

USAID Project NOVA Quarterly Report

Task Order: GHS-I-802-03-00031-00

July – September 2009: 4th Quarter FY09

This Quarterly Report describes the results of NOVA's programmatic activities during the period of July 1 – September 30, 2009. Given a two month no-cost extension through the end of November 2009, the Project was in full-scale implementation of all marz and national-level interventions in Armenia. This is the last quarterly report for the Project. The following attachments are included in this narrative report:

- Attachment A, Progress on Project NOVA Indicators for Q4 FY09
- Attachment B, Family Planning Compliance Visits
- Attachment C, Project NOVA FY09 Annual Workplan Status Report

AREA 1: Improve RH/FP/MCH Provider Performance

Tangible Result: Providers' knowledge and skills improved

- During this reporting period, the Project continued monitoring and follow-up visits in both southern and northern marzes to assure the integration of family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) counseling into the routine work of healthcare workers. A total of 19 healthcare facilities in Armavir, Ararat, Syunik and Tavush marzes were visited. These monitoring visits revealed that healthcare providers (ob/gyns, family doctors and midwives) trained by Project NOVA on FP/RH counseling and client-provider interaction skills currently practice their newly acquired skills. The monitoring visits also showed that continuous monitoring and technical feedback is important to discuss challenges in improving clients' attitudes and knowledge in modern contraceptive methods, especially hormonal pills. With regard to natural methods of FP, health care providers mentioned the popularity among female clients of the Fertility Days Calculator developed by Project NOVA. In most of facilities the FP referral system functions effectively.
- On September 7 - 11, 2009 Project NOVA conducted a five-day pilot training course on Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) for the clinical residents of Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU). A total of 11 third- and fourth-year ob/gyn residents attended the training. Before the training, NOVA evaluated participants' AMTSL and aorta compression skills using a standard checklist in accordance with WHO recommendations as a proxy for the assessment of their clinical skills. None of the participants demonstrated familiarity with AMTSL and aorta compression nor could they demonstrate skills on the anatomical mannequin. A written pre-test knowledge questionnaire indicated average (62%) familiarity with key principles of EmOC. Post-training skills assessment results showed that 97% of participants could acceptably demonstrate all of the EmOC skills. Written post-test knowledge results showed a 35% knowledge increase following the training.
- As a follow-up to the classroom-based training in EmOC, on September 18th Project NOVA organized a "Reality Check" field trip for a small group of YSMU ob/gyn residents to one of the regional maternity hospitals supported by the Project. The purpose of the trip was to provide clinical obstetrical skills practice in regional facilities with limited resources. During the field trip six medical residents toured Vedi Maternity, attended an antenatal care class at the School of Motherhood, met hospital staff, learned how to use a fetal electronic monitor on a patient, and interpreted the results of cardio-tachogram. Participants expressed their gratitude for the opportunity for hands-on experience.
- In August - September, the Project piloted a Preconception Care training course developed as part of the National Preconception Care Program [pending approval from the Ministry of Health (MOH)]. Project NOVA's Preconception Care training course package includes a Trainer's Guide and Learner's Handbook that covers core evidence-based reference materials, a course agenda, pre- and post-course questionnaires, clinical checklists, situational cases and role plays. A total of

78 health care providers – ob/gyns and family physicians together – from the five NOVA-supported southern networks participated in this two-day training course. Participants demonstrated a mean knowledge increase of 28% upon course completion in all five networks. Table 1 summarizes the results.

The results of the final evaluation conducted among all Preconception Care training participants demonstrated that the vast majority valued the importance of preconception health and healthcare in sustaining better maternal and child health (MCH) outcomes. However, they acknowledge the lack of national policy and guidelines in the organization of preconception care service delivery. A few participants mentioned that they were unclear about their specific roles and responsibilities in preconception healthcare, and were not sure whether they will be applying new knowledge and skills in their daily work. Almost all participants were satisfied with the content of the course which provided them with new information and perspectives on preconception care and its importance. Almost half of the course participants suggested expanding the duration of the training course to three days.

Network	Venue	No. of Participants	Training Dates	Pre-test score	Post-test score	Knowledge Change
Armavir	Armavir Polyclinic	19	Sep 17-18, 2009	62%	90%	28% ↑
Vedi	Vedi Polyclinic	18	Sep 22-23, 2009	52%	79%	27% ↑
Talin	Talin polyclinic	14	Sep 15-16, 2009	65%	97%	32% ↑
Vayk	Yeghegnadzor MC	10	Aug 28-29, 2009	52%	80%	28% ↑
Sisian	Sisian MC	17	Aug 18-19, 2009	63%	91%	28% ↑
Total/Average		78		59%	87%	28% ↑

- In response to a formal request from the Project in September 2009, the MOH assigned full continuing medical education (CME) credits for several Project NOVA in-service training courses (See Table 2 below). Previously, the MOH approved the training curricula/packages for national implementation and co-signed certificates of attendance for its participants.

