

Report of CCM Oversight Site visits in Khentii, Dornod aimag

Date: October 25-28, 2017

Covered areas:

Khentii province

- Health Department officials of Khentii aimag
- STI cabinet, VCT center
- TB grant
- MATA
- MAFMS

Dornod province

- Health Department officials in Selenge aimag
- STI cabinet, VCT center
- TB grant
- MATA
- MAFMS
- “LEOS” NGO (Sub-Recipient)

Team members:

1. CCM Member B.Puntsag
2. CCM secretariat L.Nomin-Erdene
3. KAP representative N.Tamir
4. Human Right Commission Referent G.Zolzaya

Purpose/objective:

Purpose was to evaluate the efficiency and operational concerns (implementation, technical, administrative, financial), as well as the project's effectiveness, outcome, and impact. Finally, the project's relevance to local needs and priorities and the project's sustainability was also evaluated. The evaluation team was also asked to provide recommendations for the remaining time of the project and consider what parts of the project that may be useful for other organizations.

Methodology:

The evaluation team reviewed reference documents and Information, Education & Communication materials, interviewed key informants, arranged group discussions, invited caregivers to answer questionnaires, visited and observed project sites, and had informal discussions with individuals.

Health Department officials of Khentii province

People met:

1. Department of Health Director of Khentii province Ts.Gerelmaa

2. Head of Management Department of the Health Department, D.Naranmichid,
3. STI cabinet doctor N.Erdenetsatsral
4. TB ward doctor Erdenebileg

General conditions:

The population of 68100 settled in 17 baghs. 71.8% are the youth between 0-35 years old and 36.6% of total population lives in countryside.

The distance between Khentii province and capital city of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia has 330 km, and Russia is bordered to the north, with the other bordered side being Dornod, Sukhbaatar, and Dornogobi, Tuv and Selenge provinces.

Health:

The Khentii's General Hospital moved to its new building in June 2017. Khentii aimag has the highest TB incidence in country, and is continually improving its diagnosis and treatment.

COMMENTS:

1. Providing portable X-ray devices to inter-sum hospitals will have a significant effect on their performance.
2. Bor-Undur soum has a high population density and movement, so it is necessary to have X-ray equipment.
3. Training for health care professionals and medical trainees to build resilient Human Resource.

Condoms and handouts supplied from the GF but decreased from the previous years. Because of the well-developed infrastructure, people need to access sufficient quantities of printed materials. Sample shipments are effective.

STI cabinet, VCT center

Persons met:

1. STI cabinet doctor N.Erdenetsatsral,
2. STI nurse Erdenetuya

FINANCE: Funding is not received as cash.



PROCUREMENT: Condoms and medical reagent supplied from the GF but decreased from the previous years. Medical reagents are ordered from “Mongol Em-Impex” a quarterly preparation and received within a week. Reagent supply is not enough for all patients. There are 24 pieces of CEPIXIN have left in stock, which will be expired in November. Hence we are planned to use that before the expiry date.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: We provide services, people who diagnosed STIs. VCT performances are good. The implementation of the Global Fund is good.

Greater workload because of 1 doctor and 1 nurse serving for patients. In addition, one doctor is currently studying for STI course, and a year after completion of the course she would probably work in with us. The ILIZA apparatus was supplied earlier, but there was no laboratory near the cabinet. In the year 2017, syphilis was higher than in the previous year, and 37 new syphilis were detected and 2 syphilis were born still.

As of September 2017 total examination held for 11218 people and increased 4.9% compared to previous year.

In 2017, preventive testing has been conducted to target the vulnerable group. In adolescence students and students from Kherlen soum and rural areas’ 1750 students were trained to prevent HIV/STIs and 892 pupils and 982 students were screened STIs and 5 syphilis were detected and treated.

In addition, HIV/STI screening is successfully implemented in the province. At present, 3500 risky people are being conducted by rapid tests and confirmed positive tests are performed.

- Within the framework of the Governor's Action Plan, 18 soums are divided into 4 sectors and currently are being conducted in 2 soums. A total of 4215 people were screened.

- In addition, military training and screening has been conducted for over 600 military aged people.
- “Red Ribbon” VCT is continuously conducted training, and as of October 2017, 307 volunteers have been consulted and tested.

