

Facts –CAMEROON

- Child mortality: 144 per 1,000 live births (DHS 2004)
- Infant mortality rate: 74 per 1,000 live births (DHS 2004)
- Neonatal mortality rate: 29 per 1,000 live births (DHS 2004)
- Maternal mortality: 669 per 100,000 live births (DHS 2004)
- No significant decline in child mortality rates since 1990 (133 and 154 per 1,000 live births respectively in 1990 and 1998)
- Routine national immunization coverage has never exceeded 90%. Vaccination coverage in 2007: DPT-HepB3 82%, Measles: 73.5%, Yellow Fever: 73.2%; TT2+ 65%, VitA PP: 53% (MoH).
- 57.7% of children (6-59 mo) have received a vitamin A capsule during the last six months (MICS 2006)
- Malnutrition is the underlying cause for 50% of morbidity and mortality in the under-five age group.
- The prevalence of U5 children with weight deficit for their height (i.e. wasting or acute malnutrition) was 3.0% (70,000 U5 children) in 1991 and 6.1% (170,000 U5 children) in 2006 (DHS 1991 & MICS 2006).
- The prevalence of U5 children with a height deficit for their age (i.e. stunting or chronic malnutrition) was 24.4% (550,000 U5 children) in 1991 and 30.4% (880,000 U5 children) in 2006 (DHS 1991 & MICS 2006).
- The rate of exclusive breastfeeding is very low: 21.2% of children under 6 months (MICS 2006).
- 68.3% of children 6-59 months suffered from anemia and 44.9% of women of child bearing age are anemic as well (DHS 2004)
- 95.6% of household have iodized salt at home (DHS 2004).
- 58% of deliveries are assisted by a qualified staff (DHS 04)
- Coverage for the first antenatal clinic is 83% (DHS 2004).
- The prevalence of modern contraceptives is 13% (DHS 04).
- Access to potable water (urban/rural) 90/ 49 (MICS 2006)

Main achievements in 2008:

Health System

- High impact interventions for child survival were incorporated in the Health Sector Strategy and in the 174 Health Districts Development Plans 2009-2011.
- Support provided to the preparation of Sector Wide Approach (SWAp).
- Child Health Days (CHDs) institutionalized and to be organized bi-annually.
- Support to the implementation of three CHDs comprising integrated high impact interventions;
- Marginal Budgeting for Bottlenecks (MBB) tool Introduced and used for national Mid Term Expenditure Framework.
- ACSD strategy implemented in 46 (26.4%) health districts of 4 regions out of 10 in the country.
- Integrated monitoring of health area activities carried out in all 174 health districts.

Expanded Program on Immunization

- Support to the implementation of two rounds of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Campaign in 50 high risk Health Districts resulting in coverage of 87 %, and 54% respectively; two round Polio Campaigns with 93 and 98% coverage.
- Routine EPI coverage was as follows: DPT- HepB 3: 84%, Measles: 80%; Yellow Fever: 77%; Vitamin A Post Partum: 67% and 76% TT2+ in pregnant women.

Nutrition:

- Vitamin A supplementation coverage above 80% during CHDs
- Introduction of nationwide deworming distribution for children (12-59 mos) into CHDs (coverage above 70%)
- Capacity building of health care providers and community volunteers in the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) in the Adamawa, East and Far North regions, particularly in emergency settings. (16,750 U5 children admitted of whom 6,200 cured since mid 2007 within a population of 1.3 million)

- Capacity building of health care providers and community volunteers in the prevention of malnutrition through Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) in four districts of the Far North region.
- Creation of a National Alliance for food fortification with micronutrients,
- Development of national protocol for community-based management of acute malnutrition.

WASH:

- Construction of 5 water points in the refugee zones.
- Developing, updating and training of health care providers and community volunteers on water, hygiene and sanitation issues.

Priority actions for 2009

Health System

- Continuous support to the setting up of Health SWAp)

Minimum Package of Activities (MPA) and Complementary Package of Activities (CPA)

- Elaboration and validation of a training module on MPA and CPA .
- IMCI: 20% of pediatric health care personal is trained in clinical.
- Organization of 2 rounds of CHDs in July and December 2009 (vaccination, vit A supplementation, deworming, IPT to pregnant women)

Immunization

- Organize Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs): preventive, reactive immunization campaigns (Yellow Fever, Polio, Measles, Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus).
- Support the implementation of routine EPI in low performance health districts.

EPI plus and malaria

- Support the coordination, supervision and implementation of vaccination plus activities in 57 health districts.
- Retreatment of bed nets and distribution of LLIN.

Reproductive Health

- Emergency Obstetrical and Neonatal Care (EONC): Procurement and distribution of delivery and caesarean section kits to 15 integrated health centres and 5 district hospitals in the Adamawa, East, Far North and North-West regions. capacity Strengthening of 80 health care providers in EONEC in 6 health districts of 4 regions and 120 in antenatal clinics including PMTCT in 4 regions.
- Putting in place of a referral and counter referral system in 4 health districts of the Adamawa and Far North regions.
- Support provided to health districts in emergency situations for the implementation of activities in favor the mother and child's health.

Nutrition

- Strengthening and scaling up of the CMAM program through capacity building of all health care providers and community relays, procurement, supply and distribution of therapeutic and supplementary food, supervision, monitoring and evaluation in the Adamawa, East, North and Far-North regions.
- Strengthening and scaling up of the ENA programs based on Behavior Change Communication in intervention zones.
- Accelerating food fortification implementation: carrying out of industrial assessment for implementing food fortification and of the Fortification Rapid Assessment Tool study

WASH

- Establishing and rehabilitation of water points in refugee zones (East , North and Far North regions) - Construction of boreholes in 03 villages; 10 water point committees created and made operational in the East region.
- Support with the implementation of KAP survey on water, hygiene and sanitation.