

MADAGASCAR

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

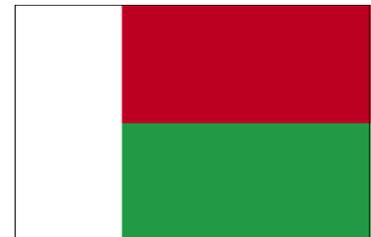
The estimated population of Madagascar is 20 million people, with an average life expectancy of 63 years. French and Malagasy are the official languages of Madagascar, which has an estimated literacy rate of 69%, unevenly distributed between men and women. Agriculture, which includes fishing and forestry, is a mainstay of the economy and accounts for more than one fourth of Madagascar's GDP, and employs 80% of the population. The GDP per capita is \$1,100. Exports of apparel have boomed in recent years primarily due to duty-free access to the United States. Deforestation and erosion, aggravated by the use of firewood as the primary source of fuel, are serious concerns. Poverty reduction and combating corruption will be the centerpieces of economic policy for the next few years.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

The HIV prevalence rate in the general population of Madagascar is estimated at 0.1%, with approximately 13,000 individuals living with HIV/AIDS. Most cases of HIV in Madagascar are spread through multi-partner heterosexual sex.

Military Statistics

The People's Armed Forces of Madagascar (PAFM) has an estimated 21,000 members. Madagascar allocates 1% of the GDP for military expenditures. No HIV/AIDS prevalence data were available for the armed forces.



PROGRAM RESPONSE

In-Country Ongoing Assistance

The PAFM has continued to build a comprehensive HIV program. The PAFM works closely with the US Embassy Security Assistance Office on program coordination.

Foreign Military Financing Assistance

Madagascar 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 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008, with funding for 2005 and 2006 released for expenditure during FY07 and FY09, respectively. To date, funding for 2005 has been used to procure rapid test kits and other basic equipment, and supplies and reagents needed for HIV infection prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. As of April 2009, assistance to Madagascar has been suspended due to the current political/military situation.

OUTCOMES & IMPACTS

The PAFM submitted a proposal for FY08 and received funding. Not all funds were expended during FY08. All activities with Madagascar have been suspended due to the current political/military situation.

