



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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Programme No. 985

Length: 3'32"

MALARIA IN SIERRA LEONE

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION

PREGNANT WOMEN IN CHURCH

Every Sunday, hundreds of pregnant women join the congregation of this Evangelical Church in Freetown in the West African Nation of Sierra Leone. They sing and pray and receive blessings. But they're also getting advice on how to protect themselves and their babies from a mortal danger –malaria. (19.5)

PREGNANT WOMAN

One of them is 20-year old Princess Kamara who a few days later gave birth to a baby boy. (7)

PRINCESS:

PRINCESS ON-CAMERA

"I was afraid because of mosquitoes I will get malaria." (5.5)

NARRATION

PEOPLE

Malaria infects five million people worldwide each year, and kills more than one million. Most of the victims are in Africa, and here in Sierra Leone, malaria is very widespread. (12)

DR. IBRAHIM THORLIE ON-CAMERA

THORLIE:

“Almost all of us carry the parasite...” (2.5)

DR. THORLIE IN WARD

NARRATION

Dr. IbrahimThorlie is a Gynaecologist and Director of Freetown General Hospital. (5.5)

DR. THORLIE ON-CAMERA WITH PATIENTS

THORLIE:

“We have a very high ‘mother and child’ mortality in our country, most of it is due to anaemia and one of the greatest causes of anaemia in our country is malaria.” (12)

PEOPLE

NARRATION

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest nations in the world. More than 70% of its six million people live beneath the poverty line. Most of them can’t even afford to buy a bed net to protect them from malaria-carrying mosquitoes. (14.5)

SLUMS

Crowded and unsanitary neighbourhoods like Krooby in Freetown provide a good home for malaria. Here, open sewers and standing water are ideal places for mosquitoes to thrive. (12.5)

OLD BED NETS IN SMALL HOMES/PEOPLE

Over the last five years, Krooby has been part of a programme sponsored by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, UNFPA, and World health Organization, WHO, to protect people against malaria. More than 500 insecticide treated bed nets were distributed here. But many people sold them. It’s a

NARRATION

challenge says Dr. Mamadou Diallo, UNFPA's Director in Sierra Leone. (27)

DR. DIALLO ON-CAMERA

DIALLO:

"It means we still have a lot of homework to do to ensure that these people can receive these bed nets free of charge so that they don't have to buy them, by drying up the demand." (10.5)

BED NET DISTRIBUTION IN CHURCH

NARRATION

Teaming up with a faith based organization, UNFPA and WHO distribute bed nets to hundreds of expecting mothers.

PRINCESS FIXING BED NET IN HER ROOM

Princess Kamara received her bed net just a few days before giving birth. She couldn't be more pleased. (16.5)

PRINCESS ON-CAMERA

PRINCESS:

"I'm safe now with the mosquito net. It won't affect me and my baby..... The mosquitoes won't bite me anymore for me to have malaria." (7.5)

PRINCESS AND BABY UNDER NET

NARRATION

Sleeping under a treated bed net can be a life saver in countries like Sierra Leone. For Princess Kamara, it means she won't be waking up to chase away mosquitoes. (13)

LOGO

This report was prepared by United Nations Television. (3)

