



## **SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME**

### **Update on Major Activities in December 2007**

#### **General**

An important activity for this month was the preparation of a revised technical assistance plan for the remaining period of SSMP, covering the period of the no cost extension granted by DfID through to 2009. Individual SSMP advisers consulted with their government counterparts and the implementing partners to assess the gaps, emerging needs and successful interventions. This information was shared at a one-day workshop and compiled into a plan for submission to DfID.

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

- The Options Social Development Specialist visited to provide technical support on equity and access.
- In collaboration with HSR-SP, SSMP supported MoHP to organise a Social Inclusion Advocacy and Planning Workshop on 17 December, at which the EA Programme gave a presentation about the increased utilisation of SMNH services across all social groups in EA Programme over two years (FY 2004/5 to FY 2006/7). The Options Social Development Specialist presented on global learning and evidence in social inclusion.
- Coordination meetings with National Planning Commission (NPC) and other stakeholders to understand NPC's prospective on social inclusion for line ministries.
- Meetings with HSR-SP on various programme issues.
- The EA Access Adviser visited Mugu district to provide technical input to the UMN SMNH programme implementation.
- Provided technical support (with JHU/CCP) to NHEICC's national communication policy development.
- Worked with JHU/CCP and NHEICC on development of postnatal care materials for mother and newborn BCC technical advisory committee.
- ActionAid presented a project agreement document to the inter-ministerial review committee at Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare. The committee approved the project agreement.
- Supported a consultant visiting three districts to provide technical support to district supervisors of Voice Capturing Organisations.
- The EA Programme in Myagdi organised rights based approach training for social mobilisers and programme coordinators of three district partners (24-25 December).
- Terms of Reference for an assessment of emergency funds, transport schemes and social mobilisation prepared and finalised. A consultant has been identified to carry out the study.
- The EA Programme in Dadeldhura organised a district PRRP meeting to review programme achievements, challenges and learning. Provided support to district partners on voice capturing.



**SSMP/NEPAL**

Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme

- With technical support from JHU/CCP, a review meeting was organised on the *Aama* Radio Magazine Programme and Mass Communication, with technical sessions by the EA Programme (18-19 December).
- Assessment of the radio programme *Aama* was initiated in Chitwan district and continued for other FM stations. The assessment team comprised NHEICC and JHU/CCP representatives using pre-tested tools.
- Provided technical support to the Regional BCC Orientation Workshop in the mid-western region. All D/PHOs and Health Education Technicians from the districts and selected NGOs reviewed BCC activities and made future plans to coordinate activities.
- Continued providing feedback and technical inputs to radio magazine (*Aama*) scripts developed by districts in Nepali and reviewed the mini-drama script
- Distributed BCC Materials to partners and others (schools, nursing schools and SMNF)
- Report of Radio Magazine Programme Production workshops finalised,

## **Output 2: Service strengthening**

- Coordinated with and supported FHD in preparing for the third National SMNH review workshop with safe motherhood partners, DoHS divisions and centres, planned for January. This involved meetings to agree a date, agenda, information format, and presentation guidelines. The agenda was shared at an SMNSC meeting
- Coordinated and facilitated third batch of capacity building workshops for PHNs
- Conducted monitoring visit to Dailekh Hospital, Lakendra PHCC and Dullu PHCC to follow up and backstop their breakthrough plans
- Attended the MoHP Joint Annual Review meeting and assisted with group presentation on human resource issues and recommendations
- Attended and contributed to Udaypur District planning workshop for creating enabling environment for skilled attendants under the SSMP/UNICEF support
- Supported FHD in preparing an orientation package on newborn health care, adolescent health and sub fertility for district managers and supervisors. Several meetings were held with FHD and doctors from the Mini Project to develop the content of package and identify resource materials and to agree on the agenda and process for a workshop.

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

- Continued support to all health facilities in implementation of their action plans, with particular focus on staff management
- All supported health facilities, except Dhungedada Health Post in Mugu, continue to provide 24 hours services and service utilisation continues to increase. Dhungedada Health Post recruited a new ANM

### ***Mugu***

- District planning review for 2007/08 with DPHO and staff
- Dhungedada review and planning, with action plan follow up
- Supported HFMC meeting at Dhungedada Health Post and recruitment of new ANM
- Provided support for antenatal care clinic
- Report on infection prevention training
- Provided orientation, training and support for MCDC baseline survey, to be piloted in three VDCs (Sreekot, Seri, Ghamtha)



### *Rupandehi*

- Meeting with HFMC of Dhakdai PHCC, Parroha Health Post and Motipur PHCC
- Provided support for action plan implementation at Suryapura Health Post
- Training for AMNs from three health facilities on SMNH updates

