



Indian Red Cross Society

Long Lasting Insecticide Net (LLIN) Distribution Final Report

**Indian Red Cross Society
Kanyakumari District Branch
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Tamil Nadu, India**

LLINs Donated by Against Malaria Foundation (AMF)

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1.1 Introduction:

Indian Red Cross Society Kanyakumari District Branch received the donation of 20000 LLINs by *Against Malaria Foundation* for distributing free of cost in Kanyakumari district under the Tamil Nadu Integrated Recovery Project (TNIRP). These target area had been selected through assessment done by the Indian Red Cross Society with the support of American Red Cross. Indian Red Cross Society works in close coordination with health department of the Tamil Nadu Government. Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari district branch distributed 19559 Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets (ITNs) in 15 communities of Kanyakumari district.



Kanyakumari is the southern most district of Tamil Nadu. The district lies between $77^{\circ} 05'$ and $77^{\circ} 36'$ of the eastern longitudes and $8^{\circ} 03'$ and $8^{\circ} 35'$ of the northern Latitudes. The District is bound by Tirunelveli District on the North and the east. The South Eastern boundary is the Gulf of Mannar. On the South and the South West, the boundaries are the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. On the West and North West it bound by Kerala.





District Kanyakumari Tamil Nadu Grid Map (E 77° 5' 77° 36', N 8° 03' and 8° 35')

1.2 Background Information of the Tamil Nadu Integrated Recovery Program (TNIRP) Project:

Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari District Branch is implementing Integrated Recovery Programme, financially and technically supported by American Red Cross. The overall goal of the Integrated Programme is **'to create safe, healthy and competent individuals, families and communities'**. The project is being implemented at 40 communities and 53 Government schools in Kanyakumari District. This target areas are chosen based on assessment done by Indian Red Cross Society with technical support of American Red Cross and capacity of the IRCS district branches to implement activities. The project incorporate activities in the following sectors: **(1) Community based health and first aid, and Psychosocial Support activities (2) Capacity Building of IRCS paid and volunteer staff and other stakeholders**. The project was initiated on January 1st 2008.

1.3 Base Line Survey: ¹

A baseline survey was conducted in the project area during June-July 2008. About 1837 adults were interviewed during the process. Along with other they were asked about the measures they take to prevent mosquito bite. Table below shows the distribution of households and their action to protect against mosquito bite. It was reported that 36% of the adult respondents used insecticide coils to prevent the same and 12% of the respondents use mosquito repellent to avoid mosquito bite. However, 72% of the

¹ Final Report of Integrated Baseline Household survey in Knayakumari by ORG Centre for Social Research (A division of ACNielsen ORG MARG Pvt. Ltd.) Protection against mosquito bite Page 28.

respondents reported that they use fan to protect mosquito bite, which is ideally ineffective.

Percent distribution of household and their action to protect against mosquito bite

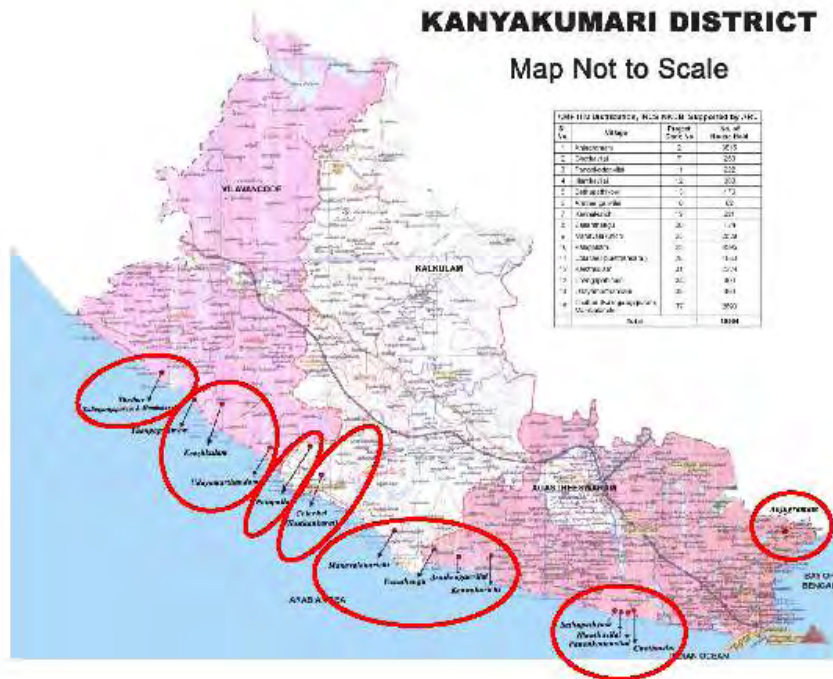
Actions	%
(n=)	1837
Use Mosquito repellent	11.6
Sleep under mosquito net	2.6
Sleep under treated net	0.2
Use fans	71.6
Close windows	6.6
Use insecticide coils	36.4
Spray house with insecticide	0.4
Drain/treat stagnant water	7.0
Cover water tank	0.4
Others	0.4
Don't Know	0.9
Do nothing	6.9

2.1 Pre distribution Activity:

2.2 Information of Distribution Area:

Following 15 communities out of 40 target communities have been selected for ITN distribution donated by Against Malaria Foundation and divided in seven circles.

