

Saath-Saath Bulletin

Volume 3 | July 2013

Making Every Moment Count

We all know that migrants are a unique population with unique public health needs. It is precisely that *uniqueness* that compels us to think creatively about how we can reach migrants with comprehensive HIV/AIDS and family planning services. Through our long history of support to Nepal's AIDS response, we've learned a great deal about migrants and their role in the epidemic. The recent SSP Family Planning baseline survey and HIV/STI rapid assessment among migrant male and their spouses adds to our collective understanding. In addition, SSP's work with migrants and their spouses in four districts is contributing practical lessons about how to approach these key populations.

By definition, migrants are highly mobile populations. In sum, this means that we do not have any time to waste. Let's ensure that we are using every available tool (and perhaps thinking of some new ones as well!) in our quest to provide quality HIV/AIDS services and reduce unmet need for family planning in migrants and their spouses. We here at USAID's Office of Health and Family Planning are looking forward to SSP's continuing work on this front. After all, every moment counts...

Daniel Sinclair is USAID/Nepal's Team Leader for HIV/AIDS, Social Marketing and Logistics. He can be reached at dsinclair@usaid.gov.



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Message from the Chief of Party

We are extremely happy to bring yet another issue of the Saath-Saath Bulletin to all of you. This newsletter, as you know, gives us an excellent opportunity to share with you some of the exciting events occurring within USAID-funded Saath-Saath Project (SSP).

What adds to the excitement of managing SSP is that it not only deals with FP/HIV Integration at a large scale for female sex workers but it also supports the health care needs of migrants and their spouses. In addition, the project has a tried and tested mechanism of service delivery through local NGOs for the key populations. It also works very closely with the Government to make FP/HIV integrated services available in partnership with the selected government health facilities.

Migration has become a greater global reality and increasingly become, by default, Nepal's development issue due to large inflow of remittances. Unsafe sex during migration has put our migrants and their families at risk of HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections. Migration, arguably, has also contributed to the stagnation of uptake of family planning services in Nepal as is identified by several recent studies.

After close consultation with the National Center for AIDS and STD Center (NCASC) to avoid duplication with Global Fund-supported migrant focused program, SSP has selected four key districts for migration programming (see page 4 for more details). Under the guidance of Family Health Division and NCASC, SSP has been providing integrated FP/HIV services in these districts. These programs have been further modified to address the needs highlighted by the recent study on migrant workers and their spouses carried out in these districts (see page 5).

We are very hopeful that these SSP activities will meet the immediate FP/HIV needs of the migrant workers and their spouse. It will also contribute to the overall knowledge on how best to carry out effective programs catering to highly mobile populations such as migrants. This knowledge generation will definitely help fill a large and important development program gap in Nepal. We are very thankful to USAID for choosing to support this initiative.

Success from the field: Emergence of an entrepreneur

In the midst of the hustle bustle in a small town of Jhapa district in eastern Nepal, a lady sits on the street sidewalk hawking fresh betel nuts. Almost invisible in the crowd, her loud crisp voice eagerly calling upon passersby to buy the produce can be heard. To many she would appear to be yet another street vendor in the area. However it isn't so. This is the story of Sadhana Sharma (name changed), sex worker now turned entrepreneur.



Sadhana had her share of happiness and sorrows like many poor families in the country. Once, she was even happily married and raising two children. Like many men in the locality, her husband also migrated abroad for employment. Her husband's earnings started pouring in and all seemed well. That is until her husband returned home. He inexplicably started suspecting her fidelity and even physically abused her. Estranged from her, he left her one day and remarried. Even her own family turned its back on her. Grief stricken and pressured, she married the guy with whom she was accused of having an extra-marital relationship. But sadly this did not end her woes. Her new in-laws refused to accept her and after nearly a year and a half her new husband also left her and

