



FY01-FY04

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

THE FIRST FOUR YEARS: A SYNOPSIS OF THE GLOBAL EFFORT

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM
(DHAPP)**

June 2005



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The First Four Years: A Synopsis of the Global Effort

Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP)
June 2005

In response to the increasing devastation and instability in developing countries caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the United States Government augmented its existing HIV/AIDS programs by pioneering the Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE) Initiative, commencing in 1999. At the urging of the White House, the Department of Defense (DoD) committed to participate but limited its scope of activities to prevention programs in sub-Saharan Africa. The uniformed militaries in sub-Saharan Africa face serious health threats, which have an effect on operational readiness and national security due to high rates of HIV infection among their personnel. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD) for African Affairs and the DASD for Clinical and Program Policy subsequently provided policy direction, technical support, and a comprehensive strategy for the DoD portion of the LIFE Initiative. Under the leadership of the Office of the DASD for African Affairs, a plan was conceived to cover 42 African militaries at 5 priority levels. Under this plan, program staff approached Ministers of Defense and their military chiefs with an offer of technical assistance and fiscal support. The US Congress provided \$10 million as part of the Defense Health Program budget to support the DoD Life Initiative for fiscal years 2001 to 2002.

In November 2000, the US Navy was designated as Executive Agent for the DoD LIFE Initiative, with responsibility for program management assigned to the Naval Health Research Center, San Diego, California. During the early stages of the LIFE Initiative, the DoD joined ongoing efforts of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and those managed by allies and the United Nations, to provide uniformed personnel with access to existing HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment programs. By March 2001, the DoD LIFE program had established collaboration with 9 sub-Saharan African militaries in the first 2 priority levels. By December of the same year, that number had increased to 13 countries participating in direct military-to-military engagements, while external contracts were awarded to 7 universities and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to conduct military-specific HIV/AIDS prevention programs in addition to the military-to-military efforts.¹

In calendar year 2001, the LIFE Initiative was renamed the DoD HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP), and continued funding was provided in FY02 through a \$14 million “congressional add-on” to the Defense Health Program. By September 2002, 23 sub-Saharan African countries were engaged with DHAPP through a combination of direct military-to-military and contracted assistance. Key achievements from the early stages of the Program included the following:

- Establishing HIV/AIDS prevention programs in militaries with no prior program;
- Coordinating access of uniformed personnel to existing USAID, CDC, and host country HIV/AIDS programs;
- Providing staff in-country to assist in the development of HIV/AIDS prevention program plans; and
- Providing materials and consultative assistance to develop and implement country-specific behavioral intervention programs.

¹ The reader is referred to Appendix B of this document for a list of universities and NGOs awarded DHAPP funding from FY01 to FY04.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



In FY03, the US Congress appropriated \$7 million for DHAPP and expanded the authorization language to allow cooperation with militaries outside of Africa. By September 2003, the number of countries participating in DHAPP had grown to 32, including initial contacts with Russia, Ukraine, India, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

An additional vehicle for international HIV/AIDS military-to-military assistance, the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) program, became available with a \$1.95 million Congressional appropriation for HIV/AIDS assistance during FY03. The FMF program provides grants and loans to help foreign countries purchase defense-related equipment, services, and military training. The key objectives of this effort were to assist foreign militaries in building needed HIV/AIDS capacity and infrastructure, and whenever possible, to facilitate resource sharing by procuring HIV/AIDS screening and diagnostic equipment and supplies that are comparable and compatible with those in use by the civilian sector. In July 2003, an innovative agreement between the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) and DHAPP established a mechanism to ensure that the FMF funds to support HIV/AIDS screening, diagnosis, and blood bank safety programs in 16 sub-Saharan African militaries were integrated into the overall HIV/AIDS assistance plans for each country. Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with DSCA and representatives from the military medical community in all 16 countries to identify and procure critically needed items using FMF grant funds.

The FY04 congressional add-on to the Defense Health Program for global HIV prevention was \$4.25 million, while the FMF appropriation was \$1.49 million. By September 2004, DHAPP had established HIV/AIDS prevention efforts with militaries in 41 countries around the world, which affected more than 2 million troops. Additional successes of the Program included the following:

- Training of more than 7000 military personnel as peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention,
- Establishment and outfitting of more than 200 Counseling and Testing centers that provided HIV/AIDS screening and counseling services to 58,000 military personnel and their family members,
- Organization and implementation of mass awareness/behavior change communication events and multi-media campaigns, reaching an estimated 15 million people with the HIV/AIDS prevention message,
- Development of the Military International HIV Training Program, an intensive, 4-week, military-specific course that has successfully trained more than 60 practitioners from 21 nations in state-of-the-art protocols for HIV/AIDS diagnosis, care, and treatment, and
- Procurement of critically needed items in 30 countries supported by the Program, to include durable medical equipment and associated supplies/consumables; computer hardware, software, and Internet connectivity; and office and audiovisual equipment and supplies.

The contributions of DHAPP and its military collaborators to the global war on HIV/AIDS have received both national and international publicity through many noteworthy highlighted media presentations. In July 2003, the Public Broadcasting System aired the documentary *AIDS Warriors*, which spotlighted the efforts of DHAPP and contractor Charles R. Drew University in the Angolan military. In September 2003, Voice of America aired a piece that spotlighted African peacekeepers and their role in HIV prevention on the continent, as well as DHAPP's position on the importance of this special population. In January 2004, Voice of America highlighted DHAPP efforts again, this time with the focus on *Phidisa*, the antiretroviral treatment project in the South African National Defence Force. In May 2004, the Boston Globe ran the story "U.S. Assists African Armies in AIDS Battle," which focused on Rwanda and its emerging HIV crisis in the postgenocide military system, as well as the initial efforts of DHAPP and contractors in the Rwandan Defense

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Forces. These and many other media productions have emphasized the national and worldwide positive attention that has been directed to DHAPP efforts and the efforts of its military partners in the host countries, even during the early years of the program.

January 2004 marked the commencement of congressionally allocated funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a 5-year, \$15-billion initiative under direction of the US Department of State Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). PEPFAR is implemented by multiple US Government agencies and is currently focusing on 15 countries (Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guyana, Haiti, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zambia), that account for more than half the estimated 40 million people worldwide infected with HIV.

Beginning in November 2004, the DoD implemented processes for submitting quarterly budgetary and activity reports to OGAC for all HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment programs under its purview. As such, the following pages are intended to provide a synopsis of "pre-PEPFAR" progress and accomplishments made by the DoD LIFE and DHAPP initiatives from FY01 through FY04.



Richard A. Shaffer, Ph.D., MPH
Executive Director
Department of Defense, HIV/AIDS Prevention Program



WORKING TOGETHER

The African Tale is based upon a folktale, long told in Southern African nations, that underscores the power of working together to battle an enemy for the good of the whole group. The story was adopted by the South African National Defence Force as unifying theme for its *Masibambisane* campaign, a Zulu word that means “Let’s cooperate [in the fight against HIV/AIDS].”

This story aptly depicts the strength of the work that has been conducted by DHAPP, its contractors, consultants, international organizations, other United States Government agencies, and militaries of the 35 nations discussed in the pages that follow in battling the spread of HIV/AIDS.



The African Tale

My story is that of great suffering and pain. Many have died from the venom of the monster from the lake. ...

The African Tale begins on this page and continues on the left-hand side of the initial page for each country.

ANGOLA

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BACKGROUND

Angola's population is estimated at 11 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate ranging from 3 to 5% in the general population. Angola's military is estimated to be approximately 110,000, and with HIV prevalence rates ranging from 3 to 11% in 2003. DHAPP first provided assistance to the Angolan military in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2001. Prior to these efforts, Angola had no documented prevention programs targeted at military personnel, and no surveillance infrastructure was in place.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff conducted a preliminary needs assessment with members of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) in December 2000 and followed up 11 months later, at the *All-Africa Congress of Military and Police Medical Services* held in Luanda, Angola. DHAPP provided funding for the FAA HIV/AIDS prevention program manager to visit three American medical institutions in January 2002, to meet and confer with civilian and military HIV/AIDS specialists. DHAPP procured computers, printers, copiers, fax machines, and audiovisual equipment to set up the FAA HIV/AIDS prevention program, and funded the translation of the *HIV/AIDS Handbook for the African Armed Services*, developed by Family Health International, from English to Portuguese. Information in this handbook was used to promote discussions, provide education and training, and dispel common misconceptions regarding the transmission of HIV. DHAPP funded 2 FAA representatives to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*, held in September 2003, in Gaborone, Botswana, where they developed a list of FY04 HIV/AIDS prevention activities for the FAA.

Under a contract by DHAPP, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Los Angeles, expanded previous DHAPP prevention efforts. One of the team's primary efforts was augmenting the number of HIV prevention peer advocates. After modifying the US Marine Corps HIV prevention curriculum to be culturally relevant, representatives from Drew University provided these materials to the Angolan military as a primary source of HIV/AIDS prevention information. The University trained HIV prevention master trainers, who in turn instructed and supervised military HIV peer educators throughout Angola. A Drew University epidemiologist was placed in Angola for 6 months to coordinate HIV prevention efforts. This professional provided on-site training and hands-on experience in counseling and testing (CT), HIV surveillance, epidemiology, and social marketing of public health. HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) surveillance capacity was augmented through improvements in equipment and infrastructure, including installation of teleconferencing equipment and computer hardware and software. Additionally, a mass awareness campaign featuring billboard ads and brochures was developed, promoting HIV/STI prevention with particular emphasis on correct use of condoms.

In October 2003, Angola received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the



Continued from page 5

But [my story] is also one of victory and hope, for in the end we conquered the monster. ...

Continued on page 8



Over 40% of Angola's military personnel have already been reached by DHAPP's prevention efforts.

“THE ANGOLAN MILITARY COMMAND WAS ACCEPTING OF OUR OFFERS TO ADDRESS HIV AND AIDS WITHIN THEIR RANKS AT AN EARLY STAGE, AND FREQUENTLY PROVIDED REMEDIES FOR POTENTIAL BARRIERS.”

**-ERIC G. BING, MD
CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY**

battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for the Angolan military are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funding was used to train 4 FAA physicians in HIV surveillance methods at the University of California Los Angeles, in March 2003, as well as 2 physicians from the FAA at the DHAPP-sponsored *Military International HIV Training Program* in San Diego, California, from 20 June to 19 July 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the period from FY01 through FY04, a total of 10 master trainers and 49 peer educators were trained.

Number of Troops Trained

Approximately 40% (44,419) Angolan troops have been trained in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Counseling and Testing

Thirty workers at 4 CT centers were provided with special training in testing and counseling by an epidemiologist from Drew University.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

A large-scale social marketing campaign was developed, which included billboard ads, media announcements, and brochures, emphasizing HIV/STI prevention and proper use of condoms. Promotional activities featuring popular celebrities and respected community leaders were also used as part of this campaign. More than 50,000 brochures were distributed and over 10,000 prevention posters displayed.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

In October 2003, the Angolan military received an offer from DSCA to receive FMF for HIV screening and diagnostics Enzyme-Linked immunosorbent assay technology, as well as a CD4 counter. Currently, DHAPP is working with DSCA and representatives from the FAA medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds. In addition, as part of the effort to improve laboratory infrastructure and expand HIV diagnosis capabilities, 6000 HIV rapid test kits and



Highlight

The DHAPP-sponsored program developed by Drew University was featured in a 1-hour television special, *AIDS Warriors*, which aired nationally on the Public Broadcasting System in July 2003. Dr. Eric Bing and colleagues have also given several presentations at professional conferences about the Angolan military's *STOP an Epidemic* prevention program, including a presentation at the *XIV International AIDS Conference*, in Barcelona, Spain, in July 2002, and the keynote address at the *San Diego Epidemiology Conference* in May 2003. *The New York Times* also featured an article on the impact of these prevention efforts.



related manuals and materials were supplied to the FAA by Drew University. Training was provided for 4 laboratory technicians. Surveillance capacity was enhanced by installing teleconferencing equipment, providing computer hardware and software, and training of medical staff in the use of new equipment.

SUMMARY

Efforts resulting from DHAPP's assistance continue to affect the FAA. Knowledge and risk-reduction skills have been improved among the troops; prevention, surveillance, and treatment skills have been enhanced among health care specialists; and a program has been developed that the Angolan military can sustain.

“This is the [Angolan] military's new war, symbolized by the soldier depicted in the class manual, his old weapon - a gun - in one hand, and his new weapon - a condom, in the other.

Henri E. Cauvin,
New York Times

BENIN

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
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BACKGROUND

Benin's population is estimated at 7.2 million people, with HIV/AIDS prevalence estimates of approximately 2% in the general population. The Benin Armed Forces (BAF) is composed of approximately 7500 members, and HIV prevalence among these military personnel is estimated at 4 to 5%. When surveyed, 60% of BAF personnel indicated that they felt they were at high risk for HIV infection. DHAPP's collaboration with Benin began in fiscal year 2001, with HIV/AIDS prevention plan development.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In December 2000, DHAPP personnel conducted an in-country assessment and analyzed the BAF HIV prevention plan. Subsequently, DHAPP provided funding to the US Embassy in Cotonou in August 2002 to initiate HIV/AIDS prevention efforts for the BAF. Key elements of the approved program elements for the BAF included awareness raising and promotional activities; research, training, and internships; procurement of laboratory equipment and infrastructure development; and the creation of an HIV/AIDS Information and Prevention Center near BAF Headquarters in Cotonou.

During FY03, DHAPP funds were used to (1) procure desktop computers and other audiovisual equipment to support HIV prevention education program; (2) purchase

an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) machine and reagents, along with on-site training of BAF health workers by US clinicians in HIV testing protocols and operation of the ELISA equipment; (3) sponsor a training session on HIV prevention awareness and education for a group of 300 BAF personnel



who were selected for a peacekeeping mission in Côte d'Ivoire; (4) purchase 4000 boxes of condoms for the peacekeepers and other BAF forces; (5) purchase 2 Land Cruisers to be used for mobile HIV/AIDS prevention efforts at remote bases and camps; (6) renovate a building to be used as a Counseling and Testing (CT) center; and (7) support 3 representatives from the Benin military to attend the September 2003 *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana.

Many years ago, it happened that one day our village was shocked at the death of one of our strongest warriors. ...

DHAPP and the senior officers of the Benin Armed Forces collaborated to build an HIV/AIDS prevention program capable of reaching all troops, even in the most-remote camps.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP sponsored 3 physician coordinators, representing the Benin HIV/AIDS prevention program, to attend the *XIV International AIDS Conference* in Barcelona, Spain in July 2002. While there, DHAPP organized a meeting that allowed African military partners to consult with HIV specialists. Additionally, DHAPP funds sponsored a 10-day training course in Benin for military medical personnel on the topics of HIV counseling and management of confidential information. This course prepared BAF staff for assignment to the DHAPP-supported HIV/AIDS Information and Prevention Center.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the reporting period, a total of 250 BAF peer educators were trained and 33 HIV prevention committees were established to conduct HIV/AIDS education sessions throughout all military regions in Benin.

Number of Troops Trained

To date, the DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS prevention campaign has reached more than 400 senior military personnel and 1500 BAF troops.

Counseling and Testing

One CT center was created, equipped, and fully staffed. Four military nurses were trained in counseling and management. DHAPP funds

were also used to renovate a building to create a professional setting for troops to seek information, voluntary testing for HIV, and counseling about prevention.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

DHAPP funding sponsored 2 public awareness events for the BAF members who were deploying to Côte d'Ivoire. Additionally, 38 public awareness events were conducted in military camps throughout Benin. Mass awareness campaigns stressed the importance of reducing HIV/AIDS transmission risk. DHAPP cooperated with international agencies, such as the US Agency for International Development, on in-country efforts, and played a significant role in the World AIDS Day events in Benin in December 2003.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Laboratory equipment and supplies, including an ELISA machine and reagents, were purchased for the BAF, and laboratory staff were trained in testing and diagnostic procedures.

SUMMARY

HIV/AIDS transmission awareness has increased in the BAF due to the prevention training efforts funded by DHAPP. Laboratories are now equipped for HIV testing, and personnel have been trained in diagnostic CT. Peer educators have been trained to teach prevention courses in military installations throughout Benin. DHAPP has assisted with the development of a sustainable program, working toward the goal of reducing the risk of HIV transmission among the BAF.



Highlight

Mass awareness campaigns became a very strong component of the HIV/AIDS prevention program in Benin. During the reporting period, 38 mass awareness events were conducted on bases throughout Benin and reached thousands of Beninois troops with HIV/AIDS awareness and risk-reduction messages.

BOTSWANA

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BACKGROUND

The population of Botswana is estimated at 1.6 million people, with HIV/AIDS prevalence rates estimated at 39% of the population. Among the 8000 active-duty members of the Botswana Defense Force (BDF), prevalence is estimated at 40%. Botswana has one the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rates in the world, which has resulted in the current life expectancy dropping to lower than 46% of its pre-HIV level. DHAPP began providing assistance to the BDF in fiscal year 2001. Prior to that time, there was no documented HIV testing or surveillance among the BDF, and military prevalence rates were unknown.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff members first visited Botswana in November 2000 to conduct preliminary needs assessments and meet with both military and government health officials. These meetings also included representatives from a joint project between the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the government of Botswana (known as BOTUSA), which targeted HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. Early collaboration led to the establishment of a brigadier general being named the HIV/AIDS policy director in the BDF, as well as the development of a proposed prevention program targeted at reducing the spread of HIV among military personnel.

In May 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to ResourceLinC, Inc., to develop and administer a revised train-the-trainer curriculum that included situational-specific, culturally appropriate HIV prevention methods, psychosocial support for those already HIV infected, and hands-on training on the use of computers and the Internet. Addi-

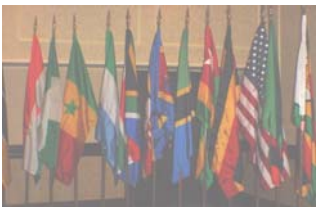
tionally, DHAPP provided funds to the US Embassy in Gaborone to hire an HIV/AIDS coordinator, purchase 9 modular Counseling and Testing (CT) centers, and procure laboratory equipment, computer and audiovisual equipment, and mass awareness supplies for the BDF. DHAPP provided HIV test kits to assist BOTUSA in providing CT services to military personnel, resulting in the testing of more than 300 troops. A variety of social marketing campaigns and mass awareness events, which targeted both military personnel and their communities, also resulted from DHAPP work with the BDF.



DHAPP and BDF co-hosted the highly successful *All-Africa HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in September 2003 in Gaborone, Botswana, with 139 representatives in attendance. Botswana has been selected as a focus county in the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), which was announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. In addition, Botswana has been approved to receive Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable equipment and supplies to bolster its HIV prevention efforts. DHAPP is managing both PEPFAR and FMF funds for the BDF and is serving as adviser to assist Botswana as needed to gain maximum benefit from these programs.

He was in the prime of his life, having fought countless battles and winning them all. He provided well for his family and the rest of the tribe. ...

Botswana has been a strong supporter of HIV/AIDS prevention since DHAPP began working with the BDF by helping fight HIV on an international level.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

Two HIV clinicians from the BDF attended a 4-week *Military International HIV Training Program* in San Diego, California, in 2003. That training focused on areas of study including clinical treatment and management, HIV exposure prophylaxis, the establishment of epidemiological databases and research methodology, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, laboratory diagnostic requirements, and protocols for the care and treatment of HIV-positive people. DHAPP also funded 2 members of the BDF to attend the *XIV International HIV/AIDS Conference* in Barcelona, Spain, in July 2002, and a regional HIV conference in South Africa in October 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

DHAPP has supported training for 55 BDF master trainers and 314 peer educators. These efforts provided the master trainers with tools that enhanced their efficacy, including culturally relevant videotapes, 35-mm slides and audiocassettes, and condom demonstration models, posters, pamphlets, and stickers with appropriate prevention information.

Number of Troops Trained

A total of 1727 BDF troops were trained via classroom, house-to-house, and mass awareness campaigns.



Counseling and Testing

Five CT centers have been opened, one in each military camp. In addition, the BDF and CDC established an agreement to share CT services for testing military personnel for HIV. More than 300 BDF troops were tested by the close of 2004.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

DHAPP sponsored a Family AIDS Day for active-duty BDF personnel and their family members to raise awareness and to help couples communicate openly about sexual issues that affect HIV/AIDS transmission. Other DHAPP-sponsored events included a sports festival, attracting 630 people, to raise awareness and disseminate HIV/AIDS prevention in a nonmilitary context, and the distribution of HIV prevention information during the BDF Anniversary Day, which was attended by 1800 people. DHAPP funding also supported an HIV prevention social marketing campaign coordinated with Population Services International-Botswana. The campaign uses print ads, radio spots, drama troupes, quiz nights, music, dance, and sporting events to spread HIV/AIDS prevention information. Additionally, posters, brochures, bottle openers, comic books, and other promotional items aimed at HIV/AIDS prevention have been developed and distributed to military members.

