

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Update: December 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 12th December, 2022 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 13 PLHIV (6 male & 7 female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case Manager, CBS & PN. Discussion was done about the importance of ART adherence, importance of the viral load & health insurance program. The program was interactive where the question of participants was responded by our staff.

Sunsari:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on December 13th in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 15 PLHIV (10 Female and 5 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 December 20th in Biratnagar Field Office, Morang. A total of 16 PLHIV (6 Female and 10 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 10 KPs & 13 PLHIV were distributed hygiene kit after creative event & support group respectively in the Jhapa district in this month.
- In this period 12 KPs were distributed hygiene Kit after creative event in Sunsari district.

Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on December 15th in Itahari City clinic. A total of 16 FSWs 13(1.2), 3(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 11 STI services, 11 HTC services and 2 FSW took PrEP follow services, 2 PrEP restarted, 4 PrEP new.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on December 19th in Biratnagar City clinic. A total of 15 FSWs 5(1.2), 10(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 DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation. Among them 3 HTC services and 3 PrEP new & 3 PrEP follow up.

- **Jhapa**

Conducted creative event on 9th December in Birtamode City clinic. A total of 10 (FSWs) were participated in the event which was facilitated by HA, DIC, CBS & P.N. Discussion was done about the importance of PrEP, its continuity, sexually transmitted Infections (STIs) & also about protecting our body skin from winter season. In this event, 8 Kp tested for HIV, 2 enrolled in PrEP and 2 restarted PrEP. Also, 5 KPs were screened for STI, 2 diagnosed and 2 were treated.

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

Morang

- In this period HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination orientation was provided to Health workers of Pathari Hospital on 21st Dec.2022. In the orientation 24 participants were present among them 10 male and 14 were female. 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.

Sunsari

- In this period HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination orientation was provided to FCHVs and community people of Bhokraha RM (Aakha) on 22nd Dec. 2022. In the orientation 22 participants were present among them 2 male and 20 were female. 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:

- Supported in HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination orientation was provided to Nepal Police and Armed Police Forces of Jhapa and Sunsari on 23rd December 2022. Organized by Provincial Health Directorate at Itahari Sunsari. Introduction and opening of the orientation were done by Province HIV Focal person Ms. Tara Devi Subedi to all the participants of the program along with objectives of the orientation.
- Welcome remarks to the participants were given by District Health Officer of Sunsari Mr. Sagar Prasai along with impact of HIV related stigma and discrimination in the society and roles and responsibilities of Health Office, development partner, civil society along with Security persons (Nepal Police and Armed Police Force).
- Overall Epidemiological status of HIV/AIDS globally, nationally and province level sharing was done by Mr. Kumar Dhakal Sr. Program Coordinator of Save the Children along with HIV prevalence in Nepal, concentrated epidemic, mode of transmission, risk groups, HIV Testing services, preventive measures and its treatment therapy.

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- Stigma and discrimination, types, its causes, effects of discrimination in individual, family, society, nation and our role to minimize the discrimination was presented and discussed by Mr. Rohit Kumar Uranw, Project Coordinator AMDA Nepal EpiC Project.
- Overall, how was the orientation program and points to take and apply now onwards from security personnel to minimize HIV related stigma and discrimination in the society and encourage to live PLHIV people as normal life in the community from Nepal Police and Armed Police Force.

Viral Load campaign

- In this period altogether 46 viral load sample collection was done from Mechi ART center in coordination with AMDA Nepal Jhapa, BDS Sub IPs, CCC and sent to NPHL.
- **Sunsari:**
- In this period altogether, 44 viral sample was collected from AMDA Nepal, Sunsari. 42 viral reports received.
- **Morang:**
- In this period altogether, 17 viral sample was collected from AMDA Nepal, Morang. Total 21 viral report received this month.

