



MACHI HEALTH NEWS

Dissemination Forum

On the 16th of May 2012, a Dissemination Forum was held for enhancing the understanding of SMACHS-EV Project and its activities, to share good practices identified through the project activities, and to disseminate such practices and project experiences for possible replication in other regions. A total of 265 participants from the different parts of the country, representing a cross section of health policy and decision makers, health service implementers and local chief executives, attended the one-day activity.



The participants during the forum dancing with "Sa Health Center, Sigurado ka!" song.

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Dr. EDGARDO E. DAYA

Acting Provincial Health Officer II, Leyte PHO
One of the MC at the dissemination forum



We were looking forward to having this opportunity because this is the biggest event since the JICA SMACHS EV Project started two years ago gathering by counterparts who worked together towards the common goal of "reducing child mortality and improving maternal health" from all over Leyte and Manila. The forum was to appraise and review what we have done in these two years and to foster stronger ties among counterparts to achieve the goal.

In the dissemination forum, as one of the Masters of Ceremonies, I announced the opening on the stage. There, I was able to observe people of various cadre of professions and stakeholders who attended such as Governor Carlos Petilla, Mayors, Directors, Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, and other staff working hard to achieve the common goal from different aspects. I strongly believe that the effort of each of the profession and their cooperative ties resulted in the "Very Satisfactory" rating for the Project Midterm Review. Up to the end of the Project in July 2014, we will maintain and reinforce this close relationship, and work together to achieve the goal.

My heartfelt thanks to all participants of the forum and partners involved in the project, particularly to the CHT volunteers and health workers at the frontline. It was indeed a memorable activity –from the Forum to the socials whereby everybody enjoyed, but most of all deepening the commitment to the project goals.

Main Program

Main program was composed of messages from the speakers, film showing, launching of the MNDR Manual, launching of the Jingle, and sharing of the project experiences.

Messages (according to program order)



Dr. Jaime Bernadas /
Regional Director of
DOH-CHD Eastern
Visayas



Hon. Rafael Omega /
City Councilor of
Ormoc City



**Hon. Carlos Jericho
Petilla** / Governor of
the Province of Leyte



Ms. Satoko Ishiga /
SMACHS-EV Pro-
ject Chief Adviser



**Mr. Shinichi Ma-
suda** / JICA Philip-
pines Senior Rep-
resentative



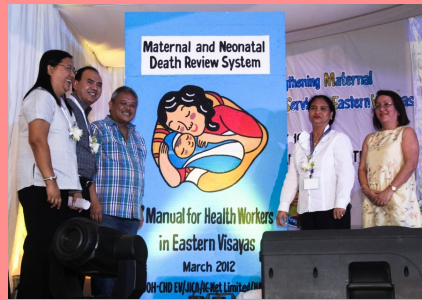
Dr. Erlinda Domingo
/ DOH Central Office
Director III

Ceremonial Turn-over of the Vehicles



For helping the counterparts to monitor field activities, the vehicles were donated from JICA Philippines to DOH Central Office and were shared to the DOH-CHD8, Provincial Health Office of Leyte, and City Health Office of Ormoc.

Launching of the MNDR Manual



A total of 1,500 copies of MNDR Manuals, the nation's first DR Manual containing neonatal, were distributed to the representatives of the different organizations at the forum.

Sharing of Project Experiences and Open Forum

Experience of CHT activities

Dr. Jane Grace S. Solana, the MHO of Merida RHU, shared the CHT activities and how these contributed to the increased use of the health facility, how CHT is being the lead advocate of facility-based antenatal care, child birth and post-natal care, and how their efforts significantly modified health-seeking behaviours of mothers and their families.



