

COOPERATION

# Nations pledge to work more closely in fight against diseases

By LI YINGQING  
in Mangshi, Yunnan  
and WANG XIAODONG  
in Beijing

China pledged more intensified cooperation with Bangladesh, India and Myanmar to cope with the spread of infectious diseases over their borders at the first forum on disease control and prevention between the four countries that concluded on Saturday.

The forum was held in Mangshi, a city in southwest China's Yunnan province, which shares borders with Myanmar, a country with one of the highest rates of HIV in Asia. Yunnan is one of China's less-developed areas and also one of the worst-hit by the disease. The border areas of the four countries are also areas with higher incidence of infectious diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and cholera.

Reports in June said that Chinese scientists in Yunnan had discovered a new strain of HIV with a complex structure. The strain derived from a blood sample of a Myanmar truck driver traveling across the Myanmar-China border in Yunnan, according to researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

China, Bangladesh, India and Myanmar are all developing countries with geographic proximity, and they cannot defeat threats caused by transborder infectious diseases alone. Gao Feng, deputy governor of Yunnan province, said at the opening ceremony of the forum on Friday.

"The purpose of the forum is to improve communication and cooperation mechanisms on health and disease control and prevention between the four countries and improve their ability to jointly cope with public health threats," he said.

The forum was followed by a

**87,000**  
people

or more in Yunnan province are living with HIV/AIDS as of the end of October, experts say.

four-day training session from Sunday to Wednesday provided by Chinese health experts on the prevention and control of infectious diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, hepatitis and AIDS. About 200 grassroots health workers from the four countries are attending the training.

The number of people in Yunnan living with HIV/AIDS exceeded 87,000 as of the end of October, ranking at the top in China, and more than 90 percent of the new cases reported this year were transmitted through sex, according to Yunnan's Bureau on HIV/AIDS Control and Prevention.

The number of HIV cases among foreigners living or working in Yunnan's border areas has also continued to increase in recent years, the bureau said.

The population of China, India, Bangladesh and Myanmar accounts for nearly half of the world's total population, and it's urgent to improve prevention and control of infectious diseases across their borders, said You Jing, a professor of infectious diseases at Kunming Medical University.

The countries should increase cooperation, including in health-care education, research and in disease prevention and control, to increase their ability to fight infectious diseases, she said.

Contact the writers at  
liyingqing@chinadaily.com.cn and  
wangxiaodong@chinadaily.com.cn



Cold climate

A herdsman guides his horses in snow-covered grasslands in Xilingol League, Inner Mongolia autonomous region, on Saturday. The grasslands have been heavily hit by snowstorms since last month, which has deprived animal herds of their regular source of food. Snow reached an average depth of around 10 centimeters.

JIA LIJUN / XINHUA

HEALTHCARE

# Delay 2nd baby, experts say

Contraception advised after childbirth to avoid unwanted pregnancies and reduce abortion risks

By SHAN JUAN  
shanjuan@chinadaily.com.cn

Senior family planning experts warned that a low awareness of contraception immediately following childbirth might undermine Chinese women's efforts to have a healthy second baby.

The optimal birth interval is two to three years, according to the World Health Organization. Shorter birth intervals are associated with adverse health impacts for the mother as well as for the baby, including greater risks of low birth weight and premature birth.

"Women in China, however, lack the knowledge, and unwanted pregnancies usually end with an abortion, which might make it harder for a woman to have a second baby," said Cheng Linan, honorary chairwoman of the Chinese Society of Family Planning, at an

awareness-raising event on post-abortion care hosted by Bayer HealthCare and the China Women's Development Foundation.

She said that Chinese women now have limited access to postpartum contraception counseling and services, as current family planning tasks are focused on newborn health.

In a recent survey in Beijing, more than 72 percent of the women surveyed said they wouldn't start taking contraceptives until three months after delivery.

But a regional survey showed that about 11 percent of Chinese women who gave birth aborted an unwanted pregnancy within one year after delivery. Put another way, among all abortions within a given period of time, 23 percent were for women who gave birth shortly before.

"That affects women's fertility, particularly among those already in their mid 30s or older," Cheng said.

She urged women to initiate contraception in the very early postpartum period to prevent pregnancy.

Due to improved nutrition, Chi-

nese women ovulate on average 45 days postpartum and among some nonbreastfeeding women it could be as early as 25 days, data from the society showed.

In addition, women need to plan their second birth scientifically, said Gao Lihong, a doctor with Jiaying Maternity and Child Health Care Hospital.

International data show that a birth interval of more than two years reduces the maternal and neonatal mortality by 32 and 10 percent respectively.

