

A stylized illustration in shades of green and yellow, depicting a woman and a child. The woman is on the left, and the child is on the right, both rendered in a simplified, rounded style. They are positioned within a large, semi-circular frame that is part of a larger circular graphic. The background of the slide is a light yellow-green color.

SECTION 4: Managing Maternal and Newborn Health Services

Session 1: Guidelines on Managing a Barangay-Level Action Plan with the Community

1) Organize the health team

Recommended composition of the team who will lead in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, aside from the midwives are:

- BHWs
- TBAs
- Other stakeholders may be mobilized for community support
 - Barangay captain
 - Barangay kagawad for health
 - Organizational leaders in the barangay
 - Representatives from all sectors in the community (ex. women, farmers, fisherfolk, indigenous people, youth and students, etc.



Remember!

- **The team must have legal identity.**
- **Recognized by the LGUs (provincial, municipal, barangay)**
- **The team can be integrated into the Barangay Council.**
- **The team must have regular meeting with midwife as the team leader**



Functions of the health team

Some of the functions of the health team:

- To refer clients appropriately
- To report maternal death
- To discuss relevant MCH issues with the community
- To track every pregnancy occurring within the community, etc.



Remember!

- **Community participation is important in maternal and newborn care programs.**
- **There is synergy between health and societal factors: economic, political, socio-cultural and environmental.**
- **Empowerment is important in health and development. All sectors must be represented in all undertakings.**



2) Conduct a Situational Analysis

What is a Situational Analysis?

- A method of collecting and analyzing data about the assets and needs of a community, as well as identifying the economic, socio-cultural, political, health and other factors which affect the community.



Why the need for a situational analysis?

- To determine the present maternal and newborn situation in a community.
- It enables everyone to start from where the people are and what they have.
- To determine the adequacy of health facilities in the area.
- To determine what the health facilities have and don't have to deliver quality service.



What will a situational analysis address?

The results of the SA will help local governments address the following concerns:

- causes of maternal deaths, both medical and non-medical;
- current health practices and preferences of the people relative to health;
- adequacy and appropriateness of health infrastructure
- weaknesses of the local health system (lack of basic equipment, essential medicines, competence of health workers)



May also address other issues and problems discovered that are necessarily related to the initial batch of issues and problems

a) Data collection

- **facility mapping**
- **needs assessment**
 - determine with the health team what needs to be collected and analyzed, examples are: number of live births, number of pregnant women in the community, family planning practice, maternal mortality, infant mortality, etc.
 - review available reports, census data, inventories and plans
 - one-on-one interview or focus group discussions among traditional birth attendants in the community
 - organize assemblies and facilitate the discussion on what needs to be collected



Tips on organizing and arranging meetings

- Build contacts.
 - Go to the houses of the barangay captain, kagawad on health, barangay council members and organizational officers and discuss with them the relevance and significance of the meeting or assembly.
- It is important that in arranging for meetings make sure that you do not disturb the normal daily activities of your targets.
- Remember to assist the members of the health team in planning and in mobilizing community members for various activities.



b) Analysis of Data

- Present data collected to various stakeholders.
- Together with the community, synthesize findings and draw conclusions.
- to discover the possible reasons as to why certain things are in a certain order in terms of frequency or as to why some things are more prevalent
- to discover factors that promote health and avoidable factors that can lead to ill-health or death



c) Problem identification and prioritization

- Make recommendations for community actions.



3) Planning

- To be done with the participation of the health team together with other stakeholders
- Present the data that were collected for analysis, this will be the basis for the planning



Barangay Action Plan Matrix

Problems/ issues/ concerns	Objectives	Strategies and activities	Person-in- charge	Time Frame	Resources needed	Performance indicators

What is an objective?

- A generic term usually used to express an outcome or goal representing the desired result that an activity seeks to achieve.
 - Must be SMART
 - S-pecific
 - M-easurable
 - A-ttainable
 - R-elevant to current problems that need solutions
 - T-ime Bound

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- Ex: 100% of pregnant women must receive quality antenatal care

4) Implementation

- Be guided by the planning table in the implementation
- Involve as many people and organizations as possible in the implementation
- Conduct a regular monitoring and supervision of the implementation in order to immediately identify things that may need revision as the activities are carried out.
- Identify performance benchmarks.



5) Monitoring and Evaluation

What is monitoring?

- Means of collecting and recording information to assess the results of inputs, outputs and processes during program implementation.

What is evaluation?

- Means of reviewing the outcomes and impact of a program or project after a defined period of time, usually at midterm and at the end of the term.



Remember!

- Be guided by the measurable objectives and performance benchmarks that were set.
- Evaluate the process and methodologies as well and not only the outcomes and impact.
- Community Data Health Boards may facilitate the evaluation process.



Recommended steps in conducting a participatory M & E of *barangay*-level action-plans with the midwife as M & E team leader:

- Re-orient *barangay* council members, BHWs, organizations and community members that they will all be actively involved in the M & E.
- Review the problems, objectives and strategies (refer to the planning table) with all the stakeholders.
- Reiterate the M & E objectives, which are to assess if the problems were solved and if the strategies used were appropriate.

- Review the meaning of the appropriateness of the strategies.

A strategy is considered appropriate if it:

- was genuinely participatory from the planning stage onwards; and
- used a holistic approach to solving the problem



Monitoring and Evaluation

- Formulate M & E tools and methodologies based on the problems, objectives and strategies of the project.
 - Collect data.
 - Analyze the data in consultation with all stakeholders.
 - Formulate recommendations that focus on two (2) levels:
 - the project or activity itself
 - M & E tools and methodologies
 - Draft project report and submit to MHO



Community-Managed Financing Scheme

- a system whereby the community develops and implements a financing scheme that compliments with the sustainability model of the project.



Scheme:

- LGUs to enroll poor families in Philhealth sponsored programs to enable them to reimburse health expenditures.
- LGUs to work toward Philhealth accreditation of their health facilities.
- To establish and collect user fees from non-poor clients.
- To establish creative financing schemes such as social marketing arrangements with drug companies
- To establish other creative ways to raise revenues that the community may think of.

