



## SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

### Update on Major Activities in November 2007

#### General

- A report was drafted and submitted to DFID Nepal to feed into their annual progress report to DFID London on implementation of the DFID safe motherhood strategy.
- The Team Leader and other core team advisers attended the JAR meeting and provided support to FHD in their preparations for participation.
- Steward Tyson (Head of Professionals DFID) and Susan Clapham (DFID Nepal Health Advisor) and representatives from Options, SSMP and the EA programme visited Surkhet to observe the EA mass communication programme and undertake other local meetings. This high level visit was important exposure for SSMP.

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

- Supported NHEICC in developing a national communication policy by sharing global lessons learned and providing input into policy drafts.
- Supported NHEICC to start a Technical BCC Working Group for Postnatal Care (PNC) for mother and newborn, in coordination with other stakeholders (FHD, CHD, Save the Children-US, UNICEF, Maternity Hospital, IOM, CARE, MINI, MIRA and NFHP).
- Conducted desk review of existing PNC BCC materials and research.
- Supported MoHP in planning and preparations for a high level advocacy workshop on social inclusion to be held on December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Jenny Amery, DFID Senior Health Advisor India and South Asia, Rob Timmons, Team Leader, Health Sector Reform Support Programme, and representatives from DFID Nepal, Options, SSMP and the EA programme visited three districts (Parbat, Baglung and Myagdi) to observe EA programme activities.
- A meeting with SSMP representatives and national consultants was held to restructure the report of the first round of voice capturing based on the three delays framework.
- Data of SMNH service utilisation in EA programme districts were analysed and shared at an SSMP partner meeting. Results indicate a significant increase compared with the national average and further analysis is planned.
- A three-day refresher training on monitoring and evaluation and the EPMS tools was held in Chitwan for EA programme District Coordinators. The effectiveness of tools was reviewed and changes incorporated.
- A three-day Foundation for Change (Appreciative Inquiry) training was organised in Chitwan for EA programme District Coordinators, and the Coordinators of district partners and voice agencies.
- A new District Coordinator for the EA programme in Dadeldhura, Ms Meena Thapa, was appointed to replace the previous person, who resigned.
- Four EA programme districts organised exposure visits for district partner staff to promote shared learning between districts.



- Reviewed and provided feedback on the Safe Motherhood Network Federation newspaper article advocating for SMNH. This was published in Kathmandu Post.
- Provided technical assistance for the NHEICC report on District level Orientation on BCC at Regional Workshops in two regions.
- Facilitated the SSMP BCC Working Group Meeting, chaired by NHEICC.
- Provided support to districts in developing radio magazine scripts in Nepali. Mini-drama scripts were written, reviewed and sent to EA districts for localisation
- Supported NHEICC in briefing the National Curriculum Development Unit at the Ministry of Education on technical content for SMNH communication and initiated discussion on how to revise the current curriculum with updated messages and interactive methods.
- Worked with district EA staff to develop a questionnaire and sampling framework for monitoring the *Aama* radio programme..
- Provided technical support to USAID-Funded NMARC project qualitative research on newborns - and submitted abstracts to the PESON conference planned for January.

## **Output 2: Service strengthening**

- Coordinated with National Public Health Central Laboratory and Central Blood Transfusion Service Centre for final review of the report submitted by Dr B.B Karki about the development of the national blood transfusion guidelines and added preface, comment from the Director General and foreword. The guidelines are at final draft stage and will be reviewed by Options.
- Assisted FHD with two PHN capacity building workshops, including updating on SBA
- Followed up on progress at health facilities in Dadeldhura after the appreciative inquiry planning workshops.
- Assisted FHD to consolidate and analyse EOC monitoring reports from HMIS.
- Attended the FHD SMNH Sub Committee meeting, providing input for finalisation of the criteria for birthing centres.
- Core team members participated in the DoHS national review meeting and supported FHD in documenting the challenges and recommendations for all FHD programmes.

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

#### *Mugu*

- Infection prevention training organised at Mugu hospital
- EOC monitoring training organized at Mugu hospital
- Meeting with Dhungedada and Sreekot health post management committees to review action plans
- Supported Mahakali Community Development Centre to write a proposal for increasing access components for three VDCs – Sreekot, Seeri and Ghamtha
- Supported Rinmokcha Samaj Sudar Kendra in implementing their increasing access for safe motherhood activities
- Supported Dhungedada health post to provide regular ANC service

#### *Rupandehi*

- Participated in review and planning of Dhakdai PHCC action plan
- Meetings with Dhakdai and Parroha HFMCs
- Regular visits and support provided to Suryapura SHP



**SSMP/NEPAL**

Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme

- Meeting with staff from Motipur PHCC and Rudrapur health post for needs assessment and planning
- Planning with DPHO for activities of 2007-08

