

World Malaria Day 2016

End malaria for good

WITH RENEWED FOCUS AND COMMITMENT, WE CAN BE THE GENERATION TO END ONE OF THE OLDEST AND DEADLIEST DISEASES IN HUMAN HISTORY.



SOUND BITES

- The malaria fight is one of the most inspiring global health stories of our time.
- No child should have to die from a mosquito bite, yet malaria still kills a child every two minutes.
- The push to end malaria is saving millions of lives, increasing attendance at school, improving worker productivity and boosting local economies.
- Ending malaria will help build a healthier and more secure world.
- We can be the generation that ends malaria – one of the oldest and deadliest diseases in human history.

Smart investments and strong partnerships have resulted in dramatic progress against malaria in the past 15 years.

- **The malaria fight is one of the most inspiring global health stories of our time.** Working together, endemic countries, donors, organizations, and communities have **reached millions of people** with effective tools, diagnosis, and treatment.
- **Malaria mortality has decreased by 60 percent**, with **6.2 million lives saved since 2000**. Malaria is no longer the leading cause of death of African children.¹
- **Between 2000 and 2015, 57 countries** reduced malaria cases by at least **75 percent**.² Now, leaders in Africa, Asia and the Americas have committed to eliminating malaria transmission altogether.

Defeating malaria is critical to ending poverty and improving maternal and child health.

- Lives saved from malaria are estimated to account for **20 percent of all progress** in reducing child mortality in sub-Saharan Africa since 2000.³ Efforts to prevent malaria in pregnancy alone have **averted 94,000 newborn deaths between 2009 and 2012**.⁴
- Less malaria means **healthier societies**, increased attendance at school and work, more productive communities, and **stronger economies**.
- Eliminating malaria is critical to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals**, and must remain a **key priority** for the global development community.

We must sustain robust financial investment, political will and innovation to ensure continued success against malaria.

- **The continued development of new solutions and strategies** – including next-generation drugs, diagnostics, and vaccines – is critical if we are to further **accelerate gains** and mitigate the **threat of drug and insecticide resistance**.
- **Strong regional collaborations** that address **cross-border malaria transmission** and broader health **security issues** help countries and regions to achieve elimination goals.
- While both international and domestic funding to fight malaria have dramatically increased between 2005 and 2014, **continued strong commitments** and **sustained funding** will be needed to end malaria once and for all.
- **If we lose focus, we risk losing record gains**. Over the last century, there have been **dozens of resurgences of malaria in countries around the world**, many linked to decreases in funding to fight the disease.⁵

Eliminating malaria will make the world a better, safer place for future generations and enable millions of people to reach their full potential.

- Investment in the malaria fight is **one of the best buys in global health**, second only to routine immunization. The **tools are cost-effective** and the **return on investment is high**.
- Mosquito-borne diseases are a major cause of illnesses and deaths worldwide. Advances in **research and tools to fight malaria** will **help transform** how we **combat other infectious diseases**, like Zika Virus.
- Ending malaria transmission will **increase the quality of life of millions of people** and **free up resources** that are currently being used to fight the disease.
- Our goal is eliminate malaria in at least **ten countries by the year 2020**.
- By **working together** we can do what we once thought was impossible: **end malaria for good**.

Sources

- ^{1,2} WHO World Malaria Report 2015
- ³ WHO World Malaria Report 2013
- ⁴ The Contribution of Malaria Control to Maternal and Newborn Health, RBM P&I Series, July 2014, WHO.
- ⁵ Malaria resurgence: a systematic review and assessment of its causes, Malaria Journal, April 2012, Cohen, et al.

#EndMalaria