

Response to COVID-19 crisis in Nepal

GIZ Support to the Health Sector Programme

Health Cluster Coordination Meeting 25th June 2020



Implemented by

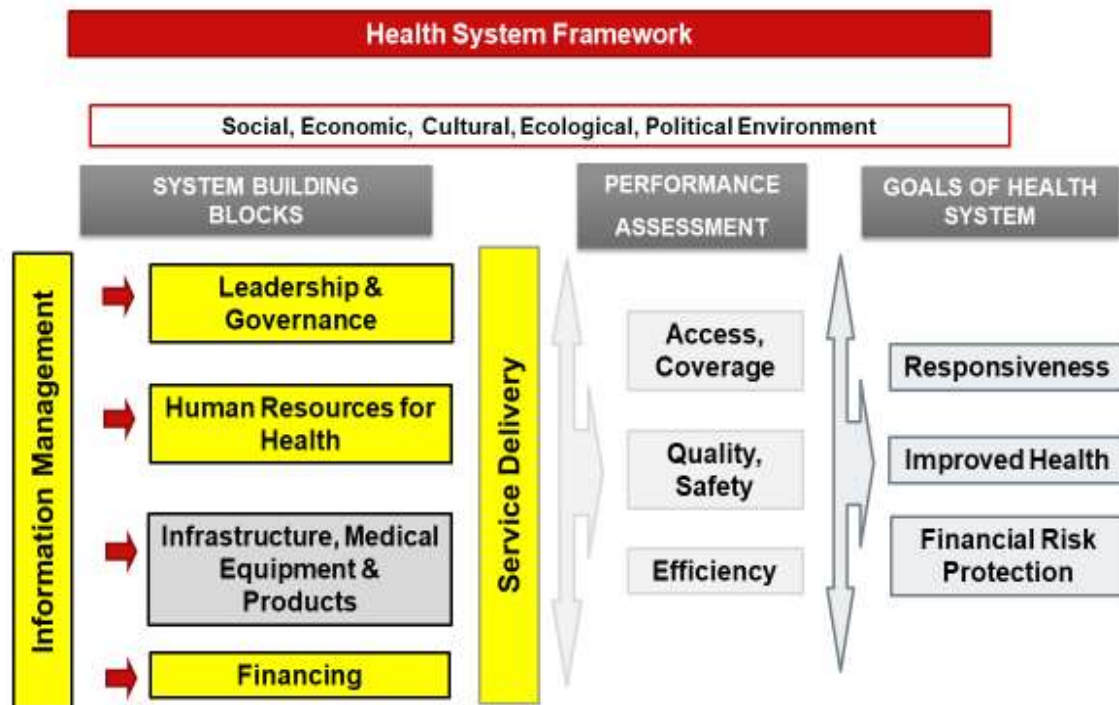
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
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Outline:

1. Bilateral Support to Health Sector Program (S2HSP)
2. German Response to COVID-19
3. Response to COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal
4. Ongoing & planned activities
5. Key challenges & concerns



Strengthening health systems



Objective

To improve equitable access of the population to health services in supported municipalities

S2HSP is aligned with the Nepal Health Sector Strategy (NHSS 2015-2020)

Thematic areas of collaboration under S2HSP

- A. Implementing a social health protection system
- B. Supporting the availability of qualified human resources for health
- C. Strengthening governance in the health sector
- D. Digitalizing health information systems and work processes, including improving the monitoring of health and health-relevant SDGs
- E. Promoting adolescent health and development

