

# UNICEF Ghana Update July 2007



## Key actions supported in June

- **Inception workshop on Guinea Worm Eradication in the Northern Region.** By 2011, this project aims at benefiting more than one million people in the Northern Region where Guinea Worm is most endemic.
- **Training on severe malnutrition management.** An innovative intervention, ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF) was introduced to 60 health workers. Approx. 30,000 children under five suffer from acute malnutrition and 150,000 children under five have moderate malnutrition.
- **Home Management of Malaria (HMM) research dissemination.** HMM is a simple but effective plan -- train mothers and other community members to recognize fevers, provide pre-packaged medications, and keep the medicines properly stored and recorded. Every year approx 25,000 children and 200 pregnant women die from Malaria in Ghana.
- **Training of magistrates and judges on child rights.** A total of 25 newly recruited magistrates, 15 high court judges and 15 circuit court judges received training on child rights.
- **“Combat Child Trafficking”: 2007 theme of African Union.** Ghana pledged to combat child trafficking with AU countries at the national celebration of the AU day in the Volta Region.
- **Training of tutors on the first comprehensive preschool curriculum.** A total of 150 tutors from 38 teacher training colleges across the country received training on how best to guide preschool children. They will in turn teach the new curriculum to their college students.
- **Launch of Ghanainfo website.** Key data on Ghana has become accessible to all on [www.ghanainfo.com](http://www.ghanainfo.com). Its software enables production of graphs and maps using national development indicators and MDGs.

## Upcoming events from July - Sep. (dates to be confirmed)

### July

- Guinea Worm Eradication annual review in Tamale (25 – 26th)
- Training of child labour inspectors on child labour and child protection (till Aug).
- Sensitization of cocoa growing communities on child labour (till Sep).
- Girls education advocacy campaign in 15 districts in four regions with low girls school enrolment rates (mid July till Sep.)

### August

- Breastfeeding week launch in Tema (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Seminar on salt iodization to prevent Iodine deficiency disorders
- Exchange of notes on the Gov. of Japan's contribution to Malaria control
- Release of new data on children and women (2006 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey) & media workshop
- Press conference on education with a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
- National Children's Day (31<sup>st</sup>)

### September

- National birth registration day
- National sanitation week celebration (6-17th)
- Launch of HIV/AIDS alert school communication campaign
- Joint UN Media workshop on HIV/AIDS
- Launch of UNICEF Ghana website

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## Dr. Yasmin Ali Haque, New UNICEF Representative arrived in Ghana

Dr. Haque joined as UNICEF Representative to Ghana in June 2007. She has a total of 10 years of experience working for children with UNICEF in Bangladesh as health expert and in Sri Lanka where she served as the Deputy Representative from 2004 before coming to Ghana. Prior to joining UNICEF, she worked as medical officer in Bangladesh. She is a medical doctor and has Master of Science in Health Systems Management. Her family members joined her in July.

