

Annual Report 2011

Malaysian AIDS Council
Malaysian AIDS Foundation



Getting to Zer



Acknowledgements

Malaysian AIDS Council & Malaysian AIDS Foundation

Annual Report 2011

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Our heartfelt appreciation also goes out to our corporate and media partners, Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters and our tireless volunteers for their contribution to the HIV and AIDS cause in Malaysia

We would like to give special recognition to the staff members in the various Departments of Malaysian AIDS Council and Malaysian AIDS Foundation who contributed to the development of this report.

Disclaimer

Unless otherwise stated, the appearance of individuals in this publication gives no indication of HIV serostatus, sexual orientation or gender identity.

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FOREWORD BY PATRON OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION



achieved only if society changes their attitude and perception towards people living with HIV. We should all play a more proactive role in challenging stigma and prejudice by carrying out campaigns to enhance the awareness on HIV. As responsible citizens, I am confident that we can help change society's negative perception of HIV and discrimination against Malaysians living with the virus.

As Patron of the MAF, it is encouraging to note how our work has evolved and expanded since its inception 19 years ago. In addition to funding treatment, care and support programmes of the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC), MAF also provides direct financial aid and sponsorships aimed at improving the quality of life of people living with HIV.

MAF has successfully carried out several grant making schemes in collaboration with corporate sponsors to assist infected and affected children. These schemes, whereby the children receive monthly financial aid to cover their basic needs such as food, clothing, medical treatment and school expenses, have benefited more than 300 children from poor families throughout the country. It is my hope that this will inspire other organisations to step forward to lend similar support as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility project.

We hope that you will join us to show your support for the good work that the MAF is doing.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) and all partners and donors for their support and commitment over the years.

My gratitude also goes to the MAF Board of Trustees, MAC Executive Council members, our Partner Organisations, staff and volunteers for their effort, commitment and determination in minimising the impact of HIV and AIDS in Malaysia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosmah', written over a horizontal line.

DATIN PADUKA SERI ROSMAH MANSOR

Twenty-five years into the epidemic in Malaysia, HIV & AIDS continue to affect the lives of more than 79,000 Malaysians living with the virus.

Women and girls are particularly more vulnerable to HIV infection and we note the alarming annual increase of new HIV cases amongst them. In Malaysia, in 2011, women and girls constituted 21% of newly-reported cases compared to merely 5% a decade ago.

Children too are not spared from the epidemic. Cumulatively, we have seen more than 2,000 children and youth aged between two and 19 years old infected with HIV. This is indeed unfortunate but without the effective intervention programmes to prevent the mother-to-child transmission of HIV that were implemented in 1998, the number would have been worse. It is possible to ensure that no child is born with HIV. In order to achieve this, we must redouble our efforts to reach every pregnant woman in this country.

Despite the advancement made in the prevention and treatment of HIV, the epidemic continues to have a negative impact on infected children or those born to parents who are HIV positive. These children demand our attention, as they not only face emotional challenges as a result of their HIV status but also financial burden due to their parents' illness or death. All these can cause extreme psychological distress.

I had the opportunity to visit a shelter home, Rumah WAKE, this year organised by the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) and I was touched by the love and care the children are receiving at the home. I am proud of the efforts made by the MAF and the caregivers at the home to make them feel an integral part of society. Besides giving them the emotional support they need, the children are also getting the education they deserve which will ensure them a better future.

It is vital that we protect the rights of these children and allow them to lead normal lives. This can be



STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL

I note the progress that we as civil society have achieved in our collective response to HIV/AIDS over the past 25 years, with immense reassurance that it will continue to be guided by evidence, science and pragmatism, with respect for the human rights and dignity of key affected populations at its core.

The Malaysia National Strategy on HIV/AIDS 2011 - 2015, drafted by the Ministry of Health to replace the previous National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS which expired at the end of 2010, laid the foundation of our efforts in 2011 to control the spread of HIV in key affected populations. In it, we are reminded of our common goal to reduce new HIV infections by 50% by the end of 2015. A strong emphasis is placed correspondingly on the role of civil society to ensure the effective use of limited resources on which our responses operate.

In 2011, the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) was aggressive in our pursuit to advocate for change in the socio-legal environment that has impacted negatively on drugs-related HIV programming. A nationwide series of Harm Reduction sensitisation and training workshops for high-ranking Royal Malaysia Police officers was conducted in hopes of building the capacity of law enforcement officials to appreciate evidence-based public health approach in the management of drug use. With the help of Open Society Foundation, we were able to learn from Portugal – a country that has a proven track record of an effective drug control mechanism through its decriminalisation of drugs. We hoped to influence Malaysian drug policy makers who were invited to the study visit, to review existing policies so that they would be conducive to effective HIV prevention.

We applaud our *HIV & Islam* programme partner, the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM), for openly embracing the *mak nyahs* (transgender women), a community greatly affected by HIV, in all their diversity. We are hopeful of the positive impact that the unprecedented Mukhayam programme would have on improving the livelihoods of *mak nyahs* who are bereft of

employment opportunities. We also believe in its power to influence the minds of the masses and other Islamic religious authorities towards greater understanding and acceptance of *mak nyahs*.

On the programmatic response front, in 2011 we were successful in reaching out to 23,000 more people from key affected populations nationwide with HIV/AIDS education, prevention, treatment, care and support services – thanks to the hard work and resilience of our Partner Organisations. We also welcomed two large-scale projects in 2011 – the Malaysia Global Fund Round 10 and the Alliance Community Action on Harm Reduction – both of which would collectively contribute towards the Malaysian government's sustained effort to provide comprehensive HIV prevention services for injecting drug users and sex workers. We are also confident that both initiatives would take us closer to the 80 per cent coverage of HIV services mark that is integral to reversing the epidemic.

However, as we celebrate our achievements and close the first 25-year chapter of our HIV/AIDS history book, we must be cognisant of the challenges that lie ahead of us. The increasing trend of sexually transmitted HIV, which constitutes about 55 per cent of all new cases in 2011 (six per cent more from the previous year), is of utmost concern. Efforts to address risks and vulnerabilities associated with sexual transmission of HIV must be intensified; they must start with challenging damaging attitudes and beliefs and structural barriers that impede access to HIV prevention, especially for key affected populations. Operationally, programme sustainability and resource mobilisation are areas that frequently affect the civil society response to HIV/AIDS. In a volatile donor environment, particularly now, we must look within ourselves for the resources, resolve, and drive to continue our work; and reduce our dependency on donor's assistance. *That which does not kill us makes us stronger.*

We owe much of our success to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, JAKIM and other ministries and government stakeholders; the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, Global Fund, and other international partners and donors; M·A·C Cosmetics, Maybank Malaysia, Hard Rock, Tesco Stores Malaysia, Shell Malaysia, Sime Darby Berhad, and our other corporate donors and partners; members of the press and other media practitioners; Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters; the Executive Committee of MAC; the Board of Trustees of Malaysian AIDS Foundation; and staff members and volunteers of MAC and Partner Organisations. Your continued support, tireless commitment to and undying support for the cause are truly the driving force towards *Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination, and Zero AIDS-Related Deaths.*

TAN SRI MOHD ZAMAN KHAN

STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION

It was a year of more promising scientific breakthroughs for HIV, the most notable of which was the 052 clinical trials conducted by HIV Prevention Trials Network. "Anti-retrovirals (ARVs) reduced the risk of heterosexual transmission of HIV by 96 per cent," concluded the study, signalling new tidings for the future of clinical management and prevention of HIV – a tidings that resoundingly supports the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF)'s continued commitment to increasing universal access to HIV treatment, particularly for the underserved segments of Malaysian society.

It was also a year of "reinvigoration" for the MAF. In response to donor fatigue and the tough financial climate, we "rebranded" the twelve-year old Medicine Assistance Scheme, aimed at providing access to second-line ARVs for underprivileged Malaysians, as PAL Scheme. "Positive Audacious Living", from which the acronym PAL derives, is the message with which we wish to regenerate the interest of potential donors of the Scheme: HIV treatment is a sound, if not responsible, investment for positive human capital growth and development as people living with HIV who receive proper ARV treatment may now improve their health, lead meaningful lives, contribute to society and give birth to HIV negative babies. The Scheme has over the years disbursed RM 3.3 mil worth of medicines and other assistance to our beneficiaries and we certainly would like to give more.

In our other bid to "reinvigorate" the corporate sector response to HIV, we organised the first ever Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV Forum. Participants – comprising representatives from large businesses and corporations, the public health sector and other stakeholders of the HIV response in the country – recognised the threat that HIV/AIDS poses on productivity and profitability, pledged to put HIV/AIDS on the business agenda, and discussed cost-effective and sustainable ways forward. We at the MAF may definitely anticipate greater corporate sector involvement in the coming years, judging by the degree of this renewed enthusiasm.

