



Raising voices for African **education**
Porte-voix pour l'**éducation** en Afrique

IDAY Project Bank

BUFFER ZONES AGAINST **EBOLA** IN SCHOOLS

Country: **Guinea Conakry**

Beneficiaries: **25 schools and surroundings (35 000 persons)**

Duration: **12 months**

Promotor: **Club des Amis du Livre (CAL)**

Total Cost: **€ 68 736**

External funding: **€ 66 758**

Summary

Context

The Ebola epidemic that broke out in Guinea at the end of 2013 has contaminated close to 1.000 people in the country, of which more than half died from the disease. In addition to the health impact, this epidemics has entailed reduced economic activity and growth, potentially reducing the GNP of Guinea by up to 4,5% according to World Bank statistics. The epidemic has also generated social unrest fueled by rumours (deliberate contaminations, etc.), lack of information as well as frustrations caused by the restrictions imposed on some traditional rituals for the sick and the dead. The school year has also been disturbed by the measures taken by authorities to break the chain of transmission, such as the temporary closing of some schools.

The June-December 2014 Emergency Response Plan of the Government of Guinea foresees infection prevention and control through the training of health workers and volunteers at community level, the distribution of hygiene kits at health facilities and in communities in affected areas, advocacy events to involve community leaders in the dissemination of behaviour change messages. In general, it recommends resorting to various channels of communication to raise awareness on safe and hygienic practices that can help prevent the transmission of the Ebola virus.

Project description

The project proposes to create a buffer between the Ebola virus and 25 schools in infected zones of Conakry so as to help break the chain of transmission. 250 local facilitators from the communities will be trained to raise awareness among pupils, teachers and the surrounding communities (20 000 people) of the Kaloum, Dixinn, Matam, Matoto and Ratoma Municipalities of Conakry on how to prevent virus transmission. 500 prevention kits will be distributed alongside a sensitisation campaign comprising 50 community training sessions and community outreach via radio broadcast, posters and T-shirts.

The project will be managed by a team of 5 specialists and 10 experienced trainers.

IDAY-Guinea will advocate the government for duplicating the approach to other municipalities in the country.



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Objectives

- Contribute to preventing the transmission of the Ebola hemorrhagic virus in 25 schools of Conakry and in the surrounding communities.
- Preventing interruptions in the school year that affect the academic performance of the pupils.

Expected results

- 250 facilitators trained for community outreach on Ebola
- 35 000 people in and around the 25 schools informed on the characteristics of the Ebola virus, how it is transmitted, how to prevent it and what to do in case of suspected infection.
- 500 prevention kits distributed in schools.
- The transmission of the Ebola virus in and around the 25 schools is reduced by 90%.
- The community, regional and national authorities are sensitized to scale up the “buffer” approach in other schools.

Contact

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