



North East Centre for Equity Action on Integrated Development

Report

Hand Washing and Diarrhoea Prevention Campaign in Schools



Conducted by:

District Health Society, Morigaon

In partnership with

Northeast Centre for Equity Action on Integrated Development (NEAID)

Acknowledgments

We, the team at Northeast Centre for Equity Action on Integrated Development (NEAID) take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the District Commissioner, Morigaon, for his guidance, support and encouragement for IDCF related activities in the district. We would also like to express our sincere thanks to the Joint Director of Health Services and members of the District Programme Management Unit (DPMU)- Mr. Dipan Kalita (DPM), Ms. Nilakshi Medhi (DME), Mr. Bhabesh Bhuyan (DAM), Mr. Maipak Singha (DCM), Naba Medhi (DDM) and Mr. Nupur Gohain (DDSM) in collaborating with us to organize the campaign successfully. Furthermore, Inspector of schools and District Elementary Education Officer has been a constant source of support both prior to and during the campaign.

We are indebted to all the Block Program Management Units of the District who have tirelessly supported us in implementing the campaign successfully. Special thanks to our associated partners and field activists for their active involvement and inputs during the campaign.

Last, but not the least, we are grateful for the support shown by our funder-District Health Society (National Health Mission, Morigaon) who have placed immense faith in us and our work.

In gratitude

NEAID Team (Health)

Morigaon, Assam

Date: 28th August 2014

Background:

To achieve Millennium Development goal four and one of the objectives of National Health Mission on reduction of child mortality. An Intensified diarrhoea control and prevention campaign was planned by MoHFW to minimize diarrhoeal deaths in India. It is estimated that every year around 2 lakh children die due to diarrhoea in India. Out of total under five deaths in India, diarrhoea contributes 11% of deaths. The epidemiological data shows that most of the deaths occur during monsoon and summer. It is scientifically proved that these diarrhoeal deaths can be avoided by treating dehydration during diarrhoea by use of ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution), administration of Zinc tabs along with clean and nutritious food. It can be prevented with proper sanitation, exclusive breastfeeding and complimentary feeding, safe drinking water and hand-washing. It is found that diarrhoea is common to children who are malnourish or don't take nutritious food.

Therefore to reduce the U-5 child mortality, a two weeks intensified campaign was launched in most of the states of India from 28th July to 8th August'2014. The campaign was named as "Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) with an aim of 'Zero deaths due to Childhood diarrhoea'. The activities plan as proposed in guideline during the IDCF campaign is given in figure -1.

