

Cameroon : Population awareness thanks to a motorcade caravan

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CARN 2013

The Roll Back malaria partnership for Central African countries (CARN) and all its partners organize on a yearly basis the Annual Review and Planning meeting in one of the CARN countries. The event for this year will take place in Douala/Cameroon from 29 to 31 July and will bring together more than one hundred experts from NMCPs, private sector, Academia and research institutions, bilaterals, multilaterals, faith based organizations and NGOs and for the first time, national programs in charge of reproductive health.

This is an opportunity for partners to discuss on the way forward intended to harmonize strategic interventions around NMCPs with impact in order to be closer to MDGs.

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Some weeks back, the NMCP regional unit for Central region had a successful campaign for malaria awareness in all 10 health districts. In each one, the caravan composed of 10 moto taxi, a car with a loud speaker and a town crier invited population to sleep under LLIN every night.

A huge crowd came along the streets to get the right message. The following messages have been delivered: wash your LLIN once dirty with ordinary soap; People with malaria symptoms should go without delay to the nearest CHW or health facility for a prompt diagnosis and a rapid and appropriate treatment. This is free of charge for children under 5.

For almost 30 days CHWs disseminated the message on the correct and effective use of LLINs as essential family practices for the prevention of malaria. Thanks to this proxy approach CHWs were able to help for the LLIN hang up.

*Rachele NGO BOM & Emmanuel FORLACK,
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Intensified community-based malaria control activities in Bioko Island



Un enfant dans les bras d'un agent communautaire pour la lutte contre le paludisme, prêt à subir le test rapide du paludisme.

Thanks to the control interventions implemented in the past years, malaria transmission in Bioko Island (Equatorial Guinea) has become heterogeneous. To tackle this situation, intensified activities are being implemented in areas of higher endemicity. The intensified inter-

ventions consist of a comprehensive package of community-based control methods including, among others, mass screening and treatment campaigns where all cases found positive at the RDT screening are treated according to the national antimalarial protocol.

The program relies on the collaboration of "Community Malaria Agents" which, after a short training of a few days are involved in all prevention and active case detection initiatives.

During the month of June, 40 "Community Malaria Agents" have collaborated in the implementation of a mass screening and treatment campaign in a focal area of Riaba district, located in the southern part of the Island, covering 21 villages with a total population of about 2,000 people.

NEWS IN BRIEF

NMCPs coordinators from Chad (Clément), Equatorial Guinea (Matilde), Sao Tome and Principe (Herodes) attended with seven others participants the malariology course organized by WHO at Martinovsky Institute of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine in Moscow from 3-27 June .

Cameroon has signed its GFATM grant R9 ph2. Case management at community level is a key component and will be jointly managed by both PRs (MoH through NMCP and Plan Cameroon).

Dr Joachim Lubiba CARN co chair has been appointed Head of SANOFI Public Affairs and based in Douala/Cameroon. Prior to this position he was the Malaria focal point for SANRU in DRC as principal recipient for GFATM grants.

Are there outbreaks of malaria in DRC? Please read the August newsletter.