



中国援助  
**CHINA AID**  
FOR SHARED FUTURE

## Project Completion Report

South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund Project

# “Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh”

**Funded by**

**CHINA AID, GOVERNMENT OF CHINA**

Dhaka-2024



**Partners in Population and Development (PPD)**

An Inter-Governmental Organization  
Promoting South-South Cooperation



## Foreword by the Officer in Charge

The successful completion of the project titled "Providing Comprehensive, Safe, and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality" is a vindication to how strong partnership among the development partners, government and the implementers is critical to the success of project design, implementation and tracking for impact. The project preparation and implementation journey began on April 2018 under the leadership of Dr. Hu Hongtao as Acting Executive Director of PPD, supported generously by Dr. Li Bin, the former Chair of PPD Board (China) and the Secretary General and Vice Chairwoman of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. The project was officially signed off with the presentation of "Project Completion Certificate" on 22 April 2025.

We profusely appreciate the management of China Aid for entrusting Partners in Population and Development (PPD) as a valued partner to implement the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund project in Bangladesh, and look forward to having the best practices that were learned while designing and implementing projects of similar nature and effort in other PPD members countries in future. This project completion marks a significant milestone in the collaboration between Bangladesh, as the recipient country, and China, as the provider, to improve maternal health and reduce maternal mortality under the framework of strategic South-South Cooperation.

The project has made a significant contribution to the commitment of Bangladesh in reducing MMR to 70 by 2030. It has contributed to the development of international standard training modules, developed and applied in China, for health professionals and medical health workers engaged in healthcare services in rural Bangladesh. Six hundred and nine medical professionals and health workers received training on postpartum hemorrhage and use of misoprostol medicines. About 676 pregnant mothers and their relatives received training on the management of misoprostol and its effective use during delivery, which directly contributed to reducing PPH by 25 to 47 percent in the project areas. About 10,660 community people including leaders and Imams, were informed about the efficacy of misoprostol to reduce PPH. 61,000 misoprostol and 20,000 postnatal kits which were shipped from China were distributed among the beneficiary pregnant mothers. Fifty-Six satellite trainings, covering 56 Unions, the lowest unit of local government were conducted under this project.

National Research Institute for Family Planning (NRIFP), China as a collaborative partner has provided outstanding support to PPD and Director General of Family Planning (DGFP), Bangladesh to design and implement the project with positive results, which we greatly appreciate. We thank luminaries from NRI, DGFP and PPD.

Medical Education and Family Welfare Division of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW,) as a Focal Point of recipient country, dedicated unwavering effort to utilize the project fund and implement the activities in selected six Upazilas of two districts. We thank whole heartedly the officials of MoHFW for their continued support and further interest to scale up the project in other districts of Bangladesh. Finally, on behalf of PPD fraternity, we thank China Aid and the Government of China for providing the grant to PPD to implement this project through South-South Cooperation strategy in Bangladesh.

Finally, appreciation goes to the PPD program team, and all staff for their continued efforts and hard work to implement the project in Bangladesh. The experiences and knowledge learned from the project implementation process will be an asset for PPD to implement similar projects in other PPD member countries to illustrate how South-South Cooperation is beneficial and a game changer in contributing to better health and population outcomes.

**Patrick Mugirwa**

Officer in Charge, PPD

## Remarks of the Project Director and Project Manager

This remark is to formally announce the successful completion of the "Providing Comprehensive, Safe, and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality" project. We are pleased to share with you a moment of our success - the project completion Report, which summarizes the project's outcomes, key achievements, impact and lessons learned. The project, which aimed at reducing postpartum hemorrhage by effectively utilizing the medicine misoprostol, building the capacity of health professionals and workers, and improving the skills of pregnant mothers and their family members, has been successfully completed within the awarded budget from China Aid (SSCAF), Government of China. We are proud of the team's dedication and hard work throughout the project lifecycle.

The project success had a positive impact in improving effective utilization of misoprostol medicine to reduce postpartum hemorrhage from 25 to 47 percent in the project areas. The project's training programs contributed three international standard modules, which have been approved for use in national-level training for medical professionals in Bangladesh. Six hundred and nine doctors and health workers were trained through this project that has strengthened the capacity of the medical facilities in six Upazilas. The project contributed to improving the effective distribution of misoprostol for both home deliveries and deliveries at remote facilities.

More than 676 pregnant mothers and their relatives were trained on utilizing misoprostol timely and effectively which is an innovative disclosure of this project that a pregnant mother and her close relatives need training on caring for life from a safe delivery. The capacity of fifty-six Union Health and Family Welfare Center (UHFWC) at Union levels, which is the lowest local level administrative unit, was strengthened through this project with the organization of 56 satellite training packages.

