

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Report: December 2021

Objectives

Objective 1 &2: Attain and maintain HIV epidemic control among at-risk adult men, women and PPs and KPs

Support group meeting:

Sunsari

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on 16th December 2021 in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari A total of 16 PLHIV (5 Male and 11 Female) participated in the meeting, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. Meeting was facilitated by Case manager and PN. Discussion was done on Importance of COVID-19 vaccine, Health Insurance, ARV medicine, Adherence to treatment, U=U, ART enrollment and re enrollment of all positive cases, 180 days packages, importance of Index based partner testing and also regarding the Merosathi booking link for various services.

Morang

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on 17th December 2021 in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari A total of 12 PLHIV (6 Male and 6 Female) participated in the meeting, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. Meeting was facilitated by Case manager and PN. Discussion was done on Importance of COVID-19 vaccine, Health Insurance, ARV medicine, Adherence to treatment, U=U, ART enrollment and re enrollment of all positive cases, 180 days packages, importance of Index based partner testing.

Monthly review meeting:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted monthly review meetings to review the progress and decide way forward on 26th and 30th December in Jhapa, Morang and Sunsari district respectively. In the meeting, there was the presence of PC, M&E Officer, HA, CBS, PN and Lab staffs. There was discussion on following:

- District and indicators wise target vs achievement.
- Gaps in case findings, ART enrollment, viral load testing, PrEP initiation.
- Follow up of IIT clients for ART re-enrollment.
- COVID-19 vaccination and its recording and reporting.

Online Activities

- A total of 15 KPs and PPs were reached through online platform for HIV testing, STI, PrEP & Covid-19 prevention in Jhapa.
- Also 2 Clients of FSW were followed through phone for HIV testing, STI and COVID-19 prevention in Jhapa.
- Also 10 PLHIV (6 male and 4 female) were followed through phone for ART adherence, index partner testing, viral load testing and other services in Jhapa.
- 3 KPs were followed through phone for HIV testing, STI and COVID-19 prevention in Morang.

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- 2 PLHIV were followed through phone for ART adherence, index partner testing, viral load testing and other services in Morang.
- A total of 17 KPs and PPs were reached through online platform for HIV testing, STI, PrEP & Covid-19 prevention in Sunsari.
- Also 35 KP and PP were followed through phone for HIV testing, STI and COVID-19 prevention in Sunsari.

ARV Distribution Services

- In this period, 5 PLHIV were supported for pill pick up from ART center in community and home by PN and CBS in Jhapa district.
- In this period, 3 PLHIV were supported for pill pick up from ART center in community and home by PN and CBS in Morang district.

Relief Packages

- Not done in this period.

COVID-19 Isolation Kit:

- Not done in this period.

Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on 14th December in Itahari City clinic. A total of 17 FSWs participated in the event, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. It was facilitated by PC, DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on services provided by EpiC Project clinic and detailed discussion of importance of PrEP and its continuation, EPOA, Peer Champions. A total of 5 FSWs performed HTC. Among them 4 were eligible for PrEP Initiation and Initiated PrEP and 2 were follow up clients for PrEP and refilled PrEP.

They were provided information on COVID-19 vaccine and supported hygiene kit to 15 needy KPs.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on 14th December in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 11 FSWs participated in the event, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. It was facilitated CBS, PN and Field Supervisor. There was discussion on services provided by EpiC Project and detailed discussion of importance of PrEP and its continuation and played games of Maya Ko Bagaicha.

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Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- **Jhapa**

In this period S&D reduction training was conducted at on 22nd December 2021 in Parakhopi, Buttabari, Jhapa. In the training, a total of 26 teachers and students of Sigma Boarding school participated. This school was focused for S&D reduction training, as a student (child of PLHIV) was complained to be discriminated by some teachers. They were provided on knowledge on HIV/AIDS, sign & symptoms, mode of transmission, diagnosis & treatment, VL, PrEP and causes of stigma & discrimination in the community. Participants were able to know the cause of HIV/AIDS and their concept was clear. The principal was thankful for conducting such training in their school, as most of the students got to know much about HIV/AIDS, which could not only help them in their community life, but also added some more knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS.

