

Chapter 1. Background of Project

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(1) Background of the Project

After abolition of apartheid policy, the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as “South Africa”) government has launched various programmes to narrow the existing gap between ethnic groups. But the Provinces of KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo where most of the former Homelands are concentrated have been left behind. The Japanese Government then pledged in 1996 a “South Africa Assistance Package” expressing its commitment to assist South Africa’s efforts including improvement of the quality of life for the people suffering poverty. In the year 2000, the Japanese Government conducted project finding and formation survey in the health, education and water sectors in the above 3 provinces.

In March 2001, the Limpopo Department of Health and Welfare (hereinafter referred to as “the Limpopo DOHW”) requested Japanese grant aid assistance which includes equipment procurement for 3 hospitals, 5 health centres and 21 clinics for the purpose of improvement of quality of health services, accessibility to health services and improvement of health indicators in the Halegratz District of Lowveld Region. Then construction of maternity ward and health education promotion centre in Van Velden District Hospital and construction of 3 clinics, namely Letsitele, Mohalaba and Maake were added to the request.

(2) Project sites agreed upon before the site survey

After submission of official Application to the Japanese Government by the Limpopo DOHW, denomination of the Halegratz District of Lowveld Region was changed to Greater Tzaneen Sub-District (hereinafter referred to as “Greater Tzaneen SD) of Mopani District and a slight change in the boundary line took place. Then the study team discussed the target sites for basic design study with the parties concerned at the Greater Tzaneen SD office and agreed upon the sites as follows.

1) Sites for equipment procurement

- 1 regional hospital : Letaba
- 2 district hospitals : Van Velden, Dr. C. N. Phatudi
- 4 health centres : Mugodeni Grace, Nkowankowa, Shiluvana, Julesburg
- 24 clinics : Carlotta, Dan, Dr. Hugo Nkabinde, Jamela, Khujwana, Lenyenye, Lephephane, Madumane, Mokgope, Mamitwa, Mariveni, Mogapeng, Mogoboya, Moime, Mokgwathi, Morapalala, Morutji, Motupa, Nyavana, Ooghoek, Ramotshinyadi, Tours, Tzaneen, Zangoma

2) Sites for equipment procurement and construction

- Van Velden district hospital (extension)
- 3 clinics : Letsitele, Mohlaba, Maake

During the survey, construction of visiting point shelters (hereinafter referred to as V.P. Shelter) were requested to add to the Japanese Assistance. The study team surveyed 16 sites checking the land conditions and availability and specified 4 sites as possible construction sites as follows.

- Burgersdorp
- Khujwana
- Mogoloboto-2
- Pharare

(3) Request for change of the project sites

The basic design team had discussed with the project team of the Limpopo DOHW and come to a conclusion that the Japanese assistance would have been appropriate on the whole. On the day of signing of the Minutes of Discussion, however, the Limpopo DOHW strongly requested to shift the project site from Van Velden District Hospital to Nkhensani District Hospital in Greater Giyani Sub-district of Mopani District, saying Van

Velden Hospital, located in the centre of the town, could not be as beneficiary to the people of lower class income as Nkhensani Hospital.

The background of this unexpected change may be that it reflects a political consideration of the Province and that the priority in the health administration of the Province had changed since they made the request about 2 years ago.

Considering that Greater Giyani Sub-district was originally out of the scope and that no site survey had been conducted on that area, the study team could not but agree upon exclusion of Van Velden Hospital from the scope of the Requested Japanese Assistance.

The project sites finally agreed upon are as follows.

1) Sites for equipment procurement

- 1 regional hospital : Letaba
- 1 district hospitals : Dr. C. N. Phatudi
- 4 health centres : Mugodeni Grace, Nkowankowa, Shiluvana, Julesburg
- 24 clinics : Carlotta, Dan, Dr. Hugo Nkabinde, Jamela, Khujwana, Lenyenye, Lephephane, Madumane, Mokgope, Mamitwa, Mariveni, Mogapeng, Mogoboya, Moime, Mokgwathi, Morapalala, Morutji, Motupa, Nyavana, Ooghoek, Ramotshinyadi, Tours, Tzaneen, Zangoma

2) Sites for equipment procurement and construction

- 3 clinics : Letsitele, Mohlaba, Maake

3) Sites for V.P. shelter construction

- 4 V.P. shelters : Burgersdorp, Khujwana, Mogoloboto-2, Pharare

Main equipment requested are as follows.

- Hospitals : ECG (electrocardiogram) apparatus, EEG (electroencephalogram) apparatus, Ultrasound

apparatus, Infant incubator, Infant warmer, Syringe pump, Infusion pump, Neonatal monitor, Cardiotokograph, Doppler fetus detector, X-ray unit, Operation instrument set, High pressure steam sterilizer, Blood gas analyzer, Electrolyte analyzer, Dental unit, Slit lamp, etc.

- Health centres/Clinic/Mobile clinics : Height and weight scale, Autoclave, Diagnostic set, Infant warmer, Vaccine refrigerator, Blood pressure meter, Glucose meter, Hemoglobin meter, Doppler fetus detector, Audiometer, Vehicle for mobile clinic, etc.