

WHO assignment of the Vice Chancellor in Bhutan

- I am a member of the Regional Verification Commission of elimination of Measles, Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome of the South East Asia Region (RVC -SEAR) from 2015.
- We have duties and responsibilities as members to undertake throughout the year, most of which are done online.
- Some work is done physically like one RVC meeting once a year in one of the countries. During Covid 19 all activities were done online.
- I was assigned to physically verify Bhutan situation with two other members and I went to Bhutan for that.
- This is my first overseas visit this year. I did not go for fun.
- The work we have done over the years are given below.

Other team members

External experts :

- Prof. Sujeewa Amarasena – SEA-RVC member
- Dr. Susan Reef – SEA-RVC member

National Expert

- Mr. Tshewang Dorji Tamang – Former EPI Manager

WHO SEARO

- Dr Sudhir Khanal

Country Support team

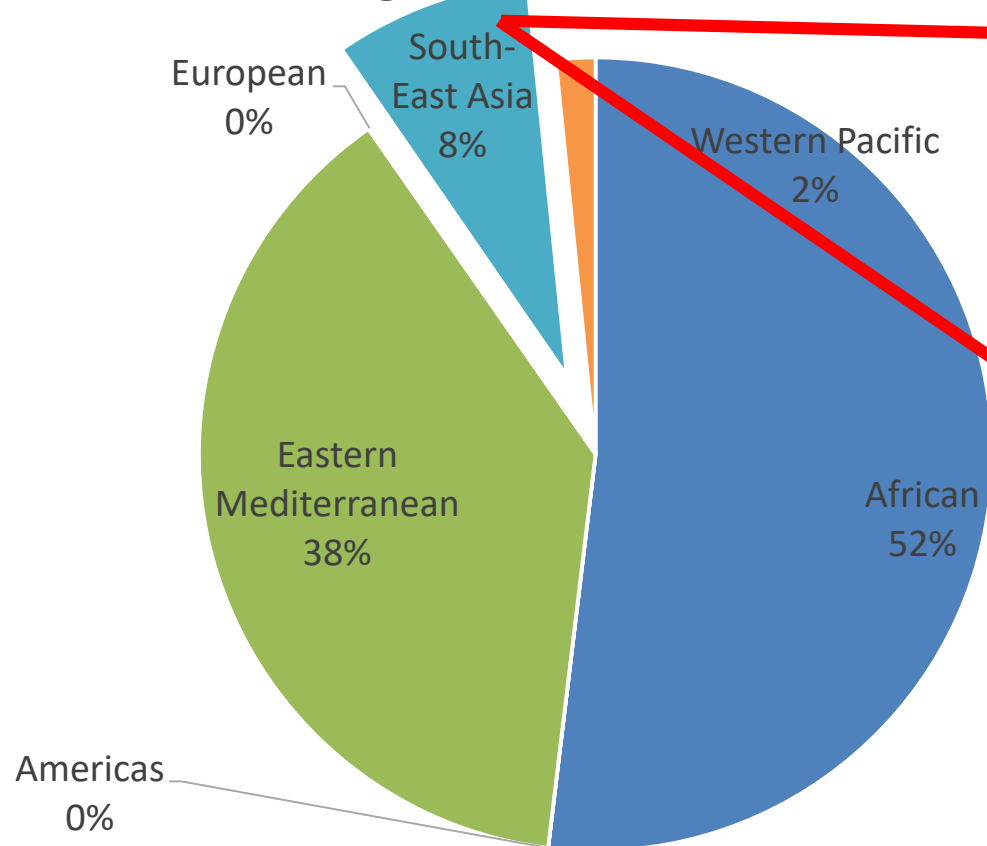
- Mr. Tashi Dawa- VDPD/MOH
- Ms Cheten Zangmo VPDP /MOH
- Mr. Sonam Wangdi, WCO Bhutan

83% reduction on measles mortality globally 2000-2021

SEAR contributed to 8% of estimated global measles mortality in 2021, compared to 26% in 2013 and 44% in 2000

