



...the Global and Local Community Conversation

WEEK 5
China –Long Chuan, Yunnan Province
February 25th–March 2nd 2012

Foreword; appreciating, encouraging and sharing local community story

China is the fourth country for Glocon. This is a synthesis of two local community stories, after 12 other local community stories from India, Bangladesh, and Thailand. Each location will have its own synthesis so we can accumulate insight on local and global patterns of community response and transfer, and organisational adaptation. The ‘themes and sub themes that matter to us’ are the core of the Glocon learning. Sincere thanks to local and country hosts, and to the local communities, which show us the future.

The **background to Glocon** is described in the concept note, on the Affirm website.



See www.affirmfacilitators.org;
www.facebook.com/glocon.affirm;

See also the facebook group “Glocon participants”.

From beginning March, the first Glocon Update is available through the www.affirmfacilitators.org website, and the facebook page.

Key Sections

- *Glossary*
- *Process*
- *Glocon visit team members*
- *Where are we now?*
- *Transfer*
- *Going deeper-themes and sub-themes that matter to us*

Glossary

CDD-Community Development Department

TSA-The Salvation Army

GP-Glocon Participants

SALT-Support and Learning Team

PMTCT-Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission



Glocon team members

- Alfred Tsang (below centre)
- Jeremy Lam (centre)
- Alison Campbell



- Ian Campbell
- Lucas Deng (above)
- Dawn Dong (below right)
- Jerry Li (above left)
- Heidi Chan (above right)

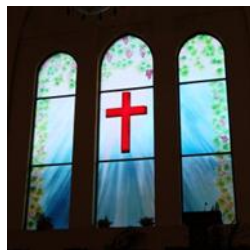


Background and Process

Day 1-Friday 24th February

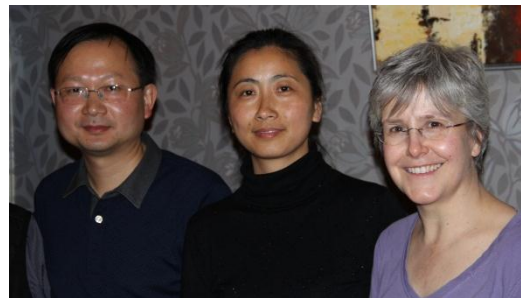
Arrival-greetings with hosts Jeremy Lam, and Lucas Deng. Clarification of purpose, which was to revisit local communities in Long Chuan county after the initial visits of 1995-2006, to thank, encourage, and share progress in response to HIV and other concerns. Also, the CDD (Community Development Department) of The Salvation Army, based in Beijing, with an office in Kunming, is actively exploring new opportunities for partnership with county authorities, having been engaged in HIV and health issues in the past.

The Glocon team agreed to debrief at the end of every visit to track the community journey, key determinants and outcomes happening.



Days 2/3-25/26th February

Meetings with team mates; worship with hosts at the Trinity International Church; lunch with Reverend Jin Jiu Wei, chairman of the Yunnan Christian Patriotic Association (*3 self church: self propagating, self funding, self governing*); dinner with Bonnie He and her lawyer husband Mike (*Bonnie was in charge of Home AIDS, a SA funded and monitored project, for several years. Collaboration with the Yunnan Red Cross (YRC) and TSA led eventually to an independent NGO identity for Home AIDS 2 years ago, with TSA and YRC on the board*).



Day 4-27th February



Alfred, Jeremy, Lucas, Alison and Ian travel to Long Chuan county; met by Madam Yang Da Fan, who is the Director of the Longchuan County Foreign Project Office –she is also vice-chair of the Longchuan County Red Cross.

The Foreign Project office arose out of the partnership that began 9 years ago with TSA on HIV. Alison and Ian visited Longchuan with the SA team in 2003 and 2006. The story of one

minority community in particular, which actively responded to HIV, has been shared worldwide, including at UNAIDS in Geneva.

Joined by Mr. Chiang, the chairman of Longchuan County Red Cross.



Day 5 -28 February

Visit to Jinyi Village

Here we met He Gan Mo, the 50 year old community leader, who has worked for the past nine years on the issues of drug abuse and economic development. When he took office in 2004 the community was one of the most affected by drug abuse.



One of the first actions they took was to create a neighbourhood watch that is still active. Then they formed five teams, one for drug abuse and HIV prevention, one for care, one for hygiene/sanitation, one for women's health, and one for community development. The current team leader for women's health (He Gan Mo's wife) is Mme Jin (below). Two members also joined the discussion – Mmes Zhang (left) and Dao (right) (shown below).