In 2011, we continued to strengthen existing partnerships and forge new ones. We were deeply honoured to be once again made a charity partner of the Standard Chartered KL Marathon's "Run for a Cause". We also partnered with NTV7 on the "Feel Good Run", L'Oréal Malaysia on "Hairdressers against AIDS Charity Haircut Drive", A Cut Above Hair Dressing Academy on "Cutathon 8 Charity Haircut Drive", Menara KL on "World AIDS Day Fundraiser", Maybank on "Maybank Treats Fair", and Ecoba Restaurant & Bar on "The Big Fest – Raise Your Voice". It gives me great pleasure to announce that, through these innovative ways of mobilising resources, we raised between us more than RM 200,000 to benefit women and children living with or affected by HIV, as well as the PAL Scheme. We thank all of you for your efforts and hope our collective achievements will inspire others to contribute to our cause.



We would also like to express our most heartfelt gratitude to Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia and L'Oréal Malaysia for the continued support for the Paediatric AIDS Fund and Keep in School Scheme (KISS) respectively; and to Abbott Laboratories (M) Sdn Bhd for making the PAL Scheme launch a success. To Chevron Malaysia, Johnson & Johnson Malaysia, Rampai Niaga Sdn Bhd and our other corporate allies, to name but a few; thank you very much for continuing your journey to a society free from the negative impact of HIV/AIDS with us. I would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank my fellow Board of Trustees and the MAF secretariat for the hard work and dedication, and the Malaysian AIDS Council team for the much appreciated support.

The road to our common goal of *Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS-Related Deaths* is, indeed, paved with insurmountable challenges; however, science coupled with our own perseverance will get us there!

PROF DR ADEEBA KAMARULZAMAN

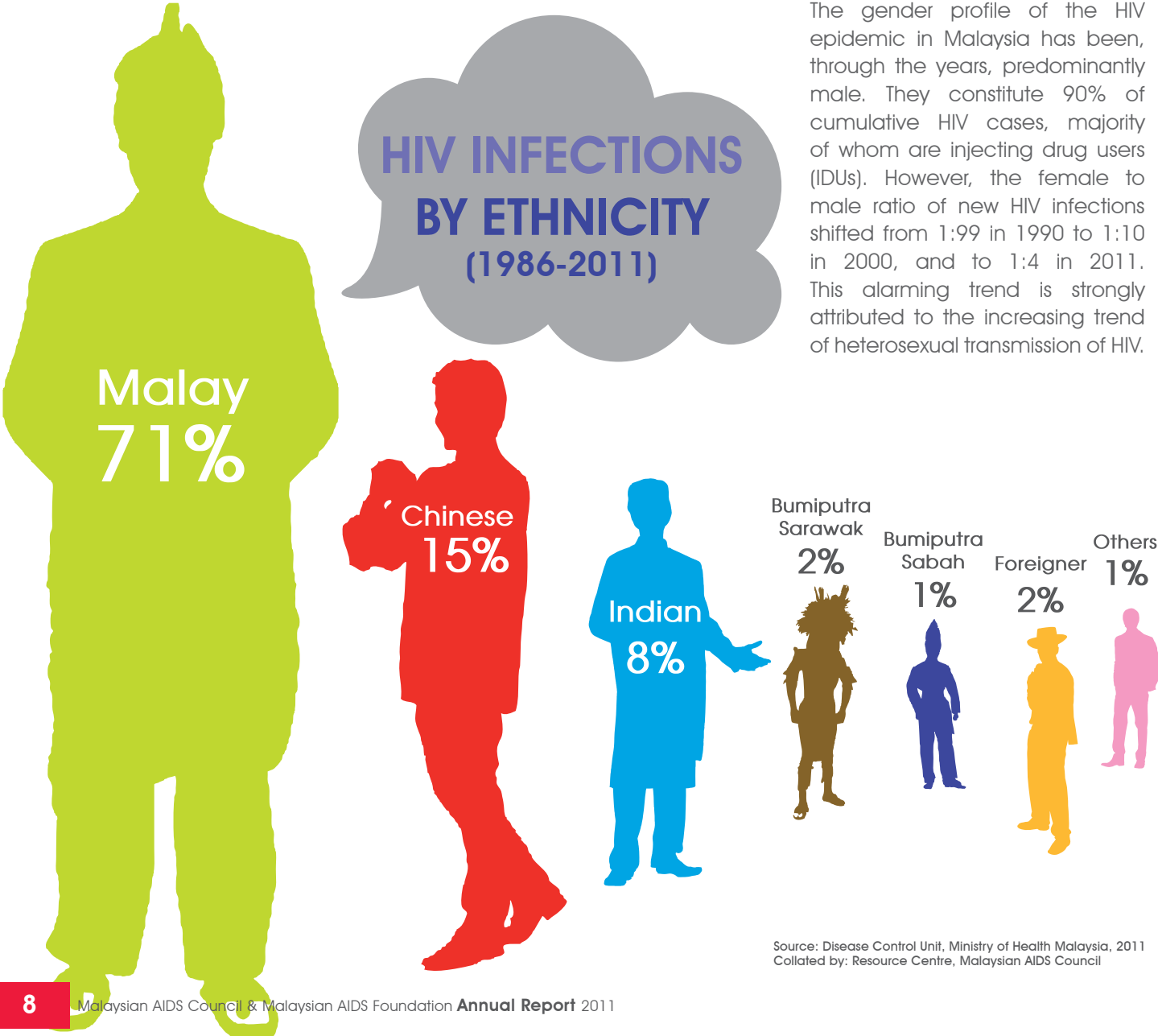
OVERVIEW OF HIV & AIDS IN MALAYSIA

Since HIV made its debut in this country 25 years ago, Malaysia has had a cumulative figure of 94,841 HIV and 17,686 AIDS cases. A total of 14,986 deaths due to AIDS-defining conditions have been reported, thus making the number of people living with HIV in this country, 79,855, as of December 2011.

In 2011, there were 3,479 new HIV infections notified to the Ministry of Health, giving an average of nine new cases each day. The national HIV incidence rate in 2011 was 12.2 cases per 100,000 persons. Figures for both new infections and incidence rate continue their declining trend from previous years.

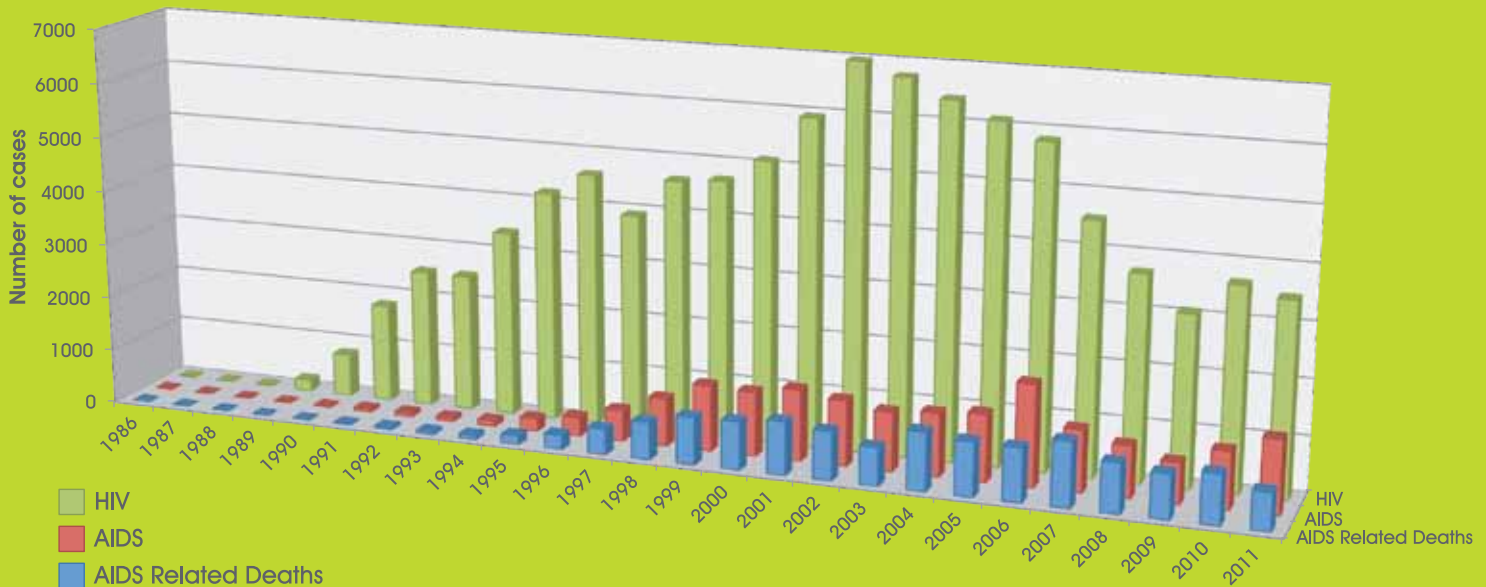
The gender profile of the HIV epidemic in Malaysia has been, through the years, predominantly male. They constitute 90% of cumulative HIV cases, majority of whom are injecting drug users (IDUs). However, the female to male ratio of new HIV infections shifted from 1:99 in 1990 to 1:10 in 2000, and to 1:4 in 2011. This alarming trend is strongly attributed to the increasing trend of heterosexual transmission of HIV.

