

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Update: March 2023

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 6th March, 2022 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 9 PLHIV (4 male & 5 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 and its upcoming date & health insurance program. We also played Holi after the event with different colors with the clients and shared happiness.

Sunsari:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on March 6th at Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 11 PLHIV (11 Female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by PC, Case Manager and PN. Discussion was done on Viral load testing, ART continuing, Index testing, Health Insurance also shared well wishes of Holi festival to all the participants.

Morang:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on March 5th at Biratnagar Field Office, Morang. A total of 12 PLHIV (8 male and 4 female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Field Supervisor and PN. Discussion was done on Viral load testing, ART continuing, Index testing, Health Insurance also shared well wishes of Holi festival to all the participants.

Hygiene kit Distribution:

- Not done in this period.

Creative events:

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (Holi Bisesh) on March 5th in Itahari City clinic. A total of 11 FSWs 7(1.2) and 4(1.3) participated in the event. It was facilitated by PC, HA, DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation & HIV/STI services. Among them 5 STI services, 8 HTC services and 3 PrEP_New, 2 FSW took PrEP follow services, 1 PrEP restarted. Along with this well wishes were shared of Holi festival to all the participants.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (Holi Bisesh) on March 5th in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 22 FSWs 7(1.2), 15(1.3) participated in the event. It was facilitated by FS and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP, its continuation, HIV/STI testing and its preventive measures. Among them 6 HTC/ STI and 2 PrEP_New, 3 PrEP restated during creative event. Along with this well wishes were shared of Holi festival to all the participants.

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- **Jhapa**

Conducted creative event on March 24th in Birtamode City clinic. A total of 13 (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. In this event, 8 KP tested for HIV, 2 enrolled in PrEP and 5 refilled, 1 restarted PrEP. Also, 8 KPs were screened for STI, 1 diagnosed and 1 was treated.

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

Jhapa

Conducted Stigma & discrimination reduction training program at Gauriganj hospital, Gauriganj Rural municipality with presence of 21 participants from the different wards and departments of the hospital. There was also presence of Mesu, Medical officer, hospital administrator, Lab incharge, nurses and other parademics during the program. The program was interactive & the community people learned more about the HIV/AIDS and the stigma & discrimination prevalent in the community . The program was facilitated by M & E, ART Counselor ,Case manager, CBS and PN from the AMDA Nepal

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

- In this period participated in coordination and sharing meeting organized by Prayash Mahila Samuha on March 24th, 2023. In the meeting there was participants from Health Coordinator of Itahari Sub Metropolitan city, FPAN, Mahila Sahayog Samuha, ART Counselor of ART Center from BPKIHS, & Inaruwa Hospital, Recovery Nepal, Richmond fellowship, Human Welfare Society other CBOs. In the meeting there was discussion on allocation of budget for treatment, nutrition, educational, income generating support for PLHIV from local government, published of false myth and messages of HIV/AIDS in the curriculum of secondary level schools.
- In this period participated in the stakeholders meeting organized by Jagaran Aarogya Samuha on March 27th,2023. In the meeting there was participants from of Itahari Sub Metropolitan city, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Recovery Nepal, YDC, Richmond fellowship, Human Welfare Society other CBOs. In the meeting there was sharing of program activities, targets vs achievements, issues and challenges faced along with open discussion for any queries.
- In this period in coordination with Itahari sub Metropolitan city and Prayash Mahila Samuha distributed nutrition and stationary support package to 20 PLHIV families from Itahari City clinic.
- In this period supported in supportive supervision of Lab Specialist Sanjit Pandit from FHI360 to Inaruwa ART center and Inaruwa Hospital.

Viral Load campaign

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- **Jhapa:**
- In this period altogether 28 viral load sample collection was done from Mechi ART & 5 from Damak ART center in coordination with AMDA Nepal Jhapa, BDS Sub IPs, CCC and sent to NPHL and Koshi hospital respectively.
- In this period altogether 37 viral load sample collection done from Morang district among them 19 male and 18 female in coordination with ART Center and BDS sub-IPs and send to Koshi Zonal Hospital.
- In this period altogether 45 viral load sample were collected from Sunsari in coordination with ART Center, CCC and BDS Sub IPs and sent to Koshi Hospital for testing.
- In Illam, altogether 8 viral load sample was collected from Illam ART in coordination with AMDA Nepal Illam, CCC and was sent to Koshi hospital.

