# **PARTNERSHIPS FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

## PILOT PROJECTS ON INCLUSION INTERVENTIONS IN PUBLIC SERVICES

* **Myanmar/Kenya/Nigeria/Vietnam** (leads: Rosemary Kabbaki and Rachel Julian) – a series of linked pilot studies uses participatory research methods to work with excluded groups, supporting them to understand and gather evidence about the inequalities they experience in their own micro-contexts as well as how these might be addressed. In Myanmar emerging women leaders will conduct small research projects which they can then use to gain the credibility to participate in the peace process. Participatory research training will also be conducted with young people in Kenya and Nigeria and with migrant workers in Vietnam, who will be supported to develop research questions, gather evidence from their communities and engage with policymakers in health, education and local government to negotiate solutions to the problems they identify.
* **India** (leads: Anish Cherian/Rija Rappai) – the study will address the exclusion of young people from tribal populations in relation to mental health and education. Survey data has already been collected on the mental health of college students across India, which will initially be analysed to identify subgroup inequities. Further qualitative data will be collected from relevant stakeholders and disadvantaged young people from tribal groups will be supported to engage with data analysis and development of possible solutions. A workshop will be organized at the end of the study to bring stakeholders together and negotiate further action.
* **Bangladesh** (leads: Saidur Mashreky/Farah Naz Rahman/Rumana Huque, – the project will address the disparities in service delivery of health and education during the COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh. Some of the objectives are: to explore the differences in accessing health services by patients from different socioeconomic groups during the COVID-19 pandemic, to identify the barriers and challenges faced by patients while seeking healthcare services during the pandemic and also to identify the barriers and challenges faced by children across different socio-economic groups regarding education/schooling. In-depth interviews will be conducted with 40 patients from different socio-economic groups, 15 interviews will be conducted with physicians, 1 Focus Group Discussion with nurses and health assistants and 15 interviews with teachers. The ultimate objective is to formulate an equitable mitigation strategy.
* **Kazakhstan** (lead: Naureen Durrani) – the pilot study explores at the impact of COVID-19 on parents, teachers and learners, looking at their experiences and the impact of the pandemic on their holistic well-being: what kind of interventions are needed in the area of social welfare, education and health provision in order to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on disadvantaged groups. This qualitative research study in a multi-lingual context aims to inform a future intervention and produce a policy brief in three languages: English, Kazakh language and Russian.
* **Nepal** (leads: Sushil Baral/Shophika Regmi/Sampurna Kakchapati, – the study aims to determine whether gender and intersectional stratifiers, particularly education, economy, ethnicity, geography and disability variables are incorporated in the existing Information Management Systems (IMS) in public and private sector health services. A desk review, qualitative study and the formation of technical working groups will be conducted with translation of English tools to relevant languages. The study will help determine the use of IMS to inform gender and equity dimensions in health planning, and to find out the processes to develop IMS frameworks that strengthen gender and intersectionality evidence in the health sector.