WASH and COVID-19 Response Program

Status: Ongoing

Project Partner: UNICEF

Project Area: Six Hospitals located at Bagmati Province (Bir Hospital, Civil Service Hospital, Bhaktapur Hospital, Dhulikhel Hospital, Teaching Hospital and Birendra Sainik Hospital)

Project Duration: March 2012 to September 2020

Aim:
- To support for the continuation of WASH essentials (Drinking water, sanitation and hygiene) in communities for the prevention of COVID-19.

Project Description:
Nepal is considered at high risk due to its location to the global “hotspots” for COVID-19 pandemic. Reaching communities across Nepal with critical information on personal hygiene is crucial as improving, reinforcing and sustaining long-term good hygiene practices such as handwashing with soap is the only measures to break the transmission of COVID-19.

UNICEF being a Nepal Governments’ co-lead agency in WASH sector is working closely with the government stakeholders in providing technical support for preparedness and response. In respect to COVID-19 preparedness and response, UNICEF in partnership with ENPHO has mobilized its capacities to address the needs of WASH in hub hospitals identified by Nepal Government.

The program focuses on immediate preparedness and response needs for COVID-19 in regards to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. The program supports in strengthening WASH facilities and services at hub hospitals to ensure the continuation of essential WASH services (drinking water supply, sanitation and handwashing) in the time of emergency. Similarly, it supports for information and communication activities to raise awareness, knowledge and understanding among general population about the risk and potential impact of the pandemic, including social distancing measures, health promotion, social mobilization, stakeholder engagement and community engagement.

Project Outputs:
- Conducted WASH Assessment in seven hospitals which included Bir Hospital, Bhaktapur Hospital, Civil Hospital, Armed Police Hospital, Patan Hospital, Teku Hospital and Dhulikhel Hospital to know the existing WASH situation in the HCF.
- Oriented 69 staffs from UNICEF local partner organization on WASH and COVID-19 using virtual platform.
▪ Oriented 89 Sanitation workers on WASH & COVID-19 including IPC which included Fecal Sludge Operators, Private Tanker Operators and Solid Waste Collectors. Overall, 89 service providers were oriented.
▪ Trained 38 hospital staffs on WASH and IPC emphasizing on importance of disinfecting techniques and personal safety.
▪ Developed WASH and COVID-19 Orientation Packages targeting Partner organization staffs and service providers
▪ Organized orientation on COVID-19 and WASH in Health Care Facility
▪ Delivered WASH materials in hospitals as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WASH Materials</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Hospitals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handwashing Station</td>
<td>1 nos</td>
<td>Bir Hospital, Bhaktapur Hospital, Dhulikhel Hospital, Civil Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 nos</td>
<td>Armed Police Hospital (APF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand Sanitizer Stand</td>
<td>4 pcs</td>
<td>Bir Hospital and Bhaktapur Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 pcs</td>
<td>Civil Hospital and Dhulikhel Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 pcs</td>
<td>Armed Police Hospital (APF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand Sanitizer</td>
<td>100 pcs</td>
<td>Armed Police Hospital (APF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste bin</td>
<td>200 pcs</td>
<td>Armed Police Hospital (APF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedal Operated Handwashing Station</td>
<td>5 nos</td>
<td>Bhaktapur Hospital and Civil Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1% Chlorine</td>
<td>50 Liter</td>
<td>Armed Police Hospital (APF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Major Achievements:**
▪ Information sharing and awareness raising on COVID-19 through Video message, posters, and information boards/forex.
▪ Ensuring proper WASH services at health care centers providing the supplies and improvements based on need assessment.
▪ Capacity building of own staff, service providers/implementing partner at federal/provincial/local level through online orientation
▪ Knowledge Management through development of training manuals, orientation packages and documentation.

**Beneficiaries:**

334573 people reached