'To develop the economy we must first get rid of drugs...'

'When this village began to take action against drugs, the drug users were not happy. We had to hide anything valuable. Sometimes they would burn our fields.' -Mme Jin

'We did a one-to-one helping programme and avoided using the anti-addiction



centre. Some stopped using.' During the period 2005-2008, 24 of the 35 drug users died, from AIDS, from alcohol poisoning, or from drugs. *'Other villages experienced the same thing. We suffered a loss of human power.'*

From 2008 there has been no recorded case of drug abuse and the village has been awarded 'drug-free' status-

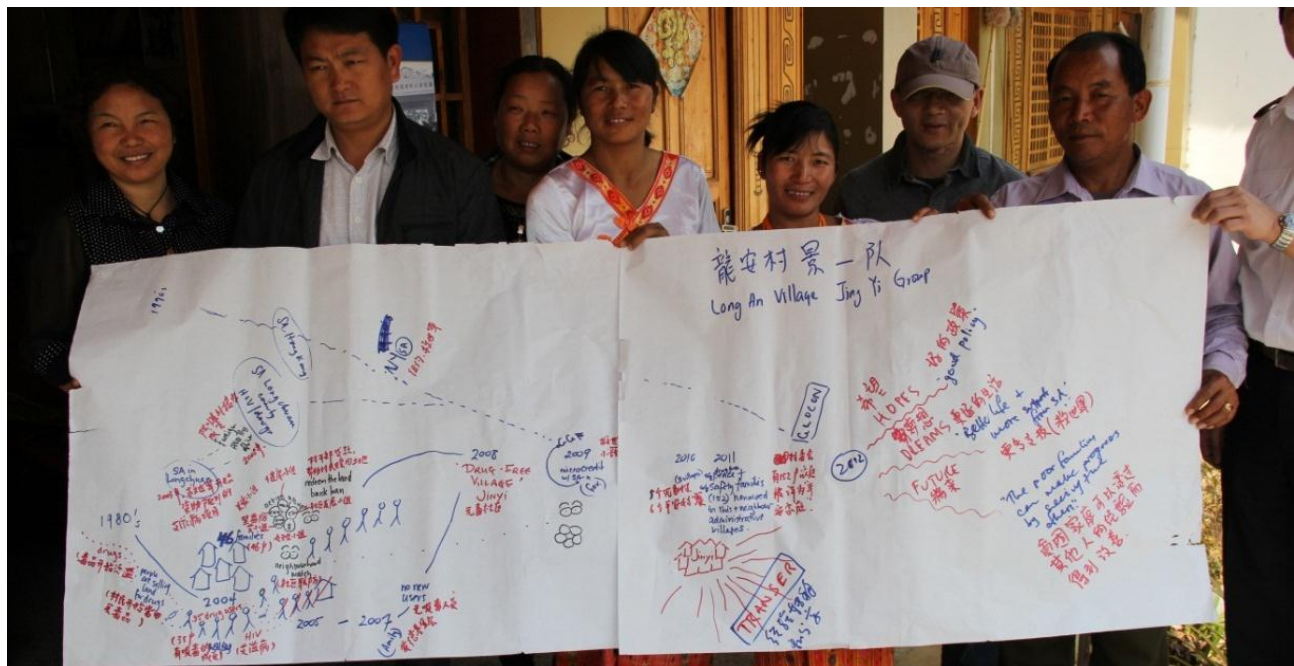


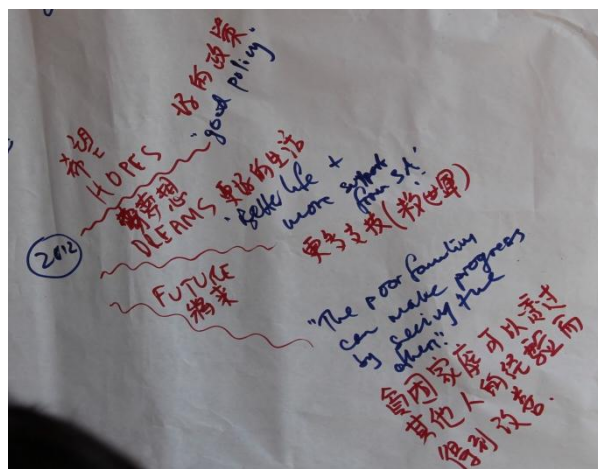
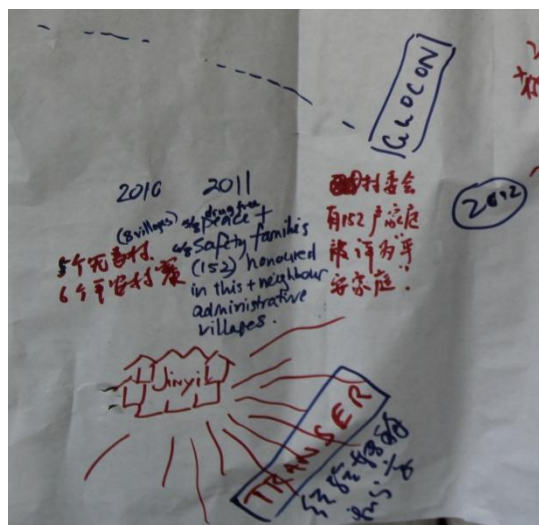
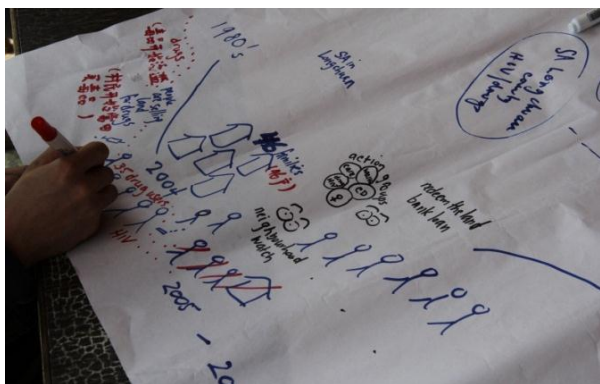
... 'land that had been sold for drugs was bought back so that the families could have a livelihood again.'

The average yearly income has more than tripled.

'I see a lot of changes in people, especially mentally. People are more hopeful. Compared with the time when the community was so low, now that people are 'rich' they have their own plans to improve their own families.' -He Gan Mo

