

## PROJECTS: ETHIOPIA

# STOP MALARIA – ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MALARIA PREVENTION IN ETHIOPIA



### Project

In Gibhe Valley in Tolay, the burden of malaria is particularly great and is one of the main reasons for the high child mortality rate here. The malaria control project in Ethiopia follows the same principles that were developed and maximised in pilot projects in Kenya (Malindi and Nyabondo).

The population is sensitised to the danger presented by malaria-transmitting mosquitoes on **malaria information days**. **Breeding sites** (e.g. pools) are dried out in community work, and blocked water channels are cleared so that water may flow again. Where this is not possible, stagnant bodies of water are treated with an **environmentally safe bacteria** (Bti, *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*). Training of **mosquito scouts** from the local population helps to ensure sustainability and the long-term success of the project.

### Relevance

A considerable number of the inhabitants of Tolay moved from the densely-populated, drought-threatened highlands to the sparsely-populated fertile lowlands of Ethiopia, where **sleeping sickness** and **malaria** are rife: both of these diseases are transmitted by insects. The problem of sleeping sickness for humans and animals has been tackled with integrated methods in a previous project supported by Biovision (see completed projects AH-02 *Tsetse Rollback Initiative Ethiopia*). The Ethiopian malaria project builds on this and makes use of synergies and ties in malaria control with the activities of tsetse fly control.

The pilot project in Ethiopia demonstrates to the population and central decision makers how malaria can be contained in an ecological and cost-effective way.

### Development Goal

Sustainable improvement of the health of the population of Tolay through environmentally friendly malaria control.

### Beneficiaries

12'000 inhabitants of the project area (5000 in Wayu, 5000 in Biftu Beri plus 2000 conscripts in the nearby military base) profit from improved health due to a reduction in cases of malaria.

**Project number:**  
BV HH-03

**Project active since:**  
2007

**Project duration:**  
until December 2012

**Budget for 2011:**  
83'685 USD

**Project coordinator:**  
Dr. Charles Mbogo, KEMRI/ *icip*e

**Program responsibility:**  
Verena Albertin



*Stagnant water is a threat. It provides an ideal breeding site for malaria mosquitoes. Therefore, local mosquito-scouts map and regularly monitor the breeding sites.*



*Children are particularly at risk. For this reason, mosquito nets are distributed as a priority to families with small children.*

## Achieved so far

**Sensitisation and training** of local groups on the connection between mosquitoes and malaria, as well as **guidance on environmental management and correct use of bednets**. **12 Mosquito Scouts** and 4 collaborators of local health facilities were trained in the independent application and dissemination of environmentally-friendly methods of mosquito control

## Goals

1. Continued implementation of **integrated mosquito control** in collaboration with the local community and trained mosquito-scouts
2. **Strengthening of partnerships** with goal-related organisations and communities as well as their training in malaria prevention and control.
3. **Monitoring** achieved results in malaria control
4. **Development of a decision model** towards improved, substantiated selection of intervention methods

## Partner Organisations

International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology *icipe*  
[www.icipe.org](http://www.icipe.org); Ethiopian Ministry of Health; Addis Ababa University Institute of Pathobiology; Jimma University;

## Sustainability

Sustainability calls for a holistic vision: healthy people, animals and plants in a healthy environment. (4x Health, 4-H Strategy). Every project supported by Biovision effects considerable improvements in at least one of the four health areas. The key to effectively replicating the success of the project is the availability of specific information on the methods applied and the results achieved. With this approach and its 'helix of effects', living conditions are improved and the poverty of the people is gradually overcome while the environment is protected.



*Tolay lies in Gibhe Valley in the regional state of Oromiya.*



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