- **Morang**

In this period S&D reduction training was conducted at on 21nd December 2021 in Letang, Morang. In the training, a total of 21 participants were participated. This event was focused for community people of nearby positive clients in coordination with Shrijanshil Mahila Samuha. They were provided on knowledge on HIV/AIDS, sign & symptoms, mode of transmission, diagnosis & treatment, VL, PrEP and causes of stigma & discrimination in the community. Participants were able to know the cause of HIV/AIDS and their concept was clear. Community people were thankful for providing such orientation and making clear. This orientation makes us feel that HIV is normal disease like diabetes, hypertension etc.

- **Sunsari**

In this period S&D reduction training was conducted at on 10nd December 2021 in Itahari Hospital, Sunsari. In the training, a total of 34 Health workers of Itahari Hospital participated. They were provided on knowledge on HIV/AIDS, sign & symptoms, mode of transmission, diagnosis & treatment, VL, PrEP and causes of stigma & discrimination in the community, roles and responsibilities of Health workers with KPs and PLHIV. Participants and hospital mgmt. team was thankful to AMDA Nepal for conducting such orientation. Some of newly recruited hospital staffs and helper were unknown about the current situation and how to deal with HIV positive cases. Mr. Ram Kumar Dhamala, member of Hospital mgmt team assured to services from Itahari Hospital on priority basis.

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

- In this period participated in coordination meeting organized by Prayash Mahila Samuha at Hotel Tri-Yuga on 23rd Dec.2021. In the meeting there was presence of Health Coordinator

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from Sub Metropolitan City Itahari, AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, NAP+N, DPG, Aaastha Foundation, Mokshya Rehabilitation Center, Family members of PLHIV. There was discussion on support to PLHIV from local government in income generating activities, Treatment support cost, Health Insurance.

- Int this period conducted coordination meeting with Shrijansil Mahila Samuha on 5th Dec. 2021. In the meeting there was discussion of increase reach with new KPs and PPs in new hotspot areas, enroll in the HIV and STI services through different approach EPOA, Online, Merosathi Booking, Peer Champions and work in coordination with each other.
- Participated in the

Viral Load campaign

In this period Viral load sample collection was done in coordination with BDS Sub IPs, ART Center and CCCs on 2nd December in Ilam district. During this period, a total of 6 samples were collected from Ilam district and sent to Koshi Zonal Hospital. Also, 7 samples were collected on 23rd December with the help of CCC, Bhadrapur and sent to NPHL this month. Similarly, 17 VL samples were collected from Sunsari and send to Koshi Zonal Hospital.

Festival campaign social media posts:

World AIDS Day Celebration:

Jhapa : AMDA Nepal, Lead Nepal, Luv Kush Ashram, Happy Nepal, Damak Disable Group, Damak Municipality, Ilaka Police Office

Morang: AMDA Nepal, Pariwartansil Samaj, Ilaka police office, Sparsha Nepal, FPAN, Richmond Fellowship, Biratnagar Metropolitan City and DHO.

Sunsari : Itahari Sub-metropolitan City, AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, FPAN, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Shramik Mahila Sajha Manch, ASTHA Foundation, Sahara Samaj, Aarogya Jagaran Samuha, ACT Nepal, KYC Dharan, NAP+N, Dharan Positive Group(DPG)

Ilam: Ilam Municipality, DHO, AMDA Nepal, Luv Kush Ashram

Activities:

Jhapa:

- Nagar parikrama with informative messages and condom distribution to prevent HIV/AIDS and its treatment by maintaining preventive measures of COVID-19.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Candle light ceremony at Birtamod chowk in the evening.

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Morang:

- Informative stall at Bus Park with condom distribution to prevent and treatment of HIV/AIDS.
- E-rikshaw rally with message display for preventive measures of HIV/AIDS.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Candle light ceremony at Bus Park in the evening.

Sunsari:

- Nagar parikrama with informative messages and condom distribution to prevent HIV/AIDS and its treatment by maintaining preventive measures of COVID-19.
- Distribution of press release of WAD 2020 by NCASC for all the participants during the sharing in itahari sub metropolitan city.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Distribution of nutrition package, Hygiene Kit and stationery to 15 PLHIV family members of Sunsari from Mayor of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City.
- Candle light ceremony at itahari chowk in the evening.

Ilam:

- Informative stall at Bus Park with condom distribution to prevent and treatment of HIV/AIDS.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Candle light ceremony at Bus Park Ilam in the evening.

Objective 3: Improve program management including HIS and HRH and financial systems to ensure attainment and maintenance of epidemic control; and

Data Quality Assessment:

- Not done in this period.

