

Glocon

...the Global and Local Community Conversation

WEEK 6
China –Beijing and Henan
March 4- 7th, 2012

Foreword; appreciating, encouraging and sharing local community story

China is the fourth country for Glocon. This is a synthesis of one local community story in Henan Province, after gathering 14 other local community stories from India, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Long Chuan county in Yunnan Province, China . 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 a 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*
- *Glocon visit team members*
- *Background and process*
- *Where are we now?*
- *Going deeper-themes and sub-themes that matter to us*

Glossary

CDD-Community Development Department

TSA-The Salvation Army

GP-Glocon Participants

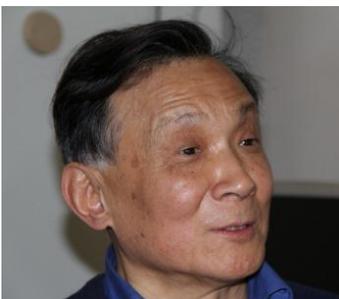
SALT-Support and Learning Team

Glocon team members

- Alfred Tsang (below centre)
- Jeremy Lam (right)
- Alison Campbell (below)
- Ian Campbell (below)
- Puisi Chan (above right)



...and friends



Background and process –Where are we now?

Day 1: Sunday 4th March 2012

Greetings with hosts Jeremy Lam, and Puisi Chan. Clarification of purpose to visit local communities in Henan Province, which for a decade has been an epicentre of concern and action for HIV response due to significant HIV transmission through transfusion. Puisi Chan, formerly working with The Salvation Army (TSA) has visited frequently in the past 10 years to support community conversation in local communities. One result has been a warm invitation to return for further conversation. The opportunity was taken to thank, encourage, and share progress in response to HIV and other concerns. The CDD (Community Development Department) of The Salvation Army, based in Beijing, is exploring new opportunities for partnership with provincial and county authorities, having been engaged in HIV and health issues in the past.

Glocon combined team agreed to debrief at the end of every visit to track the community journey with key determinants and outcomes.

Meeting with team mates; dinner with Anders Cheung, an entrepreneur businessman based in Beijing, and supporter of Salvation Army projects;



'China is changing very fast-our challenge is not politics. The young generation pursuing economic development needs to remember 5000 years of culture and tradition.' -Anders

Day 2: 5th March 2012

We visited DETAN Infectious Diseases Hospital in Beijing, the Home of Red Ribbon – where Mme Wang Kerong is the nurse team leader (right), and Mme Teng Xiu Qin is the president/ party secretary (left).



Wang Kerong has been working with HIV for 15 years, and the Red Ribbon clinic is an integration point for in-patient and outpatient care of more than 1000 patients, with prevention and support activities.



In the Red Ribbon drop-in and counseling center, volunteers sat together with people seeking advice or waiting for treatment. Patients become volunteers – longer term patients meet with new patients to help them through the initial stages of testing or treatment.



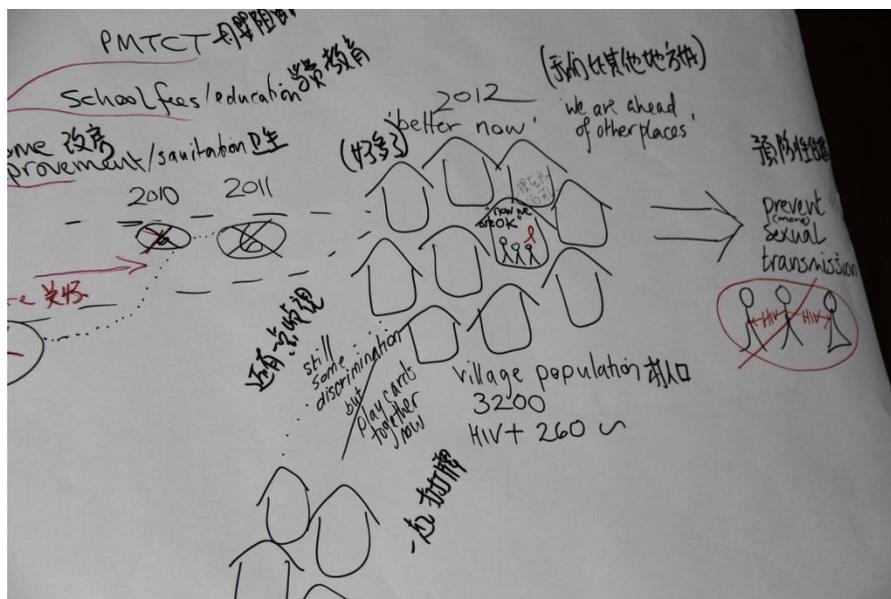
Catholic sisters are part of the team – ‘we love’.



Day 3: 6th March 2012

Visit to Henan Province

A train journey overnight –and straight to a village about an hour from the provincial capital, where from 2002 a severe localized epidemic of HIV was found, related to contaminated transfusions/plasma donation. Many other villages in the province also had the same catastrophic problem.



