

# Timor Leste - Sri Lanka Twinning Arrangement

## Thematic Area 3 - EPI and VPD data management and quality assurance

### 25<sup>th</sup> to November to 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019



Fourteen officials from the Ministry of Health, Timor-Leste operational at National, district and divisional levels working on Statistics, Health Information, monitoring and evaluation of EPI and VPD programme, visited Sri Lanka from 25th November to 8th December 2019. The objective of the visit was to develop skills on immunization programme strengthening under the thematic area 3 on Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) and Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) data management and quality assurance .

The team visited pertinent central, district and divisional level public health institutions and the field immunization clinics to familiarize and develop skills on immunization data management and quality assurance at each level.

The learning objectives of the thematic area 3 were, to provide exposure to good practices of Sri Lanka's EPI and VPD

- data management system including monitoring and evaluation
- quality assurance
- use of data for decision making and
- feedback systems

to identify strategies for implementation in Timor Leste.

The group had an orientation to the health system pertaining to the Public Health in Sri Lanka together with roles and functions of the Epidemiology Unit for National Immunization Programme and VPD surveillance system.

The organizational structure of the central and provincial health system of Sri Lanka with details on Medical Officer of Health (MOH) office and the area were introduced to the Timor Leste team. Further the team was elaborated on geographic and demographic profile of the MOH area together with responsibilities of each technical staff in MOH office. During the field visits to MOH office, immunization clinic, Public Health Midwife office and Public Health Inspector office office, the team gained first-hand experience on the EPI and VPD data management system together with monitoring, evaluation and quality assurance of data management at each level.

Vaccine and related logistics management were discussed with experience to the Sri Lankan system at the central and district walk-in cold rooms and also at MOH offices.

The team has exposed to first hand experiences on laboratory surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases by visiting the Regional Reference Laboratory of Polio and National Reference Laboratory for Measles Rubella.

Finally, a strategic action plan including objectives for each strategy, monitoring indicators, outcome expected, and time plan were developed by the team and experts in the Epidemiology Unit for them to implement in Timor-Leste for progress of the National Immunization Programme and vaccine preventable diseases for implementation of data management system. Final deliberations were made towards strengthening the National Immunization Programme and VPD data management in Timor-Leste.

