

AMDA-USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control

Monthly Update: December 2024

Objectives:

Objective 1: Increased access to and demand for HIV services that reduce HIV incidence and improve health and lives of PLHIV.

Support group meeting:

Jhapa:

AMDA-USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control conducted support group meeting on 20th December, 2024 in Birtamod Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 13 PLHIV (7 female, 6 male) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case Manager, CBS & PN. Discussion was done on Health Insurance, U=U, ART enrollment and re enrollment of all positive cases, importance of Index based partner testing and about viral load.

Sunsari

AMDA-USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control conducted support group meeting on 9th December 2024 in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 12 PLHIV (11 Female and 1 Male) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case manager and PN. Discussion was done on Health Insurance, U=U, ART enrollment and re enrollment of all positive cases, importance of Index based partner testing and about viral load.

Monthly review meeting:

- MRM of Morang was conducted on 22nd of December at Biratnagar Field office where performance of all the staffs was discussed regarding their contribution in achievement of the milestone.
- MRM of Jhapa was conducted on 23rd of December at Birtamod city clinic office where performance of all the staffs was discussed regarding their contribution in achievement of the milestone. Also, we planned for preparation of SIMS visit.

Online Activities:

- In this reporting period 75 people booked for service through online of which 67 of them arrived to receive the service in Sunsari city clinic.
- In this reporting period 3 people booked for service through online and 3 arrived to receive the service in Birtamod city clinic.

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Creative events:

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on 24th December, 2024 in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 15 FSWs (1.2=4, 1.3=8.67=3) participated in the event facilitated by CBS, PN and Case Manager. The discussion was mainly focused on importance of PrEP and its continuation for safety from HIV AIDS. Along with that HIV related preventive measures were also discussed in the meeting.

- **Jhapa**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on 16th December in Birtamod City clinic. A total of 11 FSWs (1.2-5, 1.3-6) 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, 10 KP tested for HIV & STI and 4 KP started PrEP, 1 KP restarted PrEP, 3 KP refill Also 6 KPs was diagnosed and 4 treated for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- **Not done in this period.**

Viral Load campaign

- In Morang district total of 16 viral load sample collection was done on December , 2024in coordination with ART Center and BDS sub-IPs and send to NPHL
- In Sunsari a total of 65 viral load sample collection was done on November in coordination with ART Center and BDS sub-IPs and send to NPHL
- In Jhapa a total of 43 viral load sample collection was done on November in coordination with ART Center and BDS sub-IPs and send to NPHL and 21 Viral Load result received.
- In Ilam a total of 13 viral load sample collection was done on November in coordination with ART Center and send to NPHL and 13 Viral Load result received.

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World AIDS Day celebration:

37th World AIDS Day celebration:

Objective of Event:

- i. To celebrate 37th 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 networking organization working for STI/HIV/AIDS Services at the respective districts.

Name of organizations participated:

Jhapa: AMDA Nepal, Luv Kush Ashram, Health Office Jhapa, Mechi Hospital, ART Center Mechi, Ilaka Police Office, AHF Jhapa, CLM Jhapa, Sanischare municipality and Sanischare secondary school.

Morang: AMDA Nepal, Biratnagar Metropolitan city, Pariwartanshil Samaj, Sparsha Nepal, FPAN, Richmond Fellowship, Koshi hospital, AHF Nepal, NAP+N Morang and NATA Morang.

Sunsari: Itahari sub-metropolitan city, AMDA Nepal, Human Welfare Society, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Astha Foundation, Recovery Nepal, Shramik Mahila Sajha Manch, Jagaran Aarogya Kendra, Marie Stopes, Maiti Nepal, Sahara samaj, Mitini Nepal and FPAN.

Ilam: Ilam Municipality, DHO Ilam, AMDA Nepal, Luv Kush Ashram, FPAN, Ilam Technical College, Ilam hospital, Bagmati Sewa Samaj, Ilam hospital and Ilam Police Office.

Activities:

Jhapa:

- Awareness rally from Sanischare Bazar and throughout the Sanischare area with informative messages and condom distribution to prevent HIV/AIDS and its treatment.
- Quiz contest program on HIV related programs to Clients, Sanischare secondary school students and other high-risk people at Sanischare Bazar.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants.
- Candle light ceremony at Birtamod chowk in the evening.

