

16 Glorious Years of Norway India Partnership Initiative

NIPI Newsletter
(January-June 2023)



ॐ आँगनवाडी पाठशाला ॐ

को केन सरेसरा
श्री...
नी



Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) established in 2006 as a response to reduce the maternal, new-born and child mortality in India, has been supporting the NHM by providing catalytic, strategic and innovative support to accelerate mortality reduction. The initiative has tested several innovations and provided strategic support to NHM in several key areas before offering them for scale up.

The many successes of the NIPI program are based upon the hard work of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), NHM of NIPI supported states and NIPI team. To celebrate 16 glorious years of NIPI in India, a result seminar organized jointly by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and Government of Norway on 30th May 2023. The seminar attended also paved possible way forward beyond 2023 for this strategic partnership to continue between the two countries. Furthermore, a two-day field visit for a high level delegation from Norway led by Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway, Ms Bjørg Sandkjær, and Norad oversaw various innovative activities and approaches to one of the NIPI supported states.

The current edition of the NIPI newsletter **highlights the results seminar besides the work to ensure institutionalization of Innovation Ecosystem in NHMs across India, during the period January – June 2023.** NIPI has supported NHM Odisha for assessment of Nidaan Scheme (free diagnostic services), National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification of District Hospitals in Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan, MusQan assessment (Ensuring Quality Child-Friendly Services) and Kayakalp assessment of public health facilities in Rajasthan. NIPI also demonstrated its innovative approach on capacity building and use of Virtual Reality based training package for Health Service Providers on Neonatal Resuscitation and leveraging 5G technologies.

We wish our readers happy reading of the current issue for January to June 2023. For further information about NIPI, please visit the [website www.nipi-cure.org](http://www.nipi-cure.org)

Celebrating 16 Years of Success: NIPI Results Seminar



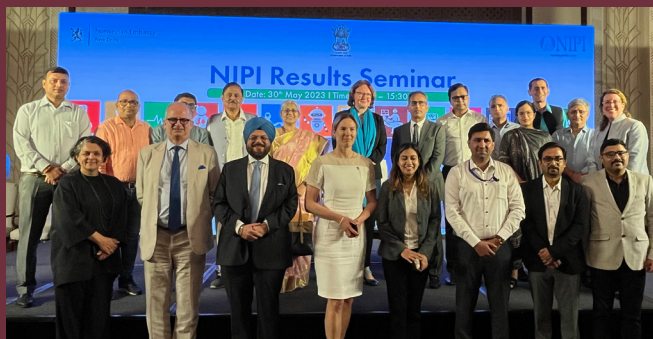
Established in 2006 through an agreement signed between the two Prime Ministers of Norway and India, Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is a response to reduce the Maternal Newborn and Child Mortality in India in alignment with National Health Mission (NHM) of Government of India. NIPI has supported NHM by providing catalytic, strategic and innovative support to accelerate mortality reduction. The initiative tested several innovations and provided strategic support to NHM in several key areas before offering them for scale up.

To celebrate the success of NIPI a bilateral health initiative and on the way forward beyond 2023 for this strategic partnership between the two countries, a result seminar was organized jointly by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and Government of Norway on 30th May 2023.

The many successes of the NIPI program are based upon the hard work of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, NHM of NIPI-supported states and NIPI team. The results of NIPI include scaling up of 14 innovations, leveraging 26 Rupees for each Rupee invested by NIPI for scale up of innovations by Government of India and establishing culture for Innovations in the country. The seminar was adorned by the esteemed presence and congregation of delegates including key policy makers and officials from Norwegian and Indian Governments, technical experts from the area of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, representatives from development partners and key stakeholders from academia, public health and various research institutions from both the countries.

[READ MORE](#)

To celebrate the success of NIPI a bilateral health initiative and on the way forward beyond 2023 for this strategic partnership between the two countries, a result seminar was organized jointly by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and Government of Norway on 30th May 2023.



Institutionalization of Innovation Ecosystem in National Health Missions: Establishment of State Innovation Hubs



One of the objectives under phase 3 of Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is to provide technical assistance to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), National Health Missions of various states for establishing innovation hubs, or think tanks, at the state level to identify and test promising health system innovations.

On 6th April, 2023, a national orientation workshop on State Innovations Hub was organized by National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC) with technical support from NIPI, at New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Mr. Vishal Chauhan, IAS, Joint Secretary, MoHFW, Government of India (GoI) with H.E. Mr. Hans Jacob Frydenlund, Ambassador of Norway as the Chief Guest of the event. The orientation was participated by Mission Directors and other representatives of State NHM, representatives from NHSRC, RNE, NIPI and development partners.

