

Report

Workshop on Dissemination of WBTi Assessment Report and gBICS in Vietnam

1. **Date:** December 20th, 2010
2. **Venue:** 84 Ly Thuong Kiet, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi
3. **Host organisation:** Light Institute for Development and Community Health
4. **Supporting organisation:** Mother and Child Health Department/Ministry of Health
5. **Collaboration organisation:** Labour Union/Hanoi City
6. **Funding organisation:** IBFAN Asia
7. **Participants:** Leader of Mother and Child Health Department/Ministry of Health, Leader of Labour Union of Hanoi City, Labour Union Representatives from different agencies, organisations.

8. Objectives

- Long-term objective:

Contribute the efforts of IBFAN Asia and LIGHT in promoting and supporting the optimal Breastfeeding with a view to reduce the rate of stunted young children under five.

- Specific objectives:

- Raise the awareness of the community through the Labour Union on the benefit of breastfeeding and the indicators of optimal breastfeeding;
- Sharing information of the breastfeeding status in Vietnam with comparison to other Asian countries as reflected in WBTi Assessment Report;
- Share in information on gBICS;
- Appeal the support and involvement of the Labour Union in protection of all rights of the labourers, especially working women both in government sector as well as private sector (ensuring their leave days, pregnancy examination, maternity leave, breast expressing time...) for optimal breastfeeding practice in Vietnam for child survival and development.

9. Program

Time	Contents	Responsibility
9.00 – 9.30	Registration	Ms Nguyen Hong Minh – Admin Officer of LIGHT
9.30 – 9.35	Opening, introduction	Ms Nguyen Thi Thanh Ha – Deputy Chairperson /Hanoi City Labour Union
9.35 – 9.45	Speech of MoH Representative	Mr Nguyen Duc Vinh – Deputy Director/ Mother and Child Health Department/MoH
9.45 – 10.00	Sharing brief information of WBTi Assessment Report and gBICS	Ms Nguyen Thu Giang – Deputy Director, Ms Le Thi Minh Hanh – Program Officer/LIGHT
10.00 – 10.30	Discussion on the roles of Labour Union in advocacy and practice for optimal breastfeeding	Ms Nguyen Thi Thanh Ha – Ms Nguyen Thu Giang

	environment in Vietnam for child survival and development	
10.30 – 10.35	Conclusion	Ms Nguyen Thi Thanh Ha – Ms Nguyen Thu Giang
10.35 – 10.45	Petition of commitment to support optimal breastfeeding	Participants

10. Summary remarks:

- The representative of MoH introduced the National Program other efforts of MoH on Breast Feeding. He recognised the current challenges against all these efforts. MoH committed to continue playing the key role in promoting all stakeholders to work together to support breast feeding and care for young children;
- LIGHT as an NGO expressed willingness and commitment to support government agencies and the community with its experience for progress in this specific field;
- Representative of Labour Union/Hanoi City appreciated the opportunity to access the information on nutrition, infant and young child care and how these issues would affect future human resource in Vietnam as well as reviewing their responsibility in protecting working mothers. The Labour Union committed to cooperation and collaboration to carry out future initiatives. Participants of the workshop, who were Women Affair focal points from different agencies, organisations and residences, committed to extend their understanding and information from the workshop to their working or acting places.

11. Other activities:

- Display: The workshop handouts together with relevant materials, decree 21/2006/ND-CP regulating the promotion and use of nutrition food for young children were delivered to the participants;
- Petition for support: At the end of the workshop, participants join the on-site petition by signing in a large size paper to show their support for breast feeding.

12. Conclusions of the workshop:

- The workshop has raised an important but almost neglected issue to the audience regarding optimal breastfeeding and young child care;
- Stronger collaboration, commitment and involvement of all responsible agencies and organisations are required to ensure optimal breastfeeding, especially versus the overwhelming commercial baby milk and food;
- Ministry of Health and Labour Union are committed to the joint efforts to protect working mothers and promote optimal breastfeeding.

13. Conclusions of workshop organiser

- The breast feeding and young child care goals are very challenging to obtain and that need all relevant stakeholders joint efforts;
- NGOs should work together to play assisting roles as raising awareness, policy advocacy and supervising the implementation of breastfeeding initiatives;