**Dr. Jane Grace
S. Solana** / MHO
of Merida RHU

Experience of Ordinance

Hon. Arnold James Ysidoro, the Municipal Mayor of Leyte-Leyte, shared the role of the Local Chief Executive as local health manager. According to him, the promulgation of local ordinance on Users Fees (Local Ordinance No. 001-11, March 4, 2011) summarized how the LGU will be able to support the health initiative, in partnership with JICA-SMACHS-EV. As a result, the health-seeking behavior of constituents has changed dramatically with the positive changes on health services provided by the municipality. After all, his battle-cry in his advocacy is "A Healthy Family is a Healthy Municipality".



**Hon. Arnold James
Ysidoro** / Municipal
Mayor of Leyte-
Leyte

Experience of BEmONC Training

Dr. Lourdes Lampong, the Medical Officer of San Pablo DHC in Ormoc city shared, focusing on San Pablo DHC as a BEmONC center, how the upgrading of health services increased facility based deliveries and decreased neonatal deaths, and the effects of LGU and JICA's support in the improvement of their services. She also mentioned challenges they are facing and how they plan to mobilize the CHTs and lobby for the continued support of the city government for their sustainability.



**Dr. Lourdes
Lampong** / Medi-
cal Officer of San
Pablo DHC

After the sharing, open forum followed and the participants actively queried the presenters based on their field experience.

Social Time

Jingle Performance Competition was conducted by the use of the music, “Sa Health Center, Sigurado ka!” which the SMACHS-EV Project produced for health promotion purpose.



Mainbay ILHZ Team

Mainbay ILHZ Team expressed their full of enjoyment and their showy performances attracted a lot of attention from the participants.



City Health Office of Ormoc City Team Congratulations on your win!



City Health Office of Ormoc City Team gave their soulful and trendy rendition of the jingle and won the Jingle Singing Competition!

DOH-CHD EV & SMACHS-EV Team

DOH-CHD EV together with JICA SMACHS-EV presented their interpretation/choreography of the EV Version of the Jingle.



Julio's Acoustics

The singer and the composer of the Eastern Visayas Version of “Sa Health Center, Sigurado ka!” are members of Julio's Acoustics and they gave a tremendous boost to the dissemination forum! With the participants and their music all combined, a great atmosphere was created.

“The dissemination forum was a memorable experience for us and we enjoyed the opportunity to perform in front of 265 people. We teamed up with the JICA SMACHS-EV Project to disseminate the message of “Let's go to health center for safe delivery, healthy baby and happy family” and to raise awareness of the community. We were very glad and excited to see that all the participants were singing, dancing and, above all, expressing their enjoyment with our music!” (Julio's Acoustics' members)



You can view our Jingle Video from here!

Eastern Visayas Version “Sa Health Center, Sigurado ka!”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BoAZDGZ22s&feature=plcp>

Hon. Arnold James Ysidoro

Leyte, Leyte LGU Mayor



“THE CENTER THAT CARES”

“Pregnancy is the greatest and noblest miracle of life”

The human ovum is not as large as a dot and yet in this cell are bound the future characteristics of human being, who will be the future leaders of a great nation.

This is the very reason why all concerted efforts have been made by the local officials, headed by the Municipal Mayor Arnold James M. Ysidoro, and other government agencies to provide safe and better maternal and child health services for the people of Leyte, Leyte, especially to the mothers-to-be.

Fortunately, the Rural Health Unit of this humble town was chosen as one of the recipients of Japan International Corporation Agency’s (JICA) project in the year 2011. The project included modern medical equipment and basic medical supplies needed to offer better services to the people. Also, JICA project also funding for the training of RHU personnel on Basic Emergency Maternal Obstetrical Neonatal Care (BEmONC), which conducted at Vicente Sotto Hospital, Cebu City.

Aware of this present and urgent need of the Municipality of Leyte and in support to the JICA project, the Department of Health (DOH) has released an amount of PHP 1.5M for the construction of a Health Center and a new Birthing Facility under its Health Facility Enhancement Program which started last May 2012.

