



EVALUATION of the PROJECT “HEALTH FOR ALL” (2005-2006) IN TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

Executive Summary

Introduction

The present mid-term evaluation focuses its attention on the project of Reinforcement of the Net of Health Basic Cares, integrated in the PIC of S. Tomé and Príncipe (2005-2007) and in the respective Annual Plans of Cooperation (PAC) and implemented by IMVF NGO.

The evaluation objectives are:

- Assess the degree of fulfilment of the initial objectives and to confirm (or not) if the expected results are being reached;
- Identify eventual project adjustments (activities, modalities of work, etc.) focusing on the results and the intended effect on the target population;
- Assess the relevance and the long term sustainability of the project results;
- Identify constraints, suggest forms of overcoming them and make recommendations about the eventual continuation of the project, after 2007.

Methodological Issues

The present evaluation is an internal exercise carried out by the Evaluation Division and the Bilateral I Service Unit.

None of the evaluation team members have specific skills in the health area, a fact that can limit reach and depth of the evaluation. In order to reduce the effects of this constraint the team demands either the informal contributions of experts on the subject, or the support of the IMVF and Project technicians to clarify doubts and to deepen knowledge. The team has also made a review of specialized documentation on the subject.

As it is a mid-term exercise (project will be finished only at the end of 2007) the evaluation questions related to the effects and impacts, as well as the sustainability, have analysis limitations. It's only possible to make suppositions, taking into consideration the results reached up to the moment of the study.

Concerning the statistical data, it was difficult to get disaggregated information. The team had to trust in the data supplied for the Project, due to the lack of updated statistical information on a national level. The disparity of data on the same indicator is a constant in the STP statistics.

Project Objectives

The Project has as **goal** the quality improvement and the promotion of the sustainability in the preventive and basic health care in S. Tomé and Príncipe. For the effect, works in preventative and primary health care, through the creation of an integrated net of health care. It also includes capacity building and training of the health care technical and administrative staff, institutional reinforcement, infrastructures, water supply and sanitation, as well as activities of information and education on health, covering 80% of the country's population. The attention is focused on the most vulnerable groups: women, children and chronically sick people.

It has as **specific objectives**:

- The improvement, reinforcement and consolidation of the bases of sanitary development processes in the country, in order to improve the populations health conditions;
- The improvement of health system performance and effectiveness, as well as its technical and financial sustainability, providing a sanitary development model to the whole country;
- The reinforcement of human health resources ability and qualification in the Districts of Mé-Zochi, Cantagalo, Lobata, Lembá and Água Grande;
- The improvement of infrastructures, essential equipment and materials for the reinforcement and development of the sanitary net;
- The optimization of the interventions impact of the services and the basic products already in the scope of the fight against the main transmittable illnesses (illnesses of the poverty);
- The improvement and reinforcement of the water supply and sanitation conditions in order to break the chains of transmission of the infectious and tropical illnesses.

Main conclusions

- The Project objectives and activities are aligned to the priorities defined by the STP health Ministry, being relevant both for S. Tomé and Príncipe and Portugal.
- The Project contribution for state health in STP is significant, giving health cares to 80% of STP population and contributing to a significant increase of care of health services.
- Project has a high degree of effectiveness in reaching the objectives and in the promotion



of basic health care to the population, to reach the specific objectives initially defined and contribute to the reaching of the goal.

- The advancing form of the co-financing facilitated the Project implementation.
- The Project has had success in the resolution of the priority public health problems, given also attention to the infrastructures and to the questions of water and sanitation, responsible for the incidence in great part of the health problems in S. Tomé.
- The Project efficiency is high. This contributes a good management capacity, with rigorous control of the expenditures.
- The adjustments made answered the prompt changes of the context (occurrence of cholera, rupture of stocks) without any budgetary alteration.
- The involvement of local resources and the work developed in the national health service (NHS) are an added-value of the Project, despite the value of the subsidies placing tensions at the local level.
- The Project widened its intervention to new areas, as the specialized medical advice and the supply of more equipment and infrastructures, without variation of the global budget.
- The Project produces positive effects on the target population and on the health professionals.
- The Project integration in the NHS can promote its ownership and sustainability, despite the fact that this can only be equated in the long term.
- The Project doesn't have not economic and financial sustainability, but it has evidence of institutional sustainability.
- The stakeholder's participation, along with the Health Ministry (HM) is an important issue that has to strengthen its involvement in the future.

Recommendations

To the IPAD:

- Strengthening the primary health care support to STP, in coordination with the NHS, advancing, if possible, to a health sector wide approach (SWAP);
- Promote a bigger involvement and coordination with STP HM to develop ownership and sustainability;
- Promote a bigger coordination and complementarity with other PC actors, as well as with other international donors, that support the health sector in S. Tomé;

- Give greater support predictability, financing a new project with a wider timetable horizon (at least with the same duration as the new PIC).

To the IMVF:

- Strengthening the management capacities of the health centres, in order to promote ownership and sustainability;
- In partnership with HM, rethink the wage supplements, in the sense of eliminating the tensions felt on this matter and to promote the ownership of costs by the HM;
- Include all the financings in the project document and in the reporting system, increasing the transparency and facilitating its global assessment;
- Carry out CAP studies in order to appreciate the effects of Education for Health campaigns.

To the STP Authorities:

- The HM should assume greater involvement and ownership of responsibilities;
- Assume the leadership of the coordination and complementarity process of the different actors in the health sector.

Recommendations to the 3 entities:

- To define a phased strategy of exit, even if it can only be equated in the long term, with the effective assumption of responsibilities of the parties.