



PMMU eNewsletter

A quarterly e-Journal (July 2015, issue-3)



Issue-3 (April-June 2015)

In this Issue

- Workshop on SmPR-2014
- Steering Committee meeting on Revised OPs
- Training on Planning, Monitoring and Program Management
- HLC Meeting of next HNP Sector Program
- Thematic TG meetings
- Meeting of the LCG Working Group-Health
- Workshop on next HNP Sector Program Preparation
- Workshop on Universal Health Coverage (UHC)



Workshop on Six-monthly Progress Report-2014

This Six-monthly Progress Report (SmPR) highlights progress of HPNSDP implementation covering the first half of FY 2014-15 (July-December 2014). This is the third SmPR under HPNSDP. The preparation process of SmPR involved data collection, analysis, report drafting, sharing with the stakeholders, dissemination workshop, and finalization of the report.

This six-monthly review provides an opportunity for internal stocktaking especially by the implementers and other stakeholders and for developing roadmap to way forward. Consistent with this objective, the present SmPR includes review of implementation progress measured by OP indicators, financial progress against Annual Development Program (ADP) allocation and physical progress of selected activities. The findings, analysis and suggestions contained in the SmPR help the stakeholders in making realistic decisions, accelerating implementation and improving implementation performance of the OPs and encouraging steps to achieve better results.

The SmPR-2014 (July-December 2014) workshop was held on 17 May 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Mrs. Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary, MOHFW presided over the meeting. This is the third SmPR prepared for the HPNSDP in Bangladesh. The workshop was attended by the LDs and their team members i.e. PMs and DPMs, etc and by the members of the Planning Wing, MOHFW.

Address

Program Management & Monitoring Unit (PMMU)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Old Janoshankhya Bhaban (2nd floor),

Azimpur, Dhaka-1205

Telephone: +88 02 9665313-4

Fax: +88 02 9665314

E-mail: pmmu_pw@gmail.com

Web: www.mohfw.gov.bd

Steering Committee Meeting on Revised Operational Plans

The Revised Program Implementation Plan (RPIP) was approved by the ECNEC on 31 March 2015 and in this context all Operational Plans (OPs) needed to be revised following the approved RPIP. According to the RPIP, a Steering Committee on revised OPs of HPNSDP has been reformulated. The Steering Committee was formed comprising the representatives of Ministry of Public Administration, Finance Division, Economic Relations Division, Implementation Monitoring & Evaluation Division, Socio-Economic Infrastructure Division, Programming Division and General Economics Division of Planning Commission. Secretary, MOHFW is the Chair of this Steering Committee. Deputy Chief, Planning Wing is the Member Secretary of this Committee.

A series of meetings of the Steering Committee were held from 26 April to 06 May 2015 to discuss 32 Revised Operational Plans (ROPs). Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, MOHFW presided over the meetings. The ROPs of HPNSDP were finally approved by the Honorable Minister for Health & Family Welfare at the recommendations of this Steering Committee. This revision exercise has helped rationalize OP activities along with budget for implementation by the end of June 2016.



Training on Planning, Monitoring and Program Management



A 3-day training program on Planning, Monitoring and Program Management was held between 18 and 25 May 2015 at the MIS Auditorium of DG-Health, arranged by the Planning Wing of MOHFW. This training was arranged in order to orient the new managers as well as to refresh the continuing ones on the basics of Planning, Monitoring and Management of the OPs and the Projects under implementation in MOHFW. The training module was divided into three parts-(a) Planning and Budgeting (b) Monitoring and (c) Program Management. The module on Planning and Budgeting dealt with concepts of ADP/RADP, ADP allocation, fund release, the preparation of development budget, the Annual Work Plan, etc. The module on Monitoring covered the need and use of various monitoring instruments like APR, APIR, DAAR, GAAP, MTBF, IMED formats, etc. The use of OP and RFW indicators, and follow-up actions on PAP, etc. were also discussed in this part. Financial management, role of Line Directors/Project Directors, assessment of OP/Project performance, reporting, etc. were included in the module on Program Management.

