

**Quarterly Activity Report
Post-Hurricane Reconstruction Project
CD/EPO/Division of International Health
January-March 2002 (Quarter 2, FY02)**

Nicaragua

Important Administrative Issue

After consultation with the USAID mission, the Ministry of Health, and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua (UNAN), the contract of the CDC Resident Advisor was not renewed. However, to provide on-going technical support to the project activities and supervise the FETP trainees, Dr. Carmen Sanchez-Vargas and Dr. Luis Revilla were identified as replacement until the end of the project.

APHL

See APHL Final Report

PAHO

Activity 7: Haiti

Activities/tasks carried out

1) Rehabilitation of the epidemiology service:

The rehabilitation of office space for the Epidemiology Service was finally completed. Three adjacent rooms in the Public Health Bureau located in the Rue de Miracles now house the Epidemiology service. The site will be delivered to the Minister of Health, and hopefully, Epidemiology Service staff will move in shortly.

PAHO staff met with the Ministry of Health Adviser with whom it was agreed to provide equipment, furniture, and other tools for the epidemiology team at the new site. Internet services will also be provided to facilitate the functions of epidemiologists and other offices and health programs of the Ministry and Health, by improving communication, information transmittal and epidemiological surveillance. Following approval by the Director General (MoH), Internet services will be extended to departmental epidemiology services.

Internet services will make it possible for the central level, the Epidemiology Service and other important health programs (filariasis, malaria, and health family, among others) to work in a network fashion, and improve communications and health monitoring. It was made clear to MoH authorities that support will be provided for one year only.

Printing and dissemination of various documents has take place, as follows:

- 1) Epidemiological Surveillance Manual: 1000 copies, including reporting and research forms
- 2) Reporting form and case definitions: 50,000 copies
- 3) 50,000 copies of the monthly report on activities for primary level services
- 4) 50,000 copies of the registries for hospital monthly reports
- 5) 5,000 copies of the reporting form for diseases subject to epidemiological surveillance (follow-up and monitoring of epidemiological surveillance)
- 6) 3,000 lists of epidemiological weeks for 2002
- 7) 3 epidemiological bulletins, 3,000 copies each. This should be a monthly publication; however, its continuity is not guaranteed.
- 8) Basic Epidemiology Modules (produced by PAHO/SHA) have been translated into French. These modules will be used for training of national and departmental epidemiologists.
- 9) Four types of recording forms were printed for malaria reporting: 5,000 copies
- 10) 10,000 copies each of the HIV/AIDS case investigation form and the laboratory reporting forms
- 11) 10,000 copies of the death certificate form

The printing of aforementioned materials has been defrayed with resources allotted for the activities 2, 3 and 4. Support has also been provided for travel of teams from the central level to supervise departmental activities by local epidemiologists.

Outbreak investigation activities were supported for a typhoid fever epidemic that occurred in the Central Department and a coffee ingestion related intoxication in the Artibonita Department. Medicines were provided for case management of yaws in the Gran Anse Department.

Two PAHO's consultants participated in the second module of formation in epidemiology which was carried out in April.

With malaria funds (project Mitch Artibonita) a KAP study on malaria was finalized, and the results will be disseminated soon. Equipment and materials were provided to conduct investigation and work related to the malaria program in the Artibonita Department. All equipment (shovels, pickaxes, wheelbarrows, etc.) remained in that department for the implementation of community-based prevention activities.

A computer and printer will be provided in the national office of the malaria control program. Similar equipment was sent to the South department, and therefore all the departments have a new PC and printer.

A dengue diagnosis kit has been requested from Washington, given that the central laboratory of Haiti's main hospital could provide dengue diagnosis. Support was also requested to CAREC for staff training.

Funds execution has reached 77%. There is a remaining balance of \$51,737.