Bangladesh Country Coordinating Mechanism (BCCM)
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Report of Oversight Visit to BRAC on TB Programme

Visit site : BRAC Office, Mohakhali, Dhaka
Date : 03 August 2015
Time : 10.00 am to 1.00 pm
Programme : TB

Visiting Team Members:

- Ms. Roxana Quader,Additional Secretary (PH&WHO) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Chairperson, Oversight Committee (Programme Specialist)
- Ms. Meaghan Byers, First Secretary of Canadian High Commission & Members Oversight Committee (Procurement specialist)
- Professor MA Faiz, Former Director General, DGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Malaria Expert, Member, Oversight Committee
- Mr. Khalilur Rahaman, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (Programme Specialist)
- Dr. Sukumar Sarker, Sr. Policy Adviser, USAID Bangladesh (Procurement specialist)
- Mr. Abu Sayeed, Team Leader, GMS, USA
- Dr. Zahedul Islam, Country Director SIAPS (procurement specialist)
- Dr. Saima Khan, Strategic Information Adviser, UNAIDS Bangladesh
- Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas, BCCM Coordinator, BCCM Secretariat
- Mr. Sk. Md. Rajab Ali, Monitoring Officer, BCCM Secretariat

PRs Representatives

- Dr. Akramul Islam, Director, TB & Malaria Programme, BRAC
- Dr. Moktadir Kabir, Senior Sector Specialist, BRAC
- Dr. Shayla, Islam Sr. Programme Manager, TB Programme, BRAC

Visit Activities Report:

The BCCM oversight team visited their Principal Recipient BRAC office on 03rd August, 2015 as their regular oversight Programme.

During the visit, the oversight team was split into three groups namely; (a) Procurement (b) Financial and (c) Programme and Management to oversee three areas of activities of the Principal Recipient office.

At the outset BRAC official Dr. Shayla Islam made a presentation on TB Programme to the oversight team. In the presentation BRAC TB Programme highlighted the past and present situation of their Programme.

Back Ground Information of the Organization:

- Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) is working as one of the Principal Recipients of GFATM and works on TB Programme.
- **Role in the Grants: Principal Recipient (PR)**

a) SRs management
b) Quality diagnosis and ensure DOT at community level
c) Community mobilization
d) Training and orientation with different focus group at different level
e) Living support to client/ target population (LSCTP)
f) Monitoring and supervision
g) Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) on prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis

- **Grant details (round or type, disease) :**

a) Round 3 – Tuberculosis
b) Round 5 – Tuberculosis
c) Round 8 (Phase I) – Tuberculosis
d) Round 10 Proposal consolidated with round 8– Tuberculosis
e) New Funding Model (NFM) – TB

- **PR of each relevant grant :** BRAC
- **Grant start date and start date of visitor's activities for each grant:**

a) Round 3 – 01 August 2004
b) Round 5 – 01 May 2006
c) Round 8 (Phase I) – 01 October 2009
d) Round 10 (consolidated with round 8) – 01 July 2011
e) New Funding Model (NFM) – 01 July 2015

- **Global Fund budget for each grant:**

a) Round 3 – 26,743,146 USD
b) Round 5 – 22,286,015 USD
c) Round 8 (Phase I) – 1,722,979 USD
d) Round 10 (consolidated with round 8) – USD 689,38,973
e) New Funding Model (NFM) – 41,812,692 USD

Findings of Site visit

• The BRAC is located at Mohakhali. Dhaka,
•TB report was sent CCM on 28 May 2015 for CCM dashboard
•BRAC received disbursement amount in USD: 2,406,335 on May 07, 2015 from the GFATM
• They still have USD 722,654 as on 30th June 2015 for further activities.

Findings of the Procurement & Supply Management:

• BRAC received 2nd quarter, 2015 drugs with logistics from NTP dated on 05/05/2015 up to 25/05/2015 for delivering at the field level and consumable kits with sputum pot on 25/05/2015 up to 09/07/2015 accordingly.

- BRAC prepared drug requisition on the basis of patient under DOTS and they ordered it to 02/08 2015
- They have no stock out problems
- SRs are taking drugs and supplies by themselves, but in case of urban SRs (Chittagong and Khulna) taking their medicine for convenience through BRAC

Findings of the Programme & Management team:

- BRAC has received the SR reports on time.
- They have not hired the staff as planned in the Global Fund project
- There is evidence of harmonization of Global Fund activities with the other activities of the site.
- The management letter from GF identified an issue of medical products insurance and BRAC is working to ensure the insurance.

