

Facts –CHAD

- Estimated HIV prevalence rate among adults 15 to 49: 3.3% (end 2005).
- Mother-To-Child Transmission of HIV among young pregnant mothers (15-24 years old) in N'Djaména: 3.6%.
- Paediatric infections: estimated number of children aged 0 to 14 living with HIV: over 16,000

Main achievements in 2008:

Capacity building for government and civil society actors:

- Support to the National Committee against HIV/AIDS in view of improving drug procurement systems.
- Definition of national strategies for communication on Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and for HIV/AIDS prevention among youths.
- Capacity building of the NGO AILS (Association Interdiocésaine de Lutte contre le Sida) in management and supervision of programmes, donation of one vehicle, 9 motorbikes and 9 computers to be used in national and regional offices.

Improved knowledge, attitudes and practices among youth aged between 10 and 24:

- 3 new youth centres made operational in 2008 bringing the total number of youth centres to 11.
- 334 peer educators from youth networks trained.
- Improved partnerships with media, religious associations and NGOs which sensitized 74,000 adolescents and youths.
- 25 Voluntary Testing Centres operational and allowing for testing of 13,297 persons including 2,753 HIV positive people, amounting to 20,7% of the tested group (15% among men and 30% among women).
- Testing of 8,506 youth between 15 and 24, including 517 HIV positive youths (6,7%).
- Training of 400 Community Teachers on prevention of HIV in schools and establishment of 20 School Clubs in primary and secondary schools for sensitization of 1,500 students on HIV/AIDS.
- 45,737 youths between 15 and 24 sensitized in 11 counselling centres set up in refugee camps and 139,870 among the displaced and host communities in the East.

Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV:

- More districts today have an operational PMTCT center and services: After 22 districts in 2007, in 2008 there are 30,, with 53 health facilities implementing PMTCT protocols compared to 33 in 2007.
- Training of 400 health staff in PMTCT, procurement of rapid test kits, laboratory materials and equipment and drugs against opportunist infections.
- Of 100,800 pregnant women examined in pre-natal consultations, 10,830 benefited from HIV testing.
- Care for 722 HIV positive women in 2008 (including ARV treatment, biological follow-up, treatment of opportunist diseases), against 326 in 2007.

Care for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs):

- Procurement of drugs to treat opportunist diseases and distributed to AILS as well as to the Goré and Damadji Health District "Development Initiative" programmes, which ensured health care for 2,480 persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- Training of 30 Patient Assistants on domestic care and 16 people trained on identification and evaluation of vulnerability of OVCs.
- Enrolment in school and psychosocial support provided for 2,225 OVCs through partnerships with AILS and SOS Village d'Enfants.
- Bikes distributed to 90 Patient Assistants from AILS in order to organise domestic care visits.

Priority actions to be implemented in 2009:

- Ensure nationwide mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS sensitization in the school curriculum.
- Build staff capacity in the health sector through further training in the field and improved reporting.
- Assess the strategy of community informal group discussions in view of national mainstreaming and enrich the discussions with topics related to daily life skills and behaviours for adolescents and youth.
- Further improve knowledge, attitudes and practices among youth.
- Prevent Mother-To-Child Transmission of HIV and strengthen paediatric care by increasing PMTCT coverage and improving quality of PMTCT care.
- Increase access to testing and increase early care for children exposed to HIV.
- Expand care for OVCs and conduct a situation analysis of OVCs in order to gather data in view of developing a wider policy framework and action plan in favour of orphans and vulnerable children at risk.