Timeline –Long An village, Jing Yi Group





Look at the detail -in the administration area of 8 villages, to which Jing Po belongs, 6 of the 8 have been awarded 'Safety village' status in 2011 (152 families) -and 5 of the 8 villages have been declared drug free.

Visit to Longchuan County Primary School



Mr Ya is headmaster of the school which has a special programme for children affected by HIV, especially orphans. TSA has supported the programme most recently by training teachers in trauma counselling for children. Approximately 1/4 of the children in the school are part of this programme.



'The emergence of drugs and HIV since the 1980's has been disastrous to the life and development of our county, and to the families, especially of minority groups.'

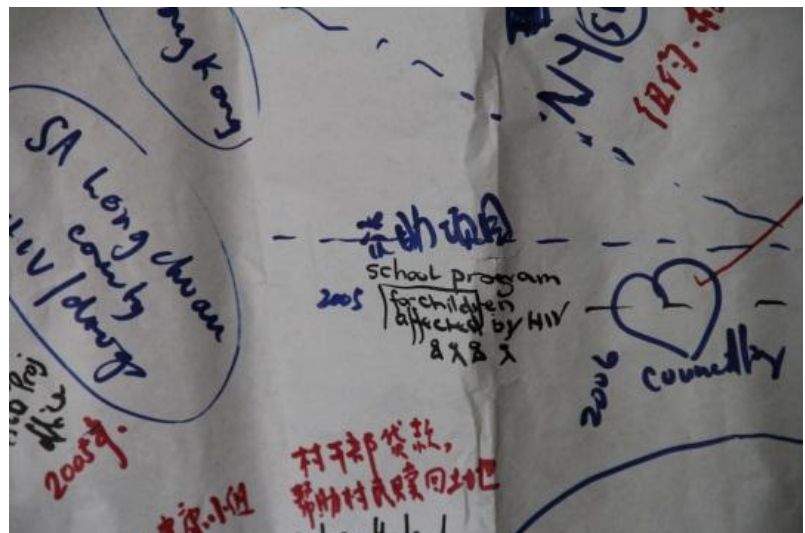


Two teachers who joined the discussion are part of a volunteer group that supports the children on weekends and after school. Children stay at the school during term, and go home to relatives during the long school breaks. Staff members also visit at home, to see the progress of the children.