It was a great achievement of the project and contribution of PPD that the Bangladesh Government has been satisfied with the project's impact and issued a satisfactory certificate to the China Aid. Besides, the Bangladesh Government demanded the project be scaled up at national level and the representatives of Chines Embassy in Dhaka were formally informed during the official signing of "Project Completion Certificate" held on 22 April 2024.

The project team will now focus on scaling up the project at national level and replicate the experiences and knowledge in other PPD member countries as the project was originally submitted for three countries: Bangladesh, Uganda and Ghana.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all team members, stakeholders, particularly DGFP, Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and UNFPA for their valuable contributions and support throughout the project. We would also like to express our sincere thanks to China Aid, CICETE, and NRIFP for their great support which includes medicines, kits and funds as well as knowledge and expertise to make the project a successful one with the satisfaction of the recipient country - Bangladesh.

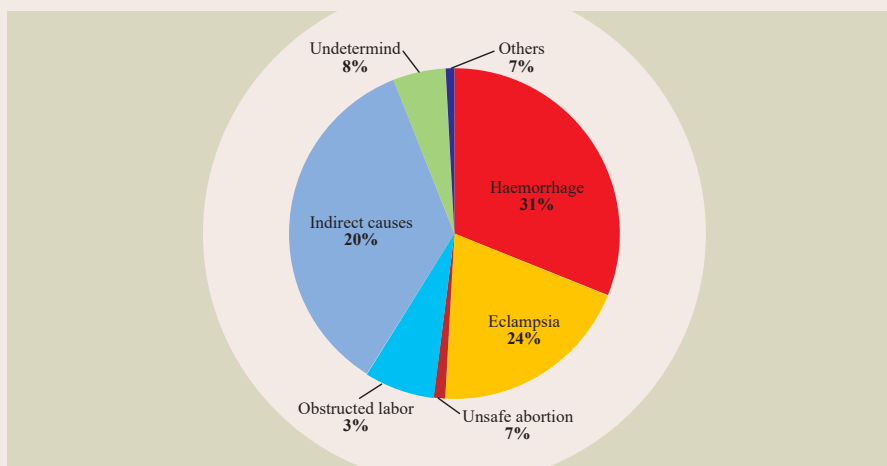
We thank Mr Mrityunjoy Das, Mr Humayun Kabiari Shishir, Ms Anika Hossain and Ms Shamrin Bari for their professional contribution in making this project implementation a successful.

**Tahrira Khan**  
Senior Program Officer and Project Manager

**Md. Nazrul Islam, PhD**  
Senior Program Manager and Project Director

## ***Project Context***

Nearly 73% pregnant women die for direct obstetrical reasons. The main causes for death of pregnant women include massive hemorrhage (postpartum hemorrhage), infection (after delivery generally), gestational hypertension (eclampsia premonition and eclampsia), delivery complications and unsafe artificial abortion. Among them, 27.1% of pregnant women all over the world died for hemorrhage and two thirds (19.7%) of hemorrhage deaths were caused by postpartum hemorrhage. Postpartum hemorrhage is the most important cause of deaths among pregnant women in low-income countries, and the reasons include very poor quality of delivery, poor accessibility of obstetric services and newborn emergency care, and low rates of usage of available services. Postpartum hemorrhage was one of the leading causes of maternal deaths in Bangladesh. Maternal mortality ratio (MMR, maternal deaths per 100,000 live births) was 176 in 2015. We believe that by undertaking safe and appropriate comprehensive interventions to prevent postpartum hemorrhage and reduce maternal mortality, any PPD country can achieve SDG 3, 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.



Leading causes of maternal deaths (BMMS 2016)

PPD approached the Government of China as Chair Country of the PPD Board in 2018 to enroll PPD under the China Aid in order to qualify PPD as implementing organization to submit proposal for South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. We acknowledged that with the support of the Honorable Board Chair (China), PPD was enlisted as an eligible organization like UN agency for China Aid to get funding from South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. PPD further approached the Chair (China) to support PPD for providing funding from the China Aid to implement projects in three countries, namely, Bangladesh, Uganda and Ghana. The project for Bangladesh chapter was approved as a pilot phase for using China's rich experience and technology in the prevention of postpartum hemorrhage.

## ***Project objectives***

The Government of China under China Aid provided South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund to Bangladesh for using China's rich experience and technology in the prevention of postpartum hemorrhage. Interventions like technical training, management training, supply of misoprostol and postnatal care kits and advocacy for promoting uses of misoprostol were undertaken in the project areas to prevent postpartum hemorrhage and improve capacity of medical workers and facilities. Clinical specification/guidelines/protocol were developed and utilized for project sites to reduce maternal mortality rate and improve reproductive health.

The project objective was to provide safe and appropriate comprehensive interventions to prevent postpartum hemorrhage and reduce maternal mortality in recipient country to achieve SDG 3 by 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births and by 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs.

