



## SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

### Update on Major Activities in April 2008

#### General

April witnessed both a new national election and the start of the 2008-09 UK financial year. Advisers and partners engaged in an intensive period of individual and collective work planning including support to FHD for finalisation of its draft budget for 2008-09.

#### Output 1: Equity and Access (EA) (including AAN and JHU/CCP)

- Options Managing Director Mr. Todd Petersen, SSMP Team Leader Ms. Wilda Campbell, and EAP Team Leader Dr. Bharat Devkota made a two day monitoring visit to Chitwan.
- Options' Social Development Specialist Deborah Thomas reviewed the Equity and Access Programme including travelling to Myagdi and Parbat districts. Her draft visit report has been submitted and circulated for comments.
- The SSMP Equity and Access Adviser participated in a first meeting of a high level MoHP Planning Committee and attended FHD's Regional SMNH Review meeting in Mid-western Region.
- The EA Adviser, SDIP Adviser and JHU/CCP staff prepared an SDIP communications strategy. The intention is to embed SDIP information into promotional materials and identify new media including radio and TV programming. Diaries and calendars have already been produced for distribution in May.
- Further BCC related inputs included develop a strategy for the Community-Based Newborn Care Package and a review of the SMNH Behaviour Change Communication Strategy (2002).
- EA programme staff and partners prepared work plans and budgets for the year. A particular focus is being placed on sustainability of impact. EAP also engaged in a "Participatory Review and Reflection Process" with partners in four hill districts.
- JHU/CCP supported the EAP in finalising localised posters for use at DDC and VDC level and scripts for mini-dramas featured in the *Aama* radio programme. Four episodes were aired in the months and discussions held with various listeners' groups.
- Various BCC materials including an album of SMNH songs (Myagdi) were disseminated. *Lok Geet* competitions were organised on the occasion of *Chaita Dashin* festival in Parbat district.
- EAP worked with the Nepal Red Cross Society to support a blood donor registration campaign in Dailekh.
- JHU/CCP supported pre-testing of newborn and PNC images in Morang district and gathered images to support SDIP promotion efforts. It further worked with EAP to carry out Interpersonal Communications Training for government health workers in EAP districts.

#### Output 2: Service strengthening

- A three day FHD review meeting for Regional Coordinators was held. Work challenges reported included SDIP implementation and monitoring, public auditing, tracking home deliveries, Infection Prevention (IP) practices, GoN restrictions on field visits (not more than 7 days) and SBA training needs. Typical practical difficulties reported included: difficulties accessing office telephones, computers and email, no furniture in the office and poor availability of transport for field visits.
- FHD provided guidance on several key issues including contracting ANMs to make PHCCs functional; rapport building between the DHO/PHO and focal person, including combined supervision visits, the use of SBA trained staff to update district profiles including private and NGO sites and BEOC/CEOC sites and services.



- FHD's Service Delivery Group discussed IP training in HPs and PHCCs. A recommendation was made for IP training needs to be forwarded from partner districts to NHTC which would then arrange the necessary training. The meeting further discussed needs based service monitoring and the carrying out of client exit interviews.
- UNICEF requested that EOC monitoring indicators training should be provided for private hospitals of Banke districts, based on the Public Private Partnership workshop conducted by Bheri Zonal Hospital
- A "Flex Flow Chart illustrating clinical protocols and IMPAC on six life threatening complications was prepared and will be distributed to all birthing centers, hospitals and training sites.
- Draft referral guidelines were prepared in consultation with EAP which is willing to help pilot in its working districts.
- A format for collecting SMNH district information during regional reviews was prepared with FHD.
- Message content for newborn care was finalised with NHEICC.

### ***United Mission to Nepal (UMN) (2 districts)***

- Utilisation of services continue to increase in all health facilities.

### **Mugu**

- Coordination and meeting with DHO and HP in-changes for MNH programme and SBA training of ANM
- Action plan review and support to Dhungedada, Sreekot and Natharpu HP
- Facilitated management meeting at Dhungedhara and support for documentation of staff recruitment
- Two days management training for Dhungedada HFMC members
- Support MCDC (NGO) partner to write a proposal for community MNH programme in three VDC of Mugu
- Discussion on possible change in Mugu MNH programme to focus more at community level

### **Rupandehi**

- IP refresher training carried out at Dhakdai PHCC
- Needs assessment carried out at Rudrapur SHP
- Coordinated RHCC meeting
- Planning carried out with DPHO for 2007-08 activities
- Met with HFMCs of Motipur and Rudrapur
- Supported Motipur PHCC for staff recruitment
- Coordinated SBA training at Lumbhini Zonal hospital

### ***UNICEF (8 districts)***

### **Central level**

- Contracted Mr Nara Bahadur Karki, Appreciative Inquiry (AI) Facilitator, to work with the programme from end of April providing technical back up at district review and planning workshops, AI refresher ToT and development of manuals.
- Finalised ToR for MNH Consultant for Saptari and Udayapur who will join from the May
- Presented findings from KAP baseline survey at BCC working group meeting
- Coordinated with NHTC and FHD for CTS for the trainers from four SBA training sites to be supported by UNICEF and followed up on SBA training planned for Gynaecologists
- Requested procurement of training equipment for four SBA training sites based on the needs of SBA training site assessment.



