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## **Quarterly Morbidity & Activity Report**



Vol.I, Issue IV (October-December 2008)

March 2009

(In commemoration of 30 Years of Primary Health Care, Bhutan shares her experiences through the eyes of our Health Workers. The articles are not edited to retain its originality and QMAR will try to bring as many articles as possible in the forthcoming issues.)

#### PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN BHUTAN

(Jit Bdr. Biswa ACO, MRRH)

#### **Country background**

hutan is a country of rolling hills and towering crags with limited patches of

cultivation and little deforestation. It is located in the Himalayan ranges. The Tibetan region of China lies to its north while in the east, south, and west it shares its boundary with the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Sikkim respectively. It covers areas of approximately, 38,394 sq km. rising from the plains of India in the south to formidable heights of 7,500m+ above sea level in the north. 72.5% of the land mass is covered by forest. Geographically, the area is divided into three distinct regions: the Southern Sub-tropical, the Inner Himalayan, and the High Northern Region. The climatic conditions vary greatly within these regions.

The total population of the country is 658,888 with the annual growth rate of 1.3/1000 population. 23.2% of the population is considered below poverty line. The adult literacy rate is 54% and the life expectancy is 66 years. Administratively, the country is divided into 20 Dzongkhags (district) with 205 Gewogs (block). The developmental activities started in Bhutan with the launching of the First Five Year plan in 1961. Ever since then, the developmental growth has been worked on five year plans with the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year plan beginning in July 2008. The guiding development philosophy is Gross National Happiness. As the youngest democratic nation, Bhutan has Druk Phuensum Tshogpa (Bhutan People United Party) with their manifesto of 'Equity and Justice' as the recently elected government.

#### **Health Services**

Buddhist faith and teachings are so intricately interwoven within the fabric of Bhutanese life. Even today people in rural areas resort to ritual and spiritual remedies. Allopathic medicine was first introduced in 1906 when Gongsar Ugyen Wangchuck, the first king laid the foundation with vaccination against smallpox. Traditional medicine is also integrated into the modern health system, offering two different choices for Bhutanese people. Health care is delivered through a four tiered totally integrated system: National, Regional, Dzongkhag hospital serving as referral centers and Basic Health Units encompassing preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative services.

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## **EDITORIAL**

The following constitute the pillars of any sound health system:

Information, Surveillance and Research

Management of Health Services

Human Resources and

Financing

The Quarterly Morbidity and Activity Report publication presents comprehensive data on all health related issues. The data are presented with minimal and or just basic preliminary analyses. It is hoped that the information being provided by the report will be used not only for planning and policy purposes, but also on the performance of the various health programmes. Additionally, the Health Management and Information Section will be printing the Annual Health Bulletin-2009 wherein more comprehensive data for the whole sector for the year 2008 will be available.

The report has the potential to contribute significantly to the national health by promoting evidence based and better informed decision making at all levels and is a useful source for addressing health and allied issues at both the national and the regional levels.

Readers and users of this report are invited to forward their feedback, letters and or comments. Suggestions on further improving the Report are also welcome.

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#### I. Timeliness of the Report

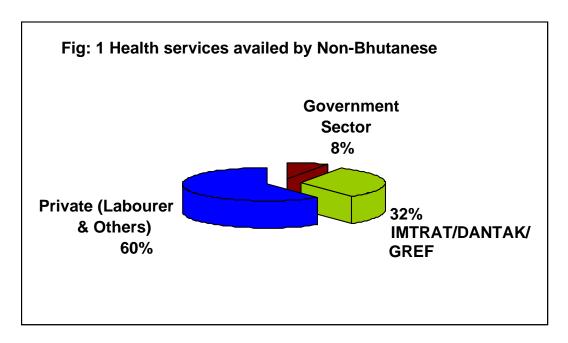
The following descriptive analysis includes only 13 Dzongkhags. As per the policy directives of Health Ministry, all Dzongkhags should have sent the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter data by 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009. However the following Dzongkhags has not sent the data as of 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009:

- 1. Gasa
- 2. Haa
- 3. Lhuentsi
- 4. Samtsi
- 5. Sarpang
- 6. Thimphu
- 7. Tsirang

This report will cover only the data received by Health Management and Information Unit that is namely the morbidity and activity report. There are so many vertical reporting systems and the number varies from district to district. The data of such reporting system are not included as its reliability and consistency is not assessed.

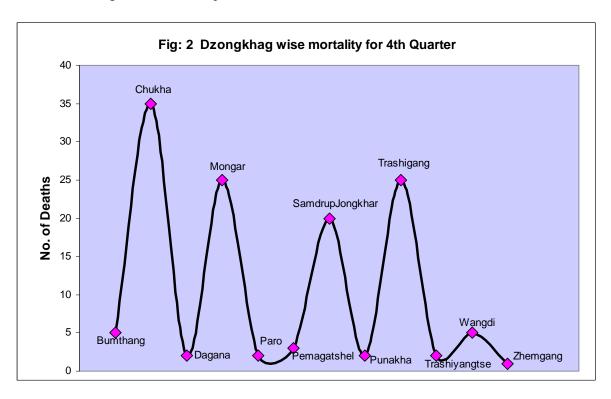
#### II. Health Services availed by Non-Bhutanese

In this quarter the number of Non-Bhutanese who availed health service has decreased to 7306 compared to the last quarter (7,557). Of the 7306 Non-Bhutanese who availed health services, 8% are working in the government organization, 32% are DANTAK/IMTRAT/GREF employees and 60% are working in the private sector.



Note: The figure does not include Non-Bhutanese who would have availed services from BHU.

## III. Hospital Mortality



## IV. Communicable & Non-Communicable Diseases

Table 1: Communicable health problems (October to December 2008)

Dzongkhag	Diarrhea	Dysentery	Diseases Intestinal Worms	Conjunctivitis	Pneumonia
Bumthang	208	62	4	262	49
Chukha	1885	664	711	1223	305
Dagana	424	145	155	242	228
Mongar	495	279	152	799	163
Paro	580	275	128	241	221
Pemagatshel	212	140	75	374	145
Punakha	330	279	92	199	68
Samdrup Jongkhar	488	255	75	420	125
Trashigang	801	477	123	696	249
Trashi Yangtse	268	107	85	227	91
Trongsa	182	103	55	262	37
Wangdi	768	311	119	463	74
Zhemgang	435	91	100	317	94

Table 2: Non-Communicable health problems (October to December 2008)