Morang:

- The World AIDS Day celebration started with a awareness rally in Biratnagar with the participation of all the government and non- governmental organization and institutions from Biratnagar Metropolitan City Office and ends at Biratnagar Buspark.
- Free counseling with condom and lubricant distribution was done in Biratnagar Buspark.

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- Candle light was done in Biratnagar Buspark in the evening with participants from all stakeholders.

Sunsari:

- The World AIDS Day celebration started with a awareness rally in Itahari with the participation of Mayor, deputy mayor, ward president, all the governmental and non-governmental organization and institutions that ended in Itahari sub metropolitan office also after the rally updates of HIV situation, its treatment, role of local government for better quality of life for PLHIV was discussed in the presence of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Health Coordinator.
- Nutritious food package was distributed to 45 low economic status PLHIV families who were living in Itahari Sub Metropolitan City.
- 6 Children less than 18 years old were supported with Incentives of Rs 5000/per child to improve nutritional status.
- Road drama/Flash Mob for awareness on reduction of HIV related stigma and discrimination was played by Human welfare Society team at Magic Stand.
- Candle light ceremony was done at Itahari chowk in the evening with the participants from all stakeholders was done.

Ilam:

- Informative rally conducted for awareness of HIV/AIDS which started from Kharel dada Ilam technical college to Ilam Tudikhel with distribution of leaflets released by NCASC.
- Red ribbon distribution program to all participants and employees of office before rally program was done.
- Candle light ceremony at Bus Park Ilam in the evening at Ilam main chowk.

Festival campaign social media posts:

- Not done in this period.

Objective 2: Strengthened utilization of data to monitor service delivery and conduct quality improvement of program services.

Monitoring visits:

- In this period monitoring visit was conducted by BPKIHS Hospital and ART center at Itahari Clinic Office. In the visit there were presence from Head of Department in Internal Medicine Dr. Robin Maskey, Tropical Ward Incharge Ms. Anjushree Gurung and ART Counselor Ms. Surakshya Budhathoki. They monitored the process of service delivery from Itahari clinic along with interaction with field staffs for issues and challenges are they facing in case detection, ART enrollment & ART adherence, viral load testing, CD4 Testing.

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Data Quality Assessment (DQA) :

- Not done in this period.

Provincial / Other GoN Meeting:

Inception Meeting

- The Provincial Inception meeting was organized on December 2nd, 2024 at Hotel Eastern Star, Biratnagar by AMDA Nepal in the presence of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders (Health Secretary, Director of Koshi Province Health Directorate, Director of Koshi Province Public Health laboratory, NCASC representative, Chief of PHLM, Mesu and representative of Hospitals, Mechi, Koshi, Inaruwa, BPKIHS, Chief of Health Office Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari and Ilam, Chief of Provincial Training Center, Health Coordinator of Itahari, Birtamod, Biratnagar, ART Counselor, Partners representatives(FHI360, BDS, Sparsha Nepal). The main objective of the event was to disseminate the information regarding the ending of “EpiC Nepal” and serve the groundwork of the new program, “USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control” by aligning all stakeholders, clarifying objectives, roles and responsibilities and ensuring everyone involved has a shared understanding of the project’s scope, timelines and deliverables.

The event was facilitated by HIV Service Director along with team members of AMDA Nepal. The event started with a brief introduction of all the participants and was later taken over by the Chief of Party who shared a presentation regarding the objectives, goals and expected outcomes of the project. Along with that, a detail implementation details were also provided in event which included our key indicators, target population and key working areas. In addition to that the timelines and milestones of the program was also shared by the Chief of party.

Similarly, as AMDA Nepal had worked under Epic Nepal for last 4 years, so a Senior Program Officer from fhi360, Miss Salina Joshi also shared the overall activities that were done during those courses of time, along with the contribution of AMDA Nepal throughout the project period. The working areas and achievements of AMDA Nepal during the EpiC Nepal Project was also shared in an event. The different assistance that fhi360 has been providing throughout the period was shared along a discussion on providing the technical assistance in the future as well.

