Background

In 2016, Uganda contributed four percent of all malaria cases globally, with the country’s entire population living in high malaria transmission zones. While long lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) are one of the core preventive tools at our disposal, only slightly over half of the population slept under an insecticide-treated net in 2016.

Between 2017 and 2018, the Ugandan Ministry of Health successfully implemented a Universal Coverage Campaign for Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets. A total of 26.6 million LLINs were distributed throughout the country, reaching 50 million people in 9.5 million households (97 percent coverage). Of these LLINs, 12.6 million were provided by the Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) and distributed in western and eastern Uganda. The campaign aimed to ensure that 85 percent of the LLINs would be slept under every night for three years after distribution.
Project outline and objectives

The post-distribution monitoring project will track the ownership, use and condition of the LLINs in 419,100 households — 265,500 in western and 153,600 in eastern Uganda — in the 58 districts where AMF-funded nets were distributed. Voluntary village health teams will visit 419,100 randomly selected households within 18,222 sampled villages between February 2018 and April 2020 — six, nine, 12, 18, 24 and 30 months after the LLINs’ distribution. These intervals were previously trialled by AMF in Ghana during another post-distribution monitoring project.

Malaria Consortium and the Church of Uganda will implement the monitoring activities in the 26 western districts, while the Programme for Accessible Health Communication and Education will monitor the 32 eastern districts.

The project aims to inform the National Malaria Control Programme and other key stakeholders about current national LLIN ownership, use and condition to guide planning for future mass campaigns.

Activities

Malaria Consortium will support the project’s objectives through:

- overseeing data verification and entry into AMF’s data entry system
- reporting to the AMF, Ministry of Health and National Malaria Control Program on net presence, use and condition through progress reports and dissemination meetings after each study interval.

References