Training Package Title	MOH Approval	Duration	CME Credit
Safe Motherhood Clinical Skills: Module 1-7 (for community nurses)	Letter No. 165-A as of 24.02.2005	22 days	110 credits
Safe Motherhood Clinical Skills: Module 8. Quality Midwifery Care (for midwives)		5 days	25 credits
Key Reproductive Health Competencies (for family doctors)	Letter No. 12/10-02-3906 as of 05.08.2008	8 days	40 credits
Syndromic Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections (for dermato-venereologists and ob/gyns)	Letter No. 1650-A as of 14.11.2008	4 days	20 credits
Infection Prevention (all types of healthcare workers)	Letter No 12/10-02-1121 as of 14.03.2007	3 days	15 credits
Antenatal and Postpartum Care (ob/gyns and midwives)		5 days	25 credits
Emergency Obstetric Care (ob/gyns, midwives and anesthesiologists)		5 days	25 credits
Newborn Care and Resuscitation (neonatologists and anesthesiologists)		3 days	15 credits
Infant Care (pediatricians and pediatric nurses)		5 days	25 credits
Family Planning & Reproductive Health Counseling (ob/gyns, midwives and family doctors)	Letter No. 12/10.02-1550 as of 03.04.2008	4 days	20 credits

Tangible Result: Training capacity strengthened

- Project NOVA completed its core FP activities with the development of pre-service FP training curricula for YSMU and state medical colleges. Last year two Working Groups were formed from faculty members of Erebuni State Medical College, Yerevan Basic State Medical College and YSMU to develop curricula for medical, nursing and midwifery students as well as clinical

residents, using/adapting NOVA's in-service Family Planning and Reproductive Health Counseling and Client-Provider Interactions Training Package. In order to develop performance-based training curricula, Working Groups participated in a NOVA-organized Contraceptive Technology Update; training-of-trainers on modern training/teaching methodology, adult learning principles, and instructional design; and a FP curricula finalization workshop.

- In August 2009, the Working Groups finalized, and NOVA produced and disseminated the pre-service FP training packages/materials to key pre-service medical training institutions (YSMU, Erebuni and Yerevan State Basic Medical colleges). A total of 500 copies were made available as library loans for YSMU medical students, 200 for the clinical ob/gyn and family medicine YSMU medical residents, and 1,200 for nursing and midwife students of state medical colleges.
- In order to monitor the integration of the newly developed FP training curricula, NOVA along with members of both Working Groups set up the following schedule of demonstration lessons at state pre-service medical training institutions to assure the quality of training sessions and to provide constructive feedback to the faculty members (see Table 3).

Table 3: Family Planning Demonstration Lessons' Schedule

<i>Day</i>	<i>State Training Institution</i>	<i>Audience</i>
October 1, 2009	YSMU, Ob/Gyn Dep No.2	5th year medical students
October 5-6, 2009	Erebuni Medical College	Nursing and midwifery students
October 12-16, 2009	YSMU, Ob/Gyn Dep No.1	Ob/Gyn residents
October 20, 2009	YSMU, Ob/Gyn Dep No.1	5th year medical students
October 21, 2009	Basic Medical College	Faculty from State Medical Colleges across Armenia

- On September 25, 2009 Project NOVA conducted an annual Evidence-Based Update meeting for the group of national experts/trainers who worked with the Project since 2004. This group successfully collaborated with NOVA in the development, adaptation and finalization of training packages and curricula; the implementation of core clinical training activities; and post-training monitoring and technical feedback visits. Overall, 15 national trainers and experts participated in this event. Project NOVA staff prepared a number of technical update presentations including topics on the cost-effectiveness of various screening techniques for the early detection of breast cancer, evidence-based approaches in the management of preterm labor, an update on the contraceptive prevalence and current FP practices in Armenia, and a discussion of the roles and responsibilities of family physicians in the provision of MCH/RH in Armenia. At the end of the workshop, all national trainers/experts received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Project.

Tangible Result: Healthcare facilities equipped and renovated

- On July 31st in conjunction with the Polyclinic Department of Vedi Medical Center (MC) Project NOVA held an official ribbon cutting ceremony of the newly renovated Children's Polyclinic Department at Vedi MC. USAID officials, Vedi MC management and Polyclinic Department staff as well as leadership of Vedi municipality and Project NOVA staff participated. The newly renovated Children's Polyclinic Department will serve the children of Vedi with seven renovated exam rooms, a small procedure room, an immunization room and new furniture. The vice mayor of Vedi, Mr. Saroyan, and the Director of USAID's SRO, Ms.Sangita Patel, cut the red ribbon to the entrance of the Children's Polyclinic Department at Vedi MC.
- Two new Schools of Motherhood (SoM) were established in Yerevan with the support from the Project:
 - Project NOVA established a SoM in cooperation with the Yerevan Center of Sexual Health

and Family Planning (CSH/FP), the clinical training site for the Ob/Gyn Chair # 1 of YSMU. The CSH/FP allocated and renovated a room at the Women's Consultation department and Project NOVA supplied it with standard set of SoM equipment, including furniture, carpet, and a TV/DVD player. After the red ribbon cutting ceremony on September 8, the participants viewed the newly opened SoM, the walls of which were decorated with the pictures painted by young children of the CSH/FP staff.

- Upon the request from Women's Consultation Center (WCC) of Yerevan's Polyclinic No. 8 – **one of key national clinical training sites for the National Institute of Health (NIH)** - to support the facility with the establishment of a SoM room, Project NOVA renovated a room in the WCC and provided the standard set of furniture, supplies and health education materials. **Practicing family doctors, ob/gyns, nurses and midwives attending CME courses at NIH now will have an opportunity to see the SoM in action at Polyclinic No. 8 and will bring this experience to their regional facilities.**
- On October 15th, representatives of all SoM established by NOVA across Armenia will be able to benefit from an exchange visit to IPOG's SoM in Yerevan where they will have a chance exchange their experience, discuss challenges and opportunities, and learn about identification and management of postpartum depression. This completes NOVA's support to the National SoM initiative.

