Agenda Item 4: Bangladesh


1515-1600 (Conference Room – 2)

In Bangladesh, the first HIV case was detected in 1989, since then HIV prevalence remains <0.01% among the general population and 3.9% among all Key Populations (KPs) as per 2015-2016 surveillance. HIV prevalence has crossed 5% in male and female People who Inject Drug (PWID) in Dhaka, with 22% HIV prevalence in Dhaka city. Thus, Bangladesh cannot be categorized as a low HIV prevalence country for KPs, rather it has reached to a "concentrated" HIV epidemic. Estimated number of People Living with HIV is about 13,000 as of 2017 and cumulative identified cases 5586 (M-3781, F-1805), cumulative death 924 (M-686, F-238) and alive 4662 (M-3095, F-1567) among the identified cases 3265 are in Anti-retroviral (ARV) treatment as of August, 2018. National AIDS/STD Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) is the national body of the government is responsible for oversee, implementation, coordination, monitoring and policy support for the national response. Currently, The Global Fund is supporting to prevent HIV among the key population is the country through two principal recipients.

As per Asia Pacific Regional Framework for action on HIV and AIDS beyond 2015 few significant achievement described below in Bangladesh context;

Pillar 1: Continuing national reviews and multi-sectoral consultations on legal and policy barriers

-A total of six laws were reviewed and the recommendations were sent by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to the National Law Commission (Ministry of Law.

-A draft Anti-discriminatory Act has been developed and is in next level to processes with the National Human Rights Commission.

-These processes were jointly facilitated by the AIDS/STD Programme, National Human Rights Commission and UNAIDS through the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC).

Current Status of Law Review

Policy changes are pending as further work with the National Law Commission and the Security Services Division to review the technical issues of the recommendations on 6 laws and policies from their end and develop overall suggestions on behalf of the National Law Commission will be needed.

Milestone: On 16.03. 2017, (the Deputy Commissioner of Police in Dhaka, sent a formal memo to all the police stations of Dhaka to ensure that the HIV prevention program is not affected in case of providing services to the people who inject drugs.

Pillar 2: National stakeholder consultations to promote access to affordable medicines, diagnostics and vaccines

-The ARV drugs are providing by government free of cost since 2012. Within the government health system, which has increased cost efficiency since management costs previously allocated to Community Support Organizations (CSOs) is now not required. Within the government system drug adherence is well maintained
-6 ART centers were established in October, 2017 across the country based on geographical presence of the People Living with HIV (PLHIV) to ensure door step services

-To increase the case detection diagnostic/lab facilities expanded in 23 districts government hospital recently. ASP also planning to ensure viral load testing using GeneXpert machine through 6 ART center

Situation: About 84% identified PLHIV enrolled into ART services as of August, 2018 Report.

Milestone: Expanded HIV testing services in 23 priority district of the country

**Pillar 3: Evidence-based national HIV investment cases and sustainability plans**

- Based on the investment case report, ASP prioritized the district where HIV programme need to be conducted

- Key Population programs are emphasizing its intervention in the 23 prioritized districts

For sustainability of the program ASP established its ART and HTC center in the government facility where additional cost is not required

- KP coverage is low in the country yet, that need to be increased

Situation: 6 ART centers and 23 HTC center has been mainstreamed in the government health system.

Fast Track Strategy of the UNITED NATIONS: 90-90-90 treatment targets by 2020 end AIDS by 2030

The government of Bangladesh is committed to achieve fast track strategy that includes 90% (of people-living with HIV will know their HIV status) 90% (of people living with who know their status is on treatment) 90% (of people on treatment are virally suppressed).

Thank you all!