative and self-sustainable ISHC model has received recognition by the government and by UN, INGOs and NGOs. These

organisations are supporting replication of the model. All 6 countries, apart from HelpAge Cambodia, believe that the OPOs will continue doing better post project. HA Cambodia thinks that the OPA will stay the same after the project, but at the FGD, the OPA and federation leaders expressed concerns of their ability to sustain themselves beyond the project. Additionally, public campaigns and media activity have contributed to improved social perceptions of older people resulting in more active roles in the community and society at large.

**Economic Impact:** At the macro level, the project has started to encourage societies and governments to view older people as a resource rather than a burden, and to value their contributions to the economy as well as society. While at the micro level, the economic impact of the doubling of social pension in the Philippines and older people's livelihoods that the OPOs organized have helped improved the household economy. In Thailand, FOPDEV has just signed an agreement with the Thailand Health Promotion Foundation for a 5-year project for 2.7 million THB to work with other CSOs for national social pension advocacy.

**Policy Impact:** The project focuses on creating dialogue with government and intergovernmental stakeholders and forging better links between Network members and their governments. There is an increased understanding of the needs, challenges and gaps of older people at the grassroots level. The project has influenced governments in six target countries directly, and also the work through regional mechanisms such as the ASEAN Strategic Framework, to which all ASEAN member states are signatories. This influence will continue in the coming two years of the project. The recognition of the networks and partners' names through advocacy campaigns and community organising works on the ground, Facebook, twitter and websites as leading CSOs working on ageing issues, has provided opportunities for networking and collaboration with government, donors and other CSO actors on social pension issue, replication of OPOs and other ageing related policy works.

### **D. Recommendations**

The recommendations should be discussed and action plans developed on how they can be implemented. The recommendations are divided in four broad categories: 1) the overall project structure, 2) project management, 3) project monitoring, and 4) opportunities.

Recommendations are linked to one or more sections within the MTR Finding Sections. By clicking the cross reference link provided at the end of each recommendation, the reader will return to the relevant part of the report.

### **Overall project structure**

- 1. All involved should understand the common expectation of moving towards the same goal, while being mindful of each other's priorities and organisational approaches (1. Relevance; 4. Accountability and Learning)
- 2. The Project Manager (PM) should provide guidance and direction through participatory planning during the last two years. This process should highlight the big project picture including what still needs to be accomplished to contribute to the achievement of the 5 results using the remaining balance of the grant (3. Efficiency).
- 3. As many regional level activities are planned and led by EAPRO, the project should involve the partners more closely in this process to build network, understanding, ownership and sustainability (1. Relevance, 5. Sustainability).
- 4. EAPRO should be more proactive with the other network members who are not directly involved with the project, beyond inviting them to the conferences, especially as some indicators of the project clearly state eight and not just six

countries. For example:

- a. closer collaboration and learning from Malaysian network partners and Laos Women's Union bringing community care expertise,
- b. other partners in Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia to explore possibilities of collaborating with NGOs with a stronger community organizing approach enabling partners in-country to compare their OPO models (1. Relevance).
- 5. EAPRO Regional Programme Managers need to be more responsive and have shared ownership of the project so as to more effectively realize all the results of the project: for example: in coordination with the Project Holder, the RPM responsible for each of the eight target countries should provide partner mentoring, and RPMs with specific expertise like communication, advocacy, care, pensions, or OPOs standardization should support project implementation (2. Effectiveness).

