Chad

The survey in Chad was conducted in May 2004 in the capital N’Djamena and 3 other regions randomly selected: Ouaddaï, Logone Oriental et Lac. Fourteen core list and 8 supplementary list medicines were surveyed.

Originally 24 public health facilities, 10 mission facilities and 15 private outlets were selected. Certain regions, e.g. Lac, do not have any private outlets. Furthermore, there are no mission facilities in Lac and in Ouaddaï.

Data were finally collected in only 11 private outlets and 8 mission facilities as data-collectors only found 2 private outlets in Logone Oriental and 4 in Ouaddaï. Two mission facilities in N’djamena were excluded because of their complex pricing system.

The total number of private pharmacies in Chad is 23, situated mainly in the capital N’djamena; there are also 120 other private outlets in the main towns of the country.

Chad is one of the poorest countries in the world and the standard of living is one of the lowest in Africa. The availability of health services is low and they are not free. The revolving funds system is established and patients finance individually their medicines. There is no public health insurance.

The only pharmaceuticals manufacturer ceased production in 1998. The Central Medical Store supplies regional medical stores with essential medicines. They provide then medicines to public and private not-for-profit health facilities. Regional medical stores receive stock twice a year (in January and in June). At the time of this survey they had not received their second supply yet and this could have influenced medicines’ availability in the health facilities.