Festival campaign social media posts and Day Celebration:

35th World AIDS Day was celebrated with the objectives:

- i. To celebrate 35th World AIDS Day by sharing the current situation of HIV/AIDS globally and nationally.
- ii. To strengthen the collaboration and coordination among local governance and local the networking organization working for STI/HIV/AIDS Services at the respective districts.

Organizations participated:

Jhapa : AMDA Nepal, Luv Kush Ashram, Health Office, Mechi Hospital, ART Center Mechi, Ilaka Police Office.

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

Sunsari : Province Health Directorate, Health Office Sunsari, District Hospital, ART Center, Itahari and Dharan Sub-metropolitan City, Inaruwa Municipality, AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, FPAN, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Shramik Mahila Sajha Manch, ASTHA Foundation, Sahara Samaj, Jagaran Aarogya Kendra, ACT Nepal, NAP+N, Dharan Positive Group(DPG), Richmond Fellowship, Sakriya Mahila Samuha, Ilaka Police Office.

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

Activities:

Jhapa:

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- Nagar parikrama with informative messages and condom distribution to prevent HIV/AIDS and its treatment at Kakarvita Bazar near boarder area of Jhapa.
- Quiz contest program on HIV related programs to Clients and other high-risk people at kakarvita Bazar.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Candle light ceremony at Birtamod chowk in the evening.

Morang:

- Informative stall at Bus Park with condom distribution to prevent and treatment of HIV/AIDS.
- Informative rally from Devkota chowk to Buspark with message display for preventive measures of HIV/AIDS.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- And finally had candle light ceremony at Mahendra chowk in the evening.

Sunsari:

- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants (Health Office staffs, District Hospital staffs, Makalu Nursing campus students, staffs of CBOs and networks and had Inaruwa nagar parikrama rally with informative message of banners.
- Had presentation and interaction program in Health Office on the current Scenario of HIV Program with Issues, challenges and actions taken by Nepal Government to meet 95-95-95 by 2026 and achieve SDG goal by 2030. Also distributed leaflet released by NCASC 2022 to the participants.
- Sharing of informative Jingle through local FM Radio Station (Saptkoshi FM, Bijaypur FM and Popular FM).
- Submitted a draft copy of HIV program of PHIV and ID Users to Mayor (Mr. Harka Rai Sampang) of Dharan Sub Metropolitan City.
- Distribution of nutrition package, Hygiene Kit 25 PLHIV family members of Sunsari district by the hand of Mayor (Mr. Hem Karna Poudel) and Deputy Mayor (Sunita Chaudhary) of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City.
- And finally had candle light ceremony at itahari chowk in the evening.

Ilam:

- Informative stall at Taxi stands with condom distribution to prevent and treatment of HIV/AIDS.
- Informative rally started from Tudikhel to Ilam Bazar with distribution of leaflets released by NCASC.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office.
- Candle light ceremony at Bus Park Ilam in the evening at Ilam main chowk.

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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:

- In this period monitoring visit was done by Technical Specialist Dr. Prasana Khatiwada and Logistic Specialist Mr. Prabesh Khatiwada on 6th & 9th Dec. 2022 at Itahari City Clinic and Birtamod City Clinic. They monitored the process of services delivery from city to clients and their reporting mechanism with protocols and guideline and filled their monitoring checklist.
- In this this period monitoring visit was done by Lab Specialist Mr. Sanjeet Pandit on 15th & 17th Dec. 2022 at Birtamod City Clinic and Itahari City Clinic. He monitored HIV Self Testing recording and reporting forms and all the reactive cases from FY2019 to FY2022 of Jhapa, Morang and Sunsari also visited Koshi Lab and ART Center BPKIHS for coordination and support lab staffs. Also have interaction and gave feedback to minimize errors and improve the quality of services with proper documentation on 23rd Dec. 2022.
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- In this this period monitoring visit was done by Team Leader Mr. Bhav Nath Jha and Provincial Coordinator Salina Joshi on 17th Dec. 2022 at Itahari City Clinic. They monitored the clinic with updated SOPs and guidelines. There was discussion on target Vs achievements and areas to be focused with proper mobilization of field staffs. Also went to Health Office Sunsari and had interaction with Sr. Public Health Administrator Mr. Sagar Prasai EpiC project activities and its regular reporting along with areas to support to Health Office.
Also visited Inaruwa ART Center and had interaction with ART Counselor and HA-ART on current status of on ART clients, LTFU/IIT clients, Health Insurance, Death, transfer Out, Biometric and Viral Load Testing and reporting status.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