Highlight

DHAPP and the BDF co-hosted the *All-Africa HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*, from 8 to 12 September 2003, in Gaborone, Botswana. One hundred thirty-nine representatives from African countries attended this highly successful workshop, including 8 representatives from the BDF. The US Ambassador to Botswana and the BDF Commanding General welcomed attendees and emphasized the critical need for continued efforts in HIV prevention, particularly among militaries.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP funds were used to purchase and outfit 9 prefabricated structures to increase CT and laboratory services for the BDF, along with a Land Cruiser vehicle for general HIV prevention program capacity building.

SUMMARY

DHAPP efforts in Botswana have included laboratory infrastructure development, provisions of equipment, varied social marketing campaigns, prevention training programs, extensive CT program development, and training for clinicians. The BDF now has a brigadier general serving as the HIV/AIDS policy director. In addition, testing has been initiated among military personnel, and prevention awareness among military personnel is increasing due to increased exposure to mass awareness and peer education campaigns.

CAMEROON

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BACKGROUND

The population of Cameroon is estimated at 16.1 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.9% in the general population, affecting roughly 560,000 people. The size of the Cameroon Armed Forces (CAF) is estimated at 27,000 active-duty personnel, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 9.8%. DHAPP began collaborating with CAF representatives in 2001, when force wide HIV testing among military personnel had not occurred for at least 5 years.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In August 2001, DHAPP awarded a contract to the Johns Hopkins University Care and Health Program with the goal of significantly reducing the incidence of HIV among uniformed personnel in the CAF, national police, and prison wardens. Specific components of that program included HIV prevention curriculum development, implementation of on-site educational and training programs for service members, establishing a counseling and testing (CT) program, and improved HIV surveillance and treatment. The project began with the determination of seroprevalence rates, as well as collecting knowledge and behavioral data, in representative samples of CAF personnel stationed in all military garrisons.

A peer educator training program was also created, and military units participated in monthly health education meetings and were

given access to HIV/AIDS Information and Prevention Center located in 10 military garrisons nationwide. A media campaign of HIV/AIDS prevention messages was also conducted throughout the military that entailed distribution of pamphlets, brochures, posters, educational aids and guides, and production of a quarterly HIV/AIDS prevention program bulletin.

While these efforts continued, DHAPP funding for Cameroon during 2003 and 2004 was targeted toward the procurement of HIV screening and diagnosis equipment, in addition to training in surveillance and diagnosis. In October 2003, Cameroon received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Cameroon are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.



All the warriors of the region admired his skill with spear and bow. His victories over enemies were praised in song and dance. ...



DHAPP and Cameroon recognize that knowing one's HIV status is a powerful prevention tool, and they work together to establish Counseling and Testing centers staffed by trained counselors.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

MASS AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS, WORKSHOPS, SPORTING EVENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS ARE A FEW OF THE EFFORTS LAUNCHED BY THE CAF TO SENSITIZE TROOPS AND THE CIVILIAN POPULATION TO THE HIV/AIDS CRISIS.

Clinical Provider Training

A Fogarty International Center HIV training grant provided support for a Cameroonian family practice physician in a fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland. This training resulted in the transfer of knowledge and skills in HIV/AIDS diagnosis, care, and treatment to a cadre of 48 medical personnel at CAF medical facilities throughout the country.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the reporting period, the DHAPP-sponsored program trained 951 CAF members as peer educators and initiated regular health education meetings for those educators.

Number of Troops Trained

Training was provided to members of the military, police, and prison wardens, with a total of 35,450 personnel trained.

Counseling and Testing

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 6 CT centers were opened and 51 CT counselors were trained. These centers, each within close proximity of CAF hospitals in military regions, provide information, CT rooms, TV, VCR, educational tapes, HIV prevention pamphlets, and posters from a variety of sources. A counselor and a laboratory technician permanently staff each center, and additional counselors provide services on a part-time rotation.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

During 2003, DHAPP supported multiple mass awareness events to include a soccer match, sensitization campaign in Koutaba, HIV presentations at various workshops, and distribution of educational materials during Cameroon National AIDS Week. These materials reached numerous civilian communities in addition to CAF members. Additional funding was provided to the Johns Hopkins University in 2004 to conduct a mass awareness education campaign specifically targeted at CAF personnel. This multifaceted campaign involved the distribution of pamphlets, posters, bulletins, and other materials to spread the message of HIV prevention; reaching virtually all 27,000 active-duty members of the CAF.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with DSCA and representatives from the CAF medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory



capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds. In addition, laboratory capabilities have been integrated into the CT centers. Six laboratory technicians have been trained, and one serves as permanent staff for each CT center.

SUMMARY

The DHAPP-sponsored CAF prevention program provided training in HIV/AIDS prevention to the military, police, and prison wardens under contract to the Johns Hopkins University. That effort not only led to an HIV/AIDS prevention program tailored to the needs of the uniformed services population, but assisted Cameroon in the development of critically needed infrastructure. Six CT centers were opened and equipped with integrated laboratory capacity, and staff were trained to provide CT and diagnostic services. A multifaceted mass awareness campaign was developed to increase awareness of HIV risk and to educate military personnel and their communities about prevention. The Cameroon Ministry of Defense has committed to continuing this program of prevention.

Highlight

Prior to the implementation of this program, HIV testing among military personnel had been lacking for over 5 years. Through DHAPP funding, epidemiologists from the Johns Hopkins University conducted a prevalence study among representative samples of CAF personnel. This led to a realistic depiction of HIV risk among military personnel in Cameroon, indicating a nearly 10% prevalence rate, and provided a baseline for subsequent prevention efforts in the program.

CHAD

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

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

*And he was
the favorite
with young
women in the
village.
And then, one
night, he died
in his sleep. ...*

BACKGROUND

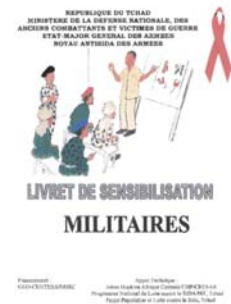
The population of Chad is estimated at 9.5 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 4% in the general population. Currently, there are no reliable estimates for the size of military forces in Chad, but it is believed that the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS among the Chadian Armed Forces (CAF) is equivalent to that of the general population. DHAPP's involvement in Chad began in fiscal year 2003 as part of an effort to develop HIV/AIDS prevention programs in militaries of 4 Central African countries.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In January 2003, DHAPP awarded a contract to the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, to develop and implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in 4 Central African nations, including Chad. The main elements of this program include increasing HIV/AIDS surveillance capacity and infrastructure development, establishing a comprehensive primary prevention program, and developing a peer education program through the use of a train-the-trainer approach.

The initial phase of this endeavor involved conducting a knowledge, attitudes, practices, and behavior survey, along with

a serological survey, to more accurately determine rates of HIV infection in military personnel. In addition, clinical personnel were trained to provide syndromic management for CAF personnel diagnosed with HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and to facilitate medical care for AIDS patients. A culturally specific program targeting military personnel and focusing on risk reduction was developed, and peer educators were trained to teach prevention classes. Using funding from DHAPP, Johns Hopkins also established a Counseling and Testing (CT) center, obtained HIV test kits, and trained counselors to staff the CT center.



In October 2003, Chad received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Chad are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

DHAPP and Johns Hopkins University have partnered to launch HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Chad and Central African Region countries.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT

COUNSELING AND TESTING ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE CAF DUE TO DHAPP SUPPORT THROUGH CONTRACTS WITH JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

Clinical Provider Training

Twenty-five CAF medical personnel received training in behavior change communication.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the reporting period, 100 active-duty military peer educators and 40 family members of CAF personnel received peer educator training.

Number of Troops Trained

To date, more than 1200 CAF troops have been trained in HIV prevention.

Counseling and Testing

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 1 CT center was opened and 25 medical service members received counselor training. To date, the CT center has screened more than 1000 blood samples for HIV.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Under contract to DHAPP, the Johns Hopkins University produced and distributed 15,000 HIV/AIDS prevention brochures to active-duty CAF personnel, their family members, and people in areas surrounding military installations.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP staff members are currently working with representatives from the CAF military medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds. In addition, testing capabilities were enhanced through the establishment and outfitting of the CT center.



SUMMARY

The DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS prevention program in Chad has resulted in the training of 140 peer educators, 25 CT personnel, distribution of 15,000 HIV/AIDS prevention brochures, and screening of active-duty CAF members for presence of HIV and other STIs.

Highlight

Prior to DHAPP's involvement with HIV/AIDS prevention in Chad, military personnel serving in the CAF were not routinely tested for HIV and there were no accurate estimates of HIV prevalence among military personnel. Although the program is still in its early stages, a fully functioning CT center has been developed and staffed, and more than 1000 military members now have been tested.

Knowing one's HIV status is a powerful prevention tool. DHAPP, Johns Hopkins, and leaders of the CAF are committed to testing for HIV.

CONGO BRAZZAVILLE

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

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

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He was not the last, for soon it was noticed that other warriors were getting sick and weak. Their wives were to follow. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of the Republic of Congo is estimated at 3 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 7% in the general population. While there are no reliable estimates for the current size of the Congolese Armed Forces (FAC), the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate among military personnel is estimated at 4%. DHAPP involvement in Congo began in fiscal year 2003 as part of an effort to develop HIV/AIDS prevention programs in militaries of 4 Central African countries.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In early 2003, DHAPP funded an initiative to begin planning and implementing HIV/AIDS prevention activities in the FAC by purchasing computers, a scanner, and a copier to enable the FAC to initiate and manage its program. During the same period, the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, received a contract from DHAPP to implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in 4 Central African nations, including Congo. Among the program's primary goals were to enhance surveillance and testing capabilities and to develop a peer-based prevention training program.

By the end of 2003, Johns Hopkins had conducted 2 knowledge, attitudes, practices, and behavior surveys, along with a serological survey of Congolese military

forces. In addition, 100 medical personnel were trained to provide syndromic management for FAC personnel diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and to facilitate medical care of AIDS patients. A counseling and testing (CT) center was established and staffed with a group of 100 counselors who were also trained by Johns Hopkins.



Under DHAPP sponsorship, Johns Hopkins developed a comprehensive peer education campaign, which included a multi-media-equipped HIV/AIDS Information and Prevention Center in the capital city of Brazzaville. Specifically, Johns Hopkins trained peer educators to describe, model, and encourage HIV preventive behaviors, as well as promote protective and appropriate treatment of service members with HIV. Another important part of the Johns Hopkins program was the development and distribution of extensive behavior change communication (BCC) media, including pamphlets, brochures, and posters with culturally appropriate prevention messages, and condom demonstration models.

Johns Hopkins University is a vital DHAPP partner in the Congo, providing training to 100 medical personnel in syndromic management of HIV-positive personnel and caring for AIDS patients.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT

BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION IS A VITAL PART OF HIV PREVENTION EFFORTS AMONG THE CONGOLESE ARMED FORCES.

Clinical Provider Training

Twenty-five FAC medical personnel received BCC training.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

DHAPP support provided training to 109 active-duty FAC personnel and 44 family members as peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

With DHAPP support, the cadre of peer educators conducted 375 training sessions for more than 12,000 FAC troops.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP funds were used to establish and outfit a CT center for active-duty FAC personnel and their family members. Additionally, 26 medical service members received counselor training, and more than 1000 FAC blood samples have been screened for HIV at the CT center.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Under DHAPP sponsorship, Johns Hopkins produced and distributed 15,000 HIV/AIDS prevention brochures to FAC personnel, their dependents, and members of the communities surrounding military installations.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP purchased blood-screening equipment, including microscopes and related materials, for 9 military clinics and hospitals.

SUMMARY

The DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS prevention project in the Republic of Congo represents an example of accomplishing remarkable surveillance and training improvements during a very short period of time. As a result of this program, military CT abilities have been enhanced, mass awareness activities have been developed and distributed, and a peer educator program has been initiated. Collectively, these efforts have provided the foundation for building effective and sustainable HIV/AIDS prevention programs for the FAC.



LE VIOL EST UN CRIME QUI NOUS EXPOSE AUX INFECTIONS SEXUELLEMENT TRANSMISSIBLES ET AU VIH/SIDA



Highlight

Since the inception of DHAPP-sponsored activities in FY03, peer educators have conducted nearly 400 training sessions reaching more than 12,000 FAC troops. This effort provides an example of swift development and implementation of an effective HIV/AIDS prevention program with an education and training component that is locally sustainable.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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

And the children that were born of the sick warriors were afraid. Many of the children died before they were strong enough to lift a spear. ...

BACKGROUND

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DROC) has a population estimated at 56.6 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence of rate of 4.2% in the general population. The military of the Democratic Republic of Congo, called the Congolese Armed Forces (FAC), is estimated at 1 million troops. Because the FAC has not performed force wide testing of its personnel there are no reliable data concerning HIV prevalence rates, but it is believed to exceed that of the general population. DHAPP first began discussions on HIV/AIDS prevention with DROC in late 2001.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff visited DROC in May 2002 for the purpose of pilot-testing a proposed *HIV and Peacekeeping Forces Field Manual* with military personnel stationed in DROC. In general, the training manual received a favorable evaluation by a focus group consisting of 15 military personnel representing 11 peacekeeping nations. During this time period, DHAPP staff met with coordinators of the FAC HIV prevention program for the FAC to discuss activities for future funding.

In November 2001, DHAPP awarded a contract to the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, to develop a peer education program emphasizing safer sex practices and proper condom use. Al-

though UNC planned to conduct an HIV surveillance survey among active-duty FAC members, deficiencies in the basic health care system for the FAC made it impossible to carry out the proposed program. With the concurrence of the Congolese military, the UNC project shifted direction toward a general support of the health care system in 2 principal FAC installations. As a result of this effort, 2 military health centers were refurbished and provided with basic HIV testing equipment and supplies. In addition, 8 medical personnel from the 2 health centers were provided with training in syndromic management of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This redirection of the contract was considered appropriate due to practical concerns and helped to strengthen the infrastructure for the FAC health care system.

In fiscal year 2004, DHAPP funds supported FAC medical personnel to attend *AFNET: AIDS in the Military* conference and also to send a DROC representative to the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003.



DHAPP and members of the Democratic Republic of Congo collaborated to evaluate HIV prevention training materials for the United Nations.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 16 medical personnel completed courses and apprenticeships in syndromic management of STIs at the Kinshasa reference clinic for sexually transmitted diseases.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Because the primary focus of the UNC program concerned syndromic management and improving the health care and treatment infrastructure for the FAC, training of master and peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention was not conducted.

Number of Troops Trained

Providing troops with adequate medical centers took priority over prevention training in the DHAPP-sponsored activities conducted to date for the Congolese military.

Counseling and Testing

Because the UNC program focused on refurbishing military health centers for the FAC, no counseling and testing centers were developed or staffed during this reporting period.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

While mass awareness campaigns were planned in the initial prevention program, the shift in focus to the expansion of quality military health centers took priority during the reporting period.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Under DHAPP sponsorship, UNC refurbished and enhanced the capabilities of 2 military health clinics, providing basic equipment and medications to enable syndromic management of STI/HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other infectious diseases for FAC members.



SUMMARY

The DHAPP-sponsored work by UNC Chapel Hill is a clear example of redirecting the focus of an HIV/AIDS program to suit the needs of the country it serves. While the original program plan called for the training of peer educators and an HIV surveillance survey, researchers found the need to strengthen the health care system a greater priority in the battle against HIV/AIDS for FAC members. This redirection led to improvements that will assist in reducing HIV/AIDS/STIs and malaria among DROC military personnel. DROC has subsequently submitted a proposal to DHAPP requesting future funding to establish a blood bank safety program.

Highlight

In order to meet basic health needs of military personnel, 2 military health centers were refurbished and provided with basic equipment and supplies. In addition, 8 medical personnel from the 2 health centers were provided with training in syndromic management of STIs.

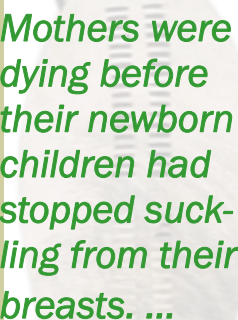
DJIBOUTI

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



Mothers were dying before their newborn children had stopped suckling from their breasts. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Djibouti is estimated at 467,000 people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 2.9% in the general population. Currently, there are no reliable estimates for the size of military forces in Djibouti and because there has been no forcewide testing program, HIV seroprevalence rates are unavailable for the Djiboutian military population. DHAPP's involvement in HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Djibouti began in 2003.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In September 2003, DHAPP funds were used to support 3 representatives from the Djibouti National Army to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana. By December of that year, DHAPP staff members had conducted a site visit in which they met with members of the Djiboutian military, US Embassy staff, and representatives from the US Central Command, Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa to discuss plans for establishing HIV prevention efforts in Djibouti National Army. In early 2004, DHAPP provided funding to Djibouti to implement an HIV prevalence surveillance program, support the development of mass awareness campaigns, develop Counseling and Testing (CT) centers, establish a work environment hygiene program, and enhance laboratory infrastruc-

ture and training. This work is ongoing and still in its early stages.

By the close of fiscal year 2004, plans were developed for conducting the seroprevalence survey, including contracting for its management, and developing its implementation strategies. Additionally, DHAPP sent a logistician to Djibouti to assist in the procurement of office equipment and supplies and outfitting a clinical laboratory; those items were transferred to the Djibouti National Army during an official donation ceremony in August 2004.



In October 2003, Djibouti received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Djibouti are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

DHAPP responded to significant needs for laboratory equipment and supplies and other infrastructure support to establish a viable HIV/AIDS prevention effort in the Djiboutian military.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT



campaigns for the Djiboutian military are in the early formative stages and have not yet been implemented.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure
 Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with representatives from the Djiboutian military medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds. As part of FY04 efforts, DHAPP funds were used to procure durable medical equipment and supplies and to provide technical assistance in renovating a building to serve as an HIV screening laboratory for members of the Djibouti National Army. Future plans include infrastructure strengthening and training of laboratory technicians to staff this facility.



Clinical Provider Training

While clinical provider training is expected to be integrated into the Djiboutian military's HIV/AIDS prevention program, it has not yet been implemented.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

At present peer training has not been established for this element of the Djibouti National Army HIV/AIDS prevention program.

Number of Troops Trained

Thus far, no Djiboutian military personnel have been trained in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Counseling and Testing

Plans are moving forward to establish CT capability using DHAPP funds.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Culturally specific mass awareness

SUMMARY

DHAPP's role in assisting the Djiboutian military in its battle against HIV/AIDS is still in its early stages. Nevertheless, critically needed equipment and supplies have already been procured, and a facility renovated to support testing of blood samples in a planned HIV seroprevalence survey. Efforts to establish CT centers, mass awareness campaigns, and training are anticipated to expand during the



next fiscal year.

Highlight

In August 2004, Djiboutian military members loaded supplies and equipment procured with DHAPP funding into a newly renovated laboratory, and soon thereafter attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony with members of the military and US Embassy, as well as DHAPP staff. This marked the first step in the development of a sustainable program of surveillance, CT, and primary prevention in the Djibouti National Army.



ERITREA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
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SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

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It was not only in my village that the people were getting sick and dying. But the same was happening all through the land. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Eritrea is estimated at 4.5 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 5% in the general population. The size of the Eritrean Defense Force (EDF) is estimated at 300,000 active-duty personnel with an estimated HIV prevalence rate equivalent to that of the general population. DHAPP initiated contact with Eritrea in early 2001, and joint efforts have continued since then in the battle against HIV/AIDS in the EDF.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In February 2001, DHAPP staff participated in the *Working Group for the Development of a Comprehensive HIV Prevention Package for the Uniformed Services of Africa*, held in Accra, Ghana, where they met with EDF members to discuss and refine the HIV prevention plan. Subsequently, DHAPP provided funding to the US Embassy in Asmara to procure laptop and desktop computers, Internet access, and basic computer training for EDF personnel who are directly involved in the HIV/AIDS prevention program.