One of the teachers (Miss Li, shown above) spoke of why she volunteers her time; *'It is love for the children – when I first saw them, they looked so tense and worried. Now look at them, most of the time they are happy.'*

'Teachers are motivated to self-study to learn how to better help the children. The students become open to those teachers.' -Mr.Ya



Day 6-29th February

Visit to Long Chuan Maternity Hospital



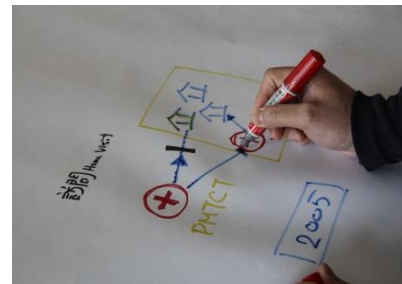
Ms Yang Yu Yan (on left) is the head of the PMTCT (prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV) programme at the hospital which was established in 2005. She met our team together with Ms Han Xing Fen (on right), who is the vice director of the hospital and medical doctor for maternity, as well as primary health care for women and children. The Salvation Army has a relationship with the hospital because it was the bridge for funds to construct the hospital wing for PMTCT and HIV-related programmes.



'We care for mothers, children, and also families especially husbands.'



'It was challenging at first... people did not want us to visit them at home.... We learned to go through the local clinic, and give information so people could contact us.'



'Since about 2006, most mothers initiate contact with us.'

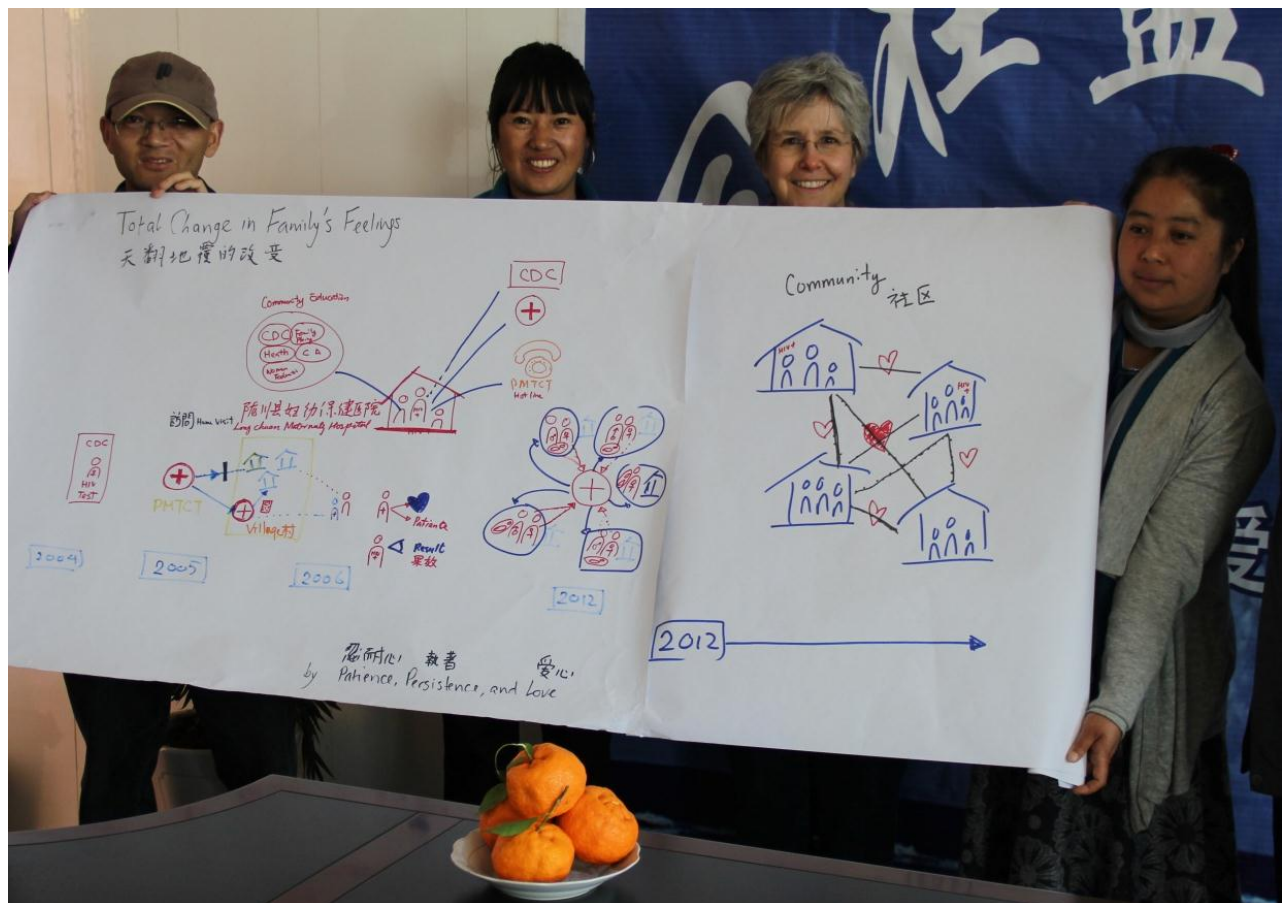
'Till now we have cared for 139 mothers with HIV, and have delivered 140 babies, because one mother had twins.'



