

**BASICS Afghanistan Quarterly and Annual Report
FY08: October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008**

Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Afghanistan (BASICS)

October 2008

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AFGHANISTAN
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PRIMARY STRATEGIES OF WORK PLAN

- Revise and develop child survival and health-focused policies and strategies
- Improve child health care at the community level
- Improve child health care at the BPHS facility level
- Improve child health care at the EPHS hospital level
- Strengthen cross-cutting health system components to improve child health care

TECHNICAL AREAS

- Newborn health
- IMCI
- Community case management (C-IMCI)
- Nutrition: Growth Monitoring and Infant and Young Child Feeding
- Pediatric hospital care improvement
- Behavior change communication
- Systems strengthening

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I. Policy and Guidelines

- Assessment of child health policy in Afghanistan completed
- BASICS supporting MOPH in development of Child and Adolescent Health policies
- BASICS staff providing technical support for updating child health components of BPHS
- Assisted MOPH establish an Infant and Young Child Feeding Group (IYCF) that will lead to an MOPH strategic plan in this technical area

II. Improve Child Health at the Community Level

- National C-IMCI trainers manual developed, integrated into CHW training curriculum.
- Developed job aids for CHWs for implementing C-IMCI
- Five demonstration project districts identified: Herat, Bamyan, Jawz Jan, Kabul and Nangahar.
- NGOs in five demonstration districts identified and negotiations begun for implementing community-based interventions
- MOPH Nutrition and Community-Based Health Care (CBHC) departments have endorsed the BASICS GMP plan for demonstration districts.
- Basic Essential Newborn Care Package defined and included in C-IMCI

III. Improve child health at BPHS facility level

- Major assessment of facility-based IMCI conducted by BASICS, MOPH, and WHO

IV. Improve Child Health at EPHS facility level

- Assessment of pediatric care conducted in 12 hospitals in 6 provinces
- Pediatric Hospital Improvement (PHI) Working Group established
- PHI interventions identified and implementation underway un 6 provincial hospitals; hospitals participating in the PHI assessment developed action plans to improve care of children in hospitals

V. Strengthen cross-cutting health system components to improve child health care

- BCC needs in child and newborn health identified
- Existing BCC strategy and materials reviewed and recommendations made
- HMIS improvement; assisted in revision of community-based, health center-based, and hospital-based HMIS indicators for child and newborn health
- Initiated with MOPH with Zinc Introduction Working Group
- Collaborated with WHO, Unicef, GAVI, and Global Fund to promote child health agenda

CHALLENGES

- Security has frustrated travel to the demonstration districts and hinders our ability to place international consultants on the ground