

WEST AFRICA

BENIN, BURKINA FASO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA BISSAU, LIBERIA, MALI, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE AND TOGO

HEALTH SECTOR NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In 2005, West Africa continued to be affected by a range of disasters including droughts in the Sahel and complex emergencies in Guinea Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In addition, the political instability in Togo led to the displacement of several thousands of people, thus affecting neighbouring Benin and Ghana.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND

CONTROL: The entire region is characterized by uncontrolled cross-border movements, which facilitate the spread of communicable diseases. Cholera, yellow fever, and HIV/AIDS were among the epidemics that affected the region throughout 2005.

HEALTH CARE: The primary causes of malnutrition in West Africa are poor infant feeding practices and lack of health care. Chronic malnutrition affects a large percentage of children and inadequate health care to support mothers and children remains the primary obstacle to implementing effective preventive-feeding interventions throughout the region.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: The high incidence of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) poses a major threat to the health and well-being of women and children affected by conflict in the region. Consequences include physical and psychological trauma, increased numbers of unwanted pregnancies and abortions and the acceleration of the spread of sexually transmitted infections (including HIV/AIDS).



HEALTH SECTOR PRIORITIES FOR 2006

- Scale up coordination and emergency response capacity
- Strengthen disease surveillance and outbreak response for communicable diseases cholera, being a priority
- Improve the quality of health care services in crisis affected zones
- Improve the quality of potable water and sanitation in areas affected by crises

WHO Proposed Projects in the CAP 2006	Funds Requested *	Implementing Partners
Strengthening outbreak alert and response preparedness for rapid diagnosis, prevention and control of yellow fever and meningitis in the West Africa subregion WA-06/H04	3,831,942	MoH, NGOs
Enhancing emergency preparedness and response capacity in West Africa WA-06/H05	2,299,352	MoH, UN agencies, NGOs

* Amounts given in US dollars.

Total Funds Requested: USD 6,131,294

2005 Donors: Italy