

EC partner

UNICEF

Facts and Figures

- **EC contribution**
€ 1,34 million (71% of total) granted 2002-2005
- A project initially in 2 health **districts**
- Extended to **34** other districts in **2006**
- Nationwide extension is foreseen by **2010**

Did you know?

80 000 women (+15 years old) were living with HIV/AIDS in Burkina Faso in 2005 *



**EUROPEAN
COMMISSION**

Health

Combating AIDS in Burkina Faso

A pilot project on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT)

«The biggest problem is that pregnant women don't accept their HIV positive status, in reality they don't realise the seriousness of the disease.»

Doctor Ouedraogo, head of the maternity ward, Hospital district 30, Ouagadougou.



Context

Developed in 2001, the national program of prevention of mother to child transmission was not operational in Burkina Faso until 2002. Despite the efficiency of anti retroviral administration to prevent transmission having been proved, only a few individual initiatives had been set up by doctors. Thanks to European Commission funding since 2002, a pilot project led by UNICEF has been implemented in 2 health districts of Bobo-Dioulasso and Ouagadougou.

Objective **PMCT as a first step of an integrated approach**

- To ensure permanent availability of information and education on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
- To ensure supply of material and reagents for HIV testing and Anti Retroviral treatment for mothers and children
- To reinforce family planning services and to improve quality of advisory services, prenatal consultation, and routine and emergency obstetric care

Impact **What has been achieved?**

- Health personnel trained in order to ensure follow up and advisory services
- Advisory sessions followed by **15,000** women in 2 health districts
- **5,000** women have benefited from individual advice and HIV testing
- Anti Retroviral drugs made widely available and administered to mothers and children
- **Nationwide extension** of the project foreseen by **2010**

Health

Combating AIDS in Burkina Faso

A pilot project to prevent HIV transmission from mother to child (PMCT)

Thanks to this project, the dream of bringing an HIV negative child into the world has become a reality for HIV-positive women in the health districts of Bobo Dioulasso and Ouagadougou.

Hospital in District 30, North Ouagadougou.

The maternity ward of the hospital in District 30 comprises **3** doctors, **10** midwives and **12** obstetricians who receive dozens of pregnant women each day.

For Doctor Charlemagne Ouedrogo, head of the hospital's maternity ward, *"the biggest problem is when pregnant women don't accept their HIV-positive status; often after the birth, there is no follow-up for the infant who may have been infected. In reality, the women don't realise the seriousness of the illness."*

« I don't lose hope », affirms the Doctor, « but it is a long-term job. The general mentality is gradually changing. You know that the level of education here is very low and that for every 100 women sensitised, there are only 5 who agree to take an HIV test. »



Administration of health care in the maternity ward, hospital in District 30



Consultation in the maternity ward, hospital in District 30