'All our work is based on the local villages. We make home visits to mothers and their families.'

'We have seen a complete change of feeling since 2005. Now the families are very happy to welcome us.'

Timeline and transfer –Long Chuan Maternity Hospital-Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)



'I am like an elder sister in the village -- people can talk with me.'

Village doctor at village health clinic nearest to Xinghong Village

Yang Kuan Yu has been the village doctor since he qualified in 2001. He confirmed the timeline of the maternity hospital, and their collaboration with him.

'When I give health talks, I include HIV with other preventable infectious diseases.'



'Since 2008 this area has had quarterly meetings of people living with HIV, and every other meeting includes family members – that is how we encourage sharing also between families. Their relationship with us has also improved as a result.'

"We work with HIV positive women and their families – first we counsel them and encourage them in their responsibility to tell their partners, then we check after about a month to see if they have been able to do it. If not, we will continue to work with them to include the partner."



Visit to Xinghong village

The afternoon was spent in a village of the Jing Po minority, and the timeline tells the story of their community groups for youth, women, over 60's as well as neighbourhood watch, music, and drama. The groups have been active against drugs, responsive to emergencies, and preserving the culture.



'Mr Yue (left) was the first leader of the youth group formed 31 years ago in 1981 to be the hand, the workforce of the village for construction, weddings, funerals, and later for activities such as sports to prevent drug use' -Yae Yang, current leader of youth (below)

'We formed a neighbourhood watch group by sitting together as a community and deciding the best way to respond to the challenge of drugs – in Chinese culture, when we say watch it also means help.'





'Youth and neighbourhood watch work together especially for disasters, in our own or nearby villages.'
 -Ms Yang, member of women's group (right)



'The elders group was formed in 1981 to preserve Jing Po culture – our culture is transferred by story, dance and music, so the music and drama groups were also formed.' –leader of elders group (left, on right)

