

## **EpiC Nepal Project**

### **Monthly Update: June 2024**

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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 June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 in Birtamode Field Office, Jhapa. A total of 12 PLHIV (7 male & 5 female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by Case Manager, CBS & PN. Discussion was done about the mental health counselling, Tuberculosis and health insurance. Psychological counselor, Nishal Dahal was also present during the program where the clients were screened and counselled in terms of mental & psychological care.

##### **Sunsari**

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Itahari Field Office, Sunsari. A total of 15 PLHIV (3 Male and 12 Female) 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, Mental Health, importance of Index based partner testing and about viral load.

##### **Morang**

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Biratnagar Field Office, Morang. A total of 13 PLHIV (5 Male and 8 Female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by field Supervisor and PN. Discussion was done on Health Insurance, U=U, ART enrollment and re enrollment of all positive cases, Mental Health, importance of Index based partner testing and about viral load.

##### **Illam**

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Illam Field Office. A total of 11 PLHIV (8 Male and 3 Female) participated in the meeting. Meeting was facilitated by HA-ART and PN. Discussion was done about ART Adherence, viral load and importance and timing of pathology test which is to be done regularly.

#### **Monthly review meeting:**

Monthly Review Meeting (MRM) online was done on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Itahari Field Office. Discussion was done on following topics

- MRM Presentation
- Target vs achievement
- Areas to be focused like Index Testing, Viral Load Testing, PrEP\_New, Merosathi booking and testing, Self-testing
- EAC, AHD, Mental Health.
- Compliances of USAID
- Index Testing

#### **Quarterly Review Meeting**

- Not done in this period.

#### **Online Activities**

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**Jhapa:** In this reporting period, 14 phone call were made for ART Adherence, support group & viral load testing. Also, 2 high risk KP were communicated for HIV prevention, testing & PrEP services. Similarly, 7 clients booked HIV testing services through Merosathi & 7 arrived in the clinic & took the services.

**Sunsari:** In this period, 14 phone follow up were done among them 8 took services in the clinic. Similarly, 15 clients booked HIV testing services through Mero Sathi & 13 arrived to clinic and took the services.

**Morang:** In this period, 3 client booked HIV testing services through Mero Sathi & 3 arrived to clinic and took the services.

#### **Relief Packages**

- Not done in this period.

#### **COVID-19 Isolation Kit:**

- Not done in this period.

#### **Hygiene kit Distribution:**

- Not done in this period.

#### **Creative events:**

- **Sunsari**

Conducted creative event (PrEP focused) on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 in Itahari City clinic. A total of 16 FSWs (1.2-14, 1.3-2) participants. It was facilitated by DIC Operator and CBS. There was discussion on importance of PrEP and its continuation, HIV/STI testing, Mental Health. In this event PrEP new 2, PrEP restart 4 and 6 refilled PrEP also 15 KPs done the STI screening and 11 HIV testing.

- **Morang**

Conducted creative event on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 in Biratnagar Field Office. A total of 10 female (1.2-0, 1.3-10) participants participated in the event. It was facilitated CBS, PN and Field Supervisor. There was discussion on importance of PrEP and its continuation, HIV prevention & treatment. In this event PrEP new 2 and 2 KPs done the STI screening and 2 HIV testing.

#### **Jhapa**

- Conducted creative event on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 advantages, sexually transmitted Infections (STIs) and its effects. In the program, the participants were trained to make flower basket using locally available materials. In this event, 8 KP tested for HIV & STI, 4 KP started PrEP & 1 restarted. Also, 8 KPs were screened for STI, 3 were diagnosed & 3 of them were treated.

#### **Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:**

- Not done in this period.

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

- In this period participated in the coordination and sharing meeting organized Jagaran Aarogya Samuha at Halgadha, Sunsari on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the meeting there were presence from Prayash Mahila Samuha, Human Welfare Society, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, FPAN, Maiti Nepal, Richmond Fellowship, AMDA Nepal. In the meeting there was sharing of program activities conducted by Jagaran Aarogya Sumuha and with its Issues and challenges.
- In this period participated the Prevention against drug abuse program organized by Recovering Nepal at Itahari, Sunsari on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the program there were presence from Itahari Municipality, Recovering Nepal, ACT Nepal, AMDA Nepal, Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, Prayash Mahila Samuha, Maiti Nepal, FPAN, Human Welfare Society, local media, Youth Club etc, Ilaka Police Office etc. In the program there was Nagar Parikrama with Banners, flex, display card with slogan "The Evidence is clear: Invest in Prevention"