In August 2001, DHAPP awarded a contract to Population Services International (PSI/Eritrea), key elements of which included the development of a military-focused Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign, greater access to condoms for military personnel, and leadership capacity

building for coordinators of the HIV/AIDS prevention program to ensure sustainability. A significant component of the IEC campaign was the use of culturally relevant feature films that were shown to EDF personnel via mobile video units (MVUs) at garrisons throughout the country. In addition, the print media was extensively used in the IEC campaign and included the production and distribution of HIV/AIDS prevention brochures, articles in newspapers and other periodicals, and advertisements in a military publication. To complement their social marketing campaign, PSI-Eritrea and EDF also trained peer educators from each battalion to conduct HIV/AIDS prevention workshops.

Under DHAPP sponsorship, Counseling and Testing (CT) centers were established, outfitted with basic equipment and supplies, and staffed with trained counselors. Marketing efforts conducted by PSI among EDF personnel created demand for the CT centers, with testing levels reaching 800 military members per month.

In October 2003, Eritrea received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Eritrea are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.



More than 300,000 troops and recruits received HIV/ADS prevention materials in Eritrea.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

With support from DHAPP consultants, all EDF nurses, nurse assistants, and paramedics received training on universal precautions against HIV/AIDS in occupational settings.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the reporting period, DHAPP sponsored training for 120 HIV prevention master trainers and 430 HIV peer educators. In addition, PSI-Eritrea continued to utilize the previously trained staff and enhanced its capability by training 10 performers for drama troupe presentations.

Number of Troops Trained

More than 300,000 troops and recruits were reached by prevention information materials, and over 48,000 have been trained in HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infection prevention through interactive presentations.

Counseling and Testing

Four CT centers were established and eight counselors have been trained. Demand for CT services increased substantially following HIV awareness campaigns, with approximately 800 members of the EDF screened each month.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

PSI-Eritrea conducted 150 MVU

presentations, 59 HIV/AIDS music and dance shows, distributed 17,000 HIV/AIDS brochures in 3 languages, dispensed 5 million condoms, and distributed 30,000 condom pouches. Condom sales increased by 22%, and condom outlets increased by more than three times their number prior to the program period.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with representatives from the EDF medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds. In addition, a DHAPP logistician procured and arranged for installation and networking of 4 desktop computers to a wireless local area network at the Ministry of Defense Health Services Unit, Asmara, Eritrea, in December 2002. Four laboratory technicians were trained to operate enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay equipment during a DHAPP-sponsored visit of US Air Force and University of California San Diego medical personnel to Eritrea in November 2002.

Highlight

As part of a DHAPP-sponsored prevention program, PSI-Eritrea utilized MVUs and developed the HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness films, *Faces of AIDS* and *Off Guard*, targeted at EDF personnel. These programs represent a highly successful and innovative way of reaching military personnel with HIV/AIDS prevention messages. As part of the same campaign, music, drama presentations, and other health communication tools were employed. An impressive 22% increase in condom sales among military members might be attributed in part to the success of these programs.



SUMMARY

Key accomplishments of the DHAPP-supported program for the EDF included a strong social marketing campaign, the development and staffing of CT centers, equipment provision, and laboratory training. The ability of the MVUs to reach troops with media presentations in remote bases and camps, together with condom distribution and a peer education program were all parts of the highly successful HIV/AIDS prevention program for the EDF. DHAPP efforts for the EDF are expected to continue with FMF grant funds to procure much-needed durable medical equipment and supplies.



ETHIOPIA

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

It was a terrible time. And the earth was wet with tears for those who were sick and dying. ...

BACKGROUND

Ethiopia's population is estimated at 68 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 6% in the general population. Ethiopia's military, the Ethiopian National Defense Force (NDFE) has troop strength of approximately 250,000, with HIV/AIDS prevalence estimated at 7%. DHAPP began working with NDFE to plan and implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in 2001.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In November 2001, DHAPP awarded the Johns Hopkins University a contract to develop and implement a counseling and testing (CT) program in 3 Ethiopian military hospitals. Specifically, Johns Hopkins trained 5 Ethiopian military members as CT instructors, while 90 EDF health care workers were trained to provide CT services throughout the military forces. As a result of this program, over 5% of active-duty NDFE personnel stationed in the vicinity of Addis Ababa were screened for HIV. In June 2002, Johns Hopkins received additional funding from DHAPP to train a nurse coordinator, a lab technician, and 2 counselors at each CT site. This expansion of the Johns Hopkins effort also included the development of program manuals and a training curriculum for CT practitioners. The training curriculum, which was well received by participants, included a 10-day classroom training period followed by a 2-week supervision period for CT staff.

Physician training was also a critical part of the DHAPP-sponsored prevention program. To that end, DHAPP funded 2 infectious disease specialists from the Naval Medical Center San Diego, and University of California San Diego, to conduct a 3-month mini-residency training program with NDFE physicians in Addis Ababa. In addition, 6 NDFE physicians received training through a study tour to the *Royal Thai Army's Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences*, in Bangkok, Thailand, 2 NDFE physicians attended the *XIV International AIDS Conference* in Barcelona, Spain, in July 2002, and 3 NDFE physicians traveled to San Diego in January 2003 to participate in the 4-week *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP). DHAPP funds were also used to procure critically needed medical equipment, supplies, and software for CT and laboratory expansion, and to equip the 3 CT centers with counseling rooms, laboratories, classrooms, a document reproduction station, and an educational materials reference room.

Ethiopia has been selected as a focus county in the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. In addition, Ethiopia has been approved to receive Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable equipment and supplies to bolster its HIV prevention efforts. DHAPP is managing both PEPFAR and FMF funds for the NDFE and is serving

More than 25,000 troops and their families have attended seminars and drama presentations on HIV/AIDS prevention sponsored by DHAPP.





as advisor to assist Ethiopia as needed to gain maximum benefit from these programs.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded a variety of programs to enhance the HIV/AIDS management skills of NDFE physicians as follows: 6 NDFE physicians were sent to receive training from the *Study Tour to Royal Thai Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences*, 2 NDFE physicians attended the *XIV International AIDS Conference*, and 3 NDFE physicians completed the MIHTP.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 24 master trainers and 198 peer educators in the NDFE were trained to conduct HIV/AIDS prevention education sessions.

Number of Troops Trained

Peer educators have trained 6554 troops, and more than 25,000 military members and their families have attended seminars and drama shows presenting HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention information.

Counseling and Testing

Three CT centers were opened at Armed Forces General, Bella, and Air Force hospitals. DHAPP funding prepared a cadre of 5 NDFE personnel to serve as master CT instructors, resulting in the training of 100 additional CT counselors. To date, CT staff at the 3 centers have screened and counseled nearly 3000 troops for HIV.



Mass Awareness Campaigns

DHAPP supported the creation of a drama troupe that presented 12 shows viewed by approximately 25,000 troops and their families. Drama troupes and billboards continue to spread HIV/AIDS prevention messages.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with representatives from the NDFE medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds.

Highlight

One of the most self-sustaining components of this program was the development of a CT curriculum that was designed to be taught by in-country instructors. This curriculum provides classroom training and a supervised period for each counselor. The program has been well received by participants and was designed to continue training and maintaining a cadre of qualified CT personnel.



In addition, DHAPP funded training for 20 laboratory technicians to perform rapid screening tests for HIV and the purchase of a freezer for storage of blood samples.

SUMMARY

From 2001 through 2004, DHAPP staff and contractors worked diligently to improve the HIV/AIDS prevention efforts among members of the NDFE. The program had an intensive training component with the development of a military-focused CT curriculum, laboratory training, peer educator training, and physician training in multiple locations. In addition to the focus on training, DHAPP also provided equipment, supplies, and software to enhance CT and surveillance abilities, and supported the establishment of 3 CT centers. As part of the mass awareness component of this prevention plan, DHAPP funded the work of drama troupes and billboards as a method of disseminating HIV/AIDS prevention messages to NDFE personnel and their families.

GABON

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

The wise men of the council were called together for an Indaba. For many days and nights they sat around the fire to discuss the curse that was terrorizing the villages. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Gabon is estimated at 1.4 million people, with HIV/AIDS prevalence rate estimated at 8% in the general population. There is no reliable estimate available for the size of Gabon's military, and since Gabon has not conducted force-wide testing of its military personnel, there are no reliable data regarding that population's HIV prevalence rate. DHAPP began assisting Gabon in developing its HIV/AIDS prevention program in January 2003, and its efforts are ongoing.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In January 2003, DHAPP provided funding for production of HIV/AIDS prevention education and awareness campaign materials for the Gabonese military and later that same month awarded a contract to the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, to develop and implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in Gabon. As part of that program, Johns Hopkins conducted 2 knowledge, attitudes, practices, and behavior surveys along with a serological survey involving a representative sample of active-duty Gabonese military personnel. Additionally, Johns Hopkins trained medical personnel to provide syndromic management for military members diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and to facilitate medical care of AIDS patients in the target population. Under DHAPP sponsorship, Johns Hopkins opened a Counseling and Testing

(CT) center in an existing Gabonese military medical facility, and trained counselors to staff that center.

The development of a comprehensive peer education campaign was a central part of the DHAPP-sponsored prevention program, which included an STI/HIV/AIDS information center in Libreville. Extensive behavior change communication (BCC) media, including pamphlets, brochures, and posters with culturally appropriate prevention messages, and condom demonstration models were provided. A cadre of 155 peer educators were

trained to describe, demonstrate, and encourage HIV preventive behaviors as well as promote protective and appropriate treatment of Gabonese military personnel already infected with HIV. DHAPP funds were provided for 2 Gabonese military representatives to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003, where they worked on developing a list of additional HIV prevention needs.

In October 2003, Gabon received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for For-



DHAPP-sponsored training has prepared 155 peer educators, including 100 Gabonese military and 55 family members.



eight Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for the Gabonese military are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

To date, 25 Gabonese military medical service personnel have received training in STI and HIV/AIDS patient care.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

As part of the BCC program, 100 active-duty service members and 55 family members have received peer educator training in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

While 155 people received peer educator training in a program focused on encouraging preventive behaviors and reducing risk, no data are currently available on the number of Gabonese military troops trained thus far.

Counseling and Testing

A CT center was created, and 27 medical service members received

counselor training. To date, over 1000 blood samples from members of the Gabonese military have been screened for HIV.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

An initial 15,000 brochures were produced and distributed throughout the country to expand the reach of a primary prevention message to all Gabonese military personnel and their families.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with representatives from the Gabonese military medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds.

Highlight

As part of a DHAPP-funded program, capabilities for HIV screening of military personnel were put into place in less than 1 year, including the training of CT personnel, peer educators, and patient care personnel. This provides an excellent example of a swift implementation of foundational activities into an HIV/AIDS prevention program targeting active-duty Gabonese military personnel.



SUMMARY

To date, DHAPP-sponsored activities in Gabon have improved the CT abilities of Gabonese military personnel, trained a cadre of peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention, and led to the development of a multi-faceted media campaign targeted at reducing HIV transmission risk. With DHAPP help, this foundational work in Gabon is expected to continue with the development of additional prevention activities, and continued development of CT capabilities for the Gabonese military.

DHAPP continues to work with the Gabonese military to expand HIV diagnosis and treatment capacity.

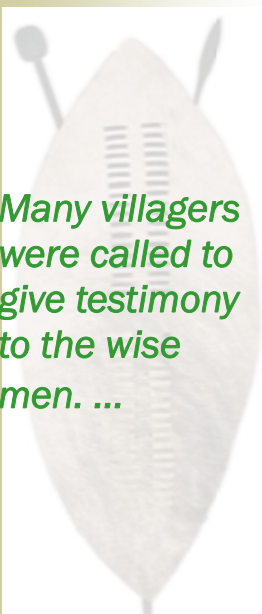
GHANA

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



Many villagers
were called to
give testimony
to the wise
men. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Ghana is estimated at 20.8 million people, with HIV/AIDS prevalence rate estimated of 2.8% in the general population. The Ghana Armed Forces (GAF), which consists of approximately 18,000 troops, has a significantly higher HIV prevalence of 6.7%. DHAPP's initial contact with representatives in Ghana took place in 2001; subsequent discussions were held in 2002 with the GAF project manager for the AIDS Control Program and the project manager of the Ghana Police Service (GPS).

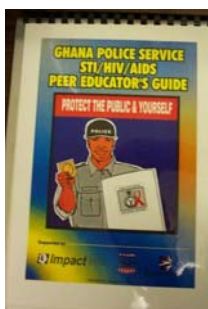
PROGRAM RESPONSE

The GAF created an AIDS Control Program in 1987, and began developing a counseling and testing (CT) infrastructure and prevention program. Several limitations were noted at the time of Ghana's request for DHAPP funding in June 2001. Chief among these were mobility issues, data management problems, and funding for outfitting CT centers with HIV test kits and medications for treatment of opportunistic infections that often accompany active HIV infection. Fiscal year 2001 requests for DHAPP support focused on building infrastructure to support the ongoing AIDS Control Program. To that end, DHAPP provided funding for regional travel, purchase of computer and audiovisual equipment, locally based training, and general office support. GAF efforts to expand its AIDS

Control Program slowed after DHAPP provided funding for travel and for training- and office-related equipment. In June 2002, a funding request was received from the Ghana Police Service, to which significant DHAPP resources were obligated; hence, all outcome and impact indicators (below) are related to the GPS HIV/AIDS prevention program.

In August 2002, DHAPP provided funding to the GPS AIDS Control Program to increase the number and distribution of peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention at regional police centers throughout the country, promote safer sex practices through condom use, and to facilitate local management of the project. Additionally, a GPS representative was sponsored to attend and give a presentation at the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003.

In October 2003, Ghana received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for GAF are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.



DHAPP supported training for 685 peer educators as part of the HIV prevention efforts in Ghana.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

Clinical provider training was not included as part of the HIV/AIDS prevention program plan submitted by the GPS.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Candidates for peer education training were selected from all GPS administrative regions. Those selected were provided training in health education, promotion of CT and condom use, and prevention media distribution. With DHAPP support, the number of GPS peer educators increased 61% (from 425 to 685), with 260 police officers trained as HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infection peer educators at 20 different locations throughout the country. An innovative part of the training materials developed for GPS peer educators was a flip chart that was designed to elucidate the audience's knowledge about symptoms of HIV, associated risk factors, and prevention methods. This and other training aids/social marketing materials developed by the GPS have been adopted for use in more than a dozen sub-Saharan Africa countries HIV/AIDS education programs.

Number of Troops Trained

The new peer educators provided training sessions throughout the police force, but exact numbers of GPS personnel reached during those training sessions were not recorded.

Counseling and Testing

Although the establishment of CT centers was not included in the GPS HIV/AIDS prevention plan; peer educators promoted the use of CT centers during their training sessions. This resulted in a marked increase in the number of police officers who were willing to seek CT for screening of HIV than was reported during a baseline survey of GPS personnel in 1999.



Mass Awareness Campaigns

The Ghana Police Service created 6000 condom wallets that are worn as a distinguishing feature on the uniform belts. HIV/AIDS peer educators are also equipped with clearly marked and easily recognizable tote bags. Attractive stickers, brochures, and public billboards with messages on HIV and condoms augment these marketing efforts. GPS produced and disseminated a large number of HIV prevention materi-

Highlight

The DHAPP-sponsored prevention program for GPS led to the development of a condom wallet that was integrated into the official police uniform. The condom wallet and peer educator flip chart have since been widely replicated prevention products in more than a dozen DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS prevention programs for foreign militaries.



als, including posters, stickers, brochures, key rings, and condom wallets for all uniforms.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Currently, DHAPP staff members are working with representatives from the GAF medical community to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds.

SUMMARY

By the end of 2002, the DHAPP-sponsored peer education program developed by the GPS led to increased condom usage, increased acceptance and patronage of CT centers, and a decrease in casual sex among program participants. At present, the social marketing component of this prevention program continues to reach members of the GPS, and the CT centers continue to be utilized. In addition to DHAPP's work with the GPS, efforts in the GAF began with small efforts in equipment procurement, and will be continued in future collaboration.

GUINEA

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

Finally, the oldest and the wisest of all called together the people of the land. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Guinea is estimated at 9.2 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 3% in the general population. There are no reliable estimates on the size of Guinean Armed Forces (GAF). The GAF has not performed forcewide testing and military HIV prevalence rates are not available; however, a 2001 US Agency for International Development (USAID) study found a prevalence of 6.6% in a sample of military personnel. DHAPP began working with the GAF in 2003.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In November 2003, DHAPP provided funds to Population Services International (PSI) to conduct knowledge, attitudes, practices, and behavior (KAPB) surveys among the GAF. The survey was completed and used in the development of the prevention program. Assistance was also provided in the development of an official policy document for issues related to HIV/AIDS in the GAF.

DHAPP supported the development and facilitation of an HIV/AIDS prevention "road show" and peer education campaign to reach troops at all levels of the GAF. This funding included support for peer educators, computer and audiovisual equipment, and travel and facility

costs to develop the HIV/AIDS program. Technical assistance and planning were provided for a Counseling and Testing (CT) center, as well as for laboratory improvements.

Military and medical personnel from Guinea were also sponsored by DHAPP to visit Ghana, Togo, and Sierra Leone to learn about the HIV prevention projects in these countries and get ideas on how the Guinea HIV prevention program should be structured.



The training of peer educators has been a critical component of the GAF HIV prevention program.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL FROM GUINEA VISITED OTHER COUNTRIES WITH DHAPP-SPONSORED HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMS AS PART OF THEIR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

Clinical Provider Training

There was no specific clinical provider training at this developmental stage.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

By the end of fiscal year 2004, 28 master trainers and 110 peer educators from the GAF were trained to provide HIV prevention education.

Number of Troops Trained

Although peer educators were actively training military personnel at the end of FY04, no data are available regarding the number of GAF troops reached with the HIV/AIDS prevention message.

Counseling and Testing

The design of the CT center was completed during this time, and technical assistance was provided with plans for initiating construction in FY05.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Promotional behavior change communication materials are currently in development to promote reductions in risky behaviors.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Technical assistance was provided for planning improvements and expanding laboratory infrastructure in the GAF, but no equipment was provided during this reporting period.

SUMMARY

Prior to these DHAPP-sponsored efforts there was no official policy on HIV/AIDS for the GAF. As a foundational part of this project, guidance was provided to develop and submit an official policy that would be a legal document delineating regulations for issues such as testing, prevention, and handling of HIV infection status among military personnel in Guinea.

INFECTIONS SEXUELLEMENT TRANSMISSIBLES "IST"

Pourquoi les IST favorisent elles la transmission du virus du SIDA ?

Les Infections Sexuellement Transmissibles ou les IST (comme la syphilis, le chancro mou ou la blennorrhagie, etc.) augmentent les risques de transmission du virus du SIDA de 4 à 7 fois à cause des lésions et irritations génitales.

Le risque de transmission est nettement diminué si ces personnes atteintes des IST soignent correctement leurs infections.

Elles doivent le faire en consultant un médecin ou un agent de santé qui leur prescriront des produits pour se débarrasser de ces infections. Mais, il ne faut pas aller trop tard au centre de santé pour soigner une IST, car le traitement sera long et difficile. Donc dès l'apparition des premiers symptômes, il faut consulter un médecin ou un agent de santé.



Highlight

Prior to these DHAPP-sponsored efforts there was no official policy on HIV/AIDS for the GAF. As a foundational part of this project, guidance was provided to develop and submit an official policy that would be a legal document delineating regulations for issues such as testing, prevention, and handling of HIV infection status among military personnel in Guinea.

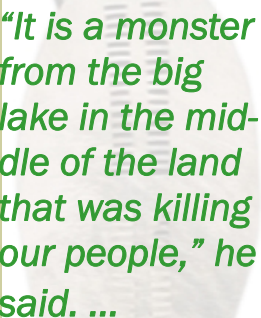
INDIA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

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“It is a monster from the big lake in the middle of the land that was killing our people,” he said. ...

BACKGROUND

India's population is estimated at 1.1 billion people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.8% in the general population. India's military consists of the Army, Navy (including the naval air arm), Air Force, Coast Guard, and various security/paramilitary forces. DHAPP began assisting India in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2003 by funding a proposal from the Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (COE/DMHA).

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In October 2003, COE/DMHA submitted a plan to DHAPP titled *HIV/AIDS Prevention Education and Training Program for the Indian Military*. The plan included support for HIV screening among the Indian military, improvements in counseling and testing (CT), diagnostic, and epidemiologic capabilities, equipment procurement, and a series of HIV/AIDS prevention workshops targeting senior leadership within the Indian Ministry of Defense (MOD) and the Indian Armed Forces Medical Services (IAFMS). Subsequently, US Pacific Command (USPACOM) and COE/DMHA representatives in collaboration with DHAPP staff convened discussions and a site assessment with IAFMS representatives in February 2004. As a result of those discussions, methods for procuring supplies and laboratory equipment for the IAFMS HIV/

AIDS program were identified, with the support of the Defense Attaché Office (DAO) at the US Embassy in New Delhi. Additionally, terms of reference for bilateral US-India HIV/AIDS Program coordination were prepared and submitted to the DAO and Indian MOD for review and approval.

