



# Strategies to Prevent Spillover (STOP Spillover)

## Impact Brief

### Cote D'Ivoire

USAID visit to STOP Spillover Project in Côte d'Ivoire in the framework of Jamboree

### INTRODUCTION

STOP Spillover aims to strengthen capacities in countries to reduce the risk of viruses spreading from animals to humans. In Côte d'Ivoire, the implementation of STOP Spillover started with the national launch on September 29, 2022. The activities address the surveillance of priority viruses and biosecurity interventions. In its implementation, the project collaborates with various stakeholders including the national One Health platform (PIUSS), government agencies, research institutions, local associations and communities.

As part of the USAID 2024 Jamboree, STOP Spillover Côte d'Ivoire received a visit from a delegation of Global Health Security (GHS) focal points in Côte d'Ivoire. The visit was in two parts: an exchange visit with the country team and government partners and a field visit focusing on the wastewater surveillance activity.

The objective was to have a good understanding of the activities carried out by STOP Spillover Côte d'Ivoire, to take stock of their implementation and to identify the prospects.

### Expected Outcomes

- Visitors are well informed about the progress of the project.
- The wastewater activity is well known to visitors.
- Visibility for the continuity of the STOP Spillover project is established

### Achievements

#### Visit to the country team

On Monday, October 21, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., STOP Spillover Côte d'Ivoire received a visit from a team of 3 people from USAID including the AOR, at their office in Abidjan.

This meeting also recorded the participation of government representatives from the local and central levels with whom STOP Spillover works closely: NOHP, Directorate of veterinary services (DSV), Regional directors of Ministry of Animal Health and Ministry of Environment from Tonkpi (District des Montagnes), in addition to an Advisor of AFROHUN.

Subsequently, each technical activity lead presented the achievements and results obtained after 2 years of implementation of the STOP



Explanation about Mapping of interfaces at risk



Group photo at the STOP Spillover office



Giving instructions to participants before sampling the demonstration



Group photo at the sampling site after sampling demonstration

Spillover project. Government partners NOHP, DSV, Directors from Tonkpi were also able to highlight the contribution and support of STOP Spillover in capacity building in biosecurity and the development of multisectoral surveillance and in Côte d'Ivoire.

### **Field visit focusing activity on wastewater surveillance**

On Thursday, October 24, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the field visit was done with the participation of 13 USAID agents from Morocco, Ethiopia, Ghana, Uganda, the United States and Côte d'Ivoire, the team from the Pasteur Institute of Côte d'Ivoire (IPCI) and the STOP Spillover team.

The visit was conducted in two parts: a visit to the wastewater sample collection site and a guided tour of the sample analysis laboratory.

The sample collection site is a rainwater and household drainage channel located in Yopougon - one of the 10 Communes of Abidjan - accounting for a population of 1.5 million. For participants to better understand the steps the samples undergo, the IPCI team gave a practical demonstration of the collection, packaging and transport of samples to the laboratory for the search for SARS COV 2.

From the sample collection site, the participants went to the IPCI premises where the laboratories of the Department of Environmental Health and the Department of Epidemic Viruses were visited, under the guidance and explanations of the IPCI team who presented the working conditions and the processing of samples upon their arrival at the laboratory. Following this, a discussion session took place around the choice of the collection site, the results obtained and the opportunities and challenges for the continuation of this method of surveillance of zoonotic pathogens.

### **Participants' impressions of the tour**

- The AOR thanked the STOP Spillover country team for their warm welcome and expressed pride in the work accomplished, noting that the project was of significant interest to the country.
- Visitors noted that the field and laboratory protocols were well respected and that the work was satisfactory. They expressed great interest in the wastewater activity and appreciated the sharing of experiences through this activity.

**We thank USAID for their support, which has allowed us to complete this novel, and highly practical, research and implementation!**



*Instruction before visiting labs*



*Discussion session after the lab tour*



*Group photo at IPCI at the end of the visit*

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