

Annual Report 2020



Learning Workshop on “Integrating Mental Health Services into Standards of TB Care” in Ahmedabad on January 29th 2020, organized under aegis of THALI

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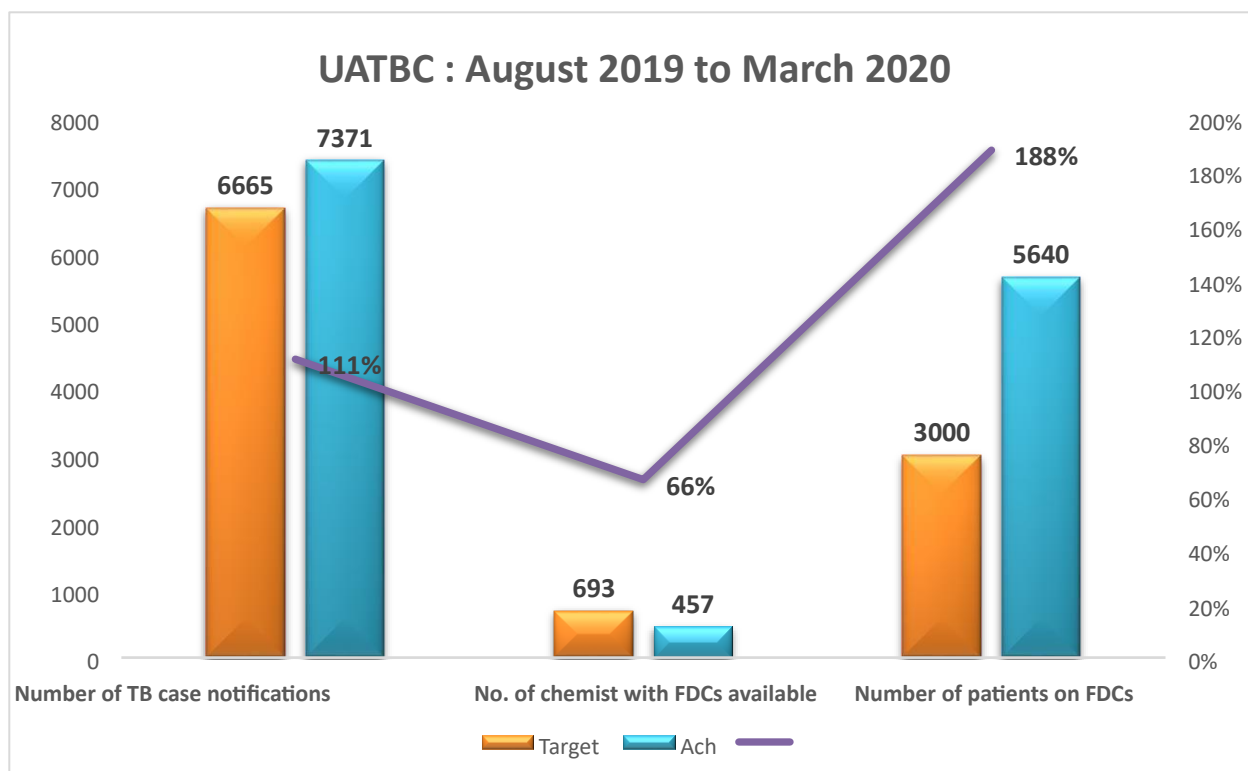
ProjectWise Overview of Deliverables (August 2019 – August 2020)			
Universal Access to TB Care (UATBC) – PPIA Bihar			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Notification	6,665	7,371	111%
Patients on Government Supplied Medicine	3,000	5,640	188%
THALI- West Bengal, Punjab, Jharkhand, Gujarat, UP and Bihar			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Counselling and adherence monitoring	43,500	63,224	145%
Family members sensitized	2,08,750	5,61,360	269%
Presumptive case identification	2,300	6,256	272%
Linkage of services to TB patients: <i>Jharkhand</i>	500	1,266	253%
Screening of High risk group: <i>West Bengal</i>	5,000	8,497	170%
DR-TB patients followed-up for adherence: <i>UP</i>	222	546	246%
Factory Workers screened for TB: <i>Punjab</i>	16,000	17,834	111%
TB patients assessed for Mental Health: <i>Gujarat</i>	6,650	12,466	187%
TB patients initiated in Technology: <i>Gujarat</i>	9,832	10,350	105%
JEET- West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab and Gujarat			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Notification	70,075	45,928	66%
Counselling support	46,973	39,193	83%
Treatment Success	41,320	33,560	81%
Sputum collection and transportation	1,33,176	25,936	19%
Public Private Support Agency- Gujarat			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Notification	10,519	4,814	46%
CBNAAT	5,363	3,658	68%
DBT	0	3,595	-
HIV + Diabetes	0	9,374	-

