

USAID SENEGAL/HEALTH MONTHLY UPDATE

Assistant Administrator for Global Health Bureau Visits Senegal:

On August 23rd and 24th, Dr. Ariel Pablos-Mendez, the newly appointed Assistant Administrator for Global Health, visited Senegal to learn about the innovative health programming supported by the US government. He expressed a particular interest in the interagency coordination process for the Global Health Initiative strategy; the integrated services offered at USAID supported health facilities; and the malaria activities that are being implemented to help Senegal reach its goal of universal coverage with insecticide treated bednets by the end of 2012. On his first day, he met with the Minister of Health and his cabinet to discuss the partnership between the US and Senegal for achieving the objectives of Senegal's national health strategy. The team then headed over to Ouakam Military Hospital where Colonel Mbaye Khary Dieng, the first military officer selected as a PEPFAR hero, outlined the major accomplishments of the Senegalese Armed Forces' HIV prevention program, including new and refurbished PMTCT sites and active outreach to military spouses and families.



The next day the team left Dakar and toured a

SPOTLIGHT ON: AWA DIAGNE



Awa Diagne is a community health worker and matron at a local health hut in the village of Nguerine Ngaparou. Married at a young age, she and left school, but was eager to learn more and acquire knowledge and attended a local literacy class. "My passion and interest for health related activities came from the basic knowledge that I gained from that training" she said.

In 1997, Awa assisted an American medical team in conducting a medical campaign within her village. This experience reinforced her desire to promote health in her community. In 1999, her desire became reality when her community selected her for community health worker training. In 2003, she began performing community health outreach and education activities at a USAID supported health hut. Through Childfund, the implementing partner managing the health hut, she received trainings on a variety of health topics, including maternal and child health, TB, HIV, health communication, and management of the health hut.

"From all the training I received, I was most impressed by the one on family planning." Awa thinks that among all the activities at the health hut, the most important is information, education, and communication as it creates intimacy and friendly environment between the clients and also reinforces the possibility to persuade people and discuss taboos.

health center in Mbacké, which offers an integrated package of services, and met with Networks and the Universal Coverage Community Monitoring Committee, whose members offered personal stories on their motivation to protect their community from malaria and to mobilize support and action.



The day ended in Mbour at a USAID-supported health hut where Awa Diagne, a dedicated community health worker was

presented with a “Best Community Voices” award for a presentation she gave during a recent family planning conference in Nairobi.



Dr. Bocar Daff, Chief of the Reproductive Health Division, MOH, and Dr. Ariel Pablos-Mendez present Best Community Voices award to Awa Diagne

2010 Demographic Health Survey Indicators

Health Indicator	Recent Data	Prior Data
Infant Mortality	47/1000	54/1000 in 2008
<5 Mortality	72/1000	85/1000 in 2008
Neonatal Mortality	29/1000	35/1000 in 2008
Total Fertility Rate	5.0	5.3 in 2005
Modern Contraceptive Prev. Rate	12.1%	10.3% in 2005



Next, at a local primary school, students eagerly demonstrated their knowledge on malaria prevention through songs and a demonstration of how to convert a rectangular mosquito net into a circular one.

This was followed by a visit to a Daara, a traditional Koranic boarding school, where each sleeping space was covered by a long lasting insecticide treated net.



After Mbacké, the team drove to a village in Dioffior health district to discuss home based management of malaria with a local health volunteer and members of his community. Instead of traveling a distance to health hut or post, community members can visit the health worker at his home where he is able to provide malaria testing and treatment to those with confirmed cases of malaria and education on prevention and treatment.

Many thanks to our Colonel Mbaye Khary Dieng and his staff, Dr. Aidara Mbacké, Medicin Chef de District de Mbacké, Dr. Daff and the RH Division and our implementing partners for making the visit a success!

Upcoming Events:

**Réunion de Partage du Programme Santé 2006 -2011 at Hôtel Méridien Président
PMI Evaluation**

**October 5, 2011
September 13-16, 2011**