



The DOH-JICA EP/MCH PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT 2000

THE DOH-JICA FP/MCH Project Phase II Annual Report for the Year 2000

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DOH-JICA FP/MCH PROJECT II

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2000

I. Overview of Year 4

The fourth year of the Project's implementation can be described as having a mixed character... one of reflection as well as anticipation.

On the one hand, it was a time to look back on the past years of the Project to analyze the success or failure of its activities; and to determine the lessons learned from them.

On the other hand, it was also an opportune time to look ahead towards the future... to find ways and means to ensure its counterparts' readiness to take full charge of activities, as well as impart the lessons learned in this Project to help improve the implementation of future projects.

It was a time to analyze the Project's strengths and focus on activities that were more in line with its project objectives. Hence, it was in this fiscal year that the Project came up with a primer that categorized all its activities into a simplified framework.

It was a time to make decisions about which matters needed more assistance and support and which ones have reached full maturity and independence from the Project.

One activity that needed such support surfaced during this fiscal year, with the completion of the Japanese Grant Aid Project: Upgrading of Facilities and Equipment in Selected Field Health Units in Region III. The project enabled the inclusion of these new facilities as expansion sites for the implementation of our revitalized Under Five Clinic Program.

It was a time to tackle the issue of sustainability of programs and activities which it has started in the region. Fortunately, it was also a time to usher in some welcome developments that eased the anxieties about the future, such as:

- a) the integration of certain project activities into the counterparts' regular/routine services to ensure their sustainability even after the project period ends; and
- b) the expansion of certain beneficial activities to areas beyond the current pilot sites at our counterparts' own initiatives.

Truly, the new millennium brought about not just new challenges but also fresh hope to all the people behind the FP/MCH Project, as it approaches completion in March 2002.

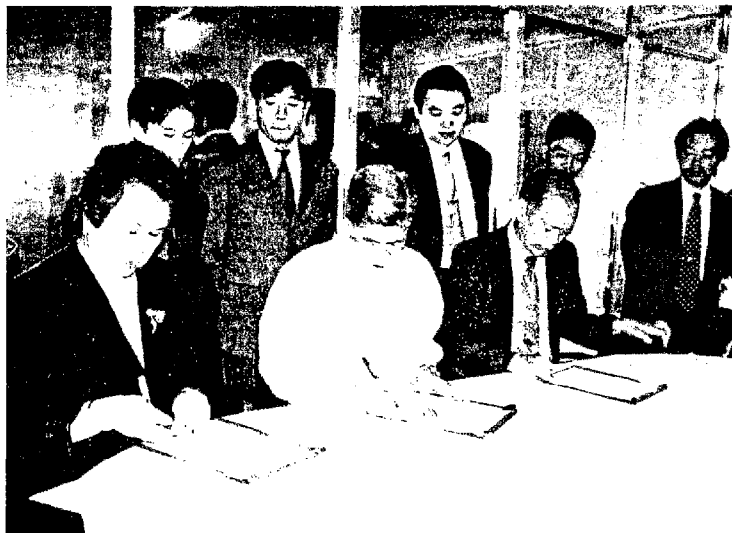
II. Project Review

Visit of JICA Management Consultation Team

A five-member Management Consultation Team for the FP/MCH Project was dispatched to the Philippines from November 16 to 23, 2000. The members of this mission were:

1. Dr. Toshitaka NAKAHARA
Team Leader
Professor, Department of Public Health,
Graduate School of Medicine
Kyoto University
2. Dr. Shigeru SUGANAMI
Community Health Chairperson
Asuka-kai Medical Inc.
3. Dr. Seiji UTSUMI
Information, Education,
Communication Expert
Professor, Faculty of Human
Sciences,
Osaka University
4. Mr. Naoyuki KOBAYASHI
Deputy Director, First Medical
Cooperation Division,
Medical Cooperation
Department
Japan International Cooperation
Agency Headquarters
5. Mr. Hisakazu HIRAOKA
Officer-in-Charge, FP/MCH
Project
First Medical Cooperation
Division
Medical Cooperation
Department,
Japan International Cooperation Agency
Headquarters

The Mission members conducted field visits to observe major activities of the Project. The Team also met with officials of the Department of Health, the Regional Health Office III, and the various Provincial Health Offices in the region. They exchanged views and had a series of discussions with the Philippine authorities concerned about the on-going activities of the Project. In the discussions with local health officials, the operation plan for the remaining years of the Project was likewise reviewed.



Signing the Minutes of the Meeting are Dr. Toshitaka Nakahara and USEC Antonio Lopez, assisted by Dr. Ethelyn Nieto



Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting

The meeting of the Joint Coordinating Committee was held on November 21, 2000 at the Holiday Inn Resort, at Clarkfield, Angeles City. The meeting was a gathering of all the six Provincial Health Officers, officials of the Regional Health Office III and partner NGOs, representatives from other cooperating regional government offices, such as the National Economic



Ms. Remedios Paulino, Assistant Regional Director of RHO-III, answering

Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Commission on Population (POPCOM). Also present were the JICA Project Experts and staff as well as members of the JICA Mission.

During the meeting, a mid-term review of the Project was conducted. Ms. Remedios Paulino, Assistant Regional Director of the Regional Health Office III presented the accomplishments of the Project. Participants shared valuable insights and gave inputs for further improving project implementation.