Maj. Gen. (Prof.) Atul Kotwal, Executive Director, NHSRC stressed on creating an enabling environment for nurturing innovations ecosystem and a mechanism that needs to be institutionalized for proposing and testing innovative ideas through NHM. During the orientation, various technical sessions were held on Good & Replicable Practices through National Innovation Summit by MoHFW and sharing state experiences on establishing State Innovation Hub from Odisha and Rajasthan.

[READ MORE](#)

A mechanism needs to be institutionalized for proposing and testing innovative ideas through NHM and moving away from a project-centric approach for the same and thus the establishment of state innovation hubs is in this direction.



Rajasthan Hosts Deputy Minister of Norway



Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) was established in 2006 as a response to reduce the new-born and child mortality in India in alignment with its National Health Mission (NHM) of various states including the state of Rajasthan. NIPI supports the NHM by providing catalytic, strategic and innovative support to accelerate mortality reduction. The approach is testing several innovations and provided strategic support to NHM in several key areas before offering them for scale up. To celebrate the success of the bilateral health initiative and on the way forward beyond 2023 for this strategic partnership between the two countries, a high level delegation from Norway led by Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway Ms Bjørg Sandkjær, visited India on 28-29 May 2023 besides overseeing NIPI Field level activities in Alwar district of Rajasthan. The main objective of the visit was getting primary information from implementers and beneficiaries about NIPI interventions and overall impact of the programs at district, block and village level. The delegation was accompanied by officials from Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Ms Rannveig Rajendram, Director, Department for Operation Management and Royal Norwegian Embassy in New Delhi, Minister Counsellor Royal Norwegian Embassy Ms Martine Aamdal Bottheim. Dr Pradeep Kumar Choudhry, Project Director, Child Health, NHM Rajasthan represented state government of Rajasthan.

[READ MORE](#)

The main objective of the visit was getting primary information from implementers and beneficiaries about NIPI interventions and overall impact of the programs at district, block and village level.



Leveraging Virtual Reality for Imparting Training of Health Service Providers on Neonatal Resuscitation in Odisha



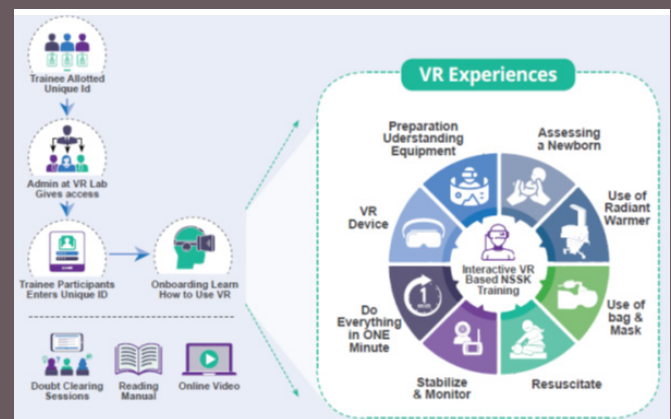
Over the past few years, a wave of digitalization has been sweeping across sectors, fostering innovation. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recognized the value of incorporating digital technologies in its training programs. Digital platforms, leveraging new-age technologies such as AI/ML, AR/VR, and more, not only serve as a powerful tool to impart learning.

Towards this, the Child Health Division of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (GoI) with technical Support from Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has developed a Virtual Reality (VR) training package for new-born care and resuscitation. The training package allows a healthcare provider to practice in a personalized and self-paced virtual environment simulating nearly all real life scenario to improve their key skills, become competent and confident in managing and saving a Newborn during the crucial “Golden Minute” after birth. The skills of each trainee is being spontaneously assessed, validated and visualized through a Learning Management System that works in the background. The innovation aims to train the next million healthcare providers using emerging immersive technology.

National Health Mission Government of Odisha has become the first state to pilot demonstrate the VR based new-born resuscitation package on 15th and 16th June, 2023 in Bhubaneswar. The demo modules of the training package have been very easy to understand and all the service providers including Nurses and Doctors used it to refresh their knowledge.

[READ MORE](#)

The training package allows a healthcare provider to practice in a personalized and self-paced virtual environment simulating nearly all real life scenario to improve their key skills, become competent and confident in managing and saving a Newborn during the crucial “Golden Minute” after birth.



