Deploying capacity development approaches that prioritize sustainability and local leadership

Liton Bala, Program Director, World Mission Prayer League (LAMB Hospital), Bangladesh
Overview of LAMB (Lutheran Aid to Medicine in Bangladesh)

• Established in 1976 in the northern part of Bangladesh

• **Reach:** 6.3 million people, 58 subdistricts in 11 Districts

• **Goal:** The people of Bangladesh, transformed by the love of God, experience abundant life in healthy and just communities.
LAMB's approach to community capacity strengthening to improve FP/MNCH

• **Key approach:** Continuum of care from household to community to hospital

• **Why important?** Fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment, building confidence among community members to own community development, resolve underlying problems, communicate effectively (community advocacy), and take decisions for their future
LAMB's approach to community capacity strengthening to improve FP/MNCH – Continued

• Key Learnings
  • With effective engagement of community, we have seen increased ownership to run rural health facilities using their own financing.
  • Raising knowledge, awareness and skills of community health workforce contributes to increased uptake and utilization of services. And the intellectual capital remains in the community to continue these services.
LAMB’s capacity development in partnership with MOMENTUM

LAMB’s priority areas of capacity development include:

- Sustainability assessment

And to develop:

- Resources mobilization strategy, strategic planning process, strategic information plan (M&E and Quality Assurance Plan), communications and SBCC strategy; advocacy strategy (including GBV), and gender transformative and youth development programming
Key Takeaways

Non-profit finance and sustainability:
• Emphasis on impact sustainability in addition to resources sustainability.

Leadership in Pipeline:
• Health workforce development (Diploma nursing & midwifery & existing staff.)
• Succession planning (pool of talent) for future leadership.
• Community leadership for adolescents, youth and community leaders.

Practicality:
• Cross pollination of ideas (adopted best models or practices or lesson learned).
• Visa/work permit issues of International volunteers.
• Developing talent for the country and not only for the one post/org (Anyone can move).