

SUPPORT TO THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROGRAMME

Update on Major Activities in February 2008

General

- DfID carried out the annual review of SSMP, with a strong focus on progress against the logframe indicators. This involved a number of meetings with the team, partners and FHD over a period of a week, with a final feedback meeting. A short paper was prepared on how budget support spent on infrastructure has improved service quality
- Programme manager Jimmy Innes visited from Options London to support the review process
- The draft FHD Annual Work Plan and Budget was prepared, with inputs from the whole team
- The SSMP team contributed to a meeting organised by FHD for finalising their joint safe motherhood plan for 2008-09. This was a follow-up of the third Annual National Safe Motherhood and Newborn review meeting held in January.
- The SSMP partner meeting was held, featuring a presentation on data consistency and the HMIS from the Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser, and a discussion on planning and development of a strategy for SSMP advocacy and dissemination.

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

Central level

- Preparations were made for representatives from the EA team to participate in the OECD meeting in London in March, to which they have been invited
- Preparations were initiated for International Women's Day and Nepal Safe Motherhood Day with JHU/CCP and Safe Motherhood Network Federation
- Ben Rolfe visited from Options London to support the development of an EA programme advocacy and dissemination strategy, including linking with an overall SSMP strategy
- A two-day workshop was organised to work on the EA advocacy strategy. Participants included SSMP management and Options consultant, EA central team and district coordinators and focal persons of voice organisations.
- The EA Adviser participated in a donor consultation meeting (part of the Nepal Development Forum) organised by Ministry of Finance.
- A six-day training was organised on Rights Based Approaches and Social Inclusion in SMNH, with 42 participants, including the EA team (central and district) and government officials (MoHP, DHOs and DDCs). District level action plans for promoting health rights and social inclusion were developed, with defined responsibilities.
- Discussions among the EA team (central and district) were held on key issues for the third annual EA plan for districts. A guideline was prepared and circulated to districts.
- A draft report of '*Comparative study of two models, with and without service strengthening component*' was received from the Consultant. She presented key findings of the study for EA team feedback and finalisation of the report.
- The EA Programme Capacity Building Specialist, Mr. Sunil Acharya, resigned and Mr. Prakash Koirala is appointed in his position.
- The EA Programme Social Inclusion and Voice Capturing Specialist participated in the Consultation Meeting on Gender and Social Inclusion in the Human Development Report, organised by UNDP.
- The EAP Senior Finance Manager participated in a 2-day AAN meeting on developing Financial Policies for NGOs in Chitwan. He also provided financial orientation to three accountants and support for financial reconciliation of Chitwan based NGO partners.

- SSMP, with JHU/CCP drafted a concept note on communication planning for the Safe Delivery Incentive Programme (SIDP, previously known as the MIS).
- JHU/CCP provided support to the EA Programme to pre-test localised BCC materials in Dadeldhura.
- JHU/CCP facilitated the BCC Technical Working Group meeting for Postnatal Care for Mother and Newborn held at NHEICC.
- UNICEF received technical support from JHU/CCP for orienting district level stakeholders on re-airing *Jeevanko Jimmewari* (A drama serial) in Jumla.
- JHU/CCP and EAP jointly initiated health workers' training on Interpersonal Communication in the EA districts, using the NHEICC curriculum. [The first workshop was conducted in Dailekh.](#)
- Provided technical support to NHEICC to conduct regional BCC orientation workshop in Morang (In eastern region) and preparation of the report of regional BCC workshops previously held in Nepalgunj and Biratanagar

