The ‘Achilles’ project:

A WHO initiative to assure safety and availability of blood products in developing countries

Dr Ana Padilla,
Blood Products & related Biologicals
Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies Department
Health Services and Systems Cluster
World Health Organization
IPOPI, ISTANBUL OCTOBER 2010
The “Achilles” project
Main Goals

To increase the availability of essential plasma derived products for developing countries by supporting their implementation of national validated quality and safety standards for plasma for fractionation:

✓ Raising quality standards for production activities in blood establishments
✓ Providing a framework to make use of, otherwise destroyed plasma, for the fractionation of plasma derivatives
✓ Using expertise and experience from developed countries

The project includes elements of quality, safety and economical benefits
The “Achilles” project: Expected Outcomes

- Use of local plasma to improve supply of blood derived medicinal products
- Sustainable and affordable blood plasma derived essential medicines
- Increased quality and safety of all blood products in blood establishments
- Optimal use and benefit from donated blood and plasma
- Independent regulatory systems for blood products established
- Potential application of QA and GMP principles to other medical disciplines
- Substantial contribution to public health programs