

International Public Health Management Development Program
under Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Scheme for
Nepal Medical Association

*A technical proposal from the Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health,
Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) Chandigarh
(an Institute of Excellence under an Act of Parliament, Government of India)*

Context and Need for intervention

“Health initiatives in developing countries often fail not because of lack of scientific knowledge but because of lack of managerial competence”

The current public health challenges faced by the developing countries and continents (e.g., COVID19 etc.) call for positioning qualified and skilled professionals, who can plan, execute and monitor national health programmes and public health initiatives in order to improve effectiveness and efficiency of health care delivery system. These management competencies are absolutely essential for a good manager for enhancing the performance and productivity of organizations. It is a usual practice that Healthcare Managers are designated to higher ranks based on their seniority without consideration of managerial and administrative capabilities. Further there are minimal formal management trainings in government and private health organizations before taking up senior management positions. Most of the existing courses on Public Health Management are theoretical, extensively elaborative, and does not comprehensively cover various aspects in a single program. Thus, there is a need to devise programmes which will impart the skills required to effectively manage the existing and emerging public health challenges and in-turn enhance the capacity of the public health managerial workforce.

Most of the ITEC countries, including Nepal, are struggling with dual burden of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases (T.B, Malaria and HIV) and non-communicable diseases (diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and Stroke). Their local health systems are unable to utilise their resources optimally and deliver quality health services in an effective manner. While the reasons for these are many, poor leadership and management capacity has been majorly postulated to contribute to this problem. Lack of effective planning and implementation of policy/program; limited motivation and

teambuilding skills; obstacles in training management; poorly designed medical education curriculum lacking management topics; lack of knowledge about effective monitoring and evaluation; high workload due to ineffective time management; have made it even more important to conduct a number of capacity building programs in areas of management and leadership. While the existing training programmes may intend to improve health services performance through improving technical subject knowledge and skills of participants, there has been a sub-optimal effort among ITEC nations to improve the managerial and leadership skills among doctors. The underlying assumption that improved knowledge and skills on management and leadership form such training programmes will improve their managerial performance to tackle these emerging public health challenges. Such trainings will also help in achieving the goal of MoHP to improve the health status of all people living in the country through effective and efficient policy formulation, resource mobilization, monitoring and regulation of delivery of health services by different health institutions for achieving the targets envisaged under Sustainable Development Goals.

Rationale

The existing programs on executive leadership and management in the country does-not comprehensively cover various aspects in a single program. Moreover, the programs doesn't offer insights to enhance the practical management and leadership skills in different settings. Further, there are very few formal leadership trainings in government sector. Therefore, executives are promoted to higher ranks based on their seniority without consideration of managerial and leadership capabilities.

A. Goal and Objectives

Goal

Enhance the leadership and management skills and competencies of health professionals working in Nepal

Objectives

The current program aims to enhance management and leadership skills of middle and senior level managers (primarily doctors) of government sector working in Ministry of Health

- Development of an effective leader who can effectively manage existing and emerging public health challenges at different levels of health care delivery system.

- Building capacity of middle and senior level managers in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating national health programs along with nurturing soft skills like team building, motivation, networking and communication.
- Equipping participants on appreciating gaps in current national health program and initiatives in their settings and envisioning future trends for effective decision making.
- To illustrate with relevant context-specific case studies, how the managerial functions can be leveraged to improve the overall competitiveness within and outside the organizations

Program Strategy

The PGIMER will achieve its outputs by working with its key academic and technical partners across the country. The program faculty shall be eminent doctors and healthcare management professionals and experts from various public and private healthcare organizations, health care program leaders from national and international agencies, faculty from ‘Centres of Excellence’ in healthcare and management sector, and grass-root community health senior program managers involved in innovative healthcare initiatives. A blend of teaching methods will be used to address different learning styles and course needs. It would be a mixture of lectures, case studies, problem based learning, group discussions, assignments and participants presentations. The result is a rich learning experience that is relevant, practical and up-to-date.

