



MALARIA EPIDEMIC UNDER CONTROL

The Federal Ministry of Health's (FMOH) Roll Back Malaria Partnership has reported that the malaria epidemics from June to August have been brought under control. However, to ensure adequate preparedness should more epidemics occur during the "long" transmission season from September to December 2005, an Appeal was launched by the FMOH. Funds amounting to over US\$7 million have been rapidly pledged by several donors. These funds will be used to procure extra Artemether - Lumefantrine (Coartem), Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs), insecticides for mosquito control and operational funds to support epidemic prevention and control. For more information contact: igetachew@unicef.org

SITUATION IMPROVING IN AWASSA ZURIA, SNNPR

GOAL Ethiopia recently announced that it has admitted 517 children with severe acute malnutrition in its Outreach Therapeutic Programme (OTP)/Community based Therapeutic Care (CTC) program in Awassa Zuria, SNNPR since its inception in June 2005. According to GOAL the monthly admissions into the program have steadily decreased from 340 in June to 54 in August, reflecting an improved recovery rate of 92.3% and reduced defaulter and death rates (5.8% and 1.8% respectively). In addition, GOAL's Rapid Response Program, funded by the Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), has recently launched another OTP/CTC program in Fedis woreda, East Hararghe zone, to assist the ongoing efforts by the woreda health services in response to the deteriorating nutritional situation. Meanwhile, GOAL announced the launch of US\$ 1 million sub-grant scheme for nutrition and nutrition related emergency interventions financed by OFDA. The grant, which is available to all interested national and international NGOs, will be supervised by GOAL's Rapid Response Program team. Interested organisations need to apply as soon as possible as all the projects must be implemented by end of February 2006. For more information contact: claireg@goalethiopia.com & alema@goalethiopia.com

DUTCH NATCOM SUPPORTS EDUCATION IN GAMBELLA

UNICEF has recently secured funding from the Dutch National Committee to facilitate the sustainable return and integration of 3,200 children into an effective learning environment in 16 schools in 2005–2006 (starting September 2005). All activities will be conducted in collaboration between UNICEF education staff in Gambella and the Regional Education Bureau. This project is an essential long term tool to assist the region out of its cycle of violence, reduce child mortality/morbidity and revive the start of sustainable development in the region. Contact: igetachew@unicef.org

MINE RISK EDUCATION UPDATE

Mine Action representatives from the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO), the office for Rehabilitation and Social Affairs (ORSA) and the Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RaDO) met in August to discuss the future of Mine Risk Education (MRE) in Tigray Region and its improved coordination. Based on the results of the evaluation, the MRE programme is presently developing the village profile project where all three organisations, will visit all mine affected communities and assess the magnitude of the problem. Two workshops have been conducted so far to implement the project. The first, facilitated by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), was on developing surveillance systems and understanding how to analyse and develop action plans for MRE in Ethiopia. The second workshop, facilitated by UNICEF, was based on Participatory Rural Appraisal methodologies and how to use them in the village profiles. The village profile project will be piloted in seven woredas along the Tigray border with Eritrea border (two villages per woreda). The pilot project will be completed by December when GICHD with UNICEF will conduct another workshop to analyse the results of the pilot project. Contact: igetachew@unicef.org

WORLD VISION CONDUCTS DISASTER MITIGATION WORKSHOP IN AFAR

World Vision organised a two-day workshop aimed at discussing various disaster preparedness and mitigation endeavors in Assaita woreda of Afar Region. 59 participants drawn from local government offices, the community and from World Vision Afar Area Development Program Office attended the workshop. The workshop was mainly used as a forum for exchange of views and experiences on how to mitigate the impact of drought through irrigation, development of locally suitable varieties of horticulture and forage crops, use of different grazing techniques as well as destocking. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with Melka Worrer Agricultural Research Center. For more information contact: wveth@ethionet.et