

CONGO BRAZZA

Assessment of the Epidemiological Situation & Demographics	The National and Multisectoral Response*
<p><u>Estimated percentage of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end of 2001</u> These estimates include all people with HIV infection, whether or not they have developed symptoms of AIDS, alive at the end of 2001: 7.2%</p> <p><u>Estimated number of deaths due to AIDS</u> Estimated number of adults and children who died of AIDS during 2001: 11,000</p> <p><u>Estimated number of orphans</u> Estimated number of children who have lost their mother or father or both parents to AIDS and who were alive and under age 15 at the end of 2001: 78,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Brazzaville and Pointe Noire HIV prevalence among antenatal clinic women increased from around 5% in the late 1980s to 8% in 1994. In 2000, HIV prevalence in Pointe Noire was 14%. Between 1996 and 2000, HIV prevalence in Brazzaville remained at about 5%. • In 1987, sex workers tested for HIV in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire had HIV infection rates of 34% and 64% respectively. • In 1990, 16% of male and 20% of female STI clinic patients tested positive for HIV in Brazzaville. • Among the military personnel tested in 1989, about 15% were HIV positive. In 1999, HIV prevalence among military personnel tested was 5%. <p><i>Source: UNAIDS/WHO epidemiological fact sheet – Congo (2002)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a study conducted at Pointe Noire by the French National Institute of Demographic Studies from June to October 2001, AIDS was identified as the main cause of death in adults aged 15 to 54. The proportion of AIDS cases in females was significantly higher than the proportion in males (50% vs. 37%, respectively). <p><i>Source: Institut National d'Etudes Demographiques, Paris, France, Programme National de Lutte contre le Sida, Brazzaville, Congo; Situation épidémiologique de l'infection à VIH-Sida à Pointe-Noire, Pointe-Noire, Congo; Situation épidémiologique de l'infection à VIH-Sida à Pointe-Noire, Congo.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National AIDS Eradication Program, in cooperation with mobile AIDS treatment centers, will assist the World Food Program (WFP) in implementing a feeding project devoted to HIV/AIDS patients in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie in southern Congo and Ouesso in the north of the country by April 2004. • Congo's education ministry has launched an AIDS prevention project in schools. Teachers are trained in methods to prevent HIV/AIDS and Sexually-Transmitted Infections, as well as in counseling. • In November 2000, Congo Brazzaville became the first country to benefit from the Boehringer Ingelheim's offer to provide Nevirapine - which prevents mother-to-child transmission of HIV virus - free of charge for a period of five years. In August 2001, clinics in Brazzaville started providing HIV treatment free of charge to pregnant women who tested positive for HIV. • In partnership with the UN peacemakers in the country (UNICONGO) and the national business association, and under the patronage of First Lady Antoinette Sassou Nguesso, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) recently organized HIV/AIDS awareness workshops for business leaders in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire. • In November 2002, the International Labor Organization (ILO) organized a workshop for the representatives of the trade unions of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo-Brazza, to encourage the establishment of teams to fight AIDS in the workplace. • Through its embassy in Congo, the French government has financed the creation of a national and a regional blood transfusion center in Brazzaville and Point-Black, as well as eight blood transfusion posts in Oyo, Owando, Ewo, Impfondo, Gamboma, Sibiti, Nkayi, Kinkala, and Dolisie. <p><i>*For details and contact information, please see List of Potential Direct Partners that follows</i></p> <p><i>Source: Based on UN agencies and afrol news agency: http://www.afrol.com/News2003/cob001_aids_educ.htm, AEGIS AIDS news library: http://www.aegis.com/search/Default.asp</i></p>

SELECTED LINKS AND CONTACTS:

1. Programme National de Lutte Contre le SIDA (PNLS), Dr Marie-Francke Puruehnce, Chef du PNLS, Coordination de la Commission nationale de Préparation du projet SIDA Tel: 64-99-86/ 51-85-95/ 82-40-53, Email : pnlscongobrazza@hotmail.com
2. Ministère du Commerce, de la Consommation et de l'Approvisionnement, Mme Rachel-Brigitte Ickonga-Somboko, Point Focal HIV/SIDA, Tel: 51-09-50
3. Réseau national des ONG de Lutte contre le SIDA (RENOSI), M. Alexis Vincent de Paul Boyoko, Secrétaire Général, M. Etienne Okouya, Coordinateur régional RENOSI Djambala (Plateaux), Centre médical Djambala, Point Focal HIV/SIDA. Tel : 68-57-01