In February 2017, ‘Hope’ call service was established under the Health and Safety Department.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. The project is reaching its targets and Murun and Kherlen soums have a high level of illness.

REPORT: Project reporting is done on a monthly basis.

COMMENTS:

1. Human resources need to be systematically educated and staffed.
2. At the province level, STI morbidity is more prevalent among 15-44 year-olds, so it is important to intensify their activities.

CCM RECCOMANDATION:

1. In order to increase awareness of STIs among 15-44 year olds, DOH’s STI Centers will need to set up Facebook account and providing information that is brief and inconvenient to the people and increase people’s participation in all aspects.

TB project

Person met:

1. Regulatory doctor Erdenebileg
2. Laboratory of Integrated TB Laboratory A.Oyunchimeg

FINANCE: Funding has not received as cash.

PROCUREMENT: Medical reagents are ordered from Mongol Em-Impex a quarterly preparation. No obstacles occurred to implement.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: Collaborating and counseling the prevention and treatment of the Family and Soum Health Centers. Work is conducted according to tripartite cooperation agreement on the soum’s governor and TB center. Cooperation with the MATA is an effective way to reach the purpose. Therefore, serving in the same cabinet, sharing mutual offers and recommendations. When tuberculosis is detected, we take action to treat. The CCM representatives criticized the fact that the Laboratory Equipment of Bor-Undur soum of Khentii aimag were fully supplied, where equipment was not installed and the operation was not started.



PROJECT RESULT: Currently, 72 cases of tuberculosis were monitored
New Case-61 of which:

- Active tuberculosis-29,
- Pulmonary Tuberculosis-32
- Pulmonary positive tuberculosis-20,
- Lung smear negative 9 - relapse-8
- Other 3 was treated with tuberculosis treatment.
- Also 6 cases of multidrug resistant tuberculosis treated with 3-Pulmonary positive tuberculosis and 3 non-lung tuberculosis respectively. In 2017, a total of 169 samples were transported from all soums and 5 Lung Tuberculosis were treated.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely.

COMMENTS:

- Having a mobile X-ray equipment, influences to improve the quality of detection and treatment.
- Requested to seek ways to issue incentives based on increased laboratory load due to the ongoing operation of specimens' transportation since June 2017.

Mongolia Tuberculosis Association

Person met:

MATA coordinator Altanzul



FINANCE: After the financial statements are sent at the end of the month, the next month's funding is unobstructed.

PROCUREMENT: Medical reagent supplied from the GF, but decreased from the previous years. Medical reagents are ordered from Mongol Em-Impex within 25% reserve in a quarterly and received within a week. No barriers have occurred and medicines were given to patients on timely.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: VCT performances are good. The implementation of the Global Fund project is good. We have 10 volunteers and some of them distribute medicines in soums and others are distributing medicines at door.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Be able to achieve the project goal. No intermission on patients' medicines.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely.

Mongolian Association of Family Medical Science
/MAFMS/

Persons met:

1. MAFMS country chair Tsend
2. Project doctor J.Oyun-Erdene
3. Doctor O.Saihanbileg

FINANCE: Funding has not received as cash.

PROCUREMENT: There are 5 journals for TB detection, diagnostic and treatment information and 3 STIs were supplied. No supplies of pharmaceuticals, reagents, condoms, and promotional materials since last year. The DOH has had supplied a small amount of contraceptive medicines.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: STIs and tuberculosis cases identified and then transferred to the next level of the medical examination. Patients are taking drugs on TB dispensary to prevent social discrimination at Family Health Centers. Doctors and specialists are trained on a regular basis such as 1-2 times annually.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Be able to achieve the project goal.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely and send to MAFMS monthly.

OBSTACLES: The workload is high due to the lack of human resources and inefficient funding for the diagnosis of temporary residents and 8,000 localities. The announcement of the Health work campaign delays the planned activities and affecting the public reputation.

At present, new graduates more likely to work two-year stages and moving to another institution. It contributes to the bad reputation of the Family Health Centers.

