Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been a partner for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in Bangladesh to implement the health sector programme for years. In July 2006, the MoHFW with technical cooperation from JICA launched the Safe Motherhood Promotion Project (SMPP) with the aim to improve the health status of pregnant and postpartum women and neonates in Narsingdi district. The SMPP was named as “Narsingdi Model” due to its successful maternal and neonatal health interventions at the community and health facility levels. On completion of the 5-year project, SMPP Phase 2 (SMPP-2) was initiated from July 2011 to consolidate and expand the good practices to improve the quality and utilization of maternal and neonatal health services in Bangladesh. The SMPP-2 is a five-year project and works at the national policy and decision making levels including Satkhira, Jessore, and Narsingdi districts.

**SMPP2 Outline**

**Overall Goal**
Maternal and neonatal health (MNH) status is improved in Bangladesh

**Project purpose**
The approaches to improve MNH service quality and utilization in line with Health, Population, and Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP) are expanded in Bangladesh.

**Outputs**
1. Good practices of MNH services are identified and consolidated in national strategies and guidelines
2. Mechanism to monitor and support replication of good practices is developed for making replicated good practices functional
3. A package of MNH interventions under Upazila Health System (UHS) is developed

**Strategy**
- **Strengthening Health System and Capacity Development**
  SMPP-2 supports a continuous process of enhancing the problem-solving capacity of the MoHFW and the community at both individual and institutional levels.
- **Partnership with Stakeholders**
  SMPP-2 builds partnership with multiple stakeholders to maximize the opportunities for achieving the goals and optimize the use of available resources.
- **Community Empowerment**
  SMPP-2 promotes community-led initiatives through raising awareness and formation of groups in the community.

**Priority areas**
- **Scaling-up of Good Practices**
  SMPP good practices namely, 5S/Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)/Total Quality Management (TQM) and Community Support Groups have been incorporated in the policy paper and national guidelines, and replicated in different parts of the country. Other MNH good practices will be identified, evaluated, and reflected in the national strategies. SMPP-2 assists in establishing a firm foundation to replicate good practices including development of training programs and operational manuals, as well as monitoring system and tools.
- **Quality Improvement of Hospital Services**
  5S/CQI/TQM is a management approach for improvement of hospital services. 5S is the first step to achieve TQM and signifies “Sort”, “Set”, “Shine”, “Standardize” and “Sustain” to improve working environment and nurture positive mindset of the staff. SMPP-2 provides technical assistance to introduce 5S in the public hospitals and helps them to step up the process at advanced stage. In addition, as a direct quality intervention, SMPP-2 provides competency based training on MNH related issues along with supports in logistics and facility infrastructure in selected districts.
- **Revitalization of Community Clinic and Community Support Group**
  SMPP-2 closely works with the Revitalization of Community Health Care Initiatives in Bangladesh (Community Clinic Project) to make community clinics functional through capacity development of Community Groups and Community Support Groups.
- **Introduction of MNH intervention package under Upazila Health System**
  SMPP-2 introduces an integrated package of MNH interventions in Satkhira applying the concept of health systems strengthening. This package contains the activities related to quality MNH service delivery, community mobilization and addressing the needs of hard to reach areas.
- **Engagement of Local Government**
  SMPP-2 promotes engagement of local governments in improving MNH services in the community. The innovative initiatives and good practices of local government are identified and shared through horizontal learning.
- **Advocacy and documentation**
  SMPP-2 documents and disseminates its experiences and lessons learnt for further replication and policy reflection. Researches and studies are conducted to evaluate effectiveness and impact of SMPP interventions and draw policy recommendations.