



## File form: 0592- 2116 Final Report for the Eagle Foundation – November 2021

### Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for IMPACT-supported clinics and hospitals in Bangladesh, Cambodia and Nepal

**Funds received:** 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Amount of grant:** GBP 6,335 to IMPACT / CHF 22,940 to ONSA

**Conversion rate:** Exchange rate based on 1 CHF = 0.779 GBP (24.03.21)

**Total number of beneficiaries:** 43,000 health workers, patients and members of the public

**Expenditure:** GBP 24,511

#### Background:

As soon as the threat from Covid-19 became clear in 2020, IMPACT UK asked our local partners what they needed and funds to buy PPE for frontline health workers was in all cases the top of their requirement list. Global demand and disrupted supply chains had priced out many countries and it has been well documented how health workers in many lower and middle-income countries have been woefully ill-equipped throughout the pandemic.

We are grateful to Fondation Eagle for introducing IMPACT to ONSA – a Swiss medical supplier that has generously provided disposable and medical grade face coverings to our partners in Bangladesh, Cambodia and Nepal at wholesale cost. They also kindly arranged the international transportation from Geneva to Dhaka, Phnom Penh and Kathmandu. The total donation consisted of 19,500 FFP2 masks (medical grade equipment recommended for health workers in direct patient contact) and 112,000 IIR masks (disposable, fluid resistant face masks suitable for use by the general public and health workers undertaking social distancing).

Report on activities:

#### Bangladesh: Donation summary: 46,000 IIR masks and 7,500 FFP2 masks benefiting 16,000 health workers, patients and members of the public so far

In spite of the lockdowns, IMPACT foundation Bangladesh (IFB) has worked hard to follow strict safety guidelines in order to keep its three hospitals open for the poorest people who have no other place to turn in the event of ill-health. However, it has been a challenge to source PPE and costs have risen dramatically since the start of the pandemic. IFB were therefore grateful to receive the Eagle/ONSA shipment, which arrived in Dhaka on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Masks were distributed between the three hospitals as follows:

- IMPACT Chuadanga Community hospital - 15,500 IIR and 2,500 FFP2 masks
- IMPACT Meherpur Community hospital - 15,300 IIR and 2,500 FFP2 masks
- IMPACT 'Jibon Tari' floating hospital - 15,200 IIR and 2,500 FFP2

*'We at IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh acknowledge the great support from Eagle and ONSA for their kind donation to ensure safety of our hospital and community health workers, who are also using them for mobile clinics and health education in the rural areas. Masks are essential for all our staff members and we are very happy for this protection from the Covid-19 infection.'* – IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh



The PPE consignment arrived in Dhaka in the first week of May 2021

Health workers expressed their gratitude for the donation:

**Samira Tasnim Joarder (32) IMPACT Medical Officer:** *'Our whole nation was shaken by the appearance of the virus. I have continued seeing patients every day at the hospital because medicine is my profession. I could not ignore it and run away. But my parents are old and I did not want to affect them by any means with the virus. These masks we received are of great help to us. We had suffered a lot during the early days of the pandemic. There was a shortage of masks everywhere. It was difficult to manage a mask instantly if there was not sufficient stock for oneself.'*



**Selim Reza (30) IMPACT Medical Assistant:** *'I am posted at the Meherpur hospital since 2018. I feel proud of serving people who are in need of medical emergencies during the pandemic but I am also worried about seeing the potential COVID-19 outbreak throughout the country. But this has not stopped me from my duties. I try to stay as safe as possible. I know there are risks but I try to limit potential exposure by maintaining all the safety measures. The FFP2 masks and IIR masks have been of much help to us health workers. There is always availability of masks now and we can even sometimes use double masks for cases where we need extra protection'*

**Farzana Akter, IMPACT Senior Staff Nurse, working on the 'Jibon Tari' floating hospital since 2017:** *'My job is my passion. It does not only provide me with livelihood but also gives me a means of satisfaction. When the pandemic hit everyone was afraid about going out but I had no other option to go to my patients and monitor their health conditions. We were all worried and stressed and across the whole country we face a shortage of masks. Now thanks to our donors we have more in supply. The fear of infection will never go away. But at least I am providing service to the patients with full protection.'*



**Md. Sohel Rana, IMPACT Medical Officer, working on the 'Jibon Tari' floating hospital since 2017:** *'During the pandemic there have been times I felt less worried about me, but more for my family members. I do not get to see them everyday because I live in the floating hospital. But when I go to visit them, I do not want them to get infected by me in any means. I try to stay safe as much as possible. I wash my hands regularly with soap or sanitiser, I keep a safe distance while talking to the patients and always wear masks because they are a very important way to keep myself safe and patient safe. I cannot deny or run away from my job, so I am extremely grateful to have received the masks.'*

**Nepal:** Donation summary: 40,000 IIR masks and 7,500 FFP2 masks benefiting 17,000 health workers, patients and members of the public so far

The Nepalese government has heavily promoted the use of masks for both the public and members of the medical profession through their 'Nepal Mask Campaign', which has the slogan - 'I will wear a mask and encourage others to wear them too'. However at various points throughout the pandemic there have been severe shortages in-country as supply chains with China and India were disrupted by high demand globally – *'This fear of lack of PPE created fear and insecurity amongst health workers. So, this timely donation of masks to IMPACT helped a lot to boost their morale, as well as providing reassurance in the fight against Covid-19. IMPACT Nepal, on behalf of all our beneficiaries, would like to express gratitude to the donors for this support'* - IMPACT Nepal.



