

# Community Health and Operational Risk Mitigation

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# Overview

- The Relationship Between Community Health and Operations
- Tools for Identifying Project and Community Health Needs
- Approaches to Impacting Community Health
- Ghana Case Study

# Community Health and Operational Impact

- **Vaccine Preventable Diseases:**
  - Measles, Mumps, Rubella, DPT, Polio
- **Malaria:**
  - Vector and reservoir in the community
- **Tuberculosis:**
  - Easily spread in a camp environment
- **Gastroenteritis:**
  - Impacts large numbers of workers and hence productivity

## Community Health Services:

- Primary Care
- Emergency Medical Care
- Project Impact on Capacity

## Site Medical Service:

- Directly correlates to the level of medical care that must be delivered onsite

## Private options

- Affordability
- Perceived/real quality
- Access





## Security

- Companies known to provide medical support to the neighboring communities less likely to be a target of violence..
- If services are discontinued or not considered to be adequate, the it can adversely impact the security situation.

## Productivity

- Healthy employees are more productive.
- Healthy dependents keep employees from staying at home to provide care
- Quality medical care carries a significant cost.
- Pressure from community to provide increasing levels of service that may not correlate to productivity

## Community and Government Relations

- Local leaders generally support community health initiatives
- May fulfill production agreements
- Difficult to limit demands
- Government commitments for sustainability/additional support often not adhered to.

# Health Assessment Tools

## Health Risk Assessment

Measures the risk of the work activities on the workforce – “Inside the fence”

## Health Impact Assessment

Measures the positive and negative impacts of the project on the health of the community

## Community Health Needs Assessment

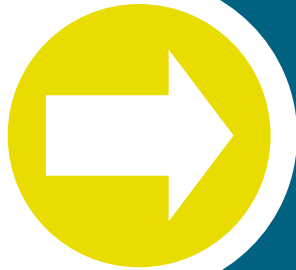
Identifies the health resources that would have the most significant impact on the company.

## Baseline Health Assessment

Objective measure of the current health status of the community



# Health Impact Assessments



- **Negative impacts can overwhelm project management**
- **Anticipate, prevent and mitigate**
- **Leverage positive Impacts**
- **Without measurement, difficult to defend against community allegations of negative impact**

# Health Impacts

- Changes in infectious disease patterns
  - STI's
  - Malaria
  - Dengue
- Impact on health services capacity (both positive and negative)
- Motor vehicle patterns, increased accidents
- Sanitation infrastructure
- Changes in the availability of game, farming land



# Strategic Health Management – OGP Publication

## Primary Care

- Project health dollars are ideally spent in the community rather than inside the fence

## Hospital Care

- Developing community health resources more sustainable than onsite health resources
- Commercial enterprises that will remain when the project closes

