



# THE MONTHLY

## Nothing But Nets Impact Report

The Monthly brings you closer into the world of *Nothing But Nets*, our global partners, and the people and communities impacted by our work.



Since 2019, South Sudan has experienced the worst flooding the region has seen in 60 years. These floods have submerged entire communities, caused mass displacement, and created ideal breeding grounds for malaria-carrying mosquitoes. *Nothing But Nets* is partnering with the UN Refugee Agency to drive down malaria in South Sudanese refugee camps, delivering bed nets, malaria education, and health worker trainings. Photo courtesy of the World Food Programme.

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

#### In South Sudan, worst flooding in decades fuels spread of malaria

At the dawn of a new rainy season, South Sudan is still reeling from last year's catastrophic flooding that still hasn't fully receded. Over the past two years, floodwaters from Nile Basin rivers and lakes have destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes and displaced close to a million South Sudanese people.

Standing water creates breeding grounds for water-borne diseases and malaria-carrying mosquitoes. Malaria is already the country's leading cause of hospital admissions and deaths in young children. **Flooding has fueled the mosquito population while rendering much of the country inaccessible.** In a country where 56% of the population lives at least five kilometers from the nearest health facility, many parents often carry sick kids for hours, often wading through floodwaters, just to get them the urgent care they need, including anti-malarial medication.

*Nothing But Nets* is taking action to ensure some of the most vulnerable families in South Sudan are protected from malaria during rainy season and beyond. We've teamed up with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) to deliver **20,000 insecticide-treated bed nets to displaced-persons settlements** across northern South Sudan. These camps are located in two States - Unity and Upper Nile - that have been profoundly affected by the flooding crisis and the decade-long civil war.

In addition to bed nets, this program will provide **malaria education campaigns** that teach camp residents about proper use and care of nets, identifying malaria symptoms, seeking treatment, and malaria prevention measures. Further, this project will provide **frontline health workers** with malaria training, rapid diagnostic tests, and technical support to track and monitor cases.

Bed-net distributions will take place at the **onset of the rainy season (May-June)**, and then on a continuous basis in health centers for persons at heightened risk (e.g. pregnant women, families with young children, persons with chronic diseases, etc.).

We look forward to updating you on the project in the coming months. Next month, this program will be a key focus of our World Refugee Day fundraising appeal and digital content series (social media, email, [Exposure](#) page), which will run from June 9-20.

[Learn More -->](#)



#### Mary's Story

**Mary Alimakch**, who lives in northwest South Sudan, knows all too well the devastating toll malaria can have on families. Her first born, Makech, died from the disease days after he was born. "I just wanted to die, especially on the day of his burial, it was the worst day of my life," said Mary while sitting with her 1-year old child (see above; photo courtesy of UNICEF). Mary had never received malaria education and thus didn't take her son immediately to a health clinic when he became sick. This is an ongoing problem across South Sudan. **Many people are not aware of how to prevent malaria** and often lack access to health facilities and the medication to treat it.

*Nothing But Nets* has worked with both UNHCR and UNICEF on projects in South Sudan that have **provided hundreds of thousands of bed nets and treatments, as well as education campaigns** to improve malaria awareness. "I've learned about mosquito nets and the importance of clearing stagnant water to stop the breeding of mosquitos," she says. "The people here give us knowledge on how to take care of ourselves, people seem to be becoming more aware about malaria prevention."

### GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT

#### Voices from the Frontlines: Preventing Malaria in Pregnancy

In honor of Mother's Day, we'd like to shed light on the issue of **malaria in pregnancy**, which can cause health complications like anemia, cerebral malaria and tragically, even stillbirth. The global malaria community must ensure all pregnant women in malaria-endemic communities receive a bed net and preventative treatments as part of their antenatal care. **Watch the video below** to learn more.



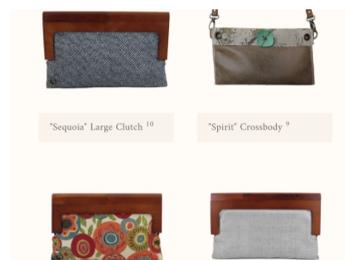
The women, they are beginning to understand, the community - they are bringing their women.

### PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

#### Gotswach is our latest small business partner

We're so excited to introduce to you our latest e-commerce partner: [Gotswach](#).

**Gotswach produces one-of-a-kind handbags** using repurposed fabric swatches that typically end up in a landfill. At the core of Gotswach is the belief that every human being deserves to have the basic essentials to live. For every purse sold, **Gotswach donates a portion of the proceeds to provide a bed net** to a malaria-affected family. Learn more about the founder of Gotswach, Jan Marini-Rossi, and why she's helping us step up the fight against this deadly disease in [this Q&A piece](#).



### Connect with *Nothing But Nets*



**Thank you!** for your dedication to ending malaria in our lifetime. Your support protects families and saves lives.