Congo Brazza – List Of Potential Direct Partners			
Source	URL/Contact Info	What to find	Comments
Bralima/Heineken	Contact person: L. Kitenge, Bralima/Heineken, Avenue du Flambeau 912, Gombe – Kinshasa Email C. Kitenge@Heineken.nl	Heineken is doing groundbreaking work in implementing HIV/AIDS programs for its workforce. It mainly concentrates on Voluntary Counseling and Testing and Mother-to-Child Transmission. Heineken is one of the first companies in Africa to provide antiretroviral (ARV) treatment to all its employees that may need it.	Heineken established a Public Private Partnership with the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) that aims to strengthen the workplace HIV/AIDS prevention program and to implement a comprehensive medical care program including ARV for HIV infected employees. Countries involved: Congo/Kinshasa, Rwanda, Burundi and Congo/Brazzaville . Lessons Learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of operational policies and practices that are clearly defined, understood, adapted to the local context and consistently followed. • Capacity building with training workshops for public and private sector. • Provision of minimal package of activities for sustainable HIV prevention • Training of volunteers to act as peer counselors and head campaigns of employee education on the issue of HIV/AIDS. • Improve the condom distribution system and the sexually transmitted diseases diagnosis and treatment. • Improve the availability and use of data for decision making as well as for monitoring and evaluation purposes. • Assess the technical, legal, ethical, educational and political prerequisites for the introduction of antiretroviral drugs. Heineken believes that Public Private Partnerships in the fight against HIV/AIDS will become a characteristic feature for the political economy in many countries and will contribute to a positive spill-over effect into the larger public and other local and international companies. <i>Source: Public Private Partnership: Heineken's HIV/AIDS prevention and medical care program as a model of best practice, D. Denolf1, C. Kitenge 2, P. Nsalou 3, P. Sianard 4, P. Milenge 1, S. VanderBorgh 5, H. Rijckborst 5 1 GTZ, XIV AIDS Conference Abstracts</i>
Projet pour la prévention du SIDA dans les écoles du Congo (PRESIEC)	Contact person: M. Landry F. W. Koufoundila, Professeur d'Anglais, Membre de la Commission nationale de Préparation du projet SIDA, Point Focal HIV/SIDA Tel : 66-23-68	PRESIEC has experience in behavioral-change programs that could also be applied at the workplace to provide information and material on HIV/AIDS prevention.	PRESIEC is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that has developed similar behavioral-change programs for schools in cooperation with the Congolese government's national program to combat AIDS. The 3 main pillars of the PRESIEC Project are: (1) Student Peer-Educators: Over 3,500 young people have been trained as peer-educators. They learn how to talk with friends and family about HIV/AIDS and other issues of concern, model healthy life-styles, work for gender equity in schools, participate in action research and work to make schools a safe environment where everyone can learn. (2) Young People's Clubs: The student peer-educators have established 75 clubs that meet once per week to learn and discuss HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, life-skills development as well as offering cultural, social, sports and income-generating activities.

			<p>(3) Teacher Training: Over 55 Congolese facilitators offer 3-day teacher training courses to primary and secondary school teachers, guiding them in their role as active leaders and role models to both their students and other teachers. Over 2,000 teachers have benefited from these courses, learning participatory techniques such as theatre, role plays and debates to guide their students on issues such as communicating effectively with their family and friends, stress management and healthy life-styles.</p> <p>Recently, PRESIEC has extended its efforts to similar behavioral-change programs to educate the Congolese military on the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS, with the support of the Congolese government.</p>
Association PanAfricaine Thomas Sankara (APTS)	<p>Contact persons: Céphas Germain Ewangui, Président Tel : 51-01-99 Email : apts-congo@voilà.fr M. Jean Ngouende, Assistant en programmes Tel : 68-72-76/ 31-98-83</p>	<p>APTS could be a potential partner in HIV/AIDS awareness and education programs, especially concerning female employees and wives of male employees of the company.</p>	<p>In 2001, APTS participated in an education campaign for women in Congo-Brazzaville. In cooperation with UNICEF, APTS has helped in the training of 750 women who, in turn, became responsible for the education of 20,000 women in different localities.</p> <p>Source : AEGIS - http://www.aegis.com/news/afp/2000/af000950_fr.html</p>
Comité international de la Croix-Rouge (CICR)	<p>Contact person: M. Oumarou Konate, Délégué Santé Tel : 81-12-08/ 61-39-38/ 81-14-60, Email : brazzaville.brz@icrc.org</p>	<p>The Red Cross could provide information and communication material to MSI regarding awareness and prevention, peer education, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), stigma and discrimination, and care and treatment.</p>	<p>The Red Cross in Congo is currently organizing seminars in schools with various themes regarding HIV/AIDS, such as: “Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)”, “Stigma and Discrimination”, “HIV/AIDS and sexual violence and their consequences in the community”, “The promotion of condoms and contraceptives”, “The concept and techniques of peer education” and “Home-based care”.</p> <p>Source : AEGIS - http://www.aegis.com/news/afp/2000/af001169_fr.html</p>
National NGO Network against AIDS – Réseau National des Organisations contre le SIDA (RENOSI)	<p>Contact persons: M. Alexis Vincent de Paul Boyoko, Secrétaire Général, M. Etienne Okouya, Coordinateur régional RENOSI Djambala (Plateaux), Centre médical Djambala, Point Focal HIV/SIDA. Tel : 68-57-01</p>	<p>RENOSI could provide information, assistance and communication material to MSI regarding awareness and prevention, peer education, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), stigma and discrimination, and care and treatment.</p>	<p>As of April 15, 2002, 32 NGOs were grouped in a platform known as the National NGO Network against AIDS (RENOSI). These organizations offer a wide range of services from information, education and communication to voluntary screening for HIV infections. A partnership between the Government and a French NGO has led to the establishment of two Ambulatory Treatment Centers (CTAs), one in Brazzaville and the other in Pointe Noire. The PTME project is being run by a partnership involving the Government, the Fondation Congo Assistance, the Pan African AIDS Organization (OPALS), the French Red Cross, the French Development Agency and the NGO Afrique Santé Dispensaires. Boehringer Ingelheim Laboratories has committed itself to supporting activities under the PTME project for five years.</p>

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