HIV INFECTIONS BY ETHNICITY (1986-2011)



Source: Disease Control Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia, 2011
Collated by: Resource Centre, Malaysian AIDS Council

THE MALAYSIAN HIV EPIDEMIC (1986-2011)



Source: Disease Control Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia, 2011
Collated by: Resource Centre, Malaysian AIDS Council

Sexual transmission (hetero, homo and bisexual collectively) continues to surpass transmission via drug-injecting route in terms of the number of new HIV cases. In 2011, for every four cases of HIV reported in IDUs, six others were reported due to sexual transmission. Compared to ten years ago when infection through the drug-injecting route made up 70-80% of all new reported HIV cases, this proportion declined to 38.7% in 2011. This trend is indicative of the country's future HIV epidemiological landscape – one that will be driven by sexual transmission.

With respect to geographical distribution, there is quite a distinct trend in transmission mode over

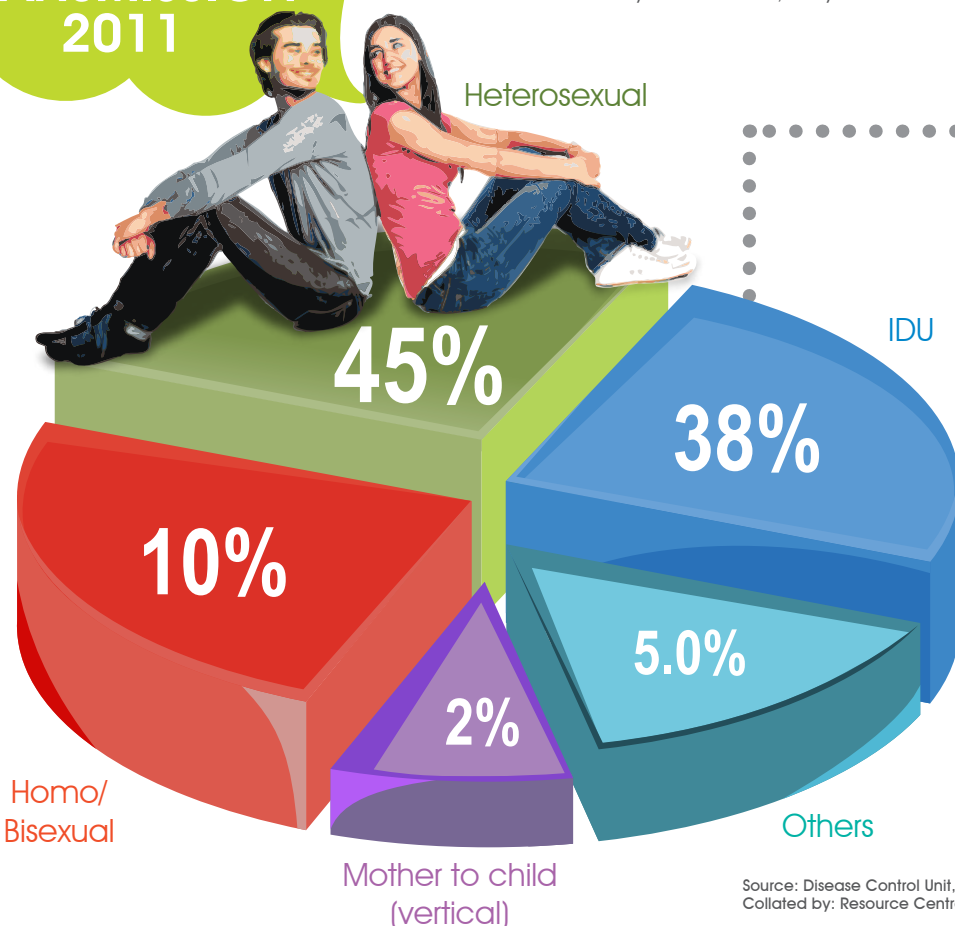
a period of ten years in the states of Malaysia. It appears that while the HIV epidemic in some states, especially in the eastern region (Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan) of Peninsular Malaysia remains driven by injecting drug use, some states in the northern (Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Perak) and southern regions (Negeri Sembilan, Melaka and Johor) have experienced the shift to a sexual transmission driven one. The same is also observed in the central region states of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur. HIV in the East Malaysia states of Sarawak, Sabah and Labuan, on the other hand, has always been predominantly driven by sexual transmission from the beginning of the epidemic.

TOTAL NUMBER OF HIV CASES & AIDS RELATED DEATHS REPORTED IN MALAYSIA (1986 until 2011)

Factor	Classification	HIV Infection Total = 94,841	AIDS Cases Total = 17,868
Sex / Gender	Male	85,347	15,613
	Female	9,494	2,073
Age Groups	< 2 years	137	88
	2 - 12 years	837	163
	13 - 19 years	1,350	262
	20 - 29 years	31,303	3,247
	30 - 39 years	40,732	7,623
	40 - 49 years	15,464	4,366
	> 50 years	4,044	1,690
Ethnic Groups	No Data	974	247
	Malay	67,370	10,459
	Chinese	13,858	4,420
	Indian	7,437	1,370
	Bumiputra Sarawak	2,348	339
	Bumiputra Sabah	882	281
	Others	517	158
Mode of Transmission	Foreigner	1,893	638
	No Information	536	21
	IDU	65,028	9,561
	Blood receiver	40	20
	Organ receiver	0	3
	Homo/Bisexual	2,405	647
	Heterosexual	17,893	5,544
Sector / Occupation	Mother to child (vertical)	902	233
	No Information	8,573	1,678
	Unemployed	17,371	5,073
	Government staff	821	230
	Student	381	84
	Uniformed bodies	714	165
	Fisherman	3,463	441
Mode of Transmission	Factory worker / Industry	6,185	801
	Private sector staff	1,971	1,143
	Sex worker	618	96
	Housewives	3,594	755
	Long distance driver	2,344	455
	Others	31,631	5,071
	Odd Jobs	25,748	3,372

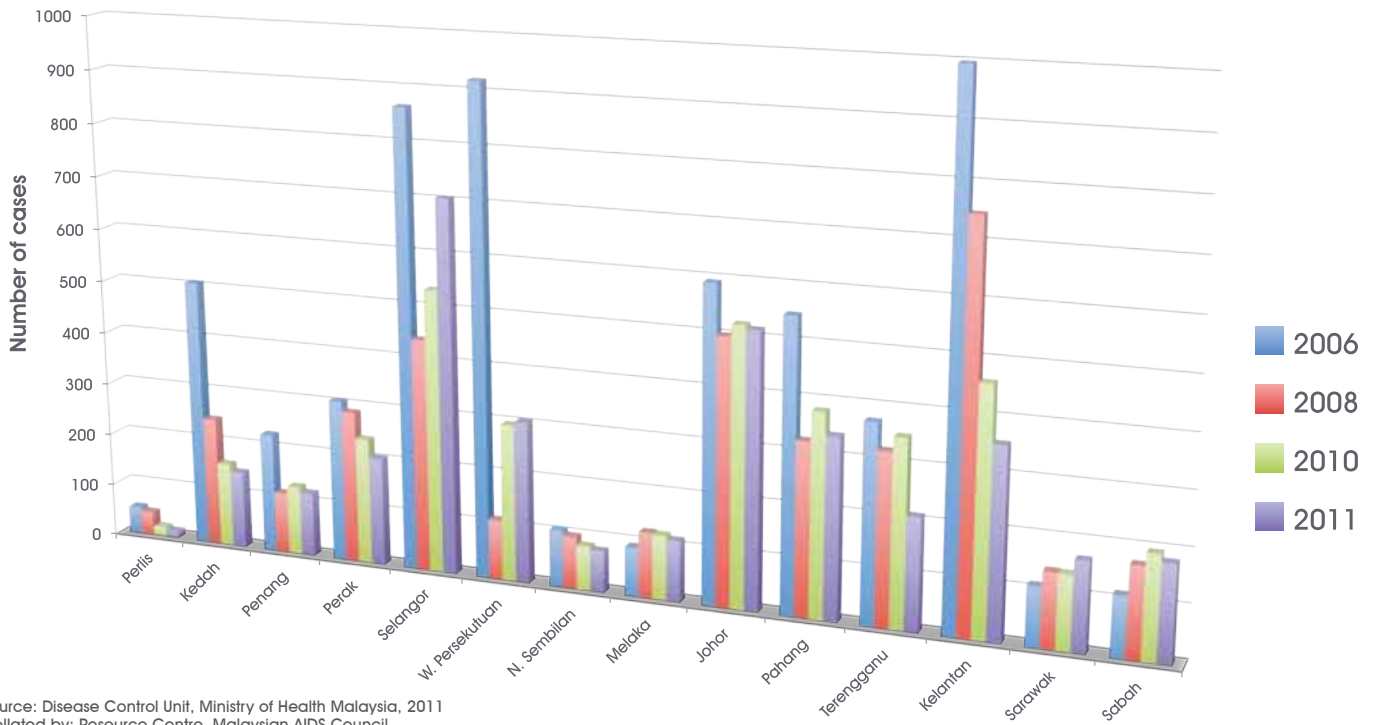
Source: Disease Control Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia, 2011
Collated by: Resource Centre, Malaysian AIDS Council

