

Date: March 22, 2004

From: WHO Collaborating Center for
Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #141

To: Addressees

everything possible to bring cases to the nearest health center, and that all cases of Guinea worm disease must avoid contaminating sources of drinking water.

GHANA: INCREASED HEALTH EDUCATION AND WATER SUPPLY

Ghana began its Worm Weeks for 2004 in Tamale, West Gonja, East Gonja, Gushegu-Karaga, Tolon-Kumbungu, Savelugu-Nanton, Nanumba, and Saboba-Chereponi Districts, in Northern Region, and in Kintampo District (Brong Ahafo Region), and in Nkwanta, Kete-Krachi Districts, Volta Region. During these Worm Weeks, about 50 US Peace Corps and Dutch Peace Corps Volunteers, and students from the Community Health Nursing School participated in health education and case searches. Moreover, Yendi and Saboba-Chereponi held durbars (town meetings) as a forum for disseminating messages about dracunculiasis, use and care of cloth filters, the importance of reporting all cases, and how communities and the GWEP can work together in 2004 to eliminate the disease. Saboba-Chereponi also used a school drama group to sensitize nine schools in the Wapuli and Sambuli sub-Districts. In West Gonja and Yendi Districts the GWEP showed Gonja GW eradication videos, the Fiery Serpent, and the public service announcement by UN Director-General Kofi Annan. Special case searches were held in Tolon-Kumbungu District (5 communities in Dalum sub-District, and in Chirifoyili and Nyankpala sub-districts), Northern Region; in Kete Krachi District, (Dente sub-District), Volta Region; in Akatsi District, Volta Region; and in Sene District, Brong Ahafo Region. Meanwhile, the Government of Ghana's drilling team arrived in Kete Krachi District of Volta Region in early March, and has already drilled high yield boreholes in six endemic villages. NORWASP has drilled 4 successful wells

FUNDING



USAID/Sudan has agreed to grant \$96,000 from their Quick Impact Fund to The Carter Center for interventions against dracunculiasis in previously inaccessible areas of southern Sudan. This is the second contribution from USAID for Guinea worm eradication activities in Sudan since 2002.