

Facts –CAMEROON

- Number of people living with HIV: 510,000 (UNAIDS 2006)
- Number of children below 15 years living with HIV: 69,000 (UNAIDS, 2005)
- Estimated HIV prevalence rate among adults 15 to 49 years of age: 5.5%. (UNAIDS 2004)
- Prevalence among pregnant women: 7.4%
- Number of orphans and vulnerable children: 304,854 (UNAIDS, 2007)

Main achievements in 2008:

Prevention with adolescents and youth:

- Life-skills and vulnerability and risk mapping permitted (ensured) that 40 schools to receive information on youth vulnerability factors of STI, HIV and AIDS.
- A total of 163 sites both in and out of school received education material comprising of posters, flyers, magazines on voluntary counselling and testing, STI, HIV and AIDS, and child trafficking.
- A total of 13,621 youth out of 85,670 were sensitized and were effectively tested for HIV/AIDS in collaboration with NACC, CHP, MINJEUN, MINESEC (need to spell out all acronyms?)
- Over 360,000 adolescents received correct information and knowledge on STIs, HIV and AIDS.

Prevention of Mother to child transmission of HIV (PMTCT):

- A total of 40 trainers and 120 service providers received capacity building training in management techniques of PMTCT commodities and supply.
- A total of 47 laboratories were established for early infant diagnosis in collaboration with the Clinton Foundation and the WHO.
- An estimated 11.44% of pregnant women learnt of their serological status from 10% in 2007
- **About 64.68% of pregnant women gained access to ARV**
- An estimate of 46% of exposed infants received ARV prophylaxis as compared to 13% in 2007
- 1,000 posters, 5,000 flyers and 200 picture boxes on PMTCT, early infant diagnosis and counselling and testing of youths have been produced and distributed

Care for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC):

- A total target of 10, 729 OVCs, over 71% benefited from a core set of services including psychosocial support, preventive health kits, referral to schools and health centers.
- Some 212,207 persons, living in project sites, among them people living with AIDS or caretakers for OVC, were sensitized on rights of OVC and were mobilized to fight against discrimination of OVC through speeches, radio broadcasts, distribution of flyers and flaunting.
- About 30 religious leaders and 7 radio stations including public and private covering project sites contributed to anti stigma campaigns to mark National Youth's Day (February 11th), the Day of the African Child (June 16th) and the International Day Against HIV and AIDS (December 1st).
- 525 caretaker families of OVC were supported to start and/or to enhance ongoing income generating activities through financial support. These are mostly petty trade, animal husbandry and production of food crops. Beneficiaries were trained on micro finance mechanisms (loans – saving) and are affiliated to local cooperative and credits unions.

Priority actions to be implemented in 2009:

Prevention with adolescents and Youth

- Develop sectoral action plan for HIV prevention with ministry of secondary education and the Ministry of Youth.
- Conducting vulnerability risk mapping and behavioural analysis with youth in relation to HIV and AIDS.
- Strengthening youth capacity on life skills and HIV/AIDS knowledge in general to mitigate risk of infection. Training teachers and educators including youth peer educators on how to manage sensitization and behavioural change activities.
- Setting up youth friendly centers and providing support for them to be functional.
- Empowering youth to take part in decision making processes dealing with HIV/AIDS problems for adolescents.

Prevention of Mother to child transmission of HIV

- Scaling up PMTCT/PC services at district level in the framework of decentralization and district approach
- Strengthening mother and child services to ensure effective integration of PMTCT/PC services.
- Building the capacity of health staff and other community actors to provides quality PMTCT/PC services at both health facility and community level.
- Promoting access and utilisation of VCT services for women and men within the framework of "men as partners" strategy.
- Strengthening supply and procurement mechanisms in relation to PMTCT/PC services and the global care for the mother and child.

Care for Orphans and Vulnerable children (OVC)

- Development of national strategic documents to care for orphans and vulnerable children
- Scaling up care and support services for OVC
- Strengthening the capacity of about 260 service providers from 26 NGOs and some 150 community actors, including local leaders, religious bodies, and families to care for OVC. This will be done through training, provision of toolkits and sensitization materials.
- Mobilizing partners and donors to leverage resources for OVC care