AREA 2: Strengthen Management and Supervision

Tangible Result: Quality assurance system at hospitals introduced

- The Project continued implementing quality assurance (QA) activities at five sites: Armavir MC, Vedi Maternity, Vayk MC, Sisian MC and Talin MC. As part of this initiative, facility-based QA teams continued the analysis of site statistics and reviewed maternal and newborn "near miss" cases. The results of this reporting quarter were as follows:
 - the proportion of pregnant women registered during the first trimester of gestation was 45%,
 - the proportion of women with at least four antenatal care visits - 86%,
 - the percentage of women with postpartum hemorrhage - 1.1%, and
 - the abortion rate per 100 births was 6.3.
- With technical support from an internationally-recognized QA Expert Dr. Al Assaf, in July Project NOVA prepared a technical report on *Institutionalizing Healthcare Quality in Armenia: Sustaining the Gains of Improvement*. The report included a summary and the results of NOVA's QA initiative, along with long and short-term recommendations. It also proposed an institutionalization and sustainability plan for a national-level QA initiative to improve the quality of RH/FP/MCH service delivery in regional hospitals.

AREA 3: Improve RH/FP/MCH Policy Formulation and Implementation

Tangible Result: Evidence-based RH/FP/MCH service delivery promoted

- Project NOVA shared the following evidence-based medicine information in the monthly newsletters: *The Use Of Misoprostol For Postpartum Hemorrhage Prevention And Treatment Is Not Recommended*; and *Spinal Anesthesia For Elective Cesarean Delivery In Patients With Severe Preeclampsia Shows Better Results Than In Healthy Patients*. All evidence-based medicine updates along with relevant links are available on the Project NOVA website (www.nova.am) in English and Armenian.
- The Preconception Care Working Group completed development of the National Preconception Care Program that included national standards of care, two-day training curriculum and a patient education booklet. The Preconception Care Program is currently undergoing a professional review by national experts. **In August – September 2009, NOVA conducted a series of preconception care training events in five Southern Marzes as a pilot initiative. The outcomes of the pilot training were well documented and will assist MOU to streamline the approval of the**

National Program (also see Area 1).

Tangible Result: Best practices and messages documented and disseminated

- Over 135 individuals from local and international organizations in Armenia and overseas continue to receive NOVA's monthly electronic newsletters. This reporting quarter the newsletter in both English and Armenian highlighted the opening of the Vedi MC Children Polyclinic; the Project's Community Partnership for Health (CPH) activities in the Ferik community; Project NOVA's new initiative in preconception care and the new client health education brochure *Five Things to Better Prepare for Pregnancy*.
- Project NOVA continued the production and distribution of health education materials among the general public. In September the MOH approved the Project's preconception care brochure *Five Things to Better Prepare for Pregnancy* for national use. The brochure focuses on the importance of planning a pregnancy and visiting a doctor for an examination and counseling before conception. It explains the necessity of getting properly vaccinated, living a healthy lifestyle and avoiding environmental hazards. The brochure also includes specific and practical tips for men to improve their health before conception which has immense influence on the health of the unborn child. The Project is in the process of disseminating the brochure in all Armenian marzes with special emphasis on the Project-supported networks.
- Considering the excessive demand for NOVA's health education brochures, in October 2009 the Project will reprint the following five client-education brochures: *Five Things to Better Prepare for Pregnancy*, *Healthy Pregnancy and Antenatal Care*; *10 Things Women Need to Know after Having a Baby*; *The Future is in Your Hands*; ~~*Do You Know Your Contraceptive Choices*~~; ~~and a Maternal and Child Health information-giving and counseling aid flipchart~~. All client-education materials are also available on the Project website in Armenian and English www.nova.am.
- In order to address the growing demand for information on available contraception and to further reinforce compliance with USG FP funding, Project NOVA developed a client-education poster "*Do you Know Your Contraceptive Choices?*" The poster will be produced in October 2009 following formal approval from the MOH.
- The Project developed and disseminated a new Success Story to highlight the fruitful partnership between USAID's Project NOVA, Vedi Municipality and Vedi MC for the renovation of the Pediatric Department of the Vedi MC.
- The Project is in the process of developing a testimony video on USAID/Project NOVA activities to articulate the voice of stakeholders/beneficiaries of the Project's interventions, raise general public awareness of Project activities and to showcase innovations and results that contributed to the increase in the quality of healthcare services. USAID approved the original storyboard for the video in July 2009; the final version of the video is scheduled for completion by the end of October 2009.

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Tangible result: Knowledge management capacity improved

- In September, Project NOVA signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the National Health Information Analytical Center of the National Institute of Health (NHIAC/NIH, affiliated with MOH) on transfer of complete datasets on NOVA trainees and national/regional trainers and experts to NHIAC/NIH. The datasets will contribute to the establishment of the National Registry of Medical Cadre in Armenia that NHIAC/NIH proposes to create. According to the signed MOU, Project NOVA also provided the NHIAC/NIH with an overview and detailed description of the health facility coding system developed and used by Project NOVA for its Health Information System and Geographic Information System. Datasets (English and Armenian versions in Excel format) include information on almost 2,000 healthcare workers who participated in NOVA's training courses during the period of 2004-2009. The data is disaggregated by: providers' last name; medical specialization type; professional affiliation; training subject (e.g. antenatal care, emergency obstetrics, safe motherhood clinical skills, infection prevention, etc.); duration of training; and timing and location of the training. The information on NOVA's national trainers and experts is disaggregated by: trainer's last name, professional affiliation, and area of training

competency (e.g. antenatal care, emergency obstetrics, reproductive health, family planning, postpartum care, newborn care, infant care, sexually transmitted infections, infection prevention).

- During this reporting quarter, Project NOVA developed several new maps and classified all maps into 14 major categories to facilitate their utilization. Categories include but are not limited to: Project NOVA Interventions; Healthcare Facilities in Armenia; Mortality and Birth Data in Armenia; Contraceptive Methods Availability in Armenia; Community Involvements and Assessments; Quality Indices; Anemia; Access to In-patient Facilities; Rural Communities; 2009 Training Maps Developed during GIS training; etc. All maps are available in the English and Armenian languages.