- Finalised and disseminated to all MNH consultants contents of 4-day review and technical update/refresher training organised for peripheral level SNs, ANMs for strengthening 24 hours quality delivery services and MCHWs of SHPs to make PHC/ORC functional.

#### Districts

- **Humla:** Coordinated with DHO to submit the financial report with activities' progress report for budget released at the end of 2007
- **Bheri Zonal Hospital, Banke:** Collected data related to caste analysis of EOC service utilisation during 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY 2064/65. Supported RHD team preparations for RH regional review meeting and attended meeting. Supported quarterly breakthrough team meeting.
- **Dang:** Courtesy visit to newly appointed Medical Superintendent at District Hospital. Monitoring and supervision visits to 3 PHCCs, 4 HPs and 1 SHP. Collected data on EOC service users at the hospital for DAG mapping.
- **Jumla :** Conducted radio listeners group facilitation orientation programme and began airing the radio drama serial "jeevanko jimewari". Supported health workers' training on revised HMIS tool at DHO. Incorporated the reporting system related to FCHV's role in maternal and newborn health . Completed district wide FCHV training and conducted monitoring visits. Participated in MNH programme coordination meeting conducted by NFHP and WFP.
- **Achham:** Shared UNICEF draft plan with DDC, DHO, WDO and other concerned line agencies. Completed distribution of MNH training manual to 33 VDC paralegal committees and district resource group. Prepared stretcher distribution completed discussion about airing radio programme jeevan ko jimewari and clarified the concept of the radio programme among DHO, WDO, DEO, DDC, non-governmental organizations and fm station representatives. Shared the MNH monitoring format with health facilities. Updated delivery data for 24 hour delivery sites.
- **Kavre:** Reviewed breakthrough plans of 14 ilaka level health facilities and new action plan made for strengthening ANC, delivery and PNC services and PHC/ORC services. Meeting with Dhulikhel hospital for strengthening referral system. Supported emoc bidhan draft for district and conducted meeting with DHO, CDO and LDO for EOC fund. Monitoring visit to Panchkhal PHCC. Prepared 3 -year database on ANC, delivery and PNC for birthing centres. Prepared equipment list for 24-hour birthing centre.
- **Panchthar, Saptari and Udayapur:** Community level HFMC training on MNH completed (total 385 participants from 11 vdc in Panchthar). Participated in quarterly review of eastern region in Biratnagar. AWP signed in Saptari.

#### **TCIC (Abortion)**

##### Training

- Nurse Provider training up to 8 weeks carried out at Maternity Hospital; 5 providers trained.
- CAC Training carried out at MSI. 1 batch completed: 4 Sr. Ob/Gyn trained as providers. This is a partnership programme with NESOG, NHTC, FHD and MSI.
- CAC Training carried out for private doctors at Maternity Hospital. 1 batch completed : 6 providers and 4 Nurse assistants trained

##### Advocacy/Policy

- Conducted partners' meeting with IEC/advocacy group
- Conducted partners' meeting with service group
- Conducted Advocacy Workshop on Medical Abortion
- Hosted Ms Liz Maguire, President, CEO, Ipas and Ms Mary Luke, Executive VP, Ipas



### IEC/BCC

- Aired 4 episodes of radio drama on safe abortion
- Supported District Level Orientation Programme at Dhading.

### Listing and Equipment

- Listed 5 new non- government sites
- Linked with private providers to the distributor of MVA (Atlas Trading Concern) for the sales of MVA
- Facilitated LMD to provide MVA for government institutions.

### Monitoring

- Monitored 6 CAC sites (govt-4; non govt -2)
- Tracking performance of 30 trainees

### **Output 3: Public Private Partnerships**

No separate activities under this output, which cuts across the work of other outputs.

### **Output 4: Decentralisation**

No separate activities under this output, which cuts across the work of other outputs.

### **Output 5: Human Resource Development**

- SBA programme orientation and core skills updating was completed and the 5 year training plan is now 75% complete.
- Needs assessments for potential SBA training sites in Surkhet, Nepalgunj and Bardiya were completed.
- The SBA pre-service strategy was completed and curriculum for MBBS, BSc Nursing and MDGP updated.
- The HRD section of government's MNH work plan for 2008-09 was finalised and TA synchronised with FA inputs in the HR adviser's work plan.
- The national midwifery committee was reactivated and TOR prepared. This work is currently ongoing.
- Preparations were made for the arrival of the IntraHealth HR Strategy Development Team in May.

