

# 1000

telemedicine units for Africa



## Fixed telemedicine unit

### Cost of equipment, installation and services

VSAT equipment + transport + installation

Computer and medical equipment

- 1 laptop computer + webcam
- 1 ultrasound scanning station
- 1 electrocardiograph machine

Training and coordination

**Total: from 20 000 to 25 000 euros**

### Bandwidth per operational year

*Unit cost*

Connection with bandwidth 64/128 Kbps,  
128/256 Kbps or 256/512 Kbps

**from 2 200 to 6 000 euros**



## Mobile telemedicine unit on lorry

### Cost of equipment, installation and services

VSAT equipment + transport + installation

Computer and medical equipment

- 1 laptop computer + webcam
- 1 ultrasound scanning station
- 1 electrocardiograph machine

Training and coordination

**Total\*: 45 000 euros**

### Bandwidth per operational year

*Unit cost*

Connection with bandwidth 128/256 Kbps

**3 600 euros**



\*This amount does not include the cost of the vehicle.

# The DSF mission

The Global Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF) is a funding institution working globally to reduce the digital divide and make information and communication technologies available to serve development.

With support from bilateral and multilateral public aid, and through decentralised co-operation, the DSF finances projects with strong economic and social impact, within various areas of development (education, health, employment and governance etc.).

Within the context of its activities in Africa, the DSF has already set up several pilot sites located in towns without any access to ICT. As well as use of connections (VSAT and WiFi) and computer and office equipment, the DSF has enabled development of ICT applications and services, training and an exchange of good practices in the area of health.

Based on expertise acquired through the setting up of its pilot projects, the DSF is able to ensure the programming, implementation and coordination of a telemedicine programme on the scale of Africa.

## Coordination of the "1000 telemedicine units" project

### Programming phase :

#### A) at the level of recipient countries :

- identification of recipient countries and sites (based on an evaluation of needs)
- agreement of the authorities concerned
- identification of local officials (national and local)

#### B) at cost estimation level :

- publication of calls for tender (for connection equipment, devices and training)
- evaluation of tenders
- drawing up of an operating budget

#### C) at the level of fund research :

- identification and negotiation of potential financial partners

#### D) at the level of partnerships (contents) :

- identification of institutional partners for development of content, support and networks

#### E) at communication level :

- development of a communications strategy for the whole project

### Operational phase :

- agreements with all recipient countries
- contracts with all suppliers
- roll-out of equipment
- field training (seminars)
- setting up of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms

## DSF Pilot projects: the example of Ouahigouya



Left: installation of the VSAT in Ouahigouya

Right: Dr. Arouna Traoré, doctor of the AMMIE association

In sub-saharian Africa, the DSF has contributed to the ICT part of programmes in the fight against HIV/AIDS at community level. The direct beneficiaries are the associations of the fight against AIDS, their medical and care staff, as well as people living with HIV and their families (between 150 and 2,300 people for each of the 6 associations at Burkina Faso).

The pilot site of Ouahigouya is located to the north of Burkina Faso, in an area without Internet access. The project has several objectives, each corresponding to distinct areas of activity: basic training in IT tools, distance learning, telemedicine and the development of income-generating activities (setting up a community cybercafé).

Thanks to VSAT connections and to IT equipment made available by the DSF, the



AMMIE association has been able to benefit from medical training dispensed by the RAFT network. Resulting from this is a reinforcement of the capabilities of its medical service and a clear improvement in the quality of patient care. At the end of 24 months of operations, the Ouahigouya project has successfully accomplished:

### Training

- Basic training of the AMMIE association staff (data entry, Internet navigation, communication, e-mail, chat, mobile voice over, activity reports, correspondence).
- Specialized training in the area of health (data base management, medical files, stocks of antiretroviral drugs).
- Training on the RAFT network (advanced use by doctors, remote consultations, data exchange).
- Continued training of people who have acquired basic knowledge and training of cybercafé users.

### Telemedicine

- Exchange of information and medical data with hospitals of the region and the University Hospital of Geneva
- Tele-consultation sessions through RAFT software or by video-conferencing.

### Setting up a community cybercafé

- Construction of a building, installation of 20 computers, training in cybercafé management.
- Today, the cybercafé is working and profitable (it offers free access for ill or deprived people).