DHAPP funding also sponsored a key Indian military medical officer to attend the XV *International AIDS Conference* in Bangkok, Thailand, in July 2004, where he presented information about the status, transmission mode, and impact of HIV/AIDS infection among military personnel in India. Under DHAPP sponsorship, USPACOM and COE/DMHA in collaboration with the IAFMS, conducted the weeklong *International Conference and Continuing Medical Education on HIV/AIDS: The Military Face*, in September 2004 at the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) in Pune. More than 300 high-ranking medical and non-medical governmental and military officials from 10 Asian countries and various regions of India gathered at AFMC to discuss the HIV/AIDS pandemic and more specifically the military's role in defeating the epidemic. The first 2 days of this workshop addressed HIV/AIDS policy issues geared toward senior military officers, followed by 3 days of continuing medical education for Indian military and medical officers in HIV/AIDS diagnosis, care, and treatment. Based on the success of this workshop, IAFMS is planning similar regional and international conferences and workshops during FY05 and beyond.



More than 300 high-ranking medical and nonmedical governmental and military officials from 10 Asian countries and various regions of India gathered at AFMC to discuss the HIV/AIDS pandemic and more specifically the military's role in defeating the epidemic.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funds supported attendance of IAFMS physicians at the September 2004 workshops in Pune, as well as HIV/AIDS-related workshops at the Regional Training Center, Pramongkutklao Military Medical Center in Bangkok.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

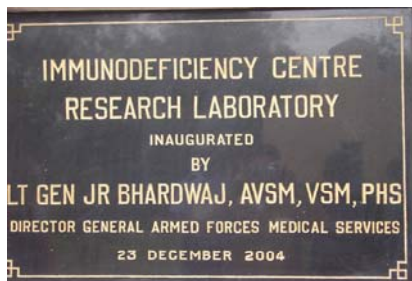
Plans are currently being developed to train IAFMS representatives in HIV/AIDS prevention, CT, diagnostics, and epidemiology.

Number of Troops Trained

DHAPP support for India's HIV/AIDS prevention program is still under development; therefore, the number of troops reached has not been measured during this reporting period.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP support is being programmed to establish and outfit 10 CT centers for the IAFMS.



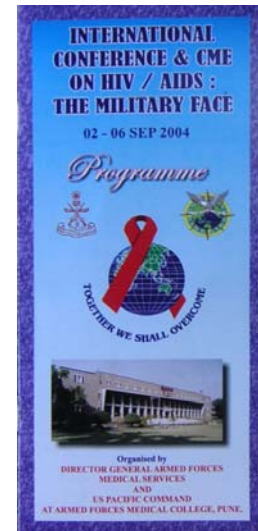
Mass Awareness Campaigns

IAFMS conducts mass awareness campaigns and DHAPP provides support through workshops and planned CT initiatives.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP funding has been approved to purchase laboratory equipment and supplies for an HIV seroprevalence survey involving Indian Armed Forces recruits from major accession centers throughout India.



SUMMARY

DHAPP support for HIV/AIDS prevention among India's Armed Forces is in its early stages; however, DHAPP-sponsored workshops have enhanced awareness of the impact HIV/AIDS can have on military forces by reducing the capability to defend a country adequately. The Indian MOD has voiced support for an aggressive campaign to stop HIV/AIDS before it spreads further among that nation's military forces. DHAPP is prepared to respond to requests for further support from the Indian MOD and IAFMS.

Highlight

DHAPP-sponsored workshops facilitated by USPACOM and COE/DMHA have enhanced HIV/AIDS prevention capacity within IAFMS and strengthened collaboration among the US Government and IAFMS staffs.

KENYA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

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SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

"It comes in the night where lovers are sleeping. The bite of the monster is small and innocent; but his venom is strong and deadly. This was what was killing our people."...

BACKGROUND

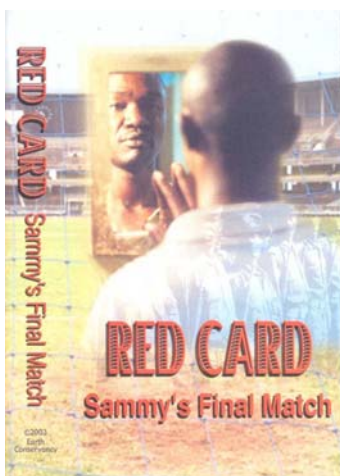
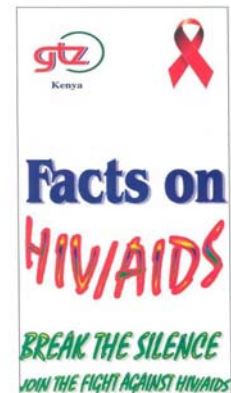
Kenya's population is estimated at 32 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 15% in the general population. The Kenyan Department of Defense (KDOD), estimated to have 35,000 active-duty personnel, has a significantly lower HIV prevalence rate of 7%. DHAPP began assisting the KDOD in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2001.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff members met with KDOD representatives in late December 2000 to conduct a needs assessment and to discuss plans for implementing its proposed plan for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment among service members. The initial planning effort was conducted in conjunction with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the US Army Medical Research Unit (USAMRU), and the KDOD. In April 2001, DHAPP forwarded funding to the Kenya Medical Research Institute (via USAMRU Kenya), to support the KDOD proposal, along with funding for a full-time, in-country contractor to assist the KDOD in the implementation of its HIV/AIDS prevention efforts. Since that time, DHAPP has facilitated the long-term planning process for continued sustainability of the KDOD HIV/AIDS prevention program.

The KDOD program emphasized the enhancement of counseling and testing (CT) capabilities, including CT center development, staff training, and equipment provision. Sixteen CT sites and 14 sites focusing on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV have been established and outfitted during the reporting period. More than 150 health care professionals received specialized training to enhance their job skills as part of the KDOD prevention program..

In November 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to Earth Conservancy to produce and evaluate a film aimed at changing attitudes, beliefs, and practices that affect transmission of HIV among military personnel in Kenya. The film titled *Red Card: Sammy's Final Match*, was shown to influence HIV/AIDS prevention knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and intention to use condoms, practice abstinence, and get tested for HIV.



DHAPP funded production of the film titled *Red Card: Sammy's Final Match*, which was shown to influence HIV/AIDS prevention knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and intention to use condoms, practice abstinence, and get tested for HIV.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

MORE THAN 5000 MILITARY MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED HIV TESTING THROUGH THE DHAPP-SPONSORED KDOD PREVENTION PROGRAM.

Clinical Provider Training

With DHAPP funding, KDOD military medical staff traveled to the XIV *International AIDS Conference* in Barcelona, Spain, in July 2002. With facilitation from DHAPP staff and funding assistance from CDC, 2 senior KDOD medical officers entered the Epidemiology Master's of Public Health program at San Diego State University, San Diego, California in the fall of 2003. DHAPP also funded 2 members of the KDOD military medical staff to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators:

The video and accompanying facilitator's guide developed by Earth Conservancy under DHAPP sponsorship were distributed to KDOD for use in HIV/AIDS prevention training. However, the training of master and peer educators has not been established as part of the HIV/AIDS prevention program for the KDOD.

Number of Troops Trained:

More than 300 copies of the video developed for this program were provided to KDOD facilitators. Specialized training was provided to more than 150 KDOD medical, laboratory, and counseling personnel.

Counseling and Testing

KDOD HIV/AIDS prevention programs trained 69 CT counselors, 36 PMTCT providers, 24 HIV surveillance monitors, 4 CT supervisors, and 4 medical data clerks. At present, 16 CT sites are operational, and more than 5000 troops have received HIV testing and counseling at these centers. In addition, some of the 16 CT sites have provided outreach services to other uniformed services (e.g., National Police) and civilians living in close proximity to the centers.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Prevention posters were distributed and displayed within military



units. The film, *Red Card: Sammy's Final Match*, was developed as an HIV/AIDS prevention message, and 300 copies were distributed to the KDOD for use by HIV/AIDS prevention facilitators.

Highlight

The film, *Red Card: Sammy's Final Match*, was well received. Pretest and posttest instruments to assess the influence of the film indicated significant increases in the respondents' knowledge of transmission of HIV and other infection-related factors, such as the knowledge that one may appear healthy and still be HIV-positive. Additionally, the data showed a significant increase in respondents (7.2%) who indicated they would practice abstinence from casual sexual activity after viewing the film.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Laboratory capabilities were established for HIV diagnostics, quality assurance, and data entry capabilities at a medical clinic serving military personnel and their families.

SUMMARY

With funding from DHAPP, KDOD has trained physicians and other medical staff in CT and surveillance of HIV/AIDS. More than 5000 military members have received HIV testing through the program, and a video that was developed specifically for the KDOD prevention program has been evaluated and shown to influence perceptions, knowledge, attitudes, and intentions. Efforts to sustain the HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment program for KDOD are being continued under the PEPFAR initiative.

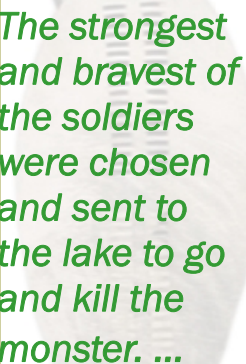
KYRGYZSTAN

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
AMONG UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN
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WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS



*The strongest
and bravest of
the soldiers
were chosen
and sent to
the lake to go
and kill the
monster. ...*

BACKGROUND

Kyrgyzstan's population is estimated at 5.08 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.01% in the general population. While the HIV prevalence rate is quite low in relation to other developing countries, Kyrgyzstan experienced a 6-fold national increase in reported cases of HIV infection over a 1-year period (i.e., 2000 to 2001) and in some regions of the country, the increase in reported incidence of HIV infection during same time period was over 27-fold. There are no reliable data available on the size of the Kyrgyzstan Armed Forces (KAF), and the HIV infection rate among KAF members is unknown since there is no routine force-wide screening for HIV. DHAPP began working with the KAF in its efforts to prevent further spread of HIV in September 2003.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff conducted a site visit and preliminary HIV/AIDS needs assessment with KAF representatives in September 2003. Based on that visit, DHAPP recommended that military medical physicians attend the 4-week *Military International HIV/AIDS Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California, as a first step in establishing an HIV/AIDS prevention program for the Kyrgyz military. During that training, the 2 KAF physicians partici-

pated in meetings with DHAPP staff to determine the types of prevention programs they felt would be most effective for KAF personnel. Several discussions ensued to work toward prioritizing KAF prevention needs and the development of culturally specific mass awareness prevention materials and peer education training that would fit within the existing Kyrgyz military structure.

In June 2004, DHAPP provided funding to the Naval Regional Contracting Center, Naples, Italy, to begin procurement of computer and audiovisual equipment, medical supplies, and development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) posters, brochures, and video materials to convey the HIV/AIDS prevention message to KAF personnel.



KAF physicians attending the MIHTP workshop were enthusiastic about the development of prevention materials for their troops.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

THE STATE PROGRAMME
ON THE PREVENTION OF AIDS, INFECTIONS
TRANSMITTED SEXUALLY AND THROUGH INJECTING WAY
IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC
FOR 2001-2005



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP sponsored 2 senior Kyrgyz military physicians and 1 interpreter at the MIHTP course in San Diego, from 7 January to 6 February 2004.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

While the development of peer education materials was a critical component of this prevention program, those materials are still in development, and training of master trainers and peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention has not yet occurred.

Number of Troops Trained

Troop-level training in HIV/AIDS prevention has not yet begun.

Counseling and Testing

No counseling or testing efforts have been conducted by the KAF during the reporting period.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Work is currently under way to develop IEC posters, brochures, and video materials to be used in a mass awareness campaign for HIV/AIDS prevention among KAF members.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

There have been no provisions for procurement of laboratory equipment or supplies for KAF at this time.

“I COMPARE THE PRACTICING PHYSICIANS HERE TO KNIGHTS; THEY DEAL WITH THEIR PRACTICE ISSUES, BUT ARE VERY READY TO SHARE THEIR SITUATION AS WELL. THEY ARE LIKE HONORABLE KNIGHTS.”

**- PHYSICIAN PARTICIPATING
IN THE MIHTP COURSE**

SUMMARY

DHAPP-sponsored efforts with the KAF are still in their early stages. DHAPP personnel have worked with KAF representatives to ensure that HIV/AIDS prevention efforts are both militarily and culturally appropriate for the target audience. DHAPP funding has already been provided to procure equipment, supplies, and IEC materials for KAF; these efforts are expected to continue into fiscal year 2005 and beyond.

“HIV can be stopped, now I can return to my home country and say, ‘I saw patients who were HIV positive and they were living a good life.’ The United States has been a great experience.”

- Physician participating
in the MIHTP course

Highlight

The KAF represents a military force that is being proactive in its efforts to prevent rising rates of HIV infection. Funding from DHAPP resulted in the training of 2 senior KAF physicians in state-of-the-art techniques in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of HIV/AIDS, focused discussions with whom assisted DHAPP staff in identifying and prioritizing HIV/AIDS prevention needs within the existing Kyrgyz military structure.

LESOTHO

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

Lesotho's population is estimated at 1.9 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence of approximately 29 percent in the general population. The size of the Lesotho Defense Force (LDF) is estimated at 2000 personnel. Since HIV testing has not been conducted throughout the LDF, there are no reliable data regarding HIV prevalence rates among its members; however, the prevalence rate is believed to mirror that of the general population. Initial contact between DHAPP staff and representatives in Lesotho began in fiscal year 2002, and efforts are ongoing.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

After initial contact between DHAPP staff and Lesotho's Ambassador in March 2002, DHAPP assisted LDF in conducting a needs assessment and development of an HIV/AIDS prevention program plan focusing on infrastructure development, and clinical provider and technician training.

In July 2002, DHAPP provided funding to the US Embassy in Maseru to procure basic laboratory equipment, including microscopes and HIV test kits. Supplemental DHAPP funding was forwarded in March 2003 and May 2004 to procure computer hardware, software, and audiovisual equipment, a Coulter counter, hematology analyzer, and nutritional supplements for troops with AIDS or diagnosed with HIV infection.

To support the clinical provider portion of the HIV/AIDS prevention program for the LDF, a senior infectious diseases physician and senior microbiology laboratory technician from the University of California San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine provided intensive, 2-week, on-site training to groups of LDF physicians and laboratory technicians in April 2003. In addition, DHAPP funded training for nurses and laboratory technicians from the LDF in state-of-the-art HIV/AIDS screening and diagnosis protocols at UCSD, from 31 July to 16 August 2003. DHAPP also supported 3 representatives from Lesotho to attend the September 2003 *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana.

While additional funding has been approved for future peer education programs, this component is still in the early development stages.

For days they watched the shores of the lake to attack the monster if it raised its head above the water. ...



DHAPP provided critical medical equipment, testing kits, and training to enhance counseling and testing capabilities in Lesotho.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

A senior infectious diseases physician and senior microbiology laboratory technician from the UCSD School of Medicine provided on-site training for 2 weeks in April 2003. Topics covered in these sessions included managing opportunistic infections and tuberculosis, infection control, and use of antiretroviral therapy. Laboratory technicians were trained in slide microscopy for bacteriology and mycobacterium. Two Lesotho-based laboratory technicians and 2 clinical nurses received 2 weeks of training in microbiology, clinical management, and infection control at the UCSD Medical Center.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

While DHAPP provided funding for a peer education program for the LDF in 2004, the development of this component is still in the early stages. As such, no peer educators were trained in HIV/AIDS prevention during the reporting period.

Number of Troops Trained

While several members of the LDF clinical and laboratory staff have received technical training, general prevention training for military troops has not yet been implemented.

Counseling and Testing

Improving the infrastructure of counseling and testing facilities was a large component of HIV/AIDS preven-

tion program for the LDF, which was addressed through the procurement of durable medical equipment, HIV test kits, and training of LDF physicians and laboratory technicians in HIV testing procedures. No data are available at present regarding the number of LDF troops who have been tested as a result of this program

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Mass awareness and behavioral change communication campaigns were not conducted as part of the HIV/AIDS prevention program for the LDF.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Two senior nurses and 2 laboratory technicians attended a 2-week clinical laboratory management course at UCSD during the summer 2003. In addition, DHAPP arranged for senior-level clinical and laboratory staff from UCSD to provide on-site training of LDF physicians and laboratory technicians



Highlight

DHAPP was able to provide critically needed equipment and supplies to enable testing of LDF personnel for HIV infection and to ensure that HIV testing was conducted properly. Additionally, LDF physicians received didactic and hands-on training skills in caring for patients with HIV/AIDS, including the use of antiretroviral therapies. The types of training provided under DHAPP sponsorship has enabled more effective management of LDF personnel diagnosed with HIV infection or AIDS.



in state-of-the-art HIV diagnostic and clinical management protocols in April 2003.

SUMMARY

Infrastructure development and clinical training were key elements of the LDF HIV/AIDS prevention program. To that end, DHAPP funds were used to procure computer, audiovisual, and durable medical equipment and supplies for the LDF, and to provide specialized training to groups of LDF physicians, nurses, and laboratory technicians—both in Lesotho and in San Diego. Peer education training and mass awareness campaigns are planned as part of FY05 HIV/AIDS prevention activities for the LDF.

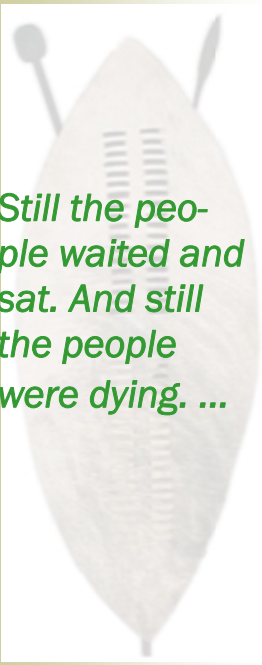
MADAGASCAR

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

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SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS



Still the people waited and sat. And still the people were dying. ...

BACKGROUND

The population of Madagascar is estimated at 17.5 million, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 1.7% in the general population. There are no reliable estimates of the size of Madagascar's armed forces. Because Madagascar has not performed force-wide testing of its military personnel, current HIV prevalence rates are unavailable. DHAPP began working with Madagascar military on HIV/AIDS prevention issues in 2003.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In September 2003, DHAPP sponsored 2 representatives from the Madagascar military medical community to attend the September 2003 *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana. Later that year, DHAPP staff members performed an on-site needs assessment with members of the Madagascar military, and subsequently provided critically needed medical equipment and supplies to the Ministry of National Defense. In addition, HIV screening activities were initiated in three regions with a total of 323 blood samples collected by September 2004. An information and education campaign focusing on modes of transmission and basic prevention methods is in the process of being developed; peer educators and master trainers have already been trained through DHAPP-sponsored efforts. Peer educators trained through this program have visited 16 bases and trained military personnel and

family members. Efforts initiated during this period are expected to continue throughout 2005, with increased emphasis on health care provider and laboratory technician training.



Government authorities of Madagascar, the US Ambassador, and American actor Ashley Judd were among the distinguished guests of the armed forces during the inauguration of the DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS Prevention Center.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Counseling and Testing

Expanded counseling and testing capabilities are anticipated as part of this program in 2005.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Extensive awareness efforts are still in the planning stages, but are expected to be in full force in 2005.



Clinical Provider Training

The training of physicians and other health care professionals is an integral part of the Madagascar military HIV/AIDS prevention program; however, such efforts are not anticipated to commence until 2005. Some reinforcement of hygiene and safe blood storage was conducted in dispensaries.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

A variety of needed equipment and supplies were sent to the Madagascar Ministry of National Defense in March 2004.

SUMMARY

While this effort is still in its early stages, needed equipment has already been transferred to Madagascar military medical personnel, and 51 peer educators have begun training military personnel. Efforts are ongoing in Madagascar, and improvements in laboratory capabilities, testing and counseling, and the development of mass awareness campaigns are anticipated in the future.



Master Trainers and Peer Educators

While master trainers have not yet been certified, 51 members of the Madagascar military have been trained and certified as HIV/AIDS peer educators.

Number of Troops Trained

Through DHAPP sponsorship, peer educators have presented HIV prevention training to 2726 military personnel and their family members.

Highlight

In the short span of time since the inception of this DHAPP-sponsored prevention effort, 51 peer educators have been trained and have subsequently trained 2726 people.