AREA 4: Increase Consumer Demand for High Quality RH/FP/MCH Services through Community Education and Mobilization, Renovation and Equipping of Facilities

Tangible result: Better informed and mobilized community in RH/FP/MCH

- In response to the urgent plea for help, in July the Project started its CPH interventions in the Ferik community of Armavir marz. Ferik is a small rural community located near the Nuclear Power Station. Ezdi – the local ethnic minority population – constitutes 99% of Ferik’s dwellers. Project NOVA conducted a needs’ assessment exercise to identify problems and community wants, the current status of healthcare services, and the availability of external and internal resources. The community meeting organized by Project NOVA brought together community dwellers, health care providers, the village mayor, local authorities and the head of the supervising health facility. At this meeting, community representatives along with NOVA staff discussed the problems and needs identified during the assessment, developed an action plan to address these problems and elected a Health Action Group. Due to community mobilization efforts, the community provided two big rooms at the school’s building for renovation. The new premises are in the process of being renovated by NOVA. The new health post will have a separate entrance, electricity, running water, and heating. The Primary Health Care Reform (PHCR) Project will provide furniture, medical equipment and supplies, and will organize the training for the existing the community nurse to be able to provide qualified RH/MCH/FP services. Moreover, NOVA will engage the community nurse in conducting health talks to raise community awareness on essentials of MCH/RH/FP.
- During this quarter NOVA continued to oversee community education activities provided by rural community nurses trained in the Safe Motherhood Clinical Skills course. Overall nurses conducted 258 health talks in five Southern networks reaching 1,346 rural residents including 1,206 women and 140 men.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

- This reporting quarter, the Project completed the end-line project assessment report documenting results of key Project NOVA interventions in five Southern Marzes. Summary of the evaluation is presented below:

Performance Improvement: Overall, Project NOVA evaluation results showed increased performance of rural community nurses in antenatal care, postpartum, newborn and infant care, and the improved performance of healthcare providers – ob/gyns, family doctors, and midwives – in FP and EmOC.

- ~ Performance of community nurses in antenatal care following Safe Motherhood Clinical Skills training increased from 25% to 62% at end-line; and in postpartum, newborn care and infant care from 30% to 69%.
- ~ 87% of ob/gyns and midwives performed active management of the third stage of labor (AMTSL) to standards. Site specific data demonstrated a sharp increase in the number of vaginal births covered by AMTSL directly correlated with a decrease in the proportion of women suffering from postpartum hemorrhage.
- ~ Providers’ knowledge and skills related to RH/FP increased.

- ~ The providers' performance assessment identified an increased number of providers educating women on MCH related danger signs.

Health Consumers' Knowledge and Practices: The Project also improved health consumers' knowledge and practices in RH/FP/MCH.

- ~ A marked increase was observed in the number of women able to correctly identify pregnancy, postpartum, newborn and infant health danger signs.
- ~ Almost three out of four women received information about the lactation amenorrhea method (LAM) compared to only 3.1% of women at baseline. More than half of the women interviewed were able to list all three LAM criteria correctly compared to zero before NOVA's programmatic activities.
- ~ Household interviews showed a sharp decline in the percent of women paying for obstetrical care: 91% of women reported paying for obstetrical care versus 21.5% after July 1, 2008 when the Certificate was formally introduced nationwide.
- ~ Significantly more women breastfed their child at end-line compared to the baseline. Early initiation of breastfeeding increased from 44.7% at baseline compared to 63.8% at end-line. Furthermore, duration of exclusive breastfeeding also increased from 3.4 months to 4 months.
- ~ The proportion of women receiving information on contraceptive options during postpartum period increased more than threefold from 24.2% at baseline to 74.4% at end-line. A significant increase in the current use of a method of contraception was reported by women at end-line (67.7%) compared to baseline (44.2%).

Utilization of Primary Healthcare Services: The overall poor quality of care, under-the-table payments, and difficult geographical access coupled with inadequately informed health consumers impedes utilization of primary healthcare (PHC) services in Armenia. Project NOVA addressed all these factors simultaneously through improved performance of healthcare workers and better educated clients.

- ~ Informing women on the benefits and necessity of antenatal care translated into earlier and more frequent antenatal care visits. According to women interviewed, the first visit conducted within first trimester of gestation increased from 51.7% to 65.5% with more women having at least four antenatal care visits (65% in the baseline versus 87% at the end-line), contributing to increased utilization of PHC services.
- ~ Project NOVA established several SoMs in order to prepare pregnant women for childbirth, delivery and proper postpartum care. Twenty percent more women reported attending at least one birth preparation class as compared to the baseline (0.9%).
- NOVA continues monitoring compliance of facilities with regard to USAID FP rules/regulations. During this quarter FP Compliance monitoring visits were conducted in five Maternities/Medical Centers supported by the Project in Sisian, Talin, Armavir, Vedi and Vayk health networks. No violations of the USAID FP compliance requirements were recorded or reported. The summary of FP Compliance monitoring visits is presented in Attachment B.
- The Project made progress on the PMP by contributing to the following indicators (See Attachment A for a complete table of updated progress indicators):
 - Number of people trained in MCH and other areas
 - Number of new training packages developed and introduced
 - Number of new approaches successfully introduced
 - Number of client and provider materials developed and disseminated
 - Number of healthcare facilities renovated

Management, Collaboration, and Coordination

- **Progress on Annual Workplan:** Project NOVA successfully accomplished almost all activities planned for the fourth quarter in the Annual Workplan. See the updated Annual Workplan report for the status of each activity in Attachment C. Given the no-cost two-month extension, some of the activities planned for the last quarter were shifted to October 2009.
- **Collaboration and coordination with the MOH:** Project staff held informal meetings with the

MOH and leading MCH specialists to enhance collaboration and coordination of activities.

