



Program Title: The Safe Motherhood Program

Program Cycle: The program commenced in June 2008 and is due to be completed in June 2012

Funding Agency: The World Bank (WB)

Coverage Area(s): Sana'a

Target Group: Pregnant or lactating women and newborn

Program Summary

The *Safe Motherhood Program*, implemented by SOUL for Development in partnership with two private health care providers, is funded under the World Bank (WB) with a grant provided by the GPOBA-Global Partnership on Out-Based Aid. The program commenced in June 2008. It is expected that the program will be extended for another 18 months to end on 2014.

The program is a four year community based program which will support the provision of a 'Mother-Baby package' of essential quality services as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO). These services are provided to eligible women of reproductive age in ten districts in Sana'a, Yemen and include: antenatal care, attended childbirth, postnatal care, complicated care services and family-planning.

The primary objective of this program is to expand access for women within the targeted population, to experience safe childbirth attended by medical professionals. Additionally, the program has two main development objectives. Primarily, to provide quality maternal care to approximately 40,000 eligible women in the targeted districts in Sana'a. Secondly, to design and implement a model of maternal care which demonstrates how Yemeni public policy on maternal and child care can be effectively integrated with private health provision.

SOUL's main responsibility throughout the project is to conduct community outreach for the identification of female participants; evaluation and documentation of eligible beneficiaries and; to implement educational and promotional awareness campaigns and sessions. The educational campaigns cover four related maternal and child health topics, including: safe motherhood practices, proper nutrition (including breastfeeding), family-planning, and newborn care. The MIS (management information

system) Biometric fingerprinting data, managed by SOUL, is considered to be a main strength of the project. All records and data collected from the eligible mothers is submitted to the service providers at satellite clinics; and before any care is provided she is fingerprinted in order to ensure proper patient identification and combat fraud.