III. Project Activities and Accomplishments for Year 4

Monitoring and Evaluation

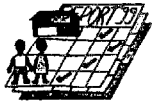
Monitoring of the Under Five Clinic Program Implementation

The implementation of the revitalized Under Five Clinic (UFC) Program started with the Training of Trainers (TOT) carried out by the Project in 1997 and 1998, in collaboration with the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center-Under Five Clinic. Health workers from six (6) Provincial Health Offices and provincial hospitals, some NGO representatives and staff from selected Rural Health Units were trained as trainers.

There are 19 UFC pilot areas, namely: Orani and Abucay in Bataan; Subic and San Marcelino in Zambales; Sta. Ignacia and Capas I and II in Tarlac; Zaragoza and Guimba in Nueva Ecija; Plaridel I & II, Guiguinto I & II, San Ildefonso I, II, III in Bulacan; and Guagua, Lubao II & III in Pampanga.



UFC implementation in Guimba, Nueva Ecija



Implementation in these pilot RHUs began in April 1999. It was envisioned that the services under the UFC program will be mainstreamed as regular health care services for mothers and children.

Monitoring of UFC activities, particularly in the pilot RHUs, were continued in Fiscal Year 2000. These included visits to pilot RHUs, observation and checking of the records and subsequent discussion with the doctors, nurses and midwives on how to further improve their operation. Monitoring is done with the technical staff of the various Provincial Health Offices. A monitoring list has been devised to serve as a guidepost in monitoring.

Evaluation Studies of Three Ongoing Activities

JICA's "Monitoring by Local People" scheme enabled three NGOs from the Luzon NGO Network (LUZNET) to conduct evaluation studies of some of the Project's activities. Selected for evaluation were: the TV 99 video showing, Teatro 99: Papet Show, and the Tosang Manufacturing Program.

Evaluation of TV 99 Video Showings

The TV 99 Video Series is part of JICA's Health Advocacy Program. It was started in 1995 with the production of video materials focusing on health education, particularly on disease prevention and health promotion. Among those produced include videos on Basic Hygiene, Cholera, Nutrition, Dental Hygiene, Dengue, Rabies. Video showings were conducted by the JICA

IEC Team based in Tarlac. To date, more than 390 video showings have been conducted since 1995, when the activity was started.

In Fiscal Year 2000, the College of the Immaculate Conception - Guidance and Rehabilitation Assistance for Children through Education (GRACE) Project undertook a study to monitor and evaluate the TV 99 video showings. The objectives of this study were: to check the relevance of the project in response to the needs of the residents; to determine the positive and negative impacts of the project on the residents; and to identify the lessons

extracted from the project and collate the suggestions as reference for future project formulation.

The study revealed that there is a significant difference in the health values and practices between viewers and non-viewers of the TV 99 programs grouped according

to barangays and programs viewed. Viewer barangays have better health values and practices than non-viewer barangays.

It should be noted, however, that this study was made using only schoolchildren as respondents, whereas the videos were shown to the general public and did not target only children as their audience.





Evaluation of Teatro 99: Papet Show

Teatro 99: Papet Show is a stage play presentation using different interesting puppet characters as medium for health education and information education.

For Year 4, an evaluation study of Teatro 99: Papet Show was conducted by Dr. Yanga's F.B. Colleges in ten (10) elementary schools in Gapan, Nueva Ecija, to determine whether the puppet show was successful in its goal of educating/informing the respondents on health issues.

Its findings revealed that exposure to Teatro 99 might have contributed something to the students who watched it, but such exposure was not strong enough to bring about sudden or drastic changes on the part of the students.

Contrary to this evaluation study's expectations, however, the Project has never envisioned a drastic behavioral change among viewers as a direct result of watching a single episode of Teatro 99. The Papet Show was meant simply to create awareness on certain important health issues, while, at the same time, providing wholesome entertainment to its viewers.

Impact Evaluation of "Tosang" Concrete Pipe Manufacturing Program in Bulacan and Bataan

The tosang manufacturing program is a community empowering endeavor, aimed at teaching people how to manufacture tosang (a local term for concrete pipes used in making toilet tanks), and subsequently, to use these pipes to construct their own latrines.

In Fiscal Year 2000, Ms. Dolores Tizon of Our Lady of Fatima College, conducted

an evaluation study of the tosang manufacturing project in Calumpit, Bulacan and Orion, Bataan. The study revealed that the respondent families were benefited by the said undertaking, and that the project was successful in providing not only health facilities, but also health education to the Calumpit and Orion communities where the project was conducted.

Training Program

Local Training

UFC Training for New Facilities

By the end of Fiscal Year 2000, the construction of new health facilities consisting of five (5) Maternal and Child Health Centers, 18 Rural Health Units and 60 Barangay Health Stations under the Japanese Grant Aid Project were completed. These facilities were designed to have equipment and space for an Under Five Clinic. Thus, to enable them to implement the UFC program properly, the FP/MCH Project extended support to these health facilities by way of training, monitoring and supervision.



UFC Training at the Bagulo General Hospital



Each of the Provincial Health Offices organized and conducted a five-day training program on the operation of the UFC program to help the health service providers of said facilities set up their UFCs. The training, which includes a three-day didactic phase and a two-day practicum is envisioned to provide knowledge and skills on different UFC services, the ROTA system, the uses and advantages of the growth monitoring chart (including how to plot, interpret and evaluate it). The practicum was held at the Baguio General Hospital's Under Five Clinic. The participants included doctors, nurses and midwives from the new RHUs and BHSs. Serving as resource persons and facilitators were the technical staff of the Provincial Health Offices and some implementors of the UFC in the 19 pilot RHUs.

