Highlights of the year 2016-17

Where saving lives and good science go hand in hand
In the past year we have extended our reach to improve access to effective prevention and treatment of malaria, pneumonia and neglected tropical diseases for the poorest populations in Africa and Asia. A snapshot of our year, linked to our strategic goals, is shown below.

Goal 1: To guide international and national policies and strategies to ensure accurate analysis and understanding of targeted diseases and malnutrition
- The Participated in key international partnerships and working groups focused on policy and advocacy, partnering with Ministries of Health in each country, to work with local partners in endemic areas, to ensure change in policy and practice.

Goal 2: To reach at least 10 million people with preventive treatment, surveillance and uptake of new and existing vaccines and other disease prevention approaches
- We led a partnership to scale-up seasonal malaria chemoprevention in seven countries in the Sahel region of Africa to treat 4.4 million children. This was instrumental in the reduction of millions of malaria cases and prevented an estimated 40,000 deaths.
- We provided treatment for worm infections in nearly 175,000 children in South Sudan, demonstrated the impact of community dialogues increasing take-up of treatment for schistosomiasis in Mozambique and Nigeria, and ensured children under five received malaria services and self-helps educational training in all related areas.

Goal 3: To engage in e-scale delivery of effective vector control interventions and develop, investigate, promote and implement novel, vector-focused approaches that reduce disease transmission
- We distributed 16 million nets in the second universal net distribution, 14 million nets in Mozambique, and 3.5 million in Nigeria.

Goal 4: To improve access to, and the quality of services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and those that enhance child and maternal health
- We focused on implementing an integrated vector management programme for dengue control in Cambodia, which will provide significant benefits for the prevention of dengue cases on a number of diseases. We are also assessing the most appropriate interventions in the Greater Mekong Subregion through technical support to the regional vector control working groups.

Goal 5: Improving health system effectiveness and efficiency through strengthening health systems, including surveillance, referral, reporting, and capacity and market development
- We expanded support and supervision for community health workers in Mozambique through a digital strategy to strengthen health systems and improve supervision and performance of community health workers.

Malaria Consortium’s aim is to reach the most vulnerable and bridge the gaps in health systems where they are weakest, with interventions that go beyond malaria to include other Childhood Diseases, neglected tropical diseases and malnutrition, and, with funding from donors and foundations, we are building sustainable solutions for healthcare in Africa and Asia. Part of this is through supporting large scale roll out of proven interventions, and through finding and demonstrating the effectiveness of innovative products and approaches.

In 2016, our malaria prevention activities in the Sahel region of Africa were presented to GiveWell, a US-based organization dedicated to finding outstanding giving opportunities for foundations and philanthropists. After a rigorous review, we were one of one GiveWell’s top charity recommendations. GiveWells’s top charity recommendation has opened additional funding opportunities, and is allowing us to expand the scope of our seasonal malaria chemoprevention to reach more eligible children in new areas. It is also allowing us to enhance the quality of the data being captured to demonstrate the effectiveness of the intervention and its value for money, as well as its contribution to alleviating malaria.

"Year on year we are building on past achievements and experience as we continue to explore new ways to fulfil our mission.

– Charles Nelson, Chief Executive, Malaria Consortium