Digital Health Tracking of severely anaemic children for Anaemia Mukt Bharat Implementation in Jammu and Kashmir



The Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) Programme was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), as a strategic approach to reduce prevalence of anaemia in women and children by intensifying strong initiatives, strengthen the existing mechanisms and foster newer strategies for managing anaemia. One of the key strategies under the newly redesigned AMB is to Test-Treat-Talk (T3) for generating demand and mobilising target beneficiaries on anaemia. The T3 strategy includes: Test - with the help of digital haemoglobin-meter; Treat - with Iron Folic Acid (IFA) Tablets and referral; and Talk - counselling beneficiaries on healthy lifestyle measures, increase iron levels in the body and taking healthy diet rich in iron, protein and vitamin C.

In an effort to combat anaemia, National Health Mission (NHM), J&K launched Test-Treat-Talk (T3) anaemia special camps with a focus on social and mass mobilization and screening for anaemia through RBSK Mobile Health Teams and Health & Wellness Centres. The camps were launched by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor during the J&K Health Conclave organized by NHM, J&K in Srinagar on 5th July, 2023. To capture data in real time, National Health Mission with technical support of Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has developed a mobile application (ODK APP) and dashboard for analysing district wise prevalence of anaemia in different age groups in women and children in order to formulate strategies for successful implementation of Anaemia Mukt Bharat Programme in J&K. Orientation for Rashtriya Bal Suraksha Karyekaram (RBSK) Mobile Health Teams on use of ODK APP was also supported by NIPI. The application will support tracking of severely anaemic children as well for better management and referrals as required under AMB strategy.

One of the key strategies under the newly redesigned AMB is to Test-Treat-Talk (T3) for generating demand and mobilising target beneficiaries on anaemia.



[READ MORE](#)

Demonstration of Innovations and Achievements of NIPI in Bihar



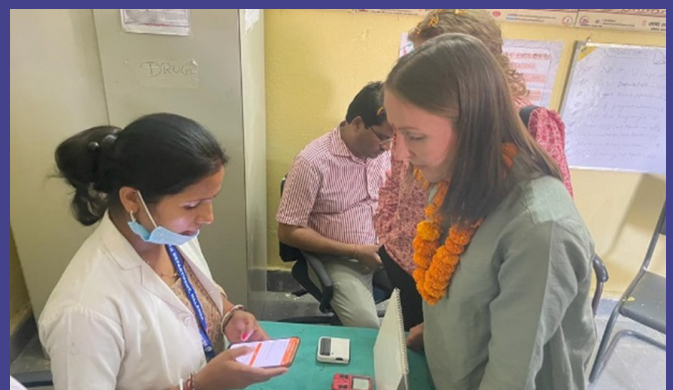
A high level delegation from Royal Norwegian Embassy visited the state of Bihar to oversee Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) project activities from 17th to 19th April 2023, headed by Deputy Ambassador, Ms. Martine Aamdal Bottheim.

The purpose of the visit was to oversee NIPI activities in the field including functionality of Special New-born Care Units (SNCU) established by NIPI in District Hospital Nalanda and care of small and sick new-borns through family Participatory Care (FPC) practices. They also met with senior health officials of the Government of Bihar.

The Deputy Ambassador interacted with mothers at the SNCU, who (mothers) shared their experiences of feeling more confident in taking care of their newborns after receiving training on FPC. Delegation visited one Health and Wellness Centre (HWC) in Gaya district and where they observed the use of Decision Support System (DSS), an application developed by NIPI for Community Health Officers (CHO) to support them in classifying the presenting symptoms of a child and making decision for child's treatment and care, up to five years of age. Delegation also interacted with ASHAs (Community Health Worker), community people and observed NCD program and Home Based Care for Young Child (HBYC) Program.

[READ MORE](#)

The delegation was headed by Deputy Ambassador, Ms. Martine Aamdal Bottheim and accompanied by Ms. Marit Strand, Counsellor and Ms Gauri Bandekar Advisor, Health and Dr. Ashfaq Bhat, Program Director NIPI.



Local Problems have Local Solutions: Decentralising Innovation Development Capacities in National Health Mission Madhya Pradesh



National Health Mission (NHM), Government of Madhya Pradesh (MP) has recently established State Innovation Hub with an aim to build innovation development capacity and develop evidence-based programs. To further this objective, NHM MP, with technical support of NIPI, organized a two-day State Level Innovation Capacity Building Workshop for district level officials, Divisional RMNACH+N coordinators from all seven divisions on 1st and 2nd March 2023. Representatives from various development partners, such as UNICEF, UNFPA, IHAT, WISH, and NOORA Health, participated in the workshop.