- **Project operations and internal project management:** NOVA's Project Close-out Plan is being implemented according to the schedule previously submitted to USAID.
- **Coordination and collaboration with other international projects:** NOVA continued to collaborate with key MCH/RH/FP players in Armenia to capitalize on their technical expertise, maximize the use of human and financial resources and avoid duplication of efforts. Project staff participated in a number of events organized by international/national agencies and organizations working in Armenia and worldwide in health, and other adjacent areas. The following are major collaborations during this quarter:
 - In September 2009 Project NOVA continued its collaboration with PSP-One Project (PSP) in the area of FP by contributing to PSP's speaker training program as well as training activities in the role of co-trainer.
 - In September 2009 the Project continued its collaboration with the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) for perspective renovation of Vedi Maternity's Childbirth Department and Talin MC's Adult Polyclinic. The Project also supported a team of six educators from Kansas and Washburn Universities for the development of common interests and areas of collaboration between US training institutions and the Armenian medical university and colleges.
 - On July 17th Project NOVA participated in the Anti-Corruption Forum "Corruption and Human Rights: Making the Connection" organized by USAID Mobilizing Action against Corruption Project. The forum was devoted to exploring linkages between corruption and human rights and continued round-table discussion on the ways in which corrupt practices may violate specific human rights.
 - During September, Project NOVA organized field trips for the following visitors:
 - Jewel Gausman, Bureau for Global Health, EE Regional FP/RH/MCH Advisor, USAID/Washington; Location: Talin MC, Katnaghbyur Rural Health Post; Aragatsotn Marz.
 - Maria Longi, EUR/ACE FSA Division Chief; Kate Aaby, OMB; Sonata Coulter, EUR/ACE Armenia Country Desk Officer, US Department of State/Washington; Location: Talin MC; Aragatsotn Marz.
 - Forest Duncan, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Health and Development Officer, USAID/Washington; Andy Levin, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Social Transition Team Leader, USAID/Washington; Location: Sisian MC, Shamb Rural Health Post; Syunik Marz.
 - Mohammad Latif, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Environmental Officer, BEO-E&E/EG, USAID/Washington; Lchkadzor Health Post, Archis Health Post; Tavush Marz.

Upcoming Major Activities (October – November 2009)

- Publication of CPH Guide
- Finalization of the Southern Marzes End-line Assessment Report
- Burns Supper equipment transfer ceremony at Abovyan Maternity
- Opening of Ferik Health Post
- End Of Project Conference

Attachment A. Progress on Project NOVA Indicators for Q4 FY09

Project NOVA Progress Indicators	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09 ACTUAL					PTD TOTAL	FY09 Target
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total		
Number of people trained in MCH	229	259	430	176	85	0	0	78	163	1,257	180
Women	N/A	N/A	402	173	84	0	0	73	157	N/A	
Men	N/A	N/A	28	3	1	0	0	5	6	N/A	
Number of people trained in RH/FP	46	50	26	283	121	127	175	15	438	843	370
Women	37	41	24	274	111	111	158	12	392	768	
Men	9	9	2	9	10	16	17	3	46	75	
Number of providers completed management training	45	38								83	N/A
Number of people trained in other areas (e.g. QI, IP, gender, GIS, etc.)	123	153	202	351	187	74 ¹	82	0	343	1,172	-
Women	115	143	194	193	128	49	60	0	237	882	
Men	8	10	8	158	59	25	22	0	106	290	
Number of facilities (health posts) with basic equipment and supplies	105	73	31	68						277	N/A
Number of new RH/FP/MCH training packages developed & introduced	1	3	4	1	0	1 ²	0	2 ³	3	12	2 ⁴
Number of policy documents reviewed/prepared	2	2	3	2	0	0	2 ⁵	0	2	11	1
Number of professional publications, presentations and posters presented and/or published	8	4	11	13	1	2 ⁶	3 ⁷	1 ⁸	7	43	2
Number of client and provider materials developed, produced and disseminated			5	7	0	1 ⁹	4 ¹⁰	1 ¹¹	6	18	5 ¹²
Number of new approaches successfully introduced	0	1	1	1				1 ¹³	1	4	N/A
Number of health posts rehabilitated	29	36	9	54				1	1	129	N/A
Number of higher level facilities rehabilitated	N/A	N/A	1	4	1	3 ¹⁴	1 ¹⁵	2 ¹⁶	7	12	2
Number of Health Action Groups established	30	36	56	10				1	1	133	N/A
Number of follow-up Action Plans developed			0	61	18	10	0	0	28	89	10
Number of clinical training sites established	6	6	6							18	N/A

¹Capacity building for HAGs (43 people); 2 Instructional design trainings for staff of medical colleges and YSMU (14 and 17 people)

²Pediatric Family Planning Referrals

³Preconception Care Training Package, Pre-service FP training curriculum

⁴Preconception Care Training Package, Pre-service FP training curriculum

⁵ (1) National pre-conception care program; (2) National guidelines for normal childbirth

⁶ Hakobyan's article and Baghdasarova's poster presentation

⁷ Panajyan's (1) and Adamyants' (2) articles

⁸ Baghdasarova K; Panajyan G. Sacchi I "Quality Assurance Initiative in Five Regional Armenian Maternities"

⁹ MCH flipchart

¹⁰ (1) BBP brochure; (2) BBP poster; (3) Contraceptive eligibility wheel; (4) fertility days calculator

