

Report on National Advocacy Meeting for Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding

Executive Committee of Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum (NEBPROF) decided to form a core group of six persons with Prof. Prakash S. Shrestha as the Co-ordinator for conducting the National Advocacy meeting for Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding. The core group in listed the stakeholders of Infant and Young Child Feeding in the country and after consultation with them decided to fix the meeting on 9th April 2013 (27th Chaitra 2069). Official invitation were sent to different INGO, NGO, Professional Organization, members of NEBPROF by e-mail as well as letter & confirmed by telephone calls. This meeting was attended by 36 participants.

The program was organized from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM on 9th April 2013 at Hotel Radisson, Lazimpat, Kathmandu. List of participants & details of the program is attached with this report. Each participant was registered & the materials for the meeting were distributed during registration.

Inauguration of the meeting was started as scheduled. In the beginning Prof. Prakash Sunder Shrestha, President of NEBPROF welcomed all the dignitaries as well as the participants in the meeting by delivering welcome speech. Prof. Prakash S. Shrestha highlighted on the objective of the meeting as well as the next few activity NEBPROF will be conducted under SAFANSI Project. He highlighted the necessary of coming together of all the stakeholders on Infant and Young Child Feeding in the country. He expressed that the presence of dignitaries from different organizations in this advocacy meeting shown the commitment of the stakeholders to improve Infant and Young Child Feeding in Nepal

Prof. Ramesh Kant Adhikari from Kathmandu Medical College expressed the need of more work in Infant and Young Child Feeding & he mentioned that we have to come forward with innovative ideas to reach the children at community level. Mr. Manav Bhattarai from World Bank highlighted on the different activities carried out by World Bank under SAFANSI in Nepal like multi-sectoral nutrition plan, capacity in micronutrient at community level, gender equality, food and nutrition security etc. Mr. Ashok Bhurtel from WHO highlighted on different activities carried out by WHO on nutrition & child health. He also emphasized in the need of developing cultural acceptable indigenous complementary food for managing malnutrition and expressed the need of reactivation of BFHI in the country.

Dr. Saba Mebrahtu from UNICEF highlighted on different activities carried out by UNICEF in the country regarding IYCF. She also expressed the need of multi-sector approach for managing the nutrition in children & also expressed about the need of community level support to mother in Infant and Young Child Feeding. She also expressed the need to learn from the past experience of BFHI activities in the country. She mentioned that it will be nice idea if UNICEF can work together with Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum.

Mr. Raj Kumar Pokharel, Chief, Nutrition Section, Child Health Division highlighted on different activities carried out by the Nutrition Section, Child Health Division. He also mentioned about the recent governmental approval of multi-sectoral nutrition plan and different strategies developed by the government to improve IYCF in the country. He also expressed the need for



reactivation of National Committee on Promotion, Protection & Support of Breastfeeding as well as cooperation with different INGO, NGO & Social Societies & Professional Organizations to improve Infant and Young Child Feeding in the country.

Mrs. Tara Pokharel, Campus Chief, Maharajgunj Nursing Campus thanked all the designators & participants for attending this advocacy meeting inspite of their busy schedule. This was followed by Tea Break.

After the tea break each participants were requested to introduce themselves with name, designation and organization they are working for. After introduction of participants first presentation of the meeting on WBTi 2012 Assessment report was done by Dr. Kalpana Tiwari, Nutrition Expert, USAID, KISAN project. She highlighted how the data was collected, verified using the WBTi tool. She also explain why according to this tool Nepal obtained 92.5 scores only after elaborating as the each indicator & the number of score obtained. Then the floor was open for the discussion during the discussion participants raised the questions regarding code monitoring has how it can be so high when there is not much monitoring, she explained about the scoring system according to tool. Issues were raised regarding the BFHI situation and maternity protection.

This was followed by presentation on Delhi Declaration of World Breastfeeding Conference of 2012 by Mrs. Tulsi Adhikari, Assistan Professor, Maharajgunj Nursing Campus. During this presentation she highlighted on the importance of Breastfeeding as well as reasons for low optimal breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding. She also mentioned that 1st World Breastfeeding Conference 2012 at Delhi was attended by participants from 82 countries coming from diverse groups including government, breastfeeding organizations, health care providers, peoples organization, international NGO & individuals. She elaborates on 12 points of Delhi Declaration one by one. This was followed by the general discussion regarding the meeting at Delhi. This was followed by Lunch break.

