



**World Health
Organization**

Nepal

WHO Monthly Report

GANDAKI PROVINCE

Poush 2080 (15 December 2023 to 15 January 2024)

S.N.	Major Health Events/Highlights	Support provided by WHO
1	Timely outbreak response and management of food poisoning case in Lamjung	Case investigation, response and management

Major Updates/Key Activities			Remarks
S.N.	UNIT	Description of Activities	
1.	HSS	Participated and represented in the dissemination workshop of diagnostic assessment of HCWM and WASH in HCFs in Gandaki Province, organized by health directorate, Gandaki Province with technical support from WHO and GIZ. The event was chaired by the DG of Health Directorate, Mr. Khim Bahadur Khadka where the chief guest was the secretary of MoSDH Dr Binod Bindu Sharma and special guest was the director of Management Division, DoHS Dr Sarbesh Sharma. Other participants include the officials of MoSDH, HD, representatives of different 12 hospitals.	The findings of the diagnostic assessment of HCWM and WASH in HCFs conducted in 12 hospitals of Gandaki Province was shared by Waste Service, a technical partner for the assessment. The key highlights of the dissemination were that minor fixes and renovations are enough for the waste management rather than huge investments; focal persons at each HCFs should be assigned and motivation of HCW handlers should be considered by incentives, PPEs etc. Individual hospital waste management plan including the engineering designs was presented for feedback and the final report will be submitted by Waste Services shortly incorporating all the feedbacks.
2.	HSS	Participated and facilitated in the meeting with the representatives of JICA Headquarter and MoSDH Gandaki province. The objective of the meeting was to explore the utility of the MCH Handbook and opportunities to scale up the JICA partnership projects regarding maternal and child health considering the continuum of care and digitalization in health sector to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity.	The secretary of MoSDH presented on the status, ongoing initiatives of Gandaki province, issues, and ways ahead in respect to maternal and child health. PHO put his opinion and evidence why the JICA project should be focused in Gandaki province. Queries and Concerns of JICA visiting team was addressed by the MoSDH officials. The Team was impressed with the commitment and the energy that Gandaki province has put upon to address the health priorities of Gandaki Province.
3.	HSS	As a member of Provincial Technical Support Committee for a research study on “Menstrual Justice in Nepal: Achieving the Right to a Good Period in Policy and Practice Evidence” led by CREPHA in collaboration with	The meeting was mainly focused on the actors and the stakeholders of Menstrual health, issues and opportunities on the sanitary pad dispensing program of Government of Nepal, data collection for the

		University of Bath, participated in a joint meeting with the officials of CREPHA and University of Bath.	baseline study and designing the interventions after the baseline.
4.	HSS	Participated in the provincial SRHR TWC meeting chaired by the director general of health directorate. The agenda of the meeting were to discuss on the progress and implementation status of tracking of pregnant women to ensure full institutional delivery; maternal deaths occurred in the province and timely recording and reporting of the deaths; share updates on the ongoing research on SRHR and opportunities to do the research in the arena of maternal and newborn health; and monitoring and certification of adolescent friendly health facilities.	<p>Key discussions and decisions of the meeting were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation to HWs completed, FCHVs training ongoing for tracking pregnant women in the province. • HWs should immediately initiate tracking, once trained and where eHMIS is operational • HW and the Health Institution is the primary responder for tracking • In FY 2080/81, total of 9 maternal deaths are reported till the meeting date which is in increasing in trend • Majority of maternal deaths occurred in Postnatal period and hospital-based deaths (within 48 hrs of delivery) • Proper referral gap is the major cause of maternal deaths and should be linked with maternal tracking mechanisms • Some of the health institutions are not reporting maternal deaths. The DG instructed to issue letter to health institutions who do not report maternal deaths for timely and complete reporting • Any individual and or group of individuals are welcomed to carry out research and study in the maternal and child health arena under the ethical approval received from NHRC for Maternal and Child Health study. • Coordinate with FWD for the assessment and certification of ASRH friendly HF's and facilitate for the process.
5.	HSS	Provided coordination and facilitation support for the scoping study to develop the national referral guideline by Curative Division with technical support from WHO. Provided support to national consultant Dr Taranath	During the visit the KII was done with the Secretary of MoSDH, DG of Health Directorate, Medical superintendent of Matri Shishu Miteri Hospital, Director of Western Regional Hospital, PAHS, Hospital Director of Manipal Teaching Hospital. The major focus of the respondents was to

