

Country Profile | President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

Rwanda

June 2006



At a Glance:

Population: 8.6 million

Life expectancy at birth: 47 years⁸

Under-5 child mortality rate: ≈ 20%

Reported malaria cases (2000): 1 million⁹

Proportion of child deaths attributable to malaria: 5%

* Actual numbers of malaria cases are considered to be much higher since the majority of cases in Africa are unreported.

Background

Approximately 90 percent of Rwandans are at risk of contracting malaria, which is one of the leading causes of illness and death in Rwanda.

Goal

The goal of the PMI is to reduce malaria-related mortality by 50 percent in target countries by reaching 85 percent of the most vulnerable groups – principally pregnant women, children under 5 years of age, and persons living with HIV/AIDS – with lifesaving services, supplies, and medicines.

Key Intervention Strategies

In support of the national malaria control program and in coordination with all development partners, including nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organizations, and the private sector, the PMI backs four key intervention strategies to prevent and treat malaria:

- Spraying with insecticides (“Indoor residual spraying,” or IRS) in homes
- Insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs)
- Lifesaving drugs: Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs)
- Prevention of malaria in pregnant women: “Intermittent preventive treatment” (IPT)

Preliminary Activities to Date

- CDC and USAID conducted a comprehensive malaria assessment in June 2006.
- Planning mission will be conducted in August 2006.

⁸ CIA World Fact Book

⁹ 2005 World Malaria Report – WHO/Roll Back Malaria