

Introduction of Public Health Emergency Response System Enhancement Project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG)

This project officially kicked off on the 2nd of November 2021, and it is a four (4) years project. The executing agency includes Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and TaiwanICDF's branch which is Taiwan Technical Mission in SVG. The outcome of the project is to strengthen the response capability for public health emergency incidents in SVG.

The main challenge for SVG is the lack of emergency medical technicians and paramedics to support the response as most health care personnel in the hospital are occupied with providing pre-hospital care and emergency care, also there are not enough ambulances to support patient referrals. In addition, there are personnel dispatch mechanisms in health facilities but lack of simulations, which may affect abilities to organize functional emergency medical teams and further affect the emergency response. The major components of the project will include:

1. Strengthening the capacity of personnel from the central governmental agencies and related health facilities with sufficient knowledge in public health emergency response

The project will train at least eighteen (18) health care personnel and SVG police and fire service staffs as seed instructors in pre-hospital care and emergency care respectively, and these seeds will assist the project to conduct at least fourteen (14) local workshops on pre-hospital care (Emergency Medical Technician, (EMT) training), emergency care and infectious diseases prevention and control to train 90 police and fire service staff and relevant health personnel and 225 health care personnel.

When health emergencies occur frequently, it is crucial to strengthen emergency response capabilities to deal with threats from potential natural disasters and public

health incidents. Therefore, the project is going to establish a “**Health Emergency Response Team**” for responding any national level disasters.

2. Upgrading the functions of the central governmental agencies and related health facilities for public health emergency response.

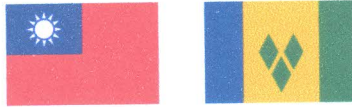
The project will provide 4 health facilities Accident & Emergency departments with medical equipment, Public Health Emergency response Team with basic medical supplies and 2 ambulances for referral

3. Enhancing awareness in public health emergency response for communities.

The project will produce 4 copies of health educational materials for individuals about responding to common natural disasters and prevention and treatment of common infectious diseases in the Caribbean region

Moreover the project will also Conduct 4 health educational activities on disaster and Infectious diseases response to communities





“Public Health Emergency Response System Enhancement Project”

Press Release

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG), TaiwanICDF and MacKay Memorial Hospital implemented a four-year project “Public Health Emergency Response System Enhancement Project.”

As we know SVG has been threatened by public health emergencies of international concern and various natural disasters, such as COVID-19 outbreak in community in 2020 and La Soufrière volcano eruption in 2021.

The project will use the training of trainers (ToT) approach for in-service training, focusing on prehospital care (Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training), emergency care (Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) training) and infectious disease prevention and control.

Today the project shows you that the training equipment include QCPR Anna, Baby QCPR, AED training and Ani choke training, stair chair etc. for EMT training, and also defibrillation trainer manikins, defibrillator, video laryngoscope etc. for ACLS training.

These manikins come with feedback technology to help you improve CPR quality, training efficiency and learner engagement.

Additionally, there are ten (10) seeds instructors including Doctors, Nurses and Fire Fighters to travel to Taiwan in April 2022, to participate in a three months training, subsequently, they will return to SVG and assist the project in conducting local workshops to train more health and related personnel.

We believe that the project will improve the capacity to save lives for Vincentians, enhance the quality of health service provided at the Accident and Emergency department (A&E) at Milton Cato Memorial Hospital (MCMH) , Georgetown Modern Medical Diagnostic Centre (MMDC), Chateaubelair SMART Hospital, and Levi Latham Health Complex, and strengthen public health awareness in SVG.

