



Nonprofit Organization

HANDS

Health and Development Service

HANDS strengthens health systems and human capacity to enable people around the world to enjoy a healthy life

**2005
Annual Report**
November, 2006

Brazil

Project for Strengthening Community Health Services in Amazon

JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Project, October 2003 to March 2006



From October 2003 to March 2006, HANDS implemented the “Project for Strengthening Community Health Services in Amazon” in Manicore Municipality, Amazonas State, Brazil. In Manicore, infectious diseases unique to tropical climate such as diarrhoea, leishmania, malaria, dengue fever are constantly apparent. The rate of pregnant mothers going to prenatal consultations is low at 50% and the infant mortality rate is as high as 48/1,000. The condition on water and sanitation can hardly be considered ‘good’ with many households not equipped with toilets and still using unfiltered water from the river.

The project aimed to improve the health status of community people in Manicore by strengthening the function and capacity of Community Health Workers (CHW). Project activities included: 1) training CHW using colourfully illustrated, easy-to-understand IEC materials such as videos, comic books and flipcharts; 2) supportive supervision of CHW by HANDS staff regularly making visits to remote areas by boats; joint training by HANDS and local NGOs of CHW and community people; 3) regular meetings with CHW and community people for mutual understanding; and, 4) school health activities for children.

To properly assess the improvement of the function and capacity of CHW, the following indicators on CHW were proposed at the beginning of the project: 1) capacity to assess sickness and wound, care, and educate; 2) ability to accurately report health information to Manicore Health Office; 3) ability to understand the health needs of community in charge and explain the situation; 4) ability to make referrals that results in proper treatment at the receiving facility; and 5) level of community participation and the strength of activity grounds for CHWs.

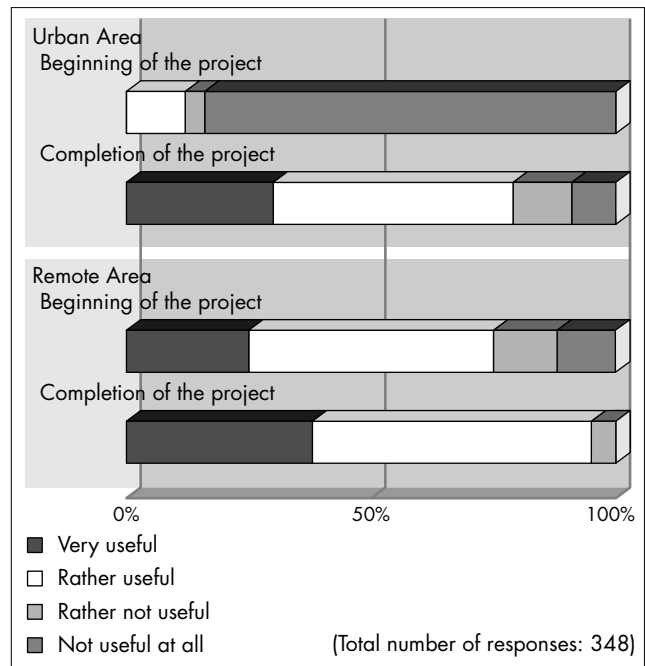
According to the final assessment, which was carried out in February/March 2006 by Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura, the representative of HANDS, positive results were shown for all the above indicators compared to the situation at the beginning of the project when baseline survey was conducted. Furthermore, the rate of community people who were satisfied with the activities of CHW increased from 12.0% to 79.0% in the urban area and from 74.3% to 94.9% in the rural area. These achievements were the results of significant improvement of CHWs' health knowledge and communication skills, and who were supported by training and supervision provided by HANDS staff.

After the completion of the project, in April 2006, Toru Sadamori, the Project Manager gave concluding accounts of the project at Bunkyo Civic Centre in Tokyo. The lecture was well-received by the interested parties.

From August 2006, HANDS will further support the improvement of health status of community people in Manicore by implementing the project "Healthy



Local people weighing a child during a joint training conducted by HANDS and local NGO



Is the work of CHW useful for you and your family's health? (Final assessment, February/March 2006)

Life in the Forest of Amazon: Project for Strengthening Community Health in Manicore Municipality" supported by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project is designed to develop wireless and transportation systems to connect the health posts in remote areas to the municipal hospital in case of emergency. In this project, 'mobilization and education of community people' will also be emphasised.