COMMENTS:

1. Encourage and cooperate with the Family Health Centers to facilitate access to the people and providing appropriate salary is the way to create human resources with skilled experts. If the salary was enough new graduates' likely to stay and it became the place where they wish to work, thereby improving the reputation of primary care hospitals.
2. Intensify training campaigns for the population.
3. Improve work environment by providing overtime payment.
4. It is time to pay attention to the budget for temporary residents and the budget for a citizen hasn't changed since approved in 2013.
5. To ensure things are in shortage:
 - Promotional materials and publishing manuals /copier, paper/
 - Pressure Apparatus and Stethoscope
 - mask, gloves

CCM SUGGESTIONS: for Khentii province

1. Each sector of the CCM member will further enhance cooperation.
2. It is recommended that concrete plans should be made for how and when GF project will withdraw, and how the partners will take over.

3. Include recommendations for improvement of communication between health authorities and community organizations
4. Pay attention to the sustainability of the organization's human resources

DORNOD province

General condition:

The Dornod province is divided into 14 soums and 64 sub-districts. The population of Dornod province was 75,373 in 2000, while the in 2012 population census decreased to 74.7. More than 55 percent live in Choibalsan. 70% of the population is young and up to 35 years old.

In the province, 11 primary schools have 13285 pupils and 26 kindergartens have 4488 children are educated with over 900 teachers. There are over 1000 students studying in high schools and colleges such as the Dornod Mongolian Institute, Poly-technical College and Vocational Training and Production Center.

In Dornod province, the prevalence of STIs and tuberculosis is relatively high and as the border region has shown that many sex workers have been surveyed.

As the infrastructure is well developed, people need to access sufficient quantities of printed materials.

STI cabinet, VCT center

Persons met:

1. STI Epidemiologist P.Oyunmaa,
2. STI clinic physician B.Delgermaa,
3. Doctor G. Khongorzul
4. Junior physician N. Tsetsegtuya
5. Nurse E. Enkh-Uchal
6. Laborant D.Oyunbileg
7. Doctor of Infectious Disease T. Munkhtuya



General conditions: STI cabinet is operating under General Hospitals. There are 3 doctors, a junior physician, nurse and 1 laborant working.

FINANCE: Funding has not received as cash.

PROCUREMENT: Condoms and medical reagent supplied from the GF but decreased from the previous years. Medical reagents are ordered from Mongol Em-Impex a quarterly. We distribute medicines and condoms to soums. Medicines supplied by the GF are stored separately. This year, NCCD supplied 10 cases of condoms were significantly lower than in previous years.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: VCT performances are good. The implementation of the Global Fund is good.

Since 2014, the "Healthy Blood" campaign has been implemented in province and has been actively investigated among the population over the age of 13 and the treatment took place is in urgent need. Due to lack of teaching certificate, practitioners have been unable to organize health education training since 2013. Syphilis detection is high, there is a great need for the children to have the knowledge and information.

Cooperation with "LEOS" NGO to regularly participate in training and advocacy activities aimed at target group and children and providing health knowledge and information.

A total of 8 new AIDS cases have been registered before 2013, and three deaths have been reported. In the coming years, people with AIDS are formally registering at STI cabinet.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Be able to achieve the project goal.

- 658 students from 9-12 grades of high school were screened and 2 STI cases detected, therefor received our treatments.
- Voluntary medical examination of 356 people detected in 20 soums and treated 13 STI cases.
- 8 syphilis cases out of 989 soldiers were detected from Military army serological analysis. Health treatments provided for them.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely. A medical report is done semi-annually.

COMMENTS:

- Lack of human resources in laboratory testing
- Enhance STI prevention among the population.
- Improve infection control
- Focus on improving condom supply in the future

CCM RECCOMANDATION: Capacity building for Family Health Centers needed in order to equitably distribute workloads.

TB project

Persons met:

1. Regulatory doctor Adiyanyam
2. Officer in charge of Medicine Ch.Altannavch
3. Doctor M.Oyuntuya
4. Laborant M.Bayarsaikhan
5. Laborant T.Oyunjargal

FINANCE: Funding has not received as cash.