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

- Not done in this period

Data Quality Assessment:

- In this period Data Quality Assessment was done on March 20th & 21st, 2023 at Itahari city clinic. DQA was done for the period April 2022 to September 2022 (SA2). During DQA following indicators were verified:
 1. No of new KPs/PPs reach for April to June.
 2. No of Individuals who received HTC services for July- September.
 3. No of individuals who were identified and tested for Index Testing for April-June.
 4. No of KPs/PPs who were tested HIV positive for July to September.
 5. No of KPs/PPs newly diagnosed positive who were tested for recent infection for June-September.
 6. No of Individual HIV tested with self-kit or April to September.
 7. No of HIV positive KPs newly enrolled on ART for July to September.
 8. No of HIV positive KPs who received community care services for June.

Monitoring visits:

- In this period monitoring visit was done by Lab Specialist Mr. Sanjit Pandit from FHI360. He monitored the CLT, Self-testing, stock register, EMMP, waste disposal and management. Maintain of cold chain at Itahari City Clinic on March 3, 2023.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

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Monitoring visit by GoN

- Not done in this period

Trainings and Orientations:

PN Conference

- In this period and CBS plus and PN participated in PN conference organized by FHI360 at Chitwan on March 28th -29th, 2023. In this conference there was presentation and sharing of work experience (Issues/challenges faced, handling the situation) that have done by community staffs during service delivery to the KPs/PPs in the community.

ONHIS Training:

- Two-days training on HIV and ART tracking system was conducted from March 28th – 29th at Chitwan organized by FHI360 Nepal to all IPs and Sub-IPs of the EpiC Nepal Project. The participants of the program were the Lab Assistants, DIC/M&E Associates, who were oriented about different aspects of recording, reporting and data entry through tracker. During the program, the data entry in merodata and ONHIS tracker was compared and action plan was made to complete the leftover of forms during the given time. Similarly, Discussion about different confusions in the forms, recent changes in the tracker, differences in hard copy & tracker were discussion in different program stages and forms.

Monthly ART center Meetings

- **Mechi ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at Mechi ART center of Mechi hospital on 26th March, 2022. In the meeting, there was presence of ART counselor, Lab Incharge, M & E, Case manager officer from AMDA Nepal, CCC staff, HA-ART and staffs from AMDA & Luv kush Ashram. In the meeting, discussion was done about planning for viral load and lab related management during viral load event in the upcoming days. Also, we discussed about the strengthening coordination between IPs and CCC for care and support to the clients.

- **Inaruwa ART Center**

Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Inaruwa Hospital on March 24th 2023. In the meeting there was presence of Medical Doctor, Lab Incharge, MCH Incharge, Hospital Manager, Metron, OCMC, ART Counselor, HA_ART, PCs of EpiC Project. Meeting was started by the round of introduction, brief description on EpiC Project, Viral load testing, EID sample collection with report, IIT and transfer out clients tracking and reporting. Along with logistics support to ART center.

- **Ilam ART Center**

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Monthly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of Ilam Hospital on March 22nd, 2023. In the meeting there was presence of emergency Incharge, medical recorder, Lab Incharge, MCH Incharge, ART Counselor, HA_ART, PN, Luvakush Ashram, BWS. In the meeting there was discussion ways to increase number of case finding, Index testing, Viral Load sample collection and testing, ARV distribution, IIT and transfer out clients tracking and reporting.

Photos



Pics: Nutrition and Stationary support to PLHIV in coordination with Itahari Sub-Metropolitan City and Prayash Mahila Samuha.

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Pics: Monthly ART meeting ART Centers of Ilam and Inaruwa Hospital.



Pics: S&D reduction orientation program at Gauriganj Hospital, Jhapa

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Pics: Participated in PN conference organized by EpiC Nepal at Chitwan

Thank You