

## **Final Report on Rotary Net Distribution to Boarding Schools in Tanzania**

This report summarizes the qualitative aspect on how the Long Lasting Insecticidal Treated Nets (LLINs) went on in the first 10 priority regions out of 21. This distribution was a second phase of the project and we are still waiting for the third phase in order to cover most of the government and community boarding schools. Net distribution exercise started on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at Engutoto Sec Sechool in Monduli, Arusha region and was completed on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010 at Selesian Seminary Sec. School in Dodoma.

### **1. Distribution of nets**

#### **(i) Planning and actual distribution to the schools**

With exception of few regions like Arusha, Dodoma and Pwani, most regional plans were quite accurate, with small differences between the planned and actual number of nets distributed

#### **(ii) Activities that went very smooth include:**

- Students were very innovative in hanging the nets even on the concrete roofs. Despite of some challenges like some schools having concrete roofs that made nail application difficult, the hanging exercise went very well.
- Good collaboration with the District authorities. Most Regional Managers were able to get the attention of the District Commissioner to officiate the hanging exercise in the district
- Students from most schools were very cooperative in helping in the exercise
- In most districts local Rotarians attended and were very supportive of the exercise

#### **(iii) Challenges**

The exercise was accompanied with several challenges including:

- Roads to some schools were in very poor condition e.g. in Arusha, Manyara and Iringa regions
- Some students were not in school during the time of distribution hence the Regional Managers had to leave some nets to the Heads of schools un-hanged till later stage
- There was a need to be extra careful in counting beds during hanging as number of beds during this time did not necessarily tally with the number counted during pre hanging
- Some students still asked questions that indicated they still had some safety concerns even after the Regional Managers having given out a lecture regarding health benefits and safety of insecticide treated mosquito nets
- Some teachers did not show good cooperation after realizing that there were not nets for them as nets were only provided for their students

#### **(iv) Lessons learned**

- There are still some more schools that we have not yet reached even in the regions we where nets have been distributed, this is because of more schools being built by the government in collaboration with the respective communities
- Most Private schools are as worse off as Government and Community schools and they need nets support
- We need to consider teachers also as our target for net distributions as they are part and parcel of the schools

- In order to carry the exercise successfully, checklist proved to be very important

## 2. Net Distribution by region

Region	Number of schools	Nets received	Nets actually issued to schools	Nets actually hung during the visit	Nets remained un hung	Deficit / Surplus	Balance	Nets Actually available
Iringa	20	6,500	5,545	4,059	1,486	0	955	955
Dodoma	44	8,500	7,104	5,215	1,889	-11	1,396	1,385
Morogoro	10	4,600	4,310	2,838	1,472	0	290	290
Mtwara	23	5,600	4,626	4,626	0	10	974	984
Lindi	22	3,500	2,604	2,604	0	0	896	896
Dar es Salaam	10	2,600	2,052	1,864	188	0	548	548
Coast/Pwani	6	4,700	3,575	2,299	1,276	1	1,125	1,127
Kilimanjaro	12	7,900	7,048	7,048	0	0	852	852
Arusha	18	8,800	4,300	4,300	0	0	4,500	4,500
Manyara	11	2,300	1,485	1,485	0	0	815	815
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>55,000</b>	<b>42,605</b>	<b>36,422</b>	<b>6,311</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,351</b>	<b>12,351</b>

The table above shows that 6,311 (equivalent to 15%) nets out of 42,649 that were issued to schools were not hung on the days of first visit to those schools. The main reason was the fact that most of schools had some empty beds due to form four levers who had finished school, whereas the same spaces were being awaited to be occupied by new comers (Form one students). PSI Regional Managers of the respective regions are currently going through those schools to observe if all nets are hung and being used by students. A total of 12,351 nets remained un distributed because of the differences between the number of beds obtained from pre distribution data collection exercise and the actual number of beds that were available at the time of distribution.