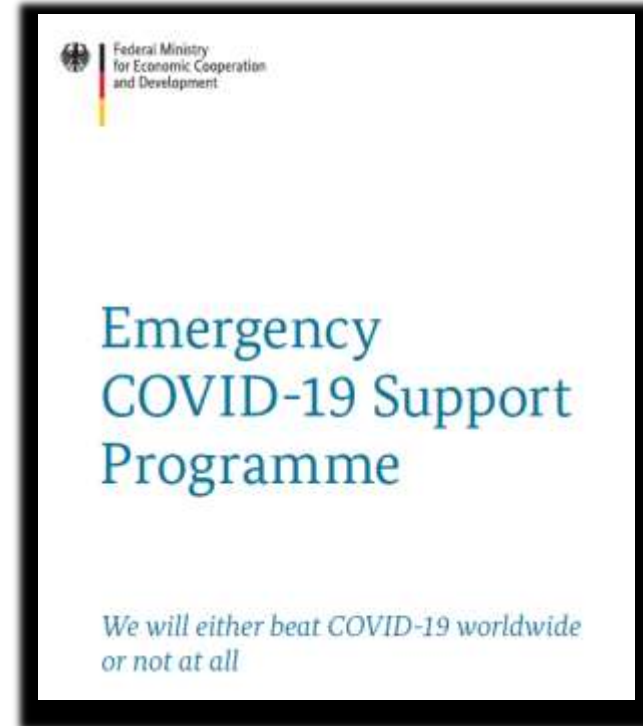
➤ Timeline: 01/2016 - 06/2021



“We will either beat COVID-19 worldwide or not at all”
German Response to COVID-19 crisis

The German Development Ministry (BMZ) set up a one-billion-euro Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme by restructuring the budget to be able to increase efforts in the following seven areas incl.

- (1) Health and pandemic control (200 Mio to WHO, World Bank, GAVI, Gobaal Fund) ;
- (2) Food security and basic food services to prevent famines (200 Mio to WFP, (4) Social protection and securing jobs in global supply chains, (7) International Cooperation



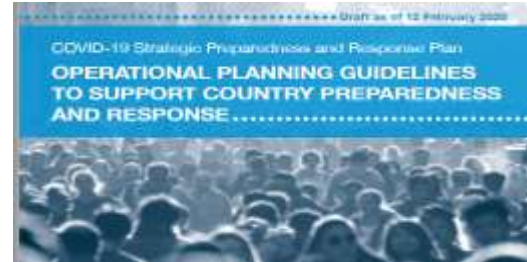
http://www.bmz.de/en/zentrales_downloadarchiv/Presse/bmz_corona_paket_EN.pdf

Alignment with international and national Response Plans

In End March 2020, GIZ Nepal has received additional Euro 1 Mio. from the German Government (through BMZ) for the combat of COVID-19 in Nepal

This amount will be used for contributions linked to 5 out of the 8 pillars of **WHO COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness & Response Plan (Feb 2020)** – specifically the Pillars (3) Surveillance, Rapid Response Teams and Case Investigation; (5) National Laboratories, (6) Infection Prevention & Control (IPC), (7) Case Management, (1) Coordination, Planning, and Monitoring

Selected areas of the **Health Sector Emergency Response Plan COVID-19 Pandemic of the Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP)**, Government of Nepal



A strong and resilient health system is the best basis to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic

Therefore, GIZ supports

- ✓ immediate COVID-19 response measures – link to GIZ's ongoing Health System Strengthening project, e.g.
 - Digitalizing work processes in the health sector
 - Improving the healthcare waste management system
 - Promoting e- and simulation-based learning approaches
- ✓ strengthening social protection measures, such as health insurance schemes and promoting the set up of a social registry to cover especially people falling into poverty due to mid-and long-term social consequences of the pandemic

Most technical advisors assigned to COVID-19 response

Surveillance, Rapid Response Teams, and Case Investigation (5) (in collaboration with WHO)

Enhance real-time Surveillance through EWARS for Covid-19

- new daily reporting module developed and is already live
- Almost 50% of the 118 sentinel sites have started sending data

Enhance case Investigation and Contact Tracing for Covid-19

Customized WHO standard tool using go.data software platform.

- This system is also live but not utilized fully. Paper based questionnaire is also being used
- Training provided to task team and data is being entered

Customized digital laboratory reporting module to be used by COVID-19 designated laboratories and provided training to 13 COVID-19 designated labs and data managers at provinces.