### **Management**

- 6. Exchanges between partners should be facilitated better during the RPMC for the remaining two years, utilizing the strengths of each partner, for example: Cambodia wants to learn from COSE about social pension advocacy strategies; and other partners can benefit from FOPDEV's expertise on audio visual media production (Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity).
- 7. As one of the project main objectives is capacity strengthening, it is crucial that learning should benefit not just the one staff attending the training, conference or meeting at the regional level. Therefore, mechanisms for sharing the learning should be developed to ensure learning is shared in-country (Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity)
- 8. The country level partners should make sure that OPOs and federations can be sustainable beyond the project by mainstreaming ageing issues and plans into development agendas, building a strong connection with the government and relevant stakeholders for the OPO model adoption, and supporting their fundraising strategies. This includes:
  - a. supporting OPOs in submitting proposals to manage the local and provincial health fund for older people in Thailand;
  - increase awareness of ageing issues and income of OPO federation and small charity type organizations working with older people in Myanmar; and
  - c. clarifying OPO leadership and advocacy roles and structure in Cambodia (Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups).
- 9. Include "sustainability for project end" in the upcoming RPMC agenda to start thinking about 1) what will happen after the project, 2) where each of the partners and HelpAge network will be in two years, 3) what to do with the newly-expanded network and the networking and communication department staff, and 4) what will the project exit strategy for each country be including further fundraising support for partners (Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity; 5. Sustainability).
- 10. The EAPRO Networking and Communication unit should support the implementation of Result 5, the collection of evidence to monitor progress and update the database. More direct technical support should be provided to partners, either in country or through closed communication team Facebook group and the monthly Skype conferences. Additionally ADA creative campaigns through Facebook and Twitter like what HAC did, can be used to raise awareness and gain support (Result 5: Broadened public and government awareness).

### Monitoring

11. RPMC should emphasise the importance of rigorous M&E with age and sex disaggregated data for project reporting to meet HelpAge and project requirements. Consolidated data on the project progress to-date and challenges

- should be presented in these meetings to provide a bigger picture on the successes and gaps. The M&E Master sheet should be filled in after each activity is implemented and collected at a set time (quarterly should be sufficient), questions and clarifications should be made as soon as data is received when inconsistency found (Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity; Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups; 4. Accountability and Learning).
- 12. Document and share successful policy advocacy experiences of partner, OPOs/Federation and country level/regional network as well as the models of sustainable and innovative OPOs in Vietnam and Cambodia, based on proper data collection and analysis with other network members, organizations and network working on ageing issues in ASEAN and non-ASEAN countries. This can help other organisations to do their advocacy work, including better targeting in their campaigns (Result 2 Expanded dialogue on ageing issues; Result 5: Broadened public and government awareness).
- 13. To help to measure improved capacity, the project should keep a database on those trained with their levels prior to and after the trainings and ensure that training action plans are successfully implemented. Descriptions should be included in the narrative reporting format to collect information on changes in the organization resulting from training in current quarter/last quarter (Result 1 Heightened institutional capacity; Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups).
- 14. In order to link activity implementation and expenditure, a reporting format that reflects expenditure against activities, should be introduced for a quarterly report. Feedback on the narrative and financial reports submitted should be provided in timely and positive manner to partners, as this will help them to achieve higher quality reporting (4. Accountability and Learning).
- 15. Specific recommendations for indicator changes and monitoring:
  - a. Result 3 indicator: 80% of trained OPO leaders report an improved capacity to gather information from community members and use, as evidence in advocacy work. This indicator is rather hard to monitor, it is recommended to amend it to: 80% of trained OPO leaders showed an improved capacity to gather information from community members to used as evidence in advocacy work. This can be measured based on the pre/post tests and implementation of training action plans (Result 3 Strengthened OPOs and their federations and groups).
  - b. Adding a new indicator for Result 4: Number of Philippine political parties referring to social pensions in election campaigns (Result 4 Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age)
  - c. The **regional conference on social pensions in Philippines** should be properly recorded and documented in Y2 report (Result 4 Enhanced recognition of gaps in social protection in old age).
  - d. Result 5 Indicator: Number of articles and publications in printed and electronic media by network members' increases by 25%, and distribution of articles/publications increases by 100%, as there is no baseline data to compare it to, it is recommended to use Year 2 data as the baseline to compare with end of project data. Clippings, quotes and recordings of the reported media or government reference should be collected. (Result 5: Broadened public and government awareness).
  - e. Revising 2 Result 5 indicators to help sharpen the link between the evidence and the project activities: 1) At least 3 references per country by government officials about HelpAge or affiliates (originally: ageing and older people); and 2) In 6 of the 8 target countries (originally in all 8 countries) the number of older people participating in and engaging in ongoing campaigns increase by 20% (4. Accountability and Learning).

