

SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

Update on Major Activities in December 2008

General

- All advisers were involved in preparation of the DoHS annual report
- Advisers provided support to the FHD annual regional programme reviews
- Preparations have begun for the FHD national annual programme review, planned for January

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

- Finalised ToR for KAP and institutional delivery service utilisation surveys, collected expressions of interest and proposals from consulting companies.
- Technical support provided to FHD in district selection for EA scaling-up. Government decided on Kanchanpur and Gorkha districts.
- The SSMP Deputy Team Leader and EA Adviser visited Parbat and Dailekh districts to observe district level voice sharing.
- At a meeting organised jointly by the DHO and EAP in Dailekh district, the SSMP EA adviser facilitated an introductory orientation session for health staff on telephonic referral. This was initiated in December at 10 health facilities in Dailekh.
- Provided technical support to NHEICC to develop the design document for *Aama* radio and television programmes, which will be produced and aired by Radio Nepal and Nepal Television. An outside consultant was hired to support NHEICC in TV script writing.
- Mothers' groups in all EAP VDCs have been conducting regular monthly meetings and collecting money for their emergency funds
- Social mobilisers have visited pregnant and recently delivered, orienting them and their families about SMNH issues and complications. This individual motivational approach has encouraged them to go for ANC/Delivery and PNC services.
- Social mobilisers and group members from all eight districts have been providing regular support to outreach/ immunisation/ ANC/ PNC clinics conducted by the government health facilities especially on counselling pregnant women, registration and distribution of medicine. They also contributed to World AIDS day celebration and measles campaigning.
- VDC level HFMC meetings were organised by EASOs in Nawalparasi, Myagd, and Parbat and some decided to provide seed money to cover SMNH related material costs.
- Coordination meetings to link groups with local cooperatives are being held in all EAP districts, and interaction meetings between service providers and right holders and SM networks.
- Capacity building training in leadership development, rights based approaches and social inclusion was organised for VDC women's network members, stakeholders and HFMC members in Nawalparasi, Parbat, Myagdi and Dadelhdhura districts.
- Mass Communication Organisations and EASOs in Baglung, Surkhet, Nawalparasi and Morang completed mixing recording and airing four episodes of *Aama* radio magazine.
- RHCC strategic planning meeting organised in Dailekh and Parbat districts. EASOs, DHO, other government line agencies, political parties and media also participated.

- Voice sharing meeting was organised with district stakeholders, including RHCCs, political parties, DDC and line agency representatives and EASO teams in Dailekh, Chitwan, Parbat and Myagdi districts. EAP central team observed and gave inputs.
- VDC and EASO level voice sharing workshop was organised in five districts and responsive action plans were developed.

Output 2: Service strengthening

- Visited Barbise PHCC of Sindhupalchok for participatory planning and review of BEOC service
- Visited Surkhet Hospital to orient staff on the hospital maternal mortality and morbidity review and EOC monitoring as part of National Maternal Mortality and Morbidity study
- Visited Mugu hospital (with SSMP Team Leader) for review of Mugu hospital service and SDIP monitoring
- Finalised draft contract for participatory planning workshop in 44 health facilities
- Prepared ToR for piloting CDMA mobile telephone in UMN districts for strengthening referral
- Prepared ToR for national RH/ SMNH Review and Planning with partners for 2007-08
- Worked on Human Resource Strategy with HSR-SP.
- Contributed to workshop organised by the national public health laboratory on the national strategy for blood transfusion service
- Participated in RH steering committee meeting organised by FHD to review RH/ SMNH policies and programmes and to enhance inter-sectoral coordination for the programme
- Participated in stakeholder meeting for re-instating the one year ob/gyn diploma course for rapid production of specialists needed in the districts to provide services and meet the MDGs.