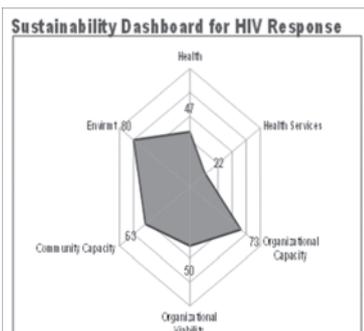
migrated abroad. All alone, she rented a room in Butabhari, Jhapa. But with no professional training or education, she had no means of a livelihood. With no other alternative she took up sex work. Afraid that her relatives and other community people might come to know of this, she only worked in nearby towns and cities. One day, an outreach educator (OE) from Sahara Nepal (local NGO partner for Saath-Saath Project) met Sadhana at a tea shop in Kakarvitta. The duo started chatting and the conversation gradually focused on Sadhana's profession and the risks about HIV and STIs. On the outreach worker's request, Sadhana visited the nearby SSP-run expanded integrated health service site and co-located Drop-in center to get tested for STIs and HIV. Luckily all her tests came back negative. The clinic visit was an eye opener for her as she learned about the risks she'd undertaken. She even joined the project as a peer educator to help many like her to stay safe and risk-free through active mentoring and regular tests at the clinic.

Today Sadhana lives in Kakarvitta and is gradually trying to get out of the sex work industry altogether. For now she maintains safe sexual behavior. Sahara Nepal even got her enrolled in a beauty parlor training program and Sadhana now aims to open her own beauty parlor soon. Also with the help of a women's rights organization and Sahara Nepal, she is seeking justice and compensation from her previous husband and in-laws. Sadhana has evolved into a strong and confident woman determined to turn her life around. She continues to sell beetle nuts and build her saving to one day open her own beauty parlor.

Capacity strengthening

Planning for a sustainable HIV response in Chitwan

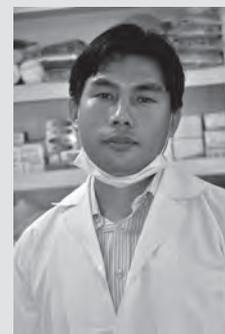
Chitwan's District AIDS Coordination Committee, in partnership with Saath-Saath Project (SSP), organized a four day district level Sustainability Analysis Workshop on December 24-27, 2012. The workshop, attended by local stakeholders including government and civil society organizations, was organized to develop a sustainability plan for a lasting HIV and AIDS response in the district. SSP local NGO partner SAHAVAGI and other SSP staff provided technical expertise in multiple sessions during the workshop. The exercise assisted the participants to become familiar with USAID's Sustainability Assessment Framework for HIV-related interventions. At the workshop, the participants collectively produced a dashboard evaluating the district's ongoing HIV interventions (see figure). The exercise showed despite few weaknesses the district is well positioned and well-equipped with the presence and technical expertise of organizations working on HIV and they possess the viability to bring in more resources and technical know-how to sustain the programs they are currently delivering. The workshop outcomes helped sensitize organization/district level authorities, planners/program managers to focus on critical areas where support would be continually required to sustain the program at the district level. Importantly, the workshop was able to garner the commitment from local stakeholders to implement the recommendations from the workshop for a sustainable local response to HIV and AIDS.



Innovations

Portable sink for laboratories

Saath-Saath Project meticulously ensures a standardized setup at all its services sites as per the existing national guidelines. Every static or satellite Expanded Integrated Health Service (EIHS) site has a similar setup (number of rooms, equipment, trained staff) which has assisted in standardizing the service quality at all the project's EIHS sites. Since most EIHS sites are operated through rented facilities, a unique challenge faced during clinic setup was the unavailability of an existing water source and sink in the laboratories. Constructing a new sink and water source proved expensive and was not always possible. Also the constant travel between laboratory and an outside water source increases risks of contamination. Bisan Thapa, Laboratory Assistant at SSP EIHS in Butwal (managed by local NGO partner NAMUNA) however solved this problem through his design of the "portable sink". The innovative design comprises of a frame with space allocated to place a bucket with tap on top and a water sink below it. The sink's drainage pipe sits inside a bucket ensuring no water spillage. The design works as an ordinary sink which is easy to set up and move around and also reduces contaminations. This efficient and innovative design has already been replicated at all SSP EIHS sites.



