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Project Duration: May 2016 – October 2017
Donor: The Netherlands
Budget: 640 000 Euro
Beneficiaries: Member Administrations from the WCA region
Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone
Purpose
Enhance the capability of the Customs administrations in West Africa to be better equipped and prepared to deal with regional epidemic diseases (such as EVD) and natural disasters

Expected Outcomes
• Strong protection of front line officers from epidemic diseases
• Mechanisms to sustainably guide the release of relief goods
Expected results

Component 1
Provision of basic equipment for self-protection

Component 2
Capacity Building to effectively react to regional epidemics and natural disasters

Results
• Needs identified
• Self-protection equipment procured and delivered

Results
• Regional exchange of experience facilitated
• National CB support delivered

Project Management, including communication and visibility activities
Project Approach

- Results-oriented and tailor made approach
- National support
- Regional support
- Support based on best practices
- Close cooperation with relevant international organizations
Achievements to date - Component 1

- Baseline data collected and needs identified
- Technical Specifications developed
- UNHRD identified as WCO partner to procure the PPE
Achievements to date - Component 2

Baseline data collected and gaps identified

Regional exchange of experience in the priority clearance of relief goods during the Ebola crisis facilitated

National Capacity Building needs identified and support planned for 2017
Challenges

Term very diverse
Available guidelines mainly for health workers
Regional roles and responsibilities and communication between countries
PPE specific storage conditions and need for timely delivery
Border agencies coordination
Non-application of the proper procedure and bureaucracy
Lack of lists of necessary relief goods
Component 1

- Sign a Technical Agreement with UNHRD
- UNHRD to procure the PPE on behalf of the WCO
- Delivery of the equipment to UNHRD depot in Ghana

Component 2

- National support
  - Nigeria - review of existing SOPs, simulation exercise
  - Guinea - training of trainers and officers, improvement of SOPs, setting up of a coordination group for disaster response, simulation exercise
  - Sierra Leone - improvement of SOPs, stakeholder engagement, simulation exercise

- Regional support
  - Regional workshop on overall experience sharing and joint discussion on future steps

Project management

- Day-to-day project management and quality implementation of project activities
- Technical and financial reporting
- Communication and visibility