PROCUREMENT: Received GENEXPERT by TB project in 2016. Medical reagent supplied from the GF but decreased from the previous years. Have a portable quartz brackets. Medical reagents are ordered from Mongol Em-Impex for 3-6 months reserve.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: Patients Sample analysis by GENEXPERT in its own soums and the neighboring soums. In 2017, a total of 250 samples were analyzed. The implementation of the Global Fund project is good. Distribute drugs to localities for 3-6 months reserve. Medicine distributed to HIV diagnosed patients in order to prevent TB infection. Management support is good. Co-operation with MATA is efficient in order to get advice and support.

VCT Centers are good. The implementation of the Global Fund is good. The discovery of the MDR TBs is getting stronger.



4 doctors, 1 vaccinator, 1 bacteriologist, 9 nurses, 2 laboratories, and a total of 23 staffs have a positive impact on reducing workload.

There are 35 beds with TB and 5 beds with MDR TB ward. TB unit has been ventilated but MDR TB unit has not been ventilated which is affecting workers' health.

They started the necessary preparations for the new TB dispensary.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Being able to achieve the project goal.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely.

COMMENTS:

- TB unit's isolation required for further development
- MDR TB ward needs to be ventilated.

CCM RECOMMENDATION: Improve the protection of physicians and medical staff, and seek opportunities for future ventilation in all departments.

Mongolia Tuberculosis Association / MATA /

Persons met:

1. MATA coordinator Uranbileg in Dornod province



FINANCE: Funding receives on a monthly basis.

PROCUREMENT: Medical reagents are ordered from Mongol Em-Impex for 4 months reserve. Reagents and medicines have not delayed to receive.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: VCT performances are good. The implementation of the Global Fund is good. There are seven activists working in Aimags, Bayan-uul and Chuluun-Uul soums have 2 volunteers. 2-4 patients per volunteer and reaching a total of 21 patients. There are five health volunteers. MATA has closely collaborate with the TB department.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Be able to achieve the project goal.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely.

COMMENT: Occasionally, patients with MDR-TB require medicines at door and in this case no incentives can be given to those who visit them. Therefore, they need to have proper incentives.

**Mongolian Association of Family Medical Science
/MAFMS/**

"Yagaan Tseene" Family Health Center

Persons met:

1. MAFMS country chair Saruul
2. Doctor Sh.Gantugs

3. Doctor O.Saikhanbileg
4. Nurse D.Gantulga
5. Representative of “Asralt-Uils” Family Health Center, Damdinlkhagva

FINANCE: Funding has not received as cash.

PROCUREMENT: There are 5 journals for TB detection, diagnostic and treatment information and 3 STIs were supplied. No supplies of pharmaceuticals, reagents, condoms, and promotional materials since last year. The “LEOS” NGO supplied 2 cases of condoms which was not sufficient.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: STIs and tuberculosis cases identified and then transferred to the next level of the medical examination. Patients are taking drugs on TB dispensary to prevent social discrimination at Family Health Centers. Doctors and specialists are trained on a regular basis annually.



PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Be able to achieve the project goal.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely and send to MAFMS monthly.

OBSTACLES: The workload is high due to the lack of human resources and inefficient funding for the diagnosis of temporary residents and localities. The announcement of the Health work campaign delays the planned activities and affecting the public reputation.

At present, new graduates more likely to work two-year stages and moving to another institution. It contributes to the bad reputation of the Mongolian Association of Family Medical Science.

COMMENTS:

1. Encourage and cooperate the Family Health Centers to facilitate access to the people and pay the appropriate salary is the way to create human resources with skilled experts.
2. Family Health Centers' becoming a new graduates' transit place. However, they wanted to build a skilled human resource for steady work to stabilize their activities and strengthen the possibility of diagnosing and treating any disease.
3. In order to implement the above work, doctors will always be involved in comprehensive training and will continue to improve their professional skills.
4. Surveillance among all residents should be conducted once in a year
5. Intensify training campaigns to the population.
6. It is time to pay attention to the budget for temporary residents has not been issued and the budget for a single citizen hasn't changed since approved in 2013.
7. Increase the supply of condoms, gloves, cotton, and bedding
8. Promotional materials required.

CCM RECOMMENDATION:

1. In order to increase awareness of STIs among 15-44 year olds, Health Centers will need to set up Facebook account and providing information that is brief and inconvenient to the people and increase people's participation in all aspects.
2. In order to reach out to citizens, the public service to be respected and maintained will increase the interest of citizens to come to have service.
3. In addition to the communication and attitudes of doctors and medical staffs in Family Health Centers, necessary to participate training on keeping personal secrets and human rights' issues.

