

World Swim For Malaria Foundation

LLIN Distribution Programme – Detailed Information



Summary

# of LLINS	Country	Location	When	By whom
6,000	Kenya	Laikipia District	Jun07	His Nets

Further Information

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

This distribution will take place in Kenya in the Laikipia District along the Great Rift Valley Province between Lake Baringo and Lake Bogoria. This is North of Nairobi in central Kenya.

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

This is a predominantly rural area and we intend to get nets to the majority of many small villages and housing clusters inhabited by the Njemps people. They do not have easy access to hospitals and clinics that are in distant towns, and they are so poor they cannot afford nets or treatment even at subsidized prices. The actual number of Ilchamus (Njemps) people in this area is in question. The lowest estimate is 25,000 and a high estimate is 70,000.

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

It is a high risk area according to our Kenya resources and according to recent reports from this region. There is not much information reported on this region by WHO, but it is a lowland area that holds water during the rainy season. Recent reports indicate that global warming and heavy rains have dramatically increased the incidence of malaria for this region.

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.

Our representative gathered the following information from the Marigat District Health Office: During the last two year there have been 3,600 confirmed cases of malaria per annum. It would be safe to double that figure on account of those who do not have access to that facility. Therefore, there is a conservative estimate of at least 25% infection rate in the

general vicinity. The District Health Office reported that there have been no free distributions of nets in the interior. The number of deaths in this region is not available at this time.

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.

This distribution is to a select vulnerable group and we plan to do a blanket coverage for them. Their language is one of the Eastern Nilotic Maa languages closely related to the Samburu language and Njemps could be considered a dialect of Samburu. Fortunately, most Njemps speak Swahili and we will communicate with them in Swahili with the understanding that some distributions may need to be done with the added translation of Njemps.

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

The Njemps people are predominantly farmers who are extremely impoverished; they are considered "unacceptable" by many of the Swahili people because they eat fish; and the use of ITNs among them is practically zero. Despite attempts by the Ministry of Health in Kenya to distribute free nets in some areas, our on-site inspection revealed that they have not reached the Njemps people.

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

This area was chosen because of the high incidence of malaria in this region; because of the size of this ethnic group; and because of the long-term relationship and reliability of our Kenya representative, Sam Harrell. The decision to distribute in this area was made by T Thomas, President of His Nets.

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

Sam Harrell has contacted the Kenya Department of Health about conducting a follow-up study for us and they seem most pleased that someone is willing to serve this people group that has pretty much been overlooked.

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

His Nets Kenyan worker is Sam Harrell. He was raised in Kenya, is fluent in Swahili and has been building schools, Integrated Child Development Centers, and bridges there for many years. He will personally receive and store the nets in an Integrated Child Development Center. One month prior to delivery, notification of the delivery schedule will be posted in those places where deliveries will be made.

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?

Sam will lead a group of fifteen college students from Mercer University, Macon, Georgia who will go from village to village delivering nets personally. He and his associate, Doreen Adundo, will see that recipients are educated in the proper use and care of their nets in a native language.

This delivery is scheduled for the first two weeks of June, 2007. The goal is to get a net into every Njemps home in the region. We will validate deliveries with videotape footage and photographs. This videotape and photo validation will be sent of Swim for Malaria immediately after a report is generated for you. We will need 6,000 nets to assure that we get a net into each Njemps home. Malarial infection will dramatically be reduced if not eliminated among the Ilchamus (Njemps) people.

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

Our Kenyan worker will do our traditional follow-up study four to six weeks after the distribution to see that people are using the nets properly. We are already working with the Kenyan Department of Health and they will give us an "official report" on the incidence of malaria following the delivery of these nets. Our normal follow-up study (four to six weeks after delivery) will be conducted by Ms. Doreen Adundo, a Kenyan college graduate, who lives and works among the Njemps people.