Circle	Area covered
Circle 1	Anjugamam
Circle 2	Chothavillai, Panankottanvillai, Illanthavillai, Sethupathiyoor
Circle 3	Aruthenganvillai, Kannakurichi, Easanthangu, Manavalakurichi
Circle 4	Palapallam
Circle 5	Sasthankarai
Circle 6	Keezhkulam, Udayamarthandam, Thengapattinam
Circle 7	Thuthur , Anukode



2.3 Details of net distribution

Circle	Area covered	Total Planed	Net Distributed
Circle 1	Anjugamam	3515	3210
Circle 2	Chothavillai, Panankottanvillai, Illanthavillai, Sethupathiyoor	958	914
Circle 3	Aruthenganvillai, Kannakurichi, Easanthangu, Manavalakurichi	3236	2874
Circle 4	Palapallam	4595	4596
Circle 5	Sasthankarai	1883	2049
Circle 6	Keezhkulam, Udayamarthandam, Thengapattinam	3114	3144
Circle 7	Thuthur Anukode	2693	3172
	Total	19994	19959

A balance of 41 nets is available with the branch, which will be distributed to the same communities if any requirement arises.

2.4 Inaugural function

Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari District Branch (KKDB) organized ceremonial inaugural of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITN) distribution on 30th Aug 2008 at Nagercoil, Kanyakumari. Distribution of 90 ITNs to 90 beneficiaries was ceremoniously done before distribution of 20,000 ITNs in 15 communities of Kanyakumari district, under the Tamil Nadu Integrated Recovery Program (TNIRP) of Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari District Branch, supported by American Red Cross.



Figure 1 Demonstration of ITN during Inaugural function

Many distinguished guest and authorities were present, participated, and addressed including Dr. Vimala Ramalingam, President, IRCS Tamil Nadu State Branch; Shantha Diaz, Secretary, IRCS Tamil Nadu State Branch; Dr. Ralph Selvin, Deputy Director – Health, Kanyakumari District, Government of Tamil Nadu; Dr. Sumitra Raghuvaran, Vice- President, IRCS Kanyakumari District Branch; Dr. E. James R. Daniel, Vice- President, IRCS Kanyakumari District Branch; Mr. M. Ahmed Khan, Chairman, IRCS Kanyakumari District Branch; Mr. S. Natrajan, Hon. Secretary, IRCS Kanyakumari District Branch; Mr. K. Sivananthan, Hon. Treasurer, IRCS Kanyakumari District Branch.



Figure 2 Dr. Vimala Ramalingam, President, IRCS Tamil Nadu State Branch addressing in inaugural function

2.5 Specification of ITN:

- PermaNet® Insecticide treated polyester mosquito bed net.
- Impregnated with biodegradable insecticide called Deltamethrin mixed in resin, coating the netting fibre.
- Size: Family size (160X180X150cms)
- Color: White

2.6 Trainings of Red Cross Staff and Volunteers:

Indian Red Cross Society has trained the 28 Integrated Program Staff (IPS) under the Tamil Nadu Integrated Recovery Project and they have been well trained on prevention of malaria and use of insecticide mosquito nets. Further, the training was given to the community volunteers, called as Integrated Program Technician (109 in 15 communities out of total 360) and Community Facilitators (643 in 15 communities out of total 1878); as part of their curriculum they were trained on community mobilization, coordination with community committee, health assessment, and Malaria prevention.

2.7 Community Based Health and First Aid Trainings:

69 Integrated Program Technician (IPTs-Volunteers) in these 15 communities have completed Community Based Health and First Aid Training. Rest 40 in these 15 IPTs communities will be trained by the December 2008. They have been given training on Prevention of Malaria and use of ITN in 120 minute session by using malaria cue cards and Community and House hold tool kit. These IPTs are further training the CF to use the community and household tool kit for house to house visit to follow up use of ITN and disseminate malaria prevention messages. Prevention of Malaria and use of ITN session are based on John Hopkins University (JHU) malaria prevention and awareness materials.



Figure 3 and 4 IPTs practicing the Malaria Cue Cards in CBHFA training

2.8 Traditional Media Activity:

Traditional Media enacted by the local people who are professionally trained for doing the traditional activities according to local cultural and tradition of a particular geographical region. The Traditional Media strives to disseminate information to the community through the locally and traditionally available and acceptable means. Program incorporated the widely use of traditional media to Disseminate Malaria prevention and use of ITN messages. It includes Bow Song (Villu Paatu) is an ancient form of musical - story - telling art of southern Tamil Nadu. Villu Paatu has been very popular in Kanyakumari and other near areas. Other traditional method which has been used are Parai Adi , oyil attam, Kolattam (traditional dances).