### **Opportunities (emerging)**

- 16. The East Asia Pacific (EAP) Network on Ageing goal and objectives are kept quite open and informal by choice, but it is important that all members and affiliates know exactly what they are to ensure that they have similar visions, as recommended in the Baseline Report, "the HelpAge Network should have a clearly articulated purpose that all affiliates and members share and use when speaking with regional and national policymakers (1. Relevance).
- 17. Project partners should be selected based on criteria including having a similar vision and mission with the project goal and objectives, the specific technical capacities required, and other criteria determined by the nature of the project.
- 18. Information, Communication and Technology for Development (ICT4D) can be utilized better to make it easier for data collection and analysis for such a complex multi country project considering all target countries have access to Internet. Simple survey tool like the survey monkey tool used in this MTR, for example, can easily be adapted to provide the data required to simplify the M&E Master sheet format. Other free mobile phone apps, like Mango Data Collector can also be used (4. Accountability and Learning).

### E. References

Community-based social care in East and Southeast Asia, HelpAge Briefing, HelpAge International East Asia/Pacific Regional Office, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Global AgeWatch Index 2013, Purpose, methodology and results, HelpAge International, London

Global AgeWatch Index 2014, Executive Summary, HelpAge International, London Global AgeWatch Index 2014, Methodology update, HelpAge International, London

Jolly, Ruth and Mandy Heslop, ADA Campaign Training Manual, HelpAge International, London, UK

Williams, Tim and Siobhan Warrington, May 2013, Strengthening the CSO Network on Ageing as a Development Partner in Southeast Asia Baseline Report, Projects-Direct.Net Ltd, 29 Malbrook Rd, London SW15 6UH, UK

### F. Annexes

### **Annex 1. List of Informants**

**Key Informant Interview (KII) and Survey** 

No	The	Position	Gei	nder	Organization	Country	Day/Date	Time	Methods		
	Informant(s)		F	М							
1.	Le Minh Hai	Project Officer		Х	1. VAE - Vietnam Association for the Elderly	Vietnam	Mon, 16 Feb 2015; Sun, 22 Feb	10.00- 11.00 12.00- 13.00	KII	Survey	
2.	Anne Laure Hallaire	Deputy Country Director	X		2. HelpAge International	Myanmar	Mon, 16 Feb 2015	15.30- 16.30	KII		FGD
3.	Capucine Loo	Deputy Country Director/PM	X		Myanmar					Survey	FGD
4.	Sawang Kaewkantha	Executive Director		Х	3. FOPDEV -	Thailand	Tue, 17 February	10.00- 11.30	KII	Survey	
5.	Janevit Wisojsongkram	Advocacy & Information Officer		Х			2015				
6.	Saranyu Kaewkantha	Former AMCo Project Officer		Х							
7.	Tum Vira	Interim Executive Director/Finance Manager		Х	4. HelpAge Cambodia	Cambodia	Tue, 17 February 2015	15.00- 17.00	KII	Survey	
8.	Von Bunret	Advocacy & Information Officer		Х							FGD
9.	Long Laen	Former PO		Χ							
10.	Vann Vicheka	Former PO		Χ							
11.	Eva Sabdono	Executive Director	Х		5. Yayasan	Indonesia	Wed, 18	09.30-	KII	Survey	
12.	Evita Irsan	Finance Manager	Х		Emong Lansia		February 2015	11.00			
13.	Aura Sevilla	PO/Training Manager	X		6. COSE -	The	Wed, 18	17.00-	KII	Survey	
14.	Fransiskus Kupang	Executive Director		Х		Philippines	February 2015	18.30			
15.	Quyen Tran	PM		Χ	EAPRO	Thailand	Mon, 16	13.00-	KII		