UFC Training for BHWs

In a Barangay Health Station or in an RHU, the community volunteer health worker or Barangay Health Worker (BHW) is an equally important health service provider. They perform tasks such as home visits, health education, referral of patients, first aid and treatment of simple diseases, record keeping and reporting. In the UFC, they assist the nurses and midwives in carrying out the UFC services.

In view thereof, the PHOs of Tarlac and Nueva Ecija organized and conducted UFC training courses in their respective provinces to orient and educate their BHWs on the important health programs within the umbrella of UFC and its operation. It is their belief that the BHWs, together with the Rural Health Midwives, should be able to implement the UFC program well and accurately especially in the plotting of weights and weighing of the baby. The four-day live-out training courses (three days



Participants in the UFC Training for Barangay Health Workers

consisting of the didactic phase and a day for practicum) were participated in by a total of 63 BHWs (35 in Tarlac and 28 in Nueva Ecija).

Training of Barangay Health Workers on MCH

To equip the Barangay Health Workers with the necessary knowledge and skills in Maternal and Child Health, a BHW Manual on MCH was developed and produced by the Project. The manual contains useful basic and technical information which the BHW can use as reference in guiding mothers towards proper health care.

Training courses were held in Zambales (March 5-7, 2001), Bataan (March 14-16, 2001), and Bulacan (March 20-23, 2001) with the aim of equipping and strengthening the knowledge, skills and attitude of the BHWs for them to be able to provide the mothers with effective and efficient health care. These covered topics such as the BHWs' role and responsibility as health workers, prenatal, natal and post-natal care, and UFC services. A total of 105 BHWs participated in the training courses (35 for each province).



Workshop on the Use of the Maternity Jacket

Among the educational materials provided by the Project to help the PHOs in their educational or training activities is the Empathy Belly or the Maternity Jacket. This educational material is designed to simulate the actual pregnancy conditions and could therefore be very useful in conducting demonstrations to males and even teenagers.

A one-day workshop (held September 15, 2000 in San Fernando, Pampanga), was designed to demonstrate to PHO staffers the proper use of the Empathy Belly or the Maternity Jacket. The workshop allowed the participants to experience pregnancy conditions and understand the difficulties of pregnancy.

Training on Women's Health & Gender Sensitivity

To be gender sensitive means:

To realize that social norms have led to differences in the roles and expectations of men and women, resulting in discriminatory practices against women.

To believe that human relationships should be guided by the principles of equality, equity and active non-discrimination in all spheres of interaction.

To work for the eventual elimination of these sources of discrimination in the home, the workplace, the community and society.

In its deliberate effort to include a gender perspective in the design and

implementation of plans and programs for better health care services, the Project conducted a Training on Gender Sensitivity Among Health Workers. The first was held on October 15, 1999 in Dinalupihan, Bataan. It was followed by a series of training courses in different RHUs of Bataan.

For Year 4, the Provincial Health Office of Zambales conducted another gender-sensitivity training (March 12-16, 2001 in Iba, Zambales) with the objective of upgrading the quality of MCH services in order to reduce maternal and child morbidity and mortality. A total of thirty (30) midwives from different municipalities participated. During the training, active participation was emphasized, especially in the demonstration and return demonstration



Participants in the Training on Women's Health and Gender Sensitivity

of needed skills such as infusion, how to do and assist normal safe delivery of infants. Women's Health Kits and a manual from the Women's Health and Safe Motherhood (WHSM) Project was provided to all the participants as their guide in the field.



Seminar-Workshop on Team Building

A two-day seminar workshop on team building for the Bataan PHO personnel was held in Subic, Olongapo City on January 31 to February 1, 2001. The seminar workshop, which had 40 participants, aimed at fostering a good working relationship among the personnel at the Bataan Provincial Health Office to help bring them closer to the achievement of their common goals.

Technical Exchange

Consultative Meeting with the UFC Program Implementors

A meeting with selected Municipal Health Officers and Rural Health Physicians of the pilot RHUs implementing the UFC program was held on September 5, 2000 at the DOH Region III Conference Room. It was held primarily to get a feedback on the monitoring activities conducted by JICA experts and to plan for alternative actions to strengthen the implementation of the program.

Exchange Forum on the Sustainability of the Under Five Clinic Program Implementation

The training of health workers on the operation of the UFC program from the pilot RHUs has equipped them with the necessary capability to implement the program. These RHUs have adopted innovative ways to set up a functional UFC. Since health workers from the new health facilities (constructed under the Grant Aid Project) have been trained as well on the operation of the UFC program, it was deemed necessary to bring them to the pilot RHUs so they could meet their counterparts, be able to observe the set-

up, and eventually gain from the experience of their counterparts. In Tarlac, the visit was conducted on March 20, 2001 and had 30 participants, while that in Nueva Ecija was conducted on April 3-4, 2001, with 29 participants.

Counterpart Training

Training on FP/MCH Program

To enhance the capability of health workers to plan, promote, coordinate, monitor and evaluate public health programs particularly in the field of family planning/maternal and child health and reproductive health, the Project sent two (2) representatives to JICA's Counterpart Training on FP/MCH.