The timeline (see above –‘better now’-and at the end of this section) that was developed through a home visit and a lunch with local community members, many HIV positive, indicates the emergence of a confident active community that still grieves from long term enormous loss of members, yet sees a future with hope.



'During 2003 was the most difficult time in our village. Thanks to SA for accompanying during that time. Last year 6 people died, year before 6 died, but that was the worst time.'



'Medical support from government helped us to accept the illness with less worry, and released tension.'

'The two things that helped the most were government health promotion that openly talked about the disease, and the ngo listening, helping us to communicate with each other.'



'You encouraged us – when my wife was dying and when she died, you would have helped me not to be so lonely. When someone has HIV you can help the family to accept. This is encouragement. You help us to communicate – you make it easier.'(reflection from a man with experience of living with HIV)



'There is still some discrimination from other villages (eg the chef at this restaurant is from our village but does not say so) – but it is better now – we can play cards together again.'



'We have a case of a couple, both who have managed to have a child who is HIV negative- with the help of treatment.'

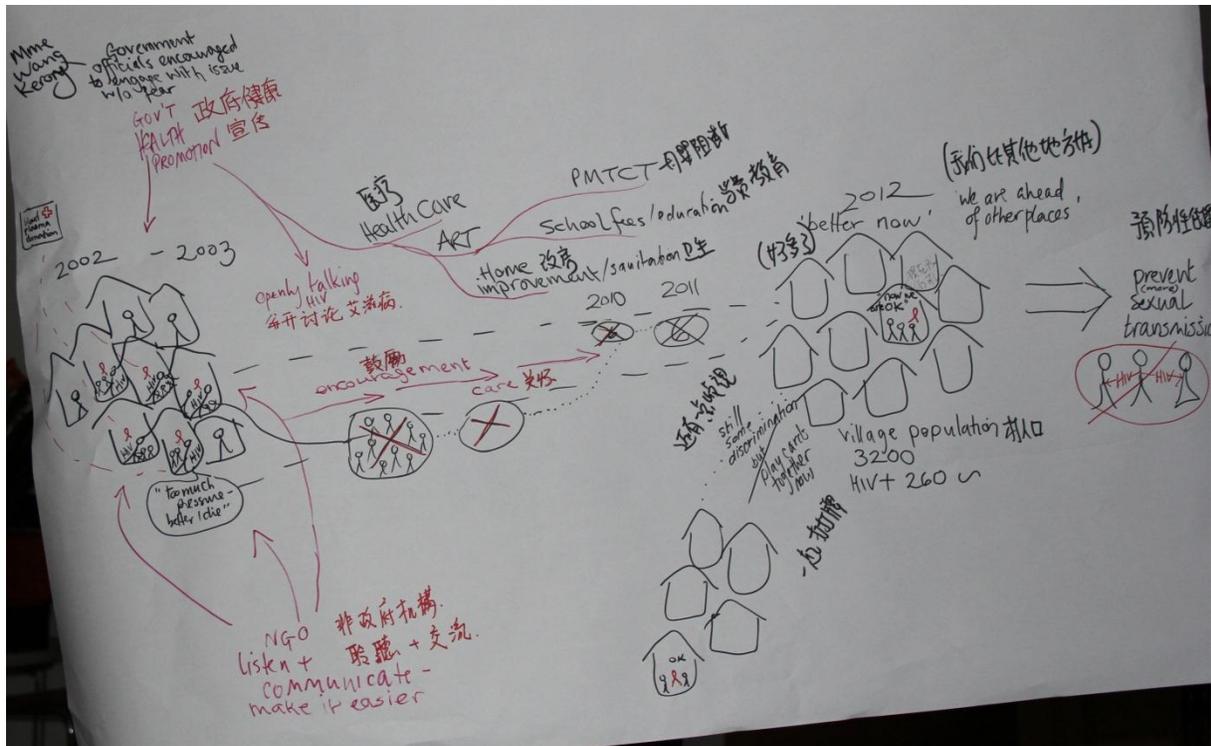


'We do have sexual transmission, one case where one partner gave HIV to the other because not enough care was taken. For the future we must avoid sexual transmission.'

'Emphasize families for the future.'

The timeline: 'Better now' --a village in Henan Province





The timeline shows a time when many people died, and a path found toward the future because of encouragement and care. Government and ngo both contribute to the path, which the families are taking.



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
- Spiritual and faith motivated initiative

Care to change

- Ownership
- Home, suffering, hope, neighbourhood

Week 6 China Henan Province-

For a decade the pain of accumulating loss from death due to AIDS has paralysed, then angered, and through accompaniment and face to face encouragement, has activated local community to care and connect and plan together. Top down government support eventually formed; community conversation early in the discovery of the plasma transfusion epidemic helped bring confidence and cohesion. Neighbourhood normalization slowly happened over a decade. The memory of loss is felt, yet there is assertive hope oriented thinking and action. 'We are better now.'

- Caring presence which motivates expanding change

Transfer

- Community to community
- 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