					HelpAge International		February 2015	14.00			
16.	Paul Godfred (Goddy)	PM for DRR and Emergency		Χ	EAPRO HelpAge International	Cambodia	Mon, 16 February 2015	14.00- 14.45	KII		
17.	Teerapong Laptwan	PM for Communication and Networking		Х			Tue, 17 February 2015	13.00- 14.00	KII		
18.	Meredith Wyse	Former Project Holder of AMCo	Х				Tue, 17 February 2015	14.00- 15.00	KII	Survey	
19.	Jongjit Inkeaw	Finance Manager	X				Wed, 18 February 2015	11.00- 11.45	KII		
20.	Usa Khiewrord	PM	X				Wed, 18 February 2015	14.00- 14.45	KII		
21.	Caitlin Littleton	PM, 15% at AMCo M&E	Х				Wed, 18 February 2015	15.00- 16.00	KII	Survey	
22.	Eduardo Klein	Regional Director		Χ			Thu, 19 February 2015	11.15- 11.55	KII		
23.	Clare Danby	PM and current Project Holder	Х				Various times		KII		

### **FGD** – Focus Group Discussion

No	Name	Age	Position/Involvement in the	Ge	nder	Country	Day/Dates/	Facilitator
			Project	F	М		Time	
1.	U Khin Maung Htay		KOICA Program Manager		Χ	HelpAge	Monday, 16	Capucine
2.	Aye Mat Phyu		Reveal Project Manager	Х		Myanmar	Feb 2015,	Loo
3.	Czarina P. Po		KOICA M&E	Χ			5-6 pm	
4.	Nyan Lin Tun		KOICA Health Coordinator		Χ			
5.	Jiweon Lee	28	HAK Volunteer/HelpAge Project Assistant	Х				
6.	Sart Sot	56	Involve in campaigns, trainings and consultative meeting		Х	Cambodia	Monday, 16 Feb 2015, at	FGD 1: Von Bunret
7.	Van Naev	58	Involve in trainings, dialogues with		Χ		2-3.30 pm	
8.	Chhorn Sameth	65	government and campaign		Χ			FGD 2:
9.	Sok Set	44	Involve in trainings, dialogues with government and campaigns		Х			Long Laen
10.	Uk Sakhorn	48	Involve in trainings, consultative	Χ				
11.	Ya Vansuy	40	meeting, campaign		Χ			
12.	Thab Lien	49	Involve in trainings, consultative		Χ			
13.	Chhon Chhorm	75	meeting, campaign		Χ			
14.	Chheng Vong	52	Involve in trainings, consultative meeting, campaign		Х			
15.	Em Earng	54	Involve in trainings, dialogues with		Χ			
16.	Nov Beb	66	government and campaigns		Χ			
17.	Sou Thoun	61	Involve in trainings, dialogues with government and campaigns		X			
18.	Mr. Long Laen	39	Former ASR061 Communication and Advocacy Officer		X			
19.	Ms. Klot Phally	55	Capacity building, training, dialogues,	Χ				
20.	Ms. Bun Sampov	47	planning, campaign	Χ				
21.	Ms. Men Samphoan	46		Χ				
22.	Von Bunret	27			Χ			
23.	Adoracion "Dory" Dela Pena	71	COPAP Organizing Committee Chairman/ COPAP Representative in	Х		The Philippines	Wed, 18 Feb 2015, 09.12-	Aura Sevilla

			network meeting		
24	1	СГ	3	V	
24.		65	Federation President	X	
	Bayot				
25.	Rodolfo "Boy"	64	OPO President		X
	Panado				
26.	Ernesto "Ernie"	65	OPO President		Х
	Garcia				
27.	Eleanor "Ellen"	65	COPAP Advocacy Committee Member	Х	
	Gillies		·		
28.	Crispulo "Cris"	72	COPAP Vice President/ Advocacy		Х
	Migrino	-	Committee Chairman/ ADA Steering		
	ge		Group Representative		
	D: "C "	70			
29.	Dioscorro "Corro"	70	COPAP President		X
	Benalla				

**Annex 2 KII Notes with Partners/Country Offices** 

**Annex 3 FGD Notes** 

**Annex 4 KII Notes with EAPRO Staff**