On the first day, LDs of 15 OPs were present. Besides, 14 officers of rest of the OPs participated in the training program. On second day, 21 Program Managers, 29 Deputy Program Managers and 33 Accountants attended the training program. 9 Project Directors, 15 accountants and 7 other officers participated in the training program on the last day. All together, 143 implementers attended this 3-day training program. All participants considered this training helpful for improving skills in program planning, budgeting, monitoring and overall management. They felt that it could be repeated earlier in the financial year.

High Level Committee (HLC) Meeting of 4th HNP Sector Program

MOHFW constituted a High Level Committee (HLC) to steer the 4th HNP Sector Program preparation activities of MOHFW. The Committee was formed comprising both GOB and DP members. Secretary, MOHFW is the Chair of this Committee. The main responsibility of the Committee is to assess, review, discuss and endorse (or not) proposals submitted by the Planning Working Committee (PWC) and ensure that these proposals align with the larger policy environment of the government. In other words, the HLC is a direction setting/decision making body.

The first meeting of the HLC was held on 07 May 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary and Chairperson of the HLC presided over the meeting. Representatives of the World Bank, USAID, DFID, WHO, UNICEF, and other GOB-DP members were present in the meeting.

The Joint Chief (Planning), MOHFW informed that a draft Concept Paper (CP) on 4th HNP Sector Program had been developed by the Planning Wing and shared with relevant stakeholders, through organizing three workshops at DGHS, DGFP and MOHFW. The CP was finalized and placed before the HLC for its endorsement. The DP representatives appreciated the draft CP and remarked that the CP included all essential elements required for preparation of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). They provided some editorial comments and requested to include those in the CP. After threadbare discussion, the draft CP was endorsed by the HLC. The HLC also reviewed the tentative roadmap for preparation of the 4th HNP Sector Program and suggested some modifications.

Meeting of the Local Consultative Group (LCG) Working Group-Health

The 11th meeting of LCG Working Group-Health took place on 25 June 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, MOHFW presided over the meeting. Ms. Melissa Jones from USAID attended as Co-Chair for the first time.

In the meeting, discussion was held on GAVI-HSS new funding proposal. It was decided that the Ministry would ask for one year costed extension of the existing GAVI-HSS program and would include EVM & Surveillance activities.

Progress on the 4th HNP Sector Program preparation was discussed in the meeting. The LCG was appraised about the formation of the High Level Committee (HLC) and the Planning Working Committee (PWC) and the finalization of Concept Paper (CP). The LCG welcomed the International Lead Consultant, Dr. David Daniels who arrived on 23 June 2015 for the preparation of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). The meeting also reviewed the progress of implementation of the Priority Action Plan 2014. The LCG recognized the fruitful role of two departing DP representative -Ms Ylva Sorman-Nath (SIDA) and Ms Lisa Steinacher of KFW and wished them well for their future.



Thematic Task Group Meetings



Nine Task Groups (TGs) comprising both GOB and DP members, had been working to monitor thematic area-wise implementation progress under HPNSDP.



A meeting of the SWPMM TG of HPNSDP was held on 12 May 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Mr. Md. Helal Uddin, Joint Chief (Planning), MOHFW presided over the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was to follow up the progress of Priority Action Plan (PAP) related to SWPM TG. The TG members including the DPs and the LDs and other officials of the Ministry and Directorates, representative of Planning Commission, Finance Division, ERD and IMED etc. were present in the meeting. The meeting reviewed the progress of actions and rescheduled timeframe for completion of certain actions based on needs.

