

Project Name: MCH-Sustainable Technical Assistance and Research (STAR) Initiative
Agreement Type: *Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC)*
Duration: *October 2007-2012*
Geographic Scope: *NRHM states with focus in U.P & Jharkhand*
Technical Assistance Agencies: *Emerging Markets Group Ltd. (lead agency), Boston University & Center for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)*
Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Population Foundation of India (PFI) and IndiaCLEN
Implementing Agency: *Foundation of India (PFI) and IndiaCLEN*

DESCRIPTION:

The Maternal and Child Health Sustainable Technical Assistance and Research (MCH-STAR) is an initiative to improve policies, program approaches and resources in the areas of maternal, neonatal, child health and nutrition (MNCHN) in India. The MCH STAR initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of Indian institutions to conduct meaningful research, programs and advocacy that will provide technical leadership in MNCHN matters in the long term. The initiative will be lead by selected Indian institutions: Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Population Foundation of India (PFI) and IndiaCLEN, and facilitated by the MCH-STAR Consortium (Emerging Markets Group, Boston University and CEDPA). MCH-STAR partners will work to support the goals of the National Rural Health Mission, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Reproductive and Child Health (RCH II) and particularly with National Health Systems Resource Center (NHSRC).

KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Establish applied, operations and policy research priorities for MNCHN in India through a consultative process.
- Disseminate results of key applied, operations and policy research studies to influence programs and policies.
 - 2 major and 4 small scale applied, operational, and/or policy research studies initiated annually
 - One national and one state level consultation on new research findings held annually
 - One policy change annually where a major contribution of MCH-STAR research can be attributed
- Improve information and platforms for evidence based policy.
 - 2 policy analyses/white papers produced annually
 - 1 policy consultation annually addressing one or more maternal, newborn, child health & nutrition matter convened or co-sponsored by MCH-STAR supported institutions (SSIs)
- Improve information and platforms for evidence based policy.
 - One major program evaluation is conducted and disseminated every year by Star Supported Institution (SSI)
- Two to five Indian institutions (SSIs) have the technical capacity to provide technical assistance, policy analyses, research and advocacy support to national & state governments in MNCHN on sustainable basis.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

Program was awarded in September 2007 and is in start up phase.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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