

# EpiC Nepal Project

## Monthly Update: June 2022

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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 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 14 PLHIV (5 male & 9 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 June 20<sup>th</sup> in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari A total of 17PLHIV (5 Male and 12 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 Viral load testing, U=U, ART enrollment and continued of all positive cases and Viral Load.

##### Morang

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> in Biratnagar Field Office, Morang a total of 19 PLHIV (11 Male and 8 Female) participated in the meeting, maintaining all the precautions including proper distancing and proper use of mask. Meeting was facilitated by Case Supervisor and PN. Discussion was done on Viral load testing, adherence & ART enrollment and continued.

#### Monthly review meeting:

Monthly review meeting was done on June 13<sup>th</sup> in Morang and Sunsari and June 17 in Jhapa. 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.
- Case finding vs ART enrollment
- PrEP Initiation and continuation.
- Index offer and Index testing.
- Viral load testing of all eligible clients.
- COVID-19 vaccine to all KPs and PLHIV.
- HTS\_Self Testing.
- Target setting to all CBS and PN.
- PM mobilization for COVID-19 vaccination coverage to KPs and PLHIV.

#### Online Activities

- Similarly, 17 KP & PPs were followed through phone & online platform for ART, HIV testing, STI and COVID-19 prevention in Jhapa. Among them 7 were reached through Facebook.

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- 5 Merosathi bookings were done & all of them were tested.
- Also, 5 PLHIV (4 female & 2 male) were followed through phone for ART adherence, index partner testing, viral load testing and other services in Jhapa.

### ARV Distribution Services

#### Relief Packages

- Not done in this period.

#### COVID-19 Isolation Kit:

- Not done in this period.

#### Hygiene kit Distribution:

- In this period 23 Kps & PP were distributed hygiene kit after creative event in the Jhapa district in this month.
- In this period 16 KPs were distributed hygiene Kit after creative event in Sunsari district.

#### Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on June 17<sup>th</sup> in Itahari City clinic. A total of 21 FSWs, (18(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 PC, M&E, DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation. Where 5 KP PrEP new, 1 KP follow up PrEP, 6 KP took services HTC & STI. We also distributed the dignity kit to participants.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 13 FSWs, 9 (1.3), 3 (1.2) and 1(67) 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 of PrEP and its continuation and use & benefits of condom. Where 2KP PrEP new, 1 KP follow up.

- **Jhapa**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on 21<sup>th</sup> June in Birtamode City clinic. A total of 9 (FSWs) participated in the event. It was facilitated by M & E, Covid Response team, 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, 7 tested for HIV, 1 enrolled in PrEP and 2 restarted PrEP.

#### Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- Jhapa

Conducted stigma & Discrimination reduction training in Kakarvitta Bazar on 15<sup>th</sup> June with the presence of 29 participants. The program was conducted to the Health Mother Group of the

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community, where all of the participants were female. The training was facilitated by M&E Officer, Case Manager, CBS+ and PN. There was discussed about concept of HIV/AIDS, current situations, ways of transmission, preventive measures and different aspects of community discriminations to PLHIV. Along with role of Health workers in minimizing of stigma and discrimination in the community.

- **Morang**  
Conducted stigma and Discriminates training at Birat chowk on June 17<sup>th</sup> by Morang. Where total participants are 36 (male-6 & female-30). We discussed about concept of HIV/AIDS, current situations, ways of transmission, preventive measures and different aspects of community discriminations to PLHIV and how to over-come them with truth evidence.

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

- In this period participated in the coordination and sharing meeting in Itahari Sunsari organized by Prayash Mahila Samuha. There was presence from Itahari Sub-Metropolitan City, ART center, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Sahara Samaj, Astha Foundation, ACT Nepal. There was discussion on objectives, achievements, Issues and challenges during program implementation and planning for upcoming Fiscal Year.
- In this period participated in the coordination and sharing meeting in Itahari Sunsari organized by Jaagaran Aarogya Samaj. There was presence from Itahari Sub-Metropolitan City, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Sahara Samaj, Astha Foundation, ACT Nepal. There was discussion on objectives, achievements, Issues and challenges during program implementation.
- In this period participated in the coordination in Itahari Sunsari organized by Recovery Nepal. There was presence from Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Sahara Samaj, Astha Foundation, ACT Nepal, Richmond fellowship. There was discussion and sharing by all participation on the objectives, thematic areas, activities conducting in the district.
- In this period supported in Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination orientation to all Health Coordinators, Health In charges, Vaccinators of Sunsari and Ilam district organized by Health Offices.

#### **Viral Load campaign**

- In this period altogether 14 viral load sample collection (6/6/2022-3, 6/13/2022-6, 6/20/2022-5,) was done from AMDA Nepal Itahari city clinic in coordination with ART center, BDS Sub IPs, CCC and sent to Koshi Zonal Hospital.
- In Morang district total 16 viral load sample collection was done on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 in coordination with ART Center and BDS sub-IPs and send to Koshi Zonal Hospital.

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- In this period, 20 VL load sample collection was done from AMDA Nepal Jhapa from Mechi Zonal hospital in coordination with ART Center, BDS Sub IPS, CCC and sent to Koshi hospital at 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2022.

