

A quarterly journal

January 2018, Issue-13



Issue-13 (October - December 2017)

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Team Management



Equity & Equality



Work-life Balance

This e-newsletter covers the second quarter of FY 2018, i.e., October-December 2017. Some of the events of this quarter are highlighted below:

First Program Implementation Report (January-June 2017) of the 4th HPNSP

A structured template for collection of information from the LDs for the Program Implementation Report (PIR) 2017 covering the period January-June 2017 was developed in July 2017 and circulated by the Program Management and Monitoring Unit (PMMU) to the LDs in the second week of August 2017. A draft report was prepared by the PMMU, Planning Wing, Health Services Division (HSD) and sent to the LDs for their feedback. A workshop was held on 18 October 2017 with the LDs on their feedback. The PIR 2017 was then updated, finalized and circulated among all concerned.



Dissemination workshop on PIR-2017, presided over by the Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW

Field Visit to Cox's Bazar

A team of the Planning Wing led by the Joint Chief visited Cox's Bazar during 07-08 October 2017. The purpose of the visit was to assess the health requirements of the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (Rohingyas) in Bangladesh. During the visit, the Team had in-depth discussion with the Divisional Director of Chittagong Division, Civil Surgeon of Cox's Bazar, the UH&FPO of the Upazila Health Complex of Ukhia upazila, employees of the Kutupalong Community Clinic in Ukhia, and several DPs working there. The Team also visited Kutupalong and Balukhali camps as part of developing implementation plan to address emergency health issues.



A discussion meeting between the Planning Wing, MOHFW and the Local Stakeholders of Ukhia held in Cox's Bazar.

Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation's Visit to PMMU

Ms. Gabriela M. Escudero, Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation made two visits to the PMMU during this Quarter-one on 09 October and the other on 20 November 2017. She had in-depth discussion on the progress of activities of the PMMU with the PMMU-TAST members. The Senior Research Investigator and Senior Research Officer, icddr,b were also present in the meetings



Discussion meeting with the Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation, held in the conference room of PMMU, MOHFW

Launching Ceremony of SRHR-MNH Project in Bangladesh

A launching ceremony of the project entitled "Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights including Maternal and Newborn Health in Bangladesh (SRHR-MNH)" was held on 23 November 2017. The ceremony was chaired by the Director General, Directorate General of Health Services.

The Hon'ble State Minister, for MOHFW graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Hon'ble Minister for International Development and La Francophonie of Global Affairs Canada was present at the ceremony as the Guest of Honor. The SRHR-MNH project aims to improve sexual, reproductive health and rights and reduce maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality in low performing districts of Bangladesh. The project is being implemented by the UNFPA and UNICEF through 10 OPs (MNCAH, MCRAH, HSM, PMR,HIS & e-Health, NMES, CBHC, HEF, NNS, and CCSDP) of the 4th HPNSP in five districts (Patuakhali, Rangamati, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, and Moulvibazar). The project focuses on adolescents, girls and women, pregnant and lactating mothers, newborn and children under one year of age of the project area.

4th Program Monitoring Committee meeting of UHSSP

The 4th Program Monitoring Committee meeting of the project entitled 'Urban Health Systems Strengthening Project (UHSSP)' was held on 07 November 2017. The meeting was chaired by the Joint Chief, Planning Wing, HSD. The UHSSP project is being implemented under the HSD with fund from the DFID. The objective of the meeting was to review the progress of the project, discuss proposed urban health coordination mechanism; discuss and approve work plan of the project for next six months; etc.



The 4th PMC meeting of UHSSP, held in PMMU under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

JICA 2nd Fact Finding and Appraisal Missions



A discussion meeting with the JICA Appraisal Mission, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

The 2nd Fact Finding Mission of JICA was undertaken during 2-12 October, 2017. The main objective of the Mission was to study the feasibility of the proposed project entitled 'Health Service Strengthening Project' under the 39th Japanese ODA loan package and agree upon the outline of implementation framework of the Project. The focus of the Project is on control of NCDs and improvement of Urban Health.