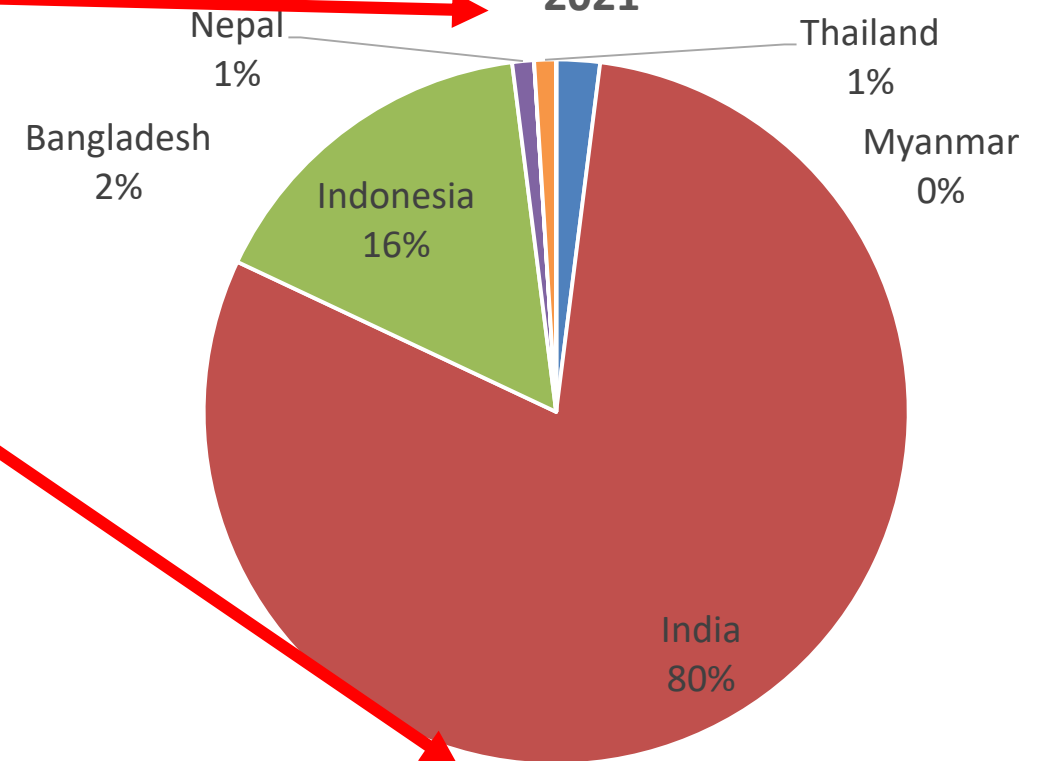
Proportion of measles mortality across WHO

Regions, 2021



Proportion of measles mortality in SEAR countries

2021



Regional Progress towards the measles and rubella elimination by 2023

- Five countries verified to have eliminated measles and two country verified to have eliminated rubella
- An estimated **72% reduction** in mortality due to measles between 2013 to 2021
- **75% decline** in reported incidence of measles since 2013 (13.1 per million population in 2013 to 3.3 per million population in 2021)
- **80% decline** in reported incidence of rubella since 2013 (5.5 per million population in 2013 to 1.1 per million population in 2021)

Country	Year in which verified	
	Measles	Rubella
Bhutan	2017	-
DPR Korea	2018	-
Maldives	2017	2020
Sri Lanka	2019	2020
Timor-Leste	2018	-

Objective of the Review visit

- Review progress towards implementation of strategies for rubella elimination in Bhutan
- Review of five line of evidences and two criteria required for verification of rubella elimination
- THIS WAS HARD WORK FOR 5 DAYS AND CERTAINLY NOT FUN
- This is sent to explain about my overseas visit to those misinformed about it.
- **Please remember “LIES RUN SPRINTS AND TRUTH RUN MAROTHANS”**

Activities done

- Meetings with stake holders
 - Review documentary evidence
 - Site visits
 - Debriefing and report writing
-
- ENCLOSED SOME PHOTOS OF ACTIVITIES DONE AND ACHIEVEMENTS.
 - THERE IS HAPPYNESS AND SATISFACTION IN THIS WORK DESPITE SARCASTIC REMARKS BY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED ACADEMICS ABOUT THESE.







Some key meetings



Selected field activities



Key meetings

- Enjoying traditional culture

TAKIN is the national animal of Bhutan. It has a goat's head and cow's body- FYIP for learning

I DID NOT KNOW





Thank You - PALACE

Beautiful Bhutan