		Pokharel to identify the key informants and accompanied the visit.	specify the levels of care and digital mechanisms for referral.
6.	HSS	Participated in the provincial supply chain management working committee meeting organized by Province Health Logistics Management Center. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Rajib Risal, DG of PHLMC with the special presence of Secretary of MoSDH, DGs of HD, PPHL, HTC officials from WHO, Save the Children, UNICEF, FHI360. The major agenda of the meeting was to discuss and decide about the proper disposal of expired and outdated medicines; establishing one door system for procurement of medicine and commodities; management of diagnostic kits, eLMIS refresher training; and organizing Quantification and Forecasting workshop in the province.	The meeting concluded to explore possibilities to discard expired medicines through technical and financial support from partners and if not, then by the PHLMC self in the upcoming FY. The meeting also decided to maintain one door system for procurement of drugs and commodities by PHLMC including the procurement and stock piling of diagnostic kits of dengue, scrub typhus. Furthermore, the meeting decided to convene eLMIS refresher training and Quantification and Forecasting Workshop within next three month by PHLMC with financial support from EPIC-PSM program (FHI360).
7.	HSS	Participated in the two-days interaction program on OCMC service effectiveness organized by Nursing and Social Security Section Division, DoHS. The program was chaired by acting DG of HD and special guest was the secretary of MoSDH. Community Nursing Administrator, Mrs. Sharmila Dhakal Poudel (Section Chief- Geriatric and GBV management Section) presented on the current status of the OCMCM services, issues and expected support from province and respective hospitals to make the OCMC service effective and people centric. She also highlighted the recent updates made in	OCMC focal persons from each hospitals presented the progress of FY 2079/80, budgeting and expenditure status, and the activities that were carried out by hospitals for the prevention of GBV and case referral from communities. Major issues raised by the service providers were deployment of clinical psychologists/counselor; clear guidance on sample preserve and discard policy; establishment and operationalization of safe house; case registration and access to legal procedures. The workshop also raised the need for assigning the focal person from MoSDH/HD for OCMC services, increase number of medicolegal, psychosocial counseling and GBV training and Nursing

		the OCMC guideline and oriented the service providers and medical superintendents from each hospital who participated in the event.	Division, DoHS to expand the OCMC service to ICDH and Matrishishu Miteri Hospital of Gandaki province.
8.	HSS	Provided technical support in drafting Health Facility Establishment, Operation, Upgradation and Renewal section in the ongoing draft of provincial public health service act. The act is under consultation whether to formulate single and comprehensive act or develop separate act regarding health facility establishment Operation, Upgradation and Renewal.	The draft content of the section is completed and is ready for further consultation and discussion.
9.	HSS & WHE	WHO team and MoSDH staffs, participated in a meeting with Nepal Youth Movement Against Tuberculosis (NYMAT) team. The objective of the meeting was to discuss regarding developing a model for TB free Gandaki Province and to collaborate with the Provincial and WHO team for the initiative.	NYMAT plans to mobilize 1000 youths for the TB free initiative which will be start-ed with virtual training followed by 3 tasks including: - Advocacy on TB to at least one important person - Conduct basic level orientation to at least one class through school health program - Social media engagement
10.	WHE	WHE team participated and provided technical support during a meeting organized by the Ministry of Social Development and Health (MoSDH). The agenda revolved around the comprehensive review and insights gleaned from the Investigation of the Food-Borne Disease Outbreak in Sundarbazar-8, Lumjung District.	Participants included the Health Secretary, Division Chiefs, staffs from MoSDH, an official from EDCD, PPHL, and WHO. Dr Shasi Kandel from EDCD delivered an exhaustive presentation encapsulating the findings, lessons learned, encountered challenges, and proposed strategies for the way forward.
11.	WHE	The WHE team, along with NPOs (IHR and HIMA) from WCO, actively participated in and facilitated an orientation program on "Data Visualization." This program was	Key figures present at the program included Mr. Khim Khadka, Director of Health Directorate, and Mr. Ramesh Adhikari, Director of the Provincial Health Training Center (PHTC). Participants in the program