Dr. Nakamura and Project Manager Sadamori listen to what local people say during the final assessment

MCH Handbook for Palestine JICA Training Course, February 2006

HANDS was asked by JICA to hold a training course in Japan in February 2006 on the "Development and Promotion of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook in Palestine" for seven Palestinian trainees, who were members of the MCH Handbook task force of Palestinian Ministry of Health. The trainees visited health centres and attended lectures to learn how effectively the MCH Handbook was utilized in conjunction with MCH services in Japan; finalized the draft of the Palestinian MCH Handbook with the inputs from experts; and developed a dissemination plan for the Handbook in



Palestinian trainees study English translation of MCH Handbook

the pilot areas in Palestine. Effective collaboration among JICA, Saitama Prefecture, UNICEF, and HANDS made the course a success and an example of practical training in the development of the MCH Handbook programme.

Kenya

Project for Improving Health Services with a focus on Safe Motherhood in Western Kenya JICA Proposed-Type Technical Cooperation Project (PROTECO), March 2005 to March 2008

The project started in Kenya in March 2005 in collaboration with JICA, and the Government of Kenya. In order to achieve the project's main purpose to improve the maternal care in the target area, HANDS is working in the following three areas: capacity development of the district health management team; capacity development of the health centre staff to improve their technical and management skills; and community involvement.

The project started with the several assessment studies on the status of the health centre, perception of the community towards the health centres, and drug management practice at the health centres. The studies found that many health centres in the target area were not able to provide appropriate services due to lack of electricity, water, and equipment. This result led the project to focus on the renovation of the health facilities and provision of equipment and record keeping materials during the first year. The project requested the community members to monitor the progress of the renovation by themselves. By playing an important role during the renovation of the health centres, the community members' sense of ownership towards the health centres increased.

After the renovation and provision of the necessary equipment, the project focused on the capacity development by conducting trainings and site visits. Already, the health centre staff received a few trainings on maternal care and drug management. One training on maternal care included not only the health centre staff but also community members in order for the two groups to be able to interact with

each other outside of the health centres. Through this training, the health centre staff recognised the needs of the local people, and the community members understood the important role of the health centres.

The project involves the community members in various activities. As a result, the community members are increasingly interested in maternal care services offered at the health centres. Most of the health centres are now equipped with the skills and equipment and are ready to offer quality maternal care services. HANDS will continuously work together with the local community, health centre staff, district health management team, and the Ministry of Health to enable mothers to receive quality care.



Safely delivered...

Zambia

Health Facility Census JICA Project, July 2004 to March 2007

The Zambia Health Facility Census ('HFC') has been conducted by the Ministry of Health of Zambia, in technical and financial collaboration with JICA. The objectives of the HFC are to collect the data on health facilities, analyze the data and utilize the results of the analysis for the evidence-based planning of health policy and programmes. HANDS has been regularly dispatching a staff member to Zambia for technical assistance.



Workshop participants write data on the maps to analyse priority issues.

Advocacy

HANDS shares the valuable experience and knowledge it obtained from field work to people working in Japan on international health sector, by holding seminars on its projects and by reporting in academic meetings. Also, HANDS actively

makes recommendations to enhance the status of NPOs and NGOs through networking with other organisations working in development, especially in the international health sector.

Organisational History

Year	Month	Region	
2000	January	Japan	HANDS established
2001	April	Brazil	Maternal and Child Health / AIDS Prevention Project in the Amazon communities
	October	Indonesia	The 2nd symposium on MCH handbook
2003	February / March	Japan	Training course on MCH in Indonesia, Phase 1
	June	Afghanistan	REACH Programme with Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
	October	Brazil	Project for Strengthening Community Health Services in Amazon
2004	July (Ongoing)	Zambia	Health Facility Census
2005	March (Ongoing)	Western Kenya	Project for Improving Health Services with a focus on Safe Motherhood
2006	February	Japan	Training course on MCH handbook for Palestinian officials

Source of Funding

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- • Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
- • The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- • The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- • The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- • Fish Family Foundation
- • The Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development (FASID)

Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2005 (July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006)

Income (US Dollar)		Expenditure (US Dollar)	
Income from International Cooperation Projects	919,664	Kenya project	705,496
Donations	32,612	Brazil project	185,106
Miscellaneous Income	7,526	Zambia project	15,599
Carry forward from FY 2004	398,436	Human Resources Development	32,489
		Advocacy	25,739
		Other projects	19,012
		Administrative Costs	212,743
		Carry forward to FY 2006	162,054
Total	1,358,238	Total	1,358,238

(\$1=JPY116.24)

Get Involved

Your support enables us to continue making a significant difference to the health of people around the world.

Please mail your donation to:

Nonprofit Organization

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