

The Monthly brings you closer into the world of *Nothing But Nets*,

our global partners, and the people and communities impacted by our work.



Juana "Cheli" Menjivar has spent over 20 years tracking the spread of malaria in Sononate, El Salvador. Last year, El Salvador became the first Central American country to be certified malaria-free by the World Health Organization. Cheli's persistent door to door outreach contributed to this major milestone. Across the Americas region, governments are training local health workers like Cheli to lead malaria elimination efforts in their communities. Regional and global partners like Nothing But Nets help ensure these local health workers have enough bed nets, drugs, and other malaria commodities.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

In the western hemisphere, 25 municipalities represent malaria's last stronghold

CONTEXT

Malaria elimination efforts across Latin America and the Caribbean have made remarkable progress this century, reducing cases by 58% (from 1.5 million in 2000 to 0.65 million in 2020). Argentina, Paraguay, and El Salvador (see photo above) have all been certified malaria-free and several more countries – Belize, Ecuador, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Suriname – are not far behind.

Today, about **half of all malaria cases across the region are concentrated in 25 municipalities.** From indigenous villages nestled deep in the Amazon to the rugged mountains of southwest Haiti, most of these municipalities are remote regions with limited access to healthcare. Check out the <u>video</u> below to learn more about these municipalities.

COVID-19 complications - from manufacturing delays to border closures - have made it increasingly difficult and expensive to deliver bed nets, treatments, and other vital malaria commodities to these remote communities.

*Nothing But Nets** and other partners are taking action to fill commodity shortages in these communities, ensuring they have the tools they need to sustain their malaria elimination efforts.

ACTION

In 2021, Nothing But Nets funded 51,850 courses of treatment and 7,325 rapid diagnostic tests, which our on-the-ground partner - the Pan American Health Organization - distributed to communities of greatest need across 16 countries: Mexico, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Chile, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Belize, Ecuador, Barbados, Bolivia, Argentina, Guyana, Brazil, Peru, and Costa Rica. We also helped cover shipping costs, which have surged during the pandemic.

Thanks to your support, in 2022 we will continue to fund the purchase and delivery of malaria commodities across Latin America and the Caribbean. Throughout February, we will be raising funds for this project. Click this <u>link</u> if you'd like to make a donation.

Learn More

Across Latin America and the Caribbean, **25 municipalities represent the region's last malaria stronghold**. Most of these municipalities are remote regions with limited access to healthcare. Check out the <u>video</u> below to learn more about how these municipalities are joining forces to share knowledge and monitor progress towards elimination.



CAMPAIGN SPOTLIGHT

Check out our Year in Review film!

In a year full of uncertainty around the world, *Nothing But Nets* and our partners took decisive action in the fight against malaria. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and partners, in 2021 we were able to protect more than a million people from malaria across two continents. This 2-minute film provides a snapshot of our impact in 2021 through our on-the-ground, advocacy, and movement-building work.



GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT

After a devastating drought, malaria-endemic Madagascar struck by successive cyclones

In December, we highlighted an emergency project *Nothing But Nets* is supporting in Madagascar, a malaria-endemic country suffering through two years of severe drought. This dryspell has fueled one of the world's worst hunger crises and disrupted disease prevention campaigns throughout the country. Since the crisis started, **malaria cases have doubled throughout Madagascar** according to the 2021 World Malaria Report, representing the worst escalation of malaria in the world.

With millions in need of aid, Madagascar has suffered even more climate shocks in recent weeks. **Tropical Storm Ana and Cyclone Bitsarai struck this island nation over a 3-week span**, displacing thousands and destroying massive amounts of homes and crops. The road to healthcare was already long and rugged for many Madagascans: 56% live over 5 kilometers away from a health facility. Now that road is even more treacherous, both for patients and aid organizations trying to deliver malaria commodities and other vital goods.

Facing widespread shortages and standing water that creates breeding grounds for mosquitoes, Madagascar is highly vulnerable to malaria outbreaks. Nothing *But Nets* is taking immediate action: we're working with UN partners to **ensure the most at-risk, hard-to-reach communities are fully stocked** with bed nets, anti-malarial drugs, and diagnostics. We are supporting the delivery of: 236,000 rapid diagnostic tests, 127,000 courses of anti-malarial treatment for children, 62,000 insecticide-treated bed nets, and malaria awareness campaigns.

We will keep you updated on this project and the broader crisis in Madagascar. In the meantime, you can get the <u>latest on-the-ground reports from The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.</u> Photo courtesy of UNICEF.



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