State Innovation Hub an integral component of State NHM efforts to drive innovation and improve outcomes of maternal, newborn and child health.

The workshop focussed on the decentralised process of innovation: identification of state specific key problem and co creation of matching solutions, frameworks for evaluations of proposals, decentralising innovation process and development of district specific proposals for innovative ideas. Districts were urged to submit proposals in order to allocate adequate funds for funding local innovations for addressing maternal, newborn and child health issues in the state.

The workshop provided a platform for district-level officials to come together, share their experiences, cross learning and brainstorming innovative solutions. The workshop was a grand success with attendance of 98 officials from all the 52 districts. State Innovation Hub will continue to be an integral component of NHM efforts to drive innovation and improve health outcomes in Madhya Pradesh.

[READ MORE](#)



Assessment of flagship 'NIDAAN Free Diagnostics and Dialysis' Scheme in Odisha



Government of Odisha is committed to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in line with National Health Policy and Sustainable Development Goals (Goal-3) and provide its population securing access to quality healthcare, safe and affordable medicines and vaccines. In its bid to achieve these objectives, NHM Odisha has increased its public health spending and launched 'NIDAAN Free Diagnostic & Dialysis Services' Scheme in January 2018. The objective of NIDAAN is to reduce out of pocket expenses and provide high standard diagnostic services to citizens of the state. Under this scheme, in-patients and out-patients are entitled to get free diagnostic services in public health facilities at all levels from Medical College to Health Sub Centre across all districts of the State. The scheme also has a provision for outsourced diagnostic services through Public Private Partnership.

In order to assess the effectiveness of the scheme Department for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha with technical support from Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) conducted an assessment of NIDAAN Scheme in 7 sampled districts. The assessment also intends to provide specific recommendation for improving implementation for next five years. The specific objectives of the assessment evaluated the role of NIDAAN scheme in improving availability and access to free diagnostic services by patients; assess contribution of NIDAAN in reducing out of pocket expenditure on diagnostic services; and determine the level of client satisfaction with respect to quality of diagnostic services being provided at all levels of public health system.

[READ MORE](#)

In order to assess the effectiveness of the scheme Department for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha with technical support from Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) conducted an assessment of NIDAAN Scheme in 7 sampled districts.



Scaling up of another NIPI innovation in Madhya Pradesh: Decision Support System for Frontline Workers



The National Health Mission (NHM) in Madhya Pradesh (MP), with technical support of Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI), has developed a Decision Support System (DSS) application for Community Health Officers (CHOs). The DSS application supports CHOs in the screening of under five children and pregnant women at Health and Wellness Centers (HWCs) ensuring appropriate management and referral to a higher facility for care.

Following the successful piloting of the DSS tool in Sehore district in terms of Improvement in case attended, early identification of High-risk cases and identification of common childhood illnesses, NHM MP intends scale up DSS and roll out in all the eight aspirational districts of the state.

NHM MP intends targeting to train more than 1500 Community Health Officers (CHOs) on the use of DSS applications to identify high risk cases in a timely and evidence based manner. To ensure the successful implementation, NHM MP with technical support from NIPI team, organized a state-level training of trainers on 6th Feb 2023. The training was attended by District Health Officers, District Programme Managers, CPHC Consultants, and Nursing Mentors. Participants were trained on use of DSS application on their tablets and mobile phones and they were taken through the journey of its development and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) classification for under five children.

[READ MORE](#)

The Decision Support System (DSS) for Community Health Officers (CHOs) supports them in the screening of under-five children and pregnant women to identify high-risk cases in a timely manner.



Ensuring Evidence Based Care by Health Workers: e-DSS in Bihar



The State Health Society (SHS), Government of Bihar in collaboration with Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has developed an Electronic Decision Support System (e-DSS) application for Community Health Officers (CHOs). The e-DSS application supports CHOs in the screening of under five children and pregnant women at Health and Wellness Centres ensuring appropriate management and referral to a higher facility for care. The e-DSS application was piloted in two districts of Muzaffarpur and Nalanda of the state in the year 2021.

In order to assess the effectiveness of e-DSS application in facilitating critical decision making and improve cases management by CHOs at HWCs and to determine level of satisfaction of CHOs with e-DSS and understand facilitators and barriers associated with adoption of e-DSS among CHOs, an evaluation of e-DSS application was conducted by NIPI in these two districts.