Findings of the Performance & results:

- The performance results of BRAC is quite satisfactory as they have achieved their targets and indicators.
- The estimated number of MDR TB cases in Bangladesh is 4200 and BRAC is covering 600.
- After 6 months of treatment, microscopy is conducted to assess if one is cured.
- There is still a gap in the identification of child TB cases.
- BRAC only provides orientation to health service providers. It could not be confirmed if the health service providers were trained from other funding sources.

General impressions and issues to be addressed by the CCM:

There was a suggestion to collaborate with other key stakeholders in the TB implementation i.e USAID funded project Challenge TB and SIAPS on technical assistance to NTP. A collaboration meeting was planned for allocating optimum resources considering all stakeholders.

Recommendations:

- All Government and private Medical Colleges across the country should have DOTS corner
- All major Jails should have DOTS Centre.
- Progress of TB as a notifiable diseases
- There was a suggestion to collaborate with other key stakeholders in the TB implementation ie USAID funded project Challenge TB and SIAPS on technical assistance to NTP. A collaboration meeting was planned for allocating optimum resources considering all stakeholders.
- It was noted during discussions that Rapid Test Kits (RTKs) were last provided by FHI360 and the supply will probably end prior to September, 2015. Till now no steps have been taken to ensure a continued supply of RTKs. It was suggested that issue be raised with the Global Fund as soon as possible

Report of Oversight Visit to BRAC on Malaria Programme

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At the outset BRAC officials Dr. Moktadir made a presentations on Malaria Programme to the oversight team. In the presentation BRAC Malaria Programme highlighted the past and present situation of their Programme.

Back Ground Information of the Organization:

- Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) who works one Malaria Programme, is one of the Principal Recipients of GFATM.
- **Role in the Grants: Principal Recipient (PR)**

a) SRs management
b) Quality diagnosis and effected treatment at community level
c) LLIN distribution and net treatment
d) Refer sever malaria patient, pregnant women, <5yr children to govt. health facilities.
e) Provide training to deferent level staff
f) Monitoring and supervision
g) Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) on prevention and treatment of malaria

- **Grant details (round or type, disease) :**
  - Round 6 – Malaria
  - Round 9 – Malaria
  - New Funding Model (NFM) – Malaria

- **PR of each relevant grant : BRAC**
  - Grant start date and start date of visitor's activities for each grant Round 3 – 01 August 2004
  - Round 6 – 01 May 2007
  - Round 9 – 01 July 2010
  - NFM – 01 July 2015

- **Global Budget for each Grants:**

a) Round 6 – USD 10.72 million
b) Round 9 – USD 16.4 million
c) NFM – USD: 9.61 million

Findings of Site visit

- The BRAC is located at Mohakhali. Dhaka,
- Malaria report was sent to CCM on 28 May 2015 for CCM dashboard
- BRAC received disbursement amount in Amount in USD 788,147 on May 07, 2015 from GFATM
- They still have Fund Balance Amount in USD : 115,496 (PR & SRs) for the further activities.

Findings of the Procurement & Supply Management:

- BRAC has received ACT in March 2015 and RDT in July 2015 at regional warehouses from district reserve stores (DRS) of Govt.
- There is a PSM working group comprised of members from GO and NGO PRs which periodically meet and determine allocation of drugs and other supplies.
- There is no stock out at warehouse. BRAC does not receive drugs in central warehouse at Dhaka. BRAC receives drugs from district reserve store (DRS) of Govt.

- Yes. SRs receive drugs from BRAC regional warehouse.
- (LLIN had a shortage last year and the order will be placed earlier this year. Due to the pool procurement conducted through GF sometime it is not always easy to get the order supplied on time and the demand for bed nets are increasing globally each year. Order for next year consumption needs to be placed well ahead to avoid further stock outs.)

Findings of the Programme & Management team:

- BRAC has received the SR reports on time.
- They have hired the staff as planned in the Global Fund project
- There is evidence of harmonization of Global Fund activities with the other activities of the site
- They have achieved their targets.

Findings of the Performance & results:

The performance results of BRAC Malaria is quite satisfactory as they have achieved their targets and indicators.

General impressions and issues to be addressed by the CCM

- Generally, there was some discussion on the increased malaria cases during the last year and the possible reasons for the disease burden may be due to shortage of mosquito nets, long monsoon, bed nets using habits however, no further analysis was done to validate these assumptions. Suggestion was made to utilize optimum vector control as a prevention method in the selected households..

Recommendations:

- NMCP should revisit the Malaria National strategic Plan 2015-2020 considering the huge upsurge in 2014
- There is a transition plan for Sylhet. It was requested that the plan should be shared
- Tracking malaria by recording headcounts system needs to be established.

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(Roxana Quader)
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Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
&
Chairperson, Oversight Committee, BCCM