

Project launch by Honorable Union Health & Family Welfare Minister Shri J.P. Nadda on February 6, 2016









# **About Project Sunrise**

FHI 360 has been awarded a five year project titled "Sunrise" by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The project aims to complement the ongoing National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) primarily to **improve coverage, quality and scale of HIV interventions** in the North-Eastern (NE) states among People Who Inject Drugs (PWID). The project activities will be implemented through the existing system in close coordination with State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) in the eight NE states.



# **Project Sunrise – Goal, Strategies and Geography**

### Goal

To build institutional and human capacity to improve and scale-up the quality of comprehensive package of services for people who inject drugs in the NE region of India.



## **Key Strategies**

- Assess programmatic gaps and barriers
- Enhance capacity of state level institutions
- Improve the quality of PWID package of services through training of harm reduction workforce
- Implement lower threshold service strategy
- Establish Real Time Monitoring System
- Strengthen HIV interventions in prison settings
- Improve coverage of female PWID and spouses of PWID
- Establish an Implementation Science Agenda
- Scale up Methadone Program
- Strengthen linkages with other health and social welfare institutions
- Enhance the current Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system

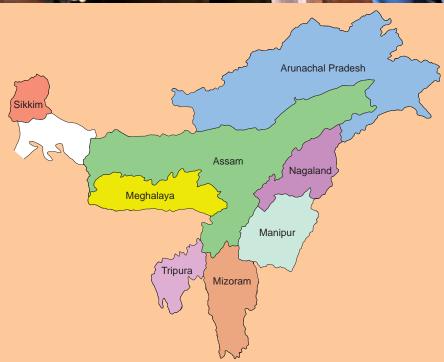


## **Geography**

**Eight North East States** 

Project Sunrise will focus on high priority districts of the North East Region





# **Key Activities of Project Sunrise**

#### **Evidence Generation**

Project Sunrise will conduct a desk review of published articles and reports on the HIV epidemic and response among PWID in the eight NE states to assess barriers, programmatic gaps and identify strategies for improvement of the organization and delivery of harm reduction services.

## **Enhance Capacity of State Level Institutions**

The Project will undertake intensive efforts to enhance the capacity of state level institutions including North Eastern Regional Office (NERO) and State Training Resource Center (STRC) to increase coverage and quality of the comprehensive package of services for the PWID population.

# Lower Threshold Strategies for Needle Syringe Exchange Programs (NSEP)

Project Sunrise will implement a more customized, flexible approach (Lower Threshold Strategy) to increase the availability and accessibility to clean needles and syringes through secondary distributors such as Government healthcare facilities, preferred healthcare providers, non-traditional outlets and peer volunteers.

## Lower Threshold Strategies to Improve Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) Coverage

Lower threshold strategies such as take home dosage, flexi-timings of OST centers and task shifting of OST program staff will be tested in select districts of NE states to improve the coverage of OST services and will be scaled up.



#### Sensitization Workshops for Law Enforcement Officials

District level sensitization workshops will be organized to strengthen the partnership between law enforcement officials, NGOs and health department officials in the region to enhance access to HIV prevention and treatment services for PWID.

# **HIV Interventions in Prison Settings**

HIV interventions will be implemented in central and select district level prisons with the support of prison authorities and local NGOs.

# Strengthen Linkages with Ministries and Government Departments

Sunrise will facilitate social re-integration and linkages of PWID/People Living with HIV (PLHIV) with various social protection and welfare schemes with the support of the District AIDS Prevention and Control Units (DAPCU), Targeted Intervention (TI)-NGO and Mainstreaming Division of NACO.

## Community Mobilization and Demand Generation

Project Sunrise will facilitate sensitization of various key community stakeholders including youth groups, church and religious leaders and other local influencers to enhance access to harm reduction services.

# Intervention among Female Injecting Drug Users (FIDU)

Trainings will be conducted at the regional and state level on special needs including sexual and reproductive health, gender, mental health and linkages to social protection schemes.

## Intervention among Spouses of PWID

Project Sunrise will develop a training module and conduct trainings at state, district and TI-NGO level to address the needs of spouses.



### Establish Real Time Monitoring (RTM) System

Sunrise project will pilot a RTM using Interactive Map and GIS based graphical system in six districts of three states to capture real time data at service delivery points (data to be reported via mobile/smart phones, tablets, desktops and internet) to monitor progress and improve service delivery.

#### **Implementation Science**

Project Sunrise will pilot innovative approaches such as community-based HIV testing, and safe disposal of used needles and syringes using bamboo puncture-proof containers.

# Scale-up of Methadone Program

NACO in collaboration with the Nossal Institute, FHI360, and CDC is considering a phased scale-up of Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT) in high priority districts in the NE states.

# Value Addition of Project Sunrise

- Greater emphasis on using granular site level data to better inform program interventions
- Lower threshold interventions on N/S distribution and use among PWID
- Lower threshold interventions on OST to increase coverage and retention among PWID
- Pilot and evaluate a RTM system to ensure capture of real-time data of PWID across various HIV services and facilitate monitoring at site, district, state and national level
- Support community-based HIV testing approaches to scale-up HIV testing among PWID population
- Strengthen community engagement through collaboration with Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) for facilitating access to services
- Create a supportive environment to enable people who inject drugs including those who are living in prisons settings to access harm reduction services
- Enhance the capacity of various state level institutions to ensure quality service delivery
- Technical support to scale-up good practices in other PWID high burden states and districts



## Project Outputs

- Validated numbers of PWID available at district level (high burden districts)
- Low threshold strategies validated and scaled-up
- Trained personnel (SACS, NERO,TIs) on harm reduction, FIDU, M&E
- Improved comprehensive package of services for PWID
- Scaling-up of interventions with FIDU and spouses of PWID
- Availability of Standard
   Operating Protocols (SOPs),
   guidelines and manuals
- Improved monitoring and service delivery through RTM
- Increased access to testing and treatment services through community-based HIV testing models

## Key Stakeholders

- Ministry of Health
   & Family Welfare,
   Government of India
- National AIDS Control Organization (NACO)
- National Health Mission
- Centers for Disease
   Control and Prevention
- FHI 360
- State Ministries and Departments
- State Prison Department
- North Eastern Council
- State AIDS Control Societies
- TI-NGOs/NGO partners
- CBOs and FBOs
- Community of PWID and FIDU







# Project Outcome & Impact Targets

- 20% PWID on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- 80% PWID on MAT 6 months retention
- 90% coverage among Needle Syringe Exchange Program (NSEP) among PWID
- 50% decrease in HIV incidence among
   PWID
- 50% decrease in HIV related deaths among PWID