HIV CASES BY MODE OF TRANSMISSION 2011



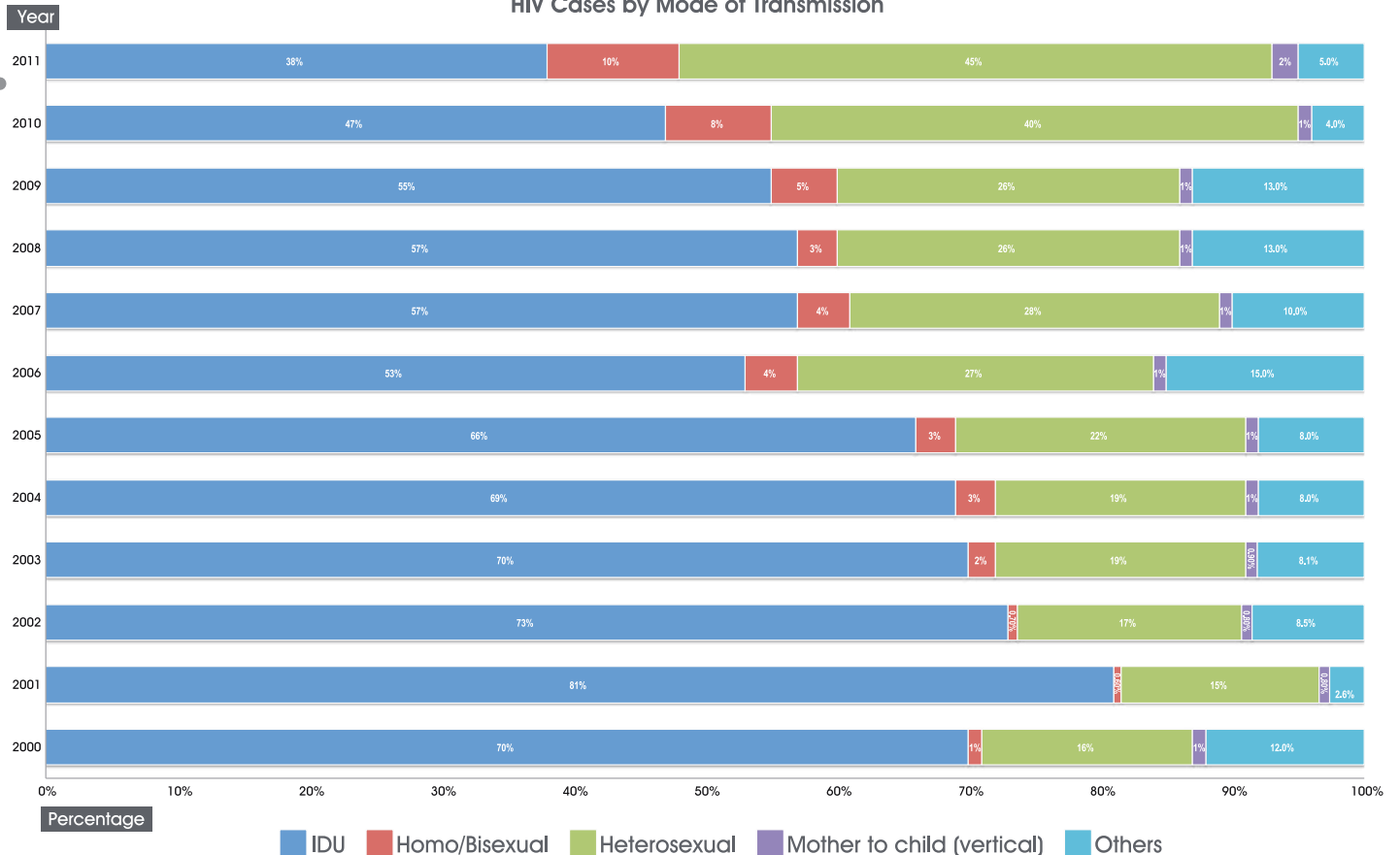
Source: Disease Control Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia, 2011
Collated by: Resource Centre, Malaysian AIDS Council

HIV INFECTIONS BY STATE (2006-2011)



Source: Disease Control Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia, 2011
 Collated by: Resource Centre, Malaysian AIDS Council

HIV Cases by Mode of Transmission



MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL OVERVIEW



The Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) was established in 1992 to serve as an umbrella organisation to support and coordinate the efforts of non-governmental and other organisations working on HIV and AIDS issues in Malaysia. MAC works in partnership with government agencies, the private sector and international organisations to ensure a committed and effective community-based response to the HIV epidemic.

OUR VISION

Is a society free from the negative impact of HIV and AIDS, where the HIV epidemic is under control through comprehensive prevention, treatment, care, support and impact alleviation services particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalised populations.



MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010 - 2012



TAN SRI MOHD
ZAMAN KHAN
President



MR HISHAM HUSSEIN
Vice President



MR KEN WOO KIN FAI
Honorary Treasurer



MS YEAP MENG CHEE
Assistant Honorary
Secretary



DR ILIAS ADAM YEE
Honorary Secretary



PROF DR ADEEBA
KAMARULZAMAN
Exco Member



DR SORAYA
DATO' SERI AZMI
Exco Member



PROF DR ADEEBA
KAMARULZAMAN
Exco Member



MS KHARTINI SLAMAH
Exco Member



MR KHALID HASHIM
Exco Member



MR SRI A.
RAJARETINAM
Exco Member

STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY

Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC)-led advocacy initiatives in 2011 were guided by the Malaysia National Strategy on HIV and AIDS 2011 – 2015 (draft). Under *Strategy 4: Maintaining and improving an enabling environment for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support*, MAC identified priority areas (see below) in its HIV advocacy response with the hope of establishing and maintaining an enabling public policy and structural environment that aim to reduce HIV stigma and discrimination; respect human dignity, gender and sexuality; and is supportive to HIV programmes and interventions.

Harm Reduction Advocacy

- Harm Reduction sensitisation and training workshops for the Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) were conducted across Malaysia covering the northern (i.e. Langkawi), central (Kuala Kubu Bharu) and southern (Muar) zones. Senior police officers and representatives from the National Anti-Drug Agency (AADK) received education on harm reduction programmes in Malaysia. The series of workshops also advocated for a drug policy environment that is supportive and conducive to effective HIV programming.
- Open Society Foundation funded a study visit to Portugal for MAC to learn from drug control authorities and civil society there about the success of Portugal's decriminalisation of drug use. Best practices shared from the visit would form the basis for furthering harm reduction and drug policy reforms in Malaysia. The study visit was additionally attended by politicians and high-level officials from relevant stakeholder ministries.



HIV & Islam

- In a move to improve the livelihoods of Muslim *mak nyahs* (transgender women) lacking social support to obtain employment, and to ultimately reduce the vulnerability to risks associated with HIV infection in this population, the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) collaborated with MAC and Dagang Halal, a halal food product and service enterprise, to organise two Mukhyyam employment training programmes for *mak nyahs* in Negeri Sembilan and Pahang. The *mak nyah* community and civil society responded positively to the Mukhyyam programme for its respect for and acceptance of gender diversity.
 - HIV & Islam Manual Training Workshops were carried out in Pahang and Kelantan to educate state Islamic religious council officials and imams (clerics) on HIV/AIDS issues.
 - Selangor State Islamic Religious Council (MAIS) led the International AIDS Memorial Day 2011, the third annual Islamic memorial observance, held at the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah Mosque. MAIS Chairman, Dato' Setia Hj Mohammad Adzib Bin Mohd Isa, affirmed the religious council's pledge to extend financial assistance to underprivileged people living with HIV in the state through the tithe trust fund (zakat), "irrespective of their gender, age or how they acquired the virus", in his keynote speech. Mass Quranic recitals, prayers and religious sermons were offered to remember the
- more than 12,000 Malaysians who died of AIDS.
- A HIV/AIDS seminar, which culminated in a recording of popular Islamic religious television talk show, *Forum Perdana Hal Ehwal Islam*, was held at the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in Penang. It was a collaborative venture comprising partners JAKIM, USM, MAIS, MAC and the Penang State Islamic Religious Department.