Saath-Saath Project in Still



A visitor receiving family planning counseling at an SSP EIHS site



Artwork created by DIC visitors during an art competition organized by SSP local NGO partner



DIC operator showing varieties of condoms available for sale as part of SSP's condom social marketing initiative



Group work during Communication and Presentation Skills Training conducted by SSP for its local NGO partners



Project beneficiary receiving routine check-up under SSP's community and home based care program



SSP team at its Annual Office Retreat in Dhulikhel



SSP handing over HIV testing kits to NCASC provided through the Direct Relief Donation Program



SSP local NGO partners preparing for the candlelight vigil as part of 30th International Candlelight Memorial Day 2013



SSP NGO partners at a rally to raise awareness on HIV during World AIDS Day 2012



SSP's stream drama on HIV prevention draws a large crowd in Palpa



Visitors at a DIC learn about family planning options through a new game introduced by SSP



Winners of Nepal AIDS Media Award 2012. SSP was part of the organizing committee and also financially supported the awards.

Special Feature: Saath-Saath's migrant-focused intervention

An overview of Saath-Saath's HIV prevention and FP promotion targeting male labor migrant and their spouses

Migrant Program overview

Migration and HIV, in Nepal and globally, are very closely co-related. Particularly for Nepal with its concentrated epidemic, this sub-population has been categorized as a high risk group for HIV. According to National Center for AIDs and STD Control's (NCASC) national estimates for 2012, estimated HIV infection among the male migrant worker population is 11,672 i.e. 27% of the total estimated adult HIV cases for Nepal. Also according to the recent study conducted by Saath-Saath Project (SSP), there still exist huge gaps in health services reaching this sub-population (see page 5).

Snapshot

Districts: Bara, Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Palpa.

NGO Partners: General Welfare Pratisthan, Namuna Integrated Development Council, SAHAVAGI and Indreni Samaj Kendra

Target Population: Male labor migrant workers and their spouse.

Interventions: HIV prevention to care, support and treatment services along with family planning promotion and services (5 methods), STIs diagnostic and treatment and condom promotion.

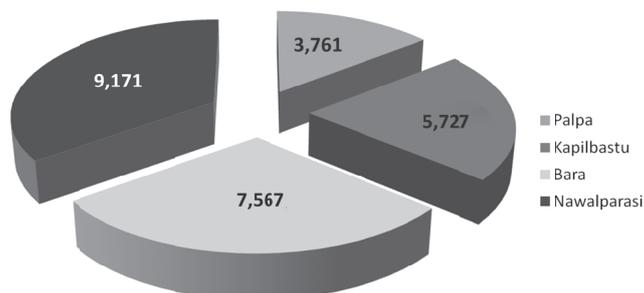
prevalence. Also the project is working in collaboration with Family Health Division (FHD), NCASC, National Health Training Center (NHTC), National Health, Education, Information and Communication Centre (NHEICC) and Department of Labor to strengthened the overall service package of integrated FP and HIV services and activities to better reach migrant couples with standardized information, counseling and services. Additionally, SSP is airing its radio program *Sancho Bisancho* in the four migrant-focused districts.

SSP has also established a rigorous monitoring mechanism through weekly progress tracking and has been closely monitoring the migrant program through weekly progress review and coordination meeting with relevant stakeholders to avoid service duplications. Additionally, SSP developed a behavior change communication strategy to guide better targeting of the interventions, developed new FP/HIV brochures and informative departure pocketbook. SSP has also provided relevant training to its staff to provide high quality and standardized service as per the existing national guidelines and standard operating procedures. Also SSP recently conducted a two-day workshop in May 2013 with its NGO partners to strengthen further the migrant program by reviewing current progress, address programmatic challenges, identify new clusters and developing a way forward plan to increase overall project coverage and reach.

SSP initiated its migrant-focused intervention in October 2011 in Nawalparasi which were scaled-up to 3 additional districts by April 2012 (Bara, Kapilvastu and Palpa). The selected districts are estimated to have 150,000 migrant worker and their spouses.