“LEOS” NGO (Sub-Recipient)

Persons met:

1. The project manager, D.Bujin,
2. Social Worker B.Badamkhand
3. Outreach worker Ch.Solongo
4. Outreach worker E.Unurtsetseg
5. Outreach worker G.Gantsetseg,
6. Outreach worker E.Tuyamaa

FINANCE: Funding receives on a monthly basis.

PROCUREMENT: No barriers. Since the 2nd quarter of 2015, we have been provided with kits, medicines, and handouts.



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: VCT performances are good. The implementation of the Global Fund is good. Health Department, Aimag and Soum Governors' cooperation is efficient. Since 2009, we have 4 employees. There have been 10 new cases of syphilis since 2016. 128 syphilis were fully treated out of all 235 cases. Inflammatory illnesses are good for the general public. Within the cooperation of Asralt-Uils Family Health Center, 115 people were consulted and analyzed, and 10% of them had been treated for illness.

- Conducting 1 group discussion and 1 hidden event in each quarter.
- Prevention, training and counseling in HIV and STIs for vulnerable groups, including commercial sex workers, traders, bar and hotel workers, army personnel, prisoners, students, migrant workers and traveling traders, especially truck drivers and miners
- Training program on STIs and HIV, as well as awareness and prevention training for community leaders
- Within the framework of the project, activities aimed to build healthy population, increasing the use of condoms and providing information are being made in a timely manner.

The project's communication cost of 70,000 MN₮ was awarded to the doctors as a bonus and enabled the work to be performed.

PROJECT RESULT: Programs are intensively targeting vulnerable groups. Being able to achieve the project goal. Sex workers repeatedly affected by STIs, hence would like to organize training for behavioral change.

REPORT: Project reporting is done timely.

COMMENTS:

1. Want to write a project on gender equality.
2. Want to improve communication with young people
3. Improve the targeting of vulnerable girls
4. Get a guidance on violence
5. Outreach workers to participate in psychological training to support others
6. Sex Workers request for Life skills training.

CCM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Representatives of the NHRC provided the condition to collaborate with the expert of legal assistance in the field of violence.
2. Provided other methodological advice to further improve the implementation of the project and to seek opportunities to learn from foreign countries.

CCM SUGGESTIONS: for Dornod province

1. Each sector of the CCM member will further enhance cooperation.
2. Include recommendations for improvement of communication between health authorities and community organizations
3. Pay attention to the sustainability of the organization's human resources and their incentives
4. Possibilities of spreading information on the internet or Facebook to be considered.
5. There seems to be a weakness in the cooperation between health authorities and education authorities at the aimag level. The project is encouraged to outline the preferred content of the cooperation and continue to make efforts to implement and improve it.
6. The focus on health education in formal schools has resulted in a national initiative for developing a new health education curriculum for the whole primary education system in Mongolia. The structure to work with trained teachers that are training other teachers means that the implementation of the transferred knowledge will go on in a sustainable way with a minimum use of resources. Also, the focus on caregivers and children shows a good result in their knowledge and changes of behavior and attitude to health issues.

Key findings of the site visit:

The activities in the plan for 2015 till 2017 are implemented and monitored according to plan. Statistics show that the project succeeded in its goal.

The improved knowledge and skills of health workers, the improved equipment, and the use of proper information materials.

The activities of running Health Information and Training Centers, training of beneficiaries, development and reprinting of simple material, running of training rooms,

organizing post-graduate training for health care providers and staff and the development of local health programs are fully or partly implemented by local institutions.

The materials used for communication with caregivers and vulnerable groups are good examples for other organizations that want to change the attitude and behavior of citizens regarding health prevention and health care.

The unique approach focusing on all aspects of health prevention and health care and to involve healthcare workers as well as caregivers in a whole Dornod aimag is also worth sharing with other organizations.

The current success is influenced by this unique approach, which is effective and one of the bases for sustainability.

Prepared by: L.Nomin-Erdene /CCM Secretariat assistant/

Reviewed by: B.Puntsag /CCM Oversight Committee member/