Districts

- Morang: SEDC training for EASO staff. Trainings on Leadership, Right Based Approach, and Appreciative Enquiry provided by EASOs to community group leaders. Exposure visits organised for women group leaders.
- Chitwan: 41 VDC level quiz contests organized. Two talk programmes at high schools on SMNH among poor and excluded. SMNH orientation for CFUGs in one VDC. *Poshilo chatpate* programme (from Myagdi) replicated. SMNH orientation for HFMC in 3 VDCs.
- Nawalparasi: 30 workshops on importance of emergency funds and transport for SMNH. Interaction meetings with 18 radio listener groups. SMNH messages by local folk singer in *Bhojpuri* language (30 venues). Three quiz contests for poor and excluded women (mothers' groups) in 3 VDCs and one quiz at high school. FPAN organized exposure visit for SMNH network members to Rupandehi.
- Myagdi: Health education on ANC Day in 32 places. Orientations in 23 schools. Orientation on SMNH for health staff, forest user groups, social leaders, village *katwals*, and school management committee. SMNH networks formed in 7 VDCs.
- Parbat: 42,000 pamphlets with SMNH messages distributed. SMNH quiz contests in 12 VDCs and 3 high schools, SMNH folk song competition in 2 VDCs, and *Poshilo chatpate* on ANC visit day in 20 VDCs. SMNH orientations for 2 CFUGs. Rs.10,000 provided for emergency fund. Stationery support to 109 groups and emergency light to 89 women's groups. PRRP and social audits in 6 VDCs.
- Rupandehi: 5 quiz contests among women groups. Emergency funds distributed to 90 mothers' groups. 5 SMNH orientations for local "quacks" and nursing students. Two-day training for mothers' groups on fund management (7), and two-day training for local political leaders on social inclusion and SMNH. EASOs staff received two days training on IPC/BCC.
- Dailekh: 1200 copies of second issue of *Aama* bulletin printed. EASO coordinators participated in HFMC meetings. SMNH orientations to police, NGOs, and GOs local staff. Emergency fund management trainings in 2 VDCs, and gender and social inclusion training for mothers' group leaders. Advocacy and social inclusion training for Dalit leaders.
- Dadeldhura: CFUG in 2 VDCs allocated Rs 30,000 for emergency fund. Srijana saving and credit cooperative made a policy to provide emergency fund to its shareholders with 8% interest rate and no interest for poor and excluded shareholders. Gender and social inclusion, leadership, group dynamics, emergency fund management trainings for mothers' group leaders. Local cable network agreed to display SMNH messages on TV for one month without charge. 5 mothers' groups have started to support every delivering woman with extra food. Billboard with SMNH Messages placed in 7 VDCs of RUWDUC.

Voice monitoring organisations and other groups

- SAC: 9 in-depth, 29 client exit interviews and 9 case studies in four districts conducted. Coordination meetings with EASOs and District Coordinators.
- Hicodef: Client exit interviews and in-depth interviews of second round of voice capturing almost completed in all four districts. Tabulation of data ongoing.
- CYC Baglung: Episodes 21 to 24 of Radio Magazine "Aama" approved by DHO, and recording and airing completed. Script writing of episode 25 and interviews completed. 12 radio listener groups formed. SMNH Orientations to 84 Micro Finance Group Centre Chiefs. NFE Facilitators training.
- Safer Society: Airing of episodes. 23, 24, 25, 26 of Radio Magazine Aama. Street dramas in 14 VDCs. NFE Facilitators training. Re-airing of Radio Magazine "Aama" up to episode 22 through three FM radio stations of Surkhet.

Output 2: Service strengthening

- Meeting with FHD and UMN to discuss selection of sub health posts Suryapur and Rudrapura (Rupandehi) for UMN support for establishment of 24-hour delivery services as requested by the DHO. At Suryapur the VDC and HFMC have collaborated to build rooms for delivery, recruited additional ANMs and submitted a request to the DHO to authorise them to start delivery services. In Rudrapura, the HFMC has rented two rooms for delivery service. Both facilities are considered suitable as birthing centres, in terms of populations served and accessibility and the DHO is supportive.
- Meeting with Jimmy Innes (Options London), Wilda and Sarah Stucke (Ipas) regarding further extension of SSMP support to Ipas and continuation of the partnership
- Meeting with UMN and Jimmy regarding the UMN proposal for a no cost extension of the UMN/ SSMP partnership
- Accompanied Jimmy on a visit to Maternity Hospital to see SBA training, CAC training and the newly constructed birthing unit supported by SSMP.
- Supported FHD in carrying out a one week induction for the newly recruited Regional SMNH coordinators.
- Supported and managed facilitation of a 3-day workshop on appreciative inquiry for mid level managers of DoHS and partners (Management Division, NHTC, NHIEC, FHD, Regional coordinators, Maternity Hospitals, NFHP, UNFPA, UNICEF) in order to develop a pool of facilitators for SMNH service improvements using the appreciative inquiry approach
- Attended MoHP meeting on human resource development (working group of human resource division of MoHP)
- Participated with UNICEF and other partners in FHD SMNH Sub committee meeting

United Mission to Nepal (UMN) (2 districts)

- 24-hour delivery service provision continues at all supported first phase health facilities supported:
 - Mugu – District Hospital and 2 health posts (home deliveries only)
 - Rupandehi – Dhakdai PHCC, Parroha Health Post