SSP builds upon the successes and lessons learned of previous migrant-focused interventions managed by FHI 360 Nepal such as USAID-funded IMPACT Project and ASHA Project, DFID-funded Reaching Across Borders and EJAF-funded Treatment, care and support project in Far West Nepal for Nepali migrants and their families in Kailali district. Through the implementation of such migrant-focused interventions, SSP aims to increase access, availability and use of Integrated FP and HIV/AIDS information, counseling and services among migrant couples and contribute to reduced HIV infection, improved treatment, care and support and increased contraceptive

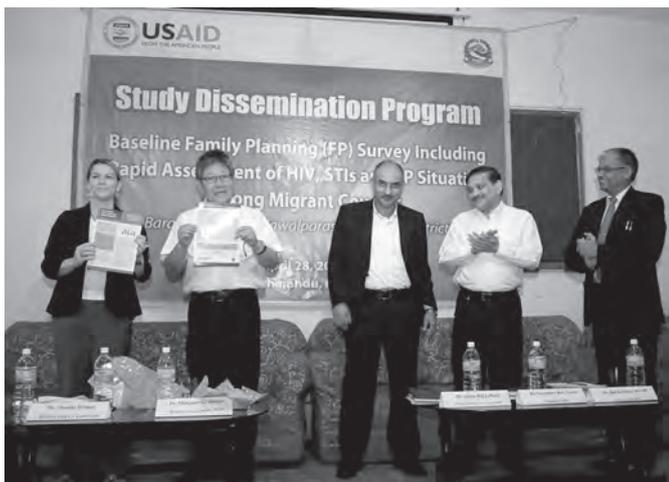
Number of migrants and their spouses reached through outreach (Aug 12, 2012-May 13, 2013)
Total = 26,226



Radio program *Sancho Bisancho*

Radio still remains a vital communication channel across the globe. Even the latest Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) 2011 mentioned radio as the main source of health information in most of the surveyed domains and areas. In this regards, Saath-Saath Project (SSP) has been airing the radio program "Sancho Bisancho" in its four migrant-focused districts (Bara, Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Palpa) since June 2012. Sancho Bisancho has become a vital part of SSP's outreach activities to reach the migrant worker communities with HIV and STIs and Family Planning (FP) messages. Sancho Bisancho is designed as an interactive thirty minute weekly radio program to promote awareness and positive health behavior change; to increase demand of STI, HIV and FP services and to decrease the risks of STI and HIV transmission among migrant workers and their spouse and increase contraceptive prevalence. To ensure large viewership these radio programs have been designed to also include community reports and also aired in local languages (eg. Bhojpuri, Awadhi) via local FM stations. SSP has also formed radio listeners' group (RLG) constituting of community members and facilitated by a trained RLG facilitator. RLGs meet regularly to listen to the program followed by discussions on various HIV and FP-related topics. In total there are 10 RLGs in each district with total of 40 in the four districts. The radio program aims to cover most of the dense migrant clusters by moving over to a new cluster/RLG once the 25 episodes are aired to one RLG.

Survey findings calls for increased HIV and family planning-related interventions for migrant couples



The baseline survey on *Family Planning (FP) including Rapid Assessment of HIV, STI and FP among migrant couples* in Nepal has shown limited knowledge and utilization of HIV and family planning-related services among male labor migrants (MLMs) and wives of male labor migrants (WoMLMs) in Bara, Kapilbastu, Nawalparasi and Palpa districts and has called upon relevant organizations and government agencies for immediate scaling up and strengthening integrated HIV and family planning services targeting migrant households. This was shared at a dissemination program organized by Saath-Saath Project (SSP) on April 28, 2013 in Kathmandu with Dr. Mingmar G. Sherpa, Director General of Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Population as the chief guest. Special guests at the program were Deputy Director General and Chairperson of Technical Advisory Group for Integration of family planning/HIV services Dr. Guna Raj Lohani, Director of Family Health Division (FHD) Dr. Shenendra Raj Upreti, Director of National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC) Dr. Bal Krishna Suvedi and Director of USAID/Nepal's Office of Health and Family Planning Ms. Shanda Steimer. The event saw attendance of over a hundred participants from civil society, government agencies, academicians, researchers and media. The two hour program focused on sharing the study findings, answering queries/comments from audience by a panel of experts on HIV and family planning. Also during the program Dr. Sherpa and Ms. Steimer unveiled the factsheets for male labor migrants and wives of male labor migrants.