## ***Implementing Organizations***

Both Partners in Population and Development (PPD) and the China National Research Institute for Family Planning (NRIFP) have rich experience in project implementation, in areas such as maternal and child health, reproductive health including HIV/AIDS prevention and control, and health system strengthening through the promotion of South-South Cooperation (SSC) and bilateral cooperation.

NRIFP has long-term commitment to research, introduction and promotion of appropriate technology, on all levels of experience in professional training, guidance and technical support. PPD as an Inter-Governmental organization of 28 countries has been engaged in promoting South-South Cooperation to expedite the progress of achievement of ICPD and SDGs as well as other global commitments relevant to population and public health translating into national programs and policies.

Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh as recipient government authority is engaged in implementing the project successfully. DGFP in Bangladesh has a wide range of staff involved in implementing family planning and reproductive health programs at national level.

## ***Project timeline***

Though it was a project spanning two years from 2020 to 2021; however, due to global COVID-19 pandemic, the project implementation was delayed and it continued till March 2024. The project completion ceremony was held on 22 April, 2025 with the representatives from the Chinese Embassy and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare present on the occasion.



## Project Budget and Expenditure

Grant Received from China Aid (SSCAF), Government of China

Partners in Population and Development  
Funded By: The South South cooperation Assistance Fund  
Implemented By : Partners In Population And Development - SSCAF/CHINA  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Statement of Income and Expenses  
For the period December 02, 2019 to March 31, 2024

### Particulars

	Dec'19 to Mar'24
Notes	Amount (USD)
	672,767.00
	672,767.00

### INCOME

Grant Received

6.00

Total Income

672,767.00

### EXPENSES

Advocacy and Advocacy Material Development

7.00

8,583.98

Administrative Expense

8.00

57,708.81

Medicine and PNC Kits Purchase

9.00

269,265.60

Activities Related to Meetings

10.00

64,413.94

Monitoring & Evaluation

11.00

39,332.03

Activities Related to Trainings

12.00


233,459.45

Total Expenses

672,763.81

Unspent Fund

3.19

  
Md. Nazrul Islam, PhD  
Acting Officer-in-Charge  
Partners in Population  
and Development

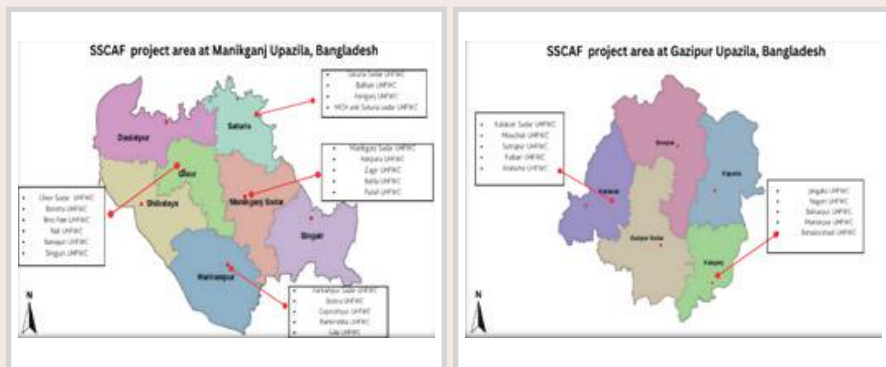
  
Masih Muhiith Haque & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

  
Muraheeb Malik Chowdhury FCA  
Engagement Partner



The project was implemented in six Upazilas, particularly Manikganj Sadar, Satoria, Ghior, Harirampur under Manikganj district, Kaliganj and Kaliakair under Gazipur district. In addition, two other divisions, Sylhet and Rajsahi were included to provide training on PPH for medical professionals. The target population were pregnant mothers who usually make delivery at home. Fifty percent of the delivery of the pregnant mothers in Bangladesh were made at home who are most vulnerable and at risk of postpartum hemorrhage and eclampsia.

### *Project Areas and targeted population in Bangladesh*



These six Upazilas alone supported 64,214 pregnant mothers annually who were targeted mainly as the beneficiaries of the SSCAF project. Also, medical professionals who were engaged in providing health care in these two districts were targeted to provide them training for capacity building. It also planned to conduct training and build capacity for 609 health workers under the targeted six Upazillas on postpartum hemorrhage and uses of misoprostol. In addition, six targeted upazilas of the project also covered another two divisions. Medical professionals and health workers from these two divisions also received training.