Ms. Lourdes Cruz

Held in Okayama City, Japan from February 20 to March 18, 2001, the Philippines was represented by Ms. Lourdes Cruz of the Bataan Provincial Health Office and Dr. Gloria Punzalan of the Regional Health Office.

During the 27-day training, the participants learned about Japan's medical and health systems and its maternal and child health program. Trips to hospitals and other health facilities



Dr. Gloria Punzalan

and institutions exposed the trainees to the highly efficient management system of the centers. The participants also took note of some public health activities which may be adapted in their own communities.



Training on Designing and Producing Multimedia for Education

The training was held in Okinawa, Japan from January 3 to April 28, 2001. The Project sent Ms. Ma. Arlene Arbas of the Multimedia Center of the Department of Health.



Ms. Ma. Arlene Arbas

The course included techniques in producing print IEC materials using different programs like Photoshop and Pagemaker. The training program participants were also given lectures on basic photography, the World Wide Web, making simple web pages, video camera operation, and video editing. Educational trips to Osaka, Kyoto and Tokyo were also undertaken.



Participants in the JICA Counterpart Training in Okinawa, Japan

Group Training in Japan

The training program for overseas participants is one of JICA's fundamental technical cooperation activities for developing countries. The training program

aims to: (1) contribute to the development of human resources who will promote the advancement of developing countries, and (2) contribute to the promotion of mutual understanding and friendship.

For Fiscal Year 4, two representatives from the Philippines were chosen to participate in two training programs in Japan.

Training Seminar on Reproductive Health of Adolescents

The training was held in Tokyo, Japan from February 13 to March 11, 2001. The course objectives were: (1) to have a better

understanding of the subject and to develop an effective strategy for reproductive health approach for adolescents, and (2) to develop and utilize appropriate IEC materials for community-based

adolescent health activities, and (3) to formulate a network of experts in the field of adolescent reproductive health. The training focused on the uplifting of adolescent self-esteem, sexual education, value for life, and gender equality.



Ms. Gina Cruz

The Philippine representative for this training is Ms. Gina Cruz of the Bataan Provincial Health Office.

Training on Maternal and Perinatal Medicine

This training was held in Kobe, Japan from February 12 to April 28, 2001. The training objectives were: (1) for the participants to have a clear understanding of the medical situation and the medical system of premature neonates in Japan, and (2) for



them to have a clear understanding of medical management methods in high risk pregnancy, diagnostic techniques on neonates and examination methods of hygienic epidemiology for mothers and children.

The Philippine representative chosen for this training is Dr. Mary Ann Vargas of the Pampanga Provincial Hospital.



Dr. Mary Ann Vargas (right) during the Training on Maternal and Perinatal Medicine in Kobe, Japan

Upgrade of Medical & IEC Equipment

Medical Equipment

To strengthen the implementation of the Under Five Clinic Program, the Project provided basic medical equipment and instruments to its pilot areas. These equipment include: salter scales, hemoglobinometers, weighing scales (both for adults and for children), haemometers, nebulizers, sphygmomanometers, breast models, obstetrical simulators and dopplers. The Project also distributed educational

equipment such as Magnel Kits, Maggie the Apron Kits, Empathy Belly (Maternity Jacket) and Doll Models for bathing to enhance the conduct of health education in the region.

IEC Equipment

The National Center for Health Promotion (formerly known as the Public Information and Health Education Service or PIHES) of the Department of Health handles the production of all IEC materials of the department. To assist efforts in further strengthening this division in the production of quality materials, the Project, this year, donated audio-visual equipment, such as battery packs and battery chargers for Betacam and mini-video lights; equipment for its printing office such as platemaker and computers for desktop publishing. Computers were also distributed to the DOH Multi-Media Center for Excellence.

The Project provided computers and basic presentation equipment to the Provincial and Regional Health Offices in Region III to further enhance their training and advocacy functions.

Community Empowerment

Medicine Revolving Fund

In the previous years, the Project has endorsed the proposals of five (5) NGOs to avail of JICA's Medicine Revolving Fund. Three (3) of these NGOs in Central Luzon have received such assistance last Fiscal Year. This Fiscal Year, the Project, led by Dr. Takeaki Kunori, monitored the implementation of the program in these



three NGOs, namely, the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM), the Social Action Center of Pampanga (SACOP), and the Zambales Botika Binhi Worker's Federation (ZBBWF).

Zambales Botika Binhi Worker's Federation

Through the efforts of the Project, the Botika Binhi Program was introduced in the province of Zambales. As the number of botika binhi outlets in the province grew, the Zambales Botika Binhi Worker's Federation, Inc. (ZBBWF) was organized. The medicine provided by the Project through JICA's Medicine Revolving Fund is intended to ensure the sustainable and efficient operation of the botika binhi outlets.

At present, 59 botika binhi outlets have been put up in the municipalities of Iba, Botolan, Palauig and Masinloc. No branch has dropped out since the program started in 1998. Plans for the further expansion of this program are being studied.

Luzon NGO Network (LUZNNET)

Recognizing the important role of non-government organizations (NGOs) and People's Organizations (POs) in marginalized and underserved communities, the Project supported the establishment of a network of NGOs in Luzon.