Public Private Support Agency- Bihar			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Notification	6,204	4,631	75%
DBT	4,631	3,464	75%
HIV + Diabetes	4,631	3,888	84%
COVID e-Consultation - Andhra Pradesh & Bihar			
Indicators	Target	Achievement	%
Teleconsultation (Andhra Pradesh)	0	33,510	-
Teleconsultation (Bihar)	0	17,409	-

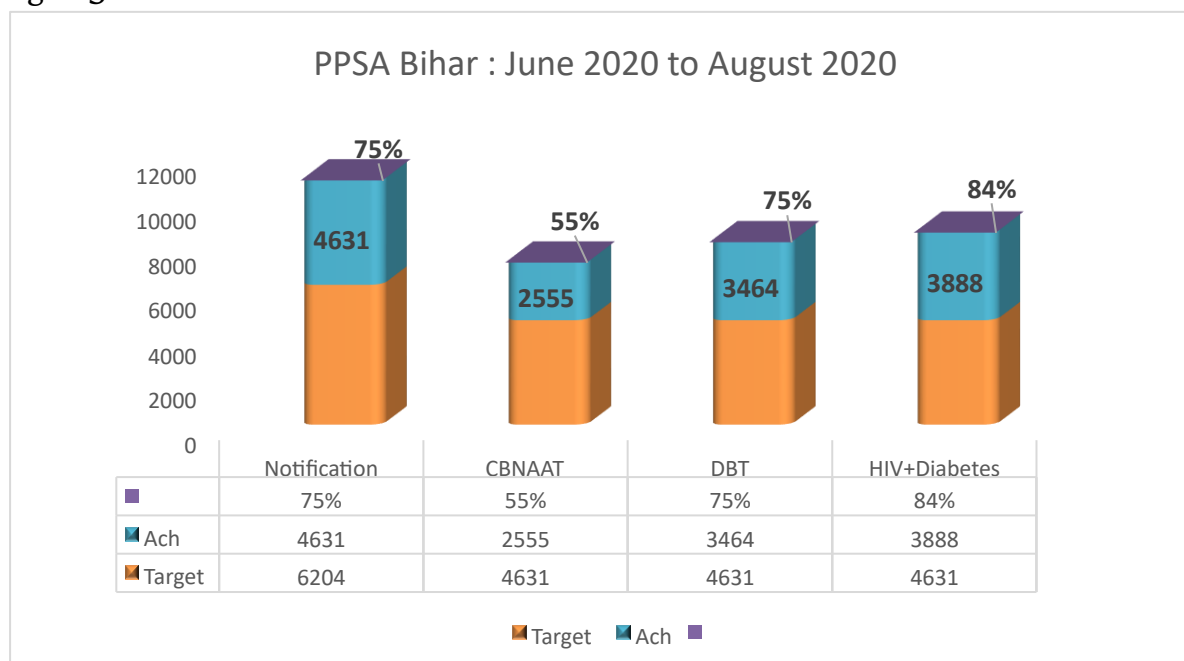
Universal Access to TB Care (UATBC) Project Transitioned Successfully to Government Supported PPSA in Bihar

The UATBC project, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in Patna district demonstrated high levels of efficiency by integrating various stakeholders through a digital platform. The UATBC approach enabled a seamless and well-coordinated combination of the front-end human resources with backend management inputs. The project after five years was due to be closed from October 2019 but got an extension for another 5 months as the State government was to come out with a RFP (request for proposal) and support the ongoing activities on a sustainable basis. The Bihar government through a tender process selected WHP for expanding the Patna project to eight districts in two clusters - Cluster 1 comprises Patna, Nalanda, Bhojpur, Gaya and Cluster 2 includes Bhagalpur, Munger, Katihar and Saharsa. The project will treat over 167,000 patients in three years which will mean the direct payment to us of about Rs 42 crore.