Survey results for male labor migrants found that for 35% of male migrants, India was the most preferred migration destination; Qatar stood second with a quarter going there. As a bloc, the Gulf countries served destination of migration to 46% of male labor migrants. It revealed that although most of the migrants had heard of and knew about HIV and FP, migrants' use of the services including condoms was limited. Male labor migrants' condom use with wives was only 4%. Male labor migrants also lacked comprehensive knowledge on HIV and AIDS. Their main source of information about HIV was through Radio and TV (44%). The study also highlighted gaps in ongoing development programs on HIV prevention and awareness reaching out to migrants.

Similarly, survey results for wives of male labor migrants showed that current use of family planning among migrant couples was 24% in the surveyed districts. However, women who were living with their husbands at the time of the survey had higher rate of about 43% as compared to 15% among women whose husbands were living away. Two out of five women had unmet need for family planning services, indicating higher unmet need for family planning services among wives of male labor migrants. Similar to the male labor migrant, comprehensive knowledge on HIV and AIDS is low among wives of male labor migrant and only few women had availed services from any HIV and AIDS programs.

Survey Snapshots

Survey details

- Funded by: USAID-funded SSP
- Principal Investigators: NCASC, FHD and SSP
- Study district: Bara, Kapilbastu, Nawalparasi, Palpa
- Study population: 690 male labor migrants and 1,028 wives of male labor migrants

Findings:

Male Labor Migrants

- Average age at first migration: 23 years
- Most migrated destination: Gulf countries (46%) and India (35%)
- Worked as laborer in various sectors abroad: 86%
- Premarital sex among unmarried: 56%
- Comprehensive Knowledge on HIV and AIDS: 58%
- Knowledge on misconceptions on HIV and AIDS: 17%
- Consistent condom use with wives in the past year (n=584): 4%
- STI symptoms in the past year: 4%
- Ever had an HIV test: 63%

Wives of Male Labor Migrants

- Illiterate: 53%
- Current use of FP among whose husbands live together: 43%
- Consistent condom use during last home visit of spouse: 3%
- Unmet need for FP: 43%
- Comprehensive Knowledge on HIV and AIDS: 53%
- Knowledge on misconceptions on HIV and AIDS: 13%
- Ever had an HIV test: 5%

Dr. Sherpa in his closing remarks appreciated the long standing partnership and support from USAID. He further added that Nepali migrant workers were comparatively less educated and trained when compared to migrant workers from other nations and thus at greater risk from HIV and other infections. He urged all stakeholders to utilize the study findings and overcome the gap in HIV and family planning services for this particular population. He further added that there also is need to increase awareness of HIV and AIDS and STIs and on family planning through awareness campaigns.



The survey was conducted by SSP in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population's National Centre for AIDS and STD Control and Family Health Division of Department of Health Services. Survey's field work was carried out by New ERA between August-October 2012 in these four migrant focused districts for SSP. The survey collected information from 690 male labor migrants and 1,028 wives of male labor migrants on key behaviors and knowledge related to FP, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV. A size estimation of the target populations was conducted prior to the actual study.

Strengthening data analysis and utilization among government agencies

National Centre for AIDS and STD Control, with support from Saath-Saath Project (SSP) and Global Fund, conducted 3 four-day training on data analysis and utilization in December 2012 and January 2013 for key government staff including District AIDS Coordination Committee Coordinators and HIV focal persons from various districts from Nepal's Western, Mid-Western and Far-Western regions. In total 55 participants attended the training covering topics on data for decision making, basic types of analysis and interpretation and communication followed by hands on exercise. The first two days of the training was conducted as part of national monitoring and evaluation training and SSP led the last two days of the training on Module – 8, data analysis and its use.

