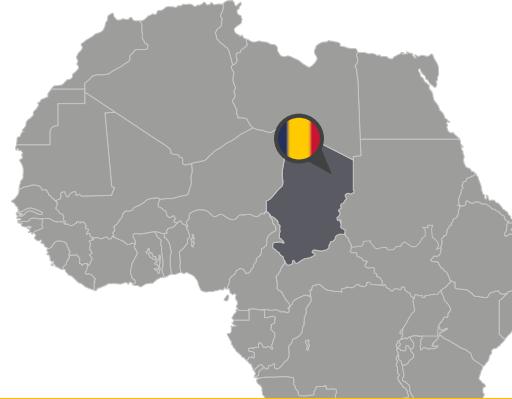


Newsletter CHAD

May 2022



CSOs SUPPORT COMMUNITY VACCINATIONS



To help protect Chadians from the COVID-19 pandemic, our TDDA team threw their financial and technical support behind two public engagement campaigns run by our community partners. Centre Djenandoum Naasson and Alerte Santé are civil society organizations (CSOs) who were deployed to support the national COVID vaccination programme, helping to raise awareness, dispel rumours and tackle vaccine hesitancy in selected districts of the Logone Occidental and Lac regions. Across the three neighbourhoods they visited, 429 people were happy to get vaccinated as a result of this work.

These community outreach campaigns show how support from trusted local leaders can lead to a notable increase in life-saving vaccine uptake. They also demonstrate how CSOs can contribute to other government health security initiatives in the future. Building their role is important. As well as providing extra resources, CSOs have the potential to represent and serve the needs of vulnerable and traditionally hard-to-reach communities, keeping more people safe. The pilots follow TDDA's earlier work to build CSO capacity. Working closely with government ministries,

we carefully selected 22 CSOs who we trained in health security, health equity, risk communication and community engagement during a workshop held in July 2021. In a second session in October, we assisted the CSOs to develop approaches and tools for monitoring the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) – the Government's wider plan to prevent, prepare for, and respond to, disease outbreaks.

We are delighted that this initiative has built trust and led to a major breakthrough in relations between CSOs and Government. Following the workshops, the CSOs we had been working with organised themselves into a network. The Permanent Secretariat of NGOs and Humanitarian Affairs (SPONGAH) will now convene quarterly meetings with them to coordinate future activities. TDDA followed up this breakthrough by helping organize a joint workshop (Feb 2022) for CSO and SPONGAH experts on the practicalities of NAPHS monitoring missions, further strengthening this excellent example of collaboration.

Read our CSO capacity-building case study [here](#)

ONE HEALTH GATHERS MOMENTUM

Our TDDA team in Chad recently worked with the Government to develop a draft Order to establish a National One Health Platform (NOHP), following a special mission by our technical experts in Oct 2021. This is a significant step towards improving health security and saving Chadian lives.



The Platform will play an important coordination role across government, joining up and strengthening collective efforts to deal with health threats. TDDA is actively advocating for the inclusion not only of ministries responsible for human, animal and environmental health but also other actors such as the ministry for women, families and infant care, as well as community representatives. Sharing responsibility in this way ensures that the needs of all parts of society are kept firmly in focus.

In the year ahead, TDDA plans to increase the support offered by our specialist advisers to accelerate the important progress being made. This will include providing technical assistance to quarterly coordination meetings of the multi-sectoral "One Health Champions" team, and training personnel from One Health-related ministries on zoonoses (diseases that spread from animals to humans).

COMMUNITY VIGILANCE IS EVERYBODY'S JOB



TDDA's Dr. Salif Samake meeting Planning Directors

Community-Based Surveillance (CBS) is a way of engaging society in efforts to monitor, detect, report and respond to health dangers. Community vigilance can help in the fight against epidemics by ensuring that outbreaks are reported early, including detecting cases among people who would not otherwise seek medical care. The data collected locally can help to ensure public health responses are targeted and timely, to prevent a wider health emergency.

TDDA recently supported provincial surveillance planning meetings in N'Djaména, Logone Oriental and Ouaddaï, involving teams from the central planning

departments of a number of ministries. This follows a TDDA capacity-building workshop for district chief doctors and other surveillance focal point staff from five provinces last September. These are important, practical steps that will make Community-Based Surveillance a reality across several regions of Chad.

Our next action will be to support the health district of Guelendeng in Mayo Kebi East province, so that it too can establish a community surveillance system. We will share the lessons learned there so that they can be applied to other districts.

TACKLING DEADLY DISEASES IN AFRICA PROGRAMME

TDDA tackles the systemic causes of health insecurity, not just the symptoms. Instead of responding to emergencies after they hit, we help equip countries to manage disease outbreaks and other health threats before they become public health crises. Epidemics are a global threat, killing millions of people each year. Strong health systems need strong institutions, infrastructure, surveillance systems, and well-trained and equipped staff. Without these, disease outbreaks can quickly become epidemics, which devastate lives and livelihoods.

TDDA WORKS WITH FIVE COUNTRIES

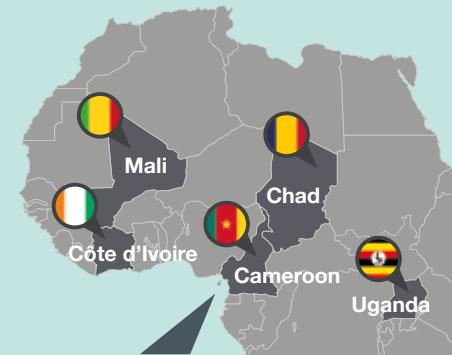
TDDA works with governments and communities, empowering them to achieve their own ambitions for improving health security. We provide technical expertise and targeted operational support through experts on the ground in Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Uganda.

STRONG NATIONAL PLANS SAVE LIVES

The World Health Organization's International Health Regulations (IHR) provide a framework to ensure countries are better able to prevent, prepare for, and respond to, diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential. Chad has made international commitments to implement these global standards and TDDA continues to provide support to achieve this ambition.

A National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) is a key component of IHR. We recently assisted the Government to update Chad's NAPHS annual work plan, which was validated in January 2022, at a meeting TDDA helped organize. Earlier, TDDA's IHR expert visited Chad to assist with an IHR donor mapping exercise. We helped Government bring together key stakeholders and partners in Nov 2021 to map existing resources, activities and budgets. This showed clearly what gaps in the implementation of the NAPHS need to be prioritised, and highlighted where we could work together for progress.

In the coming year, TDDA will continue to provide support so that Chad's NAPHS can be fully implemented. We will assist with routine monitoring of progress and help train border staff on how best to detect and manage sick travellers, in line with international protocols.



TDDA assisted Cameroon to manage the disease risks involved in hosting the Africa Cup of Nations football tournament during the COVID pandemic. A simulation exercise at the main airport let us test plans for dealing with sick travellers and our subsequent recommendations were immediately implemented by Government.

Tackling deadly diseases in Africa



Funded by UK aid and led by DAI Global Health

For more information go to:

tacklingdeadlydiseasesinafrica.org

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