



MALARIA CONSORTIUM PROJECT BRIEF

Delivering a long-lasting insecticidal net campaign in South Sudan

Supporting communities in six states

Background

South Sudan is among the 29 countries with the highest malaria rates in the world.^[1] Malaria remains the leading cause of illness and death in the country, accounting for 41 percent of outpatient visits at health facilities, 34 percent of inpatient admissions and 20 percent of all-cause mortality, according to 2021 District Health Information System data analysis. In Central Equatoria and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states, the peak malaria season occurs from May to November, corresponding with the main rainy season. Pregnant women and children under five are most at risk of contracting the disease.^[2]

Long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) are among the most effective and wide-spread malaria control intervention strategies used in South Sudan. LLINs offer twice the protection of untreated nets,^[3] reducing the number of uncomplicated malaria cases in high-transmission areas by 50 percent and childhood mortality by up to 25 percent. As part of wider efforts to support LLIN delivery to South Sudan's population to combat malaria, Malaria Consortium is carrying out a mass LLIN distribution campaign in the states of Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Warrap and Western Equatoria.

Country

South Sudan

Donor

UNICEF with funding from The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Against Malaria Foundation

Length of project

July 2022 – December 2023

Partners

South Sudan National Ministry of Health

South Sudan National Malaria Control Programme

South Sudan State Ministries of Health for Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile and Western Equatoria states and Abyei Administrative Area

Project outline and objectives

In 2021, Malaria Consortium completed an LLIN campaign in Jonglei state that saw the distribution of 861,770 mosquito nets. We adapted our approach for the 2021 campaign from fixed-post LLIN distribution to door-to-door delivery due to COVID-19 infection prevention and control protocols. We also adapted social and behaviour change (SBC) tools to raise community awareness and participation.

From 2022 to 2023, with funding from UNICEF through the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and in collaboration with the State Ministry of Health and the National Malaria Control Programme, we will support the Ministry of Health to implement an LLIN campaign in Central Equatoria, Jonglei (Pibor and Pochalla) Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Warrap (Abyei Administrative Area) and Western Equatoria. This campaign will apply a flexible approach, both door-to-door and fixed-point delivery, allowing us to use the most suitable delivery method for circumstances on the ground, especially in flood-prone areas. Our objectives are to:

- achieve universal coverage with LLINs in the six states to ensure that, by 2023, 85 percent of the at-risk population is protected by the recommended malaria prevention method of using mosquito nets
- develop the capacity of *boma* health workers (BHW) — volunteers trained to distribute LLINs and provide guidance on the correct use of LLINs among their communities
- distribute 1,046,923 LLINs in Central Equatoria, 703,442 in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, 186,665 in Jonglei, 962,746 in Upper Nile, 55,990 in Warrap and 540,118 in Western Equatoria.

Activities

As part of the LLIN campaign, we will:

- hold sensitisation activities with local community leaders and influencers prior to LLIN distribution to encourage community buy-in and uptake of LLINs. Meetings will focus on the importance of the campaign and outline the door-to-door methodology and implementation plan
- conduct capacity development for registrars and hold knowledge-sharing events using a cascade model of training the trainers. National trainers from the NMCP and the Malaria Consortium LLIN coordinator will conduct the first level of trainings, followed by the training of *payam* (ward) supervisors and site managers, who will then train registrars
- distribute messages on the effective use and care of LLINs using SBC activities at community meetings, as well as throughout and after LLIN distribution. We will communicate targeted messages via megaphone, radio slots, jingles, posters and through BHWs. During distribution, BHWs will play a crucial role in providing guidance on how to hang and care for nets; they will also share information about malaria and the importance of sleeping under LLINs at night
- support registrars in registering households and collecting data. This will facilitate the accurate distribution of nets and help to monitor and evaluate the reach of the campaign.

References

1. World Health Organization. World malaria report 2021. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015. Available from: www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240040496.
2. World Health Organization. More pregnant women and children protected from malaria, but accelerated efforts and funding needed to reinvigorate global response, WHO report shows. WHO [online]. 2019 December 4. [cited 2022 Sep 16]. Available from: www.who.int/news/item/04-12-2019-more-pregnant-women-and-children-protected-from-malaria-but-accelerated-efforts-and-funding-needed-to-reinvigorate-global-response-who-report-shows.
3. Ministry of Health South Sudan. Republic of South Sudan malaria indicator survey (MIS). Juba: Ministry of Health; 2017. Available from: [https://malariasurveys.org/documents/SSMIS%202017%20final%20report%202019%2005%2020_signed%20\(1\).pdf](https://malariasurveys.org/documents/SSMIS%202017%20final%20report%202019%2005%2020_signed%20(1).pdf).

© Malaria Consortium / October 2022

Unless indicated otherwise, this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-profit or educational purposes without permission from the copyright holder. Please clearly acknowledge the source and send a copy or link of the reprinted material to Malaria Consortium. No images from this publication may be used without prior permission from Malaria Consortium.

UK Registered Charity No: 1099776

Contact: info@malariaconsortium.org

Cover image: LLIN distribution, Jonglei state

 [FightingMalaria](https://twitter.com/FightingMalaria)
 [MalariaConsortium](https://www.linkedin.com/company/malariaconsortium)
www.malariaconsortium.org



**malaria
consortium**
disease control, better health