

## Draft IEE for Project 2:

(in bullet-point form for quick reading)

# District Hospital Expansion and Rehabilitation Component of the Maternal, Child & Rural Health Support Program (MCRH)

*NOTE: as a result of your field visit, certain activities have been **ADDED** to the project. (Underlined)*

## 1. Background and Activity Description

### 1.1 Purpose and Scope

- This is an activity-level IEE supplementing the existing sector-level IEE covering the “Maternal, Child & Rural Health Support Program” (MCRH)
- Its purpose is to provide the first review of the reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment, as well as recommended Threshold Decisions, for the new “District Hospital Expansion and Rehabilitation” component of the MCRH.
- This IEE is necessary as rehabilitation and expansion of major health care facilities is not covered by the existing IEE

### 1.2 Background

- District hospitals are key “anchors” of the public health system. In addition to providing treatment for more serious cases (and quarantine of potentially epidemic diseases), they serve as supervisory, data-collection, stocking and distribution centers for the clinics and health posts in their districts.
- Many district hospitals, particularly in the MCRH target areas, are 35–40 years old, and have undergone no significant expansion or rehabilitation since construction.
- Survey of existing facilities has determined that overall MCRH program objectives will not be met unless hospital facilities themselves are significantly upgraded.

### 1.3 Description of activities.

5 District hospitals in MCRH target areas will be chosen according to criteria developed in consultation with the Ministry of Health. For each hospital:

- **Construction of new ward blocks & rehabilitation of existing ones.** The expected result is a 50% increase in bed capacity at beneficiary hospitals (usually ~ 60 beds), with significant improvements to lighting, ventilation and hygiene over existing conditions.
- **Construction and installation of new facilities for management of sharps and “red bag” waste.** At all facilities surveyed, existing incinerators are operating poorly or are non-functional. They are largely non-reparable. New incinerators will be constructed/installed. , per attached specification. On-site waste pits will be provided at all hospitals.
- **Rehabilitation and new construction of latrine blocks**
- **Repair or construction of perimeter fences, walls, construction or reconstruction of drainage, and**
- **In consultation with each facility, development of management plans for infectious waste, associated training of staff, and implementation monitoring.**

## 2. Country and environmental information

### 2.1 Locations affected.

- Individual locations vary, but most hospitals eligible for this scheme are in built-up areas. Many were originally peri-urban but are now urban. Often they are co-sited with schools or other public facilities.

- In some cases, adjacent settlement is informal and hospital fencing/walls are in poor repair or non-existent. In these cases, dwellings have been erected inside hospital grounds.

## 2.2 Applicable Host Country Environmental Policies and Procedures

The scheme has been developed in consultation with the Ministry of Health. It will be implemented in active coordination with the MoH and the Administrator of each hospital. MoH will have responsibility for consultation with the office of the District Commissioner. No further permits or studies are required.

## 3. Evaluation of Project/Program Issues with respect to Environmental Impact Potential

- Construction in built-up areas has nuisance impacts (dust, noise and vibration). In the hospital environment, these impacts can have significant adverse effects on patient health, e.g. on the safety of surgical procedures.
- As environments are urban /peri-urban , no adverse impacts on ecosystem functions or biological resources are anticipated.
- Hospitals in operation produce a number of waste streams with potentially significant adverse impacts. While MCRH is not responsible for hospital operations *per se*, facilities installed under this project will clearly affect waste streams and their management. These impacts are expected to be beneficial:
  1. The effect of this project should be to improve existing waste management of the most biologically hazardous waste streams: sharps and “red bag” waste.
  2. Rehabilitation of wards, construction & rehabilitation of latrines, and drainage improvements will produce a healthier environment for patients, staff and community.
  3. Repair and construction of perimeter fences will reduce opportunities for community exposure to infectious material (particularly by children & livestock.)

## 4. Recommended threshold decisions and mitigation actions, including monitoring and evaluation

- A **negative determination** is recommended for all **construction** activities subject to the **conditions** that:
  1. good construction management practices specified in the *Small Scale Guidelines* are followed
  2. for each hospital, MCRH develop a **mitigation and monitoring plan** to minimize the impacts of construction on patients and hospital operations, that this plan give the Hospital Medical Director clear authority to require immediate halt and remedy, and that this plan be approved by the Hospital administrator and medical director.
- A **categorical exclusion** is recommended for **development of management plans for infectious waste, training of staff, and implementation monitoring** pursuant to §216.2(c)(2)(i) (education, training and technical assistance).

## For discussion

The following IEE conditions are those that are commonly approved for these types of activities. Do you agree that they would be appropriate in these cases?

### SAMPA Smallholder Irrigation Development Component

1. **Safe Pesticide Handling.** Farmer training shall include safe pesticide handling practices as a mandatory component. During SAMPA's direct operation of the scheme, it shall assure that appropriate PPE is available and that the specified practices are implemented. To promote safe practices following scheme hand-off, SAMPA shall work with the cooperative to build safe handling education into the process by which members gain access to cooperative-supplied agricultural inputs.
2. **Water conservation.** All primary and secondary canals shall be lined. A regular inspection maintenance plan shall be developed and implemented to identify and stop leaks. Intake shall be managed for as close to zero discharge as possible.
3. **Water quality monitoring.** During the SAMPA direct operation and continuing technical assistance period, discharge and groundwater shall be monitored regularly for possible nutrient and pesticide contamination.

### District Hospital Expansion and Rehabilitation Component of the Maternal, Child & Rural Health Support Program (MCRH)

1. **Medical waste handling.** By the conclusion of assistance under this MCRH component, supported District Hospitals must have adequate procedures and capacities in place to properly handle, label, treat, store, transport and dispose of blood, bio-hazards and other medical waste. Appropriate guidance is articulated in Part II, Chapter 9 of the USAID's *Environmental Guidelines for Small Scale Activities*, titled, 'Healthcare Waste: Generation, Handling, Treatment and Disposal'. Particular reference is made to the section titled "Minimum elements of a complete waste management program" and the appropriate "Minimal Program Checklist and Action Plan" in Annex A.
2. **Kitchen & Sanitary/Hygiene facilities.** By the conclusion of assistance under this MCRH component, supported District Hospitals must have kitchen and sanitary/hygiene facilities (i.e. toilet/latrines & showers) & management protocols for these facilities sufficient to minimize the possibility of patient-to-patient & patient-to-staff transmission.
3. By the conclusion of assistance under this MCRH component, supported district hospitals must have **Brown and gray wastewater systems** which must be sufficient to prevent contamination of surface or groundwater with infectious pathogens.

**(Note: For both projects, additional conditions would pertain to construction)**