#### **Viral Load campaign**

- Morang: In this period 26 viral load sample collection done and 21 viral load report received.
- Sunsari: In this period 20 viral load sample collection done and 32 viral load report received

#### **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 done from FHI360, Technical Specialist Dr. Sophiya Adhikari at June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Itahari city clinic. Dr Sophiya provided orientation on HIVST and its recording and reporting process to all staffs also visited the clinic and lab provided different feedback for improvement.
- Monitoring visit was done from FHI360, Technical Specialist Mr. Prawesh Khatiwada at June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Itahari city clinic. He conducted the supervision of store & lab department also provided the different feedback for more improvement of store room. Like updates of stock card, stock register and management of store room.
- Monitoring visit was conducted by M & E specialist Upendra Shrestha & Sr. Program Officer Salina Joshi at Birtamod City Clinic at June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. During the period, the data of the prevention, clinical forms such as testing, positive, Prep, community care were reviewed. Also, clinic & project activities were monitored and feedbacks were provided for improvement.
- Monitoring & SIMS preparation visit was done from FHI360, M & E Specialist Mr. Upendra Shrestha at June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Itahari city clinic. He conducted the supervision Lab, Clinic of Itahari city clinic and provided the feedback. He guided step by step SIMS Assessment also conducted

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the verification of hard copy and soft copy, log sheets, checklist, minute, HMIS register. His guidance was very useful and way out for SIMS visit.

- In this period Psychosocial Doctor Dr. Sandarbha Adhikari also visited Itahari City Clinic on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2024. He provided orientation to CBS, PN, Case Manager, Lab, DIC on Mental Health, selfcare, alcoholism. Also had practical role play session to CBS, PN for mental health screening and counseling.

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

- In this period monitoring visit was done at Itahari City Clinic by Lab personnel from Koshi Hospital, BPKIHS Hospital and District Hospital Inaruwa on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The team visit registration room, DIC, lab and Clinic. They monitored the process of registration, their personal file with records services taken, DIC for waiting, reading, visualization of informative information, Lab for HIV/STI testing, cold chain, waste mgmt. process, SOPs and guidelines and clinic for services provided on pretest and posttest counseling, PrEP services, STI diagnosis and treatment, mental Health services with its recording and reporting. After visit of clinic there was sharing of EpiC project activities along with Recency HIV Infection testing that is to be started from respective confirmation sites. In any support need for Recency HIV testing EpiC Lab staffs will support as per need.

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

- In this period participated in the Sharing Meeting at June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Family Planning Nepal meeting hall, Biratnagar, organized by Biratnagar Metropolitan Health (HMIS) section, participants were from the all NGO/INGO and hospitals representatives of Biratnagar. There was discussion about the timely data entry of HMIS form all health organization, also shown the organization who are regular submitted of HMIS report and our organization was one of them. There is also demonstration of data entry process of HMIS.

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

- In this period participated in the Performance Management Training organized by FHI360 at Hotel yellow Pagoda on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the training there were presence of Board members of Nepal, Central AMDA Office, Mgmt team of EpiC Project, AMDA Damak Hospital, AMDA Butwal Hospital, AIHS Damak and Butwal. The training was facilitated by Govinda raj Poudel along with FHI360. In the training there was facilitation of Process of performance management, roles and responsibilities for each individual personnel for performance improvement of the organization.
- In this period CBS plus and online CBS participated in the Peer Navigation training organized by FHI360 at Hotel Sambhala Kathmandu from June 22-26, 2024.
- In this period HA-ART of Ilam Hospital, Inaruwa Hospital, BPKIHS Hospital participated in the HIV Testing and Counselling Training organized by FHI360 at Hotel Manaslu, Kathmandu.
- In this period participated in the residential proposal writing workshop for direct funding from USAID from October 2024 organized by FHI360 from on June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at Park Village Resort, Budhanilkantha. In the workshop there were presence from FHI360 project director, Deputy Director, Team Leader, Program Manager, Sr.PO, Sr.Pr. C, M&E Specialist, Grants Manager along with board member and program implementing staffs from AMDA Nepal and Bule Diamond Society. In the workshop there was sharing of need of proposal writing for upcoming years for

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direct funding from USAID along with Key steps on different programmatic template workplan, M&E Plan and Financial estimation. AMDA Nepal and Blue Diamond Society team worked on those three templates with the support of FHI360 team members with discussions and a draft template was prepared.