### *Key action features of the Project*

**a) Six-day long training for medical professionals and health workers**

Nearly 609 medical professionals and health workers from the project areas attended the training on Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage with Misoprostol. Both the training contents included relevant professional knowledge and comprehensive consultation skills. Professional knowledge includes the concept of PPH, the epidemiological characteristics of PPH, the effect of PPH on mother and infant, the causes of PPH, prevention and treatment for PPH, comparison of various methods to prevent PPH, the guidelines for the prevention of postpartum hemorrhage with oxycontin, the conditions for clinical application of misoprostol to prevent PPH, the indications for PPH prevention with misoprostol, the contraindication for PPH prevention with misoprostol, the application of misoprostol in prevention of PPH, and the precautions on prevention of PPH with misoprostol.







Six-day theoretical training conducted in 6 Upazilas

#### **b) Practical Training**

The training was conducted over a two-day period, bringing together a diverse group of participants, including physicians and FWVs. This mixed group of professionals aimed at promoting interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing maternal health challenges. Pre-developed training curriculum covered key aspects related to preventing PPH with misoprostol namely:

- Dosage guidelines and administration techniques
- Introduction to postpartum haemorrhage and its significance
- Overview of Misoprostol: Mechanism of action and pharmacology
- Dosage guidelines and administration techniques
- Safety precautions and contraindications
- PPH drill and Hands on Practice
- Monitoring and assessment protocols

The training utilized a multifaceted approach combining lectures, interactive discussions, live demonstrations, and hands-on practical sessions. Case studies and simulations were employed to provide a realistic context for misoprostol administration. Participants were engaged in practical exercises with simulating scenarios where Misoprostol would be administered to prevent PPH. This hands-on experience allowed for the development of essential skills in dosage calculation, drug administration and monitoring.



Two- day practical training sessions



### c) Training for Pregnant mothers and their relatives:

One special innovation for this project was to target pregnant mothers to prepare them for their own life safety from PPH or any other potential risk from diseases during pregnancy. The selected pregnant mothers and their nearest relatives received training on the uses of misoprostol which was a unique innovation and contribution of this project.



Training and orientation on PPH for pregnant mothers and their relatives.

### d) Access to commodities

Postnatal kits and misoprostol medicines were distributed among the pregnant mothers. These commodities, shipped from China, were supported by the Chinese government.



Access to commodities

### e) Satellite training

The relatives of pregnant mothers, local leaders, local governments, Imams, parliamentarians were targeted through satellite training to promote awareness using misoprostol for reducing PPH.



Satellite training

#### f) Training Materials

Training materials were developed using the expertise of the resource persons from both China and Bangladesh which, were acknowledged and approved by the government to utilize them for national level training program. Training materials include:

- Training Module – Use of misoprostol in the prevention of post-partum hemorrhage (PPH)
- Training Handbook - Use of misoprostol in the prevention of post-partum hemorrhage (PPH)
- Protocol – A Practical Guideline for health service provider for reducing PPH in the use of misoprostol. Experts from OGSB hired and developed clinical norms/guidelines and standards for product usage, to provide supports for long-term benefits from the project and reduce mortality of pregnant and lying-in women at the project site.



Training module developed and disseminate

## g) Advocacy

Advocacy materials including drama-video on misoprostol and PPH were developed engaging both Chinese and Bangladeshi experts to motivate the pregnant mothers and health workers to play their role effectively.



Advocacy Activities

### *Key achievements and project impact*

Engaging both the Chinese and Bangladeshi experts training modules including textbooks and multimedia electronic course were developed and approved by the Government of Bangladesh to use them for conducting training of medical professionals/health workers at national level.

Training course developed by PPD-SSCAF received great demand from the Government for scaling up training at national level as well as to share these experiences of SSCAF project to other PPD member countries.

609 medical professionals/health workers received the training on post-partum hemorrhage and uses of effective Misoprostol.

676 pregnant mothers and their nearest relatives received training on uses of misoprostol which was unique innovation and contribution of this project.

10,660 individuals of the local community including local leaders and Imams were informed about uses of misoprostol to reduce post-partum hemorrhage. They have been improved their understanding has been improved; they are now promoting their positive behaviors, and are encouraged to initiate action on post-partum hemorrhage.



61,000 boxes of misoprostol distributed among pregnant mothers through the supply chain of the DGFP, Government of Bangladesh.

20,000 postnatal kits were distributed to targeted pregnant mothers.

20 Local government representatives including Members of parliament were engaged in training on PPH who have never been aware of a critical killer of pregnant mothers in their society.

About 50 administrators/high level officials were joined in training program who never been aware of PPH but they are always engaged in policy formulation and implementation.

56 satellite training covering 56 Unions-the lowest unit of Local Government conducted to promote awareness using misoprostol for reducing PPH.

Advocacy materials including drama-video on Misoprostol and PPH developed using both Chinese and Bangladesh experts to influence pregnant mothers and health workers to play critical role on prevention of PPH. The drama-video on Misoprostol appreciated by the government stakeholders and the government accepted to utilize this drama for their public programs.

