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RECRUITMENT OF SUB-SUB RECIPIENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GLOBAL FUND’S ACTIVITIES

CAMNAFAW is the Principal Recipient (PR) of FM grants to key populations for the period 2018-2020. She selected 5 sub-recipients (Affirmative Action, APRODHAFIM, CHP, FESADE and Press Jeune) for the coordination of the project “Scale up of prevention of new infections among key populations to reduce morbidity and mortality rate related to HIV AIDS by 2020”. These sub-recipients contracted with sub-sub recipients to ensure the implementation of the project’s activities at the community level.

In total, 88 community-based organizations (CBOs) in which; 38 targeting Sex Workers and their Clients (CHP), 30 for the adolescents and young girls(APRODHAFIM,FESADE Presse Jeunes), and 20 for the MSM and Tranqender targets (Affirmative Action). These CBOs will work across the national territory in the 38 health districts covered by the project. Thus, each selected CBO will cover 1 health district in which it will offer a minimum package of services for prevention of HIV and syndromic treatment of STIs by etiological approach.

NEW FUNDING MODEL OF THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA.

OUTLOOK AND MAJOR CHALLENGES OF INVESTMENT IN CAMEROON AFTER 2020

Cameroon receives a grant of 99 million euros, for HIV and TB components, and matching funds of 7.6 million euros for the period 2018-2020. During the review of the grant application for funding, the Global Fund’s Technical Review Panel has highlighted 8 weaknesses, 4 of which deserve particular attention for the sustainability of this investment in Cameroon. 1-Lack of differentiation in HIV interventions; 2-Inadequate module for Injectable Drug Users; 3-Missing targets for adolescent girls, young women and key populations; 4-Late and partial payment of counterpart funding commitments.

To remedy the first 3 weaknesses, adjustments were made during the implementation of the subvention. Indeed, Cameroon has mapped services by district and provided a description of the process as well as completion timing of strategic differentiation by district; revised the list of activities and expanded target groups to include injectable drug users and others. A summary of targets were provided with expected results and strategies for each intervention financed at least through counterpart funds. With regard to counterpart financing funds, the Subsidies Approval Committee has expressed concern that Cameroon may not meet its commitments due to slower growth, declining fiscal and external margins, as well as the growing public debts.

As recommendations for these weaknesses, civil society and community actors need to step up advocacy with policymakers to ensure that the country’s public health budget aligns with Abuja’s commitments, and that teh 32,9 million euros in counterpart funds be made effective.

RECRUITMENT OF CBOs OF DRUG USERS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE CITIES OF YAOUNDE, DOUALA, BAMENDA AND KRIBI.

Injectable drug users and others have been identified as key populations in the response to HIV by the National Strategic Plan for HIV / AIDS (NSP) for the 2018-2022 periods in Cameroon. As part of the Global Fund’s New Funding Model, CAMNAFAW has recruited 4 CBOs to implement HIV prevention activities in the cities of YAOUNDE, DOUALA, KRIBI and BAMENDA.

These CBOs are well known to the Cameroonian community and they are; WDF for the city of YAOUNDE, Empower Cameroon for the city of DOUALA, ASECA for the city of KRIBI and ICODESSE for the city of BAMENDA.
OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA IN CAMEROON.

Global Fund paid an official working visit to Cameroon from 25th to the 29th of March 2019, under the leadership of Ms Cynthia MWASE, Head of Department, Africa and the Middle East, other members comprised of RAJESH DIVAKARAN Operational Risk Manager; ADE FAKOYA Senior Disease Coordinator; OBINNA ONYEKWENA Technical Advisor; BRUNO CLARY Senior Portfolio Manager and HOUSSEY DIALLO Public Health Specialist/Monitoring and Evaluation.

This mission enabled the Global Fund to meet with the national coordinating body; the Minister of Public Health; technical and financial partners (WHO, UNAIDS, Embassy of France and US Embassy); and the Principal Recipients (CNLS, PNLP, PNLT and CAMNAFAW).

Most of the discussions during these meetings focused on:
- Stock taking on the achievements and commitments as well as co-financing by the government;
- Visit to health facilities and sites where Global Fund Principal Recipients carry out their activities;
- Ensure setting up of priorities and approaches for the next two years to achieve targets for all three diseases;
- Finalize discussions on the accelerated program approach in cities to improve the quality and impact of the HIV program in Cameroon.

The mission also carried out on-site visits to hot spots in the city of Yaoundé. These visits that took place in the MSM and Sex Workers hot spots enabled the mission to review and discuss the risks involved in the implementation of the programs and the effectiveness of the mitigation measures put in place.
THE CAMEROONIAN CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITIES URGE DONOR COUNTRIES AND LOCAL LEADERS TO INVEST MORE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH.

Members of the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) of Asia Pacific and Africa led an advocacy campaign to embassies of Global Fund (GF) donor countries and national leaders in their respective countries to emphasize on the importance of strengthening fundraising and ensuring full funding of GF needs.

This activity was as a result of the meeting held in New Delhi with community actors and the civil society, with the aim to prepare for the Global Fund’s resource reconstitution Conference. In that line, a working group of 16 Cameroonian civil society organizations (Global Civil Society Network for Malaria Elimination; AFFIRMATIVE ACTION; IMPACT SANTE AFRIQUE; Public Health International Consulting Center; POSITIVE GENERATION; Coalition des organisations la Société Civile de lutte contre le Sida; Malaria Consortium–Cameroon; Coalition Against Malaria; MALARIA NO MORE; POSITIVE VISION; RECAP+; CÉDER –Mvangan; SOS WOMEN-Meyomessala; CENODA –Sangméléma; AVENIR JEUNE DE L’OUEST; AIME ; APIFED-Djoum.) held meetings with 3 ambassadors including the Ambassador of France, the Ambassador of Great Britain and the Head of co-operation, governance and Health of the German Embassy in Cameroon.

Some local authorities like the Hon. OSHI Joshua (Member of Parliament in the National Assembly) and Mrs Elise MBALLA MEKA, (Mayor of AKOM II) were met during the period from 12 to 28 February 2019.

Letters were sent to ambassadors of donor countries to thank them for the contribution of their respective countries to the Global Fund, and to solicit more contributions. The working group also briefed local authorities on Cameroon’s commitments at the Abuja conference, and gave them advocacy letters to mobilize more domestic resources and ensure the payment of Cameroon Part of Funds to the Global Fund.

Stay tuned is a magazine published in French and English. It is the result of the collaboration between Affirmative Action and the Community Right Gender (CRG) of the Global Fund, funded by M.PACT as part of the «Keep In Touch» project, and aims to become an essential document for capitalizing on the results and good practices of Global Fund’s interventions toward key populations in Cameroon.