- In this period HA-ART of Ilam, Mechi, Koshi, Inaruwa and BPKIHS participated in the DHIS-2 Tracker Training organized by Province Health Directorate at Pakhribas, Dhankutta.

#### **Continued Medical Education (CME)**

- In this period Continued Medical Education (CME) was conducted at BPKIHS Hospital, Dharan on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024. The CME was facilitated by Lab Officer of FHI360 Bimal Shrestha on Infection Prevention Control, Waste Management and Bio-Safety and Security. There was presence from all unit Incharge, Metron, medical doctors and nursing staffs. There were altogether 70 participants (28 male and 42 female).
- In this period Continued Medical Education (CME) was conducted at Inaruwa District Hospital, Sunsari on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2024. The CME was facilitated by Lab Officer of FHI360 Bimal Shrestha on Infection Prevention Control, Waste Management and Bio-Safety and Security. There was presence from all ward Incharge, Metron, medical doctors, Lab staffs and nursing staffs. There were altogether 70 participants (29 male and 41 female).

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

- **Mechi ART Center**

Quarterly ART center meeting was conducted at Mechi hospital on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the meeting, there was presence of Medical Superintendent, Medical Officer, Hospital Administrator, ART counselor, Lab Incharge, M & E officer, HA-ART from AMDA Nepal, staff from Luvkush Ashram and Lead Nepal. In the meeting, sharing of data of enrolled, death, unsuppressed, IIT cases from shrawan 2080 to asad 2081 was done. Also, discussion was done about the possibility of shifting ART center and also about the PMTCT service which is not available in the hospital till now.

#### **BPKIHS**

Quarterly ART meeting was conducted at BPKIHS ART Center on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the meeting there were presence from FHI360 Sr. PO, HOD of Internal Medicine, ART Doctor, Tropical ward Incharge, Pediatric doctor, ART Counselor, HA-ART, NAP+N Provincial Supervisor, DPG Program Officer, AMDA Nepal Project Coordinator and Peer Navigator, Human Welfare Society, M&E Officer, CBS and Peer Navigator along with president of Prayash Mahila Samuha. In the meeting there was sharing of SIMS visit preparation and need to complete the gaps as suggested by M&E Specialist and Sr. PO from FHI360 also sharing of HTC, eLMIS, DHIS-2 Training. Along with letter for AC for BPKIHS ART sites and tracking and EAC of viral load unsuppressed clients.

- **Koshi ART Center**

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Monthly ART meeting was conducted at Koshi ART center on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the meeting, there was presence of Hospital Administrator, Nursing staff, ART counselor, Lab Incharge, OPD Incharge, Emergency Incharge, Other IP and Sub IP representative, other organization working in HIV representative, Field Supervisor, HA-ART, PN & CBS from EpiC Project. There was discussion about the Basic test of PLHIV in every 6 months, cervix cancer screening of PLHIV female clients. Where ART provided list of lost of follow up to every IP as their clients.

- **Ilam ART Center**

Quarterly ART Meeting was conducted at Ilam Hospital on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024. In the meeting there was presence of Medical Superintendent, Medical Officer, ART Counselor, Staff from hospital administration, Lab HA-ART, staffs from CCC & AMDA etc. Discussion was done about waste management, management DOTS treatment center which is attached to ART center and also about arrangements to be changed in ART center.

## Photos



Pics: Quarterly ART Meeting at BPKIHS, Dharan



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Pics: CME Conducted at BPKIHS and Inaruwa Hospital on IPC, BSS and HCWM



Pics: Performance Management Training participating from AMDA Nepal Team.



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Pics: Supportive supervision by M&E Specialist at Itahari City Clinic



Pics: Proposal writing workshop for Direct Funding from USAID at Budhanilkatha



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Pics: Support Group meeting at Birtamod City Clinic with Psychosocial Counselor

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Pics: Monitoring visit of Lab Personnel from Koshi, Inaruwa and BPKIHS Hospital at Itahari City Clinic.

**Thank You**