### Project outcome at a glance

District	Upzalias	No of TOT	Number of Medical Professionals and Health Workers received training	Number of Pregnant Mother and their relatives received training	Awareness of Community People
Manikganj	Manukganj Sadar	3	80	120	2000
	Saturia	3	75	100	1500
	Ghior	2	67	110	1640
	Harirampur	2	72	100	1820
Gazipur	Kaliakair	3	110	130	2200
	Kaliganj	3	90	116	1500
Sylhet Division		6	65		
Rajshahi Division		8	50		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>10,660</b>

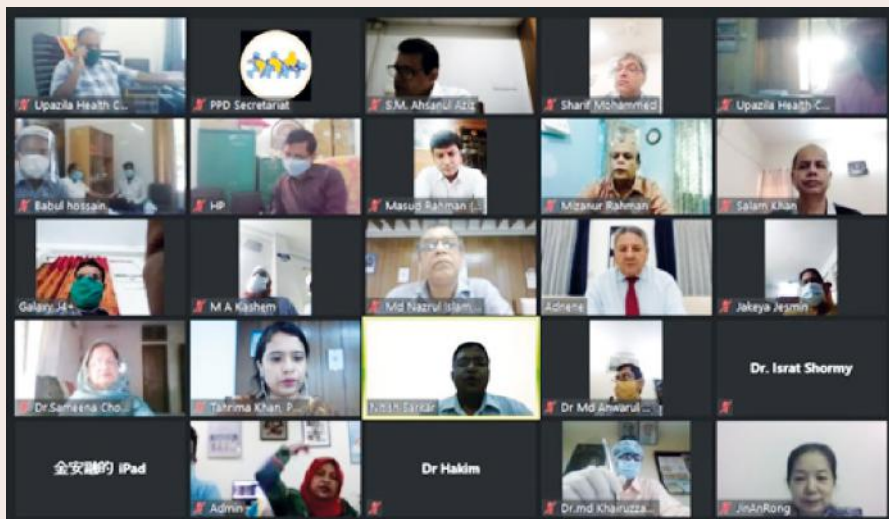
### Major events of the project

#### a) Project Briefing Meeting

At first on 28 July 2020, PPD organized a Virtual Meeting on Conducting the Baseline Survey on the Project titled “Providing Comprehensive, Safe and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh”.

The virtual meeting attended by Secretaries and high officials of Medical Education and Family Welfare Division and Health Services, MoHFW, DGs and High Officials of Directorate General of Health Services, Directorate General of Family Planning and Directorate General of Medical Education. Experts and officials from INGOs/NGOs and UN agencies, Civil Surgeon of Gazipur District, Medical Officers from Gazipur and Manikganj Districts as well as medical doctors and FWVs attend the virtual meeting.

The meeting focused particularly on sharing and explaining the structured questionnaire on conducting the baseline survey of the project, which is essential to measure the success of the project after implementation.