Monitoring visits:

- Not done in this period.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

Provincial / Other GoN meeting:

- Conducted coordination and sharing meeting in coordination with Health Office Sunari in Health Office, Sunsari on 28th Dec.2021. In the meeting there was presence from Health Office (chief of Health Office, HIV Focal Person, Vaccine supervisor, TB/Malaria Officer, etc), AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, FPAN, Aastha Foundation, Mahila Sahayogi

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Samauha, Richmond Fellowship, Prayash Mahila Sumuha, NAP+N, Dharan Positive Group, Jagaran AArogya Samuha, ART centers of Inaruwa Hospital and BPKIHS Dahran. This meeting was conducted to provide updates on HIV/AIDS program and activities running in the district by different projects and sites to Health Office. There was presentation from all the partner organization on their working areas, targets, activities, issues and challenges. After the presentation there was discussion on update COVID-19 vaccine to all clients and Health Insurance. Chief of Health Office Mr. Sagar Prasai was thankful for conducting such meeting and this meeting should be continued now onwards. This type of meeting helps to address and support where is the gap and duplication in the program. Health Office will assure to minimize the gap and lacking in the programs from government sites like STI medicines and recording and reporting register.

- In this period participate in the coordination meeting organized by Chief of District Office, Sunsari on 29th Dec.2021. In the meeting there was participants from NGO/INGO working in Sunsari district. CDO Mr. Indra Dev Yadav was very positive on working and helping hands of NGO/INGO. He suggested to notify the programs and projects conducting by NGO/INGO in the district to CDO. We from government site are always ready to address issues arising during program implementation.
- In this period supported in IBBS Survey organized by NCASC and NHRC in Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari and Illam districts for sample collection of Male Labor Migrants in each clusters.
- Participated in the closing ceremony of 16 days campaign of violence against gender on 10th Dec.2021 at Durga Party Palace organized by Itahari Sub Metropolitan City.
- Participated in the program organized by maiti Nepal Itahari, Sunsari on 28th Dec. 2021. The program was for reduce gender violence against women, Involve women in entrepreneurship and income generating activity. Maiti Nepal provided training and distributed 3 e-Rikshaw and 5 Sewing machine to needy women of Morang, Sunsari and Jhapa.

Quarterly Review Meeting

- Not done in this period.

Monitoring visit by GoN

- Not done in this period.

Trainings and Orientations:

- 4 days training on Motivational Interviewing was given to DIC Operator, CBS and PN at Hotel Verandaha Ithari, Sunsari.
- 6 days CMT training was given to HA-ART at Hotel Sambhala, Kathmandu.
- 4 days training on CLT and Self Testing was given to newly recruited CBS and PN at Hotel Radisson, Lazimpat

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Monthly ART center Meetings

- **Sunsari**

In this period Monthly ART meeting was conducted in Inaruwa ART Center in 26th Dec.2021. In the meeting there was presence from Hospital mgmt. team, Nursing Incharge, BDS president, OCMC, ART Counselor, Medical recorder, HA-ART, PCs, PN from AMDA Nepal and Human Welfare Society. In the meeting there was discussion COVID-19 vaccine to all PLHIV who are in ART. They will be supported by EpiC Nepal Project for transportation cost if needed Nrs@250 each clients. Also discussed on Health Insurance of PLHIV who were not enrolled can support from EpiC Project.

- **Sunsari**

In this period Quarterly ART meeting was conducted in BPKIHS ART Center in 27th Dec.2021. In the meeting there was presence from Dr. Akshat Mishra SR of Internal Medicine, Tropical ward Incharge, ART Counselor, HA ART, M&E Officer, PC, PN, Online CBS AMDA Nepal and Human Welfare Society. In the meeting there was discussion COVID-19 vaccine to all PLHIV who are in ART. They will be supported by EpiC Nepal Project for transportation cost if needed Nrs@250 each clients. Also discussed on Health Insurance of PLHIV who were not enrolled can support from EpiC Project. Ways to sort out Internet issues.