	Diseases					
Dzongkhag	Hypertension	Alcohol Liver Diseases				
Bumthang	159	12				
Chukha	740	38				
Dagana	95	3				
Mongar	232	29				
Paro	285	8				
Pemagatshel	150	13				
Punakha	68	19				
SamdrupJongkhar	121	24				
Trashigang	352	55				
TrashiYangtse	77	6				
Trongsa	104	11				
Wangdi	221	8				
Zhemgang	134	10				

## V. Nutritional Status of children under 5 who have visited health centres:

Table 3: Nutritional status of children under 5 who have visited health centres (October – December 2008)

		I	Nutritio	nal status			
Dzongkhag	Child Attendance	Normal	%	Over weight	%	Under weight	%
Bumthang	1482	1292	87.18	177	11.94	67	4.52
Chukha	5113	4241	82.95	364	7.12	414	8.10
Dagana	1900	1302	68.53	172	9.05	284	14.95
Mongar	4479	3376	75.37	667	14.89	427	9.53
Paro	2341	1798	76.80	232	9.91	67	2.86
Pemagatshel	2301	1814	78.84	285	12.39	163	7.08
Punakha	1166	1032	88.51	87	7.46	47	4.03
S/Jongkhar	2591	1629	62.87	197	7.60	232	8.95
Trashigang	3484	2814	80.77	294	8.44	514	14.75
T/Yangtse	1629	1219	74.83	200	12.28	196	12.03
Trongsa	894	748	83.67	92	10.29	55	6.15
Wangdi	1984	1704	85.89	150	7.56	130	6.55
Zhemgang	1585	1027	64.79	369	23.28	198	12.49

## VI. Malaria Report

Table 4: Malaria report (October to December 2008)

Variables	0-4 y	ears	5-14 y	years	15- yea		>5 yea	_	To	tal	Grand Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Pf	3	5	15	10	66	19	12	6	96	40	136
Pv	7	3	13	10	79	23	8	5	107	41	148
Mixed	0	1	5	7	16	8	4	3	25	19	44
Malaria death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## VII. TB Report

Table 5: TB report (October to December 2008)

Case finding report of new and re-treatment of TB cases

Gender		Pulmonar	y Positiv	е	Pulmonary Negative	Extra Pulmonary	Total	Case finding indicators
	New	Relapse	Failure	Default				A/(A+E+F)*100
	(A)	(B)	©	(D)	(E)	(F)		
Male	48	3	2	1	19	53	126	40
Female	38	3	3	1	13	45	103	39.58
Total	86	6	5	2	32	98	229	39.81

## VIII. Ante-natal checkup report

Table 6: Visits of pregnant women for Ante-natal Clinic (ANC) Check up

	Visit					
District	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	More		
Bumthang	78	71	56	87		
Chukha	366	332	338	710		
Dagana	103	102	90	99		
Mongar	200	195	169	261		
Paro	198	186	168	178		
Pemagatshel	103	81	84	110		
Punakha	139	129	109	114		
SamdrupJongkhar	158	168	147	183		
Trashigang	185	196	167	198		
TrashiYangtse	75	74	60	108		
Trongsa	63	55	47	53		
Wangdi	147	147	132	93		
Zhemgang	86	82	54	86		
Total	1901	1818	1621	2280		

## IX. Hospital Admission

Table 7: Hospital admissions and average length of stay

	Admission				
Hospital	Patient days	Total admission	Average length of stay		
Bajo BHU I	604	244	2.5		
Bumthang Hospital	0	0	0.0		
Chukha BHU I	437	149	2.9		
Dagana BHU I	62	32	1.9		
Deothang Hospital	1504	211	7.1		
Gedu Hospital	1454	423	3.4		
Gyalposhing BHU I	2	18	0.1		
Kanglung BHU I	164	63	2.6		
Lhamoy Zingkha BHU I	0	0	0.0		
Mongar Hospital	4954	753	6.6		
Nganglam BHU I	103	39	2.6		
Panbang BHU I	0	64	0.0		
Paro Hospital	1971	675	2.9		
Pemagatshel Hospital	1139	205	5.6		
Phuentsholing Hospital	9	718	0.0		
Punakha Hospital	1979	496	4.0		
Rangjung BHU I	59	20	3.0		
Riserboo Hospital	686	122	5.6		
Samdrup Jongkhar Hospital	0	0	0.0		
Samdrubcholing BHU I	212	99	2.1		
Trashigang Hospital	2008	450	4.5		
Trongsa Hospital	374	121	3.1		
Tsimalakha Hospital	674	160	4.2		
Wangdue RBA Hospital	409	137	3.0		
Yangbari BHU I	0	7	0.0		
Yangtsi Hospital	891	191	4.7		
Yebilabtsha Hospital	1281	183	7.0		
Zhemgang BHU I	0	24	0.0		

#### X. Deliveries

Table 8: Deliveries attended by Health Professionals

Dzongkhag	Attended delivery	BCG	OPV-0
Bumthang	18	72	49
Chukha	337	444	618
Dagana	38	84	71
Mongar	228	264	244
Paro	118	176	177
Pemagatshel	42	90	71
Punakha	86	103	89
SamdrupJongkhar	82	210	158
Trashigang	132	209	188
TrashiYangtse	33	118	88
Trongsa	16	44	35
Wangdi	54	142	96
Zhemgang	47	95	63

## XI. Referrals

Table 9: Referred cases (October to December 2008)

District	Ref	erred
District	In	Out
Bumthang	19	23
Chukha	12	106
Dagana	12	38
Mongar	246	190
Paro	10	83
Pemagatshel	24	24
Punakha	14	86
SamdrupJongkhar	60	51
Trashigang	83	133
TrashiYangtse	4	25
Trongsa	1	22
Wangdi	16	92
Zhemgang	35	92
Total	536	965

## XII. Under 5 Morbidity

Table 10: Top ten morbidity (under 5 years)

Disease name	Total
Common Cold	8844
Skin Infections	2554
Diarrhoea	2399
Other Disorders of Skin & Subcutaneous-tissues	1367
Other Respiratory & Nose Diseases	1206
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	1035
Acute Pharyngitis/Tonsilitis	1012
Conjunctivitis	912
Dysentery	908
Otitis Media	690

## XIII. Indoor Morbidity

Table 11: Top ten indoor morbidity data

Disease name	Total
Other Respiratory & Nose Diseases	532
Pneumonia	443
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	436
Other complications of pregnancy	388
Other Kidney, UT/ Genital Disorders	382
Injuries & Poisoning	245
Common Cold	242
Peptic Ulcer Syndrome	214
Other Musculo-skeletal disorders	202
Hypertension	185

## XIV. Dental Service Provision

Table 12: Dental services (October to December 2008)

