

PROJECTS: KENYA

STOP MALARIA – ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MALARIA PREVENTION IN NYABONDO



Project

Nyabondo lies on a high plateau in Western Kenya close to Lake Victoria. The main source of income for the population is the manufacture of handmade bricks from the natural clay of this wetland area. This has led to thousands of depressions in the ground filled with stagnant water, which tragically provide ideal **breeding sites for mosquito larvae**. Since they are so close to the villages, malaria spreads rapidly.

In previous phases of the project the scale of the need for **environmentally safe malaria control** became apparent. What is most important is that **those affected** are **informed** (e.g. during special malaria info-events) about the danger presented by these stagnant bodies of water as breeding sites for the malaria mosquito. For this reason, local key people are trained to become so-called „**Mosquito-Scouts**“. They are charged with an important responsibility, namely to guarantee the active participation of the population in sustainably controlling malaria.

Stagnant pools of water 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*), to decimate the mosquitoes in the larval stage. **Impregnated bed nets** are distributed to those groups particularly at risk from malaria (mothers and small children). When used correctly, these mosquito nets provide the safest protection from malaria-transmitting mosquito bites.

Relevance

Every year around two million people die from the consequences of the tropical disease malaria, most of them in sub-Saharan Africa. Biovision's pilot projects have shown that environmentally friendly and low-cost measures that can be implemented by the local population are an effective weapon in the fight against malaria.

The Nyabondo pilot project demonstrated to the population and central decision makers how malaria can be contained in rural areas in an ecological and cost-effective way.

Development Goal

Health improvement for the population of Nyabondo through integrated control of disease-transmitting mosquitoes.

Project number:
BV HH-01

Project active since:
2004

Project duration:
until December 2011

Budget for 2011:
66'000 USD

Project coordinator:
Dr. Richard Mukabana, Head of
Human Health *icipe*

Program responsibility:
Verena Albertin, Biovision



Students are educated about the malaria disease and how they can protect themselves.



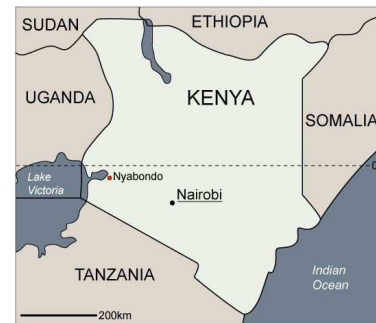
Informing the population about the relationship between mosquitoes and malaria is an integral part of Biovision's malaria projects.

Beneficiaries

1500 people are educated on the relationship between malaria and mosquitoes and acquire practical skills in mosquito control in training sessions. The population of Nyabondo (approx. 75,000 people) profit from integrated malaria control through reduced mosquito numbers resulting in fewer cases of and losses from malaria.

Achieved so far

The population of Nyabondo has been educated on malaria and malaria control through specific **information events and easy to understand teaching material**. By using the integrated methods the cases of malaria have already fallen substantially.



Nyabondo is situated in Western Kenya on a high plateau near to Lake Victoria.

Goals

1. **Significant reduction in cases of malaria (> 50%)** through integrated malaria control (e.g. by control and monitoring of mosquito breeding sites)
2. **Development of a decision model**, for improved, informed choice of intervention measures
3. **Strengthening of partnerships and local communities** in malaria prevention and control. (e.g. workshops and trainings)
4. **Monitoring and evaluation of project results** in malaria control in Nyabondo

Partner Organisations

International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology *icipe* www.icipe.org (implementing partner); Kenya Medical Research Institute KEMRI www.kemri.org; Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation Infrastructure.

Sustainability

Sustainability calls for a holistic vision: healthy people, animals and plants in a healthy environment. 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.



Contact:

Biovision – Foundation for Ecological Development
Schaffhauserstr. 18
CH-8006 Zürich
Tel. +41 44 341 97 18
Fax +41 44 341 97 62
info@biovision.ch
www.biovision.ch

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