The UATBC project formally concluded on March 31st 2020 and transitioned to the government supported PPSA. Highlighting below the achievement for key deliverables of UATBC for the period August 2019 – March 2020



WHP received the official approval from the Bihar government in the last week of February for expanding to eight districts. This has become a landmark event because this sets the precedent for transitioning a traditional donor-supported project to a model that has both scale and sustainability built in it. The project, had a delayed start due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was launched on June 1, 2020. Despite the restrictions under a locked down Bihar, it got off to an encouraging start and delivered 4,631 notifications against a target of 6,204 (75%) by August 31.



USAID Supported Tuberculosis Health Action Learning Initiative (THALI)

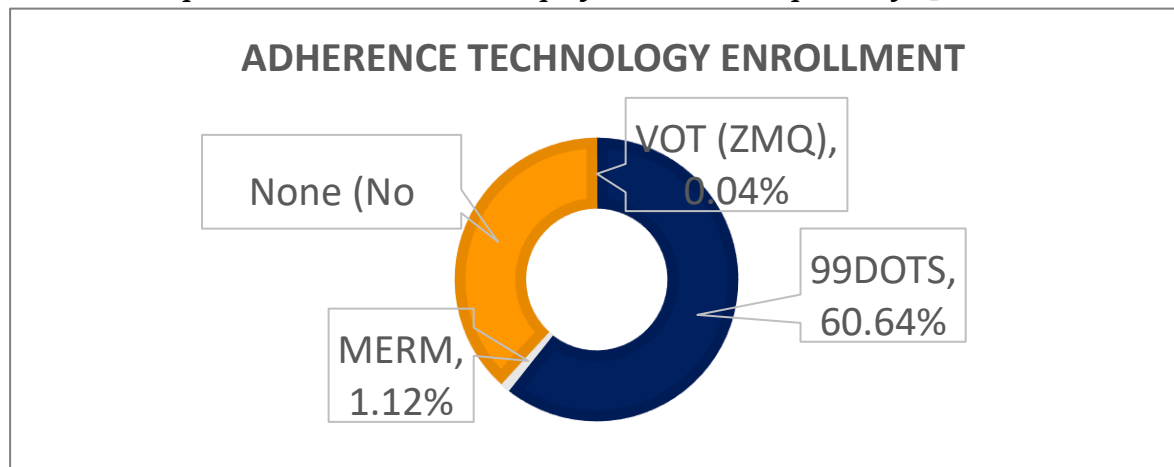
The USAID-supported 4-year THALI project moved its focus from Private Sector Engagement to Patient-centered care. Not going by “one size fits all” strategy, THALI commenced different thematic interventions for different geographies.

Under the umbrella of Patient-centric services, in Gujarat, THALI focused on enhancing TB outcomes by exploring Integrated Digital Adherence Technologies (IDAT) and gave prominence to the emotional well-being of TB patients by offering mental health counselling and screening.

WHP implemented the Integrated Digital Adherence Technology (IDAT) component with support from the Central TB Department (CTD) and USAID in Surat district. The primary objective of these technologies is to ensure that the patients take their medicines regularly since any faltering could result in drug resistance. The main features of these technologies include:

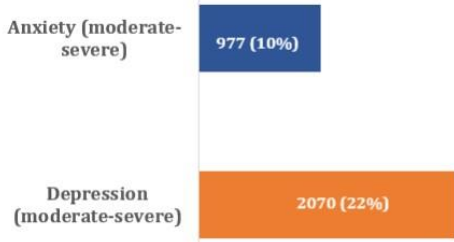
1. *99 DOTS*- hidden toll-free numbers behind blister flap. The patient calls this toll-free number to indicate a dose taken in the Nikshay platform.
2. *Medication Event Reminder Monitor (MERM)* - TB drugs are stored in a digital pillbox with programmed daily audio and visual reminders. Opening and closing of the box-lid registers as a dose taken in the Nikshay platform.
3. *Video DOTS (VOT)* - Patient records a daily, ten second video on a smartphone while taking medication. Upload of a video is registered as a dose taken in the Nikshay platform.

>11,000 Patients were enrolled in IDAT accounting for 62% of all total notified patients on treatment in the project areas over a period of 14 months)



The mental health intervention counselling and screening were conducted on over 10,000 TB patients.