¹¹ Client-education brochure: Five things to prepare for pregnancy

¹² (1) 2009 Basic Benefits Package brochure, (2) 2009 Basic Benefits Package poster, (3) Preconception Care brochure, (4) Health Talks Job Aid flipchart,

(5) WHO Contraceptive Eligibility wheel

¹³ Preconception care

¹⁴ Martuni SoM, Gyumri SoM, Vanadzor SoM

¹⁵ jevan SoM

¹⁶ (1) Vedi Children Polyclinic, (2) Yerevan Polyclinic No.8

Project NOVA Progress Indicators	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09 ACTUAL					PTD TOTAL	FY09 Target
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total		
Number of health talks conducted by Health Post Nurses	600	423	1,097	1,303	260	323	298	258	1,139	4,562	-
Number of women giving birth who received AMTSL through Project NOVA support			458	2,624	668	604	547	648	2,467	5,549	2,500
Number of new OC users				N/A	-	183	156 ¹⁷	TBD	339	N/A	-
Number of new IUD users				N/A	-	54	82 ¹⁷	TBD	136	N/A	-
Abortion rate per 100 births				11.0	8.5	8.1	8.0	6.3	7.7	N/A	-
Proportion of pregnant women with 1 st trimester antenatal care (average)			41%	47%	48%	51%	47%	45%	48%	N/A	-
Proportion of pregnant women with at least 4 antenatal care visits (average)			70%	77.5%	84%	91%	89%	86%	87%	N/A	-
Number of new PHC facilities offering FP counseling				51	0	15	84	0	99	150	-
Number of FP referrals by pediatricians					126	242	204	215	787	787	-

¹⁷ The numbers were updated in FY 2009 Q4 after collection and processing of statistics from all project supported sites

Attachment B. Family Planning Compliance Monitoring Visits

During the period of July – September 2009, Family Planning Compliance Monitoring visits have been conducted in four out of five maternities supported by the project - Vedi, Sisian, Vayk and Talin. Due to renovation of the Armavir maternity, no FP compliance monitoring was conducted in Armavir. The summary of visits is presented in the table below.

1. Do you currently provide any family planning services?	4 out of 4 facilities surveyed provide family planning services
2. What type of family planning services does your facility provide?	4 out of 4 facilities insert/remove IUDs 4 out of 4 facilities prescribe pills None of the 4 facilities administers Depo-Provera 4 out of 4 facilities dispense condoms and/or spermicides 4 out of 4 facilities provide individual counseling 4 out of 4 facilities give information on FP methods 4 out of 4 facilities provide emergency contraception 4 out of 4 facilities conduct family planning client routine check up
3. What family planning methods do you currently have available at your facility?	2 out of 4 facility have contraceptive pills 3 out of 4 facilities have condoms 1 out of the 4 facilities has IUDs None of the 4 facilities has spermicides None of the 4 facilities has female condoms None of the 4 facilities has Depo-Provera None of the 4 facilities has emergency contraception pills NOTE: Although Project NOVA is not providing contraceptive commodities, in August 2008 free supply of condoms was delivered to all NOVA supported Maternities.
4. Do your providers use any financial or in-kind incentives to increase the number of family planning users?	No provider uses any financial or in-kind incentives for increasing the number of family planning users in 4 out of 54 facilities surveyed.
5. How are healthcare providers at your facility compensated for the provision of family planning services?	No special compensation for family planning services is offered in 4 out of 4 facilities surveyed.
6. Is there a particular number of family planning clients you must reach?	No special targets for FP clients are set in 4 out of 4 facilities surveyed.
7. What are the consequences of not meeting the quota?	N/A
8. Are family planning IEC materials visibly displayed and/or available to clients at your facility?	In 4 out of 4 facilities the family planning educational materials are visibly displayed.
9. What IEC contraceptive materials are displayed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – “10 things women need to know after having a baby” brochure is visibly displayed in 2 out 4 facilities – “The future is in your hands” brochure is visibly displayed in 4 out of 4 facilities – “Do you know your contraceptive choices” brochure is visibly displayed in 3 out of 4 facilities – MCH/FP Flip Chart is displayed in 3 out of 4 facilities – World Vision FP Methods Poster (Armenian)/Do you Know Your Contraceptive choices (Russian) Poster are visibly displayed in 4 out of 4 facilities – Effective FP methods (UNFPA) is displayed in 1 out of 4 facilities – JHU poster on FP is displayed in 1 out of 4 facilities