MALAWI

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

Malawi's population consists of approximately 11.9 million people, with HIV/AIDS prevalence estimates at 14% in the general population. Malawi's military is estimated to be approximately 50,000 with HIV prevalence rates estimated at 15%, slightly higher than the civilian population. DHAPP began assisting Malawi in its battle against HIV/AIDS during FY02. Prior to these efforts, Malawi's military had only 2 short-lived pilot prevention efforts that targeted military personnel, and no surveillance infrastructure was in place.

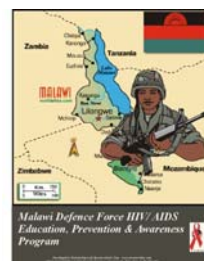
PROGRAM RESPONSE

In December 2001, DHAPP staff conducted a preliminary needs assessment with members of the Malawi Defence Force (MDF), and subsequently received a proposal requesting assistance in August 2002. DHAPP awarded an external contract to ResourceLinC to develop and implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in the MDF. In March 2003, DHAPP sent a US Navy infectious disease physician and a logistician to Malawi to conduct further needs assessments, which revealed that the MDF lacked adequate numbers of skilled medical staff and laboratory technicians. DHAPP funded a representative from the MDF and the US Embassy in Malawi to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of FY04 HIV/AIDS prevention

activities for the MDF.

DHAPP sponsored 18 MDF personnel to attend the Malawi Armed Forces College to obtain training as medical assistants, nurse technicians, laboratory technicians, and environmental health specialists. In a related connection, DHAPP sponsored 1 MDF physician who successfully completed the *Military International HIV Training Program (MIHTP)* in San Diego, California, held 20 June to 19 July 2003. Additionally, DHAPP funding supported

(1) establishment of monitoring and evaluation tools for assessing the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS prevention efforts within the MDF; (2) HIV/AIDS prevention training for MDF recruits; active-duty personnel, and family members; (3) distribution of condoms and training in their proper use; (4) establishment and outfitting of 3 Counseling and Testing (CT) centers; (5) procurement of HIV rapid test kits and associated laboratory equipment; and (6) mass awareness campaigns featuring peer-based drama troupes, billboards, posters, and a counseling handbook. DHAPP also established liaison and cooperative arrangements with the National AIDS Commission, Family Health International, and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations to ensure access for MDF personnel to community-based HIV programs.



Again, the wise men came together to make a better plan. ...



Establishing Counseling and Testing centers is a high priority for Malawi's HIV/AIDS Prevention Program.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

SEVENTY-ONE PERCENT OF THE MALAWI DEFENSE FORCE AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP expanded the cadre of skilled MDF health providers by funding a military physician to attend the MIHTP course in San Diego and paying for 18 health workers to attend HIV/AIDS diagnosis and clinical treatment courses at the Malawi Armed Forces College.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the period from FY02 through FY04, a total of 25 master trainers and 270 peer educators were trained and certified in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

Approximately 71% (35,555) MDF troops and family members have been trained in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Counseling and Testing

Workers at 3 CT centers were provided with special training in testing and counseling.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

A large-scale social marketing campaign was developed, which included billboard ads, media announcements, and brochures emphasizing HIV and sexually transmitted infection prevention and proper use of condoms. Promo-

tional activities featuring peer-based drama troupes reached every military unit in the MDF.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

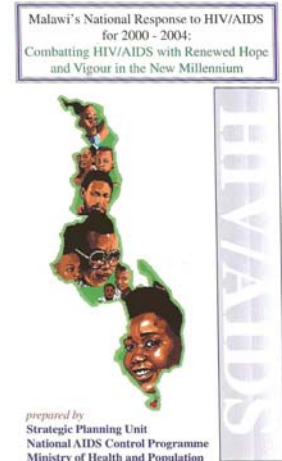
As part of the effort to improve laboratory infrastructure and expand HIV diagnosis capabilities, DHAPP provided equipment and training for laboratory technicians.

SUMMARY

DHAPP made several assessments of the HIV/AIDS situation in the Malawian military and worked closely with the MDF and in-country US Embassy defense staff to build a sustainable HIV prevention program for the MDF. Specifically, the establishment of permanent CT centers, introduction of HIV awareness training for MDF recruits, training of health workers in HIV/AIDS diagnosis treatment and patient counseling, involvement of senior MDF leadership, and the implementation of a monitoring and evaluation program

Highlight

Monitoring and evaluation efforts reveal a highly successful awareness program with more than 90% of MDF troops now able to respond accurately regarding HIV modes of transmission.



have provided much-needed infrastructure to sustain HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in the MDF.

Short-lived pilot programs in HIV prevention preceded DHAPP's intervention. MDF leadership is committed to the long-term fight against HIV/AIDS.

MALI

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

Mali's population is estimated at 12 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 1.9% of the general population. The size of the Malian Armed Forces estimated at 20,000, with HIV prevalence rates similar to the civilian population. DHAPP began assisting Mali in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2002; prior to that time Mali's military had no HIV prevention program or surveillance infrastructure in place.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In March 2001, DHAPP staff contacted the US Defense Attaché at the US Embassy to discuss whether Mali required outside assistance to develop and implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program. DHAPP then provided funds to Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, which enabled the West African Health Organization (WAHO) to conduct a wide-scale conference on the coordination of HIV prevention efforts among West African militaries. Tulane had a cooperative agreement with WAHO that facilitated Mali's participation in the conference. In November 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to Population Services International (PSI) to provide in-depth instruction in sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, communication techniques, negotiation, and counseling and testing (CT) skills to groups of peer educators and master trainers within the Malian military. The latter group also received training in constructive supervising techniques.

Under DHAPP sponsorship, PSI also procured a mobile video unit (MVU), which was used to reach troops stationed in remote bases and camps throughout the country. Mass awareness event themes PSI conducted with the MVU included video and drama troupe presentations on STI/HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, personal risk perception, increasing personal capacity to negotiate and use condoms, and the importance of CT. Additionally, DHAPP funds were used to open CT centers, train 10 counselors, and campaign for troops to take advantage and learn their HIV status. PSI also provided professional training in STI diagnosis, treatment, care, and support for a group of Malian military doctors, nurses, and midwives.

In August 2003, DHAPP funded 2 physicians from Mali to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of FY04 HIV/AIDS prevention activities for Mali.

No one had seen the monster come out of the lake, but the venom of the monster was killing the people. ...



More than 45,000 Malians were trained in HIV/AIDS prevention, including the entire Malian military and their family members.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

ONE OF THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN MALI BY DHAPP WAS TRAINING FOR DOCTORS, NURSES, AND MIDWIVES IN HIV/AIDS DIAGNOSTICS AND MANAGEMENT OF HIV-POSITIVE PEOPLE.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP expanded the cadre of skilled health providers by funding specialized training for 181 Malian military doctors, nurses, and midwives, 52 of whom received further training in the care and support of HIV-positive patients. Additionally, 10 health workers were trained as counselors for the CT centers that were opened under DHAPP sponsorship.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

During the period from FY02 through FY04, 22 master trainers and 200 peer educators were trained and certified in HIV/AIDS prevention protocols.

Number of Troops Trained

As of June 2004, more than 45,000 Malians were trained in HIV prevention, which included the entire military force of 20,000 and their family members.

Counseling and Testing

Ten health workers at 3 CT centers were provided with special CT training, which at the time of the PSI contract completion, had provided HIV screening and counseling services to 478 people.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

A large-scale social marketing campaign was developed, which included the MVU, billboard ads, me-

dia announcements, and brochures, emphasizing HIV/STI prevention and proper use of condoms. Promotional activities reached every military unit in Mali.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

As part of the effort to improve laboratory infrastructure and expand HIV diagnosis capabilities, DHAPP funds were used to outfit the CT centers with air conditioning, running water, computers, and rapid test kits.

SUMMARY

DHAPP worked closely with the US Defense Attaché, Malian military leaders, and PSI to build a sustainable HIV prevention program for the Mali's uniformed service. The establishment of permanent CT centers, specialized HIV/AIDS training for Malian military medical personnel, training of master and peer educators, and obtaining the



commitment of senior leadership have provided much-needed infrastructure to sustain HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Mali's military.

Drama troupes, culturally relevant media, and a mobile video unit helped spread the HIV prevention messages rapidly throughout the Malian military bases and neighboring communities.



Highlight

Peer educators became very popular and were invited as guests on radio shows where they were able to present HIV prevention messages throughout the communities. Additionally, the police commandant invited Malian military peer educators to train the police force during National HIV/AIDS Awareness Month. The peer educators conducted 3 training events that reached 330 policemen.

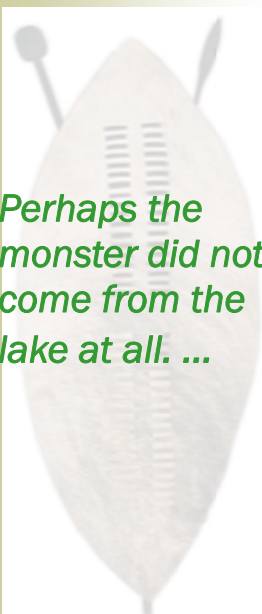
MOZAMBIQUE

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



Perhaps the monster did not come from the lake at all. ...

BACKGROUND

Mozambique's population is estimated at 18.8 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate at 13% in the general population. Although no reliable data are available concerning the size of the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces, it is estimated that HIV prevalence may reach as high as 39% in some military units. DHAPP began assisting Mozambique in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2003. Prior to these efforts, the Mozambique military had no prevention programs targeted at military personnel, and no surveillance infrastructure was in place.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In October 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to Population Services International (PSI) to establish an HIV prevention program that encompassed an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign, condom distribution, counseling and testing (CT), and sexually transmitted infection (STI) diagnosis and treatment. Through this contract DHAPP was able to form a very effective partnership with PSI, the US Defense Attaché, and the Mozambican Ministers of Health and Defense, which proved invaluable in implementing an HIV prevention program and in planning Mozambique Armed Defense Forces participation in the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR).

DHAPP funds were also used to cover travel costs for 2 members of the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces to attend the

All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of FY04 HIV/AIDS prevention activities. Additionally, DHAPP funded 2 physicians and Portuguese interpreters to attend the 4-week *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California, from 19 July to 13 August 2004.

Beginning in January 2003, PSI established a vigorous training program for a cadre of master trainers and peer educators with the skills and knowledge to reach the troops with effective HIV/AIDS prevention messages. Since that time, instruction in HIV prevention has become a permanent part of the recruit training curriculum in the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces. In addition, numerous IEC activities, which have been conducted throughout military units, have reached both new recruits and most senior military officers. Initially, the Mozambican military expressed concern about protecting the confidentiality of troops and their screening test results at CT centers, but based on discussions with DHAPP and PSI staff came to the realization that CT is a powerful prevention tool. As a result, Mozambique made developing CT sites, training of CT counselors, and the procurement of HIV test kits and associated supplies, key elements of its request for out-year assistance for its military. DHAPP funds also sponsored HIV mass awareness activities, which have reached a sizeable number of active-duty Mozambique Armed Defense Forces personnel, their families and community members.

Information, Education, and Communication and mass awareness campaigns reached large audiences in Mozambique.



DHAPP HIV/AIDS PREVENTION INITIATIVES HAVE AFFECTED MILITARY PERSONNEL THROUGHOUT THE MOZAMBIQUE ARMED DEFENSE FORCES FROM NEW RECRUITS TO SENIOR OFFICERS.

In October 2003, Mozambique received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Mozambique are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded training for 15 health workers in STI diagnosis and treatment and paid travel expenses for 2 physicians to attend MIHTP.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Under DHAPP sponsorship, PSI trained 10 master trainers and 43 peer educators. More than 300 IEC activities were conducted by these trainers from December 2002 through August 2003.

Number of Troops Trained:

Under contract to DHAPP, PSI provided specific HIV/AIDS prevention training to 2897 active-duty Mozambique Armed Defense Forces personnel.

Counseling and Testing

Having overcome initial resistance to CT, Mozambique now displays posters that provide directions to 15 newly opened CT centers that are staffed by counselors who were trained by PSI under the DHAPP contract.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

From November 2002 through October 2003, PSI facilitated more than 150 mass HIV awareness activities with the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces, reaching more than 7000 troops, family, and community members with the HIV/AIDS prevention message.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

In October 2003, the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces received an offer from DSCA to receive FMF for HIV test kits and related diagnostic equipment. Currently, DHAPP is working with DSCA and representatives from the military medical community of the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces to identify and procure critically needed items to expand its laboratory capacity/infrastructure using FMF grant funds.



SUMMARY

Mozambique made great strides in addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic within its military. Under DHAPP sponsorship, PSI created manuals, bro-

Highlight

Overcoming the resistance to counseling and testing represents a major breakthrough derived from the DHAPP/PSI intervention in Mozambique.



chures, notebooks, and promotional items that will help maintain focus on HIV prevention in the Mozambique Armed Defense Forces. Additionally, DHAPP facilitated liaisons with in-country governmental and nongovernmental organizations to ensure that community-based HIV activities include military personnel, and was instrumental in securing PEPFAR funding for the military personnel in Mozambique. Based on DHAPP and other US Government agency support, Mozambique is now developing the infrastructure to build and sustain a strong HIV/AIDS prevention program for its military.

DHAPP-sponsored interventions created sustainable HIV/AIDS prevention infrastructure in Mozambique, including culturally relevant and easy to understand manuals and training aids.

NAMIBIA

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

*It was decided
that all the war-
riors of the land
should search
every bush and
cave. They
looked every-
where, but the
monster could
not be found. ...*

BACKGROUND

Namibia's population is estimated at 1.95 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 22% in the general population. The Namibian Defense Force (NDF) is estimated at 15,000, with HIV prevalence rates (in 2003) estimated at 33%. DHAPP began assisting Namibia in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2001. Prior to these efforts, NDF had no definitive prevention programs targeted at military personnel, and no surveillance infrastructure was in place.

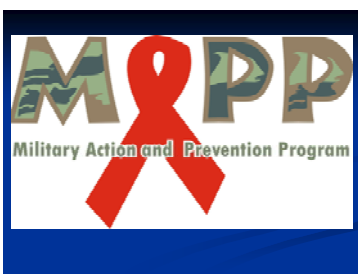
PROGRAM RESPONSE

In September 2001, DHAPP approved and funded a proposal from Population Services International (PSI) titled *Making Uniformed Services Healthy and Socio-Economically Productive in the Context of HIV/AIDS in Namibia and SADC Countries*. In November 2001, DHAPP staff conducted a further needs assessment with members of the NDF, which revealed some confusion regarding DHAPP's role in helping the NDF to reduce the incidence and transmission of HIV/AIDS among its members. The director of PSI efforts in Namibia was successful in addressing those and other concerns with the Minister of Defense and NDF leaders, eventually gaining access to bases and troops so that HIV/AIDS prevention activities could move forward.

In December 2002, PSI launched the *Military Action and Prevention Program* (MAPP) in the NDF, a process that took a year of careful negotiation. Key features of the MAPP included the production of a culturally and militarily appropriate training film titled *Remember Eliphaz*; the design and implementation of an integrated Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign; the development and administration of a knowledge, attitude, and practices survey to members of the NDF and the training of HIV/AIDS prevention peer educators.

Specifically MAPP has employed an "edutainment" (combination of education and entertainment) approach to get the HIV/AIDS prevention messages out. A cornerstone of MAPP has been the production and distribution of *Remember Eliphaz*. During several key points in the film, the main character, Eliphaz, an NDF soldier who is HIV positive, turns to the camera and asks the audience: "What should I do?", at which time the film is stopped and NDF troops are given an opportunity to discuss HIV-related issues in the context of the story. PSI also conducted a highly successful campaign to ensure the availability and social marketing of condoms, designed and produced a wide range of promotional items with HIV/AIDS prevention messages and logos, and procured a multimedia mobile unit that traveled to remote NDF bases and camps to present HIV prevention edutainment events.

The HIV/AIDS prevention message has reached all 15,000 NDF troops through a combination of drama troupes, interactive training videos, and other edutainment events.



ELIPHAS, FACING DIFFICULT DECISIONS ABOUT HIV AND LIFE, ASKS, “WHAT SHOULD I DO?”

In addition, DHAPP funds supported attendance and participation of 3 members of the NDF, a special advisor to the Namibian Ministry of Defense (MOD), the US Defense Attaché in Windhoek, and a representative from PSI at the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003. As a result of that workshop the NDF generated a list of HIV/AIDS prevention activities that were supported with DHAPP funds during FY04. DHAPP also funded a physician and nurse from the NDF to attend the *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California.

Through the highly successful PSI contract, DHAPP was able to form a very effective partnership with the US Defense Attaché, and the Namibian Ministers of Health and Defense, which proved invaluable in planning NDF participation in the *President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR).

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 2 NDF military medical personnel, to attend the 4-week MIHTP in San Diego, from 22 August to 19 September 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Under DHAPP sponsorship, PSI trained 40 NDF personnel as HIV/AIDS prevention peer educators.

Number of Troops Trained

More than 7000 NDF troops have received specific HIV/AIDS prevention training from the cadre of peer educators. Several modules from the in-

struction have been incorporated into the NDF recruit training curriculum.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP-sponsored efforts have gained support from the NDF for establishment of Counseling and Testing centers throughout the country.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Mass awareness campaigns have been conducted in all 30 NDF bases and camps, during which promotional items, such as brochures, sports caps, key chains, and T-shirts with HIV prevention messages and logos printed on them, have been distributed. To date, the HIV/AIDS prevention message has reached all 15,000 NDF troops through a combination of drama troupes, interactive training videos, and other entertainment events conducted by PSI.

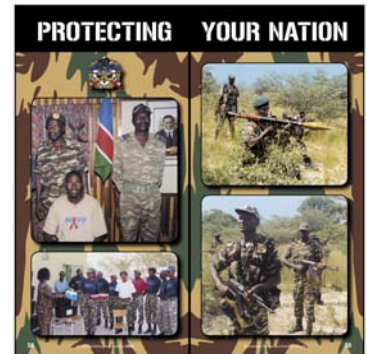


Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

No specific request has been made by the Namibian country team for DHAPP resources to increase laboratory capacity/infrastructure for the NDF.

Highlight

DHAPP/PSI achieved widespread success through the social marketing efforts. The concept of edutainment, featuring the film *Remember Eliphas*, received radio and print media coverage that expanded awareness of the HIV problem beyond the borders of the military bases. Requests to use the film were received from other ministries and PSI affiliates in other countries.



SUMMARY

PSI was able to capitalize on DHAPP funding and establish an effective partnership with the Namibian MOD and NDF under what initially had been very challenging circumstances. PSI forged a relationship that laid the foundation for a powerful HIV/AIDS prevention program throughout the NDF. The NDF, in turn, has demonstrated its commitment by its plans to enlarge the scope of MAPP, together with the development of force-wide CT for HIV/AIDS, and active participation in PEPFAR initiatives.

Namibia and DHAPP have developed an excellent cooperative arrangement through outstanding support from Population Services International.


NIGER

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



The only place
that it could
be hiding was
the lake. ...

BACKGROUND

Niger's population is estimated at 12.4 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 1.2% in the general population. At present, the size of the Niger Armed Forces (FAN) is not available, nor are any reliable data regarding the incidence of HIV infection among its members. DHAPP began assisting the FAN in its battle against HIV/AIDS during fiscal year 2003.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In June 2003, the Defense Attaché Office at the American Embassy in Niamey endorsed and forwarded a plan to DHAPP titled *Government of Niger Multi-Sectoral Plan for Control of HIV/AIDS and STDs in the Armed Forces*, which proposed a series of high-impact, short-term activities. The official hand-over of initial supplies and equipment procured with DHAPP funding occurred in January 2004 and included computers, a photocopier, printer, projectors, condom machines, and condoms. DHAPP also funded a representative of Niger's military health care system to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana in September 2003.

In August 2003, DHAPP funded a committee of 4 Nigerien military members, the US Ambassador to Niger, the First Lady of Niger, the Nigerien Minister of Defense, and a representative of the HIV/AIDS Multi-Sectoral Coordination Program to attend a workshop in Cameroon to study existing

DHAPP HIV/AIDS prevention programs. An important outcome from that workshop was DHAPP sponsorship of a sizeable contingent of Nigerien military doctors and nurses to receive hands-on training and instruction in the management of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). These training programs received national and international media coverage—including radio and television segments aired by the British Broadcasting Corporation. DHAPP funding was also used to sponsor a 1-day high-level HIV awareness-raising meeting that received extensive media coverage. Representatives at the 30 September 2003 meeting included senior members of the Nigerien military, the Minister of Defense, the First Lady of Niger, and the US Ambassador.



