



News Release



Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy

First 'Child Health Day' Marked in FATA as Part of \$ 11.5m USAID Program

Khyber Agency, April 26, 2007— The first ever “Child Health Day” was marked at the Agency Headquarters’ Hospital in Khyber on Thursday, as part of the \$ 11.5 million USAID-funded program.

“USAID health teams will work with the FATA Health Directorate to train health care providers and community workers to improve access to quality health services,” USAID’s Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator Mark Ward said on the occasion.

‘Child Health Day,’ being jointly observed by USAID and an NGO ‘Save the Children,’ is one component of this comprehensive project, being implemented both at the health facilities and in the remote areas of FATA. The events will provide families with vaccinations for their children; growth monitoring services such as weighing and body mass assessment; education about nutrition and newborn care; and healthcare services for ill children.

“Through this program alone USAID and its implementing partner, Save the Children, will reach over 1.5 million adults and over 210,000 children under the age of five,” the senior American official said.

The Health Director of ‘Save the Children,’ Dr. Ammanullah Khan, outlined plans to implement the project in all seven FATA agencies. In coordination with the government health programs, the project will deliver a package of services for children under five years of age, including immunizations and treatment for the leading causes of child death, such as lung infection, diarrhea and malnutrition.

The program will work with an estimated 1.5 million women of reproductive age to raise awareness about newborn care, hygiene, child nutrition and the importance of seeking healthcare.

The FATA Child Health Support Program is part of the \$3 billion in aid that the U.S. Government will provide to Pakistan over the next five years to improve education, health, governance, economic growth and security.

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