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Ministry of Health

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Consultative Meeting

EDCD organized consultative meeting among stakeholders on 5th January 2016 for setting priorities for costed extended action plan to be submitted to The Global Fund for the period of 16th July 2016 to December 2017. Furthermore the objective of the program was to provide an opportunity for the PR to gain insight of the ongoing programs, their effectiveness, challenges and the areas for improvement in the future. This consultation program focused on the future road map and identification of programmatic gaps of Malaria program and held detailed discussion on the priority area through personnel expertise and consideration of the stakeholder's feedbacks.

To review current malaria programs and elaborates on TGF grant support



Presentation from Dr. BR. Marasini, Director/EDCD during Consultative Meeting

activities, and to suggest and recommend manual for Foci Investigation and Case Based Surveillance for finalization were other major discussions in the program.

In the program, presentation on Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016-2030 was presented by Dr. Prakash Ghimire from WHO, followed by the presentation on existing status of the Malaria Program in Nepal by Dr. Baburam Marasini, Director of EDCD. Post lunch a sessional presentation on Foci Investigation was done by Dr. Suman Thapa. The participants put forth their questions, comments and suggestions during the presentation. Later the floor was opened to share views and opinion of the stakeholders on different topics to strengthen malaria program.

As a key note from special guest, Dr G.D Thakur, Chief of Public Health Administration Monitoring & Evaluation Division, MOH, suggested to work in a step wise model. He added, "At first primarily focus on individual districts to make it malaria free after which the next step can be to go nationally after individual coverage is complete to ensure the ultimate goal of making Nepal a malaria-free nation by 2025. This way of action can ensure best utilization of minimum available resources". At the same, Dr. Baburam Marasini, Director of EDCD made his final remarks by mentioning that the country has been moving towards pre-elimination phase of Malaria. He further added, "It has adopted a long-term malaria elimination strategy with the ambitious vision of a malaria-free Nepal by the year 2026".

Basic Malaria Microscopy Training

Malaria Microscopy Basic Training conducted from 14th December 2015 to 7th January 2016 at VBDRTC, Hetauda. The objective of the training was to acquire knowledge, develop skill in Malaria microscopy. A total of 15 participants attended the training session.

First and the foremost part of the training session was to evaluate theoretical and practical knowledge and skills of the participants before they were provided to training sessions. This technique would help the facilitator to judge the competency and to pin point major difficulties and weaknesses. Till the end of the training session, this training supported participants to develop the microscopic skills in differential diagnosis of the parasites.

Malaria Microscopy Refresher Training



To develop skills and capacity of laboratory technicians/ laboratory assistants in malaria microscopy was main objective of this Malaria Microscopy Refresher Training. The training conducted for 2 weeks from 22 Nov-4 Dec, 2015 at Vector Borne Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC), Hetauda where total 16 participants attended the session.

The methods used in the training program were lectures, demonstration, practice and discussion. Each topic was briefly presented by the facilitators and followed by the actual demonstrations in the practical sessions. The refresher training module included theory and practical portions.

Pre and Post-analysis of the participants demonstrated that the training program has improved the microscopic skills in differential diagnosis of the parasites. The skills of the participants on good quality smear preparation and staining has also improved during training program.

Workshop on GIS Mapping



GIS mapping workshop conducted on 8th and 9th December 2015 at Hetauda & Chitwan and 11th December 2015 at EDCD, Teku, Kathmandu. The objective of the training was to provide basic GIS orientation, GPS device operation and data recording from GPS device to government officials and SCI staff.

In the program, Dr. Daniel M. Parker, Geographer, SMRU, Thailand, presented on GPS mapping techniques. Participants were provided GPS device & following orientation, were asked to demonstrate operation of device & data recording. This orientation helped participants to make capable for operating GPS device and record data independently.

Ward Level Micro Stratification

As per the planning to conduct ward level malaria microstratification in 65 districts of the country this year, EDCD team has started from Kanchanpur district by visiting most of the wards of all 20 VDCs and one municipality of the district to collect geographic & demographic information and GPS coordinates. The visit was conducted by 15 team members from 10th to 17th January 2016.

The primary objective of the micro-stratification study is to define the risk of malaria at the ward level of a VDC, which is the basic unit of the community. This will also provide the strategic malaria information on the total area and the population at risk of malaria. Besides, the study will provide ward level malaria information which will be instrumental in planning, monitoring and evaluating effective interventions especially in malaria elimination programme.

School Health Orientation Program



School Health Orientation program at Kanchanpur district.

School Health Orientation program conducted in 5 schools of each Kanchanpur and Surkhet districts in January 2016. The objective of the program is to disseminate information on malaria to school children. The program aims to aware children about their roles and responsibilities to prevent the transmission of malaria in the community so that it will contribute in elimination of Malaria. This school health orientation program will be taken place on at least 5 schools of each district located on most vulnerable areas of all 25 high risk districts for malaria.

Visit by Dr. Imran

Dr. Muhammad Imran, Director of Save the Children US and an expert on malaria in South Asia, visited Nepal between 17-21 of December 2015. During his visit, he visited EDCD and met with the team and discussed on the ongoing activities and programs. He also provided feedback and suggestions to the team on the path ahead. The major surveys such as malairiometric survey, microstratification, G6PDd screening and LLIN distribution were also discussed. He also provided an insight on the success stories of malaria program in Pakistan. The EDCD team also worked on the draft PF indicators in his presence.

Radio Message Broadcasting

Two radio Public Service Announcements (PSA) have been prepared (40seconds and 1 minute) on malaria prevention and control. These PSAs are being aired across 15 high risk malaria endemic districts through the local FM station. The PSAs are aired 12 times each day between 8:00 am- 8:00 pm at hourly intervals.

PUDR Period I Submission

EDCD submitted the PUDR for PI to Global fund within the set deadline on the 31st of December 2015, for the period of July 15 - November 15, 2015.

Monitoring & Supervision Visit

EDCD based malaria team visited 18 program districts (Ilam, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Bara, Parsa, Chitwan, Makawanpur, Sindhuli, Nawalparasi, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, Banke, Bardiya, Surkhet, Kailali, Kanchanpur and Dadeldhura) for data cleaning, supervision of the data from health facilities and logistic status at DPHOs/DHOs in this period. The data that have been received through the HMIS has been found to have several discrepancies which needed to be cleaned. The team provided orientation to malaria focal person (VCO/VCI/MI/Statistic Officer) at district to encourage and motivate for correct, complete and timely recording and reporting. Logistic status on antimalarial drugs, LLIN and stock out at DHO/DPHO is also observed by the team.



Providing orientation to VCI at Sindhuli district about possible areas of errors while recording data.

Finalization of foci investigation guideline

The Foci Investigation Guideline was prepared based on the WHO guideline and was put forth for suggestions and comments at the TWG meeting held on 5th January 2016 after the commencement of the consultation meeting. The comments have been taken abroad and will be put forth again for a final decision on the next TWG meeting to be held on 24th of February 2016.