District	Dental Services							
District	Prophylaxis	Scaling	Fillings	Extractions	Others			
Bumthang	3	0	92	137	118			
Chukha	29	16	772	734	1267			
Dagana	7	0	34	54	89			
Mongar	12	12	182	310	473			
Paro	17	4	339	251	415			
Pemagatshel	14	1	91	112	55			
Punakha	43	0	127	277	294			
SamdrupJongkhar	38	0	77	195	101			
Trashigang	18	28	273	422	235			

9-

TrashiYangtse	6	0	56	92	128
Trongsa	12	0	73	132	83
Wangdi	7	2	141	145	68
Zhemgang	7	4	33	76	61
Total	213	67	2290	2937	3387

## XV. Diagnostic Service Provision

Table 13: Diagnostic Services (October to December 2008)

District		X-Ray		Ultrasound			
District	Chest	Extremities	Others	Gyne./ Obs.	Abdomen	Others	
Bumthang	54	66	23	0	0	0	
Chukha	570	298	182	542	267	42	
Dagana	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mongar	287	107	141	219	101	30	
Paro	179	225	103	361	174	252	
Pemagatshel	35	35	21	0	0	0	
Punakha	201	105	28	418	273	26	
SamdrupJongkhar	132	110	46	77	85	6	
Trashigang	65	34	22	136	37	1	
TrashiYangtse	30	14	9	0	0	0	
Trongsa	27	24	7	0	0	0	
Wangdi	133	122	84	278	88	45	
Zhemgang	68	40	41	0	0	0	
Total	1781	1180	707	2031	1025	402	

## XVI. Laboratory Service Provision

Table 14: Laboratory Services Provision by District (October to December 2008)

District	Hemoglobin levels	Blood grouping	Malaria slides	TB Sputum	Urine	Stool	HIV	Total
Bumthang	575	164	10	28	579	4	58	650
Chukha	4404	1609	1224	779	2684	126	567	16610
Dagana	649	271	585	18	921	5	333	3705
Mongar	1906	685	47	226	1350	47	312	4559
Paro	549	273	30	220	1141	13	91	3255
Pemagatshel	424	268	45	33	663	5	145	3153
Punakha	1335	245	27	108	1629	11	52	3407
SamdrupJongkhar	1065	317	903	157	1324	21	160	4946

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Trashigang	1028	974	17	45	2264	48	202	6343
TrashiYangtse	631	207	27	19	423	25	94	810
Trongsa	330	100	9	14	265	21	437	2520
Wangdi	822	276	73	35	741	27	254	2000
Zhemgang	532	438	336	20	866	19	48	3145
Total	14250	5827	3333	1702	14850	372	2753	55103

## XVII. Surgeries for the last quarter

Table 15: Surgeries by District (October to December 2008)

District	Caesarian section	General abdominal	Gen. others	Ortho. extremities	Ortho. others	Gynae.	ENT	Eye
Bumthang	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chukha	26	61	227	687	208	28	19	11
Dagana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mongar	59	22	53	7	25	72	0	14
Paro	14	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
Pemagatshel	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Punakha	1	24	4	2	0	3	0	0
SamdrupJongkhar	2	0	148	9	7	0	0	0
Trashigang	6	0	41	0	0	2	0	3
TrashiYangtse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Trongsa	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Wangdi	0	26	40	0	39	0	26	19
Zhemgang	0	0	10	0	2	0	0	0
Total	108	133	534	705	286	107	45	50

## XVIII. Human Resource Report:

Table 16: HR Training component (October – December 2008)

SI. #	Name	Department /Division	Course Title	Location	Start Date	Funding
1	Ms. Thinley Wangmo	ICB, DoPH	Strategic Approach to effective Communication for Development	DFI, Philippines	2-Oct-08	Global Fund
2	Mr. Sonam Wangchuk	ICB, DoPH	Effective Communication strategies for health campaign	DFI, Philippines	2-Oct-08	Global Fund
3	Dr. Ambika Rani Pradhan	GDMO, Bumthang Hospital	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF

4	Dr. Dhrupthob Sonam	Medical Supdt. Paro Hospital	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
5	Ms. Chado Wangmo	AN, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
6	Ms. Kinley Chimi	GNM, Gelephu hospital	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
7	Ms. Julee Pradhan	GNM, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
8	Ms. Tshering Deki	GNM, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
9	Ms. Tandin Wangmo	GNM, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
10	Ms. Pema Lhamo	AN, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
11	Ms. Tshering Dema	GNM, JDWNRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
12	Mr. Kelzang Jigmi	GNM, Monggar RRH	Training course on management of Diabetes	BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh	6-Oct-08	WDF
13	Ms. Kinzang Wangmo	APO, PPD, MoH	Participatory Monitoring and evaluation	Kasertsart Uni. Thailand	7-Oct	WHO
14	Ms. Sonam Gyeltshen	Lab Tech. Damphu, Tsirang	Immuno- Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS infection	Siriraj Hosp. BKK, Thailand	27-Oct-08	GFATM
15	Mr. Ugyen Tshering	Lab. Tech. JDWNRH	Immuno- Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS infection	Siriraj Hosp. BKK, Thailand	27-Oct-08	GFATM
16	Mr. Cheki Dorji	Lab. Tech. T/gang Hosp.	Immuno- Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS infection	Siriraj Hosp. BKK, Thailand	27-Oct-08	GFATM
17	Ms. Kunzang Choden	AN, JDWNRH	Trg. On Trauma	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
18	Ms. Sangay Yangzom	GNM, Trongsa hospital	Trg. On Trauma	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
19	Dr. T.B Rai	Specialist, JDWNRH	Trg. On Clinical Oncology	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
20	Mr. Karma Chodrup	GNM, JDWNRH	Trg. On Clinical Oncology	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
21	Mr. Sonam Dhendup	GNM, S/Jongkhar Hospital	Trg. On Clinical Oncology	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
22	Mr. Gopal Chhetri	CT Tech. JDWNRH	Trg. On CT & MRI	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
23	Mr. Sonam Wangchuk	MRI Tech. JDWNRH	Trg. On CT & MRI	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
24	Ms. Reeta Maya Acharya	CT & MRI Tech. JDWNRH	Trg. On CT & MRI	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
25	Ms. Jigme Zangmo	GNM, JDWNRH	Trg. On Neonatal ICU	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
26	Ms. Sarala Pradhan	GNM, Monggar RRH	Trg. On Neonatal ICU	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
27	Ms. Kinley Lemo	GNM, JDWNRH	Trg. On Emergency Maternal services	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey

21.					volunic i,	133UC 4
28	Mr. Youngba	GNM, JDWNRH	Trg. On General ICU	Turkey	20-Oct-08	Govt. of Turkey
29	Mr. Gyembo Dorji	PO, DoPH	International Training Course on Environmental Health impact Assessment	BKK, Thailand	10 Nov. 08	WHO
30	Ms. Pema Lhadon	Lab Tech. JDWNRH	Trg. on DIAMED Products for Blood Bank	New Delhi, India	18-Nov-08	NA
31	Mr. Kinley Penjor	Lab Tech. JDWNRH	Trg. On Surveillance of hospital Acquired infection (HAI)	Mahidol University, Thailand	3-Nov-08	WHO
32	Dr. Pandup Tshering	Medical Supdt, JDWNRH	Attachment and Orientation course on One Stop Crisis Centre	Bangkok, Thailand	15-Nov-08	NCWS
33	Dr. Pakila Dukpa	Specialist (Forensic)	Attachment and Orientation course on One Stop Crisis Centre	Bangkok, Thailand	15-Nov-08	NCWS
34	Dr. Bal Mukunda Dungel	Pathologist, MRRH	Training in Kala Azar	KTM, Nepal	10 Nov. 08	WHO
35	Mr. Rinzin Namgyel	Entomologist, Gelephu	Training in Kala Azar	KTM, Nepal	10 Nov. 08	WHO
36	Dr. Chabilal Adhikari	MO, T/gang	Training in Kala Azar	KTM, Nepal	10 Nov. 08	WHO
37	Dr. Deki Choden	Radiologist, JDWNRH	Training on Ultrasonography	New Delhi, India	17 Nov. 08	UNFPA
38	Mr. Tashi Norbu	Medical Technician I, JDWNRH	Training on Ultrasonography	New Delhi, India	17 Nov. 08	UNFPA
39	Mr. Ugyen Tenzin	Medical Technician I, JDWNRH	Training on Ultrasonography	New Delhi	17 Nov. 08	UNFPA
40	Mr. Sonam Rinchen	PO, DoPH	ToT on Reproductive Health and Commodity security	Jakarta	9-Nov-08	UNFPA
41	Mr. Pema Wangchuk	DHO, Trongsa	ToT on Reproductive Health and Commodity security	Jakarta	9-Nov-08	UNFPA
42	Ms. Dema	Procurement Assistant, DVED	ToT on Reproductive Health and Commodity security	Jakarta	9-Nov-08	UNFPA
43	Mr. Tandin Phub	Bio-Medical Tech. I, DVED	Training on X-ray	Goa	3 Nov. 08	NA
44	Dr. Phurb Dorji	Gynecologist, JDWNRH	Part II Examination on Ultrasound (Component of Maternal Fetal Medicine	BIMS, Dhaka	1-Dec-08	Magee Project
45	Mr. Kencho Wangdi	APO, HIV/AIDS, DoPH	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
46	Dr. Nima Wangchuk	DMO, Bumthang Hospital	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
47	Mr. Karchung	DHO, Riserboo Hospital	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
48	Mr. Nima Wangdi	ACO, Khamdang BHU I, T/gang	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)

49	Ms. Kuenzang Lhaden	AN, HISC, T/Phu	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
50	Ms. Sonam Deki	Associate Lecturer, RIHS	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM
51	Ms. Passang Lhamo Sherpa	Lecturer, RIHS	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM
52	Mr. Chheten Gyeltshen	Associate Lecturer, RIHS	Inter-country Training on AIDS Program management	Colombo	8-Dec-08	GFATM
53	Mr. Tshewang Tenzin	NMS/TB in charge, Gidakom	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
54	Ms. Man Kumari Rai	AN, Gomtu	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
55	Mr. Kinley Penjor	NMS/TB in charge, T/gang	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
56	Mr. Jigme Tenzin	NMS/TB in charge, MRRH	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
57	Mr. Jangchuk Cheten	Health Assistant II, Dewathang	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
58	Mr. Pema Tshering	HA II, Lhuntse Hospital	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
59	Mr. Rinchen Tshering	HA I, Daga BHU I	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
60	Mr. Choki Zangpo	TB In charge, Lungtenphu Hospital, RBS, T/phu	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	8-Dec-08	GFATM (TB)
61	Ms. Tshering Dema	Budget officer, MoH	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
62	Mr. Pema Namgyel	Accountant III, AFD, MoH	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
63	Mr. Dorji Dukpa	Chief Accountant, JDWNRH	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
64	Mr. Tara Bir Rai	Audit officer, RAA	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
65	Ms. Nilimaya Dural	Accounts officer, Budget	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
66	Ms. Kinga Wangmo	Accounts officer, Budget	Training on Health Accounting and Budgeting	PCP Asia, BKK	29-Dec-08	Danida & GFATM
67	Mr. Tshering Dorji	X-Ray Tech. Damphu hospital	Training on Ultrasonography	AU I C, Haryana, India	22-Dec-08	UNFPA
68	Mr. Ugyen Tshering	X-Ray Tech. Gidakom hospital	Training on Ultrasonography	AU I C, Haryana, India	22-Dec-08	UNFPA
69	Mr. Dorji Wangchuk	X-ray Tech. T/gang hospital	Training on Ultrasonography	AU I C, Haryana, India	22-Dec-08	UNFPA

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70	Ms. Leki Wangmo	X-ray Tech. Monggar RRH	Training on Ultrasonography	AU I C, Haryana, India	22-Dec-08	UNFPA
71	Mr. Leki Norbu	Auto Tech. II, AFD, MoH	Diploma in Transport Logistic and Mgt.	Sunrise Institute, Pune	22-Dec-08	NTCP, GFATM, Danida
72	Dr. Sonam Dorji	Orthopedic Surgery, JDWNRH	Training on Arthroscopic surgery	Siriraj hospital, BKK	29 Dec. 08	RGoB
73	Mr. Sonam Wangchuk	ADHO, Wangduephod rang	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
74	Mr. Dorji Gyeltshen	ADHO, Sarpang	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
75	Mr. Karchung	ADHO, P/gatshel	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
76	Mr. Kinley	ADHO, Samtse	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
77	Mr. Kencho Wangdi	ADHO, Sarpang	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
78	Mr. Karma Wangchuk	ADHO, Monggar	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
79	Mr. Ugyen Dendup	ADHO, Gasa	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK	22 Dec. 08	WHO
80	Mr. Rinchen Dorji	ADHO, Samtse	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	WHO
81	Mr. Pema Tshewang	ADHO, T/yangtse	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	WHO
82	Mr. Tshedar	ADHO, Haa	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	WHO
83	Mr. Namgay Dawa	ADHO, Paro	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	WHO
84	Mr. Sangay Phuntsho	Lecturer, RIHS, T/phu	Training on District health system and primary health care	Mahidol University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	WHO
85	Ms. Tshering Dema	AN, JDWNRH	Trg. On Endoscopy and Laparoscopic Surgery	Rajavithi Hosp, Dept. of Medical Services, BKK	29 Dec. 08	WHO
86	Mr. Leki Samdrup	BHW, Samtse	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	29 Dec. 08	GFATM (TB)
87	Mr. Kezang	Med. Tech II, Yebilaptsa hospital	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	29 Dec. 08	GFATM (TB)
88	Mr. Ugyen Dukpa	ACO, Lhamoizinkha BHU, Dagana	Training on DOTS and MDR-TB	National TB Centre	29 Dec. 08	GFATM (TB)

