

# EpiC Nepal Project

## Monthly Update: January 2023

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### Objectives:

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

### Support group meeting:

#### Jhapa:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 12 PLHIV (4 male & 8 female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case Manager, CBS & PN. Discussion on Opportunistic Infections (OIs) as well as nutrition was done at the meeting. Similarly, Discussion was done about the importance of ART adherence, importance of the viral load & health insurance program. Similarly, the program was interactive where the question of participants was responded by our staff.

#### Sunsari:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup> in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 18 PLHIV (14 Female and 4 male) 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 Viral load testing, ARV medicine benefits & experience sharing, Index testing.

#### Morang:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> in Biratnagar Field Office, Morang. A total of 15 PLHIV (8 Female and 7 male) 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 Viral load testing, ART continuing, Index testing.

### Hygiene kit Distribution:

- In this period 8 PLHIV were distributed hygiene Kit after creative event in Sunsari district.

### Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on December 18<sup>th</sup> in Itahari City clinic. A total of 11 FSWs 10(1.2), 1(1.3),) participated in the event, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. It was facilitated by DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation & also demonstrated the making of rose flower. Among them 6 STI services, 2 HTC services and 5 FSW took PrEP follow services, 1 PrEP restarted.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on January 19<sup>th</sup> in Biratnagar City clinic. A total of 11 FSWs 3(1.2), 8(1.3) participated in the event, maintaining all the precautions including

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proper distancing and proper use of mask. It was facilitated by FS and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation. Among them 2 HTC, 2 STI and 1 KP took PrEP restarted during creative event.

- **Jhapa**

Conducted creative event on 9<sup>th</sup> January in Birtamode City clinic. A total of 8 (FSWs) were participated in the event which was facilitated by HA, DIC, CBS & P.N. Discussion was done about the importance of PrEP its advantages, sexually transmitted Infections (STIs) and its effects. Also, litmus paper games were played with the participants in the program. In this event, 8 Kp tested for HIV, 3 enrolled in PrEP and 3 restarted PrEP. Also, 8 KPs were screened for STI, 2 diagnosed and 2 were treated.

#### **Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:**

##### **Jhapa**

- In this period HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination orientation was provided to community people of Itavatta, Mechinagar. In the orientation 26 participants were present among them 12 male and 14 were female. The orientation was facilitated by Case manager, ART Counselor, CBS and PN. Participants were provided orientation on concept of HIV/AIDS, its causes, mode of transmission, its treatment with preventive measures and role of FCHVs and other people to minimize stigma and discrimination the community.

#### **Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:**

#### **Viral Load campaign**

- **Jhapa:**

In this period altogether 26 viral load sample collection was done from Mechi ART & Damak ART center in coordination with AMDA Nepal Jhapa, BDS Sub IPs, CCC and sent to NPHL.

- **Sunsari:**

In this period altogether, 19 viral sample was collected from AMDA Nepal, Sunsari. 27 viral reports received.

- **Morang:**

In this period altogether, 26 viral sample was collected from AMDA Nepal, Morang. Total 21 viral report received this month.

#### **Festival campaign social media posts and Day Celebration:**

- Not done in this period

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

#### **Quarterly Review Meeting**

- In this period participated in the quarterly review meeting of FY23Q1 organized by FHI360 from January 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Hotel Malla in Kathmandu. In the meeting there were

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presence of Project coordinators of all EpiC districts, NAP+N provincial supervisors, Project Director, Team Leader, Provincial Coordinators, Technical unit, SI Unit, Finance Unit, Logistics Unit. In the meeting there was discussion on Achievements of FY23Q1 with way forward to achieve 50% till Q2 on case finding, ART enrollment, viral load testing, PrEP enrollment and continuation, 180 days package and community care with recording and reporting. During the review meeting there was also discussion on Mental Health, financial regulations, Data safety and security, safeguarding policy, USAID compliance. Along with RAMRO photo and success story of the quarter.

#### **Data Quality Assessment:**

- Not done in this period.

#### **Monitoring visits:**

- In this period monitoring visit and financial review was done by Sr. Grants Manager of FHI360 Mr. Tilak Bahadur Thapaliya on January 2-4, 2023 at Itahari City Clinic. He monitored and the financial activities, SFR, voucher, Personal file, Logistics list for the period of 2022. Along with data safety and security and safeguarding policy.
- In this period monitoring visit was done by Psychosocial counselor of FHI360 Mr. Anup Poudel on January 13<sup>th</sup> Itahari City Clinic. He monitored the process of Mental health screening by CBS/PN and Case Manager. Also had an interaction with Sunsari team for issues and challenges on Mental Health.

#### **Community monitoring Scorecard:**

- Not done in this period.

#### **Monitoring visit by GoN**

- In this period monitoring visit was done at Birtamod City Clinic on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Chief of Health Section of Kankai Municipality, Mechi Nagar Municipality, HIV Focal Person of Health Office Jhapa, Sr. lab Technician of Mechi Hospital. They monitored the process of service delivery from city clinic from registration to pre-test and post-test counseling and lab services along with recording and reporting.  
Discussion was done about the achievement of the Quarter 1, coordination in between municipalities for HIV/AIDS programs as well as possibility of viral load sample collection in Mechi hospital along with issues and challenges.

#### **Trainings and Orientations:**

- In this period M&E Officer participated in 3 days training of DHIS-2 tracker at Eastern Star Hotel, Biratnagar organized by Province Health Directorate supported by FHI360 from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023. In the training there was presence from Private sectors (hospitals and NGOs/CBOs) There was discussion on recording and reporting mechanism.

#### **Monthly ART center Meetings**

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- **Mechi ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at Mechi ART center of Mechi hospital on January 27th, 2023. In the meeting, there was presence of ART counselor, PC & Case manager from Lead Nepal, M & E officer & Case manager from AMDA , CCC Incharge, HA-ART and staffs from AMDA & Luv kush Ashram. In the meeting, discussion was done about planning for CD4 testing & dispensing, overdue and missing case and medicine distribution. Also, coordination between hospital, different organization and ART center for was done for attainment of the national HIV/AIDS goal.

- **Inaruwa ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Inaruwa Hospital on January 24th, 2023. In the meeting there was presence of Medical Doctor, Lab Incharge, Emergency Incharge, MNCH Incharge, Administrator, ART Counselor, HA\_ART, PCs of EpiC Project. Meeting was started by the round of introduction, brief description on Viral load testing, EID sample collection with report, Biometric updates, IIT and transfer out clients tracking and reporting. Along with logistics support to ART center.

- **Ilam ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Ilam Hospital on January 25th, 2023. In the meeting there was presence of medical recorder, Lab Incharge, Emergency Incharge, Administrator, ART Counselor, HA\_ART, PN, Luvakush Ashram, BWS. In the meeting there was discussion Viral Load sample collection and testing, IIT and transfer out clients tracking and reporting. Along with logistics support to ART center as per need.

### Photos



Pic: Monitoring visit by Health Office, Mechi Hospital and Kankai Municipality at Birtamod city Clinic

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Pics: Monthly ART Meeting at Inaruwa ART Center



Pics: S&D reduction orientation at Itavatta, Mechinagar, Jhapa

**Thank You**

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