Niger's most senior civilian and military leaders have made HIV a priority; the First Lady of Niger and the Minister of Defense in particular participate in and voice support for HIV prevention events.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP PROVIDED FUNDING TO TRAIN 60 DOCTORS AND NURSES IN HIV AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded training for 60 doctors and nurses in STD diagnosis and treatment. Additionally, one Nigerien physician was funded to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003, where he was able to share ideas and develop a list of medically oriented HIV prevention activities for the Nigerien military.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Although training of peer educators was included in the Nigerien HIV/AIDS prevention program plan, such training had not commenced during the period of this report.

Number of Troops Trained

A total of 91 Nigerien troops received training in HIV/AIDS prevention during the reporting period. Garrison-level training of troops in HIV/AIDS was included in the Nigerien program plan but had not commenced at the time of this report.

Counseling and Testing

Counseling and testing were included in the Nigerien Armed Forces prevention plan but not implemented during the time of this report.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

The training sessions, invitational workshops and turnover of equipment and supplies procured with DHAPP funds were covered extensively by the media, thereby helping to reinforce the HIV/AIDS prevention message among Nigerien military personnel, their families, and community members.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Laboratory infrastructure support was included in Niger's prevention plan but not implemented during the period covered by this report.

health professionals trained with DHAPP support laid the foundation for implementing force-wide HIV prevention programs.



SUMMARY

Niger is well on its way to addressing the threat HIV/AIDS posed to its military. The leadership of the country from the top down was determined from the outset to build and sustain an effective program. The cadre of Niger's military

The leadership of the country from the top down was determined from the outset to build and sustain an effective program.

Highlight

The high level of Nigerien government officials and senior military officer involvement in Niger's early HIV/AIDS prevention program indicated a strong commitment to stop HIV before the epidemic progresses further in Niger. Extensive media coverage helped raise public awareness of HIV and its potential to spread rapidly in an uninformed society. The enthusiastic response during the early developmental stages of Niger's military HIV/AIDS prevention efforts is very encouraging.

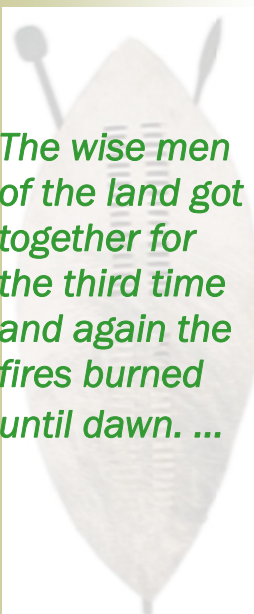
NIGERIA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
AMONG UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN
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WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS



*The wise men
of the land got
together for
the third time
and again the
fires burned
until dawn. ...*

BACKGROUND

Nigeria's population is estimated at 137 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 6% in the general population. The size of the Nigerian Armed Forces (NAF) is estimated at 150,000. Although systematic surveillance of NAF personnel for HIV infection has not been conducted, the HIV infection rate is believed to be at 8%. In response to a plan titled *Nigerian Armed Forces Program on AIDS Control*, DHAPP began working with the NAF in fiscal year 2001 through contracts awarded to the University of Maryland, Institute of Human Virology (IHV), Baltimore, and Lincoln University of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania.

PROGRAM RESPONSE


Under contract to DHAPP, IHV established baseline data on HIV seroprevalence in the Nigerian Navy, provided training on HIV ethics and confidentiality issues, initiated training on HIV counseling, improved HIV diagnosis capabilities, and assessed NAF facilities and systems for readiness to begin systematic HIV counseling and testing (CT) of its personnel. Key elements of the DHAPP contract awarded to Lincoln University included (1) conducting knowledge, attitudes, and practices surveys, (2) providing HIV/AIDS awareness seminars for senior Nigerian government and military leaders, (3) training military peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention, and (4) presenting HIV education workshops in military units

throughout the country.

In December 2002, DHAPP funded 2 NAF physicians and 1 laboratory technician to attend specialized training at IHV, and an abbreviated (2-week) version of the *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California. DHAPP also funded 2 NAF physicians to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003, where they shared ideas, lessons learned about confronting HIV in the military setting, and developed a list of proposed HIV prevention activities for FY04.



The influence by DHAPP in strengthening the HIV prevention efforts is underscored by the NAF initiative to develop an HIV information booklet for each military member titled *My Health in My Hands* (MHMH), which made HIV awareness part of the daily routine in the NAF. Nigeria has been identified as a focus country in the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), and DHAPP ensured that the NAF was included in country proposals to use PEPFAR funds.



DHAPP-supported training provided 8 master trainers and 489 peer educators who are rapidly training the entire NAF in HIV prevention.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

FOLLOWING DHAPP INTERVENTION, THE NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES DEVELOPED AN HIV INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR EACH OF ITS MILITARY MEMBERS AND MADE HIV AWARENESS PART OF THE DAILY ROUTINE.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP sponsored 2 physicians to attend the MIHTP and the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Collectively, the IHV and Lincoln University contracts resulted in the training and certification of 8 master trainers and 789 peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

Reports to date indicate that more than 8000 NAF troops have received HIV prevention training; however, that number may be underreported due to the daily emphasis by military leaders in Nigeria on fighting HIV/AIDS.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP funded the establishment and outfitting of 2 CT centers and the training of 30 counselors to staff those centers. More than 6100 troops have received CT services, to date.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

DHAPP funds provided promotional materials and enabled publication of the *Peer Education Training Manual* and the *HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Fact Book*, each of which has been widely distrib-

uted within the NAF and communities near military bases.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP contract partners improved laboratory capabilities in diagnostics, quality assurance, and data collection. Additionally, 12 laboratory personnel received advanced technical training, and 28 other technicians were trained in routine HIV and clinical laboratory procedures.

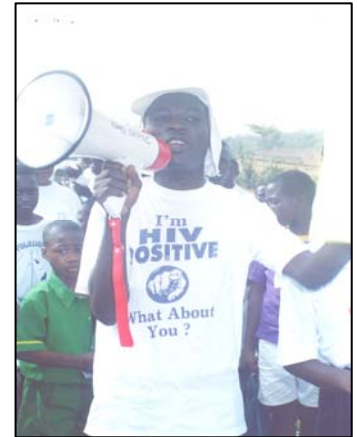


SUMMARY

To date, DHAPP funding has had a significant impact on HIV prevention in the NAF by providing peer educators, increasing laboratory capacity, opening of CT centers, conducting mass awareness HIV/AIDS prevention campaigns, and establishing links between the NAF and community-based HIV activities sponsored by governmental and non-governmental organizations. In addition to instituting HIV prevention as part of the daily routine among NAF

Highlight

Senior NAF leaders took the initiative and exercised leadership in producing and distributing materials to launch the MHMH theme, effectively making HIV prevention part of the daily routine throughout the NAF.



personnel, funding from DHAPP has helped to increase diagnostic laboratory capacity and infrastructure, and equipped military medical physicians and other health care professionals with diagnostic, treatment, and clinical management skills needed to sustain a vigorous, effective HIV program. These and other efforts are being continued for the NAF under the auspices of PEPFAR.

Nigeria exercises ongoing emphasis on HIV prevention and individual responsibility through its *My Health in My Hands* initiative.

SENEGAL

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

Senegal's population is estimated at 10.85 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.8% in the general population—one of the lowest in sub-Saharan Africa. The size of the Senegalese Armed Forces is not known and no reliable data are available regarding HIV infection rates among service members. DHAPP staff conducted an initial site visit in October 2001, followed 1 year later by a detailed needs assessment and meetings with senior leadership from the Senegalese military. The latter visit led to a formal proposal from Senegal requesting DHAPP assistance to establish an HIV/AIDS prevention program in its military.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In response to the initial proposal from the Senegalese Armed Forces, DHAPP purchased computers, printers, projectors, a generator, and a wide range of medical clinic and laboratory equipment and supplies, including an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) machine, refrigerators and a freezer for storage of blood samples. DHAPP also arranged for a microbiology laboratory consultant to train medical professionals in the operation of the ELISA machine, and funded 3 representatives from the Senegalese Armed Forces to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of HIV prevention activities for fiscal year 2004.

Beyond funding the development of HIV prevention training programs aimed at the entire military force, DHAPP collaborated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure that the Senegalese Armed Forces were included in the national HIV serologic and behavioral surveillance study. DHAPP also engaged the Director of the Health Department of the Senegalese Armed Forces, who organized mass awareness campaigns that attracted wide participation. In October 2003, Senegal received and subsequently



accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Senegal are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

When the sun showed its head on the morning of the fifth day, the oldest and the wisest of the men called the people together. ...



DHAPP collaborated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure that Senegalese Armed Forces were included in the national serologic and behavioral surveillance study.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

MORE THAN 7035 SENEGALESE TROOPS RECEIVED HIV PREVENTION TRAINING, INCLUDING 2149 PREPARING FOR DEPLOYMENT ON A UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funds provided in-depth training for a cadre of 285 nurses, which prepared them to serve as counselors, educators, and caregivers for HIV-positive members of the Senegalese Armed Forces.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

To date, DHAPP funds have supported training for 52 Senegalese military peer educators.

Number of Troops Trained

More than 7035 troops have received HIV prevention training, including 2149 troops set to deploy on a United Nations peacekeeping mission.

Counseling and Testing

To date, Counseling and Testing (CT) centers established with DHAPP funds screened 4105 Senegalese Armed Forces members. Early military screening data indicate a 1.24% HIV infection rate.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Mass awareness campaigns were very effective in reaching the larger number of junior troops. For example, one field event attracted 980 new recruits and noncommissioned officers.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP procured equipment and supplies and provided technical training for laboratory technicians, all of which established a fully functioning HIV diagnostics and management capability.

SUMMARY

HIV prevention efforts sponsored by DHAPP continue to have an impact on the Senegalese Armed Forces. Laboratory infrastructure and HIV screening capacity have been established and strengthened. Mass awareness campaigns, unit-level peer HIV training sessions, and CT capacity are in place. Professional caregivers have been trained and prepared to sustain HIV/AIDS prevention efforts to stop HIV from spreading further among members of the Senegalese Armed Forces.



Highlight

The influence senior leadership placed on HIV prevention among the troops was felt throughout Senegal's Armed Forces. The Director of the Health Department kicked off the program by emphasizing HIV screening as a most important step in prevention, which resulted in large numbers of troops volunteering to be screened at newly established CT centers.



DHAPP-sponsored CT centers screened over 4105 troops, with early data showing a 1.24% HIV-positive rate.

SIERRA LEONE

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

Sierra Leone's population is estimated at 5.88 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 7% in the general population. The size of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) is unavailable, and Sierra Leone has not performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among its armed forces members. DHAPP began working with the RSLAF in 2003 in response to a plan titled *Strategies to Control and Reduce the Rapid Spread of HIV Infections and AIDS Within the Sierra Leone Army*.

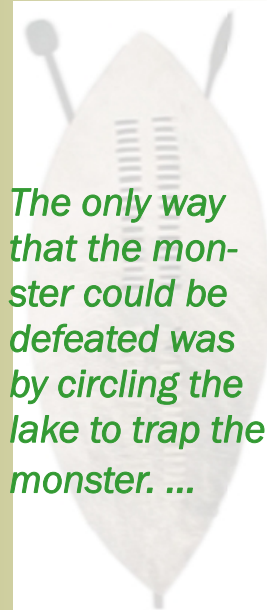
PROGRAM RESPONSE

In October 2002, DHAPP provided funds to support the RSLAF HIV/AIDS prevention program, which enabled the Sierra Leone military to conduct monthly regional HIV training programs throughout the RSLAF and included all units deployed in the field. Additional DHAPP funds were provided in June 2003 to establish Counseling and Testing (CT) centers, produce educational materials, conduct knowledge, attitudes, and practices surveys, and to hire a local civilian to serve as HIV coordinator. DHAPP contacted other governmental and nongovernmental organizations to encourage cooperative efforts between the RSLAF and community based HIV/AIDS programs. DHAPP funded 2 representatives from the RSLAF to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana in September 2003. Subsequent FY04 funding from DHAPP was used to support the expansion of laboratory capacity and training for laboratory technicians, conducting forcewide HIV pre-

vention mass awareness campaigns, the training of master trainers and peer educators in HIV prevention, and clinical provider training.

In October 2003, Sierra Leone received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment and rapid test kits to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Sierra Leone are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

DHAPP support enabled the RSLAF to play a significant role in HIV prevention efforts among civilian communities. A DHAPP-supported Foreign Service National facilitated a workplace HIV policy, awareness, and prevention workshop that was attended by 70 private business and international agency personnel, including well-known international companies such as CARE International, Mobil Gas Service Corporation, and the Coca-Cola Company. Each participating agency created its own HIV/AIDS action plan drawn in part from examples from the DHAPP-sponsored RSLAF HIV prevention program. The RSLAF program also provided training to teachers and students in schools located in barracks areas.



The only way that the monster could be defeated was by circling the lake to trap the monster. ...



DHAPP support enabled the RSLAF to play a significant role in HIV prevention efforts among civilian communities.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

COUNSELING AND TESTING CENTERS ARE ESTABLISHED AND ALREADY SCREENING SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 1 RSLAF physician to attend the *Military International HIV Training Program* in San Diego, California, from 22 August to 19 September 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

DHAPP funding supported initial and subsequent refresher training for a cadre of 6 master and 29 peer educators to ensure they have current information about methods for preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS.



Number of Troops Trained

To date, 1572 RSLAF troops have been trained in HIV/AIDS prevention. Additionally, RSLAF peer educators have conducted HIV prevention training sessions in all military bases and camps throughout the country.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP-supported CT centers and training of counselors provided services to 2749 troops and their family members.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Mass awareness activities spanned the entire RSLAF and neighboring communities. Public concerts and dramatic productions, radio broadcasts, musical cassettes and compact discs, billboards and posters, and road shows maintained a vigorous effort to inform troops, their families, and local communities about the HIV prevention efforts.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP equipped the RSLAF with rapid test kits and provided training in state-of-the-art HIV/AIDS screening and diagnosis protocols for RSLAF laboratory technicians.

SUMMARY

DHAPP and the RSLAF have established an effective partnership, the end result of which has been the development and implementation of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention program targeting all members of the armed

Highlight

DHAPP and the RSLAF achieved widespread public awareness about the HIV crisis threat to Sierra Leone. Public concerts for HIV awareness and prevention were attended by the President of Sierra Leone, the US Ambassador, and senior officers of the RSLAF, which focused the attention of the entire country on the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



forces, their families, and surrounding community members. Program infrastructure is in place and the leadership roles among military and public health officials have been defined. Response from senior RSLAF leadership to cadets has assured rapid and highly successful progress in combating HIV/AIDS in Sierra Leone.

Mass awareness campaigns spanned the entire RSLAF and neighboring communities.

SOUTH AFRICA

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

South Africa's population is estimated at 43 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 20% in the general population. The size of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is approximately 88,000 active-duty personnel with an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 21%. DHAPP began working with the SANDF in November 2000 at which time an initial site visit and needs assessment was conducted with representatives from the South African Medical Health Services (SAMHS). Subsequent to that visit, DHAPP assisted SANDF and SAMHS in developing a comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention plan, culminating in the launch of *Masibambisane*, a Zulu word that means "Let's cooperate [in combating HIV/AIDS]."

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In June 2002, DHAPP provided funding to support key elements of the SANDF plan to include training of master and peer educators and other programs targeting large segments of military populations, such as the *HIV in the Workplace—Beyond Awareness Campaign*, *South African National Defence Force HIV/AIDS Mass Awareness Campaign*, and *Women's Empowerment Program*. Additionally, DHAPP funded travel for a number of SANDF physicians to attend various HIV training and education opportunities in neighboring African countries and the United States. In November 2002, DHAPP awarded separate contracts to EngenderHealth and MarkData, both South African-based nongovernmental organizations. Work performed by

Engender Health resulted in the development and implementation of behavior change education programs for SANDF personnel, with specific emphasis given to gender role-based behaviors that contribute to increased risk for HIV infection. The project conducted by MarkData compared results from HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes, and practices surveys among prospective SANDF recruit populations who were differentiated on the basis of high, intermediate, or low education and socioeconomic levels. Results from this study were used to inform the SANDF about possible revisions to extant HIV/AIDS training curricula aimed at recruit populations.

Working in collaboration with the SANDF and the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, DHAPP facilitated establishment of Project *Phidisa*, a Sesotho word meaning "make better, prolong life." Key objectives of Project *Phidisa* are to (1) provide treatment to qualified HIV-infected members of the SANDF and their dependents, (2) answer research and clinical questions on the use of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in military settings, and (3) build capacity within SAMHS so it can conduct and sustain research programs on infectious diseases of critical importance to military health preparedness. DHAPP has funded US military infectious disease specialists to assist SANDF health care



If the monster appeared then the warriors would attack and kill it. But the lake was big and it had to be circled all the way round. ...



DHAPP facilitated establishment of Project *Phidisa*, a Sesotho word meaning "make better, prolong life." *Phidisa* is the first ever clinical trial of antiretroviral therapy focused on military troops.

providers at 4 (of the 6 planned) *Phidisa* clinics located throughout South Africa in the administration of ART drugs and establishing protocols to systematically monitor and clinically manage HIV-positive patients once treatment has started. In addition, Project *Phidisa* is creating a whole new clinical research infrastructure by staffing clinics with ART-trained physicians and nurses, program coordinators, data set managers, among others, thereby helping to ensure its sustainability long after the clinical trial has ended.

South Africa was identified as a focus country under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. DHAPP is coordinating SANDF participation in that country's PEPFAR initiatives.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded several training and education opportunities for SANDF health professionals, including 5 members of the HIV Advisory Council to the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain, in June 2002; 4 SANDF physicians to attend the Military International HIV Training Program in San Diego, California, from 22 February to 22 March 2003; and 4 SANDF physician to attend the All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Supported with funding from DHAPP the SANDF has trained and certified 513 master trainers and 1032 peer educators in HIV prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

More than 5000 SANDF troops have received in-class HIV prevention training; however, ongoing programs like *Phidisa* and mass awareness campaigns have reached well over 50,000 troops, family members, and local populations.

Counseling and Testing

Counseling and testing for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases has been integrated into military hospitals and referral-sickbay services throughout the South Africa's military health system, making counseling and testing available to all SANDF members and their families.

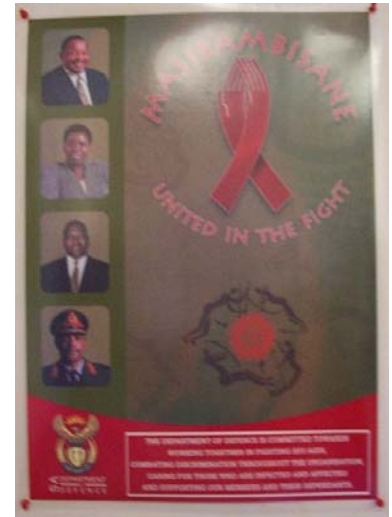
Mass Awareness Campaigns

The intensive *Masibambisane* mass awareness campaigns included more than 20 events reaching an estimated 45,000 members of the SANDF, their families, and nearby civilian populations. Educational programs, industrial theater, radio spots, and media coverage have reached a wide population with HIV prevention messages.



Highlight

DHAPP facilitated the agreement to begin Project *Phidisa*, serving as liaison during the planning phase and continuing to coordinate and fund infectious disease specialists to assist and train staff members at 4 clinics located throughout South Africa. Project *Phidisa* has not only given lifesaving treatment and hope to SANDF troops and their families currently enrolled in the clinical trial, but has, with DHAPP funding and technical support, resulted in the training of physicians and other health care professionals in effective administration of ART and palliative care for HIV-positive persons.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP funded teams of US military infectious disease physicians to train SANDF health care providers in state-of-the-art protocols in administration and clinical management of ART to HIV-positive members of the SANDF and their dependents.

SUMMARY

DHAPP played a significant role in helping SANDF focus its HIV/AIDS prevention program through peer education, mass awareness campaigns, and the groundbreaking Project *Phidisa*. Collectively, these efforts have set the stage for establishing highly effective and sustainable HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care programs for SANDF.