Monitoring visit by GoN

- In this period monitoring visit was done at Itahari City clinic on December 29th, 2022 by Chief of Health Section of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City Mr. Dinesh Chaudhary, Medical Superintends of Inaruwa Hospital Dr. Devraj Ghimire, HOD of Internal Medicine BPKIHS Dr. Robin Maskey and ART Counselors of BPKIHS and Inaruwa 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.

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After monitoring visit had sharing and discussion of services provided by EpiC Project in the district along with Target vs achievement, issues and challenges and had interaction on DHIS-2 tracker reporting and ways to sort out the Issues.

Trainings and Orientations:

- In this period participated in 1 day orientation on recording and reporting of PEPFAR and DATIM at Kathmandu on 7th Dec. 2022 organized by FHI360. In the orientation there was discussion on requirement of reporting with timeline with different indicators. There was presence of Team Leader, Technical Unit, Strategic Unit, Provincial Coordinators, Project Coordinators and M&E officers of AMDA Nepal, NNSWA, Sparsha Nepal, Namuna Integrated Society, NAP+N and Blue Diamond Society.
- In this period participated in 3 days Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) at Central Office of AMDA Nepal Kathmandu. In the assessment there was discussion on 6 different domains of organization with checklist. In the assessment there was presence of OCA consultant, Team Leader, Provincial Coordinator, Chief Administrator, Technical Advisor, Finance Officer, Admin Officer, project Coordinator with M&E Officer of EpiC Project.

Monthly ART center Meetings

- **Mechi ART Center**
Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at Mechi ART center of Mechi hospital on December 6, 2022. In the meeting, there was presence of ART counselor, Luv Kush Incharge, Lab assistant, HA-ART and staffs from AMDA & Luv kush Ashram. In the meeting, discussion was done about planning for viral load as well as IIT follow-up of the clients.
- **BPKIHS ART Center**
Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Koshi Hospital on December 27th, 2022. In the meeting there was presence of HoD of Internal Medicine, Incharge of Tropical Ward, ART Counselor, NAP+N Provincial Supervisor, HA_ART, PCs of EpiC Project, and CBS. Meeting was started by the round of introduction, brief description on Viral load testing, EID sample collection with report, Biometric devices, IIT and transfer out clients tracking and reporting. Along with logistics support to ART center.
- **Ilam ART Center**
Sharing & coordination Meeting was conducted at Ilam Hospital on December 16, 2022. In the meeting there was presence of ART Counselor, Staff from hospital administration, HA-ART, staffs from CCC & AMDA etc. In the meeting there was discussion about the viral load, travel cost for the clients, logistic supply from NCASC. Similarly, discussion was done on the respective roles and coordination between hospital, ART center, municipality, health office and other support partners for attaining national HIV/AIDS goal.

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Photos



Pics: Informative rally during 35th World AIDS Day 2022

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Pics: Orientation and Interaction Program on HIV/AIDS Program at DHO, Sunsari.



Pics: Nutrition and Hygiene Kit support to family members of PLHIV by Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Itahari Sub Metropolitan city



Pics: Candle light Ceremony on World AIDS Day 2022

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Pics: HIV related stigma and discrimination orientation to security personnel's of Jhapa and Sunsari.



Pics: Monitoring visit by FH360 team at Itahari City Clinic, Sunsari.

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Pics: Monitoring visit by Local Governance at Itahari City Clinic.

Thank You

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