

# Community-based strategy for malaria control in Senegal

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### PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Plan is an international, child-centered development organization.
- Plan has operated in Senegal since 1982. Its health and development programs include child health and nutrition and malaria control.
- Malaria is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in Plan-supported populations.
- Plan is implementing a malaria control project in Niore district (Kaolack region), total population 308,000.
- In this district, malaria-related morbidity and mortality are almost double the national average.



### GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

- GOAL:** To reduce mortality and morbidity due to malaria by 50%.
- OBJECTIVE 1:** Increase to 80% the rate of coverage and utilization of insecticide-treated bednets (ITN)
- OBJECTIVE 2:** Cover 80% of households in target zones with indoor residual spraying
- OBJECTIVE 3:** Treat 80% of malaria cases in accordance with national directives

### METHODS

#### INTERVENTION 1 – DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF MALARIA CASES BY COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

- Development of training manuals for all community actors (volunteers, frontline health workers)
- Facilitation (financial and material) of training of community actors
- Equipment of community health posts for the treatment of patients



#### INTERVENTION 2 – INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

- Development of methods, materials and tools for community education on malaria prevention and control
- Facilitation of community education activities by community based-organizations



#### INTERVENTION 3 - FREE DISTRIBUTION OF LONG-LASTING INSECTICIDE TREATED BEDNETS (ITN) AND INDOOR RESIDUAL SPRAYING (IRS)

- Identification of children
- Provision of ITN
- Facilitation of organizing IRS in communities
- Monitoring ITN use



### RESULTS (2006-2008)

#### QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

- Increase in ITN use by children under five from 68% to 98%
- Increase in treatment of uncomplicated malaria from 59% to 100%
- Increase in household buildings treated with indoor spraying from 0% to 98%
- Decrease in rate of malaria-related child morbidity from 52% to 10%
- Decrease in rate of malaria-related child mortality from 39% to 0%

#### QUALITATIVE RESULTS

- Community health workers now have the capacity to treat malaria at community level, respecting ministry protocols.
- ITN use is accepted by the population.
- People from other districts want the benefits of indoor residual spraying.

#### WHAT DO PEOPLE SAY ABOUT THE PROJECT?

- "Before indoor residual spraying, I spent more \$275 for treatment of malaria. In 2008, I spent \$71 during the same period. IRS is one best strategy to fight malaria."* - President of rural community
- "Before, I treated more than 50 patients, the majority children, with malaria per day. Now, I stay more than two months without any case of malaria. Integration of all strategies is necessary to fight malaria."* - Health post nurse



### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEPS

- Enhance capacity of health post nurses to supervise community health workers.
- Increase the distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated bednets by workers at community health posts and by community health workers.
- Extend the implementation of indoor residual spraying in all health districts.