

PMMU Newsletter



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Issue-20 (July - September 2019)

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Team Management



Equity & Equality



Work-life Balance

This e-newsletter of PMMU covers the first quarter of FY 2019-20, i.e., July-September 2019. Some important events/activities of this first quarter are highlighted below:

Annual Program Implementation Report (APIR) 2019 (July 2018-June 2019)

PMMU initiated the process of developing customized templates towards end-June 2019 for collection of information from LDs on implementation progress of their respective OPs in FY 2018-19 and the first date for submission of filled-in templates was 21 July 2019. A workshop on the general template of APIR 2019 was held on 11 July 2019 at DGHS Conference Room in Mohakhali with the LDs and other personnel of the OPs of DGHS. It took till early September to get information from all the OPs in the customized templates. The first draft report of APIR 2019 was then developed and shared on 30 September 2019 within the Planning Wing and Planning Branch of MOHFW for next course of actions.

Workshop on 'Development of District Health Plan for Cox's Bazar District'

A two-day long workshop was held in Cox's Bazar during 21 and 22 July 2019 on 'Development of District Health Plan for Cox's Bazar District', organized by the World Bank. The Bank is going to finance US\$ 150 million (in grant terms) to strengthen the health system of Cox's Bazar District to deliver HNP and gender-based violence (GBV) response services for the host population and the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals. Close coordination will be ensured with the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs for GBV response Upazila and District-level health and family planning officials participated in the workshop. In the first session, recently conducted assessment of the health and FP facilities in Cox's Bazar district was reviewed and updated; then requirement of health and FP facilities to provide HNP services including gender-based violence was drafted in upazila-wise groups. Mr. Zahid Maleque, M.P., Hon'ble Minister for MOHFW was present at the closing session on 22 July 2019 and gave some directions to the participants.

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Visit of Country Coordinator of Measure Evaluation and Data for Impact Projects to PMMU



Discussion meeting with Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation

Ms. Gabriela Maria Escudero, Country Coordinator, MEASURE Evaluation and Data for Impact Projects visited PMMU on 19 August 2019 and was apprised of the activities of PMMU-TAST during the last quarter, work in hand, future program of work and anticipated future challenges. On 18 September 2019, she had discussions with the Joint Chief, Planning Wing at his office.

TA Committee Meetings



A task group meeting, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW

The eighth TA Committee meeting took place under the chairmanship of the Joint Chief, Planning Wing, Health Services Division (HSD) and chair of the Committee on 2 September 2019. Two TORs for capacity development of planning officials of MOHFW were reviewed, revised, and recommended for approval. The TAs are going to be provided by the 'Better Health for Bangladesh: Interim TAs to 4th HPNSP' project of DFID, being implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH).

DLI Monitoring Committee Meetings



DLI Monitoring Committee meeting, presided over by Joint Chief, HSD, MOHFW

The seventh and eighth meetings of DLI Monitoring Committee were held on 8 August and 12 September 2019 respectively. The meetings were presided over by the Joint Chief, Planning Wing, HSD and Chair of the committee. Progress of achievement of the Disbursement-Linked Results (DLRs) as well as the DLRs pending with the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) for verification were reviewed in the meetings.

Divisional Workshop on SDGs and 4th HPNSP



Divisional workshop on SDGs and 4th HPNSP held in Hotel Grand Park, Barishal

In continuation of SDG localization initiative of the Prime Minister's Office, the Health Services Division organized another Divisional Workshop in Barishal on 16 September 2019. The workshop was held under the chairmanship of Director (Health), Barishal Division.

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Two power point presentations were delivered at the workshop- one by Mr. Huzur Ali, Deputy Chief (attachment), Planning Wing, HSD on 'Overview of SDGs and progress of health-related SDG indicators of Bangladesh'; and the other by Mr. Ibrahim Khalil, Senior Assistant Chief, Planning Wing, HSD on 'Implementation of 4th HPNSP towards achievement of health-related SDGs'.

Nearly 200 participants representing all tiers of the health workforce of Barishal Division and community representatives participated in the workshop. After the two presentations, the participants were engaged in group exercise on four prioritized health-related indicators of SDG (reduction of stunting, maternal mortality ratio, U-5 mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate). Recommendations for improving service were presented by each group at the concluding Plenary Session of the workshop, keeping in view the existing constraints and resource limitations.

Meeting of the HNP Committee for FDMNs

The MOHFW constituted an HNP Committee for the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (FDMNs) in May 2019 to guide, coordinate and monitor the HNP services provided to the FDMNs. The first meeting of this Committee, chaired by Secretary-HSD and co-chaired by Secretary-Medical Education and Family Welfare Division (ME&FWD), was held on 12 September 2019. Representatives of the four UN agencies- IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO who are the implementers of HNP activities for FDMNs with DPA fund in Cox's Bazar district-provided separate presentations on progress of their activities.

The Committee requested the UN agencies for submission of annual workplan, quarterly reporting of financial and physical progress of the annual work plan, and for providing their updates using a common format.

Implementation Support Mission of the World Bank

The World Bank fielded its Implementation Support Mission for 'Health Sector Support Project (HSSP)' during 8-19 September 2019. The Bank is supporting the 4th HPNSP through HSSP. It also manages GFF and MDTF grants for the Program. The Mission met with relevant GOB officials, development partners and other stakeholders.

An Aide-Mémoire, summarizing project implementation status and actions agreed with the relevant agencies of the GOB, was reviewed in a wrap-up meeting held on 17 September 2019 where Secretary-HSD and Secretary-ME&FWD remained present as the Chair and Co-chair. The Mission found implementation progress of HSSP project to be satisfactory. Both the GOB and the Mission agreed to some time-bound activities for further progress of project activities.

OP Implementation Committee (OPIC) Meetings

The Health Services Division completed OPIC meetings of 17 OPs within September 2019 where the annual workplans for FY 2019-20 were recommended for approval and implementation. OPIC meetings on the remaining two OPs are scheduled to be held in early October. Within September 2019, the Medical Education and Family Welfare Division also had all the annual workplans of OPs under it for FY 2019-20 recommended for approval and implementation.

Consultative Workshop on Post-Crash Care for road Traffic Accident in Bangladesh

On 29 August 2019, a multi-stakeholder consultative workshop was organized jointly by the Planning Wing, HSD and the World Bank to identify priority interventions of a post-crash response system for Bangladesh. Relevant officials of the MOHFW and key stakeholders working in the area of pre-hospital and hospital-based emergency care, participated in the workshop. Some recommendations came-up from the workshop discussions to improve post-crash care in Bangladesh that will contribute to development and implementation of a national road safety strategy for Bangladesh.

Possible Financing on Urban Health Activities

The World Bank is likely to finance US\$ 300 million from its 19th round of IDA credit for a project to improve HNP services in urban areas in Bangladesh. The Bank had held a series of meetings with the GOB, development partners and the private sector over the past few months. A meeting was also held with the Planning Officials of HSD and PMMU-TAST team on 15 September 2019 under the chairmanship of the Joint Chief, HSD. Moreover, a joint collaboration of UNICEF-Sida with approximately US\$ 8.00 million is being planned to be implemented with GOB on urban health related activities.