According to the National Health and Family Planning Commission, the average age of a Chinese woman giving birth to her first child is 28 years.

Gao said it's important to prevent unwanted pregnancies and abortions; otherwise it can be harder for a woman to conceive again in her 30s.

China has more than 10 million abortions each year, and more than half of those are repeats.

Cheng put reproductive advice for women simply: "Don't give birth too early, too frequently or too late."

“Unwanted pregnancies usually end with an abortion, which might make it harder for a woman to have a second baby.”

Cheng Linan, honorary chairwoman of the Chinese Society of Family Planning

**10 million**

Number of abortions each year in China, more than half of which are repeats

International Education Column If you are interested in our special education column, please contact: i.education@chinadaily.com.cn

When it comes to financial outlooks, **YOU CAN'T BEAT THIS VIEW**

**STEVENS**  
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY  
School of Business

**MBA**  
**BIG DATA**  
**FINANCE**

Graduate programs at the School of Business leverage our expertise in data, analytics, finance and leadership to create problem-solvers looking to drive enterprise-wide change.

And our location across from New York City puts Wall Street and Fortune 500 firms within easy reach.

[stevens.edu/business/chinadaily](http://stevens.edu/business/chinadaily)

# TARGET

Market to the right  
**TARGET**

**Hong Kong PolyU Postgraduate Programmes**

- ↑ MSc in Management (Human Resource Management)
- ↑ MSc in Management (Public Sector Management)
- ↑ MSc in Marketing Management

Enquiries  
(852) 2766 7381 / 2766 7952  
mm.msc@polyu.edu.hk  
[www.polyu.edu.hk/mm](http://www.polyu.edu.hk/mm)

Online application [www.polyu.edu.hk/study](http://www.polyu.edu.hk/study)  
Application deadline:  
1 March 2016 for MSc in Management (Human Resource Management) and MSc in Marketing Management  
29 April 2016 for MSc in Management (Public Sector Management)

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
Department of MANAGEMENT & MARKETING  
IDEAS Faculty of Business

HOW DOES THE CHICAGO APPROACH™ HELP BANKS NAVIGATE WHEN CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT?

Banks Baker has made a career of leading media organizations into the digital future. There's no playbook and the market is moving in milliseconds. See how Banks has made The Chicago Approach his own.

[ChicagoBooth.edu/impact](http://ChicagoBooth.edu/impact)

**CHICAGO BOOTH**  
CHICAGO LONDON HONG KONG

Make The Chicago Approach your own

**The Choice of World Leader**

A prestigious university in Taiwan and one of the best research universities in the world, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) holds comprehensive programs in humanities, science, engineering, management, social sciences, planning and design.

NCKU is

- Selected as top-tier university by Taiwan ministry of education
- Ranked as Cooperate Favorite in Taiwan consecutively since 1993
- Ranked TOP 1% in Industry Income performance worldwide

**成功大學**  
National Cheng Kung University  
[www.ncku.edu.tw](http://www.ncku.edu.tw)

Ranked #1 in Austria  
University Survey & Trends Graduate Barometer

**why not study at the top?**  
Undergraduate · Graduate · Executive · Corporate · Online

Apply now!  
**MBA online**  
[www.mci.edu/mbs-online](http://www.mci.edu/mbs-online)

Business · Management · Innovation · Law  
Communication · Tourism · Social · Health  
Engineering · Technology · Life Sciences · IT  
Learn more: [info@mci.edu](mailto:info@mci.edu), [www.mci.edu](http://www.mci.edu)

THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOOL®  
MCI MANAGEMENT CENTER INNSBRUCK

**International MBA in Brazil**  
**FIA Business School**

Make all the connections in a high potential market and accelerate your career.

São Paulo, Business Capital of Brazil

China is Brazil's biggest trade partner. Study and network where Chinese companies have interests in food, mining, energy, autos and technology. International MBA accredited by AMBA in London. FIA Business School, 5 stars in São Paulo - Brazil.

"The International MBA at FIA, one of the best business schools in Latin America, offers me a valuable opportunity to understand Brazil, its economy, industry, and markets, as well as the relationships between Brazil and the world. One highlight of the program is the well organized study tour to Silicon Valley (USA), with lectures by Owen Business School (Vanderbilt University), and visits to companies such as Starbucks, Amazon, Microsoft, IDEO and Google. The tour intensifies my knowledge learned and insights gained throughout the MBA studies, that I believe will benefit my future career development."

Yijin Li - International MBA student

[www.fia.com.br/internationalmba](http://www.fia.com.br/internationalmba)

ACCREDITED BY AMBA  
2014  
FIA