

ROLL BACK MALARIA PARTNERSHIP



**Saving lives and reducing
the suffering caused
by a silent killer -
malaria**

Every year, malaria kills one million people and costs Africa US\$12 billion

Controlling malaria will contribute significantly to the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals, which all 192 UN Member States have pledged to achieve by 2015. Beyond reducing the disease burden, a successful fight against malaria will have far-reaching impact on child mortality, maternal health, and poverty, which in turn could increase global stability.

Global leadership to mobilize the fight against malaria

Recognizing that malaria cannot be defeated by any single agency, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank in 1998 launched the Roll Back Malaria Partnership to provide a coordinated global approach to tackling the disease.

Tackling malaria requires involvement from all sectors of society - including you !

The RBM Partnership has grown rapidly to include a wide range of partners—including malaria-endemic countries, their bilateral and multilateral development partners, the private sector, nongovernmental and community-based organizations, foundations, and research and academic institutions—who bring a formidable assembly of expertise, human resources, infrastructure and funds into the fight against the disease.

Working in Partnership

Partners are working together to scale up malaria control efforts at country level. This means that partners are now coordinating their activities to avoid fragmentation and duplication and to ensure optimal use of resources.

Malaria causes 3000 deaths per day - mainly in Africa : Every 30 seconds a child dies from malaria

The RBM Partnership seeks to halve the burden of malaria by 2010



Over 42 countries in Africa, a population of 664 million, suffer the burden of malaria. Insecticide treated mosquito nets are reaching vulnerable children and women through coordinated nationwide campaigns and programs.

Roll Back Malaria Partnership has contributed to progress in the fight against malaria

- Due to the efforts of the RBM Partnership and Partners, malaria is now high on the agenda of the G8, AU, EU and other donor governing bodies. In recent years, many new partners have become engaged in the struggle.
- Global funding to fight the disease has increased from approx US\$60 million in 1998 to approx US\$1 billion per year in 2006. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria has earmarked US\$2.2B for malaria control to date. New funding sources include the US President's Malaria Initiative which plans to distribute a total of \$1.2B across 15 countries over five years and the World Bank Booster Program which plans to distribute \$500M over three years. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation added more than \$258M for research and \$35M for monitoring & evaluation a program to scale up impact.
While this increased level of funding is encouraging; it still falls far short of the estimated US\$3 billion a year required to control malaria.
- Distribution of insecticide treated nets will reach 18 million by the end of this year - preventing 300,000 childhood malaria deaths over the next three years. Building on success in Togo, Kenya and Niger, nationwide campaigns will take place in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria.
- Procurement of Artemisinin based combination treatments (ACTs), currently the most effective malaria treatment, has increased from 4 million doses in 2004 to 45 million doses in 2006.
- The significant reduction of infection rates achieved through the combination of insecticide treated nets, ACTs and indoor spraying with insecticide in much of Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland, has encouraged more and more countries to adopt indoor residual spraying (IRS) as part of an integrated strategy.
- Preventive therapy for pregnant women, delivered through antenatal clinics, has been introduced in eleven countries. Of these Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia have reached nationwide coverage.
These achievements signal great momentum, but still more is needed if we hope to reach national, regional, and global goals.



A Crucial Element of Progress: Empowering Communities to take Action

Information is power when it comes to stopping malaria. Malaria can kill a child soon after the first fever appears. Individuals at the community level need to have, and be able to properly use, insecticide treated mosquito nets and correctly identify the symptoms of both uncomplicated and severe malaria and know what actions to take. Informed and active communities are also better placed to demand the services and products they need for malaria control and to hold decision-makers accountable.

The current scale-up of efforts to roll back malaria are promising. Yet we will only succeed if communities in endemic countries are empowered to take action based on informed decision making. Mosquito nets and drugs may be delivered to a village but if they aren't used correctly or if they don't reach the most vulnerable groups, they won't save many lives.

Building Malaria Competence

The RBM Partnership Secretariat, together with the Constellation for AIDS Competence and with financial support from the private sector, has developed the Malaria Competence Process, which addresses the need for a more community-driven response. This process has been successfully tested in twelve malaria endemic countries since July 2005 and requires increased resources to build capacity and bring the project to national scale. The RBM Partnership is committed to overseeing the introduction of Malaria Competence to 30 countries over the next three years.