

World Swim For Malaria Foundation

LLIN Distribution Programme – Detailed Information



Summary

# of LLINS	Country	Location	When	By whom
10,910	Madagascar	Districts of Majunga I & II	Feb-Mar07	PSI/NMCP/ Partners

Further Information

1. Please describe the specific location & villages that will receive nets and the number to each?

The distribution will occur during a national health event "Mother and Child Health Week" that will be officially celebrated from Oct. 23rd- 30th, and sponsored by the President of the Republic and the Minister of Health and Family Planning. The western province of Majunga has been chosen as the location for the celebration.

Majunga is a province with 21 health districts. The location for the celebration and nets distribution will be the districts of Majunga I and Majunga II. The nets will be dispatched in the health centers depending on number of target groups.

2. Is this an urban or rural area and how many people live in this specific area?

The district of Majunga I is an urban area with an estimated population of 150,000 inhabitants. The district of Majunga II is a rural area with an estimated population of 52,000 inhabitants. The avg. Malagasy household includes 5 people.

3. Is this a high risk malaria area for this country? If yes, why do you designate it as high?

Majunga is an endemic region with seasonal malaria transmission. For both districts, morbidity due malaria is particularly high at hospital levels: respectively 17.5% and 15.5% compared to 7.7% for the province and for the country. (*) (*) MOH statistics for 2005

4. How many reported cases of malaria and malaria deaths were there in this area in 2005? If you do not have statistics please make a qualitative comment.

According to MOH statistics for 2005, there were 218 cases of severe malaria at the district hospital level but no malaria deaths reported for 2005. The number of reported malaria

cases at health center levels is 25,857 cases in Majunga I and 7,894 in Majunga II.

5. Is this distribution of nets 'blanket coverage' of an area/village or to a select/vulnerable group? If the latter, please describe this group.

The distribution of nets in Majunga I will be targeted toward pregnant women and children 1 year of age. For this latest age group, morbidity due to malaria at the district hospital level is 46.5%, twice the country level which is 19%. In addition, a net distribution campaign has been conducted in 2005 in the province for children under 5. It is only necessary to target new born children who did not benefit from this campaign and need protection.

The objective of this campaign is to cover at least 60% of pregnant women and children under 1 year of age. For both districts, the number of target groups is estimated at 9% of the population, or 10,910 nets needed.

6. What is the existing level of ITN use in this area? Are there existing bednet distribution programmes in this area?

The area is reached by PSI social marketing program, and nets are available at commercial sales points and by community-based agents. There are no data regarding ITN coverage or use for the districts, but we estimate household coverage for the province approximately between 60-80%:

- Data from a 2004 national household survey showed 20% household ownership of LLITNs nationwide.
- In 2005-2006, PSI has distributed 140,000 LLITNs in the 2 districts through its commercial and NGO networks.
- Also in 2005, The Ministry of Health conducted a free net distribution campaign for children under 5: approximately 164,000 nets were distributed in the province of Majunga, including 21,200 for Majunga I (approx 80% of children <5).

7. Why was the area/villages chosen for bednet distribution and who made this decision?

The Ministry of Health and Family Planning /National Malaria Control Program proposes to distribute the nets during the "Mother and Child Health Week" that will be celebrated from Oct 23rd-30th. The Global Malaria Day is also celebrated on October 22nd and both celebrations will likely be combined.

During the "Mother and Child Health Week", the Ministry of Health and Family Planning will offer a free package for pregnant women and children under 5 including services such as vitamin A, vaccination, family planning, HIV testing, antenatal care. In endemic areas where pregnant women and children under 5 are the most vulnerable to malaria, additional services such as IPT and ITNs for pregnant women will be provided for free.

The location chosen for that official celebration is Majunga I and this "high profile" celebration is expected to be in the presence of the President of Madagascar. Majunga II, the

rural area surrounding Majunga I, will benefit from this campaign also.

8. Have you consulted with the National Malaria Programme in your country about this distribution and what was their response?

This proposal has been elaborated in collaboration with the NMCP and they welcome contributions to that event: During the "Mother and Child Health Week", services such as IPT and ITNs for pregnant women should be provided free in endemic areas and the NMCP has limited number of nets available.

9. Please describe any pre-distribution activity, in particular how the size of the target group and number of nets required will be ascertained?

Before the event, the health centers in Majunga I will be required to provide the number of target groups in their catchment area. Nets will be dispatched to the health centers accordingly.

The NMCP will prepare and send documents to monitor nets distribution. A short training of health personnel will be probably necessary so that nets are distributed correctly and with the right messages.

The community based agents or NGOs involved in the areas will conduct sensitization sessions to encourage mothers to approach the nearest health centers during that week.

10. Please describe how the bednets will be distributed, by whom, between which dates, whether distribution will be a focussed effort or part of a combined programme and if there will be an information/education component to the distribution?

The nets will be distributed in health centers during the "Mother and Child Health Week" from October 23rd -30th. The health personnel will give free ITN to pregnant women coming for antenatal visit and to children under 1 year of age coming for immunization.

There will be a large national campaign around the "Mother and Child Health Week" using mass media and interpersonal communication.

The community based agents or NGOs involved in the areas will conduct sensitization sessions to encourage mothers to approach the nearest health centers during that week. PSI Mobile Video Mobile Units will also support the communication campaign through mass sensitization and animations before and during the "Mother and Child Week".

For Majunga I and II, the messages will include information of ITNs available for pregnant women and children under 1 year of age.

11. What post-distribution follow-up is planned to assess the level of usage of these nets?

Following NMCP procedures, each net distributed will be recorded with the name and address of recipient/household. The NMCP can later follow the utilization by visiting the household. The evaluation of last year campaign is to be conducted, and it is possible to combine an evaluation of this campaign.

In addition, PSI will be conducting a national household survey to evaluate net coverage and utilization. Majunga is included in our sample and it is possible for PSI to do a limited over sampling as to evaluate coverage for Majunga I and II.