During 10-21 December 2017, the Appraisal Mission of JICA took place with kick-off meetings on 11 December 2017 at the Economic Relation Division (ERD) and HSD. The key objectives of the Mission were to confirm the outline and time-bound action plan of the Project. The minutes of discussion was signed on 21 December 2017 with the Mission at a wrap-up meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary, HSD.

Visit of a High Level Delegation of the MOHFW to the World Bank Headquarters

A high level delegation of the MOHFW, led by Hon'ble Minister Mr. Mohammed Nasim, M.P., visited the World Bank Headquarters in Washington DC during 28-30 November 2017. Mr. Faiz Ahmed, Secretary, Medical Education and Family Welfare Division (ME&FWD), MOHFW, Dr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, DG, DGHS, and Dr. A. E. Md. Muhiudding Osmani, Joint Chief, Planning Wing, HSD, among others were members of the delegation.

The objective of the visit was to identify key policy issues in the HNP sector of Bangladesh and gain experience from global initiatives. The Hon'ble Minister met with World Bank Vice President for Human Development, Mr. Keith Hansen and World Bank Regional Vice President, Ms. Annette Dixon. Other members of the delegation attended several technical sessions on urban Health, universal health coverage, e-Health strategy and design concepts in developing countries, health care for displaced population, etc. The World Bank officials also shared their experience on 'Sector-wide Approach in the Health Sector of Bangladesh and Kyrgyz Republic: Lessons and Challenges' and 'Lessons Learned from Health Sector Development Program (HSDP), Bangladesh'.



Mr. Mohammed Nasim, Hon'ble Minister, MOHFW, with the Vice President for Human Development of World Bank Group, Washinton DC, USA

Meetings Held to Guide OP Implementation

Secretary, ME&FWD chaired two OPIC meetings, namely Maternal. Child, Reproductive and Adolescent Health (MCRAH) and Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) OPs during October-December 2017. The OPIC meetings of the HSD were chaired by the Joint Chief, Planning Wing. HSD conducted four Operational Plan Implementation Committee (OPIC) meetings on four OPs-namely Physical Facilities Development (PFD); Planning, Monitoring and Research (PMR); National Eye Care (NEC); and Alternative Medical Care (AMC). The OPIC meetings reviewed progress of the OPs and provided necessary guideline to the LDs for smoother implementation of the activities.

Gavi-PSR Mission



A discussion meeting with PSR Mission of GAVI, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

A Program Support Rationale (PSR) Mission of the Global Alliance on Vaccine and Immunization (Gavi) visited Bangladesh during 29 October-3 November 2017. The key objective of the Mission was to provide guideline to develop the PSR and discuss in detail the Health System Strengthening (HSS) support and Country Engagement Framework sections of the PSR. Several meetings took place during the Mission with the DGHS, HSD and the Development Partners (DPs).

Coordination Structure of ESP Implementation



Workshop on Coordination Structure of ESP implementation, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

A workshop on coordination structure for monitoring ESP implementation was held on 06 November, 2017 at CIRDAP, Dhaka under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW. Participants from relevant operational plans and relevant government officials attended the workshop. A presentation on draft coordination structure prepared by WHO was presented in the workshop. Assimilating feedback from the workshop, a set of indicators was developed for ESP implementation monitoring jointly by Planning Wing, MOHFW and WHO.



Workshop on developing results framework for ESP implementation monitoring, held in the conference centre of CIRDAP, Dhaka.

The Planning Wing, MOHFW in collaboration with WHO organized another workshop on developing results framework for ESP Implementation monitoring which was held on 15 November, 2017 at CIRDAP, Dhaka.

Consultations with TAST-PMMU

During the quarter, a number of delegations visited PMMU for consultation with the TAST members on a variety of subjects. A team of icddr,b conducting research on e-Registry as per award of the University of Oslo sought advice for ensuring continuation of their work, alongside the ongoing e-MIS pilot. Mr. Ken Grant, Technical Director (Intl. Health), M/S Mott. McDonald- a UK-based Consulting Company-discussed Bangladesh's 4th Sector Program as part of preparation for participating in DFID's potential areas of support for the Program.