### **Output 6: Information**

- SSMP M&E Adviser worked with Options Specialist Dr. Sarah Barnett to develop ToRs for the forthcoming Maternal Mortality and Morbidity study.
- The methodologies to be used for district selection and implementation of the MMM study were finalised under the leadership of DoHS Director General Dr. Govinda Prasad Ojha.
- Terms of reference for outsourcing the system design for the proposed HSIS were developed by the designated technical working group.
- The M&E Adviser participated in a free care service monitoring framework workshop organised by the DoHS Management Division.



## Output 7: Physical assets

- Site selection was completed for all new BEOC, CEOC and birthing units slated to begin construction in 2008-09. Unfortunately sky-rocketing material costs seem likely to dramatically reduce the construction programme for the year.
- Equipment and instruments for the Maternity Hospital new birthing centre were procured and handed over.
- SBA training materials were handed over to Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital and SBA related instruments handed over to the Proficiency Certificate Level Nursing Campus (PCLNC) in Maharajgunj.
- A tender notice for the supply of training equipment, including manikins and models, to SMNH sites was published in the "Rising Nepal". These items will be purchased by FHD and NHTC using FA funds and following improved procurement guidelines.
- A CD containing data, design drawings and photos of health facilities across the country was prepared and shared with HSR-RTI. While currently in prototype form, this IT product is seen to have considerable potential to MoHP planning and monitoring.

## Safe Delivery Incentive Program (SDIP)

- The long awaited MoHP Financial Management Report and Audit report for 2006-07 was finalised and submitted to the Financial Controller General's Office.
- The SDIP six monthly progress and independent rapid assessment reports (approved by Dr. Suvedi) were finalised and submitted to DfID.
- A "Top Line Findings presentation from the SDIP impact evaluation was presented to SSMP core team members by researcher Tim Powell Jackson.
- An SDIP communications implementation plan was prepared with NHEICC, supported by JHU.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter SDIP funds were released to all districts.
- ToR and a budget for the proposed SDIP National Workshop were prepared and submitted to HSR-SP, which subsequently approved the funding. Discussions were also held with the HSR-SP team to agree the dates, venue and required scientific sessions.
- ToR for the development of SDIP financial monitoring software were finalised and shared with an experienced software Development Company. This will be taken forward in May
- The FHD director prepared an article on SMNH and SDIP, supported by the SDIP Adviser. This was subsequently published in the national Gorkha Patra.
- Evaluation criteria for FHD's proposed "Health Service Supply Environment" study were prepared and a suitable research agency identified.



**SSMP/NEPAL**  
Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme

## List of Acronyms

AAN	ActionAid Nepal
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BEOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
BPP	Birth Preparedness Package
CEOC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care
CFUG	Community Forest User Group
CHD	Child Health Division
CREHPA	Centre for Research in Environment Health and Population Activities
DACAW	Decentralised Action for Children and Women
DoHS	Department of Health Services
D/PHO	District/ Public Health Officer
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
EA	Equity and Access
EASO	Equity and Access Support Organisation
FA	Financial Aid
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteers
FHD	Family Health Division
FP	Family Planning
HMIS	Health management Information System
HSR-SP	Health Sector Reform - Support Programme
IEC	Information Education and Communication
JAR	Joint Annual Review
JHU/CCP	Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health/ Centre for Communication Programs
LMD	Logistics management Division
MD	Management Division
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MSI	Marie Stopes International
MVA	Manual Vacuum Aspiration
NDHS	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
NESOG	Nepal Society for gynaecologists and Obstetricians
NFE	Non Formal Education
NGO	Non Government Organisation
NHEICC	National Health Education Information Communication Centre
NHTC	National Health Training Centre
NSI	Nick Simons Institute
PHN	Public Health Nurse
PNC	Post Natal Care
RH	Reproductive Health
RHCC	Reproductive Health Coordination Committee
SAS	Safe Abortion Service
SBA	Skilled Birth Attendant
SDIP	Safe Delivery Incentives Programme
SEDC	Safe and Effective Development in Conflict
SHP	Sub Health Post
SMNF	Safe Motherhood Network Federation
SMNH	Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health
SSMP	Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme
TC	Technical Cooperation
TCIC	Technical Committee for Implementation of Comprehensive Abortion Care
TUTH	Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital



**SSMP/NEPAL**

Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme

UMN United Mission to Nepal  
UNFPA United Nations Fund for Population Activities  
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund  
VDC Village Development Committee