Improving Media and Creative Responses to HIV Stigma

- The Media Retreat & Sensitisation Workshop, to enhance the capacity of print and electronic media practitioners in fair, just, accurate and responsible HIV/AIDS journalism, was held at the Tanjong Jara Resort, Terengganu. Senior representatives from seven leading media agencies in the country participated in the two-day workshop, which culminated in site visits to the Marang Prison, a vegetable farm run by the local community of People Living with HIV and the Baitul Cakna shelter home for single mothers and children living with or affected by HIV.
- *Living Positively*, a collection of real-life monologues told by people infected and affected by HIV, was staged at the Hilton Kuching, Sarawak, as part of the World AIDS Day 2011 celebration. Close to 500 guests attended the event, who were also treated to musical performances by Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters, Bob Yusof and Dayang Nurfaizah.



Community Systems Strengthening

- The Kuala Lumpur AIDS Support Service Society (KLASS) partnered with MAC to conduct the first ever Empowerment Workshop exclusively for Tamil-speaking people living with HIV (PLHIV). Over 30 participants took part in this two-day programme that enabled them to identify the specific needs of and address issues faced by the Tamil-speaking PLHIV community. A framework to mobilise an active and systematic network amongst them was formulated, and a bona fide Tamil PLHIV support group formed.



Enabling Environment for HIV Treatment

- AIDS was included in the Employees Provident Fund (EPF)'s list of critical illnesses, alongside 16 others, under the broadened health withdrawal scheme. The revision was made so as "to ease the financial burden of [EPF] members in seeking immediate, necessary medical treatment," explained EPF Chief Executive Officer, Tan Sri Azlan Zainol. The Malaysian AIDS Council and civil society partners welcomed this move as it eliminates another barrier to greater access to AIDS treatment for EPF members living with HIV and their families.

Corporate Social Responsibility

M•A•C Cosmetics

M•A•C Cosmetics, through its M•A•C AIDS Fund, contributed RM 400,000 to Malaysian AIDS Council and partners to run three shelter homes and the Empowerment media resource person skills building workshop series. A cheque presentation ceremony was held at the Permai Rainforest Resort in Kuching, Sarawak, in conjunction with the World AIDS Day celebration with children and families living with and affected by HIV.



Maybank Treats Fair

A total of RM 45, 845 was raised through sales of auction items during the Maybank Treats Fair 2011 to benefit the Malaysian AIDS Foundation's PAL Scheme – a medicine assistance scheme aimed at improving access to second-line anti-retrovirals.

Maybank Berhad & Hard Rock Café Kuala Lumpur

partnered with MAC to stage Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporter Dayang Nurfaizah's *Sayang & Cahaya* Showcase fundraiser. The show raised RM 20,000 through corporate partner contribution and proceeds from the sale of show tickets and specially-crafted *Sayang & Cahaya* mocktails, in aid of MAC's treatment, care and support programmes for women and children living with HIV.

Shell Gas (LPG) Malaysia's partnership with the Malaysian AIDS Council via the gas cylinder sponsorship entered its second year, having grown from a pilot project in four shelter homes in the Klang Valley in 2010 to a total of twelve shelter homes nationwide in 2011.

Tesco Stores Malaysia

MAC forged a strategic partnership with Tesco Stores Malaysia, through which MAC was offered the use of the Tesco Training Academy facilities to conduct trainings, workshops, meetings and other activities.

Media Prima Berhad, through a yearlong media partnership with MAC, dedicated a substantial amount of airtime (news, talk shows, magazines and public service announcements) on its television and radio channels to highlight HIV & AIDS issues.



RED RIBBON CELEBRITY SUPPORTERS

Photo credit: Rafils Muhamed



Thirteen celebrities and media personalities known as the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC)'s Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters continued to lend their voices and talent, to influence public opinion about HIV & AIDS and spread messages of hope, care and compassion, through the mediums of popular culture.

IN 2011

- DAYANG NURFAIZAH raised RM 20,000 through her *Sayang & Cahaya* Showcase for MAC's treatment, care and support programmes
- FAHRIN AHMAD spoke about compassion and charity in Islamic religious discourses about HIV & AIDS
- FAIZAL TAHIR launched the PAL Scheme and urged corporate citizens to invest in its goal of ending the HIV treatment access crisis
- AANANTHA & UTHAYA motivated the Indian community of people living with HIV to speak up and stand tall through the Tamil Empowerment Workshop
- BOB YUSOF educated the audience of the World AIDS Day stage show *Living Positively*, on modes of HIV transmission, in his hometown of Kuching, in his native tongue of Bahasa Melayu Sarawak
- ZAINAL ALAM KADIR & SHAH SHAMSHIRI provided extensive media coverage on HIV & AIDS issues afflicting key populations
- JOEY G reached out to urban youths with safe sex messages
- DATIN PADUKA UMIE AIDA empowered women to stand up for their rights to be safe
- OWEN YAP & WINNIE K spoke against prejudice and ignorance to the Chinese community
- DATUK SITI NURHALIZA helped to raise the profile of charity programmes for children living with HIV



AIDS @ 25

A retrospect of 25 years of the Malaysian HIV/AIDS response (1986 – 2011)



- The first case of HIV was reported in Malaysia

1986



- The Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART) was introduced by the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) for clinical management of HIV.

1991



- The Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) – formerly known as *Majlis Badan Bukan Kerajaan Mengenai AIDS* – was established by MOH, as an umbrella body to (then) seven NGOs to spearhead the fight against HIV and AIDS. Datuk Dr Subramaniam was the first President of MAC.

1992

1993



- Two HIV cases were detected in females. These are the first female HIV cases in the country.

1988



- The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) was formed and officially launched by Her Royal Highness, the DYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agung Tuanku Bainun on 13 February 1993.

1994

1996



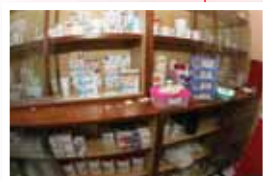
- Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir was elected as the second President of MAC, a position she held until 2005.

1999

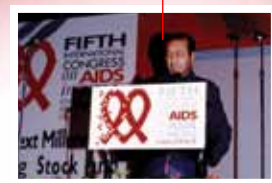


- The Paediatric AIDS Fund, to aid children living with or affected by HIV, was launched.
- The first Red Ribbon Gala was held by the MAF. It has since then become a biennial tradition that serves as a major fundraiser for MAF. The Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Award and the Red Ribbon Media Awards were also held as part of the Gala.

1998



- The Medicine Assistance Scheme, to provide anti-retroviral medicines to underprivileged Malaysians living with HIV, was launched by MAF.



- MAC organised the 5th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP), themed "the Next Millennium – Taking Stock and Moving Forward".



- MOH initiated the "Islam & HIV/AIDS", an advocacy initiative that encourages participation of religious authorities in the national HIV and AIDS agenda, with the support of MAC. This would later be strengthened by the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) as "HIV & Islam".
- "Code of Practice on Prevention and Management of HIV/AIDS at the Workplace" was developed and launched by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia, in collaboration with MAC.



- Prof Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman became the third President of MAC.
- Harm Reduction programme for drug users was fully developed and initiated through a task force of multiple stakeholders. Its services are chiefly the needle & syringe exchange programme and methadone maintenance therapy.
- First line anti-retroviral medicines became accessible at no charge for all Malaysians requiring HIV treatment from government hospitals and clinics.
- The 1st National AIDS Conference was organised by The Malaysian Society of HIV Medicine and the Public Health Physicians of Malaysia.



- MAF was formally incorporated under the Trustees (Incorporation) Act 1952. YABhg Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah Mansor was made Patron.
- "Ride for Life", the biannual charity cycling tour to raise funds for MAF was launched. The inaugural race leg was between Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru.



- Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad pledged RM1.18 million to the Standard Chartered Paediatric AIDS Fund in collaboration with MAF.



- The national level International AIDS Memorial Day observance, a first of its kind, was held at the Masjid Wilayah Kuala Lumpur. Led by JAKIM and MAC, it gathered over 1,000 religious leaders of multiple faiths, key government officials and communities affected by HIV to offer prayers for lives lost to AIDS.
- L'Oreal Malaysia pledged RM150,000 to the Keep in School Scheme (KISS) in partnership with MAF.
- The launch of Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters Programme.
- Through a collaboration with the MOH, MAC successfully conducted an Integrated Bio-Behavioural Surveillance Study on marginalised communities.



- Tan Sri Mohd Zaman Khan became the fourth President of MAC.
- The HIV & Islam Manual, an effort to institutionalise HIV/AIDS education in the formal training of religious leaders, was launched by JAKIM and MOH. It was co-developed by MAC.