Attachment C. Project NOVA FY09 Annual Workplan Status Report

*Status Key

● Accomplished

○ Not accomplished/Delayed

● In Progress/On Target

⊗ Cancelled

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
Management, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation								
Technical capacity of staff enhanced	Carry out staff development activities based on project needs and/or opportunities	X	X			●		
	Support staff attendance on key technical project-related topics at conferences and workshops (APHA2008, GHC 2009, Regional pre-service FP meeting, etc.)	X		X		●		
	Enhance cross-sectional (Areas 1, 2, 3, 4) and interagency (EMG, IntraHealth, Save the Children) collaboration	X	X	X	X	●		
Project research, monitoring and evaluation system established and functioning	Perform FP Compliance monitoring (combined with training and follow-up visits) and prepare quarterly reports	X	X	X	X	●		
	Conduct ad-hoc research and data collection to support project implementation and decision-making	X	X	X		●		
	Carry out roundtable discussion to disseminate and discuss findings of the study on availability and affordability of contraceptive commodities in rural areas of Armenia	X				●		
	Conduct final evaluation of Project NOVA activities in southern Armenia			X		●		
	Data entry and cleaning of final evaluation data			X		●		
	Conduct comparative analysis of baseline and final data collected in southern Armenia			X		●		
	Summarize findings of the comparative analysis and prepare final report				X	●		
Financial and narrative reports submitted to USAID	Submit financial invoices to USAID/Armenia monthly	X	X	X	X	●		
	Submit narrative reports to USAID/Armenia quarterly	X	X	X		●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
Project coordinated with key national and international counterparts	Hold regular meetings with MOH program coordinator and marz health department authorities	X	X	X	X	●		
	Coordinate all Project activities with other international organizations and agencies working in Armenia	X	X	X	X	●		
	Conduct marz-level meeting for coordination of key programmatic activities	X		X		●		
	Develop a liaison with USAID-funded Fertility Awareness Methods (FAM) Project	X				●		
	Participate in regular meetings with MOH organized by USAID/Armenia	X	X	X	X	●		
Area 1: Improve RH/FP/MCH Performance of Select Networks								
Capacity of national training institutions/trainers in RH/FP/MCH strengthened	Conduct an annual meeting for Project NOVA national trainers and experts		X			●	# of new curricula developed and introduced	Formal introduction of Collaboratives is cancelled, because Collaboratives methodology was applied informally during QAT exchange visits.
	Conduct Instructional Design Training for the faculty members of Yerevan State Medical University	X				●	# of new instructors trained	
	Establish pre-service FP Curriculum development working groups	X	X	X		●	% of postpartum women who receive FP counseling prior to discharge	
	Conduct a pre-service Family Planning Training Curriculum Finalization Workshop for the faculty members of Yerevan State Medical University and State Medical Colleges			X		●	% of pregnant women who attended at least three SoM classes	
	Develop and integrate NOVA's in-service RH/FP counseling training package into pre-service FP training curriculum at medical university			X	X	●	% of postpartum women practicing exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of baby's life	
	Develop and integrate NOVA's in-service RH/FP counseling training package into pre-service FP training curriculum at state medical colleges	X	X	X	X	●	% of providers who perform to standards in key project areas	
	Develop training package on basic FP information-giving and referrals for pediatricians	X	X			●	# of health care providers trained in	
	Conduct Preconception Care Workshop	X				●		
	Summarize and document the main findings of the Preconception Care Workshop	X				●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
	Create a working group for preconception care	X				●	RH/FP/MCH # of sites where essential materials and supplies distributed	
	Develop a training package on preconception care	X		X		●		
	Update and finalize NOVA's existing training package on STI Integrated care management	X				●		
Providers' knowledge and skills improved	Conduct training on Expanded Role of Midwives in five Southern networks	X				●	# of sites renovated with project NOVA support	
	Conduct 4-day trainings on STI Integrated Management for STI specialists and ob/gyns in five Southern networks	X	X			●		
	Conduct routine monitoring and training follow-up visits to Project-supported sites in five Southern networks	X	X	X	X	●		
	Conduct FP information-giving and referral training course for pediatricians from five Northern marzes		X	X		●		
	Conduct RH/FP Counseling training for ob/gyns, nurses and midwives from five Northern marzes	X	X			●		
	Conduct RH/FP Counseling training for family doctors from five Northern marzes		X	X		●		
	Conduct training on preconception care for ob/gyns, midwives and family doctors in five Southern networks		X	X		●		
	Conduct FP training follow up and monitoring activities in five Southern networks	X	X			●		
	Conduct FP training follow up and monitoring activities in five Northern marzes		X	X	X	●		
	Conduct FP compliance monitoring visits in Southern and Northern marzes	X	X	X	X	●		
	Update and develop the technical content of client education brochures	X	X			●		
	Translate into Armenian and produce Contraception Medical Eligibility Criteria Wheel Chart	X	X			●		
	Conduct health talks with the population on FP/RH/MCH topics (Ask Dr. Gohar Initiative)	X	X	X	X	●		
Higher level sites	Renovate Vedi Maternity Women's Consultation Center	X				●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
equipped and renovated	Renovate a SoM in one of the Northern_marz facilities	X				●		
	Equip and furnish SoM	X	X			●		
	Link with organizations/activities donating equipment (e.g. Burns Supper, etc.)	X	X	X	X	●		
Quality assurance (QA) initiative introduced and functional	Provide on-going technical assistance to QA sites	X	X	X	X	●	# of sites at project-supported marzes with established QA Teams % of problems solved from the QA Teams' Action Plans	
	Collect and analyze QA site-specific statistics and conduct review of complicated cases on quarterly basis	X	X	X	X	●		
	Organize technical exchange visits between QA sites	X	X	X		●		
	Develop QA teams' results bulletin boards	X	X	X	X	●		
	Introduce and apply Collaboratives Approach for the solution of issues common for all QA teams (e.g. postpartum hemorrhage, postpartum follow-up visit, etc.)	X	X	X	X	⊖		
	Conduct <i>Working Together for Better Quality of Healthcare</i> workshop				X	●		
	Develop one-page summary on QA approaches, achievements, etc.	X				●		
	Collaborate with PHCR and MOH in the national Quality Assurance Initiative	X	X	X	X	●		
	Establish additional SoM	X	X			●		
	Conduct an official launch of new SoM		X	X		●		
Referral system strengthened	Finalize and disseminate Referral literature review report	X				●		
	Introduce the community mobilization plan for emergency referrals to the rural population		X	X	X	●		
Area 3: Establish a culture of data-driven decision-making by promoting evidence-based medicine and building national and marz-level capacity to gather, analyze, disseminate and utilize relevant RH/FP/MCH information								
RH/FP/MCH policies, decrees and legislation documents reviewed	Support government efforts to draft and update laws, strategies, policies and clinical protocols/standards	X	X	X	X	⊖	# of policy documents reviewed # of copies of Journal produced	
	Work with the MOH to maintain its current information database on legal and regulatory policies in RH/FP/MCH; disseminate documents to service providers	X	X	X	X	●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
Evidence-based medicine promoted	Produce and disseminate Armenian-language Journal in Obstetrics, Gynecology and Neonatology that incorporates EBM messages on RH/FP/MCH	X		X		●	and disseminated # of NOVA monthly news produced and disseminated	
	Incorporate EBM reviews in NOVA's monthly newsletters	X	X	X		●		
Management information system (MIS) developed and maintained	Periodically update Project databases (information on Project-supported healthcare facilities, trainings, participants, etc.) – Management information system (MIS)	X	X	X	X	●	# of NOVA success stories produced and disseminated	
	Periodically update database for CPH	X	X	X	X	●	# of professional publications, presentations and posters at international, national and regional RH/FP/MCH conferences	
	Collect performance data on guidelines, curricula and protocols developed and updated	X	X	X	X	●	# of new approaches successfully introduced	
	Finalize the translation of Project's MIS into Armenian	X	X	X		●	# of client and provider materials developed, produced and disseminated	
	Transfer Armenian language MIS to MOH/NIH			X	X	●	disseminated disaggregated by key RH/FP/MCH topics	
Geographic Information System (GIS) developed and integrated into health sector in Armenia	Maintain online GIS resources for public use on the website	X	X	X	X	●	# of client and provider materials developed, produced and disseminated	
	Design and develop thematic maps for the target marzes	X	X	X	X	●		
	Produce Armenian version thematic maps for Project-supported marzes	X	X	X	X	●		
	Apply GIS as an analytic tool for the Project's decision-making and planning purposes	X	X	X	X	●		
	Provide training follow-up and on-going technical support to the project trained GIS experts	X	X	X	X	◉		
	Organize a F/U Workshop on the Application of GIS in Health		X			●		
Best practices and messages documented and disseminated	Develop and disseminate monthly newsletters and success stories	X	X	X		●		
	Develop, produce and disseminate 2009 Basic Benefits Package poster and booklet		X	X	X	●		
	Develop, produce and disseminate Preconception Care Brochure	X	X			●		
	Develop, produce and disseminate Health Talk job aid (MCH Flipchart) for rural community nurses	X				●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
	Collaborate with mass media through press releases and press conferences	X	X	X	X	●		
	Publish papers in local and international peer-reviewed journals	X	X	X	X	●		
	Present NOVA's health education materials in rural communities, followed by the Ask Doctor Gohar Sessions	X		X	X	●		
	Maintain and update Project website (both languages)	X	X	X	X	●		
	Prepare End-of-Project Report				X	○		
	Conduct End-of-Project Conference				X	○		
	Develop NOVA-developed resources' transfer plan to MOH, NIH, State Medical University			X	X	○		
Area 4: Increase consumer demand and utilization of RH/FP/MCH services through community education and mobilization								
CPH initiative established and fully functioning in Project-supported communities	Complete renovation of Health Posts and conduct opening ceremonies in NOVA-supported communities in Vedi Network	X				●	# of HAGs with developed Action Plans # of follow-up Action Plan developed % of monetary and in-kind contribution by communities in support of health services in new target marzes # of sub-contracts issued to local NGO from project-supported marzes to strengthen CPH initiative Average # of visits per month to health posts by type of the visit # of health talks conducted by health post nurses on key	
	Conduct final QA self-assessment and develop Follow-up Action Plans for NOVA-supported communities in Talin Network	X				●		
Community contribution to RH/FP/MCH services increased	Conduct follow-up visits to NOVA-supported Shirak and Gegharkunik rural communities	X				●		
	Prepare reports on follow-up visits for Shirak and Gegharkunik NOVA-supported rural community	X				●		
Use of RH/FP/MCH services at health posts increased	Conduct follow-up visits to Tavush and Kotayk NOVA-supported rural communities	X				●		
	Prepare reports on follow-up visits to Tavush and Kotayk NOVA-supported rural community	X				●		
	Conduct capacity building training for Health Action Groups (HAGs) in NOVA-supported rural communities in Vedi Network	X				●		
	Conduct final QA self-assessment and develop Follow-up Action Plans for NOVA's communities in Vedi Network			X		●		

