

Community Health

Roll Back Malaria and the Project's STD/HIV/AIDS prevention programs remain the focus of the Project's Community Health Outreach Program.

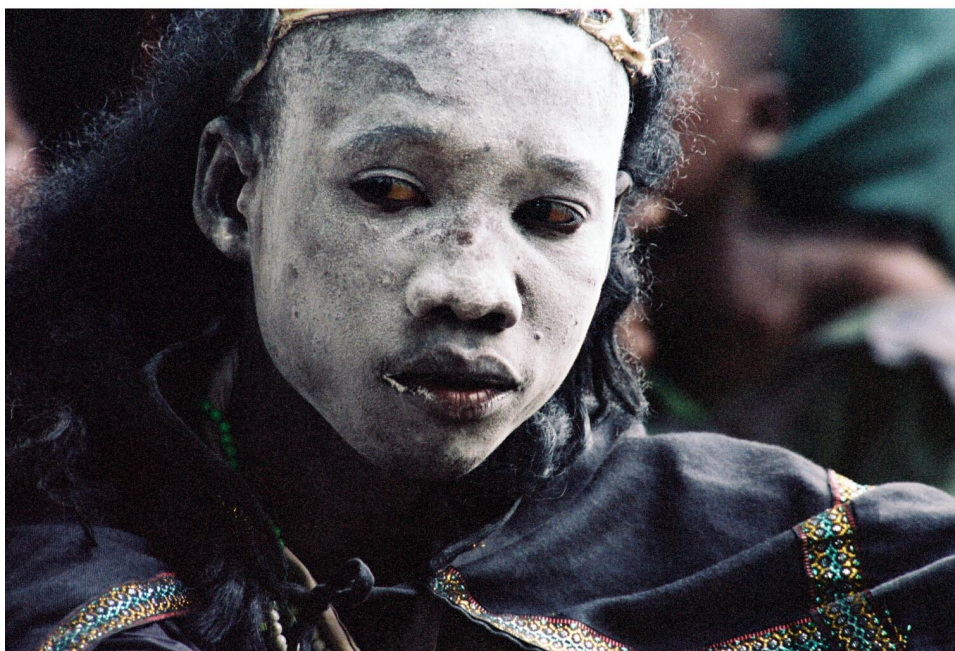
New Diagnostic & Research Center

One of the final steps has been taken towards establishing a major new medical resource for the oilfield area in southern Chad. A nonprofit association has been formed that will administer the Southern Chad Reference Center for Infectious Diseases. The new center will provide:

- A base for medical research, particularly the class of tropical diseases endemic to the area. (The center will not provide any direct patient care.)
- Laboratory services for disease diagnosis to support the five clinics operating in the oilfield area.
- Administration of programs targeted to the region, including the Chadian national programs for HIV, TB, and malaria.
- Expert advice and training for medical personnel working in the region.

Board members of the Alliance pour le Développement de la Santé (ADS), the new nonprofit association that will run the center, include the Ministry of Health for Chad; the Comité Technique National pour le Suivi et le Contrôle des Aspects Environnementaux, the multi-ministerial group that oversees the EMP-related aspects of the Project for the Government of Chad; the School of Medicine of the University of N'Djaména; the Swiss Tropical Institute; International SOS, the provider of health clinic services to several of the Project's major contractors; Schlumberger, the Project's oil well service contractor; and Esso Exploration and Production Chad Inc. Drilling contractors Pride Forasol and FMC will also contribute some funding.

**HIV/AIDS
Prevention
Education**



The Les Benjamin theatrical troupe has completed a unique year-long HIV/AIDS education campaign in southern Chad. The acting troupe is sponsored by an NGO and was working under a contract with the Project. The troupe completed 140 performances in the villages in the Project area this quarter, in the three larger communities in the region (Doba, Bébédjia, and Moundou), and in the Project's currently active construction camps in Chad. In the first wave of the campaign, the troupe gave performances in 38 villages, reaching more than 20,000 residents with their HIV/AIDS prevention message.

**Roll Back
Malaria**

- In Cameroon, 35,000 anti-mosquito bed nets have arrived in readiness for distribution, as soon as NGOs have been contracted to handle the distribution.
 - The first distribution of these nets in Cameroon will take place in Dompta, near Pump Station 2.
 - Distribution will also take place in the vicinity of the Project's two other major facilities in Cameroon. Distribution points include Kribi, near the location of the Pressure Reducing Station and the marine terminal, as well as Bélabo, near Pump Station 3.
- In Chad, where 39,000 anti-mosquito bed nets were distributed last year, a study has been completed to determine how many of the nets are still in use. A sample of six villages revealed that 92% of the nets are still in use in the households where they were distributed.

