



# Malaria Safe

## Standard Chartered Bank Uganda

Around the world, Standard Chartered Bank partners with many organizations to make an impact in communities where it operates. Since 2006 the global bank has given \$6 million to NetsforLife, an alliance of corporations, foundations, NGOs and faith-based organizations that support malaria control efforts in 17 African countries.

In Uganda, this partnership has distributed nearly 1.5 million long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and trained more than 4,400 malaria control agents—community volunteers—since 2006, including many Standard Chartered employees. NetsforLife reports that it has sensitized 3.2 million people in Uganda. Using church, faith-based organization and NGO delivery systems, it can access remote communities typically under-served by health facilities<sup>1</sup>.

With 12 branches in Kampala, Jinja, Mbale, Mbarara and Gulu, Standard Chartered Bank Uganda encourages its staff to assist in local distribution and education. The bank works in tandem with local health authorities to help fill commodity gaps. During World Malaria Day celebrations in 2010 in the Kanungu district in Western Uganda, for example, it donated 200 mosquito nets to the Children's Eye Ward at the Mulago Hospital. It also participated in a regional malaria symposium with the Ministry of Health. For its own employees and customers, the bank made subsidized nets available for purchase.

Building on what it has already achieved, Standard Chartered Bank Uganda has also partnered with United Against Malaria (UAM), a diverse partnership that leverages the popularity of football to raise awareness and funds for malaria control. With technical assistance from Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs, the bank has advocated for increased private



Standard Chartered Bank Uganda Head of Corporate Affairs Herbert Zake (center) and other United Against Malaria partners distribute nets to contest winners on World Malaria Day 2011.

### COMPANY PROFILE

**Headquarters:** Kampala, Uganda (London)

**Employees:** more than 600 in Uganda (of more than 89,000 worldwide)

**Industry:** Banking

### MALARIA INTERVENTION

**Education:** a campaign to educate workers and customers about the dangers of malaria, using materials from NetsforLife and UAM

**Protection:** investment of \$6 million to NetsforLife, a partnership that has distributed nearly 1.5 million nets in Uganda since 2006; discounted nets for employees and clients

**Visibility:** participation in UAM activities and media engagement

**Advocacy:** managerial role within the Private Sector Foundation Uganda, whose Health Common Fund supports maternal and child health

Since 2006, Standard Chartered Bank has invested \$6 million in malaria control.



**Malaria Safe** practices are those that lead to a malaria-free future, such as net distributions and education workshops for employees and customers. More Malaria Safe case studies are available at [www.malariafreefuture.org](http://www.malariafreefuture.org).

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sector involvement and greater investment in public health. During World Malaria Day celebrations in 2011, UAM partners raised funds for 800 mosquito nets through an SMS campaign that reached 7 million cell phone subscribers. Those nets were distributed to pediatric and maternal wards in the Teso region, which includes the malaria-infested shores of Lake Kyoga in central Uganda. Despite high infection rates, the region missed out on a recent mosquito-net distribution by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria due to scarce resources.

“It’s good for our brand. People know us as a bank, but when we reach out to society, we build a relationship with customers,” says Herbert Zake, head of corporate affairs. “That’s something you can’t put a value to.”

In 2012, Standard Chartered and UAM helped the Private Sector Foundation Uganda launch a health common fund that benefits women and children in Uganda. During World Malaria Day celebrations, the bank co-sponsored a golf tournament that raised \$18,000 for the fund. Mr. Zake sits on the health fund’s steering committee, working directly with the Ministry of Health to prioritize resources for pregnant women, children under five years of age, and other at-risk groups.

Mr. Zake has also championed private sector engagement within the press. In 2011 he published an editorial in a prominent newspaper in Kampala, calling on corporate leaders to go the “extra mile to ensure that our staff are fully educated and sensitized about malaria.” This would protect at least 90,000 corporate employees, he wrote, and contribute to better health and a stronger economy. Ironically, he was tested and treated for malaria several days later, which he says he contracted in Eastern Uganda at a hotel that did not offer mosquito nets. “The next time I went there I insisted on a net,” he says.

Mr. Zake has also been quoted in *The Guardian*<sup>2</sup>, a British newspaper that praised Standard Chartered for its partnership-building. “We thought that if we brought other organizations on board we could actually have a much wider reach, and that is exactly what has happened,” he told *The Guardian* in February 2013.

<sup>1</sup>These figures were provided by NetsforLife, <http://www.netsforlifeafrica.org/who-we-are/partners/corporate/standard-chartered-bank>

<sup>2</sup>“Smedley, Tim. “Didier Drogba joins the anti-malaria campaign as Africa mounts big drive,” *The Guardian*, 6 Feb. 2013, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development-professionals-network/2013/feb/06/didier-drogba-anti-malaria-campaign>



Herbert Zake (left) joins Kenneth Mulondo of Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs as Standard Chartered Bank Uganda announces its commitment to become Malaria Safe.

“Everyone has a part to play. We can’t just sit back and say, government will do this or that. Government resources are limited. We have a duty as corporates to lend a hand. If we pool our resources and put our heads together, we can achieve a lot in the fight against malaria.”

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