The findings of the evaluation revealed that e-DSS is highly beneficial for CHOs for critical decision making and improve cases management. Based on the recommendations of the evaluation, State Health Society, Bihar budgeted amount for the scale up of DSS to all the thirteen aspirational districts during next financial year. e-DSS application is a significant step towards better healthcare for sick newborn and children in Bihar and the success of this initiative shows that collaboration and innovation can bring about positive change in the healthcare delivery.

[READ MORE](#)

The e-DSS application developed by NIPI aims to support Community Health Officers (CHOs) in the screening of under-five children and pregnant women at health and wellness centres.



Ensuring Community-Based Care of Infants in Madhya Pradesh: Training of ASHA Workers



Madhya Pradesh is making great strides in ensuring the well-being of its citizens, particularly its youngest members. As part of the state's 'Atmanirbhar' (Independent) Madhya Pradesh initiative, the Home Based Care for Young Child (HBYC) program is being scaled up across all 52 districts. Under this program, National Health Mission Government of Madhya Pradesh intends completing training of community health worker (ASHA) by the end of 2023.

Towards this, National Health Mission, Government of Madhya Pradesh with technical support from NIPI, conducted a state level Training of Trainers (ToT) at Regional Health & Family Welfare Training Centre (RHFUTC) Gwalior, from 14th to 17th Jan 2023.

A batch of 28 trainers, including 4 ASHA Supervisors and 24 District Trainers from 15 districts were trained. The training sessions were facilitated by three state trainers. NIPI team also supported a concurrent assessment of the training to identify gaps and provided timely & valuable insights on the HBYC module and incorporate innovative teaching techniques. Post training an assessment of the participants was conducted which revealed that all the participants were found to have well informed and equipped with necessary skills & knowledge to train ASHAs in their respective districts.

[READ MORE](#)

As part of the Home-Based Care for Young Child Program, the National Health Mission, Government of Madhya Pradesh, aims to complete the training of community-based workers (ASHAs) by the end of 2023.



Mission Quality: Enhancing Health Service Delivery in District Hospitals of Bihar



State Health Society, National Health Mission of Bihar, has launched 'Mission Quality' to improve all district hospitals as per National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS). NIPI, with its vast experience in providing technical assistance to health programs, has been an integral part of this mission and assigned the task of providing technical support for NQAS certification of District Hospitals in Madhepura and Nawada districts of the state.

NQAS sensitization cum orientation with all the team members and district-level administrative officials was conducted. The departmental teams then assessed their departments using the NQAS checklist and after completion of the assessment, gap findings & action plans were formulated. NIPI representatives provided technical assistance in the formation of departmental assessment teams, assessment of departments as per checklist, data & score compilation, gap classification and preparation of departmental action plan. The Mission Quality program aims to improve the overall quality of services provided at these district level facilities which includes improvement in infrastructure, availability of required trained human resources, proper documentation adherence to Bio Medical Waste (BMW) guidelines, grievance redressal system, availability of departmental SOPs. By implementing these measures, the district hospitals will be enabled to provide better healthcare services in districts. With the help of NQAS, Bihar is taking a significant step towards ensuring quality of healthcare services for all its citizens.

Recognising that healthcare is a basic right of every citizen, the State Health Society, National Health Mission of Bihar, has launched 'Mission Quality' to improve all district hospitals as per National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS).



[READ MORE](#)

Supporting Facility and Community-Based Health Services in Rajasthan: Kayakalp Assessment in Three Facilities



The National Health Mission (NHM) is striving to ensure the provision of quality health services to every individual in need and Government of Rajasthan has been tirelessly working towards achieving this goal. Towards this Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is supporting the NHM Rajasthan for ensuring quality of health services at facility and community levels.

In the month of February 2023, the state NHM and NIPI team conducted a Kayakalp assessment of three facilities: District Hospital (DH) Nokha (Bikaner), Hanumangarh, and Jalore. These facilities were assessed based on the Kayakalp standards, covering all thematic areas such as hospital upkeep, sanitation and hygiene, support services, hygiene promotion, infection control, eco-friendly facilities, waste management and beyond the hospital boundary. During the assessment, mentoring support was also given to hospital staff.

As part of supporting the community level initiatives, NIPI team provided technical support during a workshop which was organized in the month of March, 2023 in Jaipur to review the work being done by ASHAs. This workshop provided a platform for ASHAs to learn from each other and certificates were distributed at the end of the workshop.

[READ MORE](#)

A Kayakalp assessment was conducted in three facilities in Rajasthan wherein they were assessed based on Kayakalp standards, covering aspects like sanitation and hygiene, infection control, waste management, and a lot more.



