



CHAD

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

Chad's estimated population is 10 million people, with an average life expectancy of 47 years. Arabic and French are the official languages of Chad, which has an estimated literacy rate of 48%, unevenly distributed between men and women. Chad's primarily agricultural economy continues to be boosted by major foreign direct investment projects in the oil sector that began in 2000. A consortium led by 2 US companies has been investing \$3.7 billion to develop oil reserves — estimated at 1 billion barrels — in southern Chad. Chinese companies are also expanding exploration efforts and plan to build a refinery. The nation's total oil reserves have been estimated at 1.5 billion barrels. Oil production came on stream in late 2003. Over 80% of Chad's population relies on subsistence farming and livestock for its livelihood. The gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is \$1,600, with 80% of Chadian people living below the poverty level.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

The HIV prevalence rate in Chad's general population is estimated at 3.5%. Chad has approximately 180,000 individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The primary identified risk factor in the population is unprotected heterosexual contact.

Military Statistics

The Chadian National Army (CNA) is estimated at approximately 19,000 members. Chad allocates 4.2% of the GDP for military expenditures. In 2003, with funding from DHAPP, the first HIV surveillance was conducted for the CNA in the capital city, N'Djamena, revealing a prevalence of 5.3%. Another HIV surveillance study is planned for January 2008.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In-Country Ongoing Assistance

The Johns Hopkins Cameroon Program (JHCP) has been providing technical assistance to CNA in the implementation of HIV prevention and surveillance activities.

Foreign Military Financing Assistance

Chad was awarded Foreign Military Financing funding for the acquisition of laboratory equipment, and supporting reagents and supplies related to the diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS. This award was appropriated for fiscal years 2003, 2005, and 2006. Funding for 2003 was released for expenditure in early FY06. To date, funding for the 2003 appropriation has been used to procure HIV rapid test kits.

OUTCOME AND IMPACT

Prevention

During the year, 3,696 troops and family members were reached with comprehensive HIV prevention messages. In total, 422 educational sessions were held to reach the troops and their family members. During these sessions about 22,200 condoms were distributed. Other activities that occurred were the production and distribution of 500 brochures and 500 educational uniforms for peer educators during the comprehensive prevention campaigns.



Care

The protocol for an HIV seroprevalence survey has been approved by local authorities and implementation is planned for January 2008. A total of 1,000 troops will be screened in N'Djamena.

Proposed Future Activities

DHAPP received a proposal from JHCP on behalf of the CNA for activities during FY08. The proposed activities include continued peer education trainings, production and dissemination of an HIV/AIDS prevention manual for military trainers, and administration of a seroprevalence survey for troops in N'Djamena.