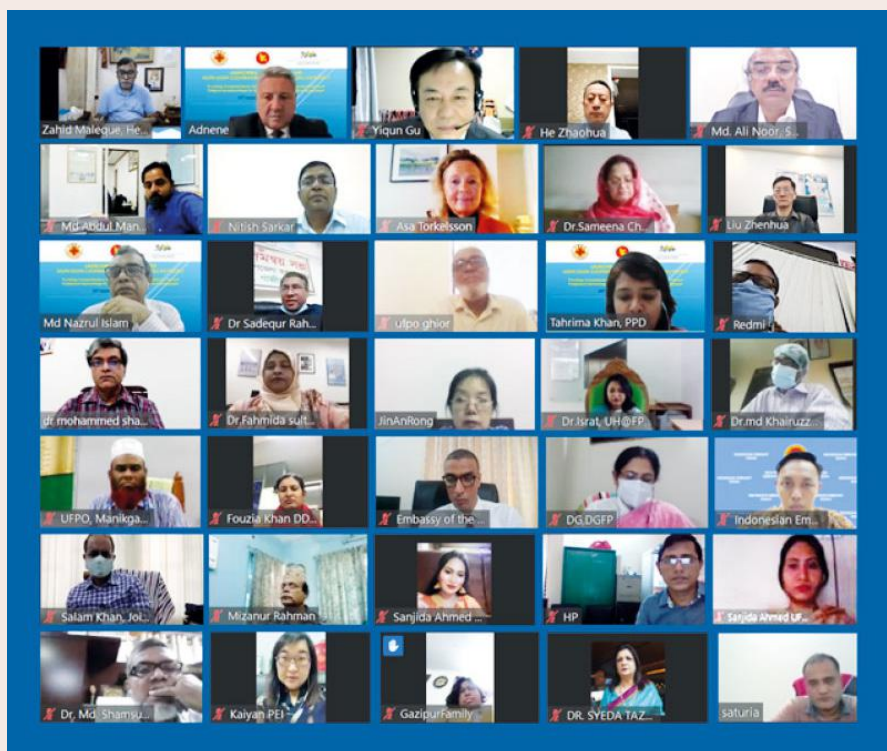


Virtual Meeting

#### b) Project Launching Meeting - 28 September 2020

PPD organized a virtual project launching meeting titled “Providing Comprehensive, Safe and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh”. The Launching Ceremony was graced by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of Bangladesh. High level officials from National Health Commission and CICETE also attended the meeting. The ceremony was also blessed by the attendance and interventions made by most of the dignitaries, including government officials and subject experts from Bangladesh, representatives of the Diplomatic Missions, PPD personnel, SSCAF partners from China, United Nations Agencies, UNFPA, media from home and abroad and heads of district administration.





Project Launching Ceremony

### c) Meeting with Chinese Experts and Bangladeshi Experts for planning the project implementation

The Chinese expert team held a special meeting to discuss and determine the outline of training materials: mainly including the concepts of postpartum hemorrhage, epidemiological characteristics, high-risk factors and high-risk groups, causes of postpartum hemorrhage, hemorrhage measurement, treatment methods, impact on mother and baby and prevention, the pharmacological effects, indications, contraindications, clinical conditions and methods of use of misoprostol in preventing postpartum hemorrhage, precautions, counseling skills related to misoprostol prevention of postpartum hemorrhage for pregnant women.



Experts Meeting

**d) Misoprostol and Postpartum Care kits were procured from China for distribution among the targeted Upazilas**

61,700 boxes of Misoprostol 200mcg tablets and 160,596 Postpartum Care Kits were shipped from China to DGFP for distribution. The DGFP developed a guideline for the distribution, approved by the government, and integrated the project activities with the annual work plan. Six Upazilas were selected, targeting 64,214 pregnant mothers. Local health workers were assigned to distribute the misoprostol and kits.

PPD, in collaboration with DGFP, MoHFW, Government of Bangladesh has organized a handover ceremony of Misoprostol tablets and Postpartum Kits donated by the Chinese Government to the Bangladesh Government. Director General of DGFP, Ms. Shahan Ara Banu, attended as Chief Guest, thanked the Government of China for the support provided to Bangladesh, which will contribute to reducing maternal mortality. Mr. Liu Zhenhua, Economic and Commerce Counsellor in the Embassy of China in Bangladesh, attended the ceremony and highlighted the long friendship and sustained bilateral cooperation between the Government of China and Bangladesh. He wished the Trilateral Cooperation China-PPD-Bangladesh a success.



Procurement of misoprostol and postpartum care kits from China

**e) Training Module Development, Publishing and dissemination**

The Chinese partner of this project, the National Research Institute for Family Planning (NRIFF), has developed a training module in English which was translated by the engaged experts from Bangladesh.

**f) Inauguration of the two-day training session, 14 June 2022**

An inaugural ceremony was held on 14 June 2022 for the two-day training session on Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage with Misoprostol at the MCH Meeting Room, Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP). The inaugural ceremony was participated by the high-level Government Officials. Training was conducted over a two-day period, bringing together a diverse group of participants including physicians and FWVs.





Two- day Training



### **g) Monitoring and evaluation**

Two committees were constituted :

(a) Program Implementation Committee and (b) Steering Committee engaging different responsible high officials including Honorable Secretary of Division of Medical Education and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Director General, DGFP.



Several meetings and visits were made by PPD staff to the project implementation field to observe the progress of the misoprostol distribution and find out the actual scenario in the field. The visit was made to Saturaia, Manikganj Sadar, Ghior and Harirampur Upazilas of Manikganj District and on 9th November 2021 the visit was made to Kaliakair and Kaliganj upazilas of Gazipur District. Some additional information were gathered during the visit from both the working areas.



## h) Advocacy Materials developed and distributed

For the effective uses of misoprostol and to reduce PPH, posters and print materials were developed and distributed



Advocacy Materials

## i) Practical and Theoretical Training and Advocacy at Divisional Headquarters Level: Sylhet and Rajshahi

Member of Parliament and High officials attended the inaugural ceremonies. After successful completion of the training, certificates were given to the trainees.



