

		April/May 2015 Edition 19.15
	Directorate General of Family Planning Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	Bangladesh Population Clock <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>157,329,068</b> </div> <b>18 December, 2014</b>
<h2 style="margin: 0;">DGFP eBulletin</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">News from the Field</h3> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;">     </div>		

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### World Population Day

In **1989**, the then-Governing Council of the UNDP recommended that **11 July** be observed as World Population Day. An outgrowth of the Day of Five Billion, marked on **11 July 1987**, the Day seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, particularly in the context of overall development. The Day was first marked on **11 July 1990** in more than 90 countries. Events included speeches and rallies; seminars, symposia on population and development; radio and television programmes; press conferences and other media events; exhibitions and art and essay contests on population and family planning themes; sports competitions; and activities for young people. Then, by resolution **45/216 of 21 December 1990**, the United Nations **General Assembly** decided to continue World Population Day and activities to enhance awareness of population issues, including their relations to the environment and development.

#### ‘Vulnerable Populations in Emergencies’

Women, children and young people comprise over three quarters of the over 50 million people who have been forcibly displaced from their homes by conflict and disasters in

most parts of the world. Girls and women in crisis situations face much greater risk of abuse, sexual exploitation, violence, forced marriage, reproductive health-related illnesses, and death due to the lack of protection and an absence of aid delivery to address their needs.

In protracted crises and many early recovery contexts, there is a lack of access to basic and comprehensive emergency obstetric services and family planning; services to treat survivors of gender-based violence are scant or non-existent; and care for and prevention of sexually transmitted infections is limited. It is no coincidence that, of the 10 countries with the highest maternal death rates in the world, eight are also affected by insecurity and conflict.

Addressing adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) during emergency preparedness can help to ensure that the critical needs of this population are not overlooked at the onset of emergencies. Involving adolescents in preparedness efforts is an important initial step. Additionally, pre-positioning supplies, making information readily available, providing education and communication materials and training peer educators will better ensure the SRH needs of adolescents in the early stages of an emergency.

## World Population Day-2015 marked with due manner



Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) celebrated World Population Day (WPD) 2015 on 11 July with utmost respect and honor like other countries of the world in Bangladesh with the technical and financial assistance from the UNFPA (United Nations Fund for Population

Activities). DGFP has initiated diverse activities to uphold the importance of the day. This year the theme of WPD has been chosen by the UNFPA HQ as “Vulnerable Populations in Emergencies”, a very timely and effective one which has been translated in Bangladesh context, “নারী ও শিশু সবার আগে, বিপদে-দুর্যোগে প্রাধান্য পাবে” “nari o sishu sobar age, bipode-durjoge pradhannyo pabe”. Mr. Mohammed Nasim, MP, the hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) inaugurated the national level inauguration of the World Population Day on 11 July at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium ornamenting the dais as Chief Guest. Mr. Zahid Maleque, MP, the hon’ble State Minister, MOHFW was present there as the special guest while Mrs. Argentina Matavel Piccin, Country Representative,



UNFPA addressed the audience as the Guest of Honor. Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP and



Prof. Md. Abdul Hannan, Addl. Director General, DGHS also graced the occasion among the guests. Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, MOHFW presided over the meeting. Md. Jamal Hossain, Joint Secretary, MOHFW & Director IEM, DGFP read out the message of Sheikh Hasina, the hon'ble Prime Minister of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh.

Wishing the success of WPD-2015 Mrs. Piccin hoped to continue all sorts of help to DGFP. Special Guest Mr. Zahid Maleque, MP, highlighted the importance of the day by



saying that Bangladesh is in the right track in achieving the MMR and IMR goals within the stipulated timeframe.

Congratulating all the members of DGFP on the eve of WPD-2015, Chief Guest Mr. Mohammed Nasim, MP called upon all

to devote more to serve the people of the country to make a prosperous Bangladesh. The Chief Guest also gave away the awards to the best Family Planning Workers & Facilities and Family Planning Media Award Winners of 2015 in various categories. The DGFP SBCC digital archive was unveiled by the hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Mr. Mohammed Nasim, MP in this huge gathering of the world population day inaugural ceremony.



After the happy wrapping-up of the inaugural ceremony with the speech from Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, MOHFW, the Chief Guest accompanied by the other guests visited a handsome number of stalls erected by various GOs,

NGOs and INGOs. The stalls displayed various IEC/BCC materials (both print and audio/visual) of their organizations along with the materials based on the theme of WPD-2015. The Chief Guest talked to the members of the stalls regarding the FP, MCH and other related issues.

