

SCRIPT MALARIA KENYA

(c) Ruud Elmendorp
Video Journalist Africa
<http://www.videoreporter.nl>
info@videoreporter.nl
+254 736 746 312

PRESENTATION

A breakthrough in the fight against malaria.
That is recorded in the African country Kenya.
The prevalence of the killing disease is almost halved,
according to recent figures backed by the World Health Organisation.
The key factors for the reduction are the distribution of free bed nets and treatment of houses
with insecticides.
Our correspondent Ruud Elmendorp visited an health post in Western Kenya,
where the prevalence of malaria used to be very high.
The methods prove succesful, however the local population had really to get used to them.

START REPORT

SOUNDBITE MOSQUITO

We all know the sound of these small night devils,
who come to suck your precious life blood.
Apart from a sleepless night, they can even make you sick.
In many parts of the world people suffer from the malaria you can contract after being bitten,
for example in Kenya where many people die of it.
However according to the WHO the malaria death cases here went down from 34,000 in 2005 to
16,000 in 2006.

GRAPHICS: (to be keyed one by one on the rhythm of the voice over)

TC.: 0:25	logo WHO (lower right corner)
TC 0:27	malaria death cases Kenya
TC 0:28	34,000 in 2005
TC 0:31	16,000 in 2006

These free bed nets contributed to that,
but there is another things that also proved succesful,
and it involves another type of devil.
Imagine you're living a rural life in this quite beautiful area in Kenya.

And then these guys come in,
telling you they can protect your children from that killing malaria.
Well, it took the team some time.

QUOTE GEORGE MIRONGA

***The reaction was not all that good,
because some of the families that we were going.
We even scared the dogs.***

***They were running away.
Even the small kids ran away.***

The 25 team members work from this health post in Kiogoro. Beyond the beauty of the hills, hides the high malaria prevalence. The frequent rain fall here creates areas that are an haven for malaria mosquitoes. They spread the disease by injecting people with a parasite. Once in the human body it starts to attack red blood cells. Patients suffer from tremors, head ache and fever, and when not treated in time it can lead to death.

SOUNDBYTE PUMPING

The sprayers here prepare their daily routine. They use a mix of water with the insecticide pyrethrum. The teams go around with pressured tanks to disperse the solution.

SOUNDBYTE SPRAYING

It's simple, the people have to vacate the house for some hours, and meanwhile a team member enters. Within five minutes the walls are sprayed. In this division more than 7,000 house holds were treated. This 49-years-old mother of eight says this method proved successful.

QUOTE ESTHER BONARI (translated from Kisii)
***Since the spray I never heard mosquitoes when passing though the house.
Even the insecticide has helped me against cock roaches.
The malaria has come down since the spraying.***

All together the health post in the districts registered a sharp decrease in the number of malaria cases.

QUOTE TOM OTIENO, PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER KIOGORO
***It has reduced, according the sensor we did the other day.
We have reduced it to six per cent.
- Coming from?
It was high.
From ninety.***

The campaign of spraying houses will continue the next coming years, until all the 20,000 house holds are reached. So if you ever bump into these guys, there is no reason to be scared.

Ruud Elmendorp, Kiogoro, Kenya.