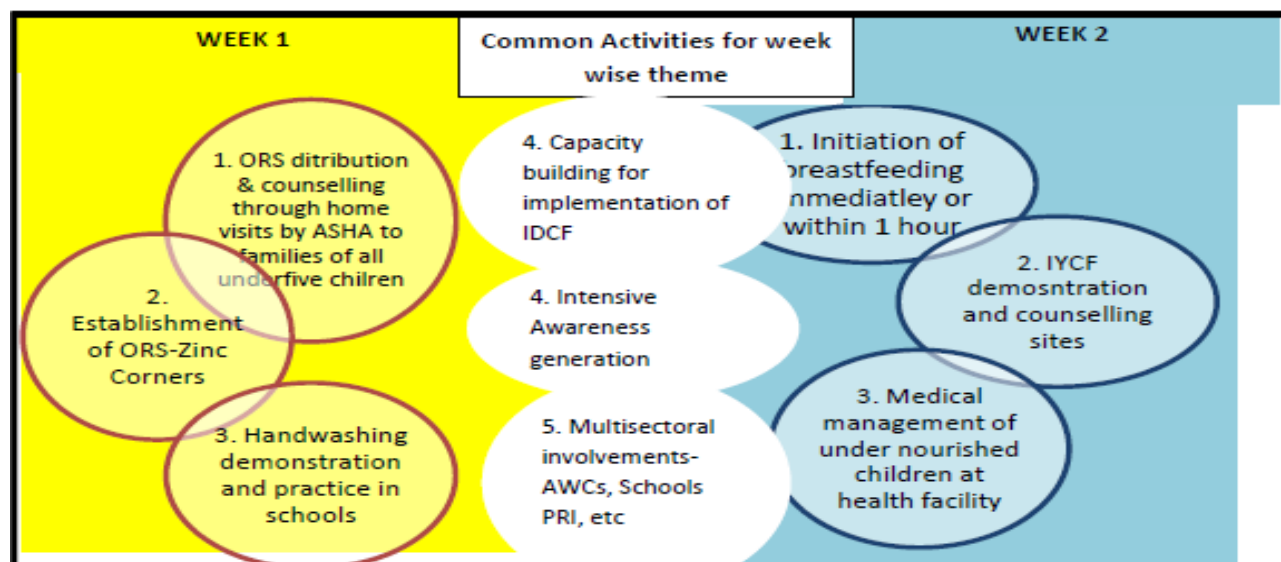


Figure-1: (Operational framework of IDCF Campaign)

As an NGO Partner, **NEAID** had provided support to the District Health Society during the IDCF Campaign. During the IDCF campaign, **NEAID** had conducted TOT at district level, Supported DPMU in mobilization of logistics, implemented the Hand washing campaign and disseminate the knowledge of diarrhea prevention in 50 schools of the district. The area of work was strategically chosen considering the schools located in flood prone areas to have maximum impact out of the campaign.

Training of Field Activist

The orientation workshop was organized jointly by **NEAID** and DPMU, Morigaon to orient field activists and supervisors in Hand washing techniques and diarrhea prevention among school children. The workshop was attended by 18 participants and conducted by 4 trainers and 2 resource persons. The daylong workshop was comprised of both theoretical and practical sessions. The subjects covered in theoretical sessions are prevention of Diarrhea, Hand washing practice and use of ORS and Zinc. The theoretical session was followed by practical sessions of Hand washing and preparation of home based ORS. To ensure quality of the program each participant were asked to give hand washing demo to trainers in 2:1 ratio. Furthermore, a checklist was prepared by the resource persons on the topics to be covered during school children orientation. In order to conduct the orientation of school children in effective manner, participants were asked to give counseling to the trainer and each other's on the related topic. An interactive feedback session was conducted towards the end of the workshop wherein all the participants including a participants and trainers shared their secessions and previous experience on the issues.



Hand washing campaign organized in 50 school covering 8762 children in flood prone areas carried out with support of 18 field activists, 8 support staffs and 4 monitoring officials by NEAID in collaboration with District Health Society, Morigaon.

Campaign in Schools

The Hand washing campaign under IDCF program was carried out in 50 schools with schools attendance of 8762 children. The schools were selected for the campaign was from flood prone areas of the district. The entire campaign was carried out by 18 field levels counselors, 8 support staff for logistics management and 4 monitoring officials (2 each from **NEAID** and NHM district officials). The Hand Washing orientation in schools were conducted particularly during morning assemble and before mid-day meal in multiple batches to have maximum attendance of children. After the demonstration, children were asked to wash their hands under the supervision of field activist. The counseling to children was given in three different dialogues according to the commonly spoken dialogue in that particular area.



Other activities

As a part of the IDCF campaign, drawing competition was organized in some schools covered under the campaign. The theme of the drawing was based on sanitation and Hygiene practices. Around 216 children participated in the drawing competition held at different locations. Before the drawing competitions the participants were briefed on sanitation and hygiene by a trained resource person.



During the second week of program, NEAID along with district health officials had supported the Block Programme Management units in disseminating the knowledge of Breastfeeding, hand washing techniques and intake of nutritious food. Counseling sessions were organized at community and facility levels on the related topics. The counseling sessions attended by both expecting and lactating mothers