Volume 1. Issue 4 **QMAR** NMS/Med. Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 29 Dec. 08 89 Mr. Jamtsho Tech I, MDR-TB Centre (TB) S/Jongkhar Mr. Rinchen Chung BHW, Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 90 29 Dec. 08 T/Yangtse MDR-TB Centre (TB) BHW, Gomtu Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 91 Mr. Tshering Chophel 29 Dec. 08 hospital MDR-TB Centre (TB) BHW, Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 29 Dec. 08 92 Mr. Jambay Dorji Sarpang MDR-TB Centre (TB) hospital Sr. HA, Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 93 Mr. Karma Dukpa Dawakha 29 Dec. 08 MDR-TB Centre (TB) BHU, Paro HA II, Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 94 Mr. Karma Chundrup Damphu 29 Dec. 08 MDR-TB Centre (TB) hospital BHW, Bara Training on DOTS and National TB **GFATM** 29 Dec. 08 95 Mr. Rinchen Loday ORC, Samtse MDR-TB Centre (TB) National TB HA, Gedu Training on DOTS and GFATM 96 Ms. Dawa Seldon 29 Dec. 08 hospital MDR-TB Centre (TB) Kasetsart ToT on AI Case University, World Anesthesia, 97 Dr. Gosar Pemba 22 Dec. 08 JDWNR H BKK, Bank Management Thailand Kasetsart Chief Program ToT on AI Case University, World Dr. Sonam Ugen 22 Dec. 08 98 Officer, Management BKK, Bank **JDWNRH** Thailand Kasetsart

Table 17: HR: Seminar/Workshop components (October – December 2008)

ToT on AI Case

ToT on AI Case

Management

Management

GDMO,

Samtse

GDMO, Paro

hospital

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Dr. Kuenley Pedon

Dr. Kalpana Chhetri

University,

BKK,

Thailand Kasetsart

University,

BKK,

Thailand

World

Bank

World

Bank

22 Dec. 08

22 Dec. 08

SI. #	Name	Department/ Division	Course Title	Location	Start Date	Funding
1	Dr. Nor Tshering Lepcha	CRRH, Gelephu	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting on Research Methodology	T/Nadu	2-Oct-08	НСР
2	Mr. Chandra Kumar Chetri	JDWNRH	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting on Research Methodology	T/Nadu	2-Oct-08	НСР
3	Ms. Pem Zam	PO, RH, DoPH	Training workshop on Country Commodity Manager	BKK, Thailand	7-Oct-08	UNFPA
4	Mr. Som Bahadur Priyar	PO, MSD, P/ling	Training workshop on Country Commodity Manager	BKK, Thailand	7-Oct-08	UNFPA
5	Mr. Dilli Ram Darjee	GNM(Nurse anesthetist)	Community based health & first aid master facilitator	Sri Lanka	4-Oct-08	Organizer
6	Ms. Tashi Yuden	GNM(Nurse anesthetist)	Community based health & first aid master facilitator	Sri Lanka	4-Oct-08	Organizer

7	Mrs. Lekma Dorji	Dzongkhag Planning Officer, Wangdue, GNH	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
8	Mr Ugyen Tenzin	Planning officer, PPD, MoH	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
9	Mr. Chimi Rinzin	HRO, HRD	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
10	Ms. Tashi Dema	Reporter, Kuensel Corp.	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
11	Dr. Chencho Dorjee	Director, RIHS	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
12	Mr. Pema Dorji	DHO, Damphu, Tsirang	High Level consultation to accelerate progress towards achieving maternal and child health millennium development goals	Ahmedabad, India	15-Oct-08	WHO
13	Dr. Chojay Wangmo	GDMO	Second International conference on dengue and dengue hemorrhagic Fever	Phuket, Thailand	15-Oct-08	WHO
14	Ms. Pema Lham	Perinatal Nurse, JDWNRH	4 <sup>th</sup> Asia pacific Congress in maternal fetal medicine	Macau, China	17-Oct-08	UNFPA
15	Dr. Phurb Dorji	Gynecologist, JDWNRH	4 <sup>th</sup> Asia pacific Congress in maternal fetal medicine	Macau, China	17-Oct-08	UNFPA
16	Ms. Tandin Pemo	CPO, DoMS	Joint Asia pacific emergency and disaster Nursing network & Training workshop	China	16-Oct-08	WHO SEARO
17	Mr. Rinchen Phuntsho	PO, DVED	Regional Workshop on Procurement and Supply	Cochin, India	22-Oct-08	GFATM (HIV/AIDS)
18	Mr. Chhimi Dorji	Store in charge, VDCP, Gelephu	Regional Workshop on Procurement and Supply	Cochin, India	22-Oct-08	GFATM (Malaria)
19	Mr. Sonam Wangdi	APO, HIV/AIDS, DoPH	Regional workshop on Monitoring and evaluation	Cochin, India	21-Oct-08	GFATM(HI V/AIDS)
20	Ms. Dechen Pemo	APO, VDCP, Gelephu	Regional workshop on Monitoring and evaluation	Cochin, India	21-Oct-08	GFATM(Ma laria)
21	Ms. Gaki Tshering	Head, IT Unit	UN/India/ESA regional w/shop on using space technology for Telehealth Benefit Asia and the pacific	Lucknow, India	20-Oct-08	UN

