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Team Management



Equity & Equality



Work-life Balance

This e-newsletter covers the first quarter of FY 2019, i.e., July-September 2018. Some important events/activities of this quarter are highlighted below:

First Annual Program Implementation Report (APIR) of 4th HPNSP

The first full-year Annual Program Implementation Report (APIR) of 4th HPNSP covering the period July 2017 - June 2018 was developed during this quarter. A structured template for collection of information from the LDs for APIR 2018 was developed in early July 2018. The template was updated and finalized in four consecutive workshops on 4 and 5 July 2018 - two held per day. The workshops were attended by the LDs/PMs/DPMs of the 4th HPNSP. Customized templates to collect information on progress for each OP were sent to the relevant LDs on 9 July 2018. Financial progress data was collected from the Planning Wing, HSD and Planning Branch, ME&FWD. The APIR 2018 report was sent to the Planning Wing on 30 September 2018. Steps would be taken by the Planning Wing for dissemination.

SDG Implementation Review (SIR)

Secretary, HSD participated in a national-level conference on SDG implementation held during 4-6 July 2018 under the chairmanship of the Honorable Prime Minister. Representatives of the DPs, civil society, academics and other stakeholders participated in the conference. Secretary, HSD made a power point presentation at the Conference on progress of SDG targets assigned for the HSD to achieve. An accompanying SDG Implementation Review (SIR) report of HSD was also prepared and sent to the Prime Minister's Office. The PMMU assisted with preparation of the brief and supporting documents for Secretary, HSD.

Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation's Visit to PMMU

Ms. Gabriela Maria Escudero, Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation visited PMMU on 30 and 31 July 2018 as part of her regular visit. On 30 July, she was apprised of the activities of PMMU-TAST during the last quarter, work in hand, future program of work and anticipated future challenges. She also held discussions with the GOB staff at PMMU and the Joint Chief, Planning Wing.



Discussion meeting with the Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation

Workshop on M&E Focusing on APIR 2018

The Planning Wing of HSD, with technical and logistic support from MEASURE Evaluation Phase-IV Project of USAID, conducted two half-day workshops on 31 July 2018. The objective of the workshop was to orient the M&E Focal Points of each of the OPs on M&E focusing on APIR. Besides the Focal Points, officials of the Planning Wing/Planning Branch participated in the workshop, which was inaugurated by the Joint Chief, HSD. The CTA of PMMU provided a brief on the objective and significance of the workshop. The Country Coordinator of Measure Evaluation and HIS/M&E Advisor of PMMU-TAST were the resource persons in the workshops.



M&E workshop, presided over by Joint Chief (Planning), HSD, MOHFW



Ms. Gabriela Maria Escudero, Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation, making a presentation on the fundamentals of M&E in the workshop

DLI Monitoring Committee Meeting

The third DLI Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 24 July 2018 at PMMU under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. Progress of the disbursement-linked results (DLRs) of FY 2017 (prior results) which have not been achieved yet and DLRs of FY 2018 were reviewed in the meeting. The meeting was attended by the members of the Committee and representatives of relevant OPs.



DLI Monitoring Committee Meeting, presided over by Joint Chief (Planning) HSD, MOHFW

The fourth DLI Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 6 September 2018 under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. The meeting reviewed further progress of the DLRs of FY 2017 (prior results) which have not been achieved yet and DLRs of FY 2018 and provided guidance to the implementers on expediting activities and proper reporting. The meeting also co-opted DFID, EKN, GAC and Sida as members to the Committee as they have joined the multi-donor trust fund managed by the World Bank.

Retreat for Development of Gavi Grant Proposal

A consultative workshop for improving the MOHFW's application for Gavi-HSS3 grant in a two-day long retreat was held during 24-25 July 2018. Representatives of Planning Wing led by Joint Chief and those from WHO, UNICEF and Gavi Headquarter participated in the workshop. The workshop was also participated by the Advisors of PMMU.

Local Consultative Group (LCG) –Working Group (WG) on Health Meetings

The first meeting of the LCG-WG on Health was held on 26 July 2018 under the chairmanship of Secretary, HSD. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary, ME&FWD and DP Consortium Chair. The meeting reviewed the update on implementation of the 4th HPNSP as well as Project Aid commitment of the DPs.