Key Highlights of the Program

The key highlights of the program are; its design which focus on learning through a mix of traditional formal learning methods (lecture, power point presentations, case studies) and informal learning methods (exercises, real case scenarios, management games, videos etc.); its concept wherein emphasis will be on application based learning in which the participants will prepare an action plan for their organization during the program which will be implemented within 6 months of completion of program; and facilitation by an elite panel of experts and facilitators from lead academic and management institutes of the country. **The main goal of the program is to ensure that the learnings during the program are translated to implementation at workplace in their respective settings.**

Target Audience

Essential Qualification- Medical graduates

Desirable Qualification- Working in health care program/ projects.

This program is designed for middle and senior level healthcare managers and doctors, organizational leaders, hospital administrators, faculty of medical colleges and management institutes who are working towards advancement of Public Health and responsible for effective and efficient delivery of healthcare program and projects for achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

The program capacity is **50 participants** within an age bracket of 25-45 years (As per ITEC Guidelines).

Program Content and Dates

1. Strengthening the health care system of Nepal?-Learnings from India
2. Management and leadership approaches in health care settings
3. Communication and Advocacy
4. Making strategic and operational plans- applications and tools
5. Human Resource Management
6. Team Building
7. Quality Management
8. Supply chain Management
9. Monitoring and Evaluation of programs
10. AI and its application in healthcare
11. Action plan

The detailed schedule of program is attached as **Annexure-1**

Each module shall be covered in half working day, thus the entire program shall be of **5 days duration** from **26th -30th November, 2024**. A local field visit to PGIMER will be there to observe the functioning of tertiary care health facility

Program Outcomes

At the end of the program, the participants will be able to

1. Create innovative strategies within national health programs that provide a framework for future action in their settings.
2. Develop performance indicators quality reporting of program/ Organisation
3. Learn application of planning tools including Logical Framework Analysis technique for successfully managing programs.
4. Acquaint with the concepts of Human resource and Supply chain management
5. Enhance performance by building leadership competencies and strengthening leadership qualities.

6. Develop in-depth understanding of effective communication, change management strategies for health care workforce.

Benefits to Organization

1. Health care managers can be effectively designated to senior leadership positions.
2. Improved managerial capabilities for dealing with public health management challenges.
3. Enhanced decision making in routine and crisis situations faced by organizations.
4. Overall increased performance and productivity of organizations in attaining top ranked position.

Program evaluation and follow-up

The participants will be evaluated on short- and long-term basis

1) SHORT TERM-

- Pre and Post Program assessment of knowledge on various dimensions of Public Health Management and Leadership
- Feedback of participants regarding their satisfaction on various components of program along with fulfilment of their expectations.

2) LONG TERM –

- Development of individual Action Plans related to their work profile and submission of Action Plan Implementation Report at the end of 3 months post completion of program.

Annexure '1'

Program Schedule (Draft)

International Public Health Management Development Program (IPHMDP)
Organised by Dept. of Community Medicine and School of Public Health, PGIMER,
Chandigarh
Sponsored by Indian Technical & Economic cooperation (ITEC) Scheme, Ministry of
External Affairs, GOI

