

# SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

## Update on Major Activities in February 2009

### General

- DfID carried out the annual review of SSMP, which included central level meetings and a field trip to Rupandehi, Nawalparasi, Dang and Nepalgunj.
- The whole SSMP/Options core team contributed to preparations for the national reproductive health/ safe motherhood and newborn health review
- The core team supported concerned divisions and centres in planning FA spending and activities for the next financial year (2066/7 or 2009/10)
- The core team supported the safe motherhood section of FY 2007/08 DoHS annual report writing.

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

- Facilitated MoHP consultation workshop for development of the social inclusion strategy, with representatives from the mid and far western regions. EAP lessons were shared
- Visited Panchthar (Rabi PHCC) to monitor the social audit organised by a local NGO
- Carried out further work on the EAP briefing notes. So far four themes have been covered
- Finalised end-line KAP and institutional data collection survey methodology and budget with Valley Research Group. Contract is being developed
- Concept note under development for future EAP advocacy
- Voice capturing guideline under development, based on experiences of voice agencies
- Supervision and monitoring continued to support field workers and social mobilisers in strengthening linkages between local groups and cooperatives and fund mobilisation
- Monthly group meetings continued, discussing SMNH issues, co-operatives, women networks, mother's role in women's rights violation, participation in political and social committees
- Organised door to door visit campaigns with health workers and network members to provide information on free delivery care and free health services from health institutions
- Supported quarterly HFMC meetings
- Facilitated interactions between political leaders, secretaries and VDC level network members, service providers, and right holders, to create an enabling environment within communities and in health facilities and promote downward accountability and transparency in health service provision
- VDC level SMNH networks participated in development and submission of SMNH plans to VDC council, resulting in allocation of funds for SMNH activities by 18 VDCs in Myagdi (Rs.508,207), 7 VDCs in Dailekh (Rs.305,000), 7 VDCs in Dadeldhura (Rs.280,000)
- Coordinated with DHOs, local health institutions, line agencies, political parties VDC and DD level stakeholders done to integrate SMNH issues in their
- **Dailekh:** EASOs prepared district and VDC level voice sharing report and action plan. 328 pregnant woman received congratulation cards and 62 households displayed a white flag to show a pregnant woman is living there. This has created greater community awareness and openness. Following requests from VDC level SM networks, INF supported building of an

additional room for four village clinics. 7 VDCs allocated budget for ANM recruitment; 3 have already recruited ANMs and 4 are in progress.

- **Rupandehi:** The district RH plan was developed, with EAP facilitation. Airing of the radio programme “Mai” (in Bhojpuri language) is ongoing and EASO, Namuna, has signed a new contract with the DPHO through FA.
- **Chitwan:** Interactions organised between pregnant women, their husbands and mothers-in-law, with discussion on danger signs during pregnancy, delivery and after delivery, role of mother-in-law and husband. 26 VDC level SMNH network meetings organised, with 498 women participating and agreeing to pressurise the VDC council for emergency funding.
- **Nawalparasi:** Referral slip developed and introduced to VDC level SMNH network members for referring pregnant women to a health institution for delivery. Phone numbers of ambulances, jeep owners and tractor owners were provided and orientation on the referral system given to health workers, with support from the DHO.
- **Morang:** VDC Level SMNH network of Pathari VDC organised “SHAKTI Pradarshan” rally and “AAM VELA” with support from all community level women’s groups and networks. Around four hundred women participated, as well as local political parties, teachers, VDC secretary, health facility in-charge, representative of Red Cross, Worec Nepal and local NGO/CBOs. An ilaka level social audit was organised.
- **Myagdi:** Group members constructed a bridge in Arman VDC to improve access to the health institution.

## Output 2: Service strengthening

- Participated the HR strategy stakeholders meeting
- Worked on development of a remote areas strategy for safe motherhood with interested partners
- Worked on preparation of SSMP abstracts submitted for the NESOG conference
- Visited Banke to observe the NFHP misoprostal programme and the SBA training site at Bheri Zonal (Nepalgunj) hospital. Also arranged interview of PHN from Bardiya district by a London-based journalist from the Nursing Times journal
- Visited Dailekh for start up of CEOC services at the district hospital through partnership agreement with the Nepalgunj Medical college
- Participatory planning with HFMC and community was completed at Charikot PHCC in Dolakha, Pyuthan Hospital, Salyan Hospital, Rajapur PHCC in Bardiya, Trivhuvanbasti Health Post in Kanchanpur, Lekhpokhari Health Post in Salyan and Dali Health Post in Jajarkot for establishment of 24-hour BEOC and delivery services as appropriate.
- Blood transfusion service training provided to lab assistants of four CEOC sites (Dailekh, Nuwakot, Gulmi and Sarlahi)
- Participated in review meeting of medical recorders and statistical assistants for recording and reporting of EOC monitoring data. Twice yearly meetings were recommended for this. HMIS-10, which records ANC, PNC and delivery services provided together, needs to be adjusted so that delivery service is recorded separately as ANC and PNC services are provided in the outpatient department, which is closed at night, whereas delivery is a 24-hour in-patient service. The existing maternity register is large and not user friendly; it needs to be reduced to the same size as the HMIS-10 register. District quarterly review meetings should also discuss EOC monitoring data from B/CEOC CEOC sites.