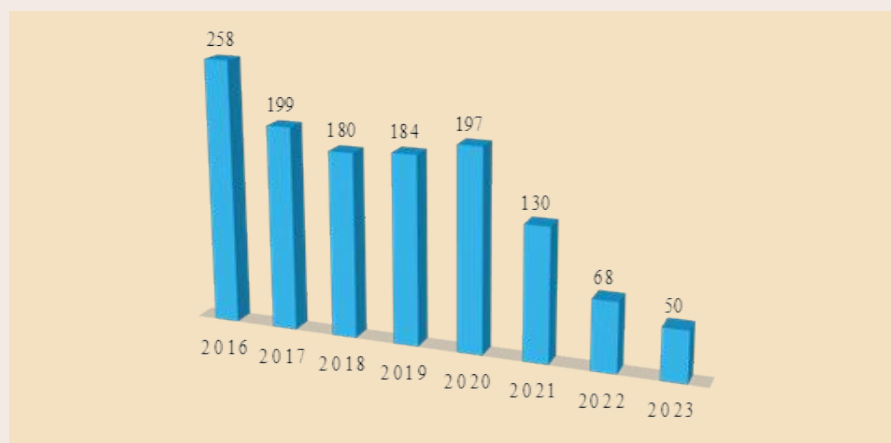


Practical and Theoretical Training and Advocacy at Divisional Headquarters  
Level: Sylhet and Rajshahi



## *Impact of SSCAF project*

An evaluation study was conducted in intervention areas encompassing four Upazilas: Sadar, Harirumpur, Gior, and Saturia in the Manikganj district, and two Upazilas: Kaliganj and Kaliakair in the Gazipur district from 25 February to 3 March 2024 in six Upazilas to evaluate the effectiveness of using misoprostol in reducing the incidence and severity of postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) among women following vaginal delivery. The study aims at assessing whether the administration of misoprostol immediately after childbirth reduces the risk of excessive bleeding compared to standard care protocols. A total of 29 Union Health and Family Welfare Centers (UHFWCs) were chosen to collect retrospective primary data from health workers spanning the pre-project period from 2016 to 2019 and the project period from 2020 to 2023. Of these, 19 UHFWCs were located in the Manikganj district and 10 were in the Gazipur district. Data were collected on various indicators, including manpower, clinical services, and patient flow metrics such as regular ANC services, vaginal deliveries, and live births, with a primary focus on uterine atony and placental factors, which are key indicators of postpartum hemorrhage (PPH). Data were analyzed using a comparative approach between the pre-project and project periods through various graphical techniques. Statistical analysis such as summary statistics, frequency and percentage, paired t-test were used to compare outcomes between the pre-project and project period. The cut-off p-value was set at 0.05 considering 5% level of significance.



**Figure 1.** Trends in the annual number of postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) cases during the pre-project period (2016–2019) and the project period (2020–2023).

The evaluation study provided valuable evidence regarding the effectiveness, safety, and feasibility of using misoprostol for PPH prevention in routine clinical practice. The findings will contribute to informing evidence-based practices and guidelines for the management of PPH, potentially leading to improvements in maternal health outcomes and reductions in maternal morbidity and mortality globally.

The statistical analysis reveals that the early use of misoprostol significantly contributed to reducing the incidence of both uterine atony and placental factor-related postpartum hemorrhage cases. The overall reduction in total postpartum hemorrhage cases underscores the effectiveness of the early use of misoprostol in improving maternal health outcomes. The qualitative assessment of the implemented project demonstrated that this China Aid initiative made significant contributions to both stakeholders and beneficiaries. These included improved knowledge among pregnant women and healthcare providers about the use of misoprostol, increased awareness of its proper administration, effective distribution and follow-up with pregnant women—leading to enhanced postnatal care (PNC) and reduced delivery risks. Tangible outcomes of the project also included the development of training modules, guidelines, a misoprostol management protocol, IEC materials, and educational drama, created with the expertise of professionals from both China and Bangladesh. During the interview, the providers' opinions were noted and it also proved the effective impact of the China Aid project in the project areas (see the following excerpts).

### **Case Stories**

“It is quite challenging for me to obtain oxi-toxin in an emergency because I don't have a pharmacy or a refrigerator nearby to preserve it. For this reason, the Misoprostol medication is my lifesaver. Since I worked in a remote location and occasionally expectant mothers couldn't see me during their EDD time, I also provided this tablet to them when they visited their eight months along with instructions on how to use it. Because it is simple to obtain and they do not permit injections, even the family members enjoy it. In my line of work, I do favor giving this medication to expectant mothers to improve and ensure safe delivery.”

– **FWV, Ataboho, Kaliakoir, Gazipur.**

“When the pregnant mother visit, they consult with the mother about all the factors regarding PPH. One patient from the Union once showed up at midnight with pain; the case was on Placental Factor, suddenly bleeding started and flow was very high but instantly after delivery we used misoprostol and I administered a massage to her, then, finally, we managed the situation”.

– **Hatipara Manikganj**

“In 2017, we were not much aware about misoprostol that time; so the patient was at high PPH risk. We referred her to Sadar Hospital because we needed anesthesia. But now we know how misoprostol works effectively. We have enough supply from PPD and the Government; so we use misoprostol for this kind of case”.