Day	Time	Module	Resource Person (Tentative)
Day 1 Tues	09:00- 09:30 AM	REGISTRATION	
	09:30- 11:00 AM	INTRODUCTIONS	
	11:00- 11:30 AM	TEA BREAK	
	11:30- 12:15 AM	Strengthening the health care system of Nepal?-Learnings from India	Maj. General (Dr, Prof.) Atul Kotwal, Executive Director, NHSRC
	12:15- 12:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	12:45- 01:00 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	Participants
	01:00- 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
	02:00- 02:45 PM	Management and leadership approaches in health care settings	Dr. Sanjiv Kumar, Ex – Director, IIHMR
	02:45- 03:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	03:45- 04:00 PM	FEEBACK SESSION FOLLOWED BY TEA BREAK	
Day 2 Wed	07:00-07:40 AM	Bhangra & laughter therapy	Organisers
	09:00- 09:30 AM	RECAP SESSION	Participants
	09:30- 10:15 AM	Communication and Advocacy	Dr. Rajni Bagga, Ex Professor, NIHFW
	10:15- 10:45 AM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	11:00- 11:30 AM	TEA BREAK	
	11:30- 12:15 AM	Making strategic and operational plans- applications and tools	Dr. Keerti Pradhan, Professor, Chitkara
	12:15- 12:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	12:45- 01:00 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	Participants
	01:00- 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
	02:00- 04:00 PM	VISIT TO PGIMER, CHANDIGARH	
Day 3 Thur	09:00- 09:30 AM	FEEBACK SESSION	Participants
	09:30- 10:15 AM	Human Resource Management	Dr. Sonu Goel, Professor, PGIMER
	10:15- 10:45 AM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	11:00- 11:30 AM	TEA BREAK	
	11:30- 12:45 AM	Team Building	Dr. Pankaj Bhardwaj, Associate Professor, AIIMS
	12:45- 01:00 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	Participants
	01:00- 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
	02:00- 02:45 PM	Quality Management	Prof. Praveen Kumar, Head, Dept. of Neonatology, PGIMER
	02:45- 03:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	
	03:45- 04:00 PM	FEEBACK SESSION FOLLOWED BY TEA BREAK	
07:00 PM onwards	CULTURAL NIGHT AND GALA DINNER		

Day 4 Fri	09:00- 09:30 AM	RECAP SESSION	Participants
	09:30- 10:15 AM	Supply chain Management	Dr. Manjushri Shrama, Assistant Professor, PU/ Dr. Pankaj Arora, Associate Professor, PGIMER
	10:15- 10:45 AM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	11:00- 11:30 AM	TEA BREAK	
	11:30- 12:15 AM	Change Management	Dr. Sonu Goel, Professor, PGIMER
	12:15- 12:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	12:45- 01:00 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	
	01:00- 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
	02:00- 02:45 PM	Monitoring and Evaluation of programs	Dr. Ajay Sood, Ex Professor (NIHFW)
	02:45- 03:45 PM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	03:45- 04:00 PM	FEEDBACK SESSION FOLLOWED BY TEA BREAK	
Day 5 Sat	09:00- 09:30 AM	FEEDBACK SESSION	Participants
	09:30- 10:15 AM	AI and its application in healthcare	Dr. SN Panda, Professor and Director Research, Chitkara University research and innovation network, Chitkara university
	10:15- 10:45 AM	Management exercise/ game	Participants
	11:00- 11:30 AM	TEA BREAK	
	11:30- 12:15 AM	ACTION PLAN PREPERATION	
	12:15- 12:45 PM	ACTION PLAN PRESENTATION	
	12:45- 01:00 PM	SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	Participants
	01:00- 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
	02:00- 02:45 PM	FEEDBACK AND POST TEST	
	02:45- 04:00 PM	Valedictory ceremony	

*9:00 am -9:30 am (Registration, Feedback and Discussion on the previous day sessions), Morning Tea - 11:00-11:30 am, Lunch Break- 1:00-2:00 pm, Evening Tea – 3:45-4:00 PM

Annexure '2'

Executive Summary of last physical course for Nepal Medical Education

International Public Health Management Development Program

(24th July-28th July, 2023)

Achieving universal health coverage by 2030 requires positioning qualified and skilled public health professionals, especially from developing countries and continents (India and other developing nations alike), who can plan, implement and monitor national health programmes and public health initiatives in order to improve performance of health care delivery system. Further, it is documented that Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) cannot be achieved without addressing availability and distribution of trained public health management officials. The available literature has cited that health initiatives in developing countries often fail because of lack of managerial competence.

