



April 12 - 13, 2007 | Best Western Resort Country Club | Gurgaon, India

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

The Government of India/Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), the German Development Bank (KfW), USAID/India, Packard Foundation, and Private Sector Partnerships (PSP-One) project¹ are holding a two-day workshop to provide a forum to share experiences with voucher programs. The workshop will address lessons learned and gaps in knowledge that will provide policy makers and program managers with the tools to assess the need for, and feasibility of voucher schemes, as well as their design and implementation. Experiences will be drawn from different states in India, as well as other countries in the Asia/Near East region and elsewhere.

Vouchers are a financing mechanism to subsidize the price of products and services for a target population. Several states in India and other countries are either implementing or considering the implementation of voucher programs to promote greater utilization of priority health services, such as maternal and reproductive health. However, there has been little dialogue between different implementers on the success and limitations of these schemes.

Purpose: The technical workshop aims to provide a forum for different stakeholders in India and other countries, primarily in the Asia/Near East region, to discuss issues involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of voucher schemes by:

- Promoting discussion and the exchange of innovative ideas on the need and usefulness of voucher schemes to improve health service delivery.
- Presenting and discussing different aspects of voucher schemes such as assessing need, determining feasibility, developing design, identifying benefits and providers, contracting with private sector providers, implementing with a management agent, etc.
- Discussing experiences from India and other countries in the region and elsewhere.
- Discussing action plans for assessing feasibility and implementing voucher schemes.

Format: The two-day workshop format will include presentations by invited speakers, panel discussions, and working groups that will discuss specific issues on design, implementation, and evaluation of voucher programs. In addition, an open space or information bazaar will provide an opportunity to showcase resources from different voucher programs represented in the workshop.

Participants: Participants include representatives from ministries of health, other government agencies, donors, the private sector, and others who are responsible for the design and implementation of voucher programs. They will share their experiences with voucher programs and use the information exchanged in the workshop in their particular settings.

¹ PSP-One is a USAID funded project implemented by Abt Associates Inc.

Thursday, April 12, 2007

Time	Session Name	Room
8.30–9.30	Registration	
10.00–10.30	Opening remarks Facilitator to review workshop agenda and goals Panelists: <i>Naresh Dayal (Secretary of Health, Government of India)</i> <i>George Deikun (Mission Director, USAID, India)</i> <i>Christian Haas (KfW, India)</i>	Regency I
10.30–11.45	Panel session – “Demand-side financing of services: The case for voucher schemes” Panel moderator: Sheena Chhabra (USAID, India) Panelists: <i>Peter Berman (World Bank, India)</i> <i>Claus P. Janisch (KfW, Germany)</i> <i>Malcolm Potts (University of California, Berkeley, USA)</i>	Regency I
11.45–12.00	Tea/Coffee Break	
12.00– 12.30	Agra Voucher Program – Uttar Pradesh, India <i>Shailesh Krishna (SIFPSA and UP Health Systems Development Project)</i> Topics covered will be “Assessing feasibility of a voucher scheme” and “Designing a voucher scheme”	Regency I
12.30–13.00	Chiranjeevi Yojna Program – Gujarat, India <i>Amarjit Singh (Commissioner Health and Secretary Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat)</i> Topic covered will be “Providers - eligibility, contracting, quality, and competition”	
13.00–13.30	Equity Fund Program - Kirivong Operational Health District, Cambodia <i>Sam Sam Oeun (Swiss Red Cross)</i> Topic covered will be “Targeting the poor”	
13.30–14.30	Lunch	
14.30–15.30	Open space “Information Bazaar” Coffee/Tea is provided at the same time	Regency III and IV
15.30–16.45	Working Groups Plenary Session with Introduction to Working Groups Working group topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessing need and feasibility of a voucher scheme <i>Facilitator: Mursaleena Islam (PSP-One)</i> ▪ Designing a voucher scheme <i>Facilitator: David Griffith (KfW Consultant)</i> ▪ Targeting the poor <i>Facilitator: Ekua Yankah (LSHTM)</i> ▪ Identifying covered benefits <i>Facilitator: Tania Dmytraczenko (PSP-One)</i> 	Regency I
16.45–17.00	Tea/Coffee Break	
17.00–18.00	Presentations by Working Groups	Regency I
19:30	Reception and Dinner	Restaurant Lawn

Friday, April 13, 2007

Time	Session Name	Comments
9.00–9.30	<p>Kenya Voucher Programme - An Output Based Aid Initiative <i>Francis Kundu (Population Officer, National Coordinating Agency for Population & Development)</i></p> <p>Topic covered will be “Implementation and voucher management agency”</p>	Regency I
9.30–10.00	<p>Cross Border HIV/AIDS Prevention Project: Guangxi Province, China and Lan Son Province, Vietnam <i>Doan Ngu (Consultant, Abt Associates)</i></p> <p>Topic covered will be “Marketing and distribution- link to BCC efforts”</p>	
10.00–10.30	<p>Sustainability and Scalability of Voucher Programs <i>Peter Oyloe (Resident Advisor, N-MARC program, Nepal)</i></p> <p>Topic covered will draw on experiences with voucher programs in several countries</p>	
10.30 – 10.50	Tea/Coffee break	
10.50 – 12.00	<p>Incorporating an evaluation component in voucher schemes Panel moderator: Monique Mosolf (USAID, India) Panelists: <i>Tania Dmytraczenko and Mursaleena Islam (PSP-One) – Evaluation methods</i> <i>Ben Bellows (UC Berkeley/KfW consultant) – Evaluation of the Uganda voucher program</i> <i>Dinesh Agarwal (UNFPA) – Evaluation of the Gujarat voucher program</i></p>	Regency I
12.00 – 13.10	<p>Working groups Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation and voucher management agency <i>Facilitator: Alphan Njeru (PwC)</i> ▪ Providers – eligibility, contracting, quality, and competition <i>Facilitator: Bertram Haussler (IGES)</i> ▪ Marketing and Distribution – link to BCC efforts <i>Facilitator: Anand Sinha (PSP-One)</i> 	Regency I
13.10 – 14.10	Lunch	
14.10 – 15.10	Presentations by Working Groups	Regency I
15.10 – 15.30	Tea/Coffee break	
15.30 – 17.00	<p>Panel discussion – “Future of Voucher Programs: Lessons Learned and Challenges” Panel moderator: Aradhana Johri (Joint Secretary, Government of India) Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>N.K. Sethi (Member, Planning Commission, GoI)</i> ▪ <i>A.K. Mishra (Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh)</i> ▪ <i>Prasanna Kumar Hota (Director, Norway India Partnership Initiative)</i> ▪ <i>J. P. Steinmann (GTZ)</i> ▪ <i>Robert Clay (USAID/India)</i> 	Regency I