

Guideline for Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Urban TB Control, Nepal

Background: Several national policies and strategy papers in Nepal have highlighted PPP as major strategy for achieving health goals. Since late 1990s TB control programme had initiated PPP with very good results in TB case detection in Lalitpur district. Various efforts were made to scale up to other part of country, but couldn't get succeed due to lack of appropriate guideline.

Objective: To develop and assess the effectiveness of operational guideline for public private partnership for urban TB control programmes and scaled up to other cities of Nepal.

Methods: The study duration was 3 years with different overlapping phases: guideline development, implementation and evaluation. After a series of discussion among members of previously formed guideline development committee "Operational Guideline for Urban TB Control Programme" was developed. The developed guidelines were tested in Kaski - Pokhara and urban area of Kathmandu district. Record analysis, interview, meeting, discussion and working group mobilization methods were used for monitoring and assessment.

Findings: All together 210 health workers were trained, > 3000 people like volunteers, students were oriented about PPM/ISTC, 13 and 30 DOTS center were newly established and strengthened respectively. The program was scaled up to 5 more districts. As a whole the case finding rate and treatment outcome rate of smear positive case were increased in both piloted and scaled up districts; however the trend was found fluctuating in some districts.

Conclusion: The guideline was found effective and appropriate in implementing public private partnership in urban TB control program. It plays a crucial role in detecting case in urban area; hence it would be better if it would be expanded to the rest of the cities in Nepal with its timely revision and update.