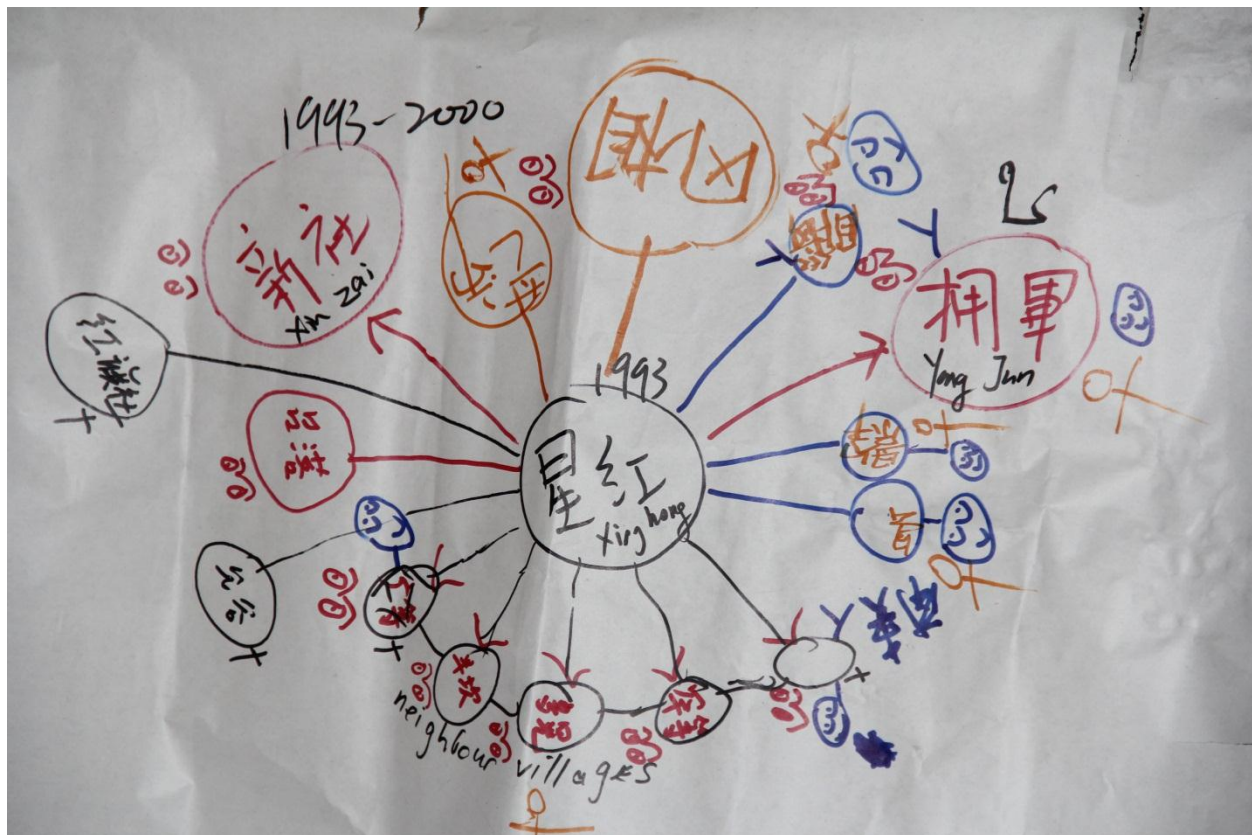
Xinghong timeline and transfer

The amazing connection happened when we asked if other communities have copied their actions, and a transfer map emerged with everyone participating to show their part in it.



Leader of women's group above





As the sun went down we sat around tables in a family courtyard and enjoyed a meal and music together.





A Visit to the HIV/AIDS Alliance, Kunming, for sharing experience

'We truly believe in community action – it is not optional. Seldom do groups get together to talk about vision and dream -- we need to facilitate this.' –Grace Lo, HIV/AIDS Alliance in China



A visit to Home AIDS

In 2002 the Salvation Army helped fund and support the development of an HIV care and follow up work in Kunming.



HomeAIDS is now autonomous and well established in the city –with deepening home care and family prevention, with peer to peer sharing of experience, for expanding response.



'While working with drug users, we meet with the family and ask the family to accept the person back. Usually they will do.'

From the HIV support group:

'We can relax here – we might be nervous in some places but here we are ok.'

'Home AIDS visits us at home and it is very good, because the family can feel upset, not knowing what to do. The team brings a kit for care at home.'

'We get such warmth here, it gives us confidence to fight the disease.'





'When they come home they care for us in body, mind and life, if we have no food they will help.'

'We are very pleased to apply what we have learned here to help others. We share our own experience with others.'



Bonnie, the leader of Home AIDS in the past, on the left, and Zhao Juan the present leader, on the right.

'We did not stick a label on the person – first we accepted the person in our team, then they feel the future is very bright. They will look out instead of in. In the process they find they can help others. They are valuable.' -Bonnie

'We can see the beginnings of sharing from one neighbourhood to another. This is the future vision for prevention of HIV.' –Zhao Juan

Going deeper: themes and sub-themes that matter to us

Note that each visit will add to the analysis of some or one main theme

Indicators of movement(s)

- Local community initiated action, self -assessment, and transfer
- Invitations back home
- Community to community transfer
- Adaptable organizational strategies

Week 5 China, Kunming, Yunnan Province-

Home AIDS has been in a process of learning from its experience – periodic facilitation has stimulated the team to analyse their progress from the community point of view.

Over 10 years, the organization has adapted its strategies increasingly toward a home and community based work, with the office base used for respite, preparation, education but more collaboration in neighbourhoods around the city of Kunming.

- Spiritual and faith motivated initiative

Care to change

- Ownership
- Home, suffering, hope, neighbourhood
- Caring presence which motivates expanding change

Transfer

- Community to community
Week 5 China, Long Chuan county, Yunnan Province-the fight back for drug free and AIDS free villages
-by caring, asserting, connecting, visiting families, group decisions on strategy and handling threats, neighbourhood watching to build security and to help, enlisting allies in government, reaching out to other villages. Outcomes are family and neighbourhood confidence, integrated families, economic initiative and improvement, better health, shared purpose.
- Global SALT
- Leadership acknowledgment

Faith foundations

- Caring by being with
- God present in situation in grace

Facilitation team

- Organisational transition
- Discovering shared concerns with partners (common ground)
- Community as lifestyle
- Mentoring by participating

Learning from local experience (SALT)

- Humility-disposition and character
- Connecting local community and organizations

- Facilitating movements
- Based on Strengths