

Tailor-made Training (NFP -TM) on Addressing Governance, Gender and Disasters in a Fragile Health System

Department: Community Health Sciences

Project Sponsors: Royal Tropical Institute (Mauritskade 63, 1092 AD Amsterdam, the Netherlands) funded by Nuffic

Duration: 01-30 Sep 2013

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A short Tailor-Made-Training (TMT) course for the capacity building of staff in understanding issues in governance, gender mainstreaming, and disaster preparedness and management was executed during 16th -27th Sep 2013 in CHS Department. The course was offered in collaboration with Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), located in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The course participants were drawn from AKU, AKDN, public and private sector organizations.

Aim:

The aim of this short course was to provide participants with general conceptual knowledge of gender, governance, health systems building blocks, and the elements of emergency preparedness and response. The participants were expected to explore various health systems approaches, identify the gaps, and provide recommendations and solutions

Objectives:

To strengthen the capacity of health and public professionals working in areas of Pakistan affected by disasters to analyse health systems, so that they are able to;

1. Identify key weaknesses, distortions and gaps of health system in responding to crises
2. Assist policy makers to plan for appropriate policies, strategies and plans for emergency response.

Methods:

Teaching learning strategies consisted of lectures, exercises, case studies and interactive group discussions building on participants' experiences with respective topics and issues. Participants were also provided with essential readings. The course specifically focus on facilitating the participants to translate the theory and approaches on health systems, governance and gender issues into their own context and draw implications for adapting these via group discussions.

End of course evaluation consisted of group presentations on four case studies around natural disasters experienced in past few years across Pakistan. Participants were expected to critically analyze the role of health system in disaster management and recommend strategies for enhancing health system resilience, gender sensitive health response and disaster preparedness in Pakistan.

Outcome:

- Improved knowledge of health system building blocks in addressing the complex emergencies in Pakistan.
- Improved knowledge and skills in ensuring transparency in governance and gender mainstreaming
- Increased understanding and skills in managing and responding to disasters in a fragile state.