Prevalence of Mental Health Challenges (N=9603)



	% Depressed	Sample Size		% Depressed	Sample Size
Gender			Age Group		
Female	22%	3489	18-25	17%	2646
Male	21%	6111	26-35	21%	2449
Trans-gender	33%	3	36-45	23%	1600
			46-55	27%	1136
			56-65	28%	942
			>65	36%	395
TB Type					
New	20%	7300			
PT	26%	2012			
DRTB	39%	291			
Risk Group			Geography		
Tribal	26%	1029	A'bad	24%	5571
Tobacco	30%	1471	Surat	18%	4032
Alcohol	40%	481			

Jharkhand: The THALI project in the state adopted a Patient Support System (PSS) for effective control of TB in a tribal community. Its main objective is to limit and eliminate the huge costs the TB patients were bearing during their treatment cycle. THALI initiated PSS in three districts by strengthening awareness and access to the existing social welfare schemes and health security programs of the government. A THALI field team categorized the TB patients on the basis of their eligibility and linked them with available schemes and services. 1,266 TB patients were facilitated for linkages with different government schemes through THALI assistance followed by screening of 8,497 high risk group individuals.



Ravindra, a street food vendor diagnosed with DRTB, was linked to existing govt. schemes like Poshan Yojana and Tribal Patient Scheme, which helped him mentally and financially.

Punjab- THALI prioritized high-

“ Earlier I used to feel very sad and depressed and wanted to die. Only because of the support of THALI and family members I developed hope. The counselling, knowledge of govt. schemes and its linkage helped me a lot as the field officer understood what I was going through. He helped me get rid of the pain and poverty”

“Monetary benefits from social schemes came as a blessing for my family and me”.

□ Ravindra, a patient with drug resistant TB

risk workplaces such as factories to undertake TB prevention and

control activities. As an apprehension of losing employment continues to deter factory workers from participating in TB screening, a passive case-finding system in addition to an active casefinding drive among factory workers has been established. For the passive system, the project deployed use of brochures that reached out to persons who were exhibiting symptoms directly or were aware of colleagues who did. In both the cases, the brochures outlined details about the way they could access care with promises of privacy and dignity. The active casefinding component was established with the consent of factory owners in the districts of Ludhiana and Jalandhar, Punjab covering over 500,000 workers.

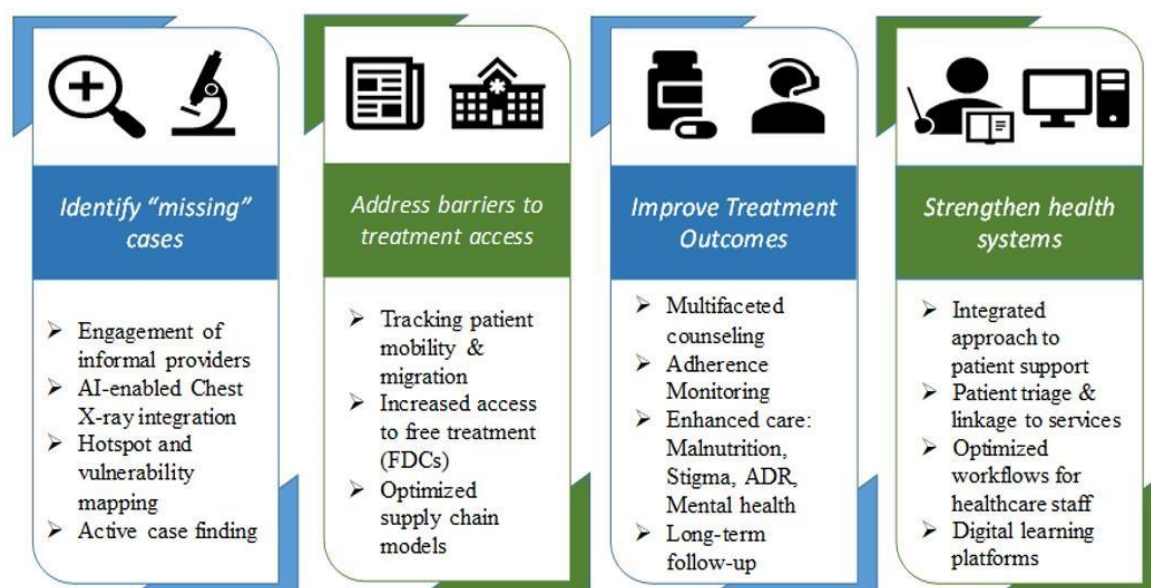
- > 17,834 workers from hazardous factories were screened for TB symptoms
- > 12,466 active TB patients on treatment were assessed for their Mental Health status

Closing Gaps in TB Cascade Care supported by USAID

A new USAID-supported four-year project titled ‘Closing the Gaps in TB Care Cascade’ was recently approved which will be implemented by a consortium led by WHP as prime recipient, The Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar (IIPHG), Everwell Health Solutions Pvt. Ltd and Harvard Global Research Support Center-India (HGI) are the sub recipients. The total award is \$8.4 million of which 65% is earmarked for WHP.

