

**Malaria Control Project**  
**SDCF Trustees Report - March 2012**

**Introduction**

This document is a progress report in relation to the work done and proposed in relation to the malaria control project at Don Bosco School (“DBS”) Didia.

**Background**

There are four key strands to the control of malaria at DBS. These are:

- Education
- Spraying and treating key areas
- The proper use of nets and netting
- Malaria treatment

This report considers these four areas both in terms of work done to date and also future work.

**Work Done**

The following summarises the work done at DBS in January and February 2012.

1. Education

The education process involved the following:

- Carrying out background research using the Internet, help from the local clinic (Sister Kate) and discussions with staff and students at DBS.
- Producing a PowerPoint presentation with associated script for the staff and students.
- Arranging and conducting a presentation to staff.
- Training six staff to give the presentation to students.
- Overseeing the giving of this presentation by the trained teachers to 800 students.
- Conducting a survey for 2011 amongst students in forms I to IV (440 students) to determine the incidence and timing of malaria attacks at DBS.
- Updating the school’s computer system to allow the survey results to be recorded on it.
- Producing and discussing a list of recommended actions that the school should consider taking to reduce the level of malaria.
- Overseeing part of this work whilst at the school.

The cost of this work was £0.

2. Spraying

The spraying processed involved the following:

- Analysis of the results of the survey to try to determine when to spray.
- Contacting (through Sister Kate) local government officials to arrange a site visit by malaria control experts.
- Meeting and touring the site with these experts.
- Agreeing both a spraying and general malaria control strategy with these experts, including the range of chemicals to be used at the site.

- Arranging for the spraying and treatment of the entire school including all toilets, all septic tanks, two open water tanks, two hostels, three dormitories, the community accommodation and two nearby ponds.
- This work was carried out during the week-end of 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February.

The cost of this work was £900.

### 3. Nets And Netting

We surveyed all the dormitories to ascertain the number and state of the nets on the beds, the hanging arrangement for the nets (on bunk beds) and on protection afforded by netting on windows and doors. The reality was that the level of protection in all cases varied from poor to non-existent. It was also apparent that repairing nets on windows and doors was likely to be very expensive and largely ineffective.

We therefore decided to focus on nets for the beds. The main issue was the lack of proper hanging arrangements for the top bed on the bunk beds. After discussion, we produced a plan for the redesign of four dormitories housing around 320 students. This redesign includes arrangements for hanging nets from the top bed.

We also managed to secure a further 90 mosquito nets for beds. These have been distributed to the students. The cost of these nets was £0. We got them from the Government officials.

### 4. Treatment

Treatment is provided at the local clinic free of charge. As part of the education process we emphasised the need to:

- Seek treatment at the first signs of malaria
- Complete the full course of treatment

We also compared the treatment information for 2011 with the survey results. This comparison showed that the two sources of information were consistent in terms of the number of illnesses but differed somewhat in terms of the timing of the malaria.

### **Work To Do**

The following summarises the currently planned work:

#### 1. Education

We are expecting DBS to:

- Continue to provide new students with the malaria presentation to ensure that all students understand what causes malaria and how best to reduce the risk.
- Undertake further actions to reduce the malaria risk.
- Update the survey, in due course, with information relating to 2012.

#### 2. Spraying

Based on the timing of the incidence of malaria and the practical aspects of spraying, the proposal is to carry out a second treatment and spraying session in early July. We are also investigating the possibility of providing each term one tube of repellent to all students who had malaria three or more times last year. The repellent costs £1 - £2 and there are around 60-

80 students who fall into this category. We have asked for more details in relation to the repellent.

### 3. Nets And Netting

The renovation of the dormitories is due to take place during the school break (June). This work is being funded by SDCF under another project. No costs will fall on this project.

After this work has been completed, we will liaise with the school management to arrange for nets to be provided and properly hung. It is likely that we will have to pay for these nets. The current cost is around £2 per net.

### 4. Treatment

No ongoing action is planned.

### **Financial Summary**

Money available for project = £8,000  
Money sent to Didia = \$2,500 (but they have not received it – IM investigating)  
Money spent so far = £900

Planned expenditure 2012 = Nets plus further spraying plus possible repellent  
Planned expenditure thereafter = See below

Our current thinking is that, if this strategy produces positive results, we would recommend further spraying and treatment in 2013 and 2014. The hope is that, by this time, a vaccine might be available to help reduce malaria or the scheme to offer free treatment of sites in Tanzania will have been extended to Didia and/or schools.

### **Additional Material**

Attached to this document are the following files:

<b>File</b>	<b>Contents</b>
Malaria Report For Staff And Students	This document summarises the results of the survey and includes comments on these results. These details can be produced automatically from the school's updated computer system (once the relevant data has been entered).
Malaria Spraying 1	This shows the spraying of one of the toilet blocks. You will see that, on the right of the picture, is a ditch with stagnant water. This has now been completely filled to avoid mosquitoes breeding in it.
Malaria Spraying 2	This shows the spraying of one of the hostels (Savio House).
Malaria Suggested Actions Mar 2012	This document includes all the suggestions discussed with the school to help reduce the risk of malaria.