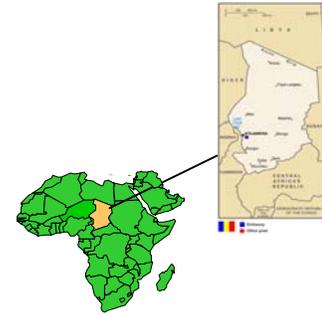




**DoD HIV/AIDS Prevention Program
Status Report:**

Chad



BACKGROUND

Introduction/General Information

Chad's population is estimated to be between 8.1 and 9 million people, with life expectancy ranging from 45 to 51 years. French and Arabic are the official languages, with a literacy rate between 40 to 50%, distributed disproportionately between the sexes. Chad is a developing nation with 80% of the population relying on subsistence agriculture. Annual per capita income ranges from \$210 to \$1,030.

Country HIV/AIDS Statistics and Risk Factors

As compared with other sub-Saharan African nations, Chad has a relatively low HIV/AIDS prevalence rate estimated at 3.6 to 5%. The number of people believed to be living with HIV is 150,000. Identified significant risk factors include high-risk heterosexual intercourse with multiple partners and commercial sex workers.

Military HIV/AIDS Information

There are no reliable estimates currently available for the size of military forces in Chad. The Chadian Armed Forces have not performed force-wide HIV testing of its personnel, thus prevalence rates are unavailable. It is believed that the military population has higher HIV prevalence rates than the general population.

PROPOSED PROGRAM

To date, no HIV/AIDS prevention plan has been submitted by Chad.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

Contractor-Based Assistance

In January 2003, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, received a contract from DHAPP to implement an HIV/AIDS prevention program in 3 central African nations, including Chad. The main elements of this program include increasing HIV/AIDS surveillance capacity and infrastructure, establishing a primary prevention program, and developing a peer education program using a train-the-trainer approach. Johns Hopkins plans to conduct 2 knowledge, attitude, practice, and behavior (KAPB) surveys along with a serological survey of Chadian Forces.

ESMG 2003 QUICK IMPACT ASSESSMENT MVU SHOW SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE MILITARY AGED 18-40			
SECTION 2: HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE, OPINIONS AND ATTITUDES: This section will ask you questions on your knowledge and opinions about HIV/AIDS			
No	Questions	Response categories	Codes
Q201	What are your chances of getting infected with HIV?	NO CHANCE LOW MODERATE HIGH ALREADY HAVE HIV DON'T KNOW NO RESPONSE	1 2 3 4 5 8 9
Q202	Can people protect themselves from HIV, the virus that causes AIDS by using a condom correctly each time they have sex?	YES NO DON'T KNOW NO RESPONSE	1 2 8 9
Q203 A	Can people protect themselves from HIV by having one uninfected partner?	YES NO DON'T KNOW NO RESPONSE	1 2 8 9

KAPB survey was administered to Chadian Armed Forces.

Ultimately 1,000 military personnel will be screened for HIV infection in the national capital of N'Djamena. Johns Hopkins also plans to train 100 medical personnel in providing syndromic management for armed forces personnel diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs). In addition, voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centers will be created in existing military medical facilities, staffed with a group of 100 counselors who will be trained by Johns Hopkins.

Coupled with its surveillance, treatment and testing programs, Johns Hopkins will provide a comprehensive peer education campaign, which will include a multi-equipped STI/HIV/AIDS information center in N'Djamena. Also included will be

extensive behavior change communication media, including pamphlets, brochures, and posters with culturally appropriate prevention messages, and condom demonstration models. Finally, 200 peer educators will be trained to describe, model, and encourage HIV preventive behaviors as well as promote protective and appropriate treatment of service members already infected.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Because the Johns Hopkins project is still in an early stage of development, no data are available at present for assessing the impact of DHAPP efforts in Chad.