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22	Mr. Purna Kumar Chetri	Tech. Associate I, JDWNR Hospital	UN/India/ESA regional w/shop on using space technology for Telehealth Benefit Asia and the pacific	Lucknow, India	20-Oct-08	WHO DPA
23	Dr. Samdrup R Wangchuk	HoD, JDWNRH	Regional Consultation on Formulating Oral Health Strategy	Chiang Mai, Thailand	28-Oct-08	WHO
24	Dr. Dechen P Nidup	Radiologist, JDWNRH	12th Asian Oceania Congress of Radiology	S. Korea	24-Oct-08	WHO
25	Dr. Tenzin Norsang Norbu	ENT surgeon, JDWNRH	Head & Neck Surgery Conference	BKK, Thailand	23-Oct-08	WHO
26	Mr. Karma	DY Exe. Engineer, PHED, DoPH	Water Safety plans training for trainers workshop	Singapore	21-Oct-08	WHO
27	Ms. Tandin Pemo	CPO, DoMS	Sixth International Training course on Hospital emergency Preparedness & response (HEPR-6)	BKK, Thailand	20-Oct-08	WHO
28	Dr. Tez Kumari Sharma	JDWNRH	Orientation of Potential consultants on STI Prevention and Case Mgt.	Kolkotta	20-Oct-08	WHO
29	Dr. Sonam Dukpa	Surgeon, JDWNRH	9th Asian Congress of Urology Association of Asia with Pre Congress workshop	New Delhi	1 - 5 Oct 08	Organizer
30	Dr. Ugyen Tshomo	Gynecologist, JDWNRH	IGCS Meeting	BKK	25-Oct-08	WHO
31	Mr. Ugyen Wangdi	ADHO, Chukha	course on Economic Principles for health policy & Planning	BKK	3 Nov.08	WHO
32	Dr. Ugen Dophu	Director, DoPH	Regional meeting on Quality Implementation, round 9 & sub recipient (SR) Mgt.	Colombo	10-Nov-08	GFATM
33	Mr. Kinley Dorji	PMT Coordinator	Regional meeting on Quality Implementation, round 9 & sub recipient (SR) Mgt.	Colombo	10-Nov-08	GFATM
34	Ms. Sangay Wangmo	PO, PPD	Regional meeting on Quality Implementation, round 9 & sub recipient (SR) Mgt.	Colombo	10-Nov-08	GFATM
35	Dr. Kunzang Jigmi	Registrar, BMHC	Second Meeting of the network of medical councils of the south east Asia region	Chiang Mai	10 Nov. 08	WHO
36	Mr. Nima Sangay	ВМНС	Second Meeting of the network of medical councils of the south east Asia region	Chiang Mai	10 Nov. 08	WHO
37	Dr. Sonam Ugen	CPO, JDWNRH	Peaceful Dragon-Textile Arts from the Kingdom of Bhutan	Aungsburg	21 Nov. 08	Textile Museum, MoHCA
38	Mr. Leki Dorji	Communicatio n Supervisor I . ICB, DoPH	Peaceful Dragon-Textile Arts from the Kingdom of Bhutan	Aungsburg	21 Nov. 08	Textile Museum, MoHCA
39	Mr. Kado Zangpo	Head, HIRU, MoH	Population Council -IPSR Operation Research workshop	BKK	24 Nov.08	WHO

40	Dr. Nar Bdr. Rai	GDMO, Bali, Haa	Population Council -IPSR Operation Research workshop	BKK	24 Nov.08	WHO
41	Mr. Sonam Dorji	CPO, PPD, MoH	Danida Health Advisor Seminar	Maputo	27-Nov-08	TA services of Danida
42	Dr. Mahrukh Getshen	Blood Bank In charge, JDWNRH	Conference organized by South Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine	Karachi	21-Nov-08	PVT.
43	Dr. Mimi Lhamo Mynak	Paediatrics, JDWNRH	Scaling up PMTCT and Pediatric HIV care, support and treatment Workshop	KTM	24 Nov.08	UNFPA
44	Mr. Wangchuk	GNM, JDWNRH	Scaling up PMTCT and Pediatric HIV care, support and treatment Workshop	KTM	24 Nov.08	UNFPA
45	Dr. Tej Nath Nepal	GDMO, Tsimalakha	Scaling up PMTCT and Pediatric HIV care, support and treatment Workshop	KTM	24 Nov.08	UNFPA
46	Dr. Sonam Tshering	DMO, Trongsa hospital	International conference on Health Promotion and Quality in Health Services	BKK	19 Nov. 2008	WHO
47	Mr. Tashi Dhendup	APO, QASD, MoH	International conference on Health Promotion and Quality in Health Services	BKK	19 Nov. 2008	WHO
48	Mr. Tandin Chogyel	PO, DoPH	WHO Questionnaires on "Alcohol and Health" and ATLAS of Substance use Disorders	BKK	27-Nov-08	WHO
49	Mr. Yeshi Wangdi	PO, DoMS	Diabetes summit India-A summit for South East Asia	Chennai	28 Nov.08	WDF
50	Dr. Bhakata Raj giri	Specialist, JDWNRH	Diabetes summit India-A summit for South East Asia	Chennai	28 Nov.08	WDF
51	Mr. Ganga Prasad Rai	PO, ARI/CDD, DoPH	Short Program Review of Child Health Program		24 Nov. 08	WHO
52	Ms. Karma Tshering	PO, EPI, DoPH	Short Program Review of Child Health Program		24 Nov. 08	WHO
53	Dasho Dr. Gado Tshering	Secretary	Third South Asian Conference on sanitation (SACOSAN III)	New Delhi	16 to 21 Nov. 08	WHO
54	Mr. Sonam Gyeltshen	Engineer, PHED, DoPH	Third South Asian Conference on sanitation (SACOSAN III)	New Delhi	16 to 21 Nov. 08	UNICEF
55	Mr. Lungten Jamtsho	DE, P/gatshel	Third South Asian Conference on sanitation (SACOSAN III)	New Delhi	16 to 21 Nov. 08	UNICEF
56	Mr. Ichharam Dulal	EE, MoWHS	Third South Asian Conference on sanitation (SACOSAN III)	New Delhi	16 to 21 Nov. 08	UNICEF
57	Ms. Rinzin Wangmo	Depty Chief HRO, MoE	Third South Asian Conference on sanitation (SACOSAN III)	New Delhi	16 to 21 Nov. 08	UNICEF
58	Mr. Sonam Wangchuk	Lab Technologist	Expert Group meeting on disease surveillance and rapid development	Delhi	26-Nov-08	SAARC (RGoB)