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

- Training of trainers in appreciative inquiry techniques carried out for 120 district facilitators/ change agents in eight supported districts, including Banke and Kapilvastu. Representatives from FHD and the regional health directorates and training centres attended, although NHTC and the central regional training centre were unable to attend.
- District planning workshops conducted in Humla (EOC strengthening, with coaching) and Udayapur (SBA and 24-hour services enabling environment). Both included leadership enrolment
- Quarterly breakthrough team meetings held in three districts, as a follow up to district planning workshops (one SHP in Jumla, PHCCs in Dang, six health posts and two PHCCs in Kabhre)
- Orientation (two days) and training of trainers (four days) for the FCHV safe motherhood package, for health facility in-charges, district supervisors and AHWs, carried out in Humla and Jumla. ANMs, staff nurses and MCHWs also covered in Jumla
- Plan prepared for district and VDC level FCHV training in eight supported districts at meetings with DHOs, PHOs, PHNs and FPA s
- Data collection completed for KAP Survey in Kabhre, Humla and Dang
- UNICEF DACAW annual regional review carried out
- DHOs in Jumla and Humla assisted in organising EOC fund management committees
- Mapping of disadvantaged groups carried out for EOC services utilised by *Dalit* and *Janjati* people
- Billboard with key SMNH messages displayed in Saptari and ready for display in Dang
- SMNH Watch Groups formed in Chhatrebajh (Dapcha) and Panchkhal VDCs in Kabhre district and Watch Group review meeting carried out in Dang district
- Establishment of 24-hour delivery services in Mangaltar and Bhumlutar health posts in Kabhre
- Other activities carried out include: district planning and HMIS review meeting in Panchthar; health camp for internally displaced people in Banke; meeting with NGOs in Humla to coordinate their provision of two nurses at an SHP; facilitation of Birth BPP training for FCHVs in Kabhre.

### **TCIC (Abortion)**

- Assessed four private sites for listing
- Participated in the workshop "Planning for a sustainable supply of manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) instruments" with different stakeholders from Nepal (total 10 participants) in Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Actively participated in the dissemination workshop on "Acceptability and Feasibility of Medical Abortion in Nepal" organised by NESOG on the study supported by Gynuity
- Printed 700 copies of 2008 diary with information about the MVA aspirator and Easy Grip Cannula and distributed widely to policy makers, CAC and PAC providers, partners and other stakeholders.
- Followed up with LMD for the tender of 1,000 MVA kits for this fiscal year.
- Inserted the instruction leaflet of MVA Plus in every kit and distributed to the providers.



- Updated the process for cleaning and assembly of the MVA plus for FPAN staff
- Organised one batch of CAC training at new FPAN training centre, Itahari; 4 Providers and 5 Nurse Assistants trained.
- Follow up on training for Ob/Gyn and Nurse Providers; waiting for advisory committee meeting minute.
- Attended FIGO initiative meeting on unsafe abortion
- Visited Seti Zonal Hospital and explored possibility of developing a CAC training site
- Prepared three abstracts for publication in PESON conference souvenir, including one on the piloted nurse training course.
- Prepared presentation for PESON conference
- Orientation on CAC provided to personal assistants of government officers
- Conducted workshop to prepare design document for radio programme
- Conducted CAC orientation programme for Health Assistants and Staff Nurses in coordination with DPHO in Bhaktapur district
- Prepared CAC orientation package for journalists
- Reviewed and pre-tested the forms for trainee followup and site follow up
- Carried out monitoring and technical support visits to 18 sites
- Provided on-site clinical coaching for nurses at 12 sites.

### **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**

- Supported certification of three additional SBA training sites, all of which started providing SBA training in December:
  - Lumbini Zonal Hospital started SBA in-service training for service providers without previous midwifery training (BEOC or MRT)
  - Baglung Hospital began SBA training for nurses and ANMs with MRT
  - Seti Zonal Hospital began SBA training for nurses and ANMs with MRT
- Supportive supervision visit to SBA training site, Lumbini Zonal Hospital
- Supported workshop for updating public health nurses, organised by FHD.

### **Output 6: Information**

- A meeting was organised at the Nepal Health Research Council to inform them about the proposed Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study. Those present included the Chair, Dr Mahesh Maskey and SSMP Team Leader and Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser. Dr. Maskey expressed support for the study, discussed an ongoing study on burden of disease, and recommended that SSMP make contact with one of the researchers



- At a meeting in the office of the Director of FHD, the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study was discussed with Dr BK Suvedi (Director), Ms Sharon Arscott Mills (USAD), Dr Devendra Karki and the SSMP Team Leader and Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser.
- Met Dr Kedar Baral to share the proposed MMM Study and the Burden of Disease Study.

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

- Initiated the development of standardisation of health infrastructures in Nepal
- A student supported by SSMP completed the Bio Medical Equipment Technician Training begun last year and has rejoined the institution through which he was recommended for the training (Udaypur District Hospital)
- Worked on analysis of construction work planned in the year 2007/08 for JAR as requested by HSR-SP
- Attended a training workshop organised by Ipas on sustainable supply of MVA kits

### **Output 8: Finance**

#### ***Maternity Incentives Scheme (MIS)***

- Submitted the financial monitoring report to DfID
- Supported FHD in organising MIS orientation for doctors, nurses, medical recorders and accountants at Maternity Hospital in Kathmandu (total 50 participants). As the largest provider of delivery and CEOC services in Nepal, MH has now joined the MIS scheme
- Support Institute of Child Health (UK) in finalising and printing the household questionnaire and managing researchers, hotels and training logistics for MIS evaluation
- Provided technical inputs on the reporting process of the MIS rapid assessment developed by the CREHPA
- Completed the process for submission of applications for safe motherhood and MIS regional coordinators, defined the selection criteria and helped the selection committee formulate interview questions
- Revisited the financial monitoring guidelines to be pre-tested in 3 districts of Nepal
- Reviewed the terms of references for pro-poor health financing survey developed by RTI (HSR-SP).



## 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
DACAW	Decentralised Action for Children and Women
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
LMD	Logistics management Division
MD	Management Division
MIS	Maternity Incentives 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  
UNFPA  
UNICEF  
USAID  
VDC

United Mission to Nepal  
United Nations Fund for Population Activities  
United Nations Children's Fund  
United States Agency for International Development  
Village Development Committee



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