Commemorating key days to raise awareness on HIV, family planning and condom use

Saath-Saath Project (SSP), utilizing the synergy of its local NGO partners, commemorated key national and international days in collaboration with key government agencies and stakeholders at both the national and local levels to sensitize the masses on HIV prevention to care, support and treatment services, family planning services uptake and promote condom use. SSP contributed in both the planning and implementation of various programs at both the local and national level under the leadership of Government of Nepal and in coordination with other stakeholders.

World AIDS Day: On December 1, 2012, the nation joined hands with the global community to observe the silver jubilee anniversary of World AIDS Day (WAD) and reiterate call for an AIDS-free future with the global theme of “Getting to Zero: Zero New HIV infections, Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS-related Deaths” by 2015. Also, the US Government’s President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is promoting the theme “Working Together for an AIDS-Free Generation” which reflects the US commitment to shared responsibility in the global response to fight AIDS in partnership with all partners and stakeholders.

International Candlelight Memorial Day: on May 19th 2013, SSP commemorated the 30th International Candle Light Memorial Day with the theme “In Solidarity”. The event was marked as per SSP’s work plan to utilize the day to raise awareness on HIV and AIDS and on reduction of stigma and discrimination towards PLHIV. The day is also marked to recognize those who have fallen due to HIV and AIDS.

During these events, SSP and its local NGO partners supported to organize a multitude of programs in SSP districts. Some of the key activities conducted were rallies, candlelight vigils, cleanup of local hospital, media interactions, awareness campaigns via local media, information dissemination outlets providing condoms and IEC materials, documentary shows, distribution of commodities to patients in hospitals, education scholarship support to children of PLHIV and street dramas.

4th National AIDS Conference concludes in Nepal

Nepal successfully organized the 4th National AIDS Conference in Pokhara on December 1-4, 2012 under the theme of “Achieving Millennium Development Goals through Universal Access”. Organized under the leadership of National Centre for AIDS and STD Control and in partnership with various stakeholders working in the field of HIV and AIDS, the conference saw participation of around 1000 participants and comprised of a total of 15 plenary sessions, 15 scientific sessions, around 70 posters exhibitions and 10 capacity building sessions. The conference was inaugurated by Rt. Hon. President of Nepal Dr. Ram Baran Yadav amid a function attended by senior government officials and representatives from civil society and media. Saath-Saath Project (SSP) was part of the conference organizing committee and various sub-committee including scientific committee, IEC committee and events management committee and provided technical as well as financial support towards the successful completion of the 4-day conference. Additionally, SSP presented 17 papers (9 oral and 8 posters) during the conference including a plenary presentation on “Why prevention of HIV among Female Sex Workers is critical to contain the epidemic – what works?” SSP staff also moderated several scientific sessions. In addition, SSP NGO partners also set information dissemination stalls for visitors at the conference and contributed documentaries developed under the current and previous USAID-funded interventions for screening at the conference. The conference concluded with a declaration “The Pokhara Declaration Towards Reaching Our Zeros; Together” that acknowledged the progress made so far in the fight against HIV and AIDS and urged all to work collectively to increase access to quality and standardized services to mitigate the impact of HIV in Nepal and help achieve the country’s commitment to reach millennium development goal by 2015.

Saath-Saath leads efforts at ensuring a safer and healthy workplace

Saath-Saath Project (SSP), in coordination with SSP local NGO partners, organized two workshops on safer and healthy workplace in January and April 2013 in Kathmandu and Itahari respectively. The main objective of this workshop was to share, discuss and finalize the safer and healthy workplace concept, guidelines and activities amongst the owners, worker, association members/ unions of establishment-based setting (cabin restaurant, dance bar and massage parlors). The workshop also aimed to sensitize the participants on safer and healthy workplace concept and activities. The workshop modality comprised of quick overview of the existing scenario, policies and commitment regarding safer and healthy workplace at both national and international level followed by group work to review the guidelines developed for ensuring safer and healthy workplace. Both workshops concluded with the formation of a local Safer and Healthy Workplace Coordination Committee to follow the guidelines developed by SSP to promote the goal of safer and healthy workplace i.e. to promote health and well-being of workers for successful business/enterprises and create safer, healthier and supportive work environment, to prevent and control occupational health hazards and risks and to protect and promote health of the workers.