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59	Mr. Jasman Gurung	ACO, Gidakom Hospital	13th Meeting of the National TB Programme mangers	Male	1-Dec-08	WHO
60	Mr. Chewang Rinzin	PO, TB Program, DoPH	13th Meeting of the National TB Programme mangers	Male	1-Dec-08	WHO
61	Mr. Ugyen Norbu	Asst. Information and Comm. Officer, ICB, DoPH	Intercountry workshop on Tobacco Control Legislation	Colombo	4-Dec-08	WHO
62	Dr. Tshewang Thinley	Orthopedic Surgeon, JDWNRH	7th Asian Spinal Cord Injury Conference	Hanoi	9-Dec-08	WHO
63	Ms. Hema Pradhan	Ortho Nurse, JDWNRH	7th Asian Spinal Cord Injury Conference	Hanoi	9-Dec-08	WHO
64	Mr. Tashi Gyeltshen	Physiotherapy Tech. Trongsa Hospital	7th Asian Spinal Cord Injury Conference	Hanoi	9-Dec-08	WHO
65	Dr. Ugen Dophu	Director, DoPH	Second conference on Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and respiratory disease	KTM	15-Dec-08	WHO
66	Dr. Gem Dorji	GDMO, Yebilaptsa hospital	Second conference on Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and respiratory disease	KTM	15-Dec-08	SAARC
67	Dr. Sunandra Pradhan	MO, Gidakom hospital	Second conference on Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and respiratory disease	KTM	15-Dec-08	SAARC
68	Dr. Nado Zangpo	CMO, Tala	International trg. Course on medication mgt. in Hospital: Role of Drugs and Therapeutics Committees		8-Dec-08	WHO
69	Ms. Manusika Rai	Sr Pharmacist, DoMS	International trg. Course on medication mgt. in Hospital: Role of Drugs and Therapeutics Committees		8-Dec-08	WHO
70	Ms. Ugyen Zangmo	PO, DoPH	Centre for food safety and world health organization joint workshop on total diet study		9-Dec-08	WHO
71	Dr. Ugyen Thinley	Orthopedic Surgeon, JDWNR Hospital	Principles for fracture management course		14-Dec-08	RGoB (20 %)
72	Ms. Pema Yuden	Focal Person for infectious control and waster mgt. DoMS	Asian Pacific workshop on mainstreaming sound management of chemicals into development planning processes		10 Dec. 08	UNEP
73	Ms. Gaki Tshering	Head, ICT, MoH	TEIN3 SAFS meeting		22-Dec-08	
74	Ms. Sangay Wangmo	Planning officer, PPD, MoH	Regional Consultation on Financing Health Promotion: Policy Options		15-Dec-08	WHO
75	Dr. Tashi Gyeltshen	DMO, P/Ling hospital	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank

76	Mr.Tshewang Dorji	AI, Focal Person, ICB, DoPH	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank
77	Ms. Roma Karki	APO, IHR/AI Program, DoPH	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank
78	Dr. Chador Wangdi	MoA	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank
79	Dr Karma Rinzin	MoA	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank
80	Mr. Karma Tenzin	MoA	Consultative meeting on AI Risk Communication Strategy	Kasetsart University, BKK, Thailand	22 Dec. 08	World Bank
81	Mr. Tandin Dorji	Head, PHL	First meeting of the south east Asia regional Certification commission for polio eradication	New Delhi	2 Dec.08	WHO SEARO
82	Dr. Kunzang P. Tshering	HoD, Pediatrics, JDWNRH	South East Asia Regional Certificate Commission for Polio Eradiation (SEARCCPE)	New Delhi	1-Dec-08	WHO SEARO

#### >> Contd. from page 1

Health facilities including diagnostic and curative services are provided free of charge to all citizens of Bhutan. To improve the overall quality of health system, Quality Assurance and Standardization programme in Health Care was initiated in 2002. Also, Bhutan Medical & Health Council Act was passed in 2002; and Medical Act of Kingdom of Bhutan in 2003. Health services in Bhutan is deeply rooted and practically linked to the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, His Majesty Jigme Singay Wangchuck's visionary ground breaking declaration of Gross National Happiness under the pillar of Sustainability and Self Reliance.

#### Primary Health Care (PHC)

World Health Assembly in May 1977 recognized that a large number of world population had no access to health care at all and for many of the rest, the care they received didn't answer the problems they had. There had been a growing dissatisfaction with existing health services. Against this background, the assembly decided to launch a movement known as HEALTH FOR ALL by the year 2000. That is "attainment of level health that will enable every individual to lead a socially mentally and economically productive life" which meant that health is to brought within the reach of every one in a given community. To achieve this goal the joint WHO-UNICEF International conference held in 1978 at Alma-Ata (USSR) proclaimed Primary Health Care as the best approach. And hence it came in to existence. The concept of PHC has been accepted by all countries as the key to the attainment of Health for All by 2000.

#### Definition

Primary Health Care is essential health care made universally accessible to any individual and acceptable to them through their full participation and at a cost the community and country can afford.

Primary Health Care is a new approach to health care integrated at community level. This presupposes services that are both simple and efficient in regard to cost technique, readily accessible and contributed to improving the living of individual, family and community as an whole. It integrated promotional, preventive and curative services. It is also conceived as integral part of country plan for socio economic development and valid to all countries from the most to the least developed

In 1978, Bhutan signed the Alma Ata declaration, committing the country to implement relevant and cost effective health care through the Primary Health Care approach and had chosen it as the core strategy since the delivery of this system is deemed effective in reaching health care system.

However Alma Ata declaration gave considerable impetus and direction to process it further and got off to a good start in Bhutan with the theme "Health for All".

The following eight essential elements are implemented in an integrated manner.

- 1. Education concerning prevailing health problems and the method of preventing and controlling them.
- 2. Promotion of food supply and proper nutrition.
- 3. An adequate supply of safe water and basic sanitation.
- 4. Maternal and child health care, including family planning.
- 5. Immunization against the major infectious diseases.
- 6. Prevention and control of locally endemic diseases.
- 7. Appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries, and
- 8. Provision of essential drugs.

Primary Health Care is available to all people at all levels of health care facilities. It is based on the principle of:

"Equitable distribution, and converge distributed equally to the entire citizen irrespective of race religion, rich or poor, urban or rural". To bring these services as to near to people's home as possible, we target our services to reach the un-reached by extending the infrastructure to the remotest part of the country which are further covered by outreach clinics and by the village health workers.

### Community participation

The unique aspect to Bhutan health care system is the degree of emphasis on community participation. The involvement of individual family and the community in promotion of their health and welfare is essential in sustaining the health services. Primary health care is built on the principles of community participation with maximum reliance on local resources. One approach that has been successful in Bhutan is the Village health worker programme. They play important role in the community for raising health awareness, and forms the bridge between health services and the community.

#### Intersectoral coordination

There is an increasing realization of the fact that the component of Primary Health Care cannot be provided by health sector alone. In order to address the existing health problems, all related sectors including the religious body are involved.

#### Appropriate technology

Laymen have come to play a prominent role in delivering primary health services. Therefore, we need to have a system that is scientifically sound effective and simple to use, acceptable to those who apply in tune with local culture, and are easily understood by people and affordable to the community.

