Project Summary

Project Background
The EC-funded programme ‘Support to Health and Family Welfare Sector Development’ supported the National Family Welfare Programme with a total grant of EUR 240 million, initially scheduled to cover a 5-year period (1998 – 2003) and extended until 2006. Its objective was to provide ‘system support to enhance central, state and district capacities to implement the Family Welfare system policy reform and the target free approach’. At the basis of this lies the Government’s ‘Paradigm Shift’, characterised mostly by decentralisation and community participation. The monitoring and evaluation (M & E) project accompanied the Sector Investment Programme (SIP) from 2002 to 2006.

Project Objectives
Main purpose of the project was the monitoring of the fulfilment of the criteria for the release of annual tranches of the SIP by evaluating the achievements of the benchmark performance indicators.

Project Activities
• Review of the overall progress of the SIP prior to the M & E project
• Up-grading of the previous SIP monitoring system
• Two major annual reviews to assess progress, fund utilization, the tranche release process and the effectiveness of the programme management structure
• Review of progress in the decentralisation on State and District level, incl. constraints and limitations
• Monitoring the process of public-private partnership
• Ongoing dialogue and recommendations for improvements and corrective action
• Continuous reporting
• Mid-term and Final Evaluation of the Programme

Implementation Features
23 Indian States participated in this programme and per state one or more districts were taken up. State Reform Cells were formed at state level, and District Agencies at district level. State Action Plans (SAP) and District Action Plans (DAP) were developed on these levels. SAPs and DAPs contained benchmarks related to Health Sector Reform measures; to be approved by the next higher level in the system. Upon achievement of the agreed benchmarks, States and Districts received further funding (from GOI and State respectively). Feed-back workshops were conducted regularly to identify constraints and develop recommendations.

Services Provided
• Base-line study to assess progress achieved at project commencement
• Monitoring assessments for 23 Indian States and several Districts each State
• Feed-back meetings on State and District levels; consolidation of feed-back into recommendations
• Two major reviews per year of programme performance
• Monitoring of impact on the decentralisation process
• Annual and mid-term evaluations
• 5 Annual Reports, 4 Mid-Term-Reports, 1 Final Report