



Arusha, 17 November 2004

ExxonMobil's Role in the Partnership

ExxonMobil is committed to fostering long-term and sustainable progress in the fight against malaria in Africa. As such, ExxonMobil is involved in a range of initiatives aimed at reducing malaria's devastating impact and has been integrally involved with the project to manufacture and market long-lasting insecticidal bednets (LLIN) in Africa.

Developing strong local manufacturing capabilities

ExxonMobil fully supports the Partnership's goal of making LLINs widely available and affordable. We see this project as an innovative and pioneering step toward that goal. Our contribution focuses on building industrial sustainability and a basis for scaling-up production.

- We played a key role in advising on the Supply Chain and manufacturing flexibility optimization plans, through the use of Olyset-containing masterbatch, instead of Olyset compounds. As a result, A to Z can buy HDPE separately from the Olyset ingredients, gain more independence and choice regarding the color, and store less quantities in warehouses.
- We have made one High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) product available for potential use as the base resin for the manufacturing of the nets, working closely with WHO, Sumitomo and A to Z for the trials and production optimization steps. Produced nets must be strong, reliable and release the insecticide at an effective rate, a rate that will kill the mosquitoes while still remaining viable throughout the net's four to five year life span. ExxonMobil is one of the world's leading manufacturers of HDPE, and has a good manufacturing base in Saudi Arabia as well as sales offices in Africa. This allows the Company to be a reliable supplier that can readily provide product and manufacturing support to this project.
- We are supporting A to Z in their efforts to design and implement the right level of equipment in their production lines and Quality Control laboratory.

Donating bednets

Additionally, in order to help jump-start the project ExxonMobil has donated funds to assist with the distribution of the long lasting insecticidal nets to the communities in the direct vicinity of the factory as well as in other parts of Africa.

- Population Services International (PSI) received a grant for the distribution of more than 5,000 LLINs to pregnant women and children under five in the two districts of the Arusha region (urban Arusha and rural Monduli).
- UNICEF received funding to provide education and subsidize the distribution of 22,000 LLINs in the Adamawa province, Cameroon for use by pregnant women and infants.

Partnering in Roll Back Malaria

The LLIN initiative complements ExxonMobil's involvement in the Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

- As part of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, ExxonMobil is working with governments, communities, NGOs and local public health experts on enhanced control programs in at-risk regions where we operate in Africa. Between 2000 and the end of 2004, ExxonMobil will have given more than \$10 million to fund health organizations and programs to fight malaria.
- In addition to direct community assistance, ExxonMobil funds international research programs to support the discovery and marketing of new and effective therapies for treating malaria. Examples include the Harvard Malaria Initiative, which focuses on the basic science of drug-resistance mechanisms, and Medicines for Malaria Ventures, which is aimed at partnering academic and private drug-company researchers to accelerate the marketing of new drugs.
- ExxonMobil is also involved in various public-private partnerships to improve public health. One example is NetMark - a USAID-funded program - which has teamed up with ExxonMobil to launch "Help Us Help" campaigns in Zambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Kenya. In cooperation with the national health authorities, these campaigns focus on public education and make lifesaving insecticide-treated bednets available to vulnerable populations, by subsidizing coupons for bednets to pregnant women, and by donating a portion of gasoline sales sold in the Mobil retail network.

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