#### Primary health care Goal and Policy

Goal: To achieve Health For All by 2000, Primary Health Care aims to reduce infant mortality rate form 125 to 60/1000 crude birth rate from 33 to 21/1000 crude death rate from 14 to 9/1000, raise its expectancy of life from 52 to 64 years and to provide potable water to the entire population. The policy is to provide the highest quality of health services, to achieve equity in health. To create in environment that supports health, to encourage life style that support health and enhance self reliance and sustainability of the health system.

#### Health of Bhutanese people: (achievements in 30yrs based on essential elements)

Thirty years ago, when 5 year old Karma had dysentery, his parents immediately took him to a traditional healer for treatment. Today, Karma and 90% of our population consult modern health services as their first choice for any illness.

This is achieved because of *Information Communication Bureau* for health established in 1991, and high level advocacy campaigns led by UNFPA goodwill ambassador, Her Majesty Ashi Sangay Choden Wangchuck, into the remotest part of the country thereby increasing community awareness and enhancing their knowledge in seeking appropriate health care. Karma as young boy had many relatives with goiter. Today, he can hardly see any one. This achievement was possible through the **National Nutrition Programme** initiated in 1985. There is also a decline of anemia, blindness and malnutrition. Over 23% children below 5 years who visited health centres are found to be overweight and about 10% underweight. The introduction of iodized salt in commercial distribution has made a big difference in the health of the Bhutanese.

Until 1985, Karma used to spend a lot of his time to fetch water from a stream, about 45 minutes walking distance and none of them in the village owned latrine. Karma now has tap water in front of his house, and a sanitary latrine nearby. The considerable changes were brought by the **Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme** initiated in 1972, which has gone a long way in making the rural life easier. At present, 85% of the population has access to piped water and over 90 % households have sanitary latrine. There is a significant decrease in case load of water borne diseases.

When Karma was born, he had over 12-14% probability of dying before he was one year old and 16% probability of dying before he was five. Whereas his daughter, born in 2007 has only 4% likelihood of dying before she is one and 6% before the age of five. Therefore, **Maternal and Child Health Care** has been identified as a crucial factor to reduce maternal and infant underfive mortality, as well as improving the general health and well-being of the population. Today, pregnancy cases/complication tops the list of hospital admission which indicates an increased awareness on maternal care.

The Antenatal coverage is 75%, institutional delivery increased from 10% in 1994 to 57% in 2007. There is a decrease in maternal mortality from 8/1000 in 1984 to 2.5/1000 in 2007, Infant mortality form 103/1000 in 1984 to 62/1000 in 2007. There is also decrease in crude death rate to 7/1000, crude birth rate to 20/1000, and contraceptive prevalence rate has increased to 31% in 2007.

Immunization was not available in Karma's time. He and his sister had suffered from measles from which he lost his only sister when she was 3 years old. However, the *Expanded Programme on Immunization* launched nation wide on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1979, changed the scenario.

Despite difficult terrain, sparse and scattered population, immunization coverage is maintained well above 90%.

To prevent and control local endemic diseases, a number of programmes were launched such as *National Vector Borne Diseases Control (1964)*, *National Tuberculosis Programme (1976)*, and *National Leprosy Programme (1966)*. Morbidity and mortality due to malaria has

declined. Only 370 cases of sputum positive pulmonary tuberculosis have been detected. Leprosy has been eliminated with only 16 cases in 2007.

In 1978 there were, about 100 health centers, a majority facilities were dispensaries manned by one health staff. Till 1979 about 80 health workers graduated from Health school (established in 1974). Today we have 29 hospitals, 176 BHUs with 3000 health personals working round the clock. Accessibility of services in further increased by 515 Out Reach Centre (ORC) and 1300 Village Health Workers.

Until 1986, shortfalls in public drug supply had led to poor drug availability questionable quality, irrational prescribing and high drug costs. Drug Vaccine and Equipments Programme established in 1987 ensured regular supply of safe effective and need-based, acceptable quality, drugs accessible at all levels of health care center at all times.

#### Hardships faced

The hardships faced while delivering health services had been numerous posed by difficult terrain, scattered population, limited transport & communication infrastructure, natural calamities, illiteracy and limited resources. To achieve the goal, Health Workers travel days crossing delicate bamboo/cane bridges, cliffs and mountains to provide the services, this sometimes resulted in the loss of their lives.

#### Challenges Ahead

Primary Health Care has reached targeted percentage and now quality has become the main priority. With increase in educated population, the demand for higher quality services is already increasing. We must prepare to successfully respond to changes in demographic dynamics.

The major shift now is towards non communicable diseases. With the increase in urban population from 16% in 2000 to 31% in 2005, urban health problem like the rise in lifestyle diseases are invading more population. We are also seriously concerned with the rising trend of HIV/AIDS. There is also the challenge of preparing and managing disasters that are both man made and natural.

The long-term challenge is the financial sustainability of provision of free health services since the rising cost will severely influence the availability of resources. The introduction of user fee for special services and support to Bhutan Health Trust Fund needs to be emphasized to ensure sustainability.

#### **Lessons Learnt**

Involvement of multi sectors and stakeholders is crucial in accelerating health activities. The Multi sectoral task force established on HIV/AIDS awareness and promotional activities is a good model for Primary Health Care.

The high level political commitment like various royal decrees and advocacy campaigns provided major impetus to the health achievement and has been instrumental in the success of promoting PHC activities.

To address the difficulties posed by acute shortage of specialists, coupled with scattered population, the **Health Telematics/Telemedicine** project was initiated in 2000 to provide specialized consultancy opportunities and to facilitate Continuing Medical Education. It has been found to be an efficient and cost effective alternative to provide quality health care and needs extension to other Dzongkhags.

#### Conclusion

The system Primary Health Care was a new phenomenon. In Bhutan it has made a huge stride through the decades. There have been minimum cases of disease outbreak, and the mortality rates have declined. The attendance at the outpatient services is on the rise steadily indicating that people are more aware of their health. The health coverage at present is more then 90%. This achievement was possible because of His Majesty, The Fourth Druk Gyalpo's effort to expand health coverage and services to reach the needy across the kingdom through various royal edicts, thus transforming health services into a sound success story which has all been a product of His Majesty's enlightened and wise visionary. While success has been numerous, a series of challenges also face the health system.

However, with continuous high level commitment, support from development partners, donor agencies, active participation from community and the dedicated services of committed health care provides, we are confident to achieve and sustain the coverage to maximum level and enhance the quality of life of Bhutanese people in spirit of social justice and equity.

(The hands that help are holier than the lips that pray- Sai Baba)

The Policy and Planning Division would like to solicit reviews and feedbacks for the betterment of the publication. Suggestions, views and constructive criticism are always welcome.

Any queries may be forwarded to address given below.

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