The second meeting of LCG-WG on Health was held on 28 August 2018 under the chairmanship of Secretary, ME&FWD. The Chair of the HNP DP Consortium was present in the meeting as DP Co-chair. Draft Program Support Rationale (PSR) and Cold Chain Equipment Optimization Platform (CCEOP) for Gavi's support to the 4th HPNSP were endorsed in the meeting upon reflection of the feedbacks given in the meeting.

PIC Meeting of Gavi-HSS

The 53rd PIC meeting of Gavi-HSS program was held on 13 August 2018 where discussion on issues related with recruitment of a Financial Management Agent for the MOHFW was discussed. The 54th PIC meeting of Gavi-HSS program was held on 27 August 2018 as a preparatory meeting for the 2nd LCG-WG on Health meeting. On 5 September 2018, the 55th PIC meeting was held to discuss Gavi's proposed support for the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (FDMNs) and ways to incorporate the additional US\$ 4 million to be allocated to the 4th HPNSP by Gavi from its performance-based financing source.

It is expected that Gavi would finance US\$ 50 million through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund managed by the World Bank as Reimbursable Project Aid and around US\$ 41 million as DPA to the 4th HPNSP. Additionally, around US\$ 4 million is expected to be provided for FDMNs.



PIC meeting of Gavi-HSS3, presided over by Joint Chief (Planning), HSD, MOHFW

Meeting with DPs at ME&FWD

A meeting organized by the ME&FWD was held on 27 September 2018 with the DPs in connection with TA support for the ME&FWD. The meeting was chaired by the Secretary, ME&FWD and attended by the DPs including the P&C Advisor of PMMU.

Annual Program Review 2018

The Planning Wing, HSD in cooperation with the Planning Branch, ME&FWD and the DPs decided to hold Annual Program Review (APR) 2018 covering the period July 2017 through to June 2018. The first meeting of APR Steering Committee (APR-SC) for APR 2018 was held on 16 September 2018 under the chairmanship of Joint Chief, HSD. Tentative thematic areas, number of consultants and tentative timing of APR 2018 were discussed in the meeting. Representatives from the PW, IMED, World Bank, DFID, USAID and PMMU participated.



APR Steering Committee meeting, presided over by Dr. A. E. Md. Muhiuddin Osmani, Joint Chief (Planning), HSD, MOHFW

Workshop to develop 'Harmonized TA Plan'

The Planning Wing, HSD with support from DFID, Bangladesh arranged a workshop on 19 September 2018. DPs in the HNP sector and representatives of relevant LDs participated in the workshop to prioritize TAs for the 4th HPNSP to be provided by DFID under its 'Better Health in Bangladesh: Interim TA Support through NGOs' project to be implemented during October 2018 - March 2020. TAST members of PMMU participated in the workshop. MSH, which is handling the TA Project, made a follow-on call to PMMU for a daylong consultation on the subject on 26 September 2018.

Recognition for Utilization of RADP Allocation

For the first time since the beginning of Sector Programs in 1998, the MOHFW started the practice of awarding the best performing LD in connection with utilization of RADP fund. On 11 September 2018, the Hon'ble Minister for MOHFW awarded the LD of HIS & e-Health OP for highest utilization of RADP allocation in FY 2018. The LD of PFD OP, was also awarded for high utilization of RADP allocation in FY 2018. Hon'ble State Minister for MOHFW and Secretary, HSD along with other high officials of the Ministry were present at the ceremony.



The Honorable Minister, MOHFW, giving award to the Line Director, PFD-OP of the 4th HPNSP



The Honorable Minister, MOHFW, giving best performance award to the Line Director, MIS-OP of the 4th HPNSP

Signing of Financing Agreement with the World Bank

On 20 September 2018, the World Bank signed financing agreement with the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Dhaka, to provide US\$ 50 million through the Bank's 'Health Sector Support Project (HSSP)' as additional financing. This assistance will be utilized to provide HNP services to the FDMNs in Cox's Bazar district. The World Bank is providing US\$ 41.67 million as grant from its IDA-18 Refugee Window and 8.33 million as credit from its country IDA credit. However, GAC is buying-down the credit amount and has already entered into an agreement with the Bank in this regard.