		<p>organized by the Ministry of Social Development and Health (MoSDH) in Gandaki. Dr. Binod Bindu Sharma, the Secretary of MoSDH, chaired the program, with the presence of Dr. Prakash Budhathoki, Chief of the Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) and spokesperson for the Ministry of Health and Population.</p>	<p>comprised chiefs and Statistics officers from district health offices and district hospitals, along with representatives from the Health Directorate, Provincial Health Logistics Management Center (PHLMC), Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL), Infectious and Communicable Diseases Hospital (ICDH), Tuberculosis Treatment Center and department chief of MoSDH</p>
12.	WHE	<p>Facilitation and briefing on Visit of Chief of HEOC during his recent visit to the Provincial Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) and the ambulance dispatch center in Gandaki province. During the visit, the WHE-HPO provided a brief overview of the ongoing activities of PHEOC.</p>	<p>Additionally, a meeting was held at the ambulance dispatch center with key figures including Dr. Binod Bindu Sharma, Health secretary, Dr. Prakash Budhathoky (HEOC Chief and spokesperson of MoHP), the CSD Chief of MoSDH, as well as representatives from Save The Children and WHE-HPO. During this meeting, dispatchers shared updates on the center's accomplishments and services while also outlining the challenges they are facing.</p>
13.	WHE	<p>WHE team participated in a virtual Hub and Satellite Hospitals Network Interaction Meeting organized by Dhaulagiri Hospital, Baglung with technical support from WHO. Dr Ravi Ranjan Pradhan, Medical Superintendent of Dhaulagiri Hospital, chaired the meeting, with special presence from Dr Prakash Budhathoky, HEOC Chief and Spokesperson of MoHP, virtually. The meeting included Section Chiefs from MoSDH, PHEOC focal person and WHO. Directors and disaster focal person from 3 satellite hospitals (Mustang, Parbat and Beni) participated in the meeting.</p>	<p>Meeting included discussion on PHEOC-Hub Satellite Network, HDPRP/HSI emphasizing the need for all hospitals to form EMTs and provide regular updates to PHEOC, experiences, challenges and way forward on disaster management was shared by Hub and satellite hospitals.</p>
14.	WHE	<p>WHE-IMA had a brief update meeting with Dr. Binod Bindu Sharma, the Secretary of the Ministry social development and health (MoSDH),</p>	<p>The hospital has been utilizing an open-source EMR for the past few years getting assistance from external organizations. However, the external organization has</p>

		regarding the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) support requested by Aabukhaireni Hospital in Tanahu	ceased providing support, requesting an annual Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) cost.
15.	WHE	Orientation on HDPRP and Hub-satellite-PHEOC Network in Army Hospital.	WHE team facilitated the Ministry of Social Development and Health-PHEOC Gandaki Province with orientation program on Hospital Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (HDPRP) and Hub-Satellite-PHEOC network with technical support from WHO in the Military Hospital, Pokhara one of the satellite hospitals of Pokhara Academy of Health Sciences. The program was chaired by Dr Ramesh Kumar KC (CSD Chief MoSDH) and Dr Ajaya Rajbhandari Commandant of Military hospital as chief guest. Participants of the program were Consultants, Disaster Focal person, Matron and paramedics.
16.		Orientation on HDPRP and Hub-satellite-PHEOC Network in GP Koirala National Center for Respiratory Disease	WHE team facilitated and provided technical support to the Ministry of Social Development and Health-PHEOC Gandaki Province in conducting an "Orientation Program on Hospital Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (HDPRP) and Hub-Satellite-PHEOC network" in GP Koirala National Center for Respiratory Disease in Tanahun which is recently designated as the Hub hospital of Gandaki province by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP). The program was chaired by Dr Ramesh Kumar KC, the Chief of CSD-MoSDH. Dr Ram Kumar Shrestha, Executive Director of GP Koirala Hospital, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The participants included consultants, disaster focal persons, medical officers, nurses, and paramedics.
17.		WHE team participated and supported in facilitation of the SORMAS user training conducted by MoSDH Gandaki province with technical support from	The 3 days program included participants as SORMAS users from all dis-trict Hospitals (Chief), health office (Chief and statistician)

		EDCD and WHO. The program was chaired by provincial health secretary (Dr Binod Bindu Sharma).	and Pokhara Academy of Health Science (statistician).
18.		EMR Support to Aabukhaireni Hospital, Tanahun	Upon receiving a request from Aabukhaireni Hospital, Tanahun, the WHE team collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Social Development (MoSDH) to facilitate the official letter routing for Electronic Medical Record (EMR) support to the World Health Organization (WHO). Aabukhaireni Hospital issued a letter to MoSDH, formally requesting support for the expansion and upgrading of their EMR system from WHO.
19.		In response to the recent surge of COVID-19 cases in the neighboring country and a few cases emerging in Nepal, WHE team conducted a visit to the Provincial Health Directorate (PHD) and met with Mrs. Sushila Karki, the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Vector-Borne Diseases (VBD) focal person of PHD, to strategize and enhance prepared-ness activities in the Point of Entry (POE) at Binayi Tribeni, Nawalpur.	<p>Recommendation from the WHE team included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocation of sufficient test kits - Proper record keeping through SORMAS - Genome sequencing for positive cases - Isolation and referral procedures <p>In addition, a list of essential medicines and equipment required for the health desk at the POE was compiled.</p>
20.	NCD	WHO Quality rights training for optimal management of mental health conditions was organized at Pokhara in coordination with CBM, CMC Nepal and EDCD.	Financial support was provided to CMC Nepal
21.	NCD	Mental Health profile finalization meeting was conducted at PHTC, Gandaki. Different aspects of reports were discussed, and feedback was provided by stakeholders working on mental health	Profile and related activites were completed
22.	NCD	As per Redbook program grant money to Manav Sewa Ashram in topic of Mental health Rehabilitation was started	This program will support in improving health status of people living in sheltered homes

