

# Male Sex Workers in Asia

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*The 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP, Bali, 2009*  
*Satellite Meeting, MSM Cross-Cutting Issues, 10 August 2009*



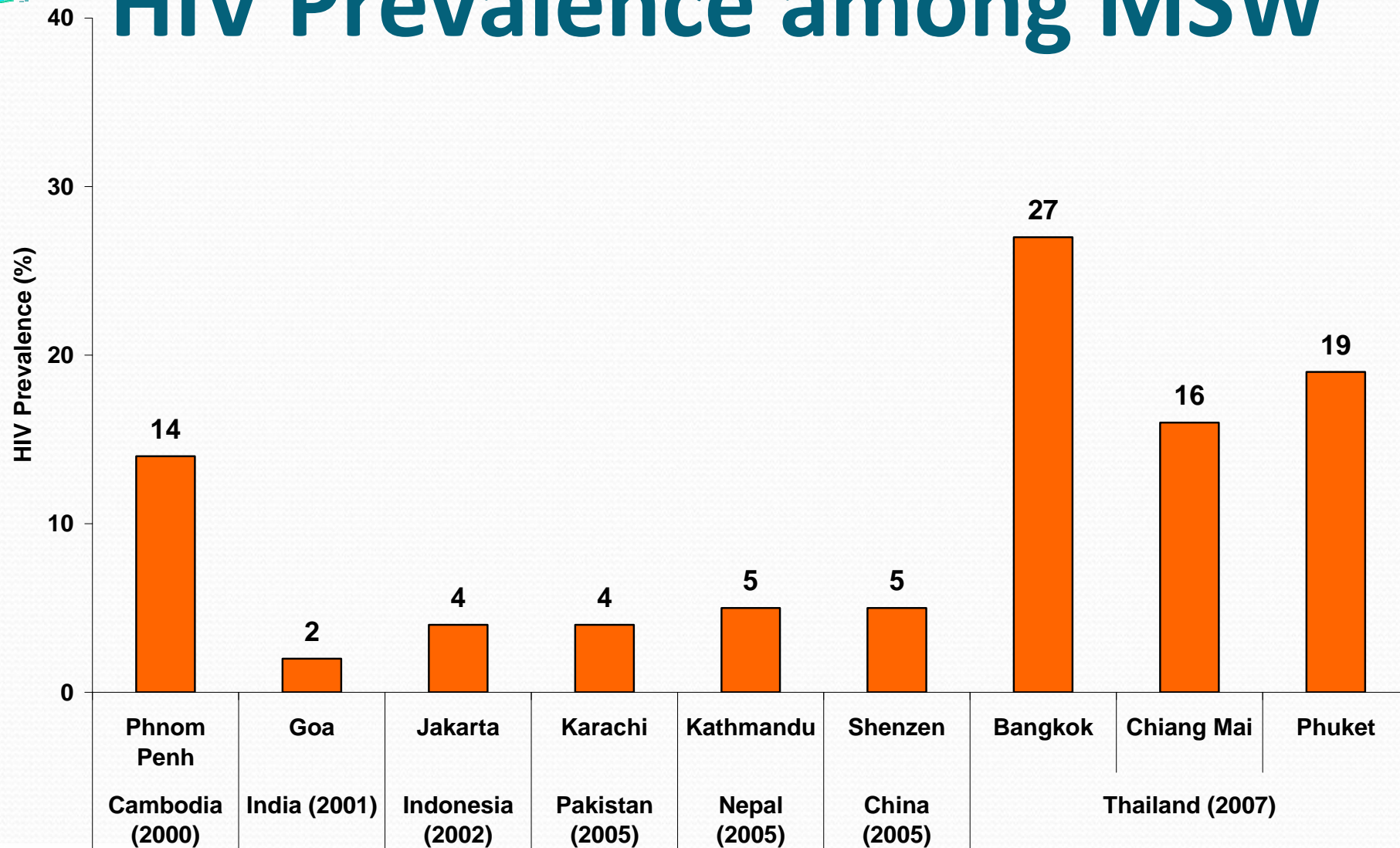
# Contents

- Definition
- HIV prevalence in selected countries
- Issues related to HIV and STI infection
- Recommendations
- SWING interventions

# Working Definition of MSW

- A male regardless of his sexual orientation, gender, sexuality
- Providing sex services to males and/or females
- In exchange of cash or any other incentives

# HIV Prevalence among MSW



# Issues related to HIV Infection

- High rate of STI (rectal and urethral)
- Consistent condom use with different sexual partner is low (particularly with regular and casual partners)
- Low access to condom and water-based lubricant
- Alcohol and Drug use
- Multiple partners and female partners

# Issues related to HIV Infection

- Low uptake of VCT/STI services
- Double stigma and discrimination
- Violence and harassment
- Legal, social and religious barriers
- Economic status: poverty
- Low education
- Migration and mobility
- **Lack of MSW CBOs**

# Key Recommendations

- More meaningful involvement of MSW for HIV programming
- Population size estimation and IBBS among MSW and TGSW should be conducted more systematically
- Partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders is crucial

# Key Recommendations

- Reduce stigma and discrimination related to sex work and male-to-male sexual behavior
- Collaborating with regional and national networks on Sex Work for advocating changes in law and policies

# Key Recommendations

- HIV program targeting specifically MSW and also TGSW
  - Peer outreach in different types of location
  - Variety of the empowerment activities for MSW/TGSW
  - Income generation
  - Education promotion

# Key Recommendations

- Access to condoms and water-based lubricants
- Referral to MSW/TGW-friendly services (STI/VCT, and care and support, and treatment)
- Addressing drugs and alcohol issues
- Positive health, dignity and prevention integrated in the program

# SWING Interventions

- Prevention interventions
- Supportive interventions

# Prevention Interventions

- Outreach activities
- Thematic education sessions
- BCC materials and commodities distribution
- Basic counseling service
- Community-based events
- Peer leader trainings
- Referral to VCT/STI services
- MSW+ support group
- Condom revolving fund

# Supportive Interventions

- Empowerment and social activities
- Referral to social welfare services
- Income generation
- Research on violence against MSW
- Training on human rights for MSW
- Advocacy and policy change
- Police cadet student trainee project
- Collaboration with owners/managers of entertainment venues
- Networking with the local authorities

# Thank you

# References

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