United Mission to Nepal (UMN) (2 districts)

Mugu

- Completed annual review and planning at Dhungedada and Sreekot HPs
- Completed infection prevention refresher training at Dhungedada and Sreekot HPs
- District interaction for SMNH review and planning
- RHCC meeting
- Coordination with district line agencies including CDO and LDO
- 24 hour delivery services continued at the hospital and Dhungedada and Sreekot health posts
- Coordination with Regional Health Directorate office
- Supervision and support visit by SSMP and FHD

Rupandehi

- Supported establishment of 24 hour delivery service at Suryapura SHP (five health facilities now provide 24 hour service)
- Provided strengthening and support to HFMCs and attended their meetings at Lumbhini PHCC, Dhakdai PHCC, Motipur PHCC, Ryapur PHCC, Suryapura SHP, Rudrapur SHP, and Mahegaun health post
- Coordinated with Lumbhini zonal hospital for SBA training
- Service delivery increased at all supported health facilities

Central

- Review of 2008-09 plan and budget in discussion with SSMP/ Options

UNICEF (8 districts)

- Client exit interviews: start of analysis, final report due in January
- SBA training site support: SBA training for second batch in Saptari (10 previously MRT trained ANMs from three supported districts (Panchthar 4, Udayapur 4, Saptari 2)
- Infection Prevention: three days' whole site training at Jumla hospital and Bhumlutar Health Post (Kavre district)
- Four-day technical refresher training: two batches in Saptari district (60 participants)
- Capacity building training for local HFMC at Hatsjina Health Post and Kalikathu PHCC in Jumla district.
- Three-day district level review and planning workshop through AI approach in Udayapur district, Humla district and Bheri Zonal Hospital.
- Establishment of new birthing centre in Jumla district with recruitment of two local ANMs through VDC funding
- Support to the FCHV network: FCHV and CM training at institutional level in Dang district (FCHV training in all districts on SMNH finalised).
- Finalisation of four radio spots on SMNH. Copies ready for distribution and airing in all eight supported districts. Radio-FM, Ramaroshan in Achham continuous airing of the 20 episodes of the Safe Motherhood Drama serial 'Jeevanko Jimmewari' (started on 4 September 2008.).
- Finalisation workshop for the national Nepali AI/MNH manual. Printing of manual expected in January.
- Support to the Safe Motherhood bill: incorporation of messages on the bill in the in district review meetings after coordination with SMNF.

TCIC (Abortion)

Training

- CAC training for doctors: two batches at MSI (13 GoN), one batch at FPAN (5 GoN), one batch at MH (9 GoN)
- CAC training for Nurses: one batch at MH (9 GoN)
- Supported assessment of Kathmandu Medical College as a 2nd trimester training site
- Supported selection of nine participants from Nepal for Effective Training Skill workshop conducted by Ipas
- Supported 2nd trimester ToT for four Nepali doctors
- Developed draft CAC on-the-job training manual
- Standardised the CAC site at Bharatpur Hospital
- Completed renovation of CAC training and service site at Seti Zonal Hospital.

IEC/BCC

- Finalised and printed medical abortion IEC materials

Policy/Listing/Drug and Equipment

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

- Printed 1,000 copies of leaflet (Product catalogue) on MVA and have been distributing to users
- Printed and distributed 1,00 copies of diary 2009 with promotional materials on MVA
- Printed 500 copies of Nepali translated cleaning process and have been distributing to public and private institutions.
- Facilitated with Concept Foundation, PSI and Liana Trade Concern for making available the drug (Medabon) on time.

Monitoring

- Orientated PHNs, FPAs and Statisticians on CAC monitoring in Eastern, Mid-Western and Far-Western Region
- Provided on site support using AI approach to three RHCC and Hospital Development Committee members (Sankhuwashabha, Mahottari, Bhojpur)
- Collected monthly reports on abortion care from all listed sites and entered into Epi-Info
- Site and trainee follow up ongoing as per Ipas strategy
- Followed up to the providers of 2nd trimester abortion (eight providers)

Medical Abortion

- Conducted medical abortion training in six piloted districts.
- Revised medical abortion training curriculum after collecting feedback from the trainers

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

- Worked with IoM and the consultant to obtain approval of the updated BSc nursing curriculum (including SBA core skills). This was endorsed by the IoM Faculty Board and is now being implemented
- Coordinated with partners to support and strengthen the Mid Western Regional Hospital at Surkhet as an SBA training site. SBA training for nurses was started with nine participants sponsored by ADRA.
- Visited Surkhet with external trainer to re-assess the training site, including level of service and coaching, and explained to local trainers how to use the QI tool for self assessment
- Coordinated with UNICEF for continuing SBA training at UNICEF supported training sites (Dang district hospital, Sagarmatha Zonal Hospital and Bheri Zonal Hospital, Banke)
- Coordinated and provided support for meeting of the technical group developing the caesarean section training package and advanced SBA (C/ section) course
- Coordinated revision and updating of the MNC/ LRP according to feedback from trainers, ready for printing
- Worked on development of a compiled supplementary reference manual in English and finalised at a two-day workshop.