Before the inauguration a colorful rally of huge number of GO and NGO members wearing T-Shirts, Caps holding banners and festoons highlighted with the theme of WPD-2015 and escorted with the decorated horse-carts and band party marched through Central Saheed Minar to the venue Osmani Memorial Auditorium to mark the day.



## Launching of DGFP SBCC Digital Archive on 11 July at Osmani Memorial Auditorium

The DGFP SBCC digital archive was unveiled by the hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Mr. Mohammed Nasim, MP in a huge gathering of the world population day inaugural ceremony held at Osmani Memorial Auditorium on 11 July 2015. Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Health Secretary chaired the occasion. The inaugural ceremony was attended, among others, by the hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Mr. Zahid Maleque, MP, members of the parliament, policy makers, representatives from development partners, UN agencies, NGOs, boys and girls scouts, youth representatives, mid and senior level officials of different ministries and departments, members of print and electronic media. As part of organizational capacity strengthening, BKMI supported IEM-DGFP in developing 'SBCC Digital Archive' which is considered to be one of the major shifts from manually documentation to digitalization of the SBCC resources.



This archive is basically a 'digital library' of HPN SBCC resources (both printed and audio-visual) which can be accessed online.

Hon'ble Health & Family Welfare Minister applauded USAID and BKMI for this innovative support hoping that USAID will continue to support his ministry in achieving development goals in health, population and nutrition sector. Later Health & Family Welfare Minister and State Minister along with Health & Family Welfare Secretary, DG Family Planning, UNFPA Representative visited the stalls where SBCC materials were displayed by concerned government and non-government organizations within the compound of Osmani Auditorium. A slide-show documentary was screened depicting how the digital archive was developed before unveiling the digital archive by the Minister.

## FP-MCH Services and Campaign

## Week-2015(16-21 May) observed

Directorate General of Family Planning(DGFP) materialized countrywide FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week 2015 from 16-21 May with the concerted effort both by the Government and NGO initiatives. IEM Unit,DGFP every year observes two FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week with the technical and financial assistance from the UNFPA.The BDHS(Bangladesh Demographic & Health Survey) 2014 reports unveils the fact that despite the increase of modern method acceptors from 47.3% to 54.1% in last ten years(2004-2014),no mentionable progress has been seen on LAPM acceptors .Various reports of MIS Unit, DGFP also reveal the fact that observing the Services and Campaign week has some far reaching effect in increasing the number of clients of LAPM In the light of above mentioned issues, this year the theme of the FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week -2015 has been fixed, "পরিবার পরিকল্পনার দীর্ঘমেয়াদী বাস্তব পদ্ধতি নিল, থাকুন ভাবনাহীন"

As a part of the activities of the observance of the week, advocacy meetings have been implemented at all the upazillas and districts of the country engaging the local representatives, Division Directors, Deputy Commissioners, Deputy Directors, Civil Surgeons, Regional supervisors (FPCST-QAT) in a view to finding out the strategy to engage the mass people under the umbrella of Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health, Gender issues.

During the FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week the number of clients of LAPM is found to be increased around 30 percent, Mr Md Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning unveils the fact to the media personalities while he was briefing them on a session on 15 May at the IEM Conference Room, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, DGFP on the eve of observance of the country wide FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week (16-21 May) 2015.He answered the various issues raised by the printing and electronic media journalists.

NGOs and INGOs played a very pivotal role in observing the countrywide FP-MCH Service and Campaign Week 2015. Save the Children actively participated in celebrating the Services and Campaign week 2015. Save the Children has extended their effort to the Government by supplying banners highlighting the theme in all the service centers of the six districts they implement various activities with joint effort with DGFP. Plan International Bangladesh also contributed 665 banners highlighting the theme of country wide FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week(16-21 May) 2015. EngenderHealth Bangladesh, Population Council, Marie Stopes Bangladesh, BRAC, EDM, RHStep also contributed a lot by supplying the banners at all the MCWCs and UH&FWCs all over the country along with other NGOs. As the banners were hung in front of the service centers, a huge number of clients as well as mass people got awareness about the Services and Campaign Week 2015.

