Dissemination of Regional Competency Assessment Tool for Midwifery Educators and Midwives
16 May 2022
Webinar Report

The objectives of the webinar were:

- To disseminate SEAR Midwifery Educator and Midwives Competency Self-Assessment Tool
- To share experience of India and their assessment of assessing gaps of midwifery educator’s competencies
- To inform participants on the Global Community of Practice platform for Nursing and Midwifery

Over 38 participants were present and contributed to the discussions. WCO focal points for Midwifery were requested to invite stakeholders. Other invitees from SEARO FGL department, UN Agencies and partners including the WHO Collaborating Centers, WHO HQ-MCA, HWF, CNO offices, Jhpiego, Laerdal, Burnett Institute, UNFPA and ICM were present at the meeting.

Dr Neena Raina, Director a.i. FGL, welcomed the participants and provided opening remarks including global evidence on impact of Midwifery, salutation to midwives working throughout the pandemic, and achievements of SEA Region on reductions in maternal and newborn mortality. She emphasized that the Regional Midwifery Strategy 2020-2024 is available to guide Member States and partners to assess, develop and strengthen midwifery education and services in a systematic and harmonized manner. She also explained why the Regional Office worked on developing a tool that midwifery educators and midwife practitioners can use to assess, develop, and optimize their competencies.

Ms Ai Tanimizu, Technical Officer – Nursing and Midwifery then introduced the speakers for the webinars. Dr Emily McWhirter from WHO HQ Chief Nurse Office introduced participants to the Global Community of Practice Forum (https://nursingandmidwiferyglobal.org/page/welcome) that is available on the internet server for anyone to access by creating a login to access resources and discussions about Nursing and Midwifery related issues. She shared the promo video and discussed the reason why HQ developed such platform was through Government Chief Nurse Midwifery Officers who shared they wanted a platform where they can network with other nursing and midwifery leaders.

Dr Bharati Sharma shared how the Regional Competency Assessment Tool was developed, provided an example from the tool, how it can be used, and implications to midwifery policy. Dr Ram Chahar from WCO India shared the experience of assessing midwifery competencies of
nursing/midwifery educators and clinical trainers in 6 states of India. WCO India was also able to identify facilitators and barriers in midwifery education.

Summary of questions and comments raised by participants are below:

- Detailed findings from India were sought from Burnett Institute, in which WCO India responded that the report will be shared with partners when finalized.
- A colleague from Burnett Institute shared that they were developing some modules for midwifery faculty development and strengthening midwifery education with UNFPA.
- UNFPA APRO shared their activities on strengthening midwifery education.
- A question from Myanmar on how the pilot countries were selected. TO-Nursing and Midwifery responded to say that RO requested countries that would be interested in undertaking the study and those that showed interest and could provide feedback by a certain deadline were included.
- Comment from Myanmar that what is being trained and what is being practiced in wards are not linked. Therefore, a suggestion was made for midwifery faculty members to also practice in wards and lessen the gap during clinical practice.
- UNFPA requested WHO to work on workforce issues such as recruitment and deployment of midwifery educators/faculty members.

Finally, Ms Tanimizu discussed that SEARO is also working on developing a learning plan template so that when midwifery educators and midwives self-assess their competencies, they can plan ahead to fill those gaps. She also shared that a Nurse Educator Competency Self-Assessment Tool will also be released in Fall 2022.

Ms Tanimizu closed the webinar with special thanks to all the presenters, participants and the team that supported to run the webinar from WHO-SEARO.
### Annex 1: Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:45 - 13:00</td>
<td>Opening of virtual meeting room</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 13:10</td>
<td>Welcome address and objectives</td>
<td>Dr Neena Raina</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:10 - 13:25</td>
<td>Introduction to Global Community of Practice for Nurses and Midwives</td>
<td>Dr Emily McWhirter</td>
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<td>13:25 - 13:50</td>
<td>Regional competency assessment tool for midwifery educators and midwives</td>
<td>Ms Ai Tanimizu Dr Paridhi Jha Dr Bharati Sharma</td>
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<td>13:50 - 14:15</td>
<td>Experience from India Country Office</td>
<td>Dr Ram Chahar</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15 - 14:55</td>
<td>Q/A and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:55 - 15:00</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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