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

No report received

### **TCIC (Abortion)**

- Carried out CAC training for three batches (one at each training site: MH, MSI and LZH): 14 physician providers and 14 nurse assistants were trained.
- Officially listed 5 private CAC sites and assessed one more
- Participated in NAWRN dissemination programme
- Finalised the instruction manual (leaflet) for the MVA Plus and sent for printing
- Finalised the design of a 2008 Diary (with information about MVA kit) and sent for printing
- Conducted product orientation on the MVA plus to service providers in Kailali district
- Updated the cleaning process, assemble, disassemble of MVA plus to the staff of CAC/PAC unit at Maternity Hospital
- Collected data on CAC caseloads for the quarter from Mid July to mid October.
- Continued with the trainee tracking
- Compiled material for the safe motherhood website.
- Worked on trainee and site follow up plan
- Conducted orientation programmes for FCHVs in Bhaktapur District and for pharmacists Kailali District.
- Conducted meeting with NHEICC Director to discuss a safe abortion radio programme and designed terms of reference.
- Oriented staff at the FPAN Itahari training site on how to conduct CAC training
- Equipped training sites with MVA kits; ( 10 sets for MH, 10 sets for LZH, 5 sets for MSI and 5 sets for FPAN Itahari)
- Worked on training plans for Ob/Gyn and nurse providers; schedule, participants list training dates, waiting for advisory committee meeting minute.
- Attended FIGO initiative meeting on unsafe abortion
- Carried out monitoring and technical support visits to 16 sites
- Carried out second trimester abortion post training follow up at Lumbini Zonal Hospital
- Prepared equipment list for second trimester abortion care
- Provided on-site clinical coaching to nurses at 14 sites (nurse assistant training)
- Provided orientation on CAC monitoring to 37 PHNs.

### **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 a 10-day updating for two SBA trainers in Bangkok
- Listed the teaching/ learning materials and models needed for strengthening SBA training sites
- Developed terms of reference for all consultant technical support inputs required for this year (up to March 2008)
- Coordinated and organised the 8-day clinical skills training for doctors and nurses
- Participated in dissemination of the SBA course outline for service providers who have received BEOC and MRT courses and for staff nurses and doctors without previous midwifery training.

#### **Output 6: Information**

No report received

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

- Worked on analysis of construction work planned in the year 2007/08 for the JAR meeting, as requested by HSR-SP
- Prepared overview of the health infrastructure situation in Nepal, based on information in the Health Infrastructure database
- Supported NHTC to prepare specifications and price estimates of equipment and instruments required for strengthening SBA training sites to be procured from SSMP FA
- Prepared specifications, cost estimates for equipment/instruments to be procured from SSMP TC for Maternity Hospital
- Developed terms of reference for hiring the services of Crown Agents for quality assurance of equipment and instruments to be procured by LMD from SSMP FA money
- Developed terms of reference for hiring the services of architect David Potter to develop standard designs, construction methods and specifications for materials used in health infrastructures
- Supported DUDBC for the development of CAC infrastructure design
- Collected data on health infrastructures from seven districts out of the ten remaining to be completed, and finalised data entry for three of these.



## Output 8: Finance

### *Maternity Incentives Scheme (MIS)*

- Supported the western (Pokhara) and far western (Danghadi) regional orientations for SM focal persons on FHD programmes, including the MIS revised guideline.
- Disseminated the summary of the MIS process evaluation report to government counterparts and partners and posted it on the website.
- Provided technical support to FHD in developing the system (tools and manuals) for integrating MIS recording and reporting tools into the national system, which will be piloted in three districts and then scaled up nationwide.
- The MIS revised guideline was endorsed by the Minister of Health and Population on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2007. The formal process for printing has been initiated.
- Reviewed the applications submitted by 11 candidates for the six regional level SMNH/ MIS coordinators. Provided summary sheet and CVs to the Director of FHD.
- The national Maternity Hospital, which has around 18,000 deliveries a year, has begun providing maternity incentives. A one-day orientation is planned for responsible staff.
- Provided technical inputs on tools developed by CREHPA for MIS rapid assessment.
- Provided technical inputs to the development of the tools for MIS impact evaluation developed by the Institute of Child Health. Also provided support in identifying the local enumerators, supervisors and national consultants required for the evaluation.

### 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
CHD	Child Health Division
CREHPA	Centre for Research in Environment Health and Population Activities
DHO	District Health Officer
DoHS	Department of Health Services
DPHO	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
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 Programmes



**SSMP/NEPAL**

Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme

LMD	Logistics management Division
MD	Management Division
MIS	Maternity In centives Scheme
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
NGO	Non Government Organisation
NHEICC	National Health Education Information Communication Centre
NHTC	National Health Training Centre
NPC	National Planning Commission
NSI	Nick Simons Institute
PHN	Public Health Nurse
PNC	Post Natal Care
RH	Reproductive Health
RHCC	Reproductive Health Coordination Committee
SBA	Skilled Birth Attendant
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
UMN	United Mission to Nepal
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VDC	Village Development Committee