## Stakeholder consultation meeting on strengthening Union Health & Family Planning Centers -UH&FWCs to increase SBA Coverage



The MCH Services Unit, Director General of Family Planning organized stakeholders meeting on strengthening UH&FWCs to increase SBA coverage, with support from USAID funded MaMoni Health Systems Strengthening project. The meeting was held on May 13, 2015 at Spectra Convention Center, Gulshan, Dhaka.

Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was the Chief Guest and Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP, MOHFW chaired the program.

Dr. Mohammed Sharif Director, MCH Services and Line Director (MCR-AH), DGFP, MOHFW welcome the participants and describe the objectives of the meeting and the program of Strengthening UH&FWCs to increase SBA Coverage in his presentation.

Joby George, Chief of Party, MaMoni HSS, Save the Children presented on overview and background to increase coverage of Skilled Attendance at Birth through strengthening UH&FWCs and also share the experiences of MaMoni in Habiganj district. The USAID funded MaMoni Health Systems Strengthening project prioritized the strengthening of the government owned UH&FWCs in four under-served unions of Habiganj in Sylhet Division to provide normal delivery care services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Since 2012, the project supported physical renovation of the facility, including residence for the staff; deployed midwifery-trained paramedics on temporary basis; expanded the outreach of antenatal care services through well planned satellite clinics; established community-managed referral networks; applied clinical standards-based quality improvement initiatives; mobilized the support and oversight of local government institutions; and mobilized community groups and volunteers to generate awareness and increase demand for the services provided at the UH&FWCs. In the year 2014, utilization data from these areas showed very rapid increase in the



utilization of maternal and newborn care

services. Antenatal care by medically trained providers is 84% and 4+ ANC from any medically trained provider is 55%. As per the routine MIS data reported, 85% of deliveries in these unions were conducted by skilled birth attendants. The UH&FWCs alone conducted 58% of the total deliveries in these unions. Based on this experience, MaMoni HSS has further expanded this intervention more underserved areas in Noakhali, Lakshmipur and Jhalokathi districts. In these districts, MaMoni HSS now supports 41 UH&FWCs to provide round-the-clock delivery care services.

Dr. Ishtiaq Mannan, Director, Health, Nutrition & HIV/AIDS, Save the Children highlighted the efforts of the MaMoni HSS to strengthen the health systems of the government. Achieving 85% coverage for skilled birth attendants in rural areas of Bangladesh is not an impossible dream, as demonstrated by the experience of MaMoni. If Bangladesh has the will to improve the survival of mothers and newborns, we can achieve the goal of 50 percent SBA deliveries by 2016.

Alyson P. Bear, Deputy Director, OPHNE, USAID mentioned that USAID is proud to be part of this initiative will be pleased to continue its support in scaling up this experience throughout the country with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family welfare, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in his speech expressed that there are lots of achievement in the health sector of Bangladesh. Bangladesh is on course to become a middle income country by 2020. As a middle income country, we cannot see that 63% deliveries are taking place at home. Availability of SBAs is a single factor that can contribute immensely to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity.

Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP chaired the program. He reinforced the need to strengthen the all the UH&FWCs in the country to rapidly increase the coverage of SBA. He also invited other partners to come forward and support the initiative taken by DGFP.

Mr. A K M Zafar Ullah Khan, Sr. Policy Advisor, Population Council and Dr. Ikhtiaruddin Khandaker, Health Advisor, Plan International, Bangladesh also presented their experiences of strengthening the UH&FWCs. Several recommendations were made by the participants on the way forward.

## **Making Every Maternal Death Count: USAID'S MaMoni HSS Project's district effort to mark Safe Motherhood Day 2015**



Maternal Deaths are generally underreported in Bangladesh. As maternal health situation has improved over the years, maternal deaths have become rare. However, an estimated seven thousand women still die due to childbirth



related causes every year. Many of these deaths are not recorded in the government system. And because of a lack of individual service record system, only numbers are reported, the names of many are never known. The USAID funded MaMoni Health Systems Strengthening (MaMoni HSS) Project, for the third year in a row, conducted a community based investigation to identify maternal deaths in their project districts. To mark the Safe Motherhood Day, MaMoni HSS deployed its volunteers and workers to go house to house and identify mothers who died in the last 12 months (May 2013-April 2014). During that time period, the health unit of Jhalokathi reported no maternal deaths and FP unit reported six deaths. However, the door-to-door searching uncovered 15 deaths in that district.