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

#### Mugu

- Continued supervision and support for provision of BEOC service at Mugu hospital and 24 hour delivery services at Dhungedada HP, Sreekot HP and Natharpu HP.
- Staff took annual leave and were in Kathmandu for annual planning 2009-10

#### Rupandehi

- Follow up visit to Raypur PHCC and Majegaun HP
- Need assessment workshop at Lumbini PHCC
- 24-hour birthing centre opening ceremony at Rudrapur SHP
- Participated in RHCC action planning workshop

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

No report provided

### **TCIC (Abortion)**

#### Training

- Facilitated one training for nurse providers at MH (9 participants)
- Facilitated one training for doctors at Bharatpur Hospital (9 participants)
- Facilitated on-the-job training (OJT) pre-service training for Ob/Gyn residents at MH (3 participants)
- Strengthened TUTH and BPKIHS for CAC pre service training, Kathmandu Medical College for second trimester and Bharatpur and Seti Zonal Hospital for CAC group training

#### IEC/BCC

- Conducted ToT for health workers on safe abortion services in Chitwan district.
- Conducted FCHV orientation in Chitwan district.

#### Policy/Listing/Drug and Equipment

- 10 government sites listed as CAC sites
- Linked CAC providers with the distributor of MVA (Atlas Trading Concern) for promotion of MVA sales.
- Orientation on MVA processing for cleaners at private institutions.
- Prepared documents for FPAN and MSI for "Quantification of MVA kits required at service delivery sites" according to their caseload (JSI Logistics Services using Poisson Theory).

#### Monitoring

- Conducted on-site coaching on recording, reporting, counselling (Surkhet-4 Sites, Dhading-2 sites, Tanahu-5 sites)
- Collected monthly data and entered in database
- Provided technical support to review and revise HMIS 11 and 33
- Monthly checking of 12 trainees
- Conducted 10 interviews using Ipas questionnaire
- Finalized SAS (Safe Abortion Service) monitoring guide

### Medical Abortion

- Follow up visits to 3 districts (Jhapa, Dhading, Tanahu) to support recording/ reporting, completing client profile form, drug demand system and briefing on MA IEC materials. Shared the outcomes/ issues of the visits among the trainers and for action.

### **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**

- Participated in stakeholder review meeting and dissemination for Human Resource Strategy Options for Safe Delivery
- Participated in stakeholder meeting organised by FHD to discuss and agree on the content and length of advanced SBA training (with surgical skills/ caesarean section training) for medical officers
- Participated in key stakeholder meeting organised by NSI at which they presented a report on anaesthetics assistant training and key issues were discussed
- Coordinated finalisation and printing of updated SBA training package in English, using Redbook funds
- Provided continuing technical support to organisation of SBA training at three SBA training sites (Bharatpur, AMDA and Koshi Zonal Hospital)

### **Output 6: Information**

- Supported FHD in preparing selection criteria and participated in the selection committee meeting for obstetric morbidity study
- Supported EOC monitoring review meetings conducted by FHD, attended by officials of Regional Health Directorates and Public Health Officers, Nurses and Medical Recorders, Statisticians from selected districts DPHOs, EOC facilities. Problems and constraints in EOC monitoring at EOC facilities were discussed and importance of supervisory support from the regional and district offices.
- Participated in three Target Population Generation Steering Committee meetings. The meetings discussed the process and provided guidelines to the contracting company. Officials participated from the Central Bureau of Statistics, Population Division/ MoHP, HMIS, FHD, CHD, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and NFHP-II. This work is outsourced under TC implementation budget. The third meeting decided to recommend the software and generated target population for approval by DoHS.
- Participated in the meetings to discuss the methodology of the equity and access end line and service utilisation study.
- Participated in demonstration of the GIS based SMNH atlas and provided inputs for its further refinement.

- Participated in the one-day residential review meeting on the MMMS 2008/09, chaired by the Director General, DoHS. Participants included MMMS national Technical Advisory Group members, District Public Health Officers of the eight study districts, MMMS District Coordinators, Obstetricians involved in the maternal death verbal autopsies, JHPIEGO officials, FHD staff. Problems were discussed and progress of the field activities presented, with future planned activities.
- Conducted a one-day MMMS District Coordinators' review meeting to discuss problems and provide solutions.
- Participated in the HSIS computerisation software demonstration. The software will be installed in the HMIS server and in three piloted districts in two weeks time.

### **Output 7: Physical assets**

- Gave a presentation on HIIS and LMIS at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Annual Scientific Conference in Bangladesh
- Prepared design, estimate and site plan for establishment of proposed incinerator plant inside DoHS through NPHL
- Sponsored a student from Narayani Sub Regional Hospital for 1 year BMETT course, starting from February 2009

### **Output 8: Finance**

- Prepared financial analysis for DFID annual review and presentation to DFID team
- Supported preparation of financial instruction letters for dispatch to all districts, following FHD request for information on financial status
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### ***Safe Delivery Incentive Programme (SDIP)***

- Participated in safe motherhood BCC working group meeting and provided input on the IEC materials related to Aama programme
- Finalised terms of reference for the Aama programme rapid assessment
- Supported FHD in finalising terms of reference for an independent review to identify implementation issues of Aama programme in six districts
- Prepared questionnaire for the national review meeting and dispatched to all zonal, regional and central level hospitals. FHD expected a presentation from each hospital
- Gave a brief presentation on the Aama programme at the national programme review meeting of UMN Nepal
- Presented the SDIP research findings at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Annual Scientific Conference in Bangladesh
- Made a brief presentation on the Aama programme at the national advocacy meeting for constituent assembly members organised by SMNF
- Prepared a brief presentation of Aama programme in Nepali, which can be used in different meetings organised by GoN.

## 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