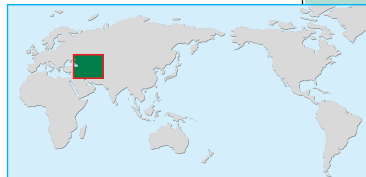


The Project for Improvement of Medical Equipment for Maternal and Child Hospitals in Middle Provinces



Project Sites Samarqand State, Navoi State

1. Background of Project

In Uzbekistan, many of the medical facilities utilize old equipment provided by the former Soviet Union a long time ago. The facilities were aging and a part of them were unusable. As described, the qualitative and the quantitative shortages were a critical issue. Furthermore, patients did not trust the medical facilities, and they often delayed visiting those facilities until they were beyond cure. Thus, the low confidence in the medical service caused a rise in the death rate.

Since independence, the Government of Uzbekistan has been trying to expand its medical services with the emphasis on mother and child medical treatment. However, due to financial constraints, they have not achieved improvement of the medical services to the level expected. Therefore, the Government of Uzbekistan decided upon "The Maintenance Plan for Medical Equipment of Maternity and Child Hospital in Middle Provinces" and requested Grant Aid from Japan for purchasing medical materials for five major obstetrics and pediatrics in Samarqand State and Navoi State.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1997

(2) Type of Cooperation

Grant Aid

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Department of Healthcare of Mother and Child, Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

The condition of maternal and child healthcare is improved in the target area.

2) Project Purpose

The level of medical services in the target hospitals is improved.

3) Outputs

- a) Medical equipment are prepared in the departments of obstetrics, neonatal care, and pediatrics of the five maternal and child hospitals.
- b) The systems of medical equipment operation and maintenance are developed.
- c) The medical service systems for neonatal and pediatrics department are prepared.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Grant	676 million yen (E/N amount)
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Uzbekistan Side

Facilities

3. Members of Evaluation Team

Koichi KUROKO (Project Formulation Advisor of JICA)

Sarvar A. Gulyamov (JICA Uzbekistan Office)

Shukhrat N. Artikov (Consultant)

Alijan Khalikovich Dadajanov (Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan)

4. Period of Evaluation

25 October 2000 – 26 October 2000

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Relevance

This project is consistent with the policy of expanding medical service, which has been promoted by Uzbekistan since the independence in 1991. Besides, Japan sets "restructuring the social sectors" as the primal assistance area for Uzbekistan. Furthermore, the equipment were chosen based on the local doctors' need. Thus, relevance of this project is evaluated highly.

(2) Effectiveness

In targeted facilities related to maternal and child healthcare, it established the operation and maintenance system for equipment by the Uzbekistan side. Training in handling this equipment was also carried out. Furthermore, the time for diagnosis and treatment was shortened by the use of the equipment. Thus, the level of medical services was assumed to be improved, and the project objective seemed to be achieved.

(3) Efficiency

The installed equipment was used on a daily basis. Training was implemented not only for the target hospitals but also other medical facilities in Uzbekistan so that as many as medical professionals as possible could operate the equipment.

To have expanded the participants of training in this way can be evaluated as having raised the efficiency.

(4) Impact

As the level of medical services improved in the target hospitals, the length of stay of patients at the hospital was shortened from several days to several hours. Moreover, maternal and infant mortality rates dropped. (Infant mortality decreased from 25 /1000 in 1997 to 15 /1000 in 2000).

Patients have been able to receive modern medical treatment in their neighborhoods, and they do not have to pay extra money to go to a hospital far from their place.

Besides, free medical services have come to be provided for the low income class. Hence, the standard of living was improved in both Samarqand and Navoi.

(5) Sustainability

The running costs of the target hospitals were provided solely by the Government of Uzbekistan. Also, regarding the maintenance management of the equipment, the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan decided to cooperate in terms of finance, personnel, and procurement. Thus, the sustainability of this project was evaluated as being high.



Ultrasonic diagnostic equipment

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Recommendations

Although there was little problem at the time of the terminal evaluation, the counterparts will need to reinforce the equipment maintenance management system as they become old. To be more precise, the training about equipment maintenance management should be carried out continuously to increase the number of medical professionals who can handle the equipment. Also, follow-up training should be implemented for them to improve their skills.

For these purposes, it is desirable to provide training for several instructors in Japan, as well as to invite experts from Tashkent and Moscow to carry out the training widely in both Samarqand and Navoi.

7. Follow-up Situation

Two members of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers are scheduled to be dispatched to the target hospital in Samarqand in December 2002.