

Focus on...Health

The foundation for strong families and communities

ANSA-Africa considers healthcare delivery systems as important intervention sites to improve the well-being of citizens. To eradicate the suffering of citizens and improve on health outcomes, it is crucial to understand how public health programmes benefit communities.

Effective population-based interventions to improve health and prevention of diseases underpin service delivery. Spending on healthcare in Africa is markedly lower than in the West, despite governments' commitment to intervention. Some of the areas ANSA-Africa might address in strengthening accountability, systems and institutions on the demand side of health are: epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental, social, behavioural and occupational health.

UN Millennium Development Goal 4:

Reduce child mortality

Goal 5:

Improve maternal health

Goal 6:

Combat HIV/AIDS,
malaria and
other diseases



ANSA-Africa is a growing network, jointly created by the World Bank and the Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa, to advocate across the continent of Africa for citizen involvement in demand-side governance initiatives – particularly in how governments spend budget at community level



AFFILIATED NETWORK FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- Sub-Saharan Africa has just over 10% of the world population – but more than 60% of all people infected with HIV, at 25.8 million as of 2005.
- In 2005, an estimated 3.2 million Africans were newly infected with HIV and an estimated 2.4 million adults and children died of AIDS.

Source: UNAIDS

- Malaria remains the region's biggest killer: scientists estimate that the disease kills between 71 000 and 190 000 infants in Africa each year. The World Health Organisation reported in 2006 that malaria costs Africa \$12 billion a year.

Source: IRIN report, January 2006

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

- Other life-threatening diseases common in Sub-Saharan Africa are tuberculosis, cancer, diabetes – all of which are exacerbated when the patient is also HIV positive.

Source: World Health Organisation

- According to the World Health Organisation, Africa has five of the 22 nations worst affected by tuberculosis – and these nations have insufficient plans to expand health staff to fight the disease.

Source: World Health Organisation

For resources, insight and tools to build up ICT resources in developing nations, please visit:

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