Figure 5 Demonstration of use of ITN in Traditional Media



Figure 6 Malaria Prevention message dissemination through Villupattu in Traditional Media

2.9 IEC materials: Various materials other than training manuals have been developed for awareness and dissemination of messages like Malaria Cue Cards, Poster, pamphlet, community and household tool kit.



Figure 7 IEC materials on Malaria Prevention and Promotion of ITN

2.10 House to House visit by volunteers:

Red Cross Volunteers (IPs and CFs) conducted house to house visit and group meetings in target areas to disseminate messages on prevention of malaria message and to promote use of mosquito nets. 20000 pamphlets have been distributed during house visit and group meetings.

3.1 Distribution Process:

All distribution has been coordinated by Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari District Branch leaders. Distribution has been done by IRCS Staff with the support of community and other Volunteers through community committee. All distribution process has been completed in approx 75 days starting from 30th August 2008 to 15th November 2008.

3.2 Coordination meeting:

Red Cross staff and volunteer did the coordination meeting with Village Panchayat leaders, community committee and other relevant person for planning the net distribution activity.

3.3 Household Listing:

A standard form was prepared for household listing. The form contains the information's of address of the house, head of the family, size of the family, no of member under the age of 5, date of distribution, signature, name of the lister, date of listing and signature of the community committee leader. After orientation the listing in every community was done by IPTs and CFs, which was verified by the community committee, and IPS



Figure 8 Volunteers doing Household listing in village

3.4 Token Distribution:

The volunteers prepared the token with household serial number, name of the head of household and IRCS seal. Tokens were distributed through CF to every household 1- 2 days before for ITN distribution. Distribution time has been allotted as per the number of Household/token.



Figure 9 Volunteers Preparing token with IPS

3.5 Logistic arrangements:

The vehicles for transportation were arranged as per the amount of nets to be distributed. For every distribution project vehicle was allotted to distribution site, if needed for larger distributions occasionally bigger vehicles were also used for transporting the nets to distribution sites.



Figure 10 & 11 ITN loading from IRCS office for distribution by IRCS Staff

3.6 Net Demonstration and providing information on use of nets:

Before every distribution the common demonstration for hanging and proper use of net was done by the project staff and volunteers to all the beneficiaries. The volunteers had started following up the proper usage of nets by conducting house visits. They have been informed to secure the nets from any damage likely to cause by rats etc.



Figure 12 Demonstration and explanation before ITN distribution by IPS



Figure 13 Volunteer and Beneficiary after distribution

4.1 Challenges

The following challenges have been faced during distribution of nets:

1. Distribution activity got delayed due to some administrative concern.
2. Field staff reported that they need more time to mobilize community before distribution of mosquito nets. Where ever required distribution activity was rescheduled.
3. Heavy rainfalls had affected net distribution in some places. The Tamil Nadu State, as a whole, recorded 34 cm rainfall against the normal 31.6 cm, a departure of 7 per cent. Kanniyakumari with 55 cm rain fall was one of the districts reporting excessive rain fall in the season.

RAINFALL STATEMENT²

Districts	Rainfall for the week ending 19 TH NOVEMBER 2008			Seasonal rainfall for the period from 01.10.08 to 19.11.08		
	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)
Kanyakumari	18.5	42.2	-56	459.0	328.0	40

4. Two people from Anjugramam reported itching after using net. IRCS staff was found that they have not followed the instruction and used directly without keeping net out for 24 hours. They were again explained about the use of nets. Later on, there was no such reporting of itching or any other problem.
5. In two places, people from other non targeted surrounding communities also asked for net, which delayed plan distribution.
6. Many times net distribution was postponed because of local issues (local conflict)

4.2 Future Plan:

Indian Red Cross Society, Kanyakumari District Branch is going to distribute the 55000 more mosquito nets to cover the all approx 75000 households from 40 communities under the Integrated Recovery Program. For the above 55,000 net distribution, program will continue the mobilization and awareness activities for prevention of malaria and use

² *Weekly Weather Report - Tamilnadu & Puducherry*, BHARAT SARKAR, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, BHARAT MAUSAM VIGYAN VIBHAG, INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT, REGIONAL METEOROLOGICAL CENTRE, CHENNAI-600 006, WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT FOR TAMILNADU AND PUDUCHERRY FOR, THE WEEK ENDING 19TH NOVEMBER 2008 / 28TH KARTIKA 1930 SAKA, <http://www.imdchennai.gov>

of ITNs. Follow up/Hang up of ITNs in these 15 communities will be done by the IRCS staff and volunteers from January 2009.

4.3 Acknowledgement:

Indian Red Cross Society Kanyakumari District Branch is thankful to World Swim and Against Malaria Foundation for donation of 20000 Insecticide Treated Nets.

We are thankful to:

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Mr. K. Sivananthan, Hon. Treasurer

Panchayat leaders, Community Committee members, Ward Members of all target village and IPTs, CFs, Gandhi Brigade (volunteers)

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