

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Update: August 2022

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 14th August, 2022 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 15 PLHIV (5 male & 10 female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case Manager, CBS & PN. Discussion was done about the importance of covid-19 vaccine, ART adherence, index testing as well as importance of the viral load. The program was interactive where the question of participants was responded by our staff.

Sunsari

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on August 25th in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 12 PLHIV (8 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, U=U, ART enrollment and continued of all positive cases, Index testing. We celebrated TEEJ special Support Group, we exchange the wishes to each other.

Morang

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on August 24th in Biratnagar Field Office, Morang a total of 10 PLHIV (1 Male and 9 Female) participated in the meeting, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. Meeting was facilitated by Field Supervisor and PN. Discussion was done on Viral load testing & ART enrollment and continued. We celebrated TEEJ special Support Group, we exchange the wishes to each other. We also distributed the hygiene kit to all participants.

Monthly review meeting:

Monthly review meeting was done on August 25th in Jhapa and 29th August in Morang and Sunsari. In the meeting there was presence of PC, AFO, M&E, Case Manager, COVID-19 Team, Lab, CBS+, PN. In the meeting there was discussion on following agenda:

- Target vs achievement.
- Organized ART enrollment campaign in August and September 2022.
- PrEP Initiation and continuation.
- Index offer and Index testing campaign in August and September 2022.
- Viral load testing of all eligible clients through VL Testing Campaign in September 2022.
- COVID-19 vaccine to all KPs and PLHIV.
- HTS_Self Testing.
- Target setting to all CBS and PN.

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- PM mobilization for COVID-19 vaccination coverage to KPs and PLHIV.

Online Activities

- 23 PLHIV (10 female & 13 male) were followed through phone for ART adherence, index partner testing, viral load testing and other services in Jhapa.
- 1 Merosathi bookings were done & all of them were tested.
- In case of Sunsari district 19 KP & PPs were followed through phone flow up for ART, HIV testing, STI and COVID-19 prevention where 15 took the services. Also 10 Merosathi bookings were done & all of them were tested.

ARV Distribution Services

- 5 PLHIV were distributed ARV in the reporting month.

Relief Packages

- Not done in this period.

COVID-19 Isolation Kit:

- Not done in this period.

Hygiene kit Distribution:

- In this period 15 KPs & 15 PLHIV were distributed hygiene kit after creative event & support group respectively in the Jhapa district in this month.
- In this period 10 KPs & 10 PLHIV were distributed hygiene kit after creative event & support group respectively in the Morang district in this month.

Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on August 24th in Itahari City clinic. A total of 12 FSWs 4(1.2), 6(1.3), 2(67) 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. Where 2 FSW started PrEP & 1 (67), 2 FSW were tested. We celebrated TEEJ special creative event, we exchange the wishes to each other.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on August 25th in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 10 FSWs, 5 (1.3), 5 (1.2) were 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 importance and benefits of PrEP and its continuation and use & benefits of condom. We celebrated TEEJ special creative event, we exchange the wishes to each other. We also distributed the hygiene kit to all participants.

- **Jhapa**

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Conducted creative event (Teej Bises) on 26th August in Birtamode City clinic. A total of 15 (FSWs) were participated in the event where we celebrated & got entertained at the occasion of Teej festival. It was facilitated by HA, CBS & P.N. Discussion was done about the importance of PrEP, its continuity, HIV Prevention as well Treatment also about COVID-19 vaccination. In this event, 5 Kp tested for HIV, 2 enrolled in PrEP and 2 restarted PrEP. Also, 5 KPs were screened for STI, 1 diagnosed but was not available for PrEP & treatment.

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- Stigma and Discrimination reduction training was conducted in Beldangi , Jhapa in August 22 with participation of 29 people from different sectors of the Beldangi camp. The program was facilitated by the M & E officer, Case manager, CBS plus & PN about different aspects of HIV/AIDS, real scenario in the present context and way forward for reducing stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV in the community. The participants also raised different questions, queries about the session and provided us wonderful feedback to conducted the program in upcoming days.

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

- In this period participated in the sharing meeting of BDS Sub IP Human Welfare Society on 10th August 2022. In the meeting there was presence from all CBOs and partners working for HIV/AIDS, Human Rights, Itahari Municipality, Area Police Office, Media Networks. In the meeting there was discussion on program activities conducted by EpiC Project in the district along with issues and challenges faced during program implementation.
- In this period participated in the orientation of Community Led Monitoring activities organized by Richmond fellowship on 18th August at Itahari Pathibhara Hotel. In the orientation there was presence from Health Office Sunsari Sagar sir, HIV focal person Urmila Rai, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Praysh Mahila Samuha, HWS, Sahara Samaj, Jagaran Aarogya Samuha. In the orientation there was sharing of Community Led Monitoring activities which is going to be conducted in this district which will be lead by KPs facilitated Richmond Fellowship.
- Participated in the provincial level sharing and coordination meeting organized by NAP+N in the Dharan at 17th August. In the meeting there was presence from NAP+N, EpiC Project, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Praysh Mahila Samuha, HWS, Sahara Samaj, Jagaran Aarogya Samuha, Dharan Positive Group, Mokshya Nepal, representatives from Dharan municipality and Media Networks. In the meeting there was sharing of objectives, working areas of NAP+N along with Issues and challenges faced. Areas to be addressed from local governance for sustainability of the program.

