

# *Increasing Malaria Knowledge and Generating Demand for Prevention, Testing and Treatment*



as supported by:

The Angolan Council of Christian Churches (CICA)

Anglican Diocese of Angola

JC Flowers Foundation

*in collaboration with*

The Provincial and Municipal Departments of Health of Angola  
the E8 Secretariat, ADPP, The MENTOR Initiative, World Vision



*TKMI Angola attends a joint meeting with TKMI Namibia in Oshikango, Namibia*

**Background** The Angolan Ministry of Health, CICA, the Diocese of Angola, and the JC Flowers Foundation are dedicated to eliminating malaria from the most remote, hard to reach communities along the Angola-Namibia border.

To date, TKMI partners have facilitated community action against malaria in 215 villages in the Southern Municipalities of Cunene and Cuando Cubango Provinces through the formation of Community Malaria Elimination Committees (“COCEMAS”).

TKMI partners engage local clergy, and headmen and headwomen, and equip them with malaria knowledge and training. Once trained, these influential village leaders select local malaria volunteers who travel door to door, educating the community about malaria, generating demand for malaria testing and treatment, and encouraging the hang-up and correct use of bed nets and acceptance of indoor residual spraying. 20 COCEMAS and 572 volunteers are active, reaching 29,593 households.

The work is being conducted with financing through the E8 Secretariat, with funding from the Global Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the JC Flowers Foundation.



## The Context

The TKMI partners operate in extremely challenging environments, in areas with no roads or infrastructure. Houses in many regions are spread out, with each homestead being at least a kilometer from the nearest homestead. Roads are poor or non-existent. Sadly, in the past year, while engaged in personal activities (not program activities) within the program area, two volunteers died in river drownings. This picture shows the type of “road” used to travel—which is passible in the dry season, but not after rains:



Many in Cuando Cubango and Cunene Provinces do not have easy access to well-equipped health facilities, and, while the prevalence of malaria in children under age 5 is less than 1% in Cunene, it is 38% in Cuando Cubango.

Particularly in Cuando Cubango, some TKMI volunteers are teaching about malaria in places beyond the normal reach of government services, and in places where no other organizations have taught about malaria.

## Words from a Health Director

“The volunteers in Cuangar are working incredibly hard. If I could, I’d send them all to school to be trained as nurses.

“They’ve gained the trust of the population. People like the volunteers, and thanks to them, people are putting the malaria teaching into practice.

“The volunteers also really helped with the distribution of the mosquito nets we received. It would have been difficult without them. But they have my complete trust, and I was able to send them house to house, knowing they’d determine exactly the right number of mosquito nets for that house, even though I couldn’t go to every house myself.”



--Sr. Fernando Massiku, Municipal Health Director, Cuangar Municipality, Cuando Cubango Province

## Looking Forward

Over the course of 2018, TKMI partners plan to expand to 52 new communities, create 8 new COCEMAs, and train 228 new volunteers. These new COCEMAs and volunteers will further facilitate the goal of the universal appropriate use of mosquito nets, the acceptance of the upcoming Indoor Residual Spraying campaign, and the uptake of the rapid diagnostic testing and treatment facilities that are now available—thereby contributing to a sustained decrease in malaria incidence.



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