2001

2003

2005

2006

2008

2009

2010

2011



- The Malaysia National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2006-2010 was developed by MOH to provide a framework for Malaysia's response to HIV/AIDS over five years.



- AIDS was included in the list of critical illnesses in the broadened Employee Provident Fund (EPF) health withdrawal scheme.

REDUCING HIV VULNERABILITY IN INJECTING DRUG USERS

Strategy 1.1: Prevention of HIV transmission through the sharing of needles and syringes

of the Malaysia National Strategy on HIV and AIDS 2011 – 2015 (draft) recognises the urgency of sustaining and scaling up existing comprehensive prevention interventions, i.e. needle and syringe exchange programme (NSEP) and methadone maintenance therapy (MMT), in the injecting drug user (IDU) population.

The Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) and its Partner Organisations continued to carry out and expanded the NSEP to two new sites in 2011, bringing the total of NSEP sites nationwide to 19. This includes the unique site that provides gender-sensitive services to women, friends and partners of IDUs in Kuantan called Persona Grata Wanita run by Drug Intervention Community (DIC) Pahang, also introduced in 2011. With 8,904 new clients registered in 2011, the NSEP has cumulatively served 33,344 IDUs over the past six years of its implementation.



In 2011

One NSEP client received an average of 6.38 NSEP kits per month

A total of 261,743 meetings with clients were conducted by field workers through outreach activities and personal interactions

There was less interference by the authorities as a result of harm reduction advocacy efforts.

Islamic religious authorities, especially the Department of Islamic Development (JAKIM), became more involved directly in harm reduction programming.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) report, "Good Practices in Asia" acknowledged the decline of HIV infection notifications in IDUs in Malaysia from 79.6% in 2001 to 47.6% in 2010. The same publication also recognised Malaysia as a hub of learning and technical support for harm reduction programming, particularly the NSEP.

Achievements and Coverage of the NSEP in Malaysia in 2011

COMMODITIES							
NSEP kits (needles and syringes combined) distributed	Loose needles distributed	Loose syringes distributed	Needles returned	Syringes returned	Return rate		
433,035	333,488	92,899	1,350,832	1,134,263	64%		
REFERRALS (No. of clients)							
No. of NSEP sites	Health care	Voluntary counselling & testing	Drug treatment	MMT	Welfare & legislation	Others	
19	514	890	77	342	233	66	
SERVICES (No. of clients)							
Counselling	Basic healthcare	Personal	Safe injecting education	Safe sex education	Printed material resources	Condoms	Others
7,216	85,304	48,037	182,342	37,851	10,942	57,619	2,913



IMPROVING ACCESS TO TREATMENT, CARE & SUPPORT

Shelter Homes

A large proportion of the HIV funds for the Treatment, Care & Support Programme conducted by the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) and its Partner Organisations went to the management of shelter homes for men, women and children living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. These shelter homes provide relief to people living with HIV who are bereft of family care and support and faced with the challenge of social marginalisation. In a residential setting that is conducive for emotional and physical well-being and growth, the shelter homes are each complemented with access to anti-retroviral (ARV) medicines, basic nursing and palliative care, medical referrals, and psychosocial and spiritual support services.

IN 2011

- The Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) funded 16 shelter homes under the care of MAC and Partner Organisations nationwide (see below)
- Additional funds were also received from the M•A•C AIDS Fund (M•A•C Cosmetics) to run the KASIH shelter home in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
- A combined total of 766 beneficiaries were served through the MAC shelter home programme

LIST OF SHELTER HOMES FUNDED BY THE KPWKM IN 2011

Rumah Solehah 1 & 2 home for children & women HIV+	Casa Harapan home for HIV+ women & children	WAKE 2 home for HIV+ women	Welcome Community Home home for PLHIV
Rumah CASP home for PLHIV	Casa Femina home for IDU partner HIV+ women	WAKE 3 home for HIV+ & affected transgender	Baitul Cakna Wanita home for HIV+ women & children
CasaVilla DiC home for HIV+ men	Faith Helping Centre home for HIV+ men	Rumah Dignity 1 home for HIV+ men	Rumah Petros home for IDU HIV+
Casa Non Kasta home for IDU+	WAKE 1 home for HIV+ children	Rumah Dignity 2 home for HIV+ women	Rumah Kepercayaan home for women IDU HIV+

Hospital Peer Support

The other key activity that complements MAC's Treatment, Care & Support Programme is the Hospital Peer Support. Peer educators deliver outreach services to hospital clients who require information and education about ARV treatment and adherence, emotional management and healthy living with HIV.

IN 2011

- The Hospital Peer Support Programme reached out to 4,102 hospital clients living with HIV and their families and friends.
- Eight (8) Partner Organisations in six (6) states participated in the Hospital Peer Support Programme throughout Malaysia (see below).

Hospital Peer Support Programme in Malaysia in 2011

Penang – CASP	Perak – PKI
Klang Valley – PTF; KLASS; MTAAG	Johor – ILZ
Terengganu - CAKNA	Sabah - KASIH



ALLIANCE COMMUNITY ACTION ON HARM REDUCTION (CAHR)

Community Action on Harm Reduction (CAHR) is an ambitious project that aims to expand harm reduction services to more than 180,000 people who use drugs, their partners and children in five countries, i.e. China, India, Indonesia, Kenya, and Malaysia.

The programmes are being implemented by a consortium of Linking Organisations of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance:

1. Alliance China
2. International HIV/AIDS Alliance in India
3. Rumah Cemara, Indonesia
4. KANCO, Kenya
5. **Malaysian AIDS Council**

In Malaysia, CAHR aims to significantly improve the delivery of HIV prevention and harm reduction services to injecting drug users (IDUs) and their beneficiaries. The programme will introduce new activities designed to increase the reach and quality of harm reduction interventions, as well as enhance the services provided within existing programmes funded by the Government of Malaysia. The programme also aims to guide key national stakeholders towards improvements of policies and regulations as well as development, introduction and consistent application of evidence based standards guiding the delivery of harm reduction and HIV prevention services for IDUs and their beneficiaries.

Over the course of four years, CAHR initiatives will introduce four (4) new sites, four (4) expansion sites and four (4) pilot projects. Parallel to programmatic activities, a series of advocacy and capacity building efforts have been planned and commenced since its implementation in 2011.

CAHR Malaysia Project Sites in 2011

NEW SITES	EXPANSION SITES
1. Pusat Khidmat Pendamai Johor	1. PT Foundation
2. Persatuan Perantaraan Pesakit-Pesakit Kelantan (Sahabat Jeli)	2. Pertubuhan Komuniti Intan
3. Kelab Sahabat Meta Bahau	3. DiC Pahang (Kuantan)
4. Pertubuhan Komuniti Cakna Kuala Terengganu (Hulu Terengganu)	4. Kelab Rakan Melaka

IN 2011

- 2,269 IDUs were covered with CAHR-supported services, 44 of whom were women
- Behaviour Change Communication Workshop for CAHR outreach workers was conducted
- Meeting with relevant stakeholders, to develop a strategy to integrate key public health and sensible drug policy issues into the national law enforcement curriculum, was initiated



GLOBAL FUND ROUND 10

INCREASING COVERAGE OF PACKAGE OF SERVICES TO INJECTING DRUG USERS AND SEX WORKERS

Malaysia signed its first Global Fund grant in May 2011 – the first 'single stream funding' grant to be signed in 2011 by the Global Fund secretariat – to receive USD 5.6 million for Phase 1 of programme implementation beginning July 2011 through December 2013. The Global Fund is the world's largest financier of anti-AIDS programmes that supports more than 600 programmes in 150 countries.

The Global Fund grant contributes towards the Malaysian Government's sustained effort to provide HIV prevention services for injecting drug users and sex workers.

As Principal Recipient of the grant, the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) oversees the programme implementation through 11 Partner Organisations, which serve as Sub-Recipients by establishing 20 service delivery sites across Malaysia. A Project Management Unit, based at the MAC secretariat, was set up in mid 2011 to facilitate this process. Within the two key affected populations, the programmes were built upon a combination of outreach work and stakeholder sensitisation.

IN 2011

- 392 sex workers (232 *mak nyah* and 160 female) and 354 injecting drug users received our services.
- A total of 99 field workers were recruited and trained in programme and financial management as well as outreach skills.
- The package of services provided to our programme beneficiaries consisted of distribution of condoms, sterile injecting paraphernalia and education materials; basic medical services; psychosocial support; education on safe sex, sexual reproductive health and safe injecting, self-assessment of risk, and HIV screening tests.



REDUCING VULNERABILITY OF HIV TRANSMISSION THROUGH UNPROTECTED SEX

The Malaysian AIDS Council strengthens the capacity of its Partner Organisations to deliver appropriate sexual and reproductive health services and education to key populations that are vulnerable to sexual transmission of HIV, i.e. sex workers (SWs), men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender people (TGs). In line with *Strategy 1.2: Prevention of HIV transmission through unprotected sex* of the Malaysia National Strategy on HIV and AIDS 2011 – 2015, MAC and its civil society partners in 2011 also continued to address socio-cultural and legal barriers and other challenges which prevent the efficient and effective delivery of HIV prevention services to the aforementioned key populations.

