Malaria Control Program, Benso Oil Palm Plantation (BOPP), PLC

Vector Control Working Groups
Kigali, Rwanda

By Dr. Samuel Asare-Bediako
Benso Oil Palm Plantation (BOPP) PLC in brief

- 6,799 hectare concession
- 1,650 ha smallholder scheme (providing inclusiveness and sustainable incomes for 438 people/families from the communities)
- 2004 listed on the GSE.
- 2011 Wilmar acquires Unilever’s shares and assumes management control
Benso Oil Palm Plantation (BOPP) PLC in brief

- Population on the estate - 3,805 (Dec. 2022)
- Almost all employees live on the estate
- BOPP has a health facility on site manned by a qualified health team
- CSR is a constant item on the company’s budget expenditure
Decision To Engage in Malaria Control

- Informed by management’s desire to maintain a healthy workforce/dependants

- Malaria accounts for 30-45% of OPD cases at the company’s clinic

- A leading cause of lost work days
Our Malaria Control Program

- Launched in 2017 with the aim of reducing the Malaria burden on the estate by 50% within 5 years

- Sensitization on Malaria, sanitation improvement, distribution of Insecticide Treated Nets, early testing, treatment and follow up of Malaria cases. Technical support by PSMP, AgaMal Ltd and IVCC

- IRS included in 2021 to strengthen the program
IRS Operations

- Training of Spray Operators
- Orientation of beneficiaries
- Implementation of Indoor Residual Spraying (selection of insecticide based on NMEP’s Insecticide Resistance Plan, Environmental/Safety Compliance)
- Spray Quality Test
- End of spraying and Demobilization
- Residual Efficacy Test (7 - 8 months post IRS)
- Technical support by AgaMal Ltd and IVCC
- IRS carried out in 2021-2023
5 YEAR MALARIA TREND ANALYSIS, BOPP ESTATE

- ↓ 13.2% of Malaria cases on the estate in 2023
- ↓ 20% in Malaria cases on the estate 3 years post IRS compared to 3 years prior IRS

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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,052</td>
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Successes And Experiences

- Increased confidence in the workforce/dependants about management’s commitment to promote and improve their health

- Increase in the level of awareness of the malaria burden amongst the workforce and dependants

- 3,805 people on the estate protected by IRS

- Added benefit of reduction in domestic insects
• 20 % reduction in OPD cases of Malaria amongst workers and dependants post IRS as compared to 3 years prior (reduced absenteeism, health protection and improved productivity)

• Built local capacity to carry out IRS (in a position to provide support to other entities who want to undertake IRS)

• Need for a multiprong approach in the fight against Malaria