

**Health Sector - Policy Reform Options
Database (HS - PROD)**

www.prod-india.com

***“Sharing innovative solutions to
common health management problems”***

What is PROD?

- A user-friendly website detailing innovative reforms which have been carried out in the health sector in India. It is being developed by Central Government with support from the EC.
- The database currently contains information on more than 100 reforms tackling subjects ranging from decentralisation to public-private partnerships.
- It is also a valuable library of resource material accessible directly through a hyperlink or via the HS-PROD team email. For those without internet access, there is a CD or paper copy.

Reason for PROD

- India contains many examples of health sector reform and lots of good ideas too
- Many States and Districts face similar problems in the health sector but sometimes feel like they are tackling them in isolation
- So, how to publicise successes and share reform know-how to tackle the common problems ?

Structure of PROD

- SUBJECT AREA (1)
Infrastructure and equipment
 - OBJECTIVE (1.1)
Improved building maintenance
 - OPTIONS
 - Medical officers empowered to authorise maintenance and repairs on PHCs, Gujarat
 - Medical officers empowered to authorise minor maintenance to CHCs and Block PHCs, Orissa
 - OBJECTIVE (1.2)
Clean health facilities
 - OPTIONS
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PROD subject areas

1. Infrastructure and equipment
2. Logistics
3. Financial management systems
4. Monitoring, evaluation and quality control
5. Public / private mix
6. Management structures and systems
7. Social marketing and franchising
8. Inter-sectoral links
9. Health information systems
10. Access to service and coverage
11. Health financing
12. Human resources
13. Community participation
14. Urban health
15. Behavioural Change Communication
16. First Referral Units

Format of PROD entries

- concise summary (including costs)
- location
- duration
- advantages
- disadvantages
- prerequisites for implementation elsewhere (such as consultation)
- sustainability
- chances of replication
- documents and illustrations
- contact details of implementer
- date the entry was last revised

Examples of PROD entries

- **Devolution of financial and administrative powers to districts, Haryana** : fostering effective decentralisation to improve the management of services.
- **Streamlining drug procurement at appropriate levels of the health system, Tamil Nadu** : a successful innovation increasingly copied elsewhere.
- **Mitanin (community health volunteers), Chhattisgarh** : more than 50,000 female workers strengthening the voice of village communities in health.
- **Public Private partnership for delivery of reproductive and child health services to people in the slums of Guwahati, Assam** : maximising the use of all available resources for the benefit of the urban poor.
- **Post-graduate medical training as an incentive for medical officers to work in remote areas, Rajasthan** : one way of tackling a widespread problem.

Criteria for PROD entries

➤ **Criteria**

- Does it seek to remedy a recurring underlying problem?
- Is it sustainable ?
- Can it be replicated ?
- Is it broadly in line with national policy ?
- Does it comply with existing legislation ?
- Is the initiative still relevant in current circumstances ?

Where does the information come from?

- Field visits
- Regional offices of CBHI/IRMS/ECTA
- Media and internet
- Users, who send in their options via the website
- Entries NOT individually evaluated by the PROD team. Contributors are asked to provide evaluation reports/results and users must make their own judgement from this information.

PROD users (and contributors)

- Gov : Centre, State and district levels
- Development partners : WHO, EC, UNICEF, WB, USAID, etc
- NGOs and private sector
- Training institutions

Status of PROD

- PROD resides with CBHI supported by IRMS (also ECTA until June 2006); funding till late 2006
- Website operational (currently more than 105 entries)
- Staff :
 - CBHI administrator / researcher
 - Two IRMS researchers
 - Two ECTA researchers and programmer
- Research visits made to 8 States
- Strong linkage with the 'good practices' theme of RCH(2)

Website opening page