As a way forward, SSP will continue to support the local coordination committee to promote safety at workplaces and also conduct similar workshops in other SSP districts as well.

Saath-Saath Project pilots first of its kind satellite expanded integrated health service (EIHS) clinic at government health service sites

Saath-Saath Project, in an effort to increase access to HIV and family planning (FP)-related services even from government health facilities, has piloted satellite clinics at Public Health Care Center (PHC) in Palpa and Bara districts since January 2013. The clinics are a joint initiative of government agencies and SSP that were operationalized after series of interactions with government officials including National Centre for AIDS and STD Control and joint monitoring visits to existing government site to explore possibility of starting HIV and FP services from such sites. To ensure adherence to quality and standardized services from the new sites, SSP staff conducted an onsite assessment and provided orientation to PHC staff as per existing national guidelines and SOPs to provide HIV prevention services, voluntary counseling and testing services, FP services, STI's diagnosis and treatment, condom promotion and distribution and enrollment into SSP's essential package of care services. Additionally, all required training were also provided to PHC staff through SSP support. Also a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between SSP and Government to develop clarity on the clinic's operation, objectives and working modality.

This initiative derives further impetus as SSP envisions piloting demonstrable model of HIV/FP integration. Furthermore these sites can easily be replicated and sustained as the initiative would be owned by the government. The initiative also supports SSP's overall goal to reduce the transmission and impact of HIV and AIDS and improve reproductive health among selected most-at-risk populations in a manner that supports the Government of Nepal. In the days to come, SSP will monitor the clinic's operation and work towards countering all issues that develop. Similarly, SSP aims to replicate similar joint ventures with government agencies in other project districts as well.

Donated test kits handed over to government

Since 2009, Direct Relief International (DRI) along with Abbott Laboratories has been supporting Nepal's national PMTCT program through donation of Determine HIV 1/2 test kits. These test kits are the ones used first while screening for HIV under Rapid HIV testing. Under the leadership of National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC), SSP coordinated with DRI to obtain the test kits from PMTCT Determine Donation Program. On November 2012, PMTCT Determine Donation Program awarded 125,000 determine tests and its accessories to Nepal. The testing kits were handed over to NCASC on February 2013 which will be distributed to 41 PMTCT sites in Nepal.

CD4 mobile camps in Syanja and Baglung

For the individuals living with HIV in Baglung and Syanja districts, the nearest site to access CD4 cell count services is at the Social Care Unit of Western Regional Hospital (WRH) Pokhara. However financial as well as geographic and social constraints deter many such individuals to access the services as required. Under such circumstances, Saath-Saath Project (SSP) local NGO partners Syanja Support Group (SSG) and Dhaulagiri Positive Group (DPG) with support from respective district's District AIDS Coordination Committees (DACC) and other stakeholders, managed to successfully partner with WRH to conduct bi-annual mobile CD4 camps in the districts. For this, SSP and DACC has been jointly providing financial support to conduct such camps and also motivate individuals living with HIV to access services from such camps. Additionally, SSP is also supporting to obtain the CD4 results from WRH and provide it to respective individuals. Also, efforts are underway by respective DACC to form emergency (basket) funds to manage these mobile CD4 camps in a regular and sustainable manner.

Visitor's log



1. Visitor(s): Ms. Mary Tyler Holmes, Desk Officer, USAID.

Venue: Kavrepalanchowk district

Date: November 19, 2012

Objective: Observe SSP's positive prevention (PP) and community and home based care (CHBC) program for people living with HIV (PLHIV) implemented by local NGO partner Sakriya Plus Nepal.