IN 2011

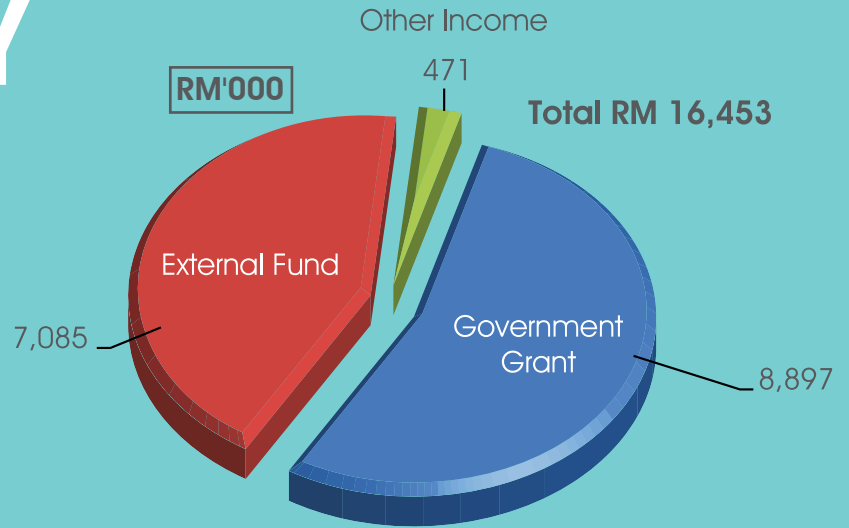
- A total of 4,854 SWs were reached through 44,754 contacts
- An additional 465 non-SW transgender women were reached with safe sex education and commodities, through 2,154 contacts
- 1,698 MSM were reached through 13,601 contacts
- 483,201 condoms and 256,659 lubricants were distributed to SWs, MSM and TGs
- A total of 1,837 community-based voluntary HIV counseling and screening tests were conducted on key populations in Kuala Lumpur and Penang
- The MSM Borneo community network-building project was launched through the M•A•C AIDS Fund (M•A•C Cosmetics), covering 300 MSM in Sabah and Sarawak



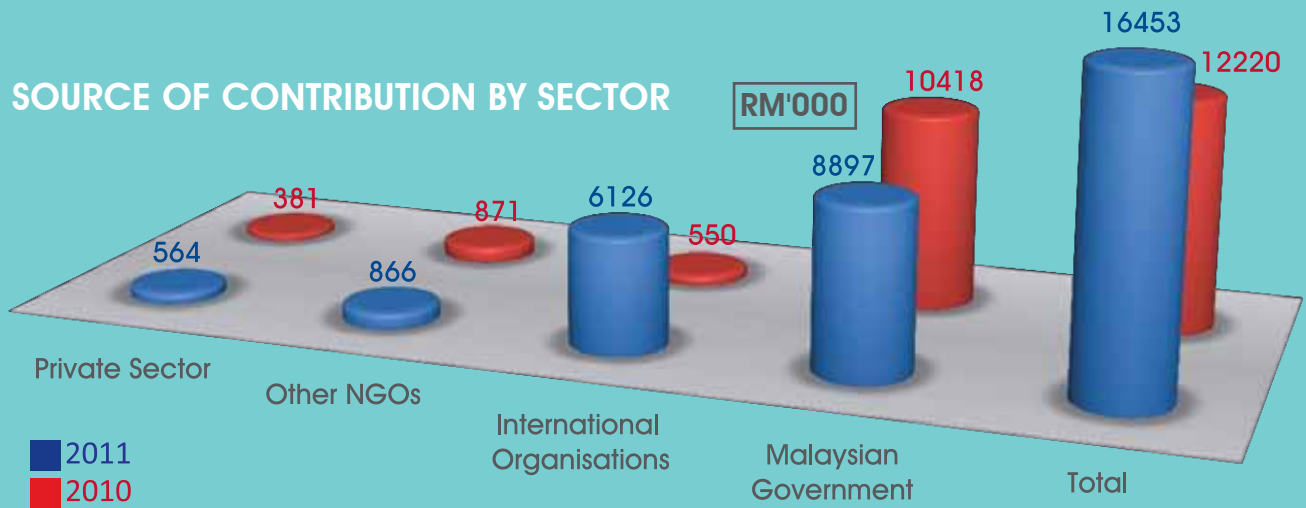
MAC FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL REPORT

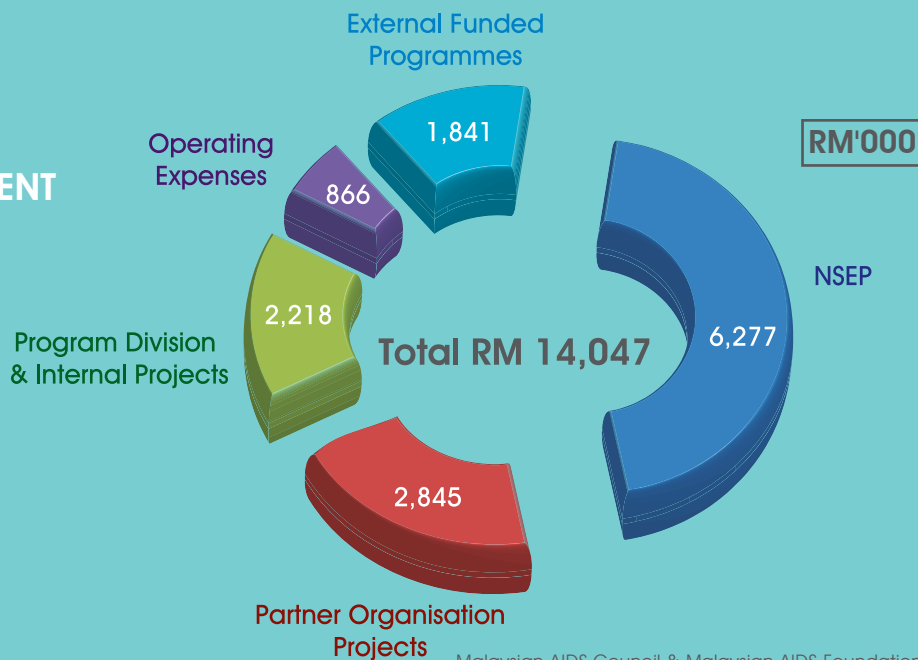
INCOMING RESOURCES



SOURCE OF CONTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



HOW WE SPENT



MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION OVERVIEW



The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) raises money and manages funds to support the activities of the Malaysian AIDS Council and its Partner Organisations. MAF was initially set up to raise and administer funds to:

- Prevent the spread of HIV in Malaysia
- Increase public awareness and knowledge on HIV issues
- Support Malaysians living with HIV, including women and children orphaned or made vulnerable by AIDS
- Protect the rights of people living with HIV who may face discrimination due to their HIV status



MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2010 - 2012



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MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011



PATRON'S VISIT TO WAKE SHELTER HOME

On 12 May 2011, in conjunction with the International AIDS Memorial Day, Patron of the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah Mansor, visited the WAKE Shelter Home in Setapak to meet and interact with children who are infected and affected by HIV. The simple yet meaningful visit brought cheer to 30 children from the WAKE, Rumah Solehah and POSHE shelter homes.

During the visit, the Patron had the opportunity to have a closer glimpse into the lives of the children and activities at the shelter home. Children and guests were treated to high tea, as well as a performance by children from WAKE. The excitement of the day was when the children were presented with goodie bags, courtesy of Tesco Malaysia Bhd, by Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah.

In her speech, Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah Mansor urged that prejudice towards children and young people living with HIV should be set aside as they have the rights to lead their lives as normally as possible.

CUTATHON 8 CHARITY HAIRCUT DRIVE

Cutathon 8, a charity drive initiated by A Cut Above Hair Dressing Academy, was held at Sunway Pyramid from 4 to 6 March 2011 to raise funds for the Malaysian AIDS Foundation. Students from the Academy provided haircuts at a special rate of RM10, as well as makeovers that included hairdo, makeup and photo shoot for the public.

Trustees Tan Sri Mohd Zaman Khan and Mr Ralph Dixon jointly launched the event alongside representatives from A Cut Above Academy, members of the Board of Trustees for the Malay Mail Care Fund and senior management of The Malay Mail.

The presence of three Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters – Dayang Nurfaizah, Joey G and Aanantha – generated greater excitement at the event whose other highlight were the HIV awareness quizzes. The charity drive raised RM 10,200 and the proceeds were entirely channelled to PAL Scheme.