Although the Birthing Facility is still under construction, it has already served the people of Leyte, Leyte especially the expectant mothers and newly-born babies. It is noteworthy to mention that positive impact has been observed of this project, maternal death and infant mortality has tremendously decreased for the past two years.

Consequently, the Local Government Unit (LGU) takes the responsibility for the completion of the project, with a 1.5M allocation for, phase II construction. Henceforth, the completion of the project will ultimately answer the need and demand of the people and offer the best and safest maternal and child health care.

With all these care and concern for the female constituents, especially the expectant mothers of Leyte, Leyte, we can say that together with our collective efforts we can make difference in the lives of the people.

As we look forward to the coming years, we are optimistic that Leyte, Leyte will be moving along with the tremendous and wonderful improvement not only in the field of health care and sanitation but also in all areas of development. Let us also be optimistic as we continue to serve the people, to serve each other for the good and benefit of everyone. Let us not grow weary of doing good for in due time, we shall reap our harvest and with God’s grace on our side, together we can make miracles happen.



Mr. Makoto TOBE

Chief Advisor, CAR-LHSS-MCH project
*(Project for Cordillera-wide Strengthening of the Local Health System
 for Effective and Efficient Delivery of Maternal and Child Health Services)*



JICA's Sister Project in the Philippines!

“Let’s work together toward our common goal!”

In February 2012, with technical assistance by JICA, the Department of Health launched a project, “Cordillera-wide Strengthening of the Local Health System for Effective and Efficient Delivery of Maternal and Child Health Services” (CAR-LHSS-MCH). The goal and objective of this project are quite similar to those of SMACHS-EV project’s—to reduce maternal and infant mortalities by increasing facility-based deliveries and utilization of prenatal and post-partum care, and I was quite excited to learn from the experiences and the good practices of SMACHS-EV project. Among many achievements presented during the dissemination forum, a jingle for promotion of health services was quite impressive. I can still vividly remember its lyrics and melody. Also, I had a chance to visit the project sites, and was impressed by well-equipped and beautifully-renovated health facility, as well as dedicated staff, including members of community health teams. I would like to continue exchanging experiences and lessons learned between SMACHS-EV and CAR-LHSS-MCH projects, so that we can work together toward our common goal— better health status of women and children in the Philippines.

CHT CONVENTION

SMACHS-EV Project will be sponsoring CHT conventions in the Province of Leyte and Ormoc City !

From May to September 2011, SMACHS-EV Project conducted CHT orientations and trained a total of 3,159 volunteers in Leyte & Ormoc. While some CHT members have left the team due to family and personal difficulties, others still continue to work as CHT member, with remarkable dedication and willingness to help people in their community.

The CHT convention is an opportunity to reward CHT members who have made an outstanding contribution to our communities, to share their experiences with each other, and to strengthen partnership among CHT members, barangays, LGUs, related organizations and local communities. Please let us highlight the qualities of people who show amazing devotion to the community and deserve wider recognition! Activities will be organized by LGUs of the Province of Leyte and the City of Ormoc with around 3,000 expected participants. Your support to this event is highly appreciated!!!

Schedule of CHT Convention:

Ormoc		November 29,2012	in Ormoc City
L e y t e	Cluster 1	Mainbay	December 4,2012 in Baybay City
		Mabahinhil	
		Maharlika	
	Cluster 2	Kammao	December 6,2012 in Ormoc City
		Leyte West Coast	
		Calesan	
	Cluster 3	Leyte Gulf	December 11,2012 in Tacloban City
		Golden Harvest	
		Leyte Plains	
		Goodwill	

Project Activities & Achievement up to July 2012

In the 1st and 2nd year, the project focused on the capacity building of RHUs, BHSs, ILHZ zones and CHTs to upgrade the scale and quality of performances as well as the provision of equipment to JICA target facilities. All activities were conducted in Leyte Province and Ormoc City, project target areas.