The Luzon NGO Network (LUZNNET) was established in March 2000 as an offshoot of a training program to build the capacity of local NGOs for health development. This program, funded by JICA, was intended to improve the NGOs'

abilities, particularly in project development, management, monitoring, evaluation and financial management. Initial membership came from the 13 NGOs that completed the NGO echo training in September 1999.

This Fiscal Year, LUZNNET focused on organizational matters, such as its Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) registration, the location of a permanent office space for the network, and designing of its logo. In terms of network activities, LUZNNET developed proposals on community empowerment and capability building. It also applied for JICA's "Monitoring by Local People" scheme in behalf of three of its member NGOs.



Development and Production of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Materials

For Fiscal Year 2000, the Project, under its Information-Education-Communication (IEC) Program, has continued to produce video and print materials that address the health concerns of adolescents, mothers and children.



Video Materials

Adolescent Video Series: STD / AIDS

Adolescence is a time of transition between two worlds: the happy, carefree world of the child and the world of the responsible adult. It is the awakening to new things, new experiences, new abilities, relationships, and perspectives.

It is also a period of discovery, a period when one is drawn to experiment - with clothes, language, personal appearance, lifestyle, and yes, sex and drugs. The sad truth is, most adolescents do not realize the consequences of their actions until it's too late.

It is in this context that the Project decided to produce the Adolescent Video Series - a series of videos addressing the problems associated with adolescence.

For Year 4, the Project has come up with its fifth installation. This time, the focus is on sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS. The video drama aims to educate teenagers

on the different kinds of STDs, what they can do to prevent them from getting it, and what measures to take when one has it.

TV99 Series: TB (Primary Complex)

Tuberculosis, although a fatal disease, is curable and preventable. It is, however, contagious and can infect any person, young or old. Thousands die from tuberculosis every year.

Primary complex is the early stage of tuberculosis in children. Early detection and treatment of the disease is very important.

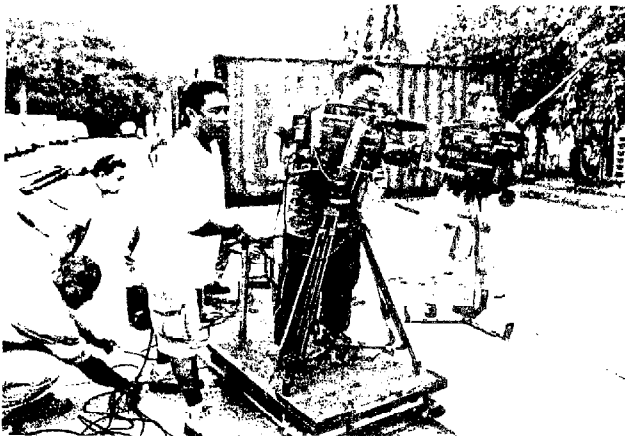
The video serves as a health guide to primary complex. It also gives tips and measures on how to deal with the disease.



Documentary Video : The Project's Video Showing Expansion Program

Initially, the Project's main avenue for disseminating its health video productions was through the regular video showings conducted in various public areas in Tarlac. For the rest of Region III, the video showings were limited to selected RHUs and hospitals with video equipment. Similarly, the distribution of the adolescent video productions was also limited. Mainly, they were distributed to Provincial Health Offices and to some NGOs with programs for adolescents.

For its expansion program, the Project wanted to reach a wider audience to maximize the utilization of its productions. Hence, it targeted schools as the next venue for its video showings. It distributed video copies to Region III schools and sent project teams to monitor the showings. (See item on "Video Expansion")



Shooting of the Adolescent Video on STD/AIDS



To inform more people about this expansion program, a documentary about it was produced for Year 4. It aims to inform the viewers about the program and its effectivity. The documentary includes interviews with those who have watched the videos.

framework, and services. It also features a report on the population and health status of Central Luzon. Five hundred (500) copies of this informational material were printed in this fiscal year.

Print

Reproductive Health Supplementary Training Kit

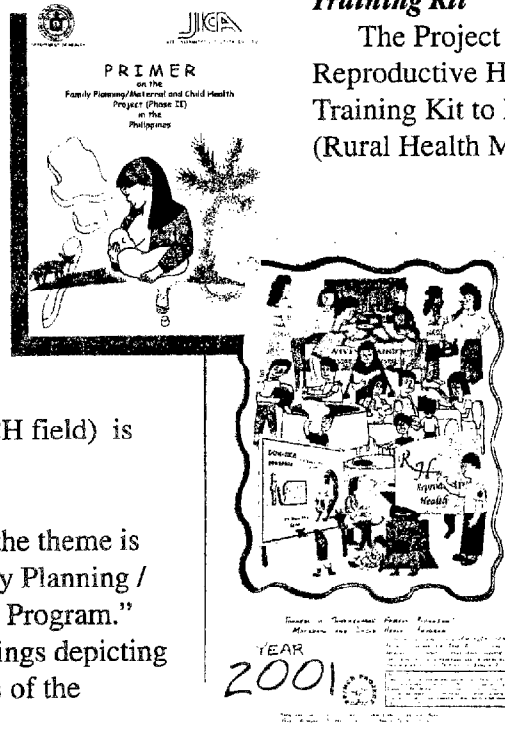
Calendar 2001

The Project came up with a Reproductive Health Supplementary Training Kit to help field health workers (Rural Health Midwives, Rural Health

Every year since its inception in 1992, the Project has developed and designed its annual calendars. Each year, a different theme (one which is related to or associated with the FP/MCH field) is conveyed.