Prepare real-time dashboard and data analysis features:

- Dashboard prepared and functional
- Daily graphs embedded in emails sent to policy makers

- Province 1
- Province 2
- Bagmati
- Gandaki
- Province 3
- Karnali
- Subsahyans
- Total cases

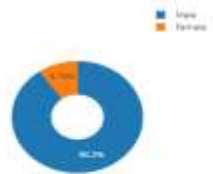
Confirmed Cases	Active Cases*	Recovered Cases*	Death*
10099	7851	2224	24



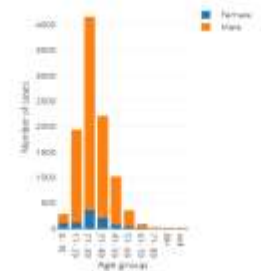
COVID-19 Statistics: Nepal



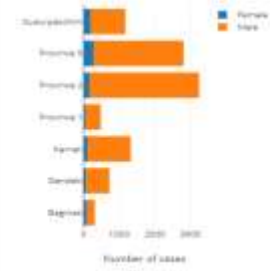
Cases by sex (n=10099)



Cases by Age and Sex



Cases by Province



National Laboratories (5)

- Provided 23,000 RT-PCR tests with necessary consumables in two batches (2nd May and 6th June 2020) to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL)
- Offered e-learning and training to lab technicians through RKI (Robert-Koch-Institute) in collaboration with Charité Berlin and SEEG (GIZ Pandemic Preparedness Team)



Infection Prevention and Control (6)

GIZ has assisted the MoHP to develop waste management plan and guidelines (approved) plus provided equipment to ensure proper management of infectious waste from arriving planes and in quarantines stations (completed in Feb 2020)

Support on healthcare waste management and WASH in 13 hub hospital:

Supported do develop the healthcare waste management and WASH concepts and practices in 13 hub hospitals dedicated to COVID-19 treatment.

- Rapid assessment using digital tool on IPC, HCWM and WASH in hospitals (with WHO, UNICEF)
- Developed SOP of HCWM and WASH in quarantine and hub hospitals, and interim support is being done through virtual guidance along with basic HCWM and IP logistic
- Supported HEOC/ MoHP in development of guidelines and SoPs

<https://heoc.mohp.gov.np/update-on-novel-corona-virus-covid-19/>

Provide equipment, Healthcare waste treatment center, training, sustainable HCWM system establishment to hub hospitals (ongoing)



Case Management (7)

- Provide PPEs, masks and other medical supplies: 1,450 PPE procured and handed over to MoHP on 25.3.2020; procurement of additional 6,000 PPEs in process*
- Trained newly recruited 28 medical officers, 4 nursing officers and 41 staff nurses on IPC and critical care in coordination with National Health Training Center (NHTC) (8th to 10th April, 2020) |
- In coordination with other partners, roll out a practice-oriented training program (online training/ orientation for in and outside valley) for health staff in ICU and hubs

* For information on provided supplies and equipment see MOHP request matrix and GIZ/GDC's commitments



Initial support to Coordination, Planning, and Monitoring (1)

- Support MoHP in these functions and provide remote support to province and selected municipality (NPJ, Dhangadhi, Godawari)
- Developed a digital tool to monitor availability and daily occupancy rate of ICU beds as well as availability of staff and equipment (including functionality) to monitor the functionality of the facilities (completed)
- Supporting MD/DoHS in developing monitoring matrix of commodities supported by EDPs and doing regular update (completed)
- Monitoring of regular service delivery: support to IHMIS unit (ongoing)

Ongoing & planned activities

- HCWM and WASH in 13 COVID designated hospitals including HCWM guidelines developed (endorsement pending), training packages developed (endorsement pending)
- Support in strengthening lab capacity – training, procure PCR extraction machine (in planning - coordination required)
- Integrated WASTE management in Dhangadhi (intersectoral collaboration and cooperation with other GIZ bilateral projects on governance and local economic development (planned)
- Capacity Development of informal waste workers (IWWs) in Nepalgunj (planned cooperation with MDM)
- Clinical management training (Basic ICU and IPC) training outside KTM valley (planned)
- Surveillance system strengthening through digital solution (ongoing)
- Establish WASH facilities (WASHLOTS) in selected schools and health facilities (planned)

Key Challenges & Concerns

- Movement restriction due to prolonged lockdown
- Procurement of supplies and essential commodities
- Availability of reliable vendors and suppliers in crisis
- QA of essential commodities related to COVID 19 – national standards, specifications, certification
- Coordination to optimize synergy amongst MoHP and EDPs and between local, province and federal government
- Ensuring optimal use of digital tools developed by GIZ (only 50% of health facilities report regularly)
- Beyond the health cluster & emergency response: role of health insurance schemes, importance of a social registry to scale up social protection measures in times of economic crisis

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