MusQan: Ensuring Quality Child-Friendly Services in Rajasthan



Government of Rajasthan intends to provide quality health care to all citizens of the country in an equitable manner. Towards this, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and NHM Rajasthan recently launched a quality initiative (QI) for new-born and children, MusQan. MusQan aims to provide quality child-friendly facility-based services from birth to 12 years of age. To achieve this goal, the Rajasthan has identified 90 facilities for MusQan certification by the year 2024.

NHM Rajasthan with technical support of NIPI organized one zonal-level training of trainers (ToT) on MusQan in three districts of Jaipur, Kota and Ajmer districts in February 2023. NIPI provided technical support in terms of coordination and management of technical sessions during the training. The participants were trained on MusQan National Quality Assurance Standards and Assessment Tools, including MusQan certification norms for the Pediatric Ward, Pediatric OPD, Nutrition Rehabilitation Center (NRC) and Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs). These initiatives are a testament to the Rajasthan government's commitment to providing quality healthcare services to its citizens. NIPI support has been instrumental in the success of these initiatives, and its continued partnership with the Rajasthan government will undoubtedly help to improve healthcare outcomes in the state.

[READ MORE](#)

The Quality Initiative (QI) for newborns and children, MusQan, aims to provide quality, child-friendly facility-based services. NIPI organised a zonal-level ToT on MusQan in three districts of Japiur, Kota, and Ajmer.



National Orientation on Innovation hub



LaQshya and NQAS Assessments



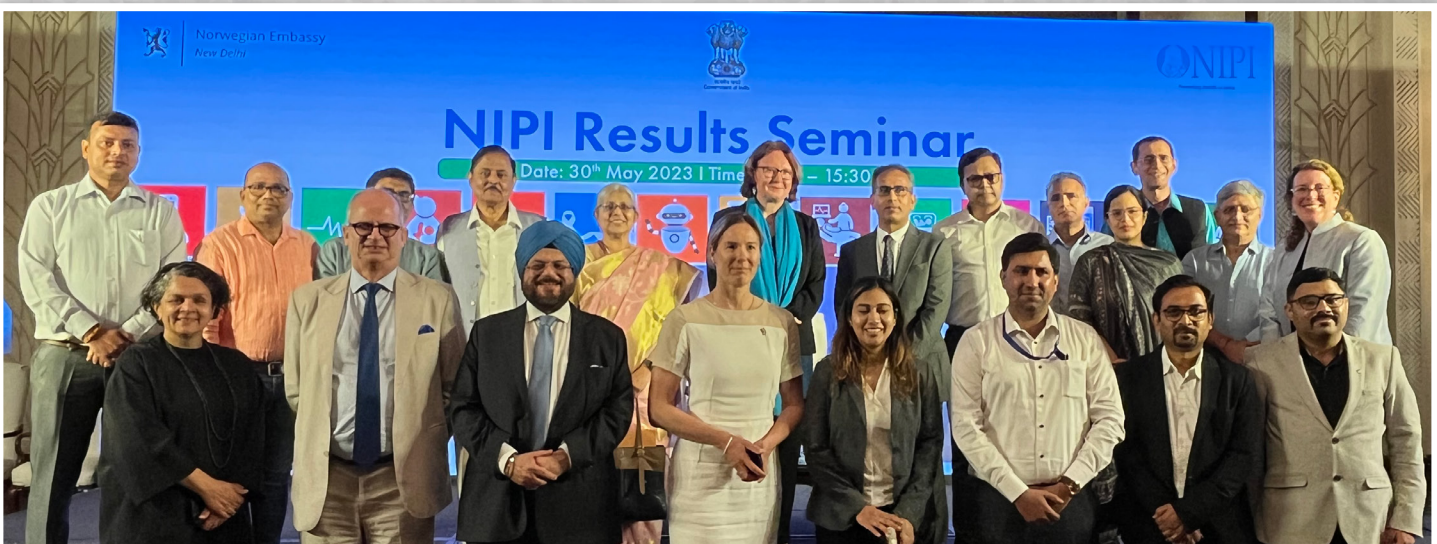
Orientation on Decision Support System for Community Health Officers



Technical Assistance to State NHM for Orientations and Capacity building



NIPI Results Seminar





A health initiative between Government of India and Government of Norway, the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) aims to innovate and scale up quality continuum of care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in India

CONTACT US



www.nipi-cure.org



+91 11 40755900



<https://twitter.com/nipicu>



Scan the QR code for
more information