L'OREAL HAIRDRESSERS AGAINST AIDS CHARITY HAIRCUT DRIVE

To commemorate the 10th Anniversary of its Hairdressers Against AIDS programme, L'Oreal Malaysia's Professional Products Division, in collaboration with the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, organised a charity haircut drive from 25 to 27 November 2011, at 1 Utama. Five L'Oreal artistic ambassadors and participating salons provided haircuts for only RM15 to the public.

Celebrities such as Jojo Struys, Genevieve Sambhi, Chermaine Poo, Daphne Iking and Nadine Ann Thomas lent their hand to support this charitable cause. Proceeds raised from this drive totalling RM 45,000 would benefit children infected and affected by HIV throughout the country.

MALAYSIAN BUSINESS CONSORTIUM ON HIV/AIDS FORUM

The Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV/AIDS (MBCH) conducted its first ever Business Forum on HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention, dedicated to “connecting the corporate sector in the fight against HIV/AIDS”. Held at the Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur on 12 December 2011, the Forum was attended by over thirty representatives from large businesses and corporations, the public health sector and other stakeholders of the HIV response.

Participants used the Forum as a platform to exchange information, share best practices and key learning experiences as well as pool HIV/AIDS resources. Similar business initiatives at the regional level were also discussed, which served to inspire participants to improve coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders in the country. The Forum culminated in a roundtable discussion that helped to identify key business priority areas in the HIV/AIDS response, and cost-effective measures to sustain them.



PAL SCHEME LAUNCH

On 21 June 2011, the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) unveiled the Positive Audacious Living Scheme, or PAL for short, a rebranding of the Medicine Assistance Scheme programme aimed at providing access to second-line anti-retroviral medicines for underprivileged Malaysians living with HIV.

The ceremony, held at the Tesco Academy in Bandar Manjalara, Kepong, was co-officiated by Prof Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Chairman of MAF and Faizal Tahir, Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporter cum spokesperson of the PAL Scheme.

The PAL Scheme rebranding was made possible through the generous contribution by Abbott Laboratories (M) Sdn Bhd.





STANDARD CHARTERED KL MARATHON

For the second year running, the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) was named one of the charity partners of the Standard Chartered KL Marathon's *Run for A Cause* held on Sunday, 26 June, 2011 at Merdeka Square.

Its primary objective was to raise funds for many of Malaysian charities so that they could focus on what they do best - caring for and serving the underprivileged. *Run for a Cause* was a platform for runners to raise money for charity partners of their choice.

Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters, Zainal Alam Kadir and Joey G, were appointed as MAF spokespersons for the cause. MAF Trustee, Mr Ralph Dixon, meanwhile, ran in the 42 km category. Proceeds from *Run for a Cause* worth more than RM 37,400 benefited children infected and affected by HIV under the care of the MAF.

ntv7 FEEL GOOD RUN RM 36,000

The *ntv7 Feel Good Run*, held on 3 July 2011, at Sri Pentas, in conjunction with the television station's 13th anniversary was to raise funds for various charity beneficiaries, one of which was the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF).

The sporting event saw the participation of close to 5,000 runners in various categories, including the 7km Feel Good Run, Costume Fun Run and the fun-filled 700m Kids Run. The highlight was the 3km Run with Celebrities where fans were treated to a rare sight of their favourites such as Nazrudin Habibur Rahman, Aishah Sinclair, Jehan Miskin, Jaclyn Victor, Daphne Iking, Joanne de Rozario, Leslie Chai, Debbie Goh, Dynas Mokhtar and Cheryl Samad sweat it out for a good cause.

A street carnival atmosphere filled with game stalls, cheerleading performances, street dance and entertainment by various local artistes permeated the Feel Good Run. Charity partners also set up booths to create awareness on their individual causes.

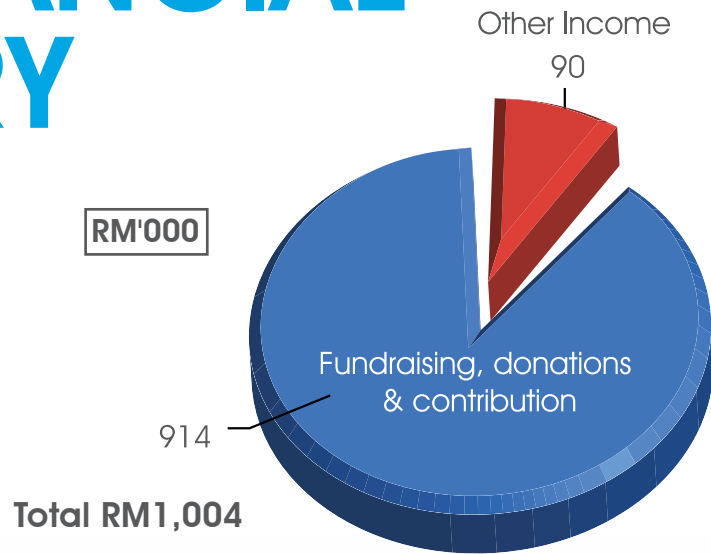
The *Feel Good Run* raised more than RM 36,000 to benefit MAF's PAL Scheme.



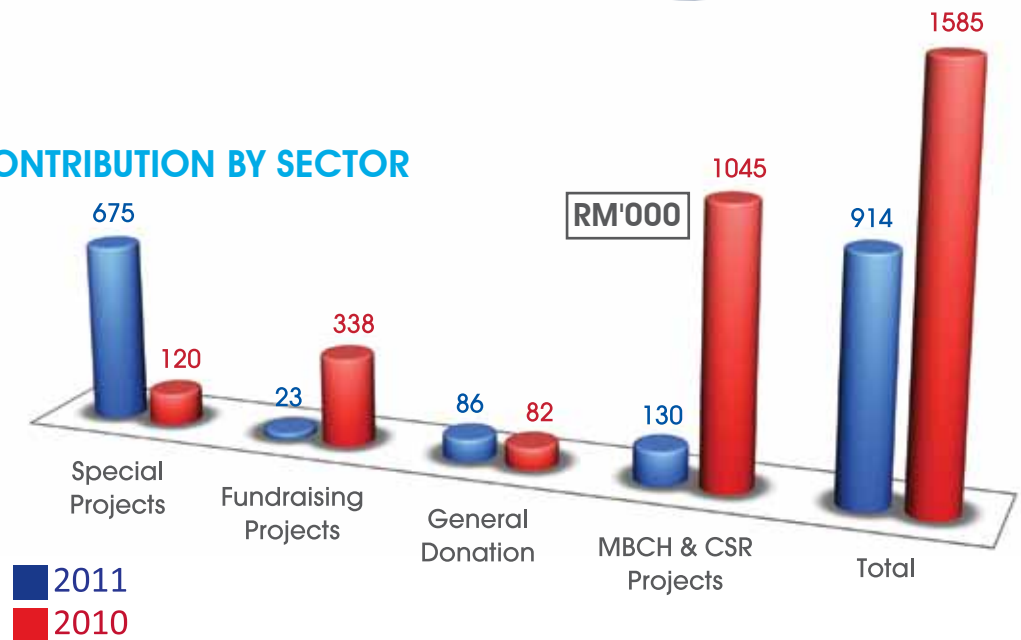
MAF FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL REPORT

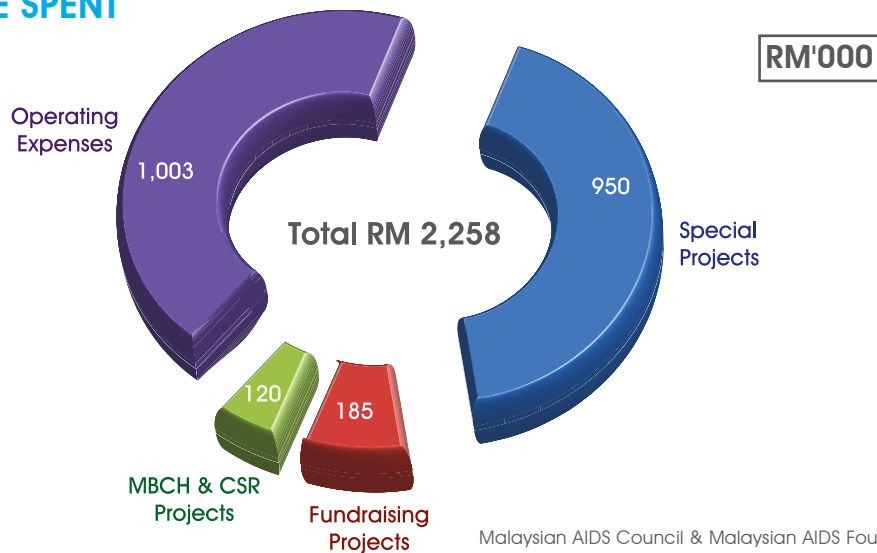
INCOMING RESOURCES



SOURCE OF CONTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



HOW WE SPENT







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