Physicians, and Public Health Nurses) better understand the basic concepts of reproductive health so they can provide clients with quality RH services and information.

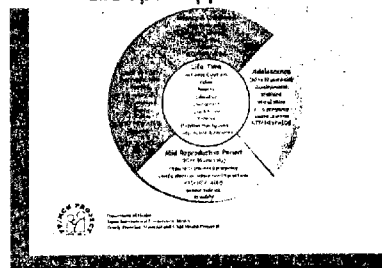
For the 2001 calendar the theme is "Towards a Suitable Family Planning / Maternal and Child Health Program." It is composed of six drawings depicting the activities and programs of the Project in Central Luzon. Five hundred (500) copies of this calendar were printed, and they were distributed to the public, private individuals, offices and agencies especially those related to the Project.



The kit contains 16 transparencies, 6 drawings, 14 slips, and a script for role play. 20 sets of transparencies and illustrations were

printed this year.

Life Span Approach to RH



Reprint of MCH Record Book

The MCH Record Book for Mothers records all information required to monitor the mother's pregnancy and early growth and development of her child. The booklet integrated all the record forms being used in health clinic into a simple and more affordable material.

Primer

A primer on the FP/MCH Project (Phase II) of JICA in the Philippines was printed in FY 2000. It presents a bird's-eye view of the Project, including its history, goals,

For this Fiscal Year 20,000 copies of the record book were reprinted and distributed to the pilot areas of the Project's Under Five Clinic Program.

Reprint of BHW Manual

A Manual for Barangay Health Workers (in Tagalog) was developed in 1999 to assist BHWs in providing effective care service on reproductive health and maternal and child health. The manual contains useful basic and technical information which the BHWs can use as a reference in guiding mothers towards health care. This year 1,000 copies of this manual were reprinted.

Advocacy Activities

TV 99 Video Showing

For its fourth year, the Project continued to conduct showings of health education videos called TV 99 series in various barangays throughout Region III.

Around 15 video showings have been conducted during Fiscal Year 2000. The last regular (night time) showing was conducted on May 2000. Since then, conduct of the showings was turned over to the Tarlac PHO, which later focused on schools as venues. Special showings are still conducted upon the request of barangay leaders.

Teatro 99

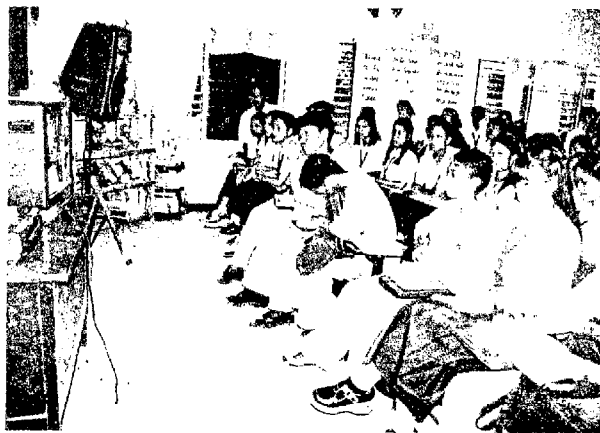
Teatro 99: Papet Show is an innovative stage play presentation using different

puppet characters as medium for effective health education and information.

For Year 4, the Project saw the continuing success of Teatro 99 performances. To date, shows using puppetry to educate audiences on health concerns have reached various schools in Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Bataan, and Zambales.

Video Expansion

The Project has produced a number of videos on health and adolescent issues for the Department of Health. Part of the Project's IEC Program is to maximize the utilization of all these materials and to expand their reach beyond the existing set-up of distribution via health structures.



High School Students watching a DOH-JICA video

A Media Survey conducted in previous years identified public and private schools in Region III as potential channels for health education through these video materials. The Media Survey identified a total of 374 schools (elementary and secondary combined) in Region III which

have the necessary mass media equipment, such as TV sets and VHS players, for film showing. This list was compiled with the help of the Provincial Divisions of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

In consultation with the regional office of the DECS, 100 schools throughout Region III were selected as initial recipients

of the videos. Distribution of the video materials started in 1999 and was completed in September 2000. Since then, focus was geared toward monitoring of the video showings, to determine the effectivity and usefulness of the videos.

In December 2000, an intensive monitoring was conducted in ten (10) selected schools throughout Region III. The monitoring had favorable results: the videos were appreciated by students and teachers as helpful educational aids.

Mother's Classes

Conceptualized by Ms. Aurora de Guzman (FP/MCH Coordinator, Nueva Ecija Provincial Health Office), Mother's Classes was first conducted on a quarterly basis in Guimba RHU I. They were later adopted in Zaragoza RHU II.



Pre-testing of the Discussion Guide for the Adolescent Video Series in Baguio

In the classes, pregnancy-related topics are discussed. These topics include: stages of pregnancy, preparations for delivery, importance of regular prenatal check-ups, proper nutrition, family planning, breastfeeding practices, UFC program, post-natal services, and the like.

This Fiscal Year, the Nueva Ecija MCH Center also started their own Mother's Class. The first was held on June 14, 2001. It was attended by 42 pregnant woman in various stages of gestation. Their husbands also participated in the session.