Mugu

- Action planning at Natharpu Health Post

Rupandehi

- Planning with DPHO to develop SMNH plan for 2008-09
- Meeting with Motipur PHCC staff to discuss needs assessment and action planning

- Needs assessment at Motipur PHCC

UNICEF (8 districts)

Central

- Prepared and disseminated draft guidelines for SMNH annual work plan to district colleagues and assisted with preparation of plans
- Monitoring visit to Dillichour Birthing Centre, Jumla, with FHD (Dr. Sharad Ghimire)
- Presentation on SMNH and radio programme on “Jeevan ko Jimewari” in Jumla to all the district key partners, with technical support from JHU/CCP
- Monitoring of FCHV training in Chandannath VDC, Jumla, with FHD (Dr. Sharad Ghimire). Found FCHV pictorial manual very user friendly.
- Participated in Public Private Partnership programme for Banke organised by Bheri Zonal Hospital, with active participation of RHD Director, FHD Director, local NGOs and INGOs working in SMNH in Nepalgunj
- Deputy representative of UNICEF organised human rights based approach and results based management workshop at Nepalganj, in which MNH consultants from the mid and far west region participated
- Participated in meeting of UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO on joint SMNH programming and presented the first draft proposal by Dr. Godfrey Walker to government partners

Districts

- **Achham:** Hospital staff meeting and discussion of breakthrough plan; Newborn Health via CB-IMCI training; discussion with DHO and support for drafting district annual work plan 2008; sharing of concept of airing radio programme (modelled on Jumla) with DHO; support for development of SMNH video; assessment visit to Kamalbazaar, Jayagadh and Shrikot HP
- **Jumla:** Institutional level FCHV training at 11 VDCs; brief survey of radio programme and orientation to monitoring committee; meeting on radio programme with team of Karnali FM station and district's stakeholders; second quarterly review meeting of breakthrough team at Hatsinja HP; onsite Infection Prevention training at Hatsinja birthing centre; RHCC meeting with agenda of identification of the women's group running through different organisations and formed the radio listeners groups.
- **Humla:** Coordinated with DHO and RHD to organise D-TOT of FCHVs SMNH package; coordinated with district to support drafting of annual work plan and follow-up of breakthrough team meeting
- **Bheri Zonal Hospital, Banke:** Discussion meeting with Dr. Yadav, Medical Superintendent for establishment of SBA training site, draft annual work plan prepared
- **Dang District:** Updated the information about SMNH with district focal person supported preparation of annual work plan for 2008.
- **Eastern region (Panchthar, Saptari and Udayapur):** Community level FCHV training on SMNH completed in Saptari - total 1078 FCHV from all the VDCs/Municipality, 27 VF and 900 CMs from all the DACAW VDCs participated; DTOT for FCHV community level training on SMNH completed in Udayapur - total 30 participants from SHP, HP and PHCC; DTOT for community level FCHV training on MNH completed in Panchthar - total 35 participants from Hospital, SHP, HP and PHCC; Monitoring visit to Saptari (community level FCHV training); community level FCHV training on SMNH is ongoing in Udayapur; annual work plans ER completed and submitted for feedback; LHFMOCTOT completed in Panchthar - total 35 participants
- **Kabhre:** VDC level FCHV training completed in 52 VDCs., ongoing in Sathighar and Dolalghat VDCs; Watch group formation Completed in Katikedeurali VDC and technical support provided for orientation; support visits to birthing centres and sub health posts;

Supervision of birthing centre construction site; Methinkot PHCC - Building is almost completed

TCIC (Abortion)

- Planned activities for Fiscal year 2009

Training

- 1 batch of Nurse Provider training (up to 8 weeks) completed at MH; 4 providers trained.
- Facilitated clinical training skills training at NHTC; 13 participants attended.
- CAC Training at MSI; 2 batches; 7 providers and 4 assistants trained
- CAC training at LZH Butwal; 1 batch; 5 providers and 2 assistants trained.
- CAC Training at MH; 1 batch ongoing for 9 providers
- Supported NESOG in identifying members (Sr Ob/gyn) for 3 days' CAC training at MSI and facilitated MSI in conducting this.
- Attended meeting on FIGO initiative situation analysis of unsafe abortion in Nepal.

Advocacy/ Policy and IEC/BCC

- Facilitated meeting to develop CAC Implementation Guideline
- Provided IEC materials to students of Nursing College to display on the stall organised by Nepal Nursing Association
- Pre- tested one episode of radio programme in Bhaktapur district
- Reviewed scripts for 5 episodes and recorded 3 episodes of radio drama
- Developed questionnaire for FCHVs for review meeting
- Review meeting with oriented FCHVs of Bhaktapur district.
- Visited In-charge of Marie Stopes Centre, Medical Doctor of Bhaktapur Hospital and Chief of Bhaktapur DPHO for collecting opinion on FCHV orientation program.