23.	IPD	Provided technical assistance in district microplanning workshop and 4 batches of vaccinators training on MR and TCV SIA and supervision at Rukum West, Karnali province	Deployment of independent monitors for Rapid Convenience Monitoring (RCM) of MR and TCV SIA was done Conducted Rapid Convenience Monitoring (RCM) of MR SIA and TCV campaign at random households of different municipalities
24.	IPD	Facilitated in Provincial Routine Immunization review meeting and Microplanning Workshop (3 days) of Gandaki Province Discussion on challenges faced in achieving optimal immunization coverage rates, including issues related to infrastructure, logistics, community engagement	The program was chaired by the Health Secretary aiming to assess and enhance the effectiveness of routine immunization programs within the province. The program started with the opening remarks by the Health Secretary followed by welcome remarks from the acting Director of HD, PHLMC, PPHL and SMO- WHO IPD
25.	IPD	Technical support in Vaccine management training at Shukla Gandaki Municipality of Tanahun	Facilitated in two sessions on Vaccine cold chain maintenance related training targeted to vaccine transportation personnel from different health facilities
26.	IPD	Case investigation of an AFP case reported from Aama Baa Private hospital of Gorkha	The case was from Siranchowk RM of Gorkha. Both stool samples were collected and transported
27.	IPD	Joint visit along with Gandaki Health Directorate team, Health Office Kaski and provided technical support in Palika level EPI quarterly review meeting organized by Madi Rural Municipality	The program chaired by Ward president of ward No. 5 and chief guest was the Director General from Health Directorate and other guests were HO Kaski chief, HD Stat officer, PHD EPI focal person, HO EPI focal person, HO data record officer, executive officer from Madi RM, Health section chief from Madi RM. Participants were from all 16 health facilities in-charges and EPI focal persons from Madi RM

Issues and Challenges			Action Taken/Required at Province level
S.N.	UNIT	Description	

1	WHE	Inadequate COVID test kits at PHLMC	Resupply and distribute covid test kits at all levels
2	WHE	Continued reporting in SORMAS	Continue conduction of refreshers training on SORMAS

Recommendations and Kind Request for Additional/Special Support from the Federal/Provincial /Local Government.

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Photo Section:

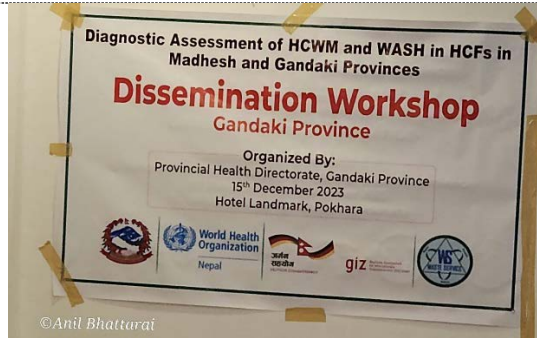


Photo Details: Sharing workshop of Diagnostic assessment of HCWM and WASH in HCFs of Gandaki Province



Photo Details: Sharing workshop of Diagnostic assessment of HCWM and WASH in HCFs of Gandaki Province



Photo Details: Meeting with JICA team and MoSDH



Photo Details: SRHR TWC meeting



Photo Details: KIIs for scoping on national referral guideline development



Photo Details: Provincial Supply Chain Management Working Committee meeting



Photo Details: Interaction program on OCMC service effectiveness in Gandaki Province



Photo Details: Interaction program on OCMC service effectiveness in Gandaki Province



Photo Details: Meeting between WHO team and PPHL Director to plan the conduction of a program with private laboratories of the province.



Photo Details: The MoSDH Health Secretary concluding the opening session of SORMAS users training program with his closing remarks.



Photo Details: Orientation on HDPRP and Hub-satellite-PHEOC Network in Army Hospital, Pokhara.



Photo Details: Orientation Program on Hospital Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (HDPRP) and Hub-Satellite-PHEOC network" in GP Koirala National Center for Respiratory Disease in Tanahun



Photo Details: Meeting organized by MoSDH to share the Findings and Learnings from Food-Borne Disease Outbreak in Sundarbazar-8, Lumjung.



Photo Details: WHO IMA, NPO (IHR), NPO (HIMA) presenting on individual agendas of "Data Visualization Orientation" organized by MoSDH



Photo Details: Technical assistance in district microplanning workshop and 4 batches of vaccinators training on MR and TCV SIA



Photo details: Vaccine management training at Shukla Gandaki Municipality of Tanahun



Photo Details: AFP verification at Siranchowk RM of Gorkha



Photo Details: Joint visit in Palika level EPI quarterly review meeting organized by Madi Rural Municipality of Kaski