Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AdSEARCH) by icddr,b

# AdSEARCHBITES

Monthly Newsletter

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### **AdSEARCH Capacity Development Programme**

Over the past three years, AdSEARCH has been actively running a 'Capacity Development Programme' in alignment with its commitment to knowledge and skill enhancement. This initiative is designed to foster capacities among junior and mid-level researchers, senior researchers, and non-scientific staff. In February 2024, the programme initiated four separate online and offline sessions on Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, Principles of Communication and also Budgeting. Workshops are conducted using a hybrid method, allowing participants to attend either in-person or online.



<sup>12 Feb 2024</sup> Capacity Development Workshop on Systematic Review for the Researchers



#### 19 Feb 2024

Capacity Development Workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning(MEL)



20 Feb 2024 Capacity Development Workshop on Budget



20 Feb 2024 Capacity Development Workshop on Principals of Communications

### Building Capacity with AdSEARCH over the year

The AdSEARCH Capacity Development Programme is a training initiative, committed to shaping the future of SRHR research, fostering collaboration, and building a community of professionals passionate about sexual and reproductive health. The initiatives from this programme are tailored with three specific activities:

Capacity development of future SRHR champions, the young researchers through targeted training. Capacity enhancement on SRHR research by providing opportunities for AdSEARCH researchers within and outside icddr,b (including Academics and Public Health Bodies). Improving understanding of AdSEARCH staff by bridging overall cross-cutting issues, including Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL), Effective Health Communications, Gender Equality and Rights, and orientation on GAC Financial Rules, Regulations, and Practices.

# Topic, Techniques, Operations

To date, the Capacity Development Programme has been investing in the beneficiaries through three components: topic, technique and operation. Each has a variety of items to be covered by relevant area experts.

### Торіс

Under the AdSEARCH Capacity Development Programme all researchers and non-scientific staff are to be trained up regarding the following topics:



#### Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)

Series of Knowledge Sharing sessions on Adolescent SRHR, Gender-based Violence, Contraception, Maternal and Newborn Health, and Reproductive Cancers based on the Guttmacher-LANCET Commission.



#### Gender Equity and Rights (GER)

Series of mandate training on Mainstreaming Gender in public health research for all AdSEARCH scientific and non-scientific staff.

#### Ethics related to SRH research and services

Will start from year four

## Techniques

The AdSEARCH researchers and Innovation and Evidence Hub members get the opportunity to develop capacity in Epidemiology, Biostatistics with hands-on practice on a statistical software, Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (SRMA), Monitoring and Evaluation Learning (MEL) and Effective Health Communication. To date, the techniques on which the researchers get the opportunity to build their capacities on:



#### **Qual Science Trainings**

The series considers, but not limited to introducing qualitative research in public health to theoretical orientation, study designs, analysis, role-playing of different data collection techniques, practising data analysis with use of tools, scientific paper writing etc.



#### **STAT Readers Session**

The series considers, but not limited to introduction to epidemiology, cross-sectional and cohort study, data visualisation, quasi-experimental design, methodology of survey data etc.



#### **Capacity Building at Universities**

AdSEARCH has extended its outreach to BSMMU, University of Dhaka, Jahangirnagar University, Asian University for Women, and Shahjalal University for Science and Technology on research methodology and scientific publications.

#### Field Experience of ISRT Students on Health and Demographic Surveillance Systems (HDSS)



On 15 February 2024, a field trip was organised by the collaborative effort of the Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT) and icddr,b to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application by immersing students in hands-on experiences. I have been informed that the students received some practical exposure to topics such as longitudinal data collection procedures, data management and data quality process control which are aligned to the course on Research Methodology. I thank those involved in this endeavor both at the icddr,b as well as ISRT for making the Matlab Health and Demographic Surveillance Site (HDSS) visit a success. We hope that this collaboration will continue in future."

Tamanna Howlader Professor and Director, ISRT, University of Dhaka



#### **Capacity Building of Health Professionals**

Public Health professionals from BSMMU and MIFOH have participated in series sessions on data analysis, thesis writing and application of qualitative research in Public Health. The commitment to advancing research and capacity-building initiatives of icddr,b is commendable and has undoubtedly made a positive impact on the participants. We are looking forward to more programmes in the future to increase the knowledge and expertise of MAMM'S team."

**Prof. Sayeba Akhter** CEO, MAMM'S Institute of Fistula and Women's Health (MIFWOH)

# Operation

All AdSEARCH team members including researchers and non-scientific staff attended to improve their understanding of GAC rules and regulations on the Financial Regulations, Procurement and Compliance and Communication Guidelines.

### In numbers (till February 2024)

Gender Oual 17 250+ 17 470+ Mainstreaming Science Participants Sessions Sessions Participants Trainings **Trainings** Capacity **STAT Reader** 6 240+ 16 500+ **Building at** Sessions Sessions Sessions Participants Participants Universities Knowledge **Capacity Building** 16 580+ of Health Sharing Sessions Sessions Participants Participants **Practitioners** Sessions

### GAC Deputy Director visited icddr,b to learn AdSEARCH work

27 Feb 2024



Jane Palmer, Deputy Director from the Global Affairs Canada (GAC) Headquarters in Canada, visited icddr,b on 27 February 2024. During her visit, she learned about icddr,b's research initiatives, the progress of the AdSEARCH project, healthcare services,

hospitals, and the humanitarian work conducted by icddr,b.

**Dr Quamrun Nahar**, Head of Research, MCHD provided updates about AdSEARCH working progress. The GAC Dhaka office team accompanied her during this visit.

### Announcement

#### Sabrina Jabeen will present about the Essential Gynocological programme

To mark International Women's Day, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is holding an event International Women's Day 2024 'Innovation and Action in Global Gynaecological Healthcare' on 7 March 2024 at RCOG, London.

icddr,b Assistant Scientist Sabrina Jabeen is going to present 'The RCOG's approach

to improving women's gynaecological health through the Gynaecological Health Matters programme' in session 5, 'Gynaecological healthcare in low- and middle-income countries'. The Essential Gynocological programme is implemented by icddr,b, under the leadership of the Maternal Health Programme, MNC&AH, DGHS, with technical assistance from the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) and with financial support from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through AdSEARCH by icddr,b.

The recorded session will soon be shared on our social media platforms.

AdSEARCH Bites **Previous Issues:** 



http://adsearch.icddrb.org/Study/AllPublications



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