Rotarian Action Group for Population & Development—RFPD

Rotaract Project
Mosquito Nets for Nigeria

Who: Rotaract Deutschland, RAC Heidelberg, RC Heidelberg and RFPD
What: Distribution of Mosquito nets and support for pregnancy care in Nigeria
Where: In eight states: Kano, Kaduna, FCT Abuja, Enugu, Ondo, Anambra, Osun und Ebonyi
How: Budget of approx. 60,000 US$
Objective: Reduction of maternal and child mortality through the prevention of malaria infection

Malaria is one of the main causes of maternal and child mortality in Nigeria. The infection rate is especially high in rural areas where the population has little or no access to preventative measures such as medication and insecticide-treated nets. The focus of this project was to raise awareness and distribute long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs).

Measures:

- Consultation in the context of pre- and post-pregnancy care
- Organization of community dialogues (village talks) to raise awareness about malaria
- Distribution of 15,500 PermaNet mosquito nets (recommended by the WHO) with a guaranteed protection of at least four years

Successes:

- **Reduction of malaria infection** as a central cause of maternal and child mortality—15,000 mothers and their children received mosquito nets
- **Strengthening of pre- and post-pregnancy care**, more pregnant women and mothers sought consultation in hospitals
- **Raised incentive for vaccination**—mothers who received nets allowed their children to be vaccinated.

The distribution of mosquito nets has proven to be an effective measure in the reduction of maternal and child mortality. The project outlined here represents an easily-reproduceable concept that can be applied in the context of further Rotaract Club efforts.

Contact:
Christina Hübner, Rotaract Representative RFPD Board of Directors, christinahuebner93@gmail.com
Christian Mielert, Rotaract Representative RFPD Board of Directors, ch.mielert@gmail.com