



GOLDEN JUBILEE
1957 • 2007



CANADA

Spark of Knowledge

KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY CHALLENGE
ISSUE STATEMENTS



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THE FOLLOWING AKDN PRIORITY AREAS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR THE KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY CHALLENGE:

1. CARING FOR THE AGED - AGING IN A SUPPORTIVE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT
2. ULTRA-POVERTY - TURNING THE TIDE OF POVERTY
3. THE ROLE OF MICROFINANCE IN UNLEASHING OPPORTUNITIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
4. CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE NEED FOR DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
5. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - LIMITING THE LOSS OF LIFE AND ASSETS
6. ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE
7. ALTERNATIVE AKDN PRIORITY AREA



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ISSUE CATEGORY #6:

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

BACKGROUND

Urban populations have been growing as a result of migration from rural areas. In developing countries, this migration is often fuelled by safety and financial reasons. By 2008, 50% of the world's population will live in urban areas. However, the health and social needs of individuals in developing countries migrating from rural areas are often different from those of existing urban communities. Consequently, specialized community health centres are often set up catering to the needs of rural migrants.

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

The neighbourhood of Sultanabad, Karachi, Pakistan houses 25,000 people living in 4000 dwellings over a 0.5 km area. The population is made up of mostly Punjabi-Pushto migrants from Northern Pakistan and the Afghan border. Literacy ranges in the area of 50% for men and 25% for women. 13.6% of the population is under the age of 5 and 21% of the population is made up of women of childbearing age.

Community health centres have been developed in this region to provide immunization coverage, family planning, curative clinics and nutritional counselling. Water and sanitation programs, women's literacy teaching and microcredit schemes have also been developed through these centres. All programs are offered within the centre as well as on an outreach basis.

ISSUE STATEMENT

How would you provide better access to health care? Give an example of a group of migrants who have settled in a new region. Identify a region and describe the population. How would you determine the needs of the community? What cultural considerations would you make? What programs would you implement? How would you use health care programs as a way to initiate social change? What outcome measures would you use to evaluate your program?



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following are some references for the case study described:

AKU, Community Health Sciences, Urban Health Programme
<http://www.aku.edu/CHS/chs-urb-intro.shtml>
Accessed 25 Sep 2007

Defining Squatter Settlements
<http://www.gdrc.org/uem/squatters/define-squatter.html>
Accessed 25 Sep 2007

Khanna, M et al. Lessons and implications from mass immunization campaign in squatter settlements of Karachi, Pakistan: an experience from cluster-randomized double-blinded vaccine trial. *Trials*. v.7 2006

Bloom, David and Khanna, T. The Urban Revolution. *Finance and Development*. 44:3, 2007.
<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2007/09/bloom.htm>
Accessed 25 Sep 2007



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