

TOGO

DHAPP

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
AMONG UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN
SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND**

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

BACKGROUND

Country Statistics

Togo has come under fire from international organizations for human rights abuses and is plagued by political unrest. Most bilateral and multilateral aid to Togo remains frozen. The population of Togo is estimated to be 5.54 million people, with an average life expectancy of 57.4 years. French is the official language, and the literacy rate is estimated at 60.9%, unevenly distributed between men and women. This small, Sub-Saharan economy is heavily dependent on both commercial and subsistence agriculture, which provides employment for 65% of the labor force. Some basic food must still be imported. The gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is \$1,600, with 32% of Togolese people living below the poverty line.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

The current HIV prevalence rate in Togo's general population is 3.2%, with 110,000 Togolese people living with HIV/AIDS. The primary identified risk factor is heterosexual sex with multiple partners.

Military Statistics

The size of the Togolese Armed Forces (FAT) is approximately 7000. As of this annual report, no information regarding HIV prevalence in the military was available, but it is estimated that HIV rates are higher within the military population than in the general population. Togo allocates 1.6% of the GDP for military purposes.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In-Country Ongoing Assistance

Togo continues to experience civil unrest, and travel to that country is considered inappropriate. DHAPP staff members look forward to future interactions and collaboration with the FAT and US Embassy representatives for the continued expansion of early efforts there.



Foreign Military Financing Assistance

Togo was awarded Foreign Military Financing funding for the acquisition of laboratory and medical equipment. This award was allocated for fiscal years 2003 and 2004, and 2003 funding was released for expenditure during FY05. Although still in negotiation, the plan is to use 2003 funding to procure a microscope and CD4 count reagents, in addition to other

supporting diagnostic supplies and reagents. DHAPP is awaiting stability in the country to be able to move forward with this award.

Proposed Future Activities

DHAPP did not receive a proposal for FY07 activities in Togo this year.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP staff members have maintained contact and collaborative interaction with military officials and US Embassy staff in Togo to plan for future activities to expand their established comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention/education program for FAT members in their country. As of this reporting date, no new funding has been sent to Togo.

