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Tamil Nadu Health Watch

Created Date: 8/13/2008 8:15:15 AM**Country:** Iceland**Focus:** Human Resource Management and Development**Status:** Not Specified whether in use**License:** Proprietary**Product Type:** Software - Mobile**Target Users:** Government Officials and Health Professionals**Developer Name:** Voxiva**Product Url:** <http://www.voxiva.com/tamil.asp>**System Requirements:** NA

Description: The devastating tsunami which struck Southeast Asia in 2004 severely impacted Tamil Nadu. To contain and reduce escalating disease incidence during the post-tsunami relief effort, health officials needed a surveillance network that allowed them to easily access and analyze disease information in real-time.

In May 2005, Tamil Nadu Health Watch was launched in the four worst devastated districts. Health Watch allows health workers, even in remote areas, to immediately report disease incidence data to health officials. In turn, health managers can quickly analyze information about suspected cases, share technical information and resources, and initiate an informed response.

By linking Primary Health centers with district experts and program managers, activities can be coordinated more effectively and resources (e.g., supplies, technical personnel and transport) can be allocated more efficiently. Voxiva trained more than 300 doctors from Primary Health centers using simple, easy to use bilingual manuals and interactive sessions. The training sessions were coordinated with the State to reinforce disease surveillance guidelines and outbreak response protocols.

The phone and web-based data collection system strengthens Tamil Nadu's disease surveillance capabilities at the district and sub-district levels. The solution maximizes the use of the existing communications infrastructure – mobile phones, fixed line and the Internet – making it a cost-effective and sustainable solution.

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