

SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

Update on Major Activities in November 2008

General

- A major activity this month was the Technical Advisory Group work for the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study, including meetings and field visits with GoN and visiting consultants
- An SSMP partner meeting was convened to work on the draft advocacy booklet and SSMP action plan for the six selected advocacy objectives. The booklet will be distributed to provide guidance and information to stakeholders in a position to support these six issues

Output 1: Equity and Access (EA) (ActionAid)

- Safe motherhood network members, social mobilisers and FCHVs are continuing with household visits, targeting families of pregnant and lactating women who are not group members to inform them about SMNH issues, especially the importance of ANC/ PNC, acting on danger signs and choosing institutional delivery.
- VDC level rights based training/ orientation was organised by EASOs in Morang, Chitwan, Rupandehi, Myagdi for women's groups and network members; also orientation on social inclusion and rights based approaches for VDC secretaries, political leaders, and health institution in-charges, facilitated by district coordinators and EASOs coordinators.
- EASOs organised health cooperative development and fund management training for VDC level SM network representatives in Morang, Chitwan, Nawalparasi and Rupandehi. In Dailekh EASOs conducted network management training for women's networks.
- Leadership development orientation was provided for SM network members in six VDCs in Chitwan, 7 VDCs in Dailekh, 4 VDCs in Nawalparasi; and SMNH orientation for political leaders in Dailekh.
- Legal orientation was organised for network members on women's property rights, domestic violence and other legal issues, in co-ordination with the District Bar Association, Rupandehi.
- VDC level monthly meetings of SM networks and groups continued in all EAP districts to discuss women's rights, emergency fund and transport management, local resource mobilisation, group sustainability. SMNH messages were given to 19 Community Forestry User Groups in Parbat, Myagdi and Nawalparasi.
- Constitution of health cooperatives was developed and shared at a meeting with district stakeholders in Myagdi, to discuss linking groups with local cooperatives.
- Mothers' groups regularly collect emergency fund money from various sources and activities, eg *Deusi Bhailo*, cottage and small industry office, VDC.
- Mass Communication Organisations and EASOs in Baglung, Surkhet, Nawalparasi and Morang completed recording and airing four episodes of *Aama* radio magazine. Four episodes were also through different local FM radio stations.
- Other EASO activities were: distribution of BCC materials (26 VDCs in Parbat and 8,000 people in Dadeldhura), Rs.5,000 funding given to each VDC level network, quiz contests, celebration of ANC day in Chitwan, Parbat, and Myagdi, interactions with radio listeners groups in Nawalparasi

- A three-day workshop was facilitated by the central EAP team to strengthen the RHCC and develop a district RH plan in Parbat.
- Voice sharing meetings organised in Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Parbat and Myagdi
- Joint monitoring and supervision by network and HFMC members in Parbat and Myagdi and Nawalparasi. Participatory Review and Reflection Process and Social Audit organised in Dailekh.

Central

- A series of briefing sheets is being developed, providing a glimpse of different aspects of EAP's work and the outcomes.
- Joint meeting with NHEICC to discuss continuation of *Aama* radio magazine and re-airing of up to 10 episodes from EAP funding followed by continuation through NHEICC's budget.
- NHEICC signed an agreement with radio Nepal and Nepal television to develop and broadcast SMNH radio and television programmes throughout the country. SSMP will provide technical backup.
- NHEICC conducted district level meetings with D/PHO and other stakeholders to clarify the process of continuing *Aama* radio programme through FA.
- Technical support was provided to FHD for development of terms of reference for an NGO to manage the future EA programme and preparation for district selection.
- Consultancy outputs finalised: (1) community led video supported by Alison Reffell (Undercurrents), (2) EAP review report by Deborah Thomas (Options) and (3) JHU/ CCP review report by Dr. Dibyaman Karmacharya.
- Drafted terms of reference for the KAP and institutional delivery utilisation survey
- EAP recruited a new Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.

Output 2: Service strengthening

- Followed up mobile phone referral activities in Solukhumbu
- Supported FHD in developing terms of reference for medical colleges to provide support to CEOC sites, which were forwarded to the Director General for approval
- Supported FHD in developing guidelines for local hire of MDGPs at CEOC sites
- Attended the Technical Advisory Group meeting for Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study, and presented needs assessment tools for CEOC and BEOC sites. Facilitated district visit for group members to observe and monitor the quality of field activities for the study and provided feedback to the study team.
- Facilitated FHD in conducting AI training of trainers for district focal persons in the mid and far west regions and reviewed district level time plans for activities.
- Discussed with UMN implementation of Mugu and Rupandehi programmes in response to the current situation and auditor's report