At the end, discussion session was done which put forward the issues, concerns and different queries of the stakeholders that was addresses by the team members of AMDA Nepal. At the very end, the key stakeholders shared their warm wishes, opinions and suggestions for the future programs and the event finally ended by closing remarks AMDA Nepal secretary Dr. Yagya Raj Pathak.

Monitoring visit by GoN

- Not done in this period.

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Objective 3: Sustainability roadmap and implementation plan for the HIV response developed and implemented in collaboration with the Government of Nepal (GoN) and other stakeholders.

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

- In this period participated in the 3 days Recording and Reporting Training organized by FHI360 at Chitwan on 11th-13th of December, 2024 with the participation of Program/M&E specialist and Program/M&E Associate at CMT Hotel. In the Training there was presence of PC, M&E, Field Supervisor from IPs and partners. There was discussion on data preparation, recording and reporting with MRM slides preparation.
- In this period conducted coordination and sharing meeting at Ilam District Hospital on Dec.25, 2024. In the meeting there were presence from Ilam District Hospital, Health Office, Ilam Municipality, FPAN, LAVA KUSH Ashram, Bagmati Welfare Society. In the meeting there was sharing of USAID direct funding activity USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control with its objectives, activities and areas of support for effective service delivery from ART centers and from community.

Monthly ART center Meeting.

- **BPKIHS ART Center**

Quarterly ART meeting was conducted at BPKIHS ART center on Dec.17th, 2024. In the meeting, there was presence of HoD of Internal Medicine, ART doctor, Pediatric doctor, Tropical ward Incharge, ART Counselor, HIV Service Director, PC, Program/M&E, AFO, HA-ART, CBS, PN from AMDA Nepal and Human Welfare Society with Program officer of Dharan Positive Group. In the meeting there was sharing of USAID direct funding activity USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control & USAID HIV Community Services with its objectives, activities and areas of support for effective service delivery from ART centers and from community. In addition to that discussion was also done regarding the support needed from Case Manager on data entry.

- **Koshi ART Center**

In this period Quarterly ART meeting was conducted at Koshi ART center of Koshi hospital on December 22nd, 2024. In the meeting, there was presence of Hospital Administrator, ART Counselor, Lab Incharge, HIV service Director, M&E/Program Specialist, Prevention Officer, AFO, HA-ART, Case Manager from AMDA Nepal, ART Clinic Office from AHF Nepal, representative from Sparsha Nepal and Pariwartanshil Samaj. In the meeting, discussion was done Viral load testing, CD4 Testing, Health Insurance, ARV Pill Pick up.

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- **ILAM ART Center**

In this period quarterly ART meeting was conducted at Ilam ART center of Ilam Hospital on Dec.24th, 2024 in the presence of Mesu Dr. Prabhu Shah, Emergency Incharge, ART doctor, Lab Incharge, ART counselor, Medical Recorder, HA-ART, representatives from Lava Kush Ashram, Bagmati welfare society, AMDA Nepal. In the meeting there was discussion on current status of ART with Sex/KP wise along with missing, transfer out, death, viral load status and issues and challenges facing during HIV testing, ART enrollment, viral load testing.

- **Inaruwa ART Center**

Quarterly ART center meeting was conducted at ART center of ILAM on 20th December, 2024. In the meeting, there was presence of Hospital administrator, HIV service Director, ART Doctor, ART counselor, Lab Incharge, M & E/ Program specialist, OCMC & stakeholders. In the meeting, brief orientation was given regarding activities of USAID Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control. In the meeting, discussion was done about the viral load status & testing site, ART enrollment.

Photos of the event

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Fig: Support Group Event at Itahari City Clinic

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Fig: Creative Event at Biratnagar Field Office

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Fig: Participating Recording and Reporting Training at CMT Hotel

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Fig: Provincial Level Inception Meeting at Biratnagar, Hotel Eastern Star.



Fig: World AIDS Day Celebration at Itahari, Sunsari

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Fig: World AIDS Day Celebration at Biratnagar, Morang



Fig: World AIDS Day Celebration at Jhapa

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Fig: World AIDS Day Celebration at Ilam



Fig: Coordination and sharing meeting at Ilam Hospital.

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Fig: Quarterly ART Meeting at Koshi ART Center.



Fig: Quarterly ART Meeting at BPKIHS