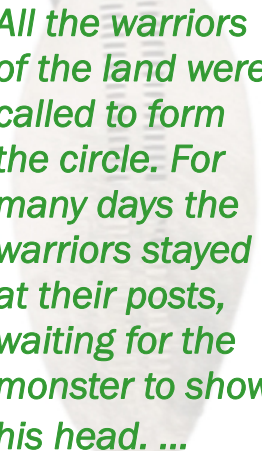
SWAZILAND

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



All the warriors of the land were called to form the circle. For many days the warriors stayed at their posts, waiting for the monster to show his head. ...

BACKGROUND

Swaziland's population is estimated at 1.17 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 39% in the general population. The size of the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) is not available, nor has Swaziland performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among its armed forces members, which are believed to be higher than that of the civilian population. DHAPP began working with the USDF in 2002 through a contract awarded to Medical Care Development International (MCDI). HIV/AIDS has been especially devastating to the Kingdom of Swaziland as life expectancy has dipped from age 60 to 37 years over the past 2 decades and is predicted to decline as low as age 30.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

Supported with funding from DHAPP, MCDI established a multi-pronged intervention that included building capacity and infrastructure for HIV/AIDS surveillance and diagnostics, adapting off-the-shelf HIV prevention education tools with emphasis on a "train-the-trainer" approach, establishing an HIV/AIDS sentinel surveillance system, and conducting several mass awareness events to convey prevention messages among active-duty military personnel, their families, and surrounding community members. In addition, MCDI trained a cadre of peer educators and counselors to staff Counseling and Testing (CT) centers located

in principal USDF bases and camps. The launch of the MCDI program received much public attention given the attendance of the Swaziland Ministers of Health and Foreign Affairs, all senior USDF officers, and the US Embassy's Charge d'Affaires.

DHAPP also funded 2 members of the USDF to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003, where they shared ideas and lessons learned and developed a list of HIV prevention activities for the USDF in fiscal year 2004. In October 2003, the USDF received and accepted an offer for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency to purchase durable medical equipment and supplies to help combat HIV. The FMF procurements and funding for the USDF are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.



DHAPP support has greatly expanded Swaziland's capability to fight HIV/AIDS through a multi-pronged approach.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP SUPPORT TRAINED 2 MASTER TRAINERS AND 50 PEER EDUCATORS, WHO PROVIDED HIV/AIDS PREVENTION TRAINING TO OVER 4500 TROOPS.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP funding was used to purchase basic laboratory equipment and supplies, including HIV rapid test kits, blood collection tubes, sharps containers, a refrigerator, and a centrifuge that enabled the USDF to test its personnel for the presence of HIV infection.



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 2 USDF physicians to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of HIV prevention activities to be considered for FY04 DHAPP funding.



Master Trainers and Peer Educators

To date, DHAPP funds have supported the training and certification of 2 master trainers and 50 peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

Under DHAPP sponsorship, the cadre of peer educators delivered HIV training to more than 4500 USDF personnel.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP funding supported the training of 27 counselors to provide CT services to USDF personnel and their family members.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

MCDI used DHAPP funds to develop televised public service announcements and numerous radio spots to convey the HIV prevention message throughout Swaziland.

SUMMARY

DHAPP and MCDI laid the groundwork for a strong HIV prevention program for the USDF. The interest shown by the senior officers of the USDF and key ministers within the Kingdom of Swaziland demonstrate an encouraging level of commitment. Collectively, the DHAPP and MCDI efforts during the reporting period have paved the way for a vigorous HIV prevention program for the USDF.

DHAPP-sponsored HIV programs have greatly enhanced public awareness of HIV in Swaziland.

Highlight

The DHAPP-sponsored HIV/AIDS prevention programs established under contract with MCDI have resulted in a dramatic increase in awareness of HIV prevention among members of the USDF, while at the same time have strengthened relationships between the US Embassy in Mbabane and the Kingdom of Swaziland.

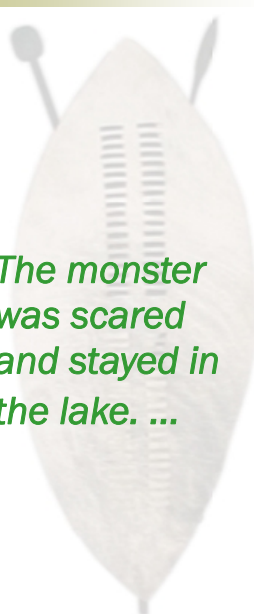
TAJIKISTAN

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



The monster
was scared
and stayed in
the lake. ...

BACKGROUND

Tajikistan's population is estimated at 6.9 million people and has a low HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.1% in the general population. There are no reliable data on the size of the Tajikistan Armed Forces (TAF) or the HIV prevalence rate among its members. DHAPP began working with the TAF in September 2003 to support initiatives aimed at reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS among Tajik military personnel.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP staff conducted a site visit and preliminary HIV/AIDS needs assessment with representatives from the TAF in September 2003. As a first step in establishing an HIV/AIDS prevention program, DHAPP recommended that TAF primary care physicians attend the 4-week *Military International HIV/AIDS Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California. During their participation in the MIHTP, the physicians met several times with DHAPP staff to discuss the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention programs for TAF personnel. Based on these and earlier discussions, DHAPP provided funds to the US Embassy in Dushanbe in January 2004 to procure computer and audiovisual equipment, condoms, medical supplies, and to initiate an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign to convey the HIV/AIDS prevention message to Tajik military personnel and their family members. The

DHAPP project was officially launched on 9 March 2004 with the representatives from the Tajikistan Ministry of Defense (MOD) and the US Ambassador speaking to soldiers about the need for HIV/AIDS prevention in the TAF.

In March 2004, a review and update of HIV/AIDS policy was performed in conjunction with TAF representatives, DHAPP, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). As a result of that review, a memorandum of understanding between the Tajikistan MOD and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) was signed on 9 May 2004, with complementary fiscal and technical support offered by UNAIDS and the US Agency for International Development (USAID).



DHAPP support has already begun providing additional infrastructure to assist the Tajikistan Armed Forces with its HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP sponsored 2 military physicians and 1 interpreter to attend the MIHTP from 7 January to 6 February 2004.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

In April 2004, a weeklong train-the-trainer session was conducted in Dushanbe for 12 TAF members to serve as master trainers in HIV/AIDS prevention education. In May 2004, the cadre of master trainers conducted prevention sessions for groups of Tajikistan MoD personnel in Dushanbe and Khojand. In May 2004, DHAPP staff forwarded an existing knowledge, attitudes, practices, and behavior survey to the US Defense Attaché in Dushanbe. Separate versions of the survey—one for males, the other for females—were developed and translated into Tajik. The resultant survey forms were approved by the Tajikistan MoD for distribution to TAF personnel in August 2004.

Number of Troops Trained

To date, more than 1500 Tajik troops have been reached with the HIV/AIDS prevention message through a combination of TAF master trainers and IEC campaigns.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP funds were used to purchase HIV test kits, and laboratory equip-

ment and supplies to support Counseling and Testing (CT) centers located at the main military headquarters in Dushanbe and outlying areas. In addition to training 6 counselors/psychologists in weeklong sessions on HIV pre- and post-test counseling techniques, DHAPP funds were used to purchase 200,000 condoms that were distributed to TAF personnel from the CT centers throughout the country.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Under DHAPP sponsorship, the TAF developed and distributed IEC leaflets, brochures, posters, and other promotional items to convey the HIV/AIDS prevention message to military units. In September 2004, the TAF announced plans to develop a larger-scale IEC campaign to advocate prevention and HIV testing among its members.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 7 laboratory technicians received on-site training at the main military headquarters in Dushanbe on state-of-the-art HIV screening and testing protocols.

SUMMARY

The DHAPP-sponsored efforts with the TAF are in the early stages of development. DHAPP personnel have worked with the representatives from the TAF,

UNFPA, UNAIDS, and USAID to ensure that all prevention efforts developed as part of the program are culturally specific and fit into the existing structure of the TAF. In addition, DHAPP provided funds for procurement of medical equipment and supplies, training of master trainers, laboratory technicians and CT counselors, and the development and distribution of IEC materials to convey the HIV/AIDS prevention message to TAF personnel. These efforts are expected to continue during fiscal year 2005.



Highlight

A review and updating of HIV/AIDS policy was performed in conjunction with representatives from the TAF, DHAPP, and UNAIDS. As a result of this collaboration, a memorandum of understanding between the Tajikistan MoD and UNFPA was signed, with complementary fiscal and technical support offered by UNAIDS and USAID.


TANZANIA

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



As long as the warriors were circling the lake, the monster stayed hidden and the people stayed healthy. ...

BACKGROUND

Tanzania's population is estimated at 36.6 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 8% in the general population. The size of the Tanzanian People's Defense Force (JWTZ) is not available, and Tanzania has not performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among its armed forces members. Nevertheless, HIV infection rates among military personnel in Tanzania are believed to be 23%, which is significantly higher than the civilian population. DHAPP began working with Tanzania in 2001 through an external contract awarded to Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia. The goal of this effort was to develop an education and entertainment approach toward changing attitudes and behaviors that affect HIV infection risks, which gave rise to the term edutainment.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

Regent University produced a short edutainment film, *Ukimwi: Adui Aliyejificha*, which translated, means *AIDS: The Hidden Enemy*, to increase adoption of HIV/AIDS prevention attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors among English-speaking military personnel in Eastern and Southern Africa. The film was developed in three stages. First, a group of 87 Tanzanian soldiers completed a survey to assess their knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) with respect to symptoms of HIV infection, risk factors for contracting and transmitting the disease, and methods of prevention. Results from

the KAP survey provided baseline data for assessing the level of HIV awareness among JWTZ personnel. Next, a script was produced that incorporated information to fill gaps in knowledge as identified in the KAP survey. The film was presented to a test audience and compared with a separate group who had not seen the film. This approach provided a basis for determining whether the film had increased HIV knowledge and methods for its control and prevention. A focus group provided feedback to make final edits to the film. Based on feedback, the film was lengthened by 21 minutes, including an epilogue featuring JWTZ leaders and HIV-positive soldiers reinforcing the HIV/AIDS prevention message.



Regent University distributed 320 copies of the film to military installations throughout Tanzania. The film was effective in increasing knowledge of HIV/AIDS and awareness of the difficulty in treating HIV-infection. Results indicated a stronger sense of personal responsibility in protecting oneself against HIV/AIDS, with commensurate increases in the likelihood that viewers would be tested for HIV infection and encourage others to do so. In addition, the more respondents believed they were able to adopt HIV/AIDS prevention be-



Edutainment — the process of combining education with an entertaining film — proved very effective in educating troops about HIV/AIDS and showed promise as a behavior change communication medium.

THE FILM, AIDS: THE HIDDEN ENEMY, DELIVERS A POWERFUL MESSAGE WITH SOCIALLY AND CULTURALLY RELEVANT HIV PREVENTION INFORMATION.

haviors, the fewer sexual partners they planned to have in the future.

Tanzania was identified as a focus country under the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. DHAPP is coordinating JWTZ participation in PEPFAR in partnership with the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Rockville, Maryland.

Counseling and Testing

Improving access to counseling and testing is part of Tanzania's COP under the PEPFAR initiative.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

The edutainment film has been shown across Tanzania to military members and their families.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

Tanzania has included improvements to its laboratory infrastructure for HIV diagnosis and patient care as part of its COP under the PEPFAR initiative.



SUMMARY

DHAPP funded a successful film that enables the Tanzanian military to open discussions about HIV easily. Having called attention to HIV among JWTZ and governmental leaders, Tanzania is now a partner with PEPFAR in the fight against HIV and appears ready to expand its collaboration with DHAPP to sustain and expand its HIV prevention efforts.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Clinical Provider Training

Tanzania has included clinical capacity improvements in its country operational plan (COP) for PEPFAR funds.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Members of the JWTZ received training on how to use the film, *AIDS: The Hidden Enemy*, as part of their HIV prevention program.

Number of Troops Trained

Although precise numbers of troops reached with the prevention message contained in *AIDS: The Hidden Enemy* are not known, multiple copies of the film were distributed for use at all Tanzanian military bases.



Edutainment is widely used in African cultures to get important messages out to the people. Films, drama, and storytelling often are the best ways to reach the troops.

Highlight

The film, *AIDS: The Hidden Enemy*, was widely accepted and continues to be shown as part of Tanzania's HIV prevention program. The film has played a significant role in the mass social marketing to alert JWTZ personnel and neighboring communities to the ongoing AIDS crisis.

THAILAND

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

But, with all the warriors circling the lake, there was no one to hunt for food or protect the women and the children from the wild animals. ...

BACKGROUND

Thailand's population is estimated at 64.9 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 1.8% in the general population. The size of Thailand's military is approximately 600,000—half of whom are active duty, one-third reservists, and the remainder active-duty paramilitary personnel. DHAPP began assisting Thailand in its battle against HIV/AIDS in August 2003 by providing funding for renovation of laboratory spaces, and purchase of HIV test kits and other durable medical equipment and supplies at Pramongkutklao Military Medical Center (PMMC), Bangkok, Thailand. This effort was continued during fiscal year 2004 by DHAPP funding of a resource request from the Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (COE/DMHA), Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In November 2003, COE/DMHA submitted a plan to DHAPP to catalyze regional cooperation on HIV/AIDS issues in countries within the US Pacific Command area of responsibility. Specifically, COE/DMHA proposed a partnership with the Royal Thai Army (RTA) to establish a “neighbors-teaching-neighbors” approach to HIV/AIDS prevention. With DHAPP support, COE/DMHA worked with the US Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences to include training and workshops in

HIV/AIDS policy, prevention, care, and treatment as an integral part of courses offered at the Regional Training Center (RTC) in Bangkok. To that end, COE/DMHA in collaboration with the RTA, organized and presented 3 sessions on HIV/AIDS at the *13th Asia Pacific Military Medicine Conference*, held 11–16 May 2003 in Bangkok. Two additional work-

shops were conducted as a result of the collaboration between COE/DMHA and the RTA: the *Asia Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Technical Training Workshop*, held 9–

12 September 2003 at the RTC, Bangkok, and the *Asia-Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Education and Counseling Workshop*, also held at RTC, Bangkok, in March 2004. Groups of senior military leaders and medical officers from more than a dozen Pacific Basin countries attended the workshops, which focused on and clarified opportunities for capacity building in HIV/AIDS prevention and counseling and testing (CT).



DHAPP-sponsored workshops, conducted in partnership with the Center of Excellence, provided current HIV/AIDS information to representatives of more than a dozen Pacific basin countries.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

MORE THAN 45 MILITARY MEDICAL LEADERS RECEIVED TRAINING IN HIV/AIDS THROUGH WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COE/DMHA AND RTA.

Clinical Provider Training

More than 45 military medical leaders from 12 nations received training through the DHAPP-sponsored workshops conducted by COE/DMHA and RTA.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

At present, the training of master and peer educators has not been established as part of the HIV/AIDS prevention program for the RTA.

Number of Troops Trained

Thus far, no troops have been trained as part of DHAPP-funded HIV/AIDS prevention efforts for the RTA.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP has not provided support for CT in the RTA as of this time.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

The workshops provided the foundation for continued COE/DMHA and RTA working relations to educate militaries in Thailand and the region on HIV/AIDS prevention issues.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP funds supported the renovation and outfitting of laboratory spaces at PMMC in Bangkok. In addition senior military medical physicians from the RTA received training in HIV diagnostics during a series of workshops conducted during the reporting period.



SUMMARY

DHAPP-sponsored workshops helped build HIV/AIDS prevention capacity in Thailand and among several neighboring countries in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean regions. The foundation for continuing cooperation and support has been laid from which the RTA and regional countries can expand their HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.

Highlight

DHAPP-funded workshops conducted by COE/DMHA and the RTA provided training in HIV/AIDS prevention topics to military representatives from 12 countries. These physicians form a cadre of skilled professionals who in turn will strengthen and build HIV/AIDS programs in their respective countries.

**Pre-Test Counseling Session #1
(Mother-To-Child Transmission - MTCT)
Evaluator**

Counselor: Consider the pre-test counseling you perform as a means to understand the individual's risk. The counselor must be trained for HIV. Evaluate the medical chart notes recorded in it, and proceed with the test. Do not test until you are ready.

Patient: You do not have a risk of being HIV (+) just because of instability. Don't worry about your diagnosis. You can also proceed to your first session. You will see an (counselor) chart but seeing the provider is more and do not mention you are pregnant. You also have strong belief that if you are pregnant, you will be rejected by your family. You do not know HIV can be transmitted to your fetus. You're being told that from the doctor. You've already explained your risk assessment and transmission potential to the unborn child, the many clinical features of HIV/AIDS that pertain to your risk, and the process of testing and results.

Medical Information: The pre-counseling's parameter in the scenario, the patient is fearful of a finding a (+) result. She is nervous if her HIV (+) child. She is not a (MTCT) potential. After consultation of chart and your findings to be sure that the counselor she will make the patient be more confident. She is not a (MTCT) potential. She is not a (MTCT) potential to be tested. The following issues she will be addressed:

- How to get tested for HIV
- Process of testing and result notification
- The meaning of a positive result
- The role of partner's (sexual) behavior, plan and prevention strategy
- Possible support resources
- Contact testing / partner notification potential

With each of these cases, the Counselor should demonstrate:

- adequate clinical knowledge of subject matter including HIV (+) cases, MTCT, prevention therapy and other related subject matters.
- Good communication skills (verbal, non-verbal, etc.)
- Appropriate HIV/AIDS counseling technique

Appropriate assessment of signs/symptoms in the scenario.

A series of workshops presented in Bangkok established a foundation upon which future HIV prevention initiatives can expand.

T O G O

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

*For the last
time, the wise
men of the land
got together
again. ...*

BACKGROUND

Togo's population is estimated at 5.6 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 6% in the general population. The size of the Togolese military is approximately 12,000. Although Togo has not performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among its armed forces members, HIV infection rates are believed to be 14%, which is significantly higher than the civilian population. DHAPP began working with Togo in 2003 through an external contract with Population Services International (PSI).

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In October 2001, with the support and participation of the Forces Armees Togolaises (F.A.T.), Population Services International-Togo (PSI-Togo) launched Operation Haute Protection (OHP), an STI/HIV/AIDS prevention program aimed at military populations in Togo. In its first year, OHP was funded through the US Embassy, Lomé, and operated on 4 military bases across Togo. In November 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to PSI-Togo to scale-up the OHP interventions initiated in the previous year, and to cover more military installations. In October 2003, F.A.T. received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against

HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Togo are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

The success of the PSI peer educator program was attributed in large part by selecting soldiers who were considered by their fellow troops as "popular opinion leaders"; that is, soldiers who were highly respected, approachable, and with well-developed interpersonal communication skills. Under DHAPP sponsorship, PSI trained enough peer educators to provide a 1:20 ratio of trainers to troops, and a 1:10 ratio of HIV/AIDS prevention master trainers/supervisors to peer educators. Other accomplishments of the PSI-Togo program included significantly increased capacity in the areas of counseling and testing (CT), surveillance and HIV screening, mass awareness/behavior change communication campaigns, and workshops to train health care providers in the care of people living with HIV/AIDS.



DHAPP-sponsored training for peer educators in the Togolese military created a 1:20 ratio of trainers to troops.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP ESTABLISHED 4 COUNSELING AND TESTING CENTERS AND TRAINED 30 COUNSELORS TO PROVIDE SERVICES.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 2 physicians from F.A.T. to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*, held in September 2003, in Gaborone, Botswana, where they were able to share ideas, discuss lessons learned, and develop lists of HIV prevention activities for fiscal year 2004.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

PSI trained 84 supervisor/master trainers and 840 peer educators.

Number of Troops Trained

During the reporting period, the entire force of 12,000 troops had received one or more forms of HIV awareness and prevention training.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP funds supported the establishment and outfitting of 4 new CT centers, the training of 30 counselors to staff the CT centers, and the production of HIV/AIDS prevention leaflets and other materials that were distributed to all soldiers and their family members who obtained CT services. During the reporting period, the CT centers reported they had screened more than 3000 persons for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

In conjunction with F.A.T., PSI conducted 18 mass awareness events that provided HIV prevention information to more than 45,000 persons, including virtually all F.A.T. members, their families, and civilians residing near the 4 Togolese military bases. Each Togolese military member attended 3 to 4 mass awareness events.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP provided laboratory equipment and supplies and training for 10 laboratory technicians.



SUMMARY

DHAPP support through PSI has established a comprehensive HIV prevention program. Counseling and testing in HIV/AIDS are now readily available and troops are using the services offered at CT centers to learn their HIV status and get information about HIV prevention. DHAPP has helped to pave the way for a sustainable F.A.T. HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

DHAPP created 84 master trainers and 840 peer educators who have reached the entire Togolese Armed Forces with HIV/AIDS prevention training.