After Lunch break Prof. Prakash S. Shrestha, President of Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum presented a description of SAFANSI project and action plan to improve IYCF in the country. During this presentation he highlighted on the activities to perform by Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum under the SAFANSI Project in collaboration with BPNI. He also highlighted on the different activities SAFANSI of World Bank has been carrying out in Nepal. He also highlighted on the action plan presented at workshop of SAFANSI during the workshop on 10th December 2012 at Delhi. This was followed by active discussion. During discussion many participant raised the issues on how to reach the community level, need support for Infant and Young Child Feeding at grass root level. Some participants raised the issues of reactivating BFHI and need of the BMS code monitoring. Some participants raised the issues of recommending locally made indigenous & culturally acceptable complementary food instead of RUTF to severely malnourished child. Need for mother support group & the need of increasing maternity leave from present 60 days in Government to at least 14 weeks as per ILO recommendation then gradually increasing it to six months was suggested. During the discussion Mr. Raj Kumar Pokharel, Chief, Nutrition Section mentioned that the Government has form Nutrition Technical Committee with multi-sectoral involvement to improve nutrition situation in the country. After elaborate discussion everybody agreed on the following recommendations.



The final recommendations of the National Advocacy Meeting for Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding:-

1. Reactivation of the National Committee on Promotion & Protection of Breastfeeding & authorizing the Nutrition Technical Committee (Nutech) to take active role.
2. Reactivation of BFHI after conducting proper training.
3. Identification of nodal person for monitoring the BMS Code & conduct training on BMS Code monitoring.
4. Increase maternity leave to ILO recommendation of 14 weeks at present & gradually increase it to make 6 months leave, leave should be made available in private as well as informal sector with nursing breaks.
5. Review & incorporate practical training in IYCF in pre-service and in-service training.
6. Creating necessary mother support group for Infant and Young Child Feeding at community level where the majority of population stays.
7. Generate support for involvement of mass media and press people for IYCF.
8. Increase collaboration between Government and different stakeholders working of IYCF.
9. Developing multi-sector strategy for improving IYCF in the country.
10. Develop comprehensive communication frame work on IYCF.
11. Strengthening the monitoring & evaluation system on IYCF.
12. Establish clear budget line for breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Policy & Program.

After this meeting was adjourned followed by tea break.



National Advocacy Meeting for Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding

List of Participants

S.No.	Name	Designation	Organization	E-mail ID
1.	Ms. Tulashi Adhikari Mishra	Lecturer	IOM, Nursing Campus	tulsi_50@hotmail.com
2.	Dr. Prakash S. Shrestha	President	NEBPROF	prakashsunder@hotmail.com
3.	Ms. Mina Banepali	Nursing Supervisor	TU Teaching Hospital	minabanepali@yahoo.com
4.	Dr. Merina Shrestha	Ass. Professor	TU Teaching Hospital	drmerinashrestha@gmail.com
5.	Ms. Sarmita Dhakal	Research Assistant	NHRCS	Sarmiladhakal527@yahoo.com
6.	Dr. Kalpana Tiwari	Nutrition Expert	USAID, KISAN Project	Kalpanatiwari9@yahoo.com
7.	Ms. Sanne Bakker	Nutritionist	WFP, UN	Sane.bakker@wfp.org
8.	Dr. Binod M. Shrestha	Consultant Pediatrician	Kanti Children's Hospital	drbinod@yahoo.com
9.	Mr. Manav Bhattarai	Health Section	World Bank	mbhattarai@worldbank.org
10.	Ms. Pradiumna Dahal	Nutrition Specialist	UNICEF	pdahal@unicef.org
11.	Ms. Saba Mebrahtu	Chief, Nutrition	UNICEF	smebrahtu@unicef.org
12.	Mr. Raj Kumar Mahato	PM-HEN	Save the Children	rajkumar.mahato@savethechildren.org
13.	Ms. Neera Sharma	Sr. PC-Nutrition	Save the Children	neera.sharma@savethachildren.org
14.	Mr. Pooja Panday Rana	Director, Prg. Implementation	SUAAHARA	ppanday@hki.org
15.	Mr. Deepak Thapa	Prg. Manager	NTAG	deepakthapa@mail.com.np
16.	Dr. Kailash Sah	Gen. Secretary	Nepal Pediatric Society	sahkailash@hotmail.com
17.	Ms. Geeta Gurung	Matron	Kanti Children's Hospital	gita-gurung999@hotmail.com
18.	Dr. Madhu Dixit Devkota	Professor	Institute of Medicine	devkota@neuro.org.np
19.	Ms. Naramaya Limbu	Team Leader	USAID	nlimbu@usaid.gov
20.	Ms. Shree Laxmi Singh	Nursing Staff	TU Teaching Hospital	
21.	Prof. Ramesh Kant Adhikari	Professor in Pediatrics	Kathmandu Medical College	ramesh479@gmail.com
22.	Dr. Dhan Raj Aryal	Deputy Director	Maternity Hospital	drdraryal@hotmail.com
23.	Dr. Indira Satyal	President	Perinatal Society of Nepal (PESON)	indirasatyal@yahoo.com
24.	Dr. Laxman Shrestha	Associate Professor	Institute of Medicine	laxmanshree@yahoo.com
25.	Mr. Sumit Karn	TC-NP	CHD/SUAAHARA	link2sumit@gmail.com
26.	Mr. Raj Kumar Pokharel	Chief, Nutrition Section	CHD/DOHS	rajkumarpokharel@gmail.com
27.	Mr. Ashok Burtyal	National Professional officer	WHO	Bhurtyalnesearo.who.int
28.	Dr. Sheela Verma	Director	Maternity Hospital	Sheelaverma23@hotmail.com
29.	Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma	Lecturer in Pediatrics	TU Teaching Hospital	docarunsharma@gmail.com
30.	Ms. Dharma Laxmi Shrestha	Nursing Director	TU Teaching Hospital	dlshrestha@hotmail.com
31.	Ms. Tara Pokharel	Campus Chief	Maharajgunj Nursing Campus	
32.	Dr. Sakura Shrestha	Physician	Child Health Research Project	
33.	Ms. Sarita Shrestha	Executive Member	NEBPROF	
34.	Ms. Sushila Adhikari	Executive Member	NEBPROF	
35.	Ms. Ram Laxmi Dhaubhadel	Treasurer	NEBPROF	
36.	Mr. Sukramani Kuikel	Staff	NEBPROF	



National Advocacy Meeting for Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding 27th Chaitra 2069 (9th April 2013)

Venue:- Hotel Radisson, Lazimpat, Kathmandu

Programme

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Program</i>
01.	09:30 – 10:00 AM	- Registration
02.	10:00 – 10:45 AM	- Inaugural Function - Welcome Address & Objective of Meeting - Prof. Prakash S. Shrestha, President, NEBPROF - Remarks by:- - Prof. Ramesh Kant Adhikari, Kathmandu Medical College - Dr. Manav Bhattarai, World Bank - Mr. Ashok Bhurtyal, WHO - Dr. Saba Mabrahtu, UNICEF - Mr. Raj Kumar Pokharel, Chief, Nutrition Section, CHD - Vote of Thanks - Mrs. Tara Pokharel, General Secretary, NEBPROF
03.	10:45 – 11:15 AM	TEA BREAK
03.	11:15 – 11:30 AM	- Introduction of Participants
04.	11:30 – 12:30 Noon	- WBTi 2012 Assessment Report – Dr. Kalpana Tiwari, Neutrition Expert, USAID, KISAN Project - Discussion
05.	12:30 – 01:30 PM	- Delhi Declaration of World Breastfeeding Conference 2012 - Mrs. Tulshi Adhikari, Assist. Professor, Maharajgunj Nursing Campus - Discussion
06.	01:30 – 02:30 PM	LUNCH BREAK
07.	02:30 – 3:30 PM	- Description of SAFANSI & Action Plan to Improve IYCF - Prof. Prakash S. Shrestha, President, NEBPROF - Discussion
07.	03:30 – 04:00 PM	- Final Recommendation of the Meeting
08.	04:00 PM	TEA BREAK


