PRESS RELEASE

**Sindh Integrated Health & Population Program Partners with Sindh Integrated Emergency & Health Services to Improve Healthcare Services in Sindh**

**Karachi, November 20, 2023**

Sindh Integrated Health and Population Program (SIHPP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Sindh Integrated Emergency & Health Services (SIEHS) under the supervision of the Health Department, Government of Sindh. Under this initiative, SIHPP is providing 60 ambulances, 30 mobile medical vans, and 5 mobile laboratories to SIEHS in the first phase. The program is approved for implementation for a period of 05 years, from 2022-23 to 2026-27.

Raheem Bakhsh Maitlo, Program Director SIHPP, Brigadier (R) Tariq Qadir, Chief Executive Officer, SIEHS, and Dr. Waqar Memon, Director General Health, Sindh signed the MoU. Dr. Saad Khalid Niaz, caretaker Minister for Health, Sindh presided over the signing ceremony. Dr. Syed Mansoor Abbas Rizvi, Secretary Health, Sindh was also present at the occasion.

SIHPP was launched with the assistance of the World Bank and Islamic Development Bank to improve access to and utilization of quality RMNACH N services in the most underserved areas of the province, especially for poor and vulnerable populations, with a special focus on children, adolescents, and women. The program will sustainably improve and build the health and economic resilience of communities in the 23 districts of Sindh by adopting an integrated approach to address the socioeconomic determinants; addressing the effects of natural disasters; and pandemics that impact vulnerable populations, especially women.

These ambulances, mobile medical vans, and mobile laboratories will strengthen the Department of Health’s structure for improved services and will ensure the provision of healthcare facilities to the lowest strata of society.

SIEHS will be responsible for operating ambulances, mobile medical vans, and mobile laboratories through a specific management and operational team especially designated for the program activities. These ambulances will manage referral cases from the 392 Government Dispensaries that are being rehabilitated or reconstructed by SIHPP.

SIEHS will be responsible for operating the Tele Medicine Hub in the province and will be providing health promotion and awareness through mass messaging. Tele Medicine Hub will also provide 24/7 virtual health services to the underserved community. Health promotion will be executed with the help of the Tele-Tabeeb platform to create awareness among communities.

SIEHS, widely recognized as 1122, is a state-of-the-art emergency response service dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of the people of Sindh. With a highly trained and skilled team, modern equipment, and a commitment to excellence, 1122 stands as a beacon of hope in times of crisis, providing swift and effective assistance to those in need.

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