



PMMU Newsletter

A quarterly journal

April 2018, Issue-14



Issue-14 (January - March 2018)

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Team Management



Equity & Equality



Work-life Balance

This e-newsletter covers the third quarter of FY 2018, i.e., January-March 2018. Some important events/activities performed during this quarter are highlighted below:

First Six-monthly Progress Report (July-December 2017) of the 4th HPNSP

A structured template for collection of information from the LDs for the first Six-monthly Progress Report (SmPR) of 4th HPNSP covering the period July-December 2017 was developed in early January 2018. The template was updated and finalized in two consecutive workshops attended by the LDs/PMs/DPMs of the 4th HPNSP. Customized templates for each OP were sent to the relevant LDs in early February 2018 for collecting required information. The PMMU is in the process of finalizing the SmPR based on information received from the LDs.



Workshop on SmPR template, presided over by the Joint Chief, Health Services Division, MOHFW

Implementation Support Mission of the World Bank: achieving DLIs

An Implementation Support Mission of the World Bank took place during 14-18 January 2018. The main objectives of the mission were to: (i) take stock of the status of prior results and the year-1 disbursement-linked indicators (DLIs); (ii) assess the DLI verification mechanism; (iii) assess financial management and disbursement arrangements; and (iv) follow-up on social and environmental safeguards; and (v) coordinate with the development partners. The mission met with relevant GOB officials as well as with the DPs. An Aide-Memoire, summarizing implementation status and actions agreed with the relevant agencies was discussed at wrap-up meetings held on 6 and 7 February 2018 under the chairmanship of the Secretaries of HSD and ME&FWD respectively.

During the mission, it was revealed that targets of one disbursement-linked result (DLR) of the prior results and two DLRs of FY 2017-18 were achieved and the World Bank was to make disbursement of US\$ 34 million following the procedure.

A consultant, appointed by the World Bank, joined the PMMU for monitoring and reporting on DLI achievement. He was given initial orientation by the PMMU-TAST on World Bank supported project/DLIs etc.

Orientation Meeting on “Advancing Universal Health Coverage (AUHC)” Project

An orientation meeting on USAID’s ‘Advancing Universal Health Coverage (AUHC)’ project was held on 24 January 2018 under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. The AUHC project is a five-year project financed by USAID and implemented by Chemonics International and Partners that intends to transform the Smiling Sun Network of clinics into a single sustainable, pro-poor social enterprise. It plans to introduce innovative business and operational models, create essential health service packages for the poor, and develop new health service delivery outlets.

PMMU shared a note with both MOHFW and USAID drawing their attention to a number of issues needing attention for the proposed transformation of the Smiling Sun Network into one social marketing company.

Project Planning Workshop of SHASTO Project: piloting NCD approach



Project Planning Workshop of SHASTO Project, presided over by joint chief, HSD, MOHFW

A Project Planning Workshop of the technical cooperation project entitled “Strengthening Health Systems through Organizing Communities (SHASTO)”, being implemented by JICA, was held on 1 February 2018 under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. The SHASTO project is being implemented during July 2017-June 2022 with an estimated cost of US\$ 5 million. This fund, provided as grant, is in the form of Direct project Aid (DPA). The SHASTO project has been developed following the experience of the Safe Motherhood Promotion Project (Narshingdi Model) and is being implemented by the MOHFW in collaboration with JICA within the framework of the 4th HPNSP. The purpose of the SHASTO project is to improve the NCDs and MNH services in an integrated manner. The project is being implemented through SWPMM, HEF, NCDC, CBHC, HSM and L&HEP OPs with pilot sites in Dhaka City, Narshingdi & Cox’s Bazar districts.

The expected outputs of the SHASTO project are- (i) integrated NCDs (cardiovascular diseases and diabetes mellitus) and maternal health services are delivered in the pilot sites; ii) hospital management is strengthened for service quality improvement; (iii) NCD prevention activities are promoted in the pilot sites through working with community and support groups; and (iv) good practices and lessons learnt from the Project are implemented.

Urban Health-lessons and next step

A conference on urban health, entitled “Urban health Systems Conference”, was held under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD on 28 February 2018. The conference was organized by the Urban Health System Strengthening Project (UHSSP) of the HSD to share lessons learned through this project. Representatives from the World Bank, DFID and Options-the contracted Project implementer and a large number of stakeholders from the three pilot municipalities (Dinajpur, Mymensing and Jashore) as well as from the Local Government Division of MOLGRDC attended the conference. Previously on 31 January 2018, a consultation took place under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD with development partners.

It was agreed that a separate Cell would be formed under the Planning Wing, HSD to move forward urban health related tasks and coordinate with other stakeholders.

PIC Meeting of Gavi-HSS



PIC meeting of GAVI-HSS, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

A Project Implementation Committee (PIC) meeting of Gavi-HSS was held on 13 February 2018 under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. The meeting revised TOR of Gavi Consultant to revise GOB application for seeking Gavi support for MR follow-up campaign. Relevant representatives from the GOB, WHO and UNICEF participated in the meeting.

Inception Meeting of a Proposed Study on "Immunization Coverage in Urban Slums of Bangladesh and its associated Factors"



Inception meeting on Immunization Coverage in urban slums, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW.

Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation's Visit to PMMU

Ms. Gabriela Maria Escudero, Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation visited PMMU on 12 March 2018. She had in-depth discussion on the progress of activities of the PMMU with the PMMU-TAST members and Joint Chief, HSD. Deputy Chief (PMMU), Senior Research Investigator and Senior Research Officer, icddr,b were also present in the meeting.

Also, Ms. Ashley Strahly from MEASURE Evaluation Headquarter visited PMMU on the same day and had separate consultations with the TAST members to arrive at an assessment of PMMU.



Discussion meeting with the MEASURE Evaluation Teams.

Meetings Held to Guide OP Implementation

During the last quarter, the ME&FWD conducted one Operational Plan Implementation Committee (OPIC) meeting in March on the MIS OP of DGFP under the chairmanship of Secretary, ME&FWD. The HSD conducted 8 OPIC meetings on 6 OPs (CBHC-1, HSM-1, CDC-1, MNCAH-2, NNS-2 and IFM-1). The OPIC meetings of the HSD were chaired by the Joint Chief, HSD. All the OPIC meetings reviewed progress of the OPs and provided necessary guideline to the LDs for smoother implementation of activities.

Consultations with TAST-PMMU

Two consultants from Urban Health System Strengthening Project (DFID financed) visited the PMMU to gather opinion regarding the institutional co-ordination mechanism between multiple service providers of urban health introduced in the Project areas (3 urban municipalities). The PMMU was also consulted by a representative from the USAID on the state of the long-awaited scheme of hospital accreditation and the legal as well as administrative steps taken so far by different arms of MOHFW-by Director of Hospital, DGHS and HEU. Probable next steps were discussed.