

SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

Update on Major Activities in April 2009

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

- Supported MoHP in facilitating a social inclusion strategy development consultation workshop in Biratnagar, with participation from RHD, D/PHO, Civil Society and external development agencies. The participatory video was shown and EAP learning shared.
- The DHO Gorkha selected an NGO, Community Service Academy Nepal (COSAN) to implement the EA initiative in eight selected VDCs in the district. SSMP/ EAP provided technical support for a four-day EA capacity building training for COSAN, DHO supervisors and health workers, and facilitated a planning session with the DHO and COSAN.
- Kanchanpur DPHO also selected an NGO, Nepal Paryabaran and Shicksha Samaj to implement EA initiatives in eight selected VDCs. Capacity building is planned in May.
- Ms. Bindu Gautam was appointed as acting team leader for the remaining EAP period.
- SSMP presented the outcomes of the second round of voice capturing and showed the participatory video at the annual conference of NESOG.
- Valley Research group began field work for the EAP end-line KAP survey in the eight EAP districts. Preparation for collection of institutional utilisation data is in progress.
- Social Welfare Council is evaluating EAP through independent consultants. An introductory meeting was held and field visits made to Myagdi and Parbat, with Morang planned.
- Contracts with all EASOs ended in March, and the EAP District Coordinators will implement activities for SSMP remaining period. EAP is continuing to provide support to the ex-EASOs to enable them to strengthen VDC networks and/or Cooperatives as appropriate and thus ensure sustainability of the EAP work.
- Mothers' groups and networks have continued to meet regularly, focusing on strengthening of management capacity to enable them to continue in future.
- Ex-field motivators are giving their time voluntarily to meet and support groups and VDC networks.
- Finalised the plan and budget for all EAP districts and Kathmandu Office for the period April to June, including wrap up activities (with wrap up team until August) to enhance their capacity, develop cooperatives/ CBOs and register at the District Administration Office.
- Advocated with DHOs, local health institutions and line agencies, political parties, VDC and DDC level stakeholders to integrate the SMNH issues in their plans.
- In Parbat the LDO, WDO, LDF, PHN, Field coordinator and EAP District coordinator made a joint monitoring and supervision visit to Bhuka VDC.
- At a district level SM network meeting in Chitwan, it was decided to organise an introductory interaction with district level stakeholders, including political parties
- In Myagdi, the district level network has developed an annual plan for 2009.
- Various behaviour change communication activities were conducted in all EAP district.

Output 2: Service strengthening

- Participated in NESOG annual conference and gave a presentation, as part of an SSMP set of five presentations on the theme of "Supporting Women's Right to Affordable Life-Saving Maternal Health Services"

- Coordinated preparations for participatory review and planning workshop for HFMC and community stakeholders to help strengthen CEOC service at Makwanpur District Hospital.
- Worked on BCC training material for prevention of pre-eclampsia /eclampsia using calcium, arranged by FHD and NFHP group.
- Attended Community Based Newborn Care Programme technical working group meeting for updating the programme
- Conducted participatory planning workshop for 24-hour delivery service in Dandapakhar and Jalbire PHCCs in Sindhupalchok district
- Took part in discussion with SBA trainers and supervisors to provide suggestions for focused infection prevention practice by SBAs, following feed back from FHD based on field visit experience.

United Mission to Nepal (UMN) (2 districts)

Mugu

- Conducted four-day AI and review planning workshop for Mugu hospital and nine PHCCs health posts for improving SMNH service delivery
- Essential newborn care training for FCHV and health facility staff at Sreekot VDC

Rupandehi

- Training of FCHVs on mother's group mobilisation and awareness raising on SMNH in Motipur and Suryapura health posts
- Action planning workshop at Lumbini PHCC
- Finalised agreement with DPHO for CDMA phone support and EOC fund support and with Lumbini Zonal hospital for SBA training support
- Support and facilitation of SBA training provided by Lumbini Zonal hospital
- Carried out follow up visit to all eight health facilities. Seven of them regularly provide 24-hour service, including Lumbini PHCC, which conducted 10 deliveries last month
- Supported HFMC meetings - Majegaun Health Post in relation with contractor's failure to complete birthing centre on time, Lumbini PHCC to start 24 hour services, Ryapur PHCC for staff management, Rudrapur PHCC for general support
- A number of activities were postponed due to bandhs.

Kathmandu

- Further discussions on remote area strategy/ guideline
- Further discussion with USAID/ NFHP for support of SMNH (and child health) programme in Mugu and Bajhang districts starting from July 2009 and focusing on SMNH programmes for remote areas

UNICEF (8 districts)

- Infection Prevention Support:
 - 3-days whole site training at Humla hospital, in two birthing centres of Achham district and two birthing centres in Udayapur district;
 - IP management team meeting and review of IP implementation plan at Bheri Zonal Hospital (Banke)
 - Sharing of UNICEF experiences during the 86th SMNSC meeting: IP whole site training and the effect on quality of care
- Support for creating enabling environment for SMNH through AI review and planning approach:

- Support to birthing centres:
 - Furniture, equipment and supplies for all birthing centres in Sapatari and Udayapur districts according to action plans of breakthrough teams
 - 3-day district level planning and review workshop in Panchthar district,
 - Technical support for planning workshop in Trishuli Hospital, Nuwakot district (jointly with FHD/ SSMP)
- Public Private Partnership:
 - Two-day workshop at Bheri Zonal Hospital on PPP for SMNH.
 - Drafted PPP operational guidelines for Bheri Zonal Hospital.
- Support to the FCHV network: 3-day training for FCHVs and community mobilisers (six VDCs) at institutional level in Humla district
- Community mobilisation:
 - Developed national guidelines for WATCH group¹ formation and operation, under approval at MLD. Watch group training completed in two VDCs.
 - Advocacy rally at birthing centres in Achham district (creating awareness about maternal health and available services)
 - Radio spot aired with essential SMNH messages, through Krishnasar and Janawaj local FM.
 - 56 billboards developed and placed with SMNH messages around Bheri Zonal Hospital
- EOC and Newborn Care Needs Assessment: Regional workshop jointly organised by UNICEF/ UNFPA/ AMDD. Orientation on National EONC Needs Assessment tools and development of national action plan. National working group led by Dr.B.K. Suvedi, Director FHD and Dr. Suddha Sharma, acting Joint Secretary MoHP
- Community Based Newborn Care Package:
 - Regional ToT on CB-NCP in Bharatpur for DHO, PHN, regional health staff, potential trainers
 - Development of BCC: brochure and calendars on CB-NCP

TCIC (Abortion)

Training

- Facilitated one batch of GoN doctors' training at LZH (9 participants)
- Facilitated one batch of nurses' training at MH (9 participants)
- Facilitated one batch of private doctors' training at MSI (8 participants)
- Facilitated one batch of OJT pre-service CAC training at MH (5 Medical Officers) and one batch at BPKIHS (4 Ob/Gyn Residents)
- Discussion with trainers and trainees with Patty Skuster on second trimester abortion mental indication at MH (17 persons participated)
- Distributed Ipas University Post Card/s and pen drives at NMA conference
- Equipped second trimester service sites (4 new sites)
- Shared draft FY 2066/67 (2009/10) training plan with NHTC

IEC/BCC

- Developed and printed stickers with CAC logo and list of official sites within Kathmandu valley to distribute/ paste in bars, restaurant, and beauty parlours in Kathmandu valley.

¹ WATCH groups: Community mobilization groups of pregnant women led by FCHV, Community Mobilisers focusing on maternal and newborn health, birth preparedness and related topics (early marriage, PMTCT, birth registration, etc) and managing Emergency Obstetric Funds. Originally under the structure of the DACAW program (Decentralized Action for Children and Women).

- Developed bags for FCHVs with CAC logo to provide information about the service and link with the logo for community women.
- Translated 26 episodes of radio drama in two local languages.
- Aired 26 episodes of radio dramas in Maithali language through local FM.
- Used opportunity for advocacy with Ob/gyns and medical doctors through CAC related presentations in NESOG and NMA conferences respectively and distributed IEC materials.

Policy/Listing/Drugs and Equipment

- Published names of listed sites in the National Newspaper "Gorkhapatra"
- Collected feedback of MVA and done promotion of MVA by keeping stall in NESOG and NMA conferences.

Monitoring

- Site support for second trimester abortion at four sites
- Monitoring visit to 7 sites.

Medical Abortion

- Continued collection of data from six pilot districts
- Observation visit in Jharkhand state (India) to observe their pilot of MA services
- Developed ToR for orientation of private practitioners and pharmacists in MA pilot 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

- Provided continuing technical support for organisation of SBA training at different SBA training sites
- Coordinated with different training sites and trainers to arrange post training follow up visits to SBA graduates.
- Worked with the Nursing Association of Nepal (NAN) providing technical support for organisation of national nursing conference planned in May.
- Worked with MoHP officials to finalised the report produced by RTI/ HSR-SP "Human Resource Strategy Options for Safe Delivery", following feedback from dissemination meetings
- Coordinated arrangements for a field visit to Pokhara for orientation workshop on how to use the Quality Improvement tool, using newly developed guideline. This was also used to pre-test the Nepali translated version of the tool.

Output 6: Information

- Supported FHD in selecting a research institution to conduct a study on obstetrics morbidity

Output 7: Physical assets

No report as adviser out of country

Output 8: Finance

- Finalised and submitted un-audited financial report to DFID
- Supported FHD in preparing monthly, bimonthly and quarterly progress reports to be submitted to MoHP

Safe Delivery Incentive Programme (SDIP)/ Aama Programme

- Facilitated British minister's visit in Bheri Zonal hospital
- Monitored and cross verified fund implementation of Aama programme in Banke, Surkhet, Morang, Illam, and Panchthar districts
- Monitored pre-testing of Aama programme six-monthly rapid assessments in Ramechap district
- Initiated ToR on health sector monitoring, evaluation and research needs requiring funding to be submitted to DFID/ IHP
- Supported Dr. BK Suvedi in preparing a presentation at the NESOG conference
- Participated in grand event of the social auditing programme in Mahottari and Panchthar districts
- Prepared Aama programme six-monthly report and submitted to Deputy Team Leader
- Monitored and cross verified use of Aama programme funds in Taplejung, Panchthar and Illam districts
- Analysed the financial report of Aama programme from various levels and provided feedback

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