Discussion Guide for Adolescent Videos

The Adolescent Video Series produced by the Project now has five episodes. These videos aim to increase adolescent awareness and discussion on sexuality, specifically on menarche, teenage pregnancy, sexual identity, drugs, and sexually transmitted diseases.

This year, the Project, in cooperation with the Baguio Center for Young Adults

(BCYA), developed a Discussion Guide to be used by individuals as a session guide for structured learning exercises, group discussion, or training that show episodes of the

adolescent video series. It is to be used by school teachers, guidance counselors, peer facilitators, and trainers as a guide in watching the video materials and discussing pertinent issues and concerns thereafter.

Provision of Technical Assistance

Dispatch of Experts

During this Fiscal Year, seven short-term Japanese experts were dispatched to the Project. They were:



Mr. Hiroshi Sato (center), Expert on Primary Health Care with other JICA Experts

1. Mr. Hiroshi SATO
Expert on Primary Health Care
Duration: May 4 - 24, 2000
2. Dr. Kazunari SATOMURA
Expert on FP/MCH
Duration: July 27 - August 22, 2000
3. Mr. Motoi WATANABE
Expert on Gender & Development
Duration: July 27 - August 24, 2000
4. Dr. Tomofumi SONE
Expert on Primary Health Care
Duration: August 17 - September 8, 2000
5. Ms. Yoko HARADA
Expert on IEC
Duration: September 18 - October 13, 2000
6. Dr. Shinji TAKEMURA
Expert on Primary Health Care
Duration: January 15 - 26, 2001
7. Ms. Masako YAMAGUCHI
Expert on MCH
Duration: January 29 - February 23, 2001

Grant Aid Project

In 1992, with the implementation of Local Government Code of 1991, the Philippine Government took steps - in coordination with rural communities and participation of local residents - to expand access of health and medical services on a local community-based system centered on mutual assistance and self-reliance. The grassroots facilities, such as Rural Health Units (RHUs) and Barangay Health Stations (BHSs), were established with the purpose of making health facilities maximally proximate to the daily life of the rural population, and serve to improve access to preventive services in the areas of public hygiene, and maternal and child health.

Nevertheless, many of these health facilities, intended to provide direct service to the local population, are obsolete or rented facilities, and suffer from drastic shortages of equipment and medical supplies. Thus, the Philippines Government, through JICA, requested the Japanese Government to provide assistance on the Project for Upgrading of Facilities and Equipment in Selected Field Health Units in Region III.



Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo with Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit during the inauguration of the MCH Center in Guagua, Pampanga



Construction of new health facilities, consisting of five (5) Maternal and Child Health Centers, 18 Rural Health Units and 60 Barangay Health Stations under the Grant Aid Project were completed at the end of this Fiscal Year.

During the construction of these new facilities, the Project provided technical assistance to its counterparts for them to better understand the mechanics and requirements of the Japanese Grant Aid scheme. At the same time, the Project also provided technical support for the development of plans to effectively utilize these facilities for the implementation of MCH programs. To ensure this, the Project conducted UFC training courses for the health workers assigned in these newly constructed facilities.

IV. Project Visitors

This year, the Project welcomed several batches of visitors and observers to project sites in Region III. Most of them wanted to learn more about the Project and observe its activities, particularly at the grassroots level.

Among the groups welcomed by the Project were:

- Participants in the Fieldwork Fellowship for International Health Cooperation
- Participants in the JICA Prospective Expert Training Course in PHCC
- Participants in the Field Study Tour of Kansai Conference (Japan Association for International Health)
- Students of Osaka Christian College (field study tour)
- Evaluation Team for JICA USAID Joint Evaluation on Population & Health Sector in the Philippines
- Mexican researcher Ms. Pilar Munoz
- Ms. Chisaki Sato (Japanese medical anthropologist)
- Mr. Kentaro Imamoto (Japanese medical student)
- Ms. Yuko Yamashita (Student, Graduate School, Kobe University)

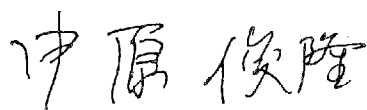
**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BETWEEN THE JAPANESE PROJECT CONSULTATION TEAM
AND THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
ON THE PHASE II OF THE FAMILY PLANNING AND MATERNAL
AND CHILD HEALTH PROJECT**

The Japanese Project Consultation Team (hereinafter referred to as "the Team"), organized by Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JICA") and headed by Dr. Toshitaka Nakahara, visited the Republic of the Philippines from November 16 to 23, 2000 for the purpose of reviewing the activities concerning the Phase II of the Family Planning and Maternal and Child Health Project (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"), and discussing the future implementation plan of the Project.

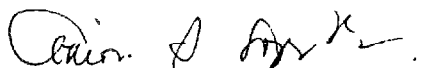
During its stay, the Team exchanged views and had a series of discussions with the Philippine authorities concerned about the activities and implementation of the Project.

As a result of the discussions, both sides agreed upon the matters referred to in the document attached hereto.