In select geographies of Gujarat and Jharkhand, the project aims to develop and demonstrate a monitoring framework to address gaps in various TB detection and treatment processes. The project will prototype interventions and demonstrate models that will contribute to significant reduction of care-cascade gaps while simultaneously strengthening health systems. If successful, the scaled-up version of the model will have significant impact on successful treatment outcomes and TB epidemiology.

QI Interventions under Project

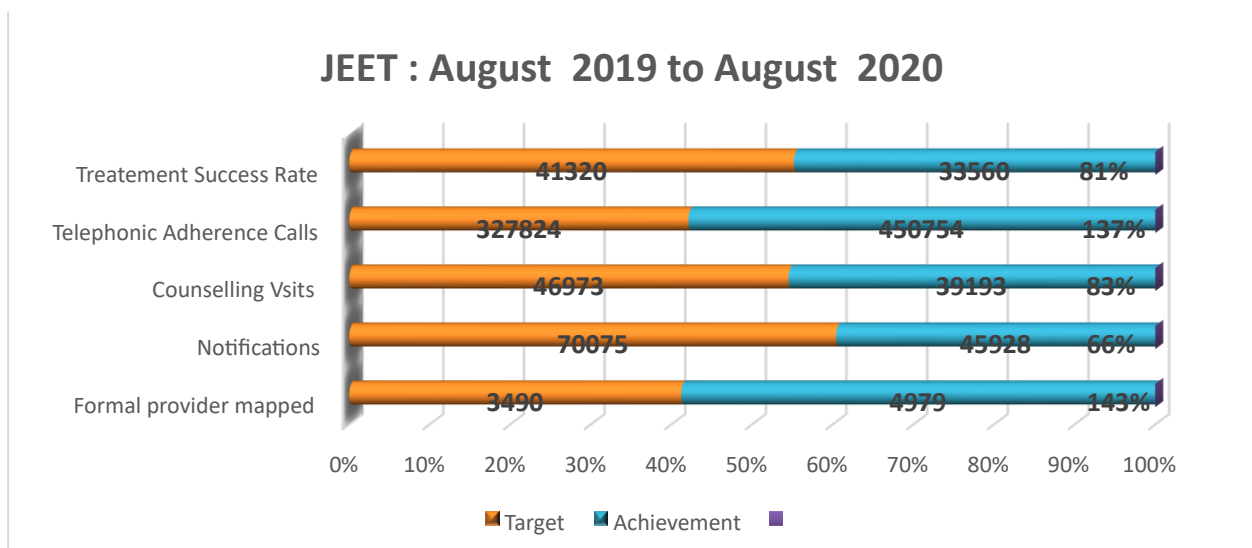


Global Fund Supported JEET – Gujarat, Bihar, Punjab & West Bengal

“Joint Effort for Elimination of Tuberculosis (JEET)” project awarded in 2018 will continue till March 2021. WHP partnered with Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) in Gujarat and Bihar (Ahmedabad, Surat and Darbhanga) and FIND in West Bengal and Punjab (Kolkata & Howrah, Ludhiana and Jalandhar) to implement the project.

The project has demonstrated significant contribution:

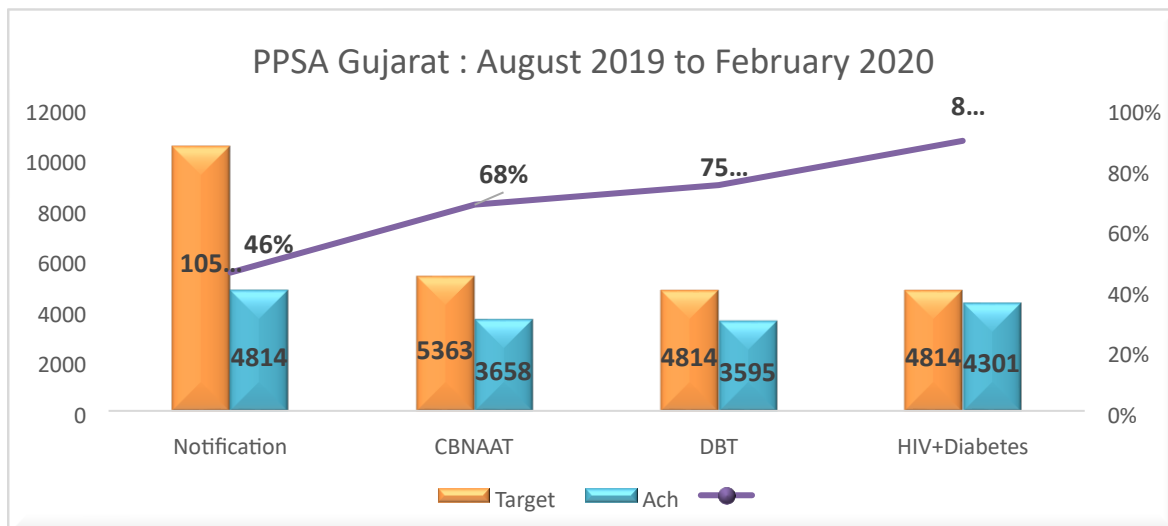
- > 81% treatment success rate
- > 83% of the total notified patients were visited in person for counseling and adherence support
- > 66% patients notified cumulatively



Patient Provider Support Agency: Gujarat-government funded

Gujarat government-funded one-year PPSA project was launched in April 2019 in 6 urban municipal corporations - Vadodara, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh and Gandhi Nagar, on a comprehensive market-based approach involving the private sector and patient centered care.

The PPSA project came to an end in February 2020. The project team's effort received a lot of appreciation for the efficient implementation and close engagement with the private sector across all the 6 municipal corporations. The team received validation from all the District TB Officers, the Indian Medical Association, and private providers in the form of letters of appreciation. Establishing successful linkages to enable TB patients to get private treatment and timely notifications on Nikshay were the highlights.



COVID-19 Response – “Bihar and Andhra Pradesh” (e-tele consultancy Service for Medical Advice)

Stringent lockdowns restricted movement and normal life came to a standstill. WHP using its digital platform launched an initiative for the general public with an objective to provide primary care consultation to clients from their homes and use it as an opportunity to isolate COVID-10 susceptible. The government of Andhra Pradesh and Bihar extended support by giving government doctors assisted by non-medical personnel to implement the project at scale.

The digital algorithms already developed by WHP for its various projects became extremely helpful enabling doctors the tools to handle large caseloads. The algorithms combine symptoms with travel history and contact details to alert doctors about risky factors concerning the callers. Details of suspects are forwarded to government facilities nearest to them for confirmatory testing and contact tracing. The e-tele consultancy Service for Medical Advice was formally launched in Andhra Pradesh on 13th April -2020 and in Bihar on 11th April -2020. WHP managed operation completely which received 170,000 calls within 50 days when the communities were under complete lock-down. These calls also helped identify over 480 suspects. With public sector facilities resuming work subsequently, WHP started handing over the operational responsibilities to the governments. It is largely completed in Andhra Pradesh, but will continue in Bihar as the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been extended up to December 31. Until August 31, WHP received 191,929 calls.

e-Sub Centre Project Supported by Andhra Pradesh Government:

A three-member consortium headed by WHP won a bid to add a telemedicine component in the 4,504 rural centers in eight districts of Andhra Pradesh. (The other members are Ram Info, a Hyderabad based Tech Company, and MedOnGo, a Bangalore based manufacturer of drug

dispensing machines.) The project is one of the largest public-private partnership interventions in the world. The total value of the five-year project is about Rs 770 crores (\approx \$110 million). The project is supported by World Bank and is extendable by another 5 years.

Since WHP could not raise the resources needed as working capital to kick start the project, it has now taken on an advisory with the implementation responsibilities transferred to the two consortium partners. It will be entitled to earn a small proportion of the revenue as payment. WHP brought in Rs 8.2 crore from its own resources to provide the initial bank guarantee but soon found that the banks, on whom the rest of the funding was contingent, are extremely reluctant to open credit lines to NGOs.

Way Forward:

- WHP is applying for Government PPSA for the states of Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Assam.
- PPSA application for Punjab has been submitted
- TB-PPSA tendering in “Rest of India” will be closely followed up for participation
- Continued advocacy and technical support to Bihar government for e-tele consultancy Service for Medical Advice

Financials

Revenue: Our total revenue for the year 2020-21 was USD 32,98,818

Expenditure: Total expenditure for year 2020-21 was USD 32,37,313