United Mission to Nepal (UMN) (2 districts)

Rupandehi

- Review and planning at Dhakdai PHCC, Motipur PHCC and Suryapura SHP
- Need assessment of Majegaun HP
- Supervision visit and HFMC strengthening support at all health facilities except Ryapur PHCC
- Supported equipment procurement for Suryapura SHP which is supported by a local NGO

- Coordinate work experience/ exposure (2 weeks) at Lumbhini Zonal hospital for ANMs recruited by HFMCs

Mugu

- Regular supervision and support to the hospital

Central

- Continued discussion about including Lumbhini PHCC in SSMP/ UMN support
- Discussion with SSMP/Options Advisers about the next round of SBA training to be supported by UMN.

UNICEF (8 districts)

- Client exit interviews completed in all districts; a consultant is being contracted for analysis in December.
- SBA training site support: training resumed in November at three sites (Dang, Saptari, Banke) with 10 ANMs with midwifery refresher training at each site, from seven supported districts (Panchthar 2, Udayapur 2, Saptari 6, Dang 6, Achham 5, Jumla 3, Banke 6).
- AI refresher training of trainers in Biratnagar and Nepalgunj: 39 local facilitators in Biratnagar from three supported districts, 42 local facilitators from five supported districts.
- Radio-FM, Ramaroshan in Achham continued airing 20 episodes of the safe motherhood drama serial *Jeevanko Jimmewari*
- Four-day technical refresher training: second batch in Udayapur district (26 participants)
- Linkage of SMNH with HIV/AIDS/ PMTCT: In Achham district through participation in media-training workshop, in Saptari district under the assistance to the Koshi flood victims.
- Support to emergencies: strengthening of 24-hour SMNH services at health centres for people displaced by the Koshi flood.
- Support to the Safe Motherhood bill: incorporation of messages about the bill in the AI refresher trainings and in district review meetings in coordination with SMNF.
- District annual review with partners in all supported districts and central level annual review of the Decentralised Action for Children and Women (DACAW) programme.

TCIC (Abortion)

Training

- Facilitated organisation of one CAC training at MSI (5 MSI doctors and 3 assistants)
- Facilitated organisation of one CAC training at FPAN (4 GoN and 2 FPAN doctors)
- Facilitated organisation of one CAC training for nurse providers at MH (7 nurses)

IEC/BCC

- Conducted review meeting with oriented FCHVs at Bhaktapur district.
- Finalised 6 types of IEC material on medical abortion
- Printed counselling flip chart for 6 districts (one copy per district)
- Translated 26 episodes of radio drama to Maithali language.

Policy/Listing/Drugs and Equipment

- Listed 5 non-government organizations for safe abortion services.
- Linked with CAC providers to the distributor of MVA (Atlas Trading Concern) for promotion of MVA sales.

- Meeting with SBA/CEOC trainers and briefed about the effectiveness of MVA Plus.
- Oriented nursing staff and cleaners of Bharatpur Hospital and local private institutions on cleaning process for MVA equipment.
- Built capacity of the PHNs of Chitwan and Nawalparasi districts on site assessment process for CAC listing.

Monitoring

- Orientated PHNs FPAs and statisticians on CAC monitoring in Western Region
- Supported Seti Zonal Hospital and Bharatpur Hospital development of CAC training centres.
- Prepared a document on Ipas-Nepal to be included in the Annual Report.
- Continued Ipas site and trainee tracking

Medical Abortion

- Facilitated orientation on medical abortion in six piloted districts.
- Supported drafting of curricula on medical abortion training and piloting in Kathmandu (WHO research participants looking at nurse providers and doctors from four piloting hospitals)
- Updated medical abortion training package and provided to the trainers who are going to the piloting districts.

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

- Coordinated and provided technical support for regulation of SBA training for nurses (60 days) at Lumbini Zonal Hospital
- Worked with the IntraHealth consultant to support strengthening of the training quality and assessment of training sites through reorientation and use of the QI self assessment tool.
- Worked with the IntraHealth consultant on development of the caesarean section training package for MBBS doctors.
- Coordinated and supported a technical group meeting to develop the training package and agree on the duration of the advanced SBA (C/ section) course
- Coordinated and worked with consultants translating the references for SBA training.
- Continued work on compiled supplementary reference manual for SBA in Nepali and English
- Worked with IoM and supported the consultant for approval of the MBBS pre-service course updated with SBA core skills. This was endorsed by the IoM faculty board for implementation from November. The MDGP and BSc nursing pre-service curricula were finalised and are about to be implemented
- Supported needs assessment visits by NHTC team to Janakpur, Dang and Makwanpur District hospitals.