San Fernando, Pampanga, November 22, 2000



TOSHITAKA NAKAHARA, MD, MPH, Ph.D.
Leader
The Project Consultation Team
Japan International Cooperation Agency
Japan



ANTONIO S. LOPEZ, MD, MPH
Undersecretary of Health
Luzon Health Development
Department of Health
The Republic of the Philippines

ATTACHED DOCUMENT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS:

A. Both sides reviewed the conduct of the following activities for the implementation of the Phase II Project.

From 1999-2000, the following activities were conducted:

1. CONDUCT OF SURVEY, MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES :
 - 1.1 Evaluation study on the implementation of the Botika Binhi Program in Tarlac
 - 1.2 Health Data Board - This is a community-based information system which provides updated data on selected health indicators. Health Data Boards, which are maintained by community health volunteers, were put up in all thirteen barangays of San Jose, Tarlac.
 - 1.3 Monitoring of the implementation of the Under Five Clinic Program in pilot areas

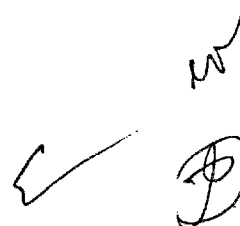
2. IMPLEMENTATION OF A TRAINING/RE-TRAINING PROGRAM FOR HEALTH WORKERS:
 - 2.1 Local training on Interpersonal Communication Skills, MCH Refresher Course, particularly on Maternal Care, Maternal Nutrition and Child Growth Intervention, Under Five Clinic Program, Family Planning for Male Motivators, Gender Sensitivity, and a Capability Building Program for BHWs
 - 2.2 Counterpart Training in Japan on Family Planning/Maternal and Child Health (FP/MCH) and Information, Education and Communication (IEC)
 - 2.3 JICA's Technical Exchange Program, in cooperation with the JICA Reproductive Health Project in Vietnam.

3. UPGRADE OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:

Provision of medical equipment to field health units (Rural Health Units and Barangay Health Stations), particularly those used in the implementation of the Under Five Clinic program, as well as the provision of IEC equipment to Provincial and Regional Health Offices and the Public Information and Health Education Service of the Department of Health (DOH)

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4. CONDUCT OF HEALTH-RELATED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES:
 - 4.1 Medicine Revolving Fund, in partnership with NGOs implementing community-based activities in Central Luzon;
 - 4.2 Environmental Sanitation Program, which involves the construction of toilet facilities using "Tosang." - Tosang is an inexpensive cemented hollow container used in toilet construction; This program has both a health education and a skills training component.
 - 4.3 Health Advocacy Activities, such as:
 - 4.3.1 Those implemented on a continuing basis:
 - TV 99: the regular community film showing activity in Tarlac
 - Teatro 99: Puppet Theater presentations in schools and communities; and
 - 4.3.2 Other Advocacy Activities, such as:
 - Expansion of Reach and Coverage of the Video Showing Program
 - Conduct of Mothers' Classes
 - Adolescent Health Needs Assessment Forum
 - Exchange Forum for Under Five Clinic Program Implementation
 - Formal Launching of the Luzon NGO Network (LUZNET)
 - Provincial Workshop on Health Management
5. DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF IEC MATERIALS:
 - 5.1 Development and production of print materials, such as: the Year 2000 Calendar, MCH Manual for Barangay Health Workers (BHWs), MCH Record Book
 - 5.2 Production of video materials, such as the Adolescent Video on Teenage Pregnancy and Drug Addiction, TV 99 Series on Rabies, and a Documentary on the Under Five Clinic Training Program.

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6. **PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:**

In close consultation with the Project, the assistance as described below are provided for Local Government Units (LGUs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):

- 6.1 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)
- 6.2 General Grant Aid Program for Region III
- 6.3 Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects
- 6.4 JICA's Community Empowerment Program for NGOs in Region III
- 6.5 JICA's Drug Revolving Fund for NGOs and other agencies in Region III

B. Both sides confirmed the conduct of the following activities for the coming years of the Phase II Project:

1. **SURVEY, MONITORING AND EVALUATION:**

Regular updating of the provincial profiles/data bases from the results of Project monitoring and the conduct of evaluation activities

2. **TRAINING/RE-TRAINING PROGRAM FOR HEALTH WORKERS:**

Conduct of a Capability Building Program for barangay health workers and midwives

3. **UPGRADE OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:**

Provision of additional medical and IEC equipment needed by health workers to perform their functions more effectively

4. **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES:**

Cooperation with a core of NGOs and People's Organizations (POs) in Region III for the conduct of various health-related community activities

5. **DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF IEC MATERIALS:**

The Project will continue to develop print and audio-visual materials, in cooperation with the DOH's Public Information and Health Education Service (PIHES).

- 5.1 MCH Manual for barangay health workers (BHWs) in Tagalog developed by the Project as training and reference guide for BHWs
- 5.2 MCH Record Book

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- 5.3 Development of an IEC video package for adolescents, which includes discussion guides for the Health Educator/Facilitator
- 5.4 Development of an IEC Video package on health for mothers and the general public, which includes discussion guides for the Health Educator
- 5.5 Exploring new mass-based channels for dissemination of IEC materials, like schools and community assemblies, and the use of appropriate mass media

6. CONDUCT OF OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- 6.1 Conduct of a pilot program for adolescents
- 6.2 Promotion of gender sensitivity in the implementation of the FP/MCH program
- 6.3 Implementation of a gradual transition period for the turn-over of all Project activities to counterparts in preparation for the completion of the Project in March 2002

C. For the remaining period of cooperation, both sides agreed to maximize all efforts for the successful implementation of the Project.

D. The Philippine side mentioned the need for further cooperation related to the JICA FP/MCH Project after March 2002. Taking into account the critical period during the health reform agenda for Region III, the Team indicated that further clarification and discussion would be necessary for this.

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