In the month of May, MaMoni staff, government officials and local elected representatives jointly visited the household of every mother who was lost. The team expressed their sympathy to the family, and also discussed how the death could have been prevented. The findings were then shared at district level meetings in Habiganj, Noakhali, Lakshmipur and Jhalokathi this week to sensitize the different stakeholders.

Nazma Howlader, a 28 year old women from Rajapurupazila of Jhalokathi district died during childbirth on April 17, 2015. She became pregnant 13 years after her last child was born. 20 days prior to her death, she lost her balance, fell beside a pond, and felt sharp pain. But she did not see a doctor. The day of her death, while she was cooking, her blood pressure shot up and she started convulsing. Her family took her to the Upazila Health Complex, where the duty doctor referred her to Barisal Medical College, another 30km away. A surgeon performed a C-Section, but could only save the child.

This month, the Family Planning Inspector, and the Family Welfare Assistant visited the family and discussed the circumstances of her death. They both agreed that timely quality prenatal checkup, awareness of danger sign, and knowing the appropriate health facility to refer to could have saved this mother's life. They have both vowed to take measures to inform other mothers in their union.



Every maternal death is a devastation for the family. A 2010 Lancet article by *Ronsman et al* examined child survival in Matlab, Bangladesh from 1989-2005, and found that the likelihood of a child to grow up to be 10 year old becomes much less if the mother died before them, and the effect was most pronounced (rate ratio of 25.05) among children between 2-5 months of age whose mother had died.

The USAID Bangladesh has been a key partner of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in its efforts to achieve the MDG5 goal of reducing maternal deaths by three



fourths. Even though, Bangladesh has achieved its targets, the gains are not uniform across geographical and socio-economic strata. We need to work together to ensure that no mother dies from preventable causes in this country.

## MaMoni HSS's support in observing FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week 2015 (16-21 May)

Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) materialized countrywide FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week 2015 from 16-21 May. The BDHS 2014 reports unveils the fact that despite the increase of modern method acceptors from 47.3% to 54.1% in last ten years(2004-2014),no mentionable progress has been seen on LAPM acceptors .Various reports of MIS Unit,DGFP also reveals the fact that observing the Services and Campaign week has some far reaching effect in increasing the number of clients of LAPM.In the light of above mentioned issues,this year the theme of the FP-MCH Services and Campaign Week 2015 has been fixed, "**পরিবার পরিকল্পনার দীর্ঘমেয়াদী বা স্থায়ী পদ্ধতি নিন, থাকুন ভাবনাহীন**"

USAID's MaMoni Health Systems Strengthening project collaborated with the DGFP to observe the FP-MCH Service and Campaign Week 2015. In districts supported by MaMoni HSS, advocacy meetings were held at all the upazillas and districts of the country engaging the local representatives,Divisional Directors,Deputy Commissioners,Deputy Directors of Family Planning,Civil Surgeons,Regional Supervisors(FPCST-QAT) in view to finding out the strategy to engage the mass people under the umbrella of family planning. MaMoni HSS supported DGFP by organizing communication campaigns in the project supported districts, highlighting the theme. The project supported communication materials, such as banners to be displayed at the service delivery facilities.

## Demand creation activities for garment factories worker who are in need of family planning services



In Bangladesh, over 3 million young people work in the garment sector and are in need of FP information and services. MH-II developed a workplace intervention to enhance access to FP information and Services for the garment workers. This intervention is being implemented in 32 garment factories: 17

in Dhaka and 15 in Chittagong, selected by BGMEA. In Chittagong, the Young Power in Social Action (YPSA), a sub-grantee of MH-II, is implementing the intervention. Demand

creation on FP information and services is carried out by the mid-level management staff and senior workers of the individual factories. MH-II provides capacity building training of mid-level and senior workers and trains them as master trainers. These master trainers then start providing training to their workers on FP issues while the senior workers are the peer educators providing one on one counselling and also conduct small group sessions on family planning issues.