In this context, an **International Public Health Management Development Program (IPHMDP)** was conceptualized in 2016 by Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health which aims at enhancing the skills and competencies of middle and senior level program managers for strengthening efficiency of organizations in resource limited settings. In the past 8 years, 1300+ participants from 85+ countries participated which showed an ever increasing enthusiasm among global participants. In 2022 and 2023 Nepal Medical Association requested Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India that Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health, PGIMER, Chandigarh conducts a program for their officials from 20th June-25th June 2022 and 24th- 28th July 2024 which shall boost their management and leadership skills. After lot of deliberations with officials of ITEC, Nepal Medical Association a program was designed. The program was fully sponsored by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Scheme. In this program, a total of 50 delegates from Nepal participated.

The current program is '**first of its kind**' public health management program in the country which endeavors to boost skills and competencies of program managers for addressing local public health challenges and increase competency of organizations. The modules covered during this comprehensive program were strengthening the health care system of Nepal?-learnings from India,

management and leadership approaches in health care settings, communication and advocacy, making strategic and operational plans- applications, monitoring and evaluation of programs and tools and artificial intelligence and its application in healthcare. In order to ensure the application of learning during the program, every participant has submitted an '**Action Plan**' after completion of the program, in which they prioritised the areas (from the program) of implementation in their respective organization. The participants of this cohort will be followed up till 3 months for submission of their action plan implementation report. The best report shall further receive a '**Certificate of Appreciation**' from the organisers.

The **key highlights** of the program were; its design which focused on learning through a mix of traditional formal learning methods (lecture, power point presentations, case studies) and informal learning methods (role plays, exercises, real case scenarios, and management games); its concept wherein focus was on application based learning in which the participants prepared an action plan during the program for their organization (to be implemented within 3 months); and facilitation by an elite panel of experts and facilitators from lead academic and management institutes of the country. During the training, the participants had opportunity to meet leaders working in the field of Public Health.

'**IPHMDP Contests**' was also organized during the program wherein various awards pertaining to different activities viz. best dressed participant of the day, most active participant of the day, e-IPHMDP i.e. active participant on social media, best logo representing the program, voracious reader, best cultural performer and best action plan were bestowed to the participants during the 'valedictory ceremony' of the program. Few participants with extra ordinary representation were honored with special titles such as leadership award, best team player and humility award. The active participation by delegates was ensured by presentation of the reflection of key concepts/teaching of previous day, participation in IPHMDP contest, management games/ energisers during lunch and evening sessions, and delegating responsibility to them for organizing cultural event at gala dinner.

Beside academics, we provided a platform for '**cross-cultural learning**' through sharing of best practices by the participants during the program, presenting books on leadership and along with hosting a cultural event with gala dinner, where they got a chance to informally interact with each other which actually helped in peer learning and developing network for future endeavours. Everyday, few participants were also given opportunity to assume leadership position, besides

giving chance to 3 volunteers to act as cultural night organizers. Yoga and bhangra sessions in early mornings were flavours of the program for depicting Indian culture and energizing them for the program.

The participants enjoyed the excellent 'Hi-Touch' hospitality of our team including the fact that the meals served during the program (breakfast, lunch and tea/snacks in between) were carefully designed keeping in view the profile of participants. We also ensured to provide best resource material to participants, which will help them to design similar program in their country. All the activities during the program were actively uploaded on the IPHMDP Facebook page and Twitter page with appropriate hash tags social media (eg. ITECNetwork, MEAINDIA MOHFWINDIA, IPHMDP, INDIAINNEPAL PGIMER etc.). A parallel e- mail account and whatsapp group was also maintained by the organizers to keep the participants updated (on daily basis) and to provide them assistance during the program.

During the program, the participants appreciated the overall quality of training along with the field tour, where they were exposed to the Indian Health System along with its few best practices. They felt that it was a wonderful experience with a blend of learning, through various teaching methods which they can apply in their organization. They revealed that the program was well planned, organized, managed and full of knowledge which can be truly implemented in field settings and across different organizations. They expressed their willingness to scale up the program in their respective organizations and countries. The general proceedings and events were widely covered by the audio-visual and social media.