Viral Load campaign

- In this period altogether, 11 viral sample was collected from AMDA Nepal, Jhapa 9 from Mechi hospital and 2 from Damak hospital respectively in coordination with ART center, BDS Sub IPS, CCC & was sent to NPHL.

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- In this period altogether 11 (Morang-6, Sunsari-5) viral load sample collection on 8/8/2022 and 23 (Morang-7, Sunsari-16) viral load sample collection on 8/15/2022 was done from AMDA Nepal Itahari city clinic in coordination with BP ART center, BDS Sub IPs, CCC and sent to NPHL Kathmandu.

Festival campaign social media posts:

- 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

Data Quality Assessment:

- Not done in this period.

Monitoring visits:

- Monitoring visit was conducted by Ratna kayastha (FHI Consultant) on 8th and 11th August respectively at Itahari City Clinic and at Birtamode City Clinic. During visit he monitored the process of counseling in the city clinic by Case Manager. Had an interaction with virally unsuppressed clients due to irregularity on ART. Also had an interaction with CBS, PN, HA, Lab, M&E and PC on Issues and challenges faced during HIV testing and counseling, case finding, ART enrollment, Viral load testing.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

Provincial / Other GoN meeting:

- Conducted monthly coordination and sharing meeting at Provincial Health Directorate, Dhankuta on 22nd August, 2022. In the meeting there was presence of Province Health Director, HIV focal Person, eLMIS Coordinator, Pharmacy Officer, ASRH officer, Vaccine Coordinator, MIS Officer and participants from WFP, WHO and Fairemaid. In the meeting there was sharing of program activities conducted by EpiC Project in the district by PC and COVID-19 Response Officer. During the interaction there was sharing of HIV prevention and COVID-19 activities and areas to support for sustainability of the program. Lastly PHD has suggested to increase the coverage of 2nd dose of COVID-19 vaccine among 5-11 years children and support in entry of data from Palika Level.
- Participated in the Provincial Health Coordination Team Meeting organized by Province Health Directorate, Dhankuta on 28th August, 2022. In the meeting there was presence from PHD and AIN/EDPs members along with UN Agencies member. In the meeting there was discussion of progress of FY2078/79 and workplan of upcoming program activities for FY79/80 with budget line.

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Monitoring visit by GoN

- Not done in this period.

Trainings and Orientations:

- 5 Day training on HIV testing and counselling on August 1-5 & 6 days training on STI case management on August 7-12 was organized by FHI 360 to case managers at Kathmandu.
- 3-day training on HIV & STI logistic management was organized to Lab Assistant and DIC operator on Aug 21-23 and Aug 24-26 by FHI 360 at Bharatpur, Chitwan.
- In this period participated in 2 days of workshop on Small Area Survey at Nagarkot, Kathmandu on August 16 & 17. Where the participants were FHI 360 team with all PO and M & E officers from 6 province of different IPs. There was discussed how to do small area or hot spot survey, the guidelines, process of record & reporting, questioner, collection of data with application.

Monthly ART center Meetings

- **Mechi ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Mechi Zonal hospital on August 29, 2022. There was presence of ART counselor, M&E from AMDA Nepal, Lab Incharge staff from Lead Nepal and Luv kush Ashram (CCC), HA-ART. During the meeting, discussion was done on the role of the AMDA lab staff in recording & reporting in hospital, viral load planning in upcoming days, IIT follow-up, etc.

- **Inaruwa ART Center**

Monthly meeting was conducted at Inaruwa ART Center of Inaruwa District Hospital on August 28th, 2022. There was presence of Tropical ward Incharge, M & E AMDA Nepal and HWS, CBS+, PN also ART counselor, HA-ART, OPD LAB Indoor Emergency Incharge, Administration officer, Hospital Manager. During the meeting there was discussion done on data verification on KP wise (FSWs, MSM/TG, PWID, Others) either under reporting or no reporting, eligibility of viral load sample collection and testing, and explained the details review of ART center by ART counselor. As well as there was instruction how to create suitable environment for PLHIV while receiving different services of Inaruwa Hospital.

- **Ilam ART Center**

Conducted monthly ART meeting at Ilam ART center on August 10th 2022. In the meeting there was presence from Health Office, Ilam Hospital, Luv Kush Ashram, BWSN, ART Counselor, HA-ART. In the meeting there was discussion of viral load testing of all eligible clients in coordination with CCC, AMDA Nepal and ART Center. HIV testing of all TB diagnosed clients and vice versa. HIV testing kit supply from Health Office to all Health facility.

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Photos



Pic: S&D Reduction Orientation at Beldangi Stand, Damak Jhapa

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Pics: Participation in PHCT meeting at Dhankuta Organized by PHD

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Pics: Conducting monthly coordination and sharing meeting with PHD, Dhankuta

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Pics: Monthly ART meeting at Inaruwa ART Center, Sunsari



Pics: Pfizer Teachers and Health Incharge Orientation at Gadhi Rural Municipality.

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Pics: Creative event “Teej Bisesh” with KPs at City Clinic

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Pics: Interaction program with Inaruwa Municipality of COVID-19 activities and support



Pics; Monitoring and supervision visit by FHI Consultant Ratna Kayastha

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Pics; Participation in Various training and Orientation organized by FHI360

Thank You