



New AWARE Website

This is one of the AWARE project design templates for its new Web presence. The website launch is planned for November.

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WAHO announces its young professionals recruitment

Program to begin January 2005

The West African Health Organization (WAHO) in partnership with AWARE this month announced the launching of its Young Professional Internship Program. WAHO is the health agency of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The 12-month program has been designed to provide young professionals with knowledge, practical skills and experience for sustainable management of health issues in West Africa.



The program is divided into six stages. During the first four stages at WAHO's Burkina Faso headquarters, the interns learn basic principles of public health and management, a second official ECOWAS language, and information technology skills. The interns gain experience working on selected projects addressing health needs of the sub-region and current WAHO priorities at host West African institutions during the next stage. For the final stage, the interns will participate in a study tour of a Ministry of Health in the sub-region, with a final review and debriefing.

Priority technical areas for the internship program include child survival, HIV/AIDS, malaria, nutrition, prevention of blindness, and reproductive health.

For more information, contact Dr. Kayode Odusote, WAHO, Young Professional Internship Program, 01 BP 153, Bobo-Dioulassa 01, Burkina Faso; +226-20-97-57-72; wahoos@fasonet.bf.

AWARE-CERPOD-USAID sponsor 2nd training seminar for 60 West African health officials in Bamako, Mali



TOP: Opening ceremony officials included Fara Mbodji, AWARE Institutional Strategy Specialist; Christine Sow, USAID/Mali; Mali MOH Secretary General Mamadou Kané; Representative of the Director General Institut du Sahel (INSAH) Baba Traoré and Prof. Amadou Dolo, Representative of Réseau SR-VIH/SIDA. All of the institutions will reconvene for the third workshop to finalize their action plans in December in Conakry, Guinée, Mbodji said.

The second AWARE “Leading for Results” workshop was held October 28-30 to introduce and practice “focusing” as an essential leadership function and to apply it to a specific leadership challenge,” explained co-facilitator Sylvia Vriesendorp of Management Sciences for Health (MSH). Participants from nine countries and 20 institutions developed solid, implementable action plans for their leadership projects and a schedule of additional upcoming activities. Examples of some of the projects include:

Transforming GIMPA into bilingual and world accredited educational and training institute” was the challenge that the group from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration chose to tackle.

The Malaria Research Training Center in Bamako said its institutional challenge was “to ensure that laboratory technicians adopt good parasitological practices of diagnosis to identify various species plasmodia correctly.”

Parliamentarians draft advocacy guide at AWARE-RH/POLICY workshop and training program



TOP: Facilitators Norine Jewell and Kadidiatou Mailibi led planning sessions at the 2-4 Oct workshop in Bamako, Mali, sponsored by AWARE and the Policy Project. BOTTOM: Participants Idriss Ndele Moussa, Patrice Diessongo and Fatimata Deme help to craft the guidelines for advocacy to assist institutions and governments in creating health reform legislation.

West Africa Repositioning Family Planning Conference



Adama A. Kone, MD, MPH and Fatamata Sambou Diabate, MD, AWARE reproductive health team members

AWARE has been collaborating with Advance Africa, WHO, Policy Project and others to plan a Repositioning Family Planning conference in Accra from November 16-19, 2004. The purpose of this conference is discuss ways for how to refocus attention of governments and donors on family planning in the face of other competing needs such as HIV/AIDS. The conference will also provide a forum for participants from 18 countries in West and Central Africa to discuss the reasons for reasons for the low use of family planning in these countries. AWARE will support teams of participants from Togo, Sierra Leone, Chad, and Niger to this conference and will work with the country teams to develop a set of key activities that AWARE, in collaboration with other country partners, plans to support as part of its efforts to expand the use of family planning in this

Around The Region

AWARE Francophone Regional Training Workshop on RH Commodities Security Plan Development held at IRSP, Ouidah, Benin, Sept. 28-Oct. 1



Facilitators and participants drafted workplans and shared experiences at AWARE workshop in Bamako, Mali.

One of the greatest challenges facing family planning and other reproductive health services in the West Africa region is the lack or frequent shortages of reproductive health commodities. One of the strategies for dealing with this problem is the development of a commodities security plan.

The purpose of this workshop was to sensitize participants from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea, and Senegal, and Togo to the importance of developing a commodities security and to begin developing and strengthening skills of the participants in commodities security plan development.

AWARE is already supporting Cameroon and Togo to develop their commodities security plans and plans in the next year to support Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Guinea to develop their commodities security plans.

National Health Accounts Training Held in Accra, Aug. 11-18



National Health Accounts (NHA) is a tool that measures the total flow of fund, both public and private, in the national health system and how these funds are spent. NHAs provided valuable data that can be used for inform policy decision and better allocation of available resources. AWARE-RH organized NHA training from August 11-18 for teams of participants from Ghana, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Gambia. The purpose of the training was participants in planning, conducting and analyzing health data, including skill in advocacy for their countries to conduct NHA surveys. At the closing ceremony, above, Carleene Dei, WARP Mission Director stressed the importance of NHAs and assured the participants of USAID/WARP support for those countries that would need their assistance in conducting their National Health Accounts surveys. Following the workshop, AWARE-RH provided technical assistance to the Ghana and Gambian teams to begin planning their NHA survey.

UPCOMING

EVENTS

19-22 OCT—WARP Technical Advisory Group Meeting, Dakar, Senegal.

16-91 NOV—Concertation Forum, Bamako, Mali, supported by the AWARE Project.

23 NOV—Launch of USAID/AWARE collaboration with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board's Prevention of Mother-To-Child-Transmission training program in Mutengene.

29 NOV to 03 DEC—Third Management and Leadership Workshop, Conakry, Guinée. This is sponsored by AWARE-RH.

13-17 DEC—AWARE-led Session on Fistula at the Societe Africaine de Gynecologie et D'Obstetrique (SAGO) 8th Congress, Cotonou, Benin.



Mbingo Baptist Hospital is one of the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board's PMTCT sites that the AWARE project is supporting to improve the quality of PMTCT services. The CBCHB PMTCT program has been identified as a best model and AWARE is providing support to strengthen its training program so that they can provide support to other countries in the region that would like to replicate their PMTCT model.

BEST PRACTICE: CBCHB



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