Output 6: Information

- Participated in the HSIS computer system design technical working group, which is providing technical assistance to the consultant designing the system.
- Met with Ms. Sharon Arscott-Mills, Mr. Dipak Poudel from USAID, Mr. Yogendra Prasai from New ERA to discuss additional activities for the MMMS, recommended by the technical advisory group, and the budget required.
- Participated in the tracer drug (Oxytocin, Ergometrine, and Magnesium Sulphate) meeting organised by UNFPA. This meeting was a follow-up to the Joint UNFPA/ WHO mission to review the current status of access to a core set of critical life saving maternal/ RH medicines in Nepal.
- Participated in and took a session for the CREHPA field researchers. CREHPA is contracted to conduct the qualitative component of the MMMS.
- Met with three obstetricians: Dr. Kusum Thapa, Dr. Meeta Singh and Dr. Bimala Lakhey and discussed the process of the maternal death verbal autopsy questionnaire, which is a part of the MMMS.
- Met with three physicians to discuss the process of non maternal death verbal autopsy questionnaire, which is also a part of the MMMS.
- The safe motherhood and newborn health GIS atlas development and target population generation work were contracted out to two companies.
- Attended the new software presentation meeting organised by HMIS Section, Management Division.
- Provided technical assistance to the Demography Section of FHD in developing ToR for the Community Obstetric Morbidity Study, which they will be conducting this year.

Output 7: Physical assets

- Completed handover of equipment procured through financial support from NSI to Surkhet Regional hospital for training of SBAs
- Attended consultative workshop on revitalisation of Primary Health Care in Nepal which also discussed at length use of PPP for making health services more effective.
- Supported Management Division in the preparation of a draft list of equipment, furniture, instruments for health posts, PHCCs and District Hospitals based on their functions.
- Finalised guidelines for district managers for implementation of repair and maintenance activities. This was translated into Nepali.

Output 8: Finance

- Supported FHD in preparing the quarterly report to be submitted to MoHP
- Participated in the FHD Western, Eastern, Mid-western and Eastern regional annual programme reviews and orientations for focal persons.
- Supported preparation and finalisation of the Annual Work Plan and Budget for the fiscal year 2008/09
- Prepared analysis of financial requirements to meet the MDGs for the period 2009/10 to 2015/16

Safe Delivery Incentive Programme (SDIP)

- Supported FHD in organising a high-level discussion on their programme activities, with special focus on the free delivery care. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Sudha Sharma, Secretary at MoHP
- Provided inputs and collected comments from Dr. Suvedi on the SDIP costing report submitted by Tim Ensor and Sophie Witter
- Discussed the SDIP with Aylin Isik Dikmelik, Economist from the Social Protection Unit at the World Bank Washington
- Provided technical support for preparations for a training programme on social auditing, and participated in the event
- Provided administrative support to the NGOs selected for social auditing
- Supported CREHPA in preparing the final report of the SDIP rapid assessment (third round) and its presentation
- Distributed the SDIP rapid assessment report to responsible persons in MoHP and DoHS
- Prepared a briefing document for DfID on the evidence of financial misuse in the home delivery component of SDIP.

List of Acronyms

AAN	ActionAid Nepal
AI	Appreciative Inquiry
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BEOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
BPP	Birth Preparedness Package
CAC	Comprehensive Abortion Care
CEOC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care
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
EAP	Equity and Access Programme
FA	Financial Aid
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteers
FHD	Family Health Division
FP	Family Planning
HMIS	Health management Information System
HP	Health Post
HSIS	Health Sector Information System
HSR-SP	Health Sector Reform - Support Programme
IoM	Institute of Medicine
JAR	Joint Annual Review
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