

Strategy 4: Support & Linkages

Strengthen support and linkages to achieve the three objectives.

Includes:

- a. Advocacy, social mobilization & communication
- b. Outbreak preparedness and response
- c. Measles in an emergency setting
- d. Research and development

Verification Commission and Committees

- South-East Asia Regional Verification Commission (SEA-RVC) established in March 2016
 - Met twice: August, 2016 and April 2017
- Regional Framework for verification of measles elimination and rubella/CRS control developed
- All countries have a functional National Verification Committee
 - Either as a standalone committee or as part of the National Certification Committee for Polio Eradication.

Key conclusions of the SEA-RVC (April 2017)

*“Following an extensive review, the SEA-RVC verifies **Maldives and Bhutan** as having eliminated endemic measles”*

“SEA-RVC categorizes the remaining countries of the Region as endemic for measles”

“SEA-RVC acknowledges the Member States for the high-level commitment shown by the governments, national EPI and surveillance programs, measles-rubella laboratory network and all concerned stakeholders for measles elimination and rubella/CRS control in the Region and identified this as the key to achieving the Regional Goal of 2020”

Mid-term Review of SEA-MR strategic plan:2014-2020

- *Cautious optimism that significant progress has been made across Member States*
- *Elimination campaign has gathered critical momentum and national governments and sub-national units are committed to this regional goal*
- *However, current levels of functioning not enough to achieve intended targets by 2020. Member States shall need to shift gears to achieve the regional measles elimination and rubella control goals*