#### **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.

#### **File Handover Program:**

- In this period handed over of the files of PrEP & STI from City Clinic of AMDA Nepal of Jhapa and Sunsari to Lead Nepal and Human Welfare Society was done in the presence of PC, M & E, HA from AMDA Nepal & BDS Sub IPs Lead Nepal and HWS.

#### **Monitoring visits:**

- In this period supported in monitoring visit of Sr. PO to ART center Inaruwa. There was discussion on currently on ART cases, missing cases, follow up for re enrollment, Viral Load Testing and reports, COVID-19 vaccination, Health Insurance, Death cases and reasons of death. Along with this HMIS reporting, DHIS-2 Tracker updates and entry.

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

- Not done in this period.

#### **Provincial / Other GoN meeting:**

- In this period Provincial level sharing meeting was conducted on 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Provincial Health Directorate Dhankuta. In the meeting there was presence Province Health Director, HIV focal person, Logistics officer, Statistics Officer, eLMIS Coordinator, Data recorder, Public Health Officer, TB/Leprosy Officer, WHO representative, FHI360 Sr. PO, AMDA Nepal PC, Pariwartansil Samaj PC and COVID-19 Ros from Morang and Sunsari. In the meeting there was sharing of EpiC Nepal Project activities conducting in Province One by Sr. PO, sharing of supported in COVID-19 activities by Response Officers. Along with issues and challenges faced during program implementation. After sharing regular coordination and sharing of program activities with PHD, Hos and Local authorities should be increased with timely reporting, Increase of EpiC Project activities to Udaypur district in coming days and expand COVID-19 vaccine coverage to Prisoners in the district was feedback from PHD and participants for more effectiveness of program.
- Coordination meeting was done with Health Office of Sunsari on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2022. In the meeting there was presence of Chief of Health Office, Sr. PO, AMDA Nepal PC, Human Welfare Society PC.

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In the meeting there was discussion was done on gap analysis of COVID-19 vaccinated in Palikas of Sunsari, orientation schedule to all Health coordinators, In charges and Vaccinators on Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations to 5-11 years children group. Also requested to support in the orientation program for refreshment.

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

- In this period monitoring visit was done by HIV Focal Person Ms. Tara Devi Subedi from Province Health Directorate Dhankuta and Sr. PO Salina Joshi. They visited registration room, clinic, and Lab room and discussed on the process of services delivered from city clinic and recording-reporting process. After the visit there was Introduction with the Sunsari team and sharing of EpiC Project activities and achievement for Sunsari district along with Issues and challenges faced.

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

- In this period 4 days training was given to Case Managers and M&E Officers Sunsari and Jhapa district organized by FHI360 from 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June in Kathmandu. In the training there was discussion on Mero Data recording, reporting, data verification and cleaning also on ONHIS.
- In this period 2 days training was given to HA-ART of Mechi, Inaruwa, BPKIHS ART sites organized by FHI360 on 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> June in Kathmandu. In the training there was on recording and reporting of ART program report, MMD, DTG, Viral Load suppression.
- In this period 2 days training was given to Case Managers of Jhapa and Sunsari on 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June organized by FHI360 on 180 days packages, Index testing, PrEP Initiation, Psychological counseling.
- In this period 2 days training was given to DIC Operator/M&E Associate of Jhapa and Sunsari organized by FHI360 on 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> June in Kathmandu. In the training there was discussion was online outreach, Merosathi Booking, Link feedback.
- In this period CBS+ of Sunsari participated in 2 days training on Rights of FSW and Reproductive Health in Itahari organized by Mahila Sahayogi Samuha from 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

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

- **Mechi ART Center**  
Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Mechi Zonal hospital on June 28, 2022. There was presence of M&E, Lab from AMDA Nepal and Lead Nepal, Staffs from CCC, ART counselor, HA-ART. During the meeting, discussion was done about coordination between IPs for viral load, Follow up for Viral load Unsuppressed Clients, role of the Lab in the viral load, IIT follow-up, etc.
- **Inaruwa ART Center**  
Quarterly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Inaruwa hospital on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022. There was presence of Mesu, Lab Incharge, Emergency Incharge, MCH ward Incharge, OCMC staffs, PC from AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, Staffs from CCC, Administrative staff, ART counselor, HA-ART. During the meeting there was discussion on viral load sample collection and

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possibility of house-to-house collection, lost to flow up & how to reach among them, Health Insurance enrollment and COVID-19 vaccination coverage to all beneficiaries of ART center.

### Photos



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Pics: Monitoring visit by HIV Focal Person of Province Health Directorate, Dhankuta



Pics: Provincial level sharing meeting in Province Health Directorate Dhankuta.

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Pics: Participated in FSWs Right and Reproductive Health Training organized by Mahila Sahayogi Samuha



Participated in stakeholders and sharing meeting of Jagaran Aarogya Samuha



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Pics: Good wishes for Tenure of newly elected Mayor and Sub Mayor of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City, Sunsari by EpiC Project.



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Pics: Supporting in Pfizer orientation of Sunsari and Ilam district Health workers also sharing Merosathi Booking and linkfeed back QR code to participants in Ilam by HA-ART.

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Pics: Participating in various training organized by FHI360

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Pics: Conducting S&D reduction Training to Health Mother Group of KVT. Bazar Jhapa.



Pics: Conducting creative event in City Clinic and Mahila Sahayogi Samuha Office with KPs.

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Thank you.