Listing and Equipment

- Listed 7 private sites
- Orientation on forecasting system for MVAs to TCIC staff
- Printed and distributed wall chart on MVA procedure to CAC sites
- Supported FHD in sending a letter to referral hospitals regarding management of complications and establishing MoU with private sector if needed.

Monitoring

- Oriented CAC nurse assistants from 15 sites and appointed them as site focal persons for CAC services
- Monitored 12 districts, both government and non government.

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 initiation of SBA training at new training site at AMDA hospital
- Coordinated and worked on MoU between SSMP and Institute of Medicine for development of pre-service SBA curricula and training.
- Supported workshop to update health staff job descriptions to include SBA responsibilities
- Participated in appreciative inquiry training
- Participated in training site need assessment at Pokhara and supportive supervision of SBA training and training follow up at Pokhara and Baglung
- Participated in development of human resource strategic plan at MoHP.
- Participated in human resource meeting at HSR-SP

Output 6: Information

- Meeting with Dr. Pav Govindasamy and Dr. Laurie Liskin of Macro International to discuss presentation of MMR further analysis of 2006 NDHS
- Attended the NDHS further analyses dissemination and facilitated follow up workshop to discuss policy implications of the findings of further analyses
- Meeting with Dr. Pav Govindasamy of Macro Int'l and Mr. Yogendra Prasai, New ERA, to finalise the budget and activities of the planned Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Study
- Attended the SMNSC meeting
- Attended a meeting in Management Division to support their development of the FY 2008/09 annual work plan and budget
- Attended the HSIS meeting in HMIS Section to discuss the computer system design for HSIS

Output 7: Physical assets

- Supported a one-day workshop to identify functions and to agree on methodology for health infrastructure standardisation work.
- Supported FHD for the preparation of SM annual joint annual plan
- Annual review and planning of infrastructure development work was completed by Management Division for Mid Western and Eastern Development Region in line with activities planned in Management Division's annual work plan and budget through SSMP FA support. SSMP TA support was provided to facilitate participation of DUDBC in the review/planning workshop
- Supported DUDBC in calculation of budget required for the year 2008/09 for completion of ongoing construction work
- Proposal to support Logistic Management Division (LMD) of Department of Health Service for the development of samples of EOC service related furniture locally in Nepal was prepared and agreed with LMD.
- Specifications and estimates were prepared and procurement initiated for training equipment for strengthening SBA pre-service training sites.

Output 8: Finance

- Supported FHD to prepare analysis of budget planned and spent in the fiscal year 2006/07 through SSMP Financial Aid

- Re-submitted the financial monitoring report to DfID

Maternity Incentives Scheme/ Safe Delivery Incentives Programme (SDIP)

- Completed the pre-testing of SDIP financial monitoring framework in Banke, Myagdi and Sankhuwashava districts
- SDIP regional orientation organised for doctors, nurses, medical recorders and accountants (total 20 participants) from the teaching and community hospitals in Pokhara.
- SDIP orientation in TU teaching hospital, Kathmandu
- Finalised the SDIP Rapid Assessment report submitted by CREHPA
- Supported SDIP impact evaluation (providing space and hiring data analysts)
- Oriented SMNH regional coordinators on SDIP and deputed them to the regional health offices
- Worked on the SDIP communication strategy with NHEICC and JHU CCP

List of Acronyms

AAN	ActionAid Nepal
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BEOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
BPP	Birth Preparedness Package
CEOC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care
CFUG	Community Forest User Group
CHD	Child Health Division
CREHPA	Centre for Research in Environment Health and Population Activities
DACAW	Decentralised Action for Children and Women
DoHS	Department of Health Services
D/PHO	District/ Public Health Officer
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
EA	Equity and Access
EASO	Equity and Access Support Organisation
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
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
NPC	National Planning Commission
NSI	Nick Simons Institute
PHN	Public Health Nurse
PNC	Post Natal Care
RH	Reproductive Health
RHCC	Reproductive Health Coordination Committee
SAS	Safe Abortion Service
SBA	Skilled Birth Attendant
SDIP	Safe Delivery Incentives Programme
SEDC	Safe and Effective Development in Conflict
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
VDC	Village Development Committee