BENCHMARKS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	STATUS	INDICATORS	NOTES
	Conduct follow-up visits to NOVA-supported rural communities in Vayk and Sisian Networks		X			●	FP/RH/MCH topics % of women who can name at least three pregnancy danger signs % of women who can name at least three infant danger signs	
	Prepare reports on follow-up visits to NOVA-supported rural communities in Vayk and Sisian Networks		X			●		
	Conduct follow-up visits to NOVA-supported rural communities in Armavir and Talin Networks			X		●		
	Prepare reports on follow-up visits to NOVA-supported rural communities in Armavir and Talin Networks			X		●		
	Prepare final report on CPH activities in Armenia				X	◉		
Capacity of local and international NGOs to implement CHP strengthened	Continue local capacity building and on-the-job-training of local NGOs identified for Talin and Vedi Networks	X	X	X		●		
	Document PDQ methodology and experience in Armenia under the terms of the Community Partnership for Health Initiative through development of the CPH How To Guide	X	X			●		
	Revise and edit CPH Guide			X		●		
	Finalize and publish CPH Guide				X	◉		
Community knowledge of RH/FP/MCH issues improved	Establish RH/FP/MCH libraries at Health Posts in NOVA-supported rural communities in Vedi Network	X				●		
	Continue monitoring and data collection of health talks on key RH/FP/MCH areas conducted by community nurses	X	X	X		●		
	Distribute Project NOVA Health Education materials	X	X	X	X	●		