*The masks being delivered to IMPACT Nepal's head office*



The Eagle/ONSA consignment was gratefully welcomed in Kathmandu on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and was duly distributed as follows to the following health facilities:

1. IMPACT Primary Ear Care Centre, Gaighat, Udayapur District – 6,025 IIR and 1,000 FFP2 masks
2. IMPACT Primary Ear Care Centre, Rajbiraj, Saptari District – 2,000 IIR and 500 FFP2 masks
3. IMPACT Ear Care Centre (hospital), Gaur, Rautahat District – 9,925 IIR and 2,000 FFP2 masks
4. IMPACT Nepal Rungta Welfare Ear Care Centre, Birgunj, Parsa District – 10,025 IIR and 2,000 FFP2 masks
5. IMPACT Far-west Ear Care Centre, Attariya, Kailali District – 10,025 IIR and 2,000 FFP2 masks



The equipment in use by patients and staff on arrival at IMPACT Nepal's various Ear Care Centres:



The remaining 2,000 IIR masks were distributed as face coverings for use by community health workers and members of the public attending rural health education sessions as part of IMPACT Nepal's Safer Motherhood programme in Rautahat District:





*'I am Naresh Kumar Yadav, 40 years old. I am working as an Ear Assistant at IMPACT Nepal Primary Ear Care Centre. Our Ear Care Centre was located in a hotspot of Covid-19 because we are by the open border to India. Covid-19 created fear and panic in us as there was shortage of masks and PPEs. But because I am a health worker, humanity encouraged me to stand in the frontline to serve needy ones. I had left my home for short period and was staying in rented house during that time, as I was afraid that I may transmit covid to my small children. Thanks you to the donor who has provided us with sufficient masks during such a difficult situation. This has helped us a lot to treat the patients. Some patients used to come without mask for treatment, now we can provide them, and we are all less prone to infection. I would like to thank the donor once more'.*



**Cambodia:** Donation summary: 26,000 IIR masks and 4,500 FFP2 masks benefiting 10,000 health workers, patients and members of the public so far

IIMPACT Cambodia made the decision to allocate all the masks for use at Chey Chumneas hospital, as the shipment's arrival coincided with a surge cases in the greater Phnom Penh area. The hospital's six main buildings (excluding the Maternity Unit) were reassigned to accept patients who were seriously ill with Covid-19. Testing facilities have also been installed. By September 2021, the hospital was caring for an average of 128 cases per day. *'The most urgent need was for the masks to be used by health workers in all the departments of the hospital during this very hectic and emergency period. The hospital was in urgent need of the protective materials and the quality of these masks was far better than what they were using' – IMPACT Cambodia*



The masks in use by health workers, patients and visitor at Chey Chumneas hospital. The hospital's Medical Director, Dr Ly Makara, is pictured top left on receipt of the shipment.



*'We at IMPACT Cambodia are so happy to have the surgical and non-surgical masks donated by the Swiss supplier working with our donor. Our office is located in the same grounds as the hospital, so we could see first-hand how worried all the health workers were without serious masks to protect themselves. This plentiful supply eases our concerns about the safety of our own team and the health workers we work with.'* – **IMPACT Cambodia**

On behalf of IMPACTs in Bangladesh, Cambodia and Nepal we thank Fondation Eagle and ONSA for the timely donation, which has kept patients and health workers protected from this highly contagious virus.

**Expenditure report:**

	Mask IIR	Mask FFP2	Budget (GBP)	Expenditure (GBP)
Bangladesh	46,000 units	7,500 units	5,836	5,836 (ONSA)
	International transport to Dhaka		804	804 (ONSA)
	Local costs: import duty, customs clearance fee and local transportation		2,949	2,949 (IMPACT)
Nepal	40,000 units	7,500 units	5,408	5,408 (ONSA)
	International transport to Kathmandu		2,028	2,028 (ONSA)
	Local costs: Import duty, customs clearance fee and local transportation		1,465	1,465 (IMPACT)
Cambodia	26,000 units	4,500 units	3,387	3,387 (ONSA)
	International transport to Phnom Penh		594	594 (ONSA)
	Local costs: Import duty, customs clearance fee and local transportation		754	754 (IMPACT)
Insurance (organised by ONSA)			119	119 (ONSA)
Subtotal			23,344	23,344
Project management fee @ 5%			1,167	1,167 (IMPACT)
[Total expended by IMPACT]			[6,335]	[6,335]
[Total expended by ONSA]			[18,176]	[18,176]
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>24,511</b>	<b>24,511</b>

Exchange rates based on:

Swiss Francs: 1 CHF = 0.792342 GBP (06.05.21)

Bangladesh Taka: 1 BDT = 0.00847989 GBP (06.05.21)

Cambodian Riel: 1 KHR = 0.000177457 GBP (06.05.21)

Nepalese Rupee: 1 NPR = 0.00606097 GBP (06.05.21)