## Dental Care

### Challenges:

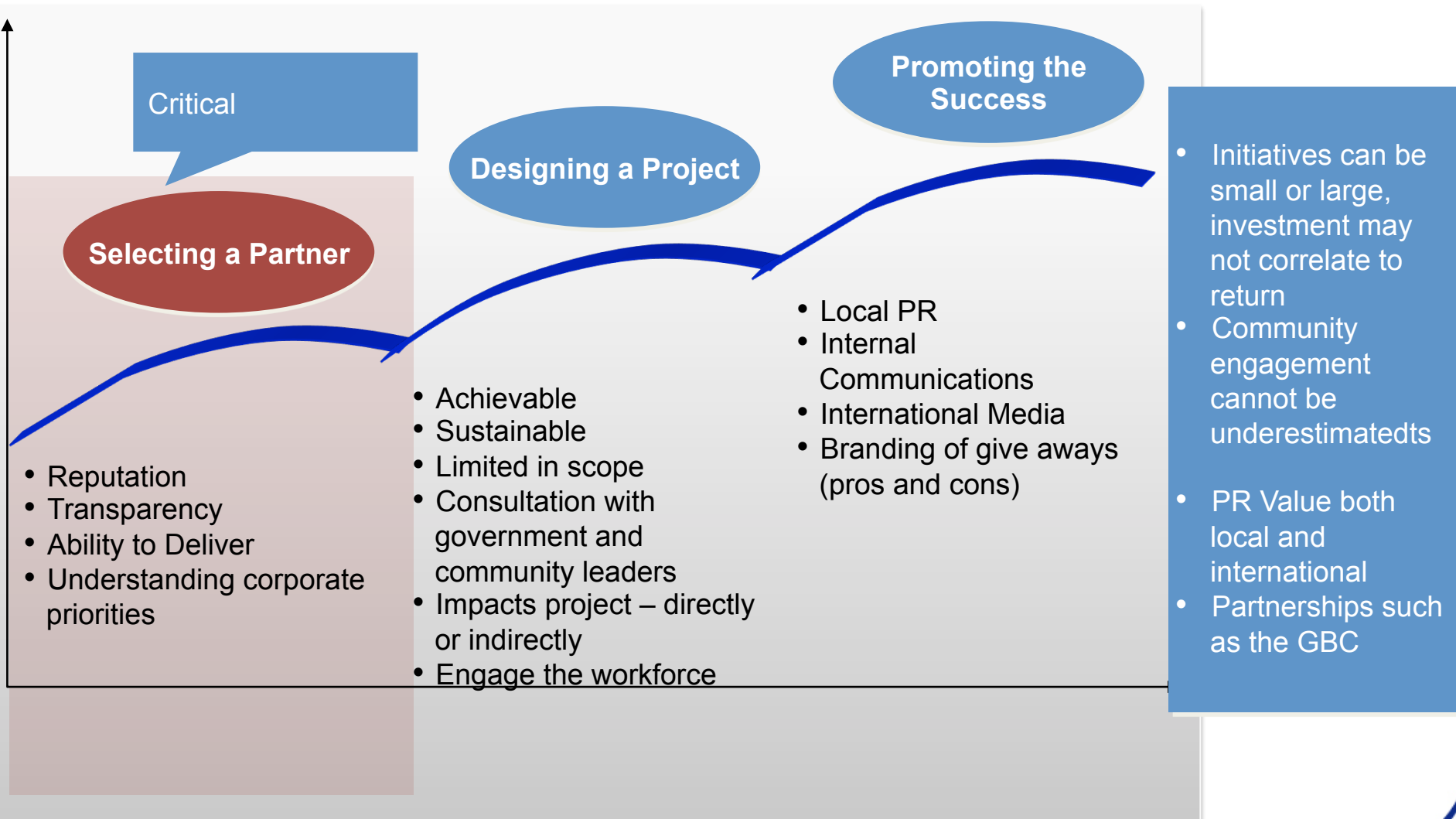
- Attracting investment
- Quality
- Administration of health benefits
- Ensuring access
- True sustainability

# Examples of Community Health Initiatives

- Bed Nets
- Community Health Center
- Malaria Control Programs
- HIV Awareness Programs
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Vaccination Programs
- Reference Laboratory



# Engaging in Community Health Initiatives



# Case Study: Junior company in exploration phase

## Client brief:

The client is a junior Canadian mining company in the early exploration phase of the mining project development. The company has already embarked in community dialogue as well as in community development through their Community Development Committee and has financed initiatives in each of the villages within its catchment area.

The client is convinced that good community relationship and well targeted health investments facilitate their operations in the area and will enhance the future value of their license.

They are currently experiencing troubles with Artisanal Miners and some community members partially excluded by the main consultation process.

## Objective:

- To assess and improve the community health status of the population residing in the concession area

## Approach:

1. Desk top research – to gather a better understanding of the community health status
2. Health Needs Assessment – to visit the communities and identify the main issues of concern as well as to assess the delivery capacity of the local health system
3. Recommendations for the Community Development Committee – two levels of recommendations: specific health initiatives for the communities and strategic issues for the client.



## Results/Outcome:

- Successfully accomplished the consultation with communities and health authorities
- Program is beginning now to reduce the disease burden in the population