	Category	Activities and main achievement	Target
1	Improvement of services of RHU, BHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provision of BEmONC equipment ● Training of RHU teams (81 staff) ● Training of midwives of BHS (118 midwives) ● Introduction of standardized BEmONC clinical Records 	18 RHUs, 2 Community/ Municipal , 5 DHC
2	MNDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MNDR Training (250 staff) ● Development and provision of MNDR manual (3000 manuals) ● Conduct of the 1st MNDR in the whole Philippines, in Leyte and Ormoc 	All RHUs, DHCs, All District/Provincial Hospital and Private birthing facilities
3	Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training of Hospital BEmONC teams (27) ● Formation of Monitoring TWG and regularly meetings ● Development of tools and training materials for supportive supervision (SSV) ● Training on SSV (48 people) ● Commencement of quarterly SSV 	9 District Hospitals (DH) 9 DH, Chiefs of Hospitals, CHO,PHO
4	CHT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training of CHTs (3,159 CHTs) ● Development of CHT guideline and provision ● Translation of MC Book into Waray and Cebuano and its provision ● Development of Jingle and National adaption 	CHTs of priority barangays of JICA targeted areas
5	ILHZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enactment of ILHZ resolutions on Facility Based ● Delivery, user's fee, Incentives for volunteers and ● Health Referral System Networking all ILHZs in Leyte 	All municipalities in Leyte
6	Referral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Survey on situation of referral system ● SDN meetings 	All target facilities Public and private services providers
7	Dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The conduct of Midterm dissemination forum (265 participants) ● Launching of Jingle and MNDR manual 	All related CPs and staff of EV DOH Manila, JICA International donors, Governor/Mayors of Leyte and Ormoc

Plan of Activities in the 3rd Project year (July 2012-June 2013)

The project passed Mid-turning point safely and now goes into the 3rd Project year in August. The main target of the 3rd Project year is to stabilize and strengthen a monitoring system on BEmONC facilities and CHT activities. With the successful conduct of various training for doctors, nurses, midwives and CHTs during the past 2 years, the big challenge now, however, is how to maintain appropriate level of services at RHUs and to support them through monitoring. Thus, the Project will support to strengthen sustainable monitoring system which can be a model of the Philippines this Project year. Furthermore, the Project will also support the conduct of Maternal and Neonatal Death Review and the enactment of MCH related ordinances by developing reference materials for LGUs. In addition, CHT conventions will be held in November in Ormoc and December in Leyte to motivate CHTs and to strengthen the support to CHTs. The following is the itinerary of main events in 2012. Please join us!

Date (2012)	Events	Target
9/5	Monitoring TWG meeting	Leyte &Ormoc
9/10	BEmONC forms revision	Leyte &Ormoc
9/14	SSV tools revision	Leyte &Ormoc
9/18, 9/20	Orientation of revised BEmONC forms	Leyte &Ormoc
10/3, 10/4	Training on SSV for New Supervisors	Leyte &Ormoc
10/9	TWG MTG on Monitoring	Leyte &Ormoc
10/10, 10/12	Referral Orientation	Leyte &Ormoc
10/16	MNDR Goodwill	Leyte
10/23, 10/24,10/25	Training on SSV for New Supervisors	Leyte &Ormoc
10/25	MNDR Maharlika	Leyte
10/30	PDM modification meeting / CHT Core Team MTG	Leyte &Ormoc
11/6	Ormoc Exective Committee	Ormoc
11/7	Leyte Exective Committee Regional Management Meeting	Leyte Ormoc& Leyte
11/9	Joint Coordination Committee in Manila	Leyte&Ormoc JICA, DOH Manila
11/16	Joint ILHZ TMC meeting	Leyte
11/19	Ormoc Maternal and Neonatal Death Review	Ormoc
11/29	Ormoc CHT convention	Ormoc
12/4	Leyte CHT convention (Cluster 1)	Leyte
12/6	Leyte CHT convention (Cluster 2)	Leyte
12/11	Leyte CHT convention (Cluster 3)	Leyte