2. Visitor(s): USAID/Nepal's Program Coordinator HIV/AIDS Shanta Maya Gurung and GIS Specialist Indra Saran KC and National Centre for AIDS and STD Control's Senior Public Health Officer Shambhu Kafle.

Venue: Palpa and Rupandehi districts

Date: January 10 – 11, 2013

Objective: Attend inauguration program of SSP pilot EIHS site at Primary Healthcare Center in Tahu, Palpa. Also observe SSP's Integrated FP, HIV prevention, care, treatment services for migrants and spouse of migrants in Palpa district managed by Indreni Samaj Kendra and SSP's Integrated FP, HIV prevention, care, treatment services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in Rupandehi and Kapilvastu districts managed by NAMUNA.

3. Visitor(s): USAID's Shanta Maya Gurung, Program Coordinator HIV/AIDS; Naramaya Limbu, Team Leader, FP/MNCH/Nutrition; Gajendra Rai, AID Development Program Assistant and Padam Darji, Intern.

Venue: Sunsari, Jhapa and Morang districts

Date: February 11-13, 2013

Objective: Observe SSP's integrated treatment, care, support and family planning services for female sex workers and their clients in Jhapa and Sunsari

districts managed by AMDA Nepal, (SSP Core Partner); HIV and STI prevention and family planning promotion for female sex workers and their clients in Sunsari and Jhapa districts managed by local NGO partner Sahara Nepal.

4. Visitor(s): USAID's Daniel Sinclair, HIV/AIDS and Social Marketing Team Leader; Shanta Maya Gurung, Program Coordinator HIV/AIDS; Naramaya Limbu, Team Leader, FP/MNCH/Nutrition; Gajendra Rai, AID Development Program Assistant.

Venue: Kathmandu Valley

Date: March 20, 2013

Objective: Observe SSP's HIV and STI prevention and FP promotion for FSWs and their clients in Kathmandu district managed by local NGO partner STEP Nepal; Integrated treatment, care, support and family planning (FP) services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in Kathmandu and Lalitpur districts managed by local NGO partner SACTS and; Integrated family planning, HIV prevention, care, treatment services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in Bhaktapur district managed by local NGO partner CAC Nepal.

5. Visitor(s): USAID's Shanta Maya Gurung, Program Coordinator HIV/AIDS and Anju Kandel, Intern.

Venue: Nuwakot, Tanahun, Kaski and Syangja districts

Date: April 16-18, 2013

Objective: Observe SSP's positive prevention (PP) and community and home based care (CHBC) program in Nuwakot by local NGO partner Trisuli Plus; Integrated treatment, care, support and FP services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in

Kaski and Tanahu districts managed by local NGO partner Naulo Ghumti; Positive prevention activities for PLHIV in Syangja district managed by local NGO partner Syngja Support Group; and HIV and STI Prevention and FP promotion for FSWs and their clients in Kaski district managed by local NGO partner CWES.

6. Visitor(s): USAID Washington DC's Joyce Frienderberg, Development Grant Program (DGP) and USAID Nepal's Pragya Shrestha, AID Development Program Assistant; Shankar Khazi, GBO; Colin Hol Mes, PPD and; Srijana Rana, OAA.

Venue: Kaski district

Date: May 17, 2013

Objective: Observe SSP's Integrated treatment, care, support and FP services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in Kaski district managed by local NGO partner Naulo Ghumti and HIV and STI Prevention and FP promotion for FSWs and their clients in Kaski district managed by local NGO partner CWES.

7. Visitor(s): USAID Washington DC's Ms. Laura Andes, Advisor and USAID Nepal's Daniel Sinclair, HIV/AIDS and Social Marketing Team Leader and Gajendra Rai, AID Development Program Assistant

Venue: Rupandehi district

Date: June 19, 2013

Objective: Observe SSP's Integrated FP, HIV prevention, care, treatment services for FSWs, clients of FSWs and PLHIV in Rupandehi and Kapilvastu districts managed by local NGO partner NAMUNA.

Editorial team: Dr. Bisika Thapa, Pravaran Mahat, Salina Joshi

Subject: Saath-Saath Bulletin 3 July 2013

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