



1. Project Data:		Date Posted : 08/07/2001	
PROJ ID: P010424		Appraisal	Actual
Project Name: National Leprosy Elimination Project	Project Costs (US\$M)	138.27	139.86
Country: India	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	85	76.3
Sector(s): Board: HE - Health (100%)	Cofinancing (US\$M)		
L/C Number: C2528			
	Board Approval (FY)		93
Partners involved : Government, DANIDA and WHO	Closing Date	03/31/2000	09/03/2000
Prepared by :	Reviewed by :	Group Manager :	Group:
Zahia S. Khan	Timothy A. Johnston	Alain A. Barbu	OEDST
2. Project Objectives and Components			
a. Objectives			
Project objectives included: 1) Elimination of leprosy as a public health problem in India by 2000 through reduction of the prevalence from 24 per 10,000 to 1 per 10,000 nationwide. 2) Reduction of leprosy disability impact. Upon review the first project objective was increased to 3-4 per 10,000 and the second project objective dropped, however later taken up by NGOs.			
b. Components			
Components consisted of 1) Expansion of Multidrug Therapy (MDT) through a vertical structure by targeting 66 high endemic areas, providing outreach services, and strengthening current control operations in 135 districts with high prevalence. 2) Integration of MDT into PHC system by providing MDT through the existing PHC system in 77 moderately endemic districts and 20 pockets of infection and by providing additional staff for the project's duration 3) Disability Care and Prevention by reducing occurrence of impairments, limiting impairment disability, and preventing disability handicaps. 4) Promoting public awareness and community participation through information, education and communication activities. 5) Enhancing skills and institutional development by training National Leprosy Eradication Program staff and PHC staff, strengthening the Central Coordination Cell and supporting training and research institutes.			
c. Comments on Project Cost, Financing and Dates			
The total project costs over the six year period were US\$ 139.86 million of which US\$ 76.3 million were financed by IDA, US\$ 53 million by Government of India and approximately US\$ 10.5 million by WHO (for drug supplies). The original IDA credit was for US\$ 85 million. The final disbursement was made on January 31, 2001 and funds fully disbursed.			
3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives:			
Overall achievement of project objectives was satisfactory. Substantial progress has been made towards eliminating leprosy as a public health problem. Aggregate national prevalence rates declined from 24 per 10,000 to 5 per 10,000. Twenty-eight percent of districts attained a prevalence rate of less than 1 per 10,000. Nine states achieved elimination levels. None of the original 135 districts remained highly endemic. MDT is available through Government and NGO health centers and hospitals. Over 99 percent of all new cases received MDT and about 4.4 million patients were treated and cured. Disability among new cases declined from 8 percent in 1993 to 3.12 percent in 2000. The registered case load at the national level was reduced from 1.2 million to 0.5 million cases.			
4. Significant Outcomes/Impacts:			
Institutional capacity has been developed through several interventions. The project increased MDT, instituted one shot treatment for single lesion cases and achieved remarkable success in release of patients from treatment. In addition, GOI established the Special Action Projects for the Elimination of Leprosy which reached marginalized population groups in difficult to access areas and also involved CBOs and NGOs.			
5. Significant Shortcomings (including non-compliance with safeguard policies):			
Significant shortcomings included 1) the absence of a strategic framework to deal with complex organizational issues which related to integration of vertical programs into the general health care system, 2) variable political commitment and inadequate management support, 3) inadequate program monitoring and supervision, including that gender			

Impacts were not evaluated as planned; 4) deficiencies in training in interpersonal communication, 5) inadequate motivation of public to seek treatment, and 6) inadequate technical supervision and monitoring .

6. Ratings :	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement /Comments
Outcome :	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Institutional Dev .:	Substantial	Substantial	The project made substantial progress in establishing a vertical control program, but integration with general health services has been slow. Capacity building of State and District Leprosy Societies still requires more work .
Sustainability :	Highly Likely	Likely	The government is committed to the program, but further integration of leprosy services with general health care is necessary to ensure sustainability . This is to be addressed in the follow on project
Bank Performance :	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Borrower Perf .:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Good performance overall, despite initial weak performance by District Leprosy Societies and delays in audit submission which affected project disbursements and performance.
Quality of ICR :		Satisfactory	

NOTE: ICR rating values flagged with "*" don't comply with OP/BP 13.55, but are listed for completeness.

7. Lessons of Broad Applicability:

The ICR highlights some of the following lessons : 1)When disease burden is high, centralized vertical organizational structure is useful. When disease burden is low, integrated approach is more efficient . 2) Role of states in project implementation needs to be strengthened . 3) Strengthening of general health system capacity is necessary to address long-term issues of diagnosis and treatment . 4) Effective program management requires high quality, recent epidemiological and management information . 5) Effective targeted programs require high levels of coverage and saturation. It is difficult to identify, reach and cover hard to reach groups such as the urban poor, women and scheduled tribes/casts.

8. Assessment Recommended? Yes No

9. Comments on Quality of ICR:

The ICR presents a balanced and concise summary of the project's accomplishments and shortcomings .