

UTTARAKHAND HEALTH SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Uttarakhand Health System Development Project (UKHSDP) aims to enhance people's access to quality health care services in the state of Uttarakhand. The Project is financed by the World Bank and implemented by Uttarakhand Health and Family Welfare Society (UKHFWS). The project seeks to support Uttarakhand in improving access to quality health services and in providing health financial risk protection. Specifically, the focus of the project is on improving access to health services for the predominantly remote population of the state, through strengthening public and private health-delivery systems; promoting greater stewardship and managerial capacity in the health directorate; improving information systems; augmenting monitoring and research.

The estimated total cost is US\$125 million. This will be financed by an IDA17 transitional financing credit of US\$100 million equivalent, along with the Government counterpart financing of US\$25 million. The Agreement was signed on 23rd March, 2017.

The project has two components: (a) Innovations in Engaging the Private Sector and (b) Stewardship and System Improvement. A description of the activities under the two project components is provided below.

Component 1. Innovations in Engaging the Private Sector (Total estimated amount: US\$80 million, including IDA US\$64 million and GoUK US\$16 million)

Innovations in engaging the private sector will finance engagement with the private sector in the delivery of health care services, as well as in health care financing. This component will expand access to services by creating integrated, technology-enabled health system architecture with enhanced focus and availability of primary care, emergency care, and necessary referral

Component 2. Stewardship and System Improvement (Total estimated amount: US\$45 million, including IDA US\$36 million and GoUK US\$9 million)

This component will strengthen the Government's capacity to engage effectively with the private sector, and therefore, enable the Government to provide effective

stewardship to improve the quality of services in the entire health system, particularly in its capacity to effectively pursue the innovations being planned under this project. The component will focus on strengthening the institutional structures for stewardship and service delivery and augmenting the state's human resource capacity, so that the necessary skillsets required for effective implementation of the project and the state's health programs are available. The strengthened capacity will serve beyond the activities of this project, as it will contribute to the Government's stewardship role for the health system as a whole. This component will finance research and evidence generation, use of evidence for strategic planning, and improved information systems for data generation and management, including timely feedback to providers. An independent monitoring and verification agency will also be hired to support the state in field-level monitoring and performance validation of the contracted entities. It will also finance an assessment of existing facilities, as well as contracting of agencies on a turnkey basis to support the attainment of National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) quality standards in identified public health facilities in the state. The scope of such turnkey contracts may include training of staff, creation of standard manuals and other quality documentation, and some minor refurbishments, among others.