SPRING Webinar: Raising status and quality of nutrition services within government systems

Supportive supervision of service providers in Kyrgyz Republic

Michael Foley, Chief of Party, SPRING/Kyrgyz Republic

December 7, 2016
## Health Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DHS 2012</th>
<th>MICS 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under five mortality</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stunting under five</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight under five</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusive breastfeeding (0-5 months)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anemia under five</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anemia among WRA</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health System

• 99% skilled attendance at birth*
• 97% of women receive ANC*,
• 96% PNC within two days*
• Infrastructure of facilities from tertiary to outpost level
• Weak quality assurance mechanisms generally
• Soviet area system of ‘kurators’ (mentors) worked well, but doesn’t exist in the current system.
• SPRING is working with facility heads and champions to revive the kurator system.

*Source: DHS 2012
SPRING’s Program in Kyrgyz Republic

- Working across sectors to increase uptake of 11 evidence-based services/practices, by:
  - Increasing access to quality nutrition services;
  - Increasing demand for priority nutrition practices; and
  - Increasing dietary diversity
Capacity building and training
SPRING’s Supportive Supervision Initiative

• Supportive supervision system implemented after IYCF training for skills retention and to assist in data collection

• Checklists were adapted from globally recognized tools
Supportive supervision visits
We faced many problems. Inspections highlighted gaps working with children and pregnant women. Our negative performance was often discussed at regional and national review boards. It was clear that we were doing something wrong, but we did not know how to improve.

After SPRING’s supportive supervision training, all staff of Jumgal FMC started implementing Mentoring principals in our work. Now we can clearly identify where we achieved success and where we face challenges. And all this happens with no screaming or penalty, just with mentoring and support.

Thank you very much.

-Ainura Tentieva Deputy Head of Jumgal FMC
SPRING’s Supportive Supervision Initiative

• Clear limits to SPRING’s ability to provide direct supportive supervision effectively to all trained service providers
• Approach evolved to be more system-oriented: inclusive of existing human resources and reflective of legacy structures (i.e. kurators)
• This informed the way SPRING rolled out supportive supervision and motivated us to advocate with national stakeholders to address gaps in routine systems
Advocacy and Training

• Engagement at national level
• ‘SPRING model’
• Developed curriculum on supportive supervision
• Provided a 3-day training on concepts and approaches
  o Shared SPRING experience:
    • FY15 – 251 supportive supervision visits (checklists)
    • FY16 – 597 supportive supervision visits (checklists)
    • Findings – 42% improvement in checklists scores between FY15 and FY16
Summary

Phase 1
- Skills retention
- On-the-job support
- Positive feedback
- Sustainability question

Phase 2
- Broadened approach
- Building on local systems
- Mentor capacity building
- Policy question

Phase 3
- National Stakeholder discussions
- Opportunities with existing policies/systems
- Training for champions
- Adoption question
Outcomes & Next Steps

- Broad interest by ministry, with expressed interest in full SPRING case study
- Barriers to whole-hearted adoption remain
- Tension around ‘new’ concepts in a historically hierarchal authority system
- Roll out of regional level trainings in supportive supervision in program areas completed (training replicated for 68 local health managers/providers)
- Potential for regional level adoption
Thank you!
For more info, please contact: mfoley@spring-nutrition.org