– **Baliati, Manikganj**



The evaluation study and the government observation reported that 25 to 47 percent of PPH had been reduced in the project areas due to the intervention of PPH training, advocacy and uses of misoprostol tablets and postpartum kits.

As the recipient country the Government of Bangladesh expressed its satisfaction in implementing the project in Bangladesh and acknowledged the contribution of the Chinese Government. It has provided satisfactory certificate to the China Aid as well. .



### ***Official Signing of “Project Completion Certificate” held on 22 April 2025***

Partners in Population and Development (PPD) and the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Bangladesh officially signed the Project Completion Certificate for the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund (SSCAF) project titled “Providing Comprehensive, Safe, and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh.” This event marks a significant milestone in the collaborative journey between the two countries to improve maternal health and reduce maternal mortality through strategic South-South Cooperation.

In conclusion, on request of Bangladesh Government represented by Additional Secretary of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Counselor of China Embassy agreed that PPD may submit the proposal endorsing from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to scaling-up the project in other districts of Bangladesh. The Embassy will forward to the proposal to the China International Development Cooperation Agency which is the main responsible authority to approve the project. Bangladesh Government also requested the China Government to replicate the experiences from Bangladesh to other countries of PPD.



### ***Lessons Learned***

- South-South Cooperation project can be effectively implemented if both the recipient country and the provider country effectively coordinated with implementing agencies. Both PPD and NRIFP coordinated with each other for the implementation of the project; exchanging their field of expertise and knowledge and utilized it for successful implementation.
- This project implementation strategy proved to be effective in improving the knowledge for service providers and pregnant mothers including their relatives.
- Effective distribution and monitoring of the use of misoprostol can yield miraculous results and contribute to the reduction of PPH from 25 to 47 percent.

- The Recipient country provided full support including human resources and tax exempted shipments of medicines and kits from China which was estimated to cost approximately USD 200,000 that facilitated smooth implementation of the project in Bangladesh.
- The training modules were very much relevant to the context of Bangladesh and were easy to understand for the medical professionals and health workers that help trainers effectively deliver their lectures.
- Misoprostol is easier to administer either by health workers or by pregnant mothers and their relatives in any community.
- It can be utilized in any other countries with the contexts similar to Bangladesh.

### **Recommendation**

- Considering the evidence of project contribution to reduce 25 to percent in project areas, it may recommend to scale up this project in other districts of Bangladesh as the Bangladesh government demanded to scale up the project at national level.
- The evidence proved that this project can be replicated in any PPD member countries and therefore it may be recommended to Chaina Aid for supporting other countries to implement similar project for achieving SDG3.
- The modules of the training were acknowledged by the government of Bangladesh as standard and to be utilized for national level training.
- It is further recommended to scale-up this training program for other medical professionals and health workers in other districts of Bangladesh utilizing the experts both from China and Bangladesh.

### ***PPD's Recent Project***

#### ***Innovations through the Reverse Linkage Project in Advancing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) in Uganda and Zimbabwe.***

This reverse linkage project was designed based on the Ghana's best practices on adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) which was documented as best practices by PPD along with other best practices from different PPD member countries.

#### **Ghana ASRH Best Practice Replication in Luwero District, Uganda**

In 2022–2024, Luwero District, Uganda, undertook the replication of Ghana's best practices in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) through a multi-sectoral and community-driven approach. This initiative aimed to improve adolescent health outcomes by integrating ASRH services into schools, communities, and health systems.



#### **Ghana ASRH Best Practice Replication in Hopley, Harare; Zimbabwe**

In July 2023, the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC), with support from Partners in Population and Development (PPD), implemented a comprehensive Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) outreach initiative in Hopley, Harare. The project targeted young people aged 10–24 years, delivering life-saving services and reproductive health education through clinics, school engagement, and community outreach. It is evidence that country level more projects can be implemented with effective cooperation of PCC and BM.



#### **Bangladesh Population Policy 2025**

PPD contributed knowledge and experiences to Bangladesh Population Policy 2025 as Technical Review Committee member of Bangladesh Population Policy 2025. Bangladesh government has acknowledged the contribution of South-South cooperation in expediting the progress of achievement of ICPD PoA and integrated South-South Cooperation into its population policy 2025 to accelerate the effective implementation of population policy in Bangladesh.

#### **Institutionalization of South-South Cooperation in National Health Strategies among PPD Member Countries**

PPD has launched a strategic study aimed at institutionalizing South-South Cooperation (SSC) within national health strategies across its member countries. The institutionalization of SSC is driven by the need for collaborative, innovative, and sustainable approaches to address shared health challenges on a global scale. Two different teams visited to Kenya from 25 to 30 May 2025 and Morocco from 18 to 25 May 2025.







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