Highlight

Togo's military HIV/AIDS prevention program reached a broad audience through media coverage and mass awareness events. Master trainers and peer educators presented multiple training sessions on HIV/AIDS prevention.

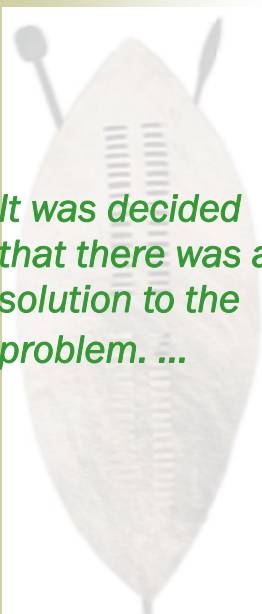
UGANDA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

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WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS



*It was decided
that there was a
solution to the
problem. ...*

BACKGROUND

Uganda's population is estimated at 26.4 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 5% in the general population. The size of the Ugandan People's Defense Force (UPDF) is approximately 40,000. Although the UPDF has not performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among its personnel, it is believed that infection rates are 8%, which is considerably higher than in the civilian population. DHAPP staff conducted a preliminary visit to Uganda in the summer of 2001 to assess the need for HIV prevention effort within the UPDF. That visit resulted in preparation of a comprehensive program plan titled *Strengthening HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support in the Ugandan People's Defense Forces*, which provided the basis for subsequent DHAPP resource and technical support.

Uganda received and subsequently accepted an offer from the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable medical equipment to help in the battle against HIV/AIDS. The FMF procurements and funding for Uganda are being coordinated and managed by DHAPP.

In addition, DHAPP has funded training and conferencing opportunities for UPDF physicians as well as peer educators and counselors to staff Counseling and Testing (CT) centers. Uganda was identified as a focus country under the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)*, announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. DHAPP is coordinating UPDF participation in that country's PEPFAR initiatives.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In January 2002, DHAPP forwarded funds to the Defense Attaché Office (DAO) at the US Embassy, Kampala, to purchase computers and other office equipment and supplies to provide the infrastructure needed to begin HIV prevention efforts within the UPDF. Later that same year, a DHAPP logistician traveled to Kampala to assist the DAO in the selection and hiring of a Foreign Service National to serve as the HIV/AIDS prevention coordinator, funded by DHAPP. In October 2003,



DHAPP supported opening 7 laboratories in conjunction with the CT centers and funded training for 22 laboratory technicians in HIV rapid test techniques.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT



Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 3 UPDF physicians to attend the *Military International HIV Training Program* in San Diego, California, from 18 April to 18 May 2003, and 3 clinicians to attend the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2003.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

To date, more than 60 peer educators, specifically selected for their leadership and interpersonal skills, have been trained in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

DHAPP-sponsored training events have provided HIV prevention education to more than 90,000 UPDF troops, their family members, and civilian populations residing near military sites.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP provided funding to train a total of 60 counselors to staff CT centers. The UPDF converted 7 prefabricated structures into CT centers, bringing the total number of centers to 8. More than 4300 troops have received CT services in the short time the centers have been operating.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

DHAPP funds paid for printing 3000 HIV prevention booklets intended to augment ongoing HIV/AIDS prevention training in the UPDF.

Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

DHAPP supported opening 7 laboratories in conjunction with the CT centers and funded training for 22 laboratory technicians in HIV rapid test techniques.



SUMMARY

DHAPP assisted the UPDF in strengthening its HIV/AIDS prevention program and preparing plans to maximize the impact of FMF and PEPFAR funds. The infrastructure improvements and training provided through DHAPP support have helped the UPDF establish a vigorous HIV/AIDS prevention program that will help fight the HIV pandemic

Highlight

DHAPP support for the UPDF HIV/AIDS prevention program has had widespread influence; achieving training and awareness for more than 90,000 troops, their family members, and many in civilian communities bordering military bases.



through ongoing education and training, surveillance, and mass awareness.

The infrastructure improvements and training provided through DHAPP support have helped the UPDF establish a vigorous HIV/AIDS prevention program.

VIETNAM

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
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SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

“Masibam-bisane!” said the old men and the wisest. “Everyone will have to work together, men and women, old and young, strong and weak.” ...

BACKGROUND

Vietnam’s population is estimated at 82.7 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 0.3% in the general population. The size of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) military is approximately 13.6 million people, with an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 0.64% among the incoming recruit population. DHAPP began assisting Vietnam in its battle against HIV/AIDS in June 2003 by providing funding to outfit an HIV/AIDS screening facility at the Military Institute for Hygiene and Epidemiology (MIHE) in Hanoi. These funds were also used to support the development of HIV/AIDS prevention education materials, train laboratory technicians in HIV screening and diagnosis, and military medical physicians in HIV/AIDS epidemiology and virology.

Vietnam was identified as a focus country under the *President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), announced during the President’s State of the Union Address in January 2003. DHAPP is coordinating Vietnam military participation in PEPFAR in partnership with the Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (COE/DMHA), Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In December 2003, the US Pacific Command (USPACOM), COE/DMHA, and the SRV military entered into a memorandum of understanding to establish and implement an HIV/

AIDS prevention strategy. Through DHAPP funding, USPACOM, COE/DMHA, and MIHE co-sponsored a 4-day *HIV/AIDS Policy and Strategic Planning Workshop* in April 2004, which was attended by 120 senior SRV military leaders, and marked the first forum for Vietnamese and US military cooperation in targeting HIV/AIDS prevention. Attendees were provided an opportunity to discuss a wide range of HIV/AIDS issues, including establishment of military policy, planning and development tools, educational curricula, and “best practices” in HIV/AIDS prevention among military populations. Other participating organizations in the workshop included the Joint United Nations



Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, US Agency for International Development, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the University of Hawaii.

USPACOM and COE/DMHA hosted an *HIV/AIDS Communication Education and Counseling Workshop* in September 2004 at Military Hospital 175 in Ho Chi Minh City. Under DHAPP sponsorship, this workshop was attended by more than 80 military medical officers. Work has commenced on the design, production, and distribution of HIV/AIDS prevention brochures and materials throughout the Vietnamese military.

DHAPP funding supported a workshop in partnership with COE/DMHA that marked the first forum for Vietnamese and US military cooperation in targeting HIV/AIDS prevention.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP FUNDING SUPPORTED A 4-DAY HIV/AIDS POLICY AND STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP ATTENDED BY 120 SENIOR SRV MILITARY LEADERS.

Clinical Provider Training

To date, more than 15 physicians and allied health care workers from the SRV military have received training in state-of-the-art HIV diagnosis and clinical management protocols through workshops offered at the Regional Training Center, Pramongkutklao Military Medical Center, Bangkok, Thailand.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

At present, the training of master and peer educators has not been established as part of the HIV/AIDS prevention program for the SRV military.

Number of Troops Trained

Thus far, there are no reliable data available regarding the number of troops trained as part of DHAPP-funded HIV/AIDS prevention efforts for the SRV military. However, more than 120 senior Vietnamese military leaders, physicians, and other health care professionals have attended domestic or regional workshops covering a wide range of issues on HIV/AIDS policy, program development and implementation, and diagnosis and treatment.

Counseling and Testing

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 80 military medical officers from the SRV military have received both didactic instruction and hands-on training in

effective communication, and counseling and testing skills at the *HIV/AIDS Communication Education and Counseling Workshop* in September 2004.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

An HIV/AIDS educational media room was established at MIHE in Hanoi, and HIV/AIDS prevention brochures and materials are under development for distribution.

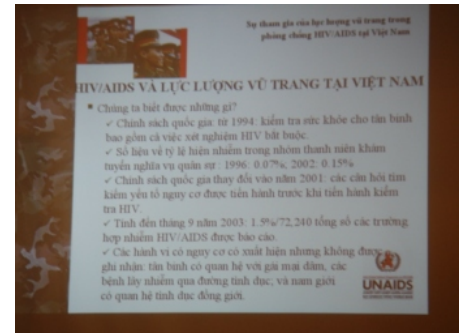
Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

In August 2004, a group of consultants from USPACOM, COE/DMHA, and the SRV military assessed the clinical laboratory at the MIHE facility. The group generated the scope of work needed to enhance MIHE laboratory capacity, including construction and equipment upgrades, which will be funded by DHAPP.



Highlight

The DHAPP-sponsored 4-day *HIV/AIDS Policy and Strategic Planning Workshop* in April 2004 was the first forum in which international organizations and other US Government agencies were provided access to and interacted with the Vietnamese military concerning HIV/AIDS. Attendees at this and subsequent workshops have provided the impetus for a cadre of senior military leaders and health care professionals to initiate HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs for the SRV military.



SUMMARY

DHAPP-sponsored workshops have helped build HIV/AIDS prevention capacity in Vietnam. The combination of workshops and site visits by USPACOM and COE/DMHA staff members have laid the foundation for continuing cooperation from which the SRV military can build its HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.

DHAPP and COE/DMHA collaboration to conduct HIV prevention workshops raised awareness among senior military leaders in Vietnam.

ZAMBIA

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

Everyone would
be used to
guard the lake
and keep the
monster in hid-
ing.

“Masibambisane!
United in the fight
against AIDS.”...

BACKGROUND

Zambia's population is estimated at 10.5 million people, with an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of approximately 21% in the general population. The size of the Zambian Defense Force (ZDF) is 27,000 active-duty troops. Although Zambia has not performed HIV surveillance to determine infection rates among ZDF members, infection rates are believed to be 35%, which is significantly higher than that of the civilian population. DHAPP began working with Zambia in August 2000 by conducting a preliminary needs assessment with representatives from the ZDF and the Defense Attaché Office at the US Embassy in Lusaka.

DHAPP staff met with the HIV/AIDS coordinator for the ZDF in March 2001 and received briefings on Zambia's social marketing HIV prevention efforts, to include such print and audiovisual media as *Know and Guard Your Status*, *Take Cover*, *The Enemy Within*, and *Don't Take It Home*. In November 2002, DHAPP awarded a contract to Project Concern International (PCI) to develop and strengthen an HIV prevention program throughout Zambia's military. DHAPP has provided additional funding to the US Embassy in Lusaka to procure computer and audiovisual equipment and to support the training of social workers, physician assistants, and peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention education strategies.

Zambia has been selected as a focus country in the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief* (PEPFAR), announced during the President's State of the Union Address in January 2003. In addition, Zambia has been approved to receive Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grant funds to purchase durable equipment and supplies to bolster its HIV prevention efforts. DHAPP is managing both PEPFAR and FMF funds for the ZDF.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

DHAPP provided support to the ZDF social marketing program by supplying audiovisual equipment to enhance ability to reach all ZDF military bases. Under DHAPP sponsorship, PCI trained HIV program managers and equipped peer educators to be able to teach troops about HIV/AIDS and how to avoid infection. PCI also trained a cadre of program managers from the ZDF in planning, organizing, directing, and monitoring the effectiveness of an HIV/AIDS prevention program and adapted a training curriculum, adjusting the content of the materials to specific cultural language and relevancy to the ZDF. DHAPP also served as liaison to bridge the gap between governmental and nongovernmental agencies to ensure that the ZDF was included in community-based HIV programs in Zambia.



DHAPP provided training for Zambian military leaders to equip them to plan, organize, direct, and monitor HIV/AIDS prevention programs for the ZDF.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

DHAPP SUPPORTED COUNSELING AND TESTING, PROVIDING TRAINING FOR 18 COUNSELORS TO STAFF CT CENTERS. ADDITIONALLY, 35 DOCTORS AND NURSES WERE TRAINED TO DO HIV SEROLOGY TESTING.

Clinical Provider Training

DHAPP funded 2 ZDF physicians to attend the *XIV International AIDS Conference* in Barcelona, Spain, where they were able to receive current information and interact with colleagues from around the globe, sharing information vital to the fight against HIV. To date, DHAPP has funded 3 ZDF physicians to attend the 4-week *Military International HIV Training Program* in San Diego, California.

Master Trainers and Peer Educators

Through DHAPP support, a total of 36 ZDF personnel received training in management skills to plan, organize, direct, and monitor the HIV/AIDS prevention program. Additionally, 31 master trainers, 321 peer educators, 25 ZDF military recruiters were trained in HIV prevention, and 20 ZDF troops attended the *Theater for Development*, which incorporates drama, dance and song into social marketing, and mass awareness in HIV prevention.

Number of Troops Trained

To date, more than 4600 ZDF troops have received training in HIV prevention.

Counseling and Testing

DHAPP supported the renovation and outfitting of a Counseling and Testing

(CT) center for the ZDF, together with the training of 18 counselors to staff that facility. In addition, DHAPP funds supported the training of 35 clinical officers and nurses in HIV serology testing.

Mass Awareness Campaigns

Drama, song, and dance have been combined with social marketing, peer education, posters, and written materials to expand HIV prevention through multiple messages and media in the ZDF.



Laboratory Capabilities/Infrastructure

The country operational plan submitted by Zambia for PEPFAR funds includes equipment and supplies to increase laboratory capabilities and infrastructure.

Highlight

DHAPP provided support to a cadre of physicians, program managers, peer educators, and drama troupes that have already established a broad-based HIV prevention culture in the ZDF. There is coordination among governmental and nongovernmental agencies, and ongoing support from DHAPP, PEPFAR, FMF, and, most importantly, the ZDF senior officers who are taking a leadership role in backing the program.



SUMMARY

DHAPP efforts to date have strengthened HIV/AIDS prevention programs for the ZDF and facilitated the inclusion of military populations in PEPFAR initiatives. The infrastructure improvements and training provided through DHAPP support have helped the ZDF establish a vigorous HIV/AIDS prevention program that will help fight the HIV pandemic through ongoing education and training, CT, and mass awareness activities.

DHAPP and leaders of the ZDF collaborated to begin a comprehensive and sustainable HIV/AIDS prevention program.

APPENDIX A

OTHER FOREIGN MILITARIES SUPPORTED BY DHAPP

In addition to supporting military HIV/AIDS efforts within the 35 countries described thus far, DHAPP assisted militaries of 6 other countries in the planning, development, and implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention programs. Capsule summaries of the progress and accomplishments made in those countries during the FY01–FY04 reporting period are provided below.

Côte d'Ivoire

DHAPP provided funding for 2 representatives from the Côte d'Ivoire military to attend the September 2003 *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop* in Gaborone, Botswana, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of proposed HIV/AIDS prevention activities for FY04 DHAPP funding. In March 2004, a DHAPP staff member traveled to Abidjan to assist the Côte d'Ivoire military in developing a country operational plan (COP) for FY04 PEPFAR funding. A key objective of the resultant COP was to construct or refurbish structures to provide laboratory and counseling and testing services for members of the Côte d'Ivoire military and their family members. Unfortunately, that effort has been postponed indefinitely due to military and political unrest in Côte d'Ivoire.

Guyana

Guyana is one of the 15 focus countries participating in the PEPFAR initiative. Using DHAPP funding, representatives from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine accompanied a senior military officer from United States Southern Command to Guyana the week of 6 September 2004. During that visit, the US delegation met with Guyana Defence Force (GDF) leaders to (1) conduct a preliminary needs assessment, (2) identify points of contact and establish liaison with HIV/AIDS prevention coordinators for the GDF and the US Department of Public Health and other government agencies in-country, and (3) begin development of culturally and militarily appropriate HIV/AIDS prevention training and educational materials for implementation as part of Guyana's approved FY04 PEPFAR activities. An After-Action Report documenting findings and recommendations from this initial site visit and needs assessment was prepared and is available upon request to DHAPP.

Russia

In response to the disturbing increase in HIV/AIDS cases in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, DHAPP staff approached the Defense Attaché at the US Embassy in Moscow in April 2003 with an offer to assist the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense (MOD) in establishing an HIV/AIDS prevention program for members of its armed forces. In June 2003, DHAPP staff met with a delegation consisting of a flag-level officer from the Russian Federation MOD and 2 senior-level military medical practitioners to discuss collaborative US-Russian efforts in HIV/AIDS prevention. As a first step in establishing a prevention program, DHAPP recommended that medical practitioners from the Russian Federation MOD attend the *Military International HIV/AIDS Training Program* (MIHTP) in San Diego, California. Since that time, a group of 7 Russian military medical personnel, including 4 primary care physicians, 2 epidemiologists, and 1 medical academy instructor have attended and successfully completed 4-week MIHTP courses in January–February and April–May 2004.



APPENDIX A

The Russian Federation MOD Main Military Medical Directorate and DHAPP co-sponsored a highly successful international workshop, *Current Issues in Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of HIV and AIDS in the Military*, from 31 August to 2 September 2004, at the Military R&R Center Podmoskovye, near Moscow. Among the 120 participants at this workshop were senior-level leaders and medical practitioners of 17 Eastern European and Central Asian militaries, along with representatives from the US Department of Defense, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. The workshop featured plenary and focus group sessions on best practices in HIV policy formulation and implementation, structuring of HIV/AIDS prevention education and mass awareness campaigns, establishment of HIV/AIDS counseling and testing, diagnosis, and treatment programs, and the formation of military-civilian alliances to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. A summary and proceedings of this workshop have been prepared and are available upon request to DHAPP.

Rwanda

In May 2004, 2 senior representatives from the Rwandan Defense Forces (RDF) successfully completed the MIHTP course. In addition, a DHAPP staff member and a representative from Charles R. Drew University traveled to Kigali in September 2004 to discuss allocation of FY04 PEPFAR funding to the RDF. A statement of requirement was subsequently prepared and forwarded to the Naval Regional Contracting Center in Naples, Italy, describing HIV/AIDS prevention activities to be conducted for the RDF by Charles R. Drew University, Los Angeles, CA, using PEPFAR funds.

Ukraine

DHAPP staff approached the Defense Attaché at the US Embassy in Kiev in March 2003 with an offer to assist the Ukrainian Armed Forces in establishing an HIV/AIDS prevention program for its members. In June 2003, DHAPP provided funding to the Embassy to procure condoms, video and computer equipment, and to develop and distribute HIV/AIDS prevention education and mass awareness materials. Due to the lack of warranted procurement and contracting officers at the US Embassy, these procurements could not proceed as planned and the bulk of funding provided to the Ukraine was returned to DHAPP. Nevertheless, 2 senior-level physicians from the Ukrainian Armed Forces successfully completed the MIHTP course held 20 June to 19 July 2003.

Zimbabwe

Under DHAPP sponsorship, 2 representatives from the Zimbabwe Defense Forces (ZDF) attended the *All-Africa Military HIV/AIDS Prevention Workshop*, where they shared ideas, discussed lessons learned, and developed a list of FY04 HIV/AIDS prevention activities. Following from that workshop, DHAPP provided funding to the US Embassy Harare in May 2004 to procure computer and audiovisual equipment, HIV test kits, laboratory supplies, and to support the development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials for the ZDF. Additionally, 2 military physicians from the ZDF were selected to attend the October–November 2004 MIHTP course.

APPENDIX B

UNIVERSITIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) AWARDED DHAPP FUNDING FY01–FY04

The following table lists universities and NGOs awarded funding from DHAPP to support HIV/AIDS prevention efforts among sub-Saharan African Uniformed Services from fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2004.

Organization Name & Location	Year(s) of Award	African Uniformed Services Supported
Charles R. Drew University, Los Angeles, CA	FY02-FY04	Angola
Earth Conservancy, Warm Springs, VA	FY01-FY02	Tanzania
Earth Conservancy, Warm Springs, VA	FY03	Kenya
EngenderHealth, Johannesburg, South Africa	FY03	South Africa
Ghana Police Service, Accra, Ghana	FY01-FY02	Ghana
Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD	FY01	Cameroon
Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD	FY02-FY03	Ethiopia
Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD	FY03	Chad, Republic of Congo (Brazzaville) & Gabon
Lincoln University of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Lincoln University, PA	FY01-FY02	Nigeria
MarkData, Johannesburg, South Africa	FY-03	South Africa
Medical Care Development International, Washington, DC	FY02-FY03	Swaziland
Population Services International, Washington, DC	FY01-FY03	Eritrea
Population Services International, Washington, DC	FY03	Mali
Population Services International, Washington, DC	FY03	Mozambique
Population Services International, Washington, DC	FY01-FY04	Namibia
Population Services International, Washington, DC	FY03	Togo
Project Concern International, San Diego, CA	FY03	Zambia
ResourceLinc, Inc., Sewell, NJ	FY-02	Botswana
ResourceLinc, Inc., Sewell, NJ	FY-03	Malawi
University of Maryland, Institute of Human Virology, Baltimore, MD	FY02-FY03	Nigeria
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC	FY01	Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa)