Target Vs Achievement

S.N.	Indicators	Target FY 2022	Achievement Dec.2021	Cumulative Achievement (Oct 2021-September2022) FY2022
1	KP_Prev	598	106	247(41%)
2	PP_Prev	501	99	302(60%)
3	HTS_TST_FSWs	423	88	217(51%)
4	HTS_TST_PPs	348	84	240(68%)
5	HTS_TST_POS_FSWs	13	5	7(53%)
6	HTS_TST_POS_PPs	48	6	18(37%)
7	TX_New_FSWs	13	5	9(69%)
8	TX_NEW_PPs	133	10	27(20%)
9	TX_PVLS(D)	460	34	62(13%)
10	TX_PVLS(N)	437	34	61(13%)
11	STI_Screening	233	95	252(108%)

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12	STI_Diagnosis & Treatment	86	32	96(111%)
13	PrEP_New	291	22	39(13%)
14	Condom distribution	90188	20620	61090(67%)
15	Stigma & discrimination reduction training	380	103	(103)27%

Photos



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Pic: Nagar Parikrama rally with Mayor of Itahari Sub- Metropolitan city.



Pic: Candle light Ceremony

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Pics: Nutrition package, Hygiene Kit and Statinary support to PLHIV Members of Itahari



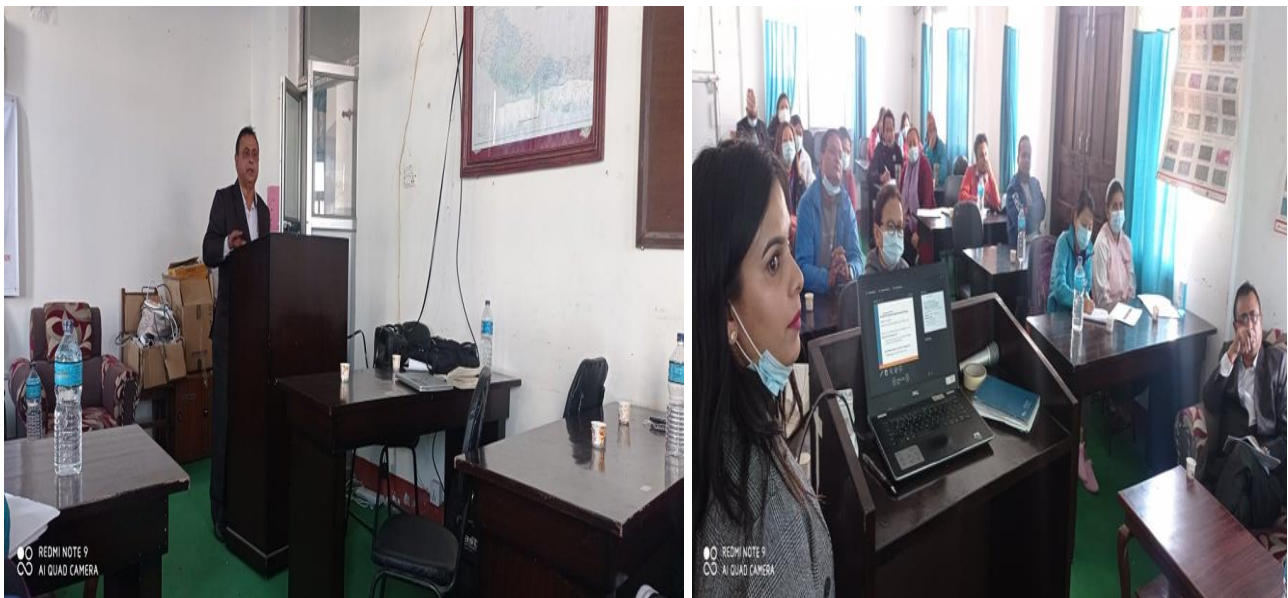
Pics: Informative display cards at Mukti chowk, Birtamod

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Pics: Monthly ART meeting in BPKIHS, Dharan



Pics: Coordination and Sharing meeting at Health Office, Sunsari

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Pics: Participated in program organized by Maiti Nepal Itahari, Sunsari



Pics: Coordination meeting at CDO Office Inaruwa, Sunsari with Developing Partners

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Pics: Conducted S&D reduction training to Health Workers at Itahari Hospital, Sunsari

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Pics: Participated in the coordination meeting organized by Prayash Mahila Samuha Itahari, Sunsari

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Pics: Conducting Monthly ART Meeting at Inaruwa Hospital, Sunsari.



Pics: Group photo after coordination meeting with Shrijanshil Mahila Samuha at AMDA City Clinic, Sunsari

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Pic: Conducted S&D reduction training in Parakhopi, Jhapa.



Pic: Training on Motivational Interviewing, Itahari

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Thank you.