

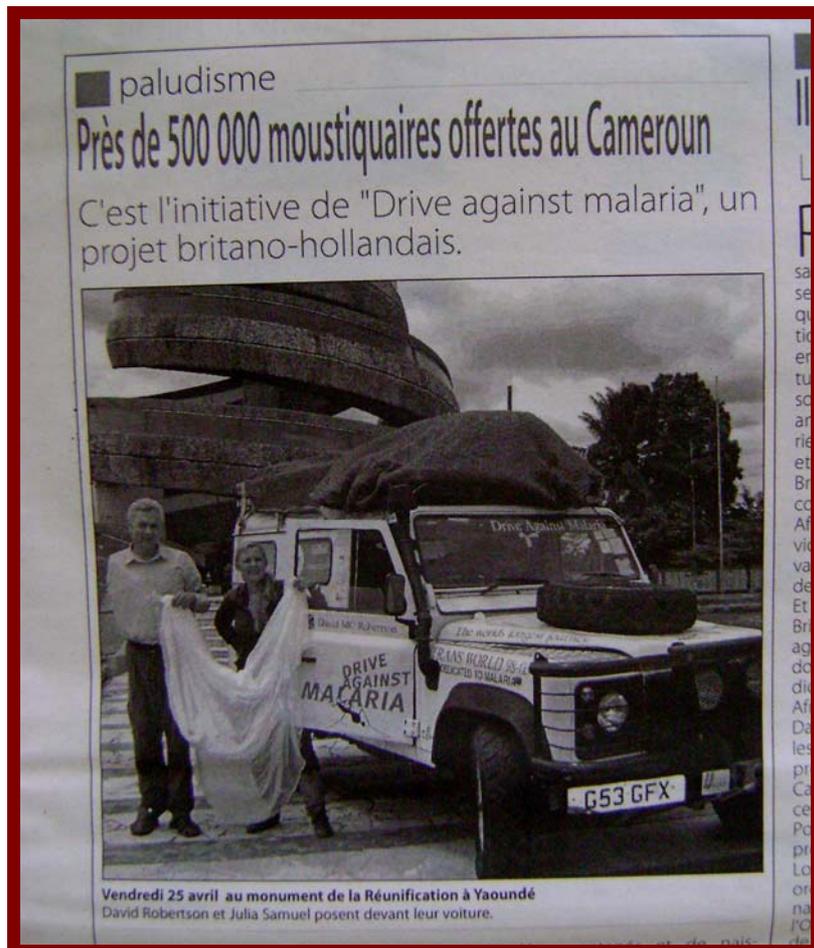
# DRIVE AGAINST MALARIA

## Over 500,000 nets for Cameroon

Drive Against Malaria started the biggest campaign ever for Cameroon on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – the first World Malaria Day

*Written by: Julia Samuël Translated by: Elma Harmans Edited by: Stephen Johnston*

Drive Against Malaria has been campaigning against this deadly parasitic disease for over 10 years. Finally, malaria has achieved the status it deserves. The World Health Organisation has designated April 25<sup>th</sup> as 'WORLD' Malaria Day. On this day, Drive Against Malaria started the biggest distribution of impregnated mosquito nets ever in Cameroon. In co-operation with the Ministry of Public Health and the National Malaria Control Program, Drive Against Malaria provided an important contribution to the distribution of a total of 510,000 nets. These nets were distributed to the most vulnerable group of pregnant women and children under 5 years of age in the Central and North-western provinces. This distribution period lasted for 5 days.



Drive Against Malaria front page news in "Le Jour"

It is well known that pregnant women and children have low resistance to malaria, and a shocking 57% of all deaths in Cameroon are children under the age of 5 taken down by this awful disease. Although sleeping under an insecticide-impregnated net is the most effective way to prevent malaria, only 1% of Cameroon's children sleep under a Long Lasting Impregnated Net.

Together with Dr. Toto – the Director of Health District Cite Verte – DAM distributed nets in 11 different places (Buquetenie, Carriere, Cite Verte, Ekoudou, Messa, Mokolo, Nkolbisson, Nkokolna, Oyonabang, Tsinga en Tsinga Oliga).



Julia Samuël at on of the 11 distribution sites

Julia Samuël: "The distribution took place in a timeframe of 5 days. People were afraid that the nets would run out, and everyone tried to get one on the first day. This got out of hand, and we were forced to stop the distribution temporarily because of the danger of the crowds. Once things settled down we were able to continue. It was very successful. Mothers who left with a net were deliriously happy."



David Robertson and the children at site Nkolbisson



The nets are distributed from central ACMS in Yaounde

Of course, large-scale distribution efforts like these need a huge amount of preparation time. Reaching these communities is a complex endeavour, and the infrastructure leaves a lot to be desired. Despite these difficulties, the people did receive thousands of nets personally.



For the first time a Long Lasting Impregnated net for the population

David Robertson: "It is encouraging to see that the people from Cameroon are motivated to use the nets. Malaria still is the most deadly disease! But because of this large-scale distribution, there will definitely be a decrease in the number of victims in the coming years."

April 25<sup>th</sup> was a huge step in the effort to reach the Abuja target of 80% coverage amongst the population of Cameroon by 2010. This was just the beginning of Drive Against Malaria's campaign in Cameroon.



Robertson explains about malaria prevention

LandRover Netherlands, ExxonMobil, Malaria No More, Tropicare, GlaxoSmithKline, GGD Netherlands and "Alle Kleine Beetjes" made this distribution possible.



Drive Against Malaria in 2008

and our special thanks to ExxonMobil, LandRover Netherlands, Tropicare, SONY, MalariaNoMore NL, Unicef, Vestergaard Frandsen, PermaNet, Unicef, WHO, RBM, NMCP, MOH, DFID, PSI, UN Foundation, World Vision, CCF, SFH, JICA, US Aid, Ambassadors, MSF, RedCross, Food For The Hungry, Alliance HealthCare, ClaxoSmithKline, Ernst & Young and many others !!!!

We thank you for joining us, and our many volunteers, in our fight against Malaria  
'Drive Against Malaria' is a campaign of Transparent World Foundation

[www.driveagainstmalaria.org](http://www.driveagainstmalaria.org)

Correspondence: [info@transparentworld.org](mailto:info@transparentworld.org)