## RH in Urban Health Care Systems in Bangladesh

Dr. Abu Jamil Faisal, Country Representative of EngenderHealth Bangladesh and Project Director of Mayer Hashi-II, a USAID supported Family Planning project in Bangladesh, was

invited to deliver a keynote on 'Reproductive Health in Urban Health Care Systems in Bangladesh' at the 2nd International Conference on Local Government held on 28th March 2015 at Hotel Sonargaon, Dhaka. The conference was organized by the Municipal Association of Bangladesh. The keynote focused on the need of addressing reproductive health/family



planning services particularly injectable, implant, IUD and sterilization services in addition to the existing provision of health services in urban areas (slum, non-slum and other urban areas) along with the demand generation for family planning in the urban areas. There is a pressing need to ensure that the quality of services being provided (by public and private facilities) are of a high standard, regular monitoring of service provision is conducted and proper accreditation system is in place to regulate the private sector services. Most of these responsibilities belong to the Local Government and hence, there is a strong need to coordinate with different stakeholders.

## Preparatory Workshop on Annual Quantification in FP & RMNCH Commodities held organized by L&S unit, DGFP



Three days long Preparatory Workshop on Annual Quantification in FP & RMNCH Commodities was held at Moulvibazar on 9-11 May 2015. The workshop was organized by the Logistics & Supply unit. A total 19 officials took part in the

workshop from logistics & supply, FSDP, CCSDP, MCH & Planning unit of the DGFP. USAID funded SIAPS/MSH provided the technical assistance to the workshop. Senior Technical Advisor Md. Anwarul Islam, Golam Kibria from MSH were present and a keynote was presented by Dr. Ghiasuddin, Associate Professor, Statistics Department, Jagannath University. The aim of the workshop is to make forecasting for Family Planning & Reproductive, Maternal & Neonatal Child Health commodities for next years to come. The workshop was officially inaugurated by Additional Director (Drugs & Stores) Md. Hanifur Rahman. It can be mentioned that SIAPS/MSH is providing assistance to Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) in operationalizing different inventory management tools (WIMS, UIMS, SCIP etc.). WIMS has been introduced in DGFP inventory management system back in 2000 developed by USAID Deliver project.

During the workshop the sessions conducted were: 'Data requirements for the Quantification of RMNCH commodities including DDS Kits' and 'Decision making using DGFP eLMIS data', by Golam Kibria, 'Requirement analysis for commodities using Spectrum and Excel tool on Contraceptives, MNCH commodities & DDS Kits items' by Dr. Ghiasuddin and 'Demonstration DGFP Stock Status Report and Proposal to add new items' by Md. Shahadat Hossain, Procurement Officer, DGFP.

Using the tool from software Spectrum-4 with the baseline data of 2011 the participants divided into groups made some projections and forecasting upto 2026 on different items of FP & RMNCH Commodities. Afterwards group presentations were made and comments from the participants were taken. The participants used the components of DemProj, FamPlan, RAPID, LIST etc. from the software to make the projections. Then an open discussion was held. Assistant Chief Humayun Kabir from Planning unit, Deputy Director (L&S) Md. Luthfur Rahman, Deputy Director (Local Procurement) Ratna Talukder, Assistant Director (Monitoring) Shahnaz Parvin, Assistant Director (Foreign Procurement) Md. Niajur Rahman, Deputy Program Manager Mahbuul Alam from FSDP, Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukder of CCSDP, Material Supervisor, L&S unit Munshi Rafiqul Islam, Family Planning Officer Khurshid Jahan, Md. Shamsuddin Mollah and Procurement Officer Md. Shahadat Hossain took part in the discussion. Some recommendations were made from the discussion.

## ARH Booklet (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)

The third edition of the Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) informative booklet series "Nijeke Jano" is available for printing. The new edition of these booklets has been updated based on the USAID's TRAction/ICDDR,B Project's frequently asked questions (FAQ) databank collected from a new generation of adolescents in 2013.

The latest version of the booklets contain the updated information relevant to the



FAQs and their answers and were validated by a group of ARH experts and program managers in government and non-government agencies and donors and DPs under the leadership of MCH



Unit of DGFP. The updated versions of the booklets were fully reviewed and approved by the IEC Technical Committee of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh in January 2015.

The soft copy of the third edition of ARH booklet series '*Nijeke Jano*' is available for printing. Interested organizations will be able to print the booklets themselves as per their requirement. To obtain soft copy of the '*Nijeke Jano*' booklets please send your request to Ms. Farhana Beauty at [fbeauty@bangladesh-ccp.org](mailto:fbeauty@bangladesh-ccp.org) with copy to [tjahan@bangladesh-ccp.org](mailto:tjahan@bangladesh-ccp.org)

## Thanks to the following contributors:

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## Check Us Out



## Questions, comments or suggestions?

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