A meeting of the MNCH & FP TG of HPNSDP was held on 13 May 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Prof. Dr. Deen Mohammad Noorul Huq, Director General, DGHS and Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP were present in the meeting as Chair and Co-chair respectively. The meeting discussed progress of PAP of MTR-2014, the revision of 'National Neonatal Health Strategy and Guidelines', the approval status of Maternal Health Strategy and SOP, the findings of the Health Facility Survey and the Demographic Health Survey -2014 as well as the progress on BCC Strategy, etc.



Members of the TG representing the DPs and LDs and other officials of the Ministry and the Directorates took part in the discussions. The meeting reviewed progress on priority actions and took further decisions on certain actions which had been progressing slowly. The DPs took active part in all the TG meetings and contributed to ways of resolving implementation issues.



Workshop on next Sector-wide Program Preparation

The HPNSDP is the third sector-wide program for overall improvement of health, nutrition and population sub-sectors. The GOB intends that after HPNSDP (2011-16), the 4th sector-wide program will be implemented from July 2016 for a period of five years through to June 2021 without any interruption between the current and next sector program. In this context, a Concept Paper (CP) on 4th HNP Sector Program had been developed and finalized by the Planning Wing and endorsed by the HLC. The CP will guide the preparation of Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) for the next Sector Program, which will be finalized through a process of consultations at different levels and with different stakeholders. The consultation will involve MOHFW program implementers, service providers at different levels, as well as the DPs, a broad range of other stakeholders and the service recipients.



The International Lead Consultant for the preparation of SIP David Daniels visited Bangladesh during June 24-30, 2015. On 24 June, he met the Joint Chief and other officials in the Planning Wing of MOHFW and the World Bank regarding RBF & DLI. On 25 June, he attended the LCG meeting and DP discussion. A series of separate meetings among the Lead Consultant and DGHS, DGFP, NIPORT, DGDA and DNS were held on 27 June 2015. Besides, separate discussions with DPs and CSOs took place on 28 June 2015.



In connection with SIP preparation, a GOB-DP Workshop was organized on 29 June 2015 in the World Bank Conference Room. Mr. Biman Kumar Saha, ndc, Additional Secretary, MOHFW was the Chair in the Workshop. The Lead Consultant gave a presentation on initial SIP discussions of 4th HNP Sector Program. He spelt out some initial thoughts on 8 strategic areas such as--(a) development of government's stewardship and governance of the sector; (b) institutional development at all levels of the system; (c) core system capacity strengthening, etc. The workshop ended with a common understanding between GOB and DP representatives on the strategic focus of the SIP.



Workshop on Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) means all people receiving the health services they need, including health initiatives designed to promote better health and prevent illness. UHC belongs to Goal 3-Target 3.8 of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which includes achieving UHC by -(a) involving financial risk protection and access; (b) quality essential healthcare services; and (c) safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines & vaccines for all.



With a view to addressing UHC in next (4th) HNP Sector Program, a workshop was held on 30 June 2015 in the Conference Room of MOHFW. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, MOHFW presided over the event. In the beginning, a presentation on "Progress of UHC in Indonesia" was given by Dr. Md. Aminul Hasan of Health Economics Unit (HEU).

Then Dr. Mohammad Khairul Hasan, Deputy Chief (Health) of MOHFW presented Way Forward towards UHC, where he highlighted some progresses made by MOHFW, for example-(a) Implementation of SSK piloting is going on; (b) UHC monitoring tools developed; (c) Social Health Protection Act drafted; (d) National Planning on Quality of Care developed; (e) National Health Care Standard developed; (f) Level of Services (from UHC to MCH) identified; (g) Concept Paper of Health Insurance for civil servants drafted; and (h) Quality Improvement Secretariat established. He emphasized that Phase-1 of UHC should be started by making a basic package of primary healthcare & providing guarantee universal access and ensuring immediate life saving support for emergencies.

The workshop concluded that further discussions on UHC would be continued based on experiences of Sri Lanka, Thailand, etc. Ultimately based on limited resources, a suitable definition of UHC will be formulated in the context of Bangladesh.

