



## CSRS SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR N°12-11

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2011 (Norbert Behi Lecture Hall, CSRS, Km 17 Adiopodoumé) 01 : 00 pm

### **Theme : Assessing morbidity due to neglected tropical diseases on different geographical and resource levels**

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### **Abstract**

The presentation gives an overview over the still ongoing PhD thesis with the goal to develop, use and validate tools for assessing morbidity due to neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) on different geographical scales and resource levels. The thesis includes three specific and interrelated objectives. First, to assess – for the first time ever – the global burden of human foodborne trematodiasis (FBT) in the frame of the global burden of disease (GBD) 2005 study. Second, to elaborate new evidence from field-based epidemiological investigations about the disability caused by NTDs in the DSS Taabo and to use this information to assess the GBD 2005 study output on disability weights. Third, to develop and validate a simple and low-cost questionnaire tool, which helps to assess morbidity patterns in the DSS Taabo and to guide future control measures targeting NTDs. Preliminary results from the first objective indicate that more than 56 million people were infected and 7,000 died worldwide due to FBT in 2005. These estimates equal 0.7 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) lost annually and are most likely only the tip of the iceberg. Regarding the second objective, we could not find a statistically significant effect between NTD infections and the individuals' quality of life in general and physical fitness in particular. Reasons for these findings and still ongoing research projects are highlighted. Preliminary operational results and intended in-depth analyses of the collected data from the third objective are discussed.

### **Keywords:**