- Coordinated and supported strengthening of the SBA training site at the Mid Western Regional Hospital, Surkhet to enable them to start SBA training. Also provided inputs to UNICEF supported sites: Dang district hospital, Sagarmatha Zonal Hospital and Bheri Zonal Hospital

Output 6: Information

- Worked with Dr. Sarah Barnett to prepare a presentation on Verbal Autopsy to the Technical Assistance Group (TAG) for the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study (MMMS).
- Supported and facilitated MMMS District Coordinators' review meeting to discuss progress and problems faced in the study districts and possible solutions.
- Participated in the MMMS TAG meeting with national, international TAG members and invitees. The meeting discussed progress and problems and recommended solutions and way ahead.
- Participated in the Technical Working Group for the Health Sector Information System (HSIS) to discuss the computerisation system.
- Dr. Bal Krishna Suvedi, Director, Family Health Division, Ms. Wilda Campbell, Dr. Shilu Aryal, SM Coordinator, FHD, Dr. Sharad Sharma, Demographer, FHD, Mr. Ajit Pradhan and Mr. Pradeep Poudel, Researcher MMMS visited Sunsari district to supervise the MMMS activities. A meeting was held with the Rector, Obstetricians and medical record staff of BP Koirala Institute of Health Science, Dharan, Sunsari to discuss setting up the maternal death review process and EOC monitoring in BPKIHS as a part of the MMMS. EOC monitoring was carried out and MDR training for BPKIHS staff and Lunkaran Ganga Devi Hospital staff. The team visited the Sunsari DPHO in Inaruwa and met the DPHO and other staff to ensure EOC monitoring will be implemented smoothly in Inaruwa hospital. The team also discussed the mechanism for identifying births and deaths of women aged 12-50 years among the people displaced by flood who are have been relocated in camps.

Output 7: Physical assets

- Supported LMD in organising a workshop for initiation of e-bidding in the health sector
- Supported LMD in developing a standard list of equipment, instruments and furniture for district hospitals, PHCCs and health posts
- Supported LMD in organising a workshop to identify the list of equipment and instruments to be put in the web based inventory system
- Contracted a consultant to support data entry into the inventory system (according to the list developed by LMD) for all district hospitals, DHOs, PHCCs and regional stores in the Eastern Region with training for the data entry operators/ store keepers.
- Gave a presentation on the infrastructure inventory to the MMMS technical advisory group
- Prepared a projection of the total cost required to meet the MDG targets for the next seven years and projection of DFID's share

Output 8: Finance

- Prepared the summary of budget allocated in the red book and approved programmes of each division and checked the differences and errors between the two.

Safe Delivery Incentive Programme (SDIP)

- Supported consultants Tim Ensor and Sophie Witter for arrangement of key informant interviews, field visits, literature search and debriefing meeting, as part of their support to financial costing of SDIP and free delivery
- Supported FHD presentation to the Health Secretary about the new SDIP policy guidelines
- Started administrative process for SDIP with free delivery care policy guideline approval
- Initiated the unofficial translation of revised SDIP policy guidelines
- Supported CREHPA preparation of the draft report of SDIP rapid assessment round II
- Participated in FHD focal persons' regional review meeting in Pokhara
- Supported organisation of a meeting at MoHP to present the progress of SDIP and overview of the technical work carried out by Tim Ensor and Sophie Witter
- Supported FHD in preparing follow-up letters on SDIP progress and dispatched to all districts.

List of Acronyms

AAN	ActionAid Nepal
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BEOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
BPP	Birth Preparedness Package
CAC	Comprehensive Abortion Care
CEOC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care
CFUG	Community Forest User Group
CHD	Child Health Division
CREHPA	Centre for Research in Environment Health and Population Activities
DoHS	Department of Health Services
D/PHO	District/ Public Health Officer
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
EA	Equity and Access
FA	Financial Aid
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteers
FHD	Family Health Division
FP	Family Planning
HMIS	Health management Information System
HP	Health Post
HSR-SP	Health Sector Reform - Support Programme
IoM	Institute of Medicine
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
MMMS	Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study
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
SBA	Skilled Birth Attendant
SDIP	Safe Delivery Incentives Programme
SED	Safe and Effective Development
SHP	Sub Health Post
SMNF	Safe Motherhood Network Federation
SMNH	Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health
SSMP	Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme
TCIC	Technical Committee for Implementation of Comprehensive Abortion Care
ToR	Terms of Reference
TUTH	Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital
UMN	United Mission to Nepal
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VDC	Village Development Committee