The IsDB is matching the challenge of Djibouti with the experience of Morocco so that the two countries will cooperate to improve maternal and child healthcare.

It is at the center of the IsDB’s mandate to promote cooperation among its member countries. In 1981, the Makkah Declaration of the Third Islamic Conference Summit called the OIC member countries to strengthen collaboration, to utilize and foster their talents, skills and technological capacities. The Bank responded and launched its Technical Cooperation Program in 1983. This has then been scaled up via what we call Reverse Linkage.

The structured skills swap under Reverse Linkage helps the recipient country diagnose and analyze a problem while the provider country shares its proven knowledge and expertise to find a solution.

The idea that all partners have something to gain from cooperation lies at the heart of Reverse Linkage. The learning process is reciprocal, knowledge transfer is in both directions, and benefits are mutual.

**THE PROJECT**

**COMMENCED MID-2017 AND RUNS UNTIL END OF 2019**

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The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) is in continuous dialogue with the Government of Djibouti to lay the groundwork for its health sector. IsDB aims to be a facilitator of win-win South-South Cooperation, setting up partnerships that take into account the specific needs of the Member Country. The IsDB was therefore able to match its knowledge, expertise, technology and resources to develop customized solutions for Djibouti’s maternal health needs. The IsDB and the Government of Morocco have been working together for many years, and have already benefitted from training initiatives. IsDB has contributed to the project’s financing together with the IsDB. In addition, the Governments of both Djibouti and Morocco own the key targets to reduce the maternal and child mortality rate to 90/100,000 live births and to halve the neonatal mortality rate to 25/1,000 by 2020.

The Reproductive Health Center of the Hospital Ibn Sina is a resource center in maternal health. It provides training, monitoring of high-risk pregnancy and childbirth. The Center is recognized at the national and regional level as a resource center in maternal health. It provides training, including support for maternal health centers in sub-Saharan Africa through knowledge sharing. It has trained more than 300 training sessions and workshops related to women and child health. The Center also develops training toolkits for electronic monitoring of high-risk pregnancy and childbirth. It has been monitoring high-risk pregnancies and childbirth electronically in Morocco for a number of years. It has also been training health staff in electronic monitoring of high-risk pregnancy and childbirth. The Center has been participating in various initiatives and conferences and has contributed to the project’s financing together with the IsDB.