

Programme Update on CAH in Kerala

Background

NRHM has completed its first phase in the country in 2012. The state had planned to have social audit as part of the Community Action for Health (CAH) in Kerala to scan the performance of the NRHM programmes through public participation. It had twin purposes: (i) create awareness among the community on the various health services; and (ii) bring in necessary improvements based on social audit findings.

In the 9th Governing Body meeting held on October 16, 2012, the state decided to conduct social audit on NRHM programmes on a pilot mode in one PHC sub-centre in 4 selected districts across the state covering 4 PHC sub-centres. Centre for Management Development (CMD), an autonomous institute of Government of Kerala, was assigned the task.

Activities undertaken during 2014-16

In the RoP 2014-15, an amount of Rs. 23 lakhs were sanctioned for the implementation of CAH. Key activities undertaken were:

- **Regional Workshops**

The state had conducted regional workshops and developed a pool of master trainers including district medical officers (DMOs), district programme managers (DPMs), consultants, nodal officer in charge of the district, mass media officers, medical officers in charge of the community health centres (CHCs), health supervisors, block public relation officers (PROs) and 5 active (nominated by CMO/DPM) representatives from the districts. These trainers further organised block level workshops on CAH for people representatives, health functionaries and the community.

- **Social Audit**

The National Health Mission, Kerala in association with Centre for Management Development, Thiruvananthapuram conducted social audits as part of CAH in sub-centre of PHCs in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Palakkad and Thrichur districts.

- **Social Audit in Pantha Sub-Centre, Thiruvananthapuram**

Social audit of Pantha sub-centre, Kallikkad, Thiruvanthapuram district was completed with a public hearing at the sub-centre on November 27, 2014. Given this experience the tools were fine-tuned for social audit in the remaining three sub-centres: Kaippattoor in Ernakulam district, Ambalamkavu (Adat) in Thrissur district and Ezumangad in Palakkad district.

- **Strengthening of Ward Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (WHSNCs)**

The state NHM organised a convergent meeting with support from various line departments including health service department, community medicine department of medical college, suchitwa mission, local self-government department (LSGD), social justice, education department and Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) to strengthen functioning of WHSNCs. Subsequently, a meeting was convened by the Chief Minister of the state in September 2014 to discuss on restraining pre-monsoon diseases, which was attended by the Minister for Health, LSGDs, Social Justice and heads of related departments, and presidents of district/ block/ grama panchayats. The Chief Minister declared Rs 10,000/- from Suchitwa Mission and Rs 5,000/- from LSGD plan resources to strengthen the activities of WHSNCs in addition to the NRHM fund. The Suchitwa Mission is also providing Rs 20,000/- to the wards of municipalities and corporations. Further, the government issued permissive sanction to all PRIs for allocating Rs 5,000/- to all wards of Grama Panchayat to strengthen WHSNCs. A total amount of Rs. 25,000/- was made available from the untied fund to all 19,255 wards of grama panchayat/ municipality/ corporations to implement pre-monsoon control measures effectively and prevent epidemic diseases.

WHSNC Fund details from different sources

For one ward (In Rs)			
NHM	Suchitwa Mission	LSGD	TOTAL
10,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	25,000.00

Activities Undertaken during 2016-19

CAH guidelines were included in the Arogyakeralam Puraskaram which is an annual award to the local self-governments for the best performing public health facilities from each district by the state government. In the award, inputs from the community on the performance of public health facilities were included. Field visits were undertaken to understand the process of feedback collection from the



TOT progress in Trivandrum (March 6-8, 2018)

district hospitals as per the guidelines of CAH.

19,489 wards were there under the LSGs and two volunteers from each ward were developed to manage the activities of WHSNCs, who were also trained on CAH.

Two state level Training of Trainers (ToTs) were organised on CAH in 2018 in Trivandrum and Ernakulam, respectively where district health in-charges, district ASHA coordinators, palliative coordinators and public relation officers from all 14 districts participated.

PIP Proposed Vs Approval for Community Action for Health

SI No	Year	Budget proposed (in Lakhs)	Budget approved (in Lakhs)	Activities approved
1.	2015-16	19.5	19.5	3 districts namely Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam and Alappuzha, 9 Blocks and 18 PHCs. Key activities: 1) State level orientation workshop, 2) 6 regional workshops covering 14 districts, 3) 112 block workshops and activate 112 WHSNCs, 4) pilot study on activation of WHSNCs in Kallikkad, and 5) SAGCA notification received on 2/9/14.
2.	2016-17	728.65	420.47	Activities approved: a) Action plans at state/district levels b) Comprehensive health plan for block level training c) State/District level ToT on CHP d) Arogya Keralam Awards e) Yearly hand-on training at KILA f) CHP special programme lab g) visioning workshops on CAH at the state/district/block level (proposed to scale-up CAH in 14 districts) h) Data collection and i) documentation and report writing.
3.	2017-18	17.1	4.92	Activities approved: a) Developing health action plan at State @ Rs. 0.90 Lakh, health action plan at district @ Rs. 1.86 lakhs; b) Rs. 1 lakh for state level workshop and Rs. 2.97 and Rs. 0.95 for district and block level workshops respectively.
4.	2018-19	41.00	41.00	Activities approved: State, district and block orientations to integrate CAH approach in Arogya Keralam Puraskaram.

5.	2019-20	305.37	305.37	Activities approved: (a) organisation of CAH activities (Rs 41 lakhs); (b) PRI sensitization training (Rs 8.40 lakhs); and (c) selection of Gram Panchayats for awards (Rs 255.97 lakhs).
	Total	1,111.62	791.26	

Activities undertaken during 2019-20

The CAH process with support from NUHM Kerala has been initiated in urban areas across all 14 districts in the state. Two regional ToTs were organised at Kollam and Calicut districts on November 14-15, 2019 and November 27-28, 2019, respectively. 78 participants comprising district urban coordinators, district ASHA coordinators, one ANM from each U-PHC, district LHVs and junior public health nurse (JPHN) participated. The third regional ToT planned on February 12-13, 2020 in Trissur district had to be cancelled due to the outbreak of corona case in Kodungallur block of Trissur district. The trained participants reorganized the MAS members in their areas and they along with MAS members organised meetings with communities and sensitized them not only on CAH processes but played a significant role in creating awareness on covid-19 in urban areas.
