

RAM POWERPOINT PRESENTATION 2020

SLIDE 1

Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) was begun in 1995 and since 1997, has been one of the elements of (RAWCS). RAM Australia's activities have for many years been focussed in PNG, the Solomon Islands and since 2005, in Timor Leste. In the 2019-20 year however, RAM also began supporting Vanuatu and West Timor (Indonesia). RAM has raised more than \$2million since 2003 to help support our partner countries

SLIDE 2

RAM's Mission Statement

Elimination is the search for a malaria free status in a defined geographical area. Eradication is global
There are 21 Districts now but amalgamations will reduce this to 19 in July this year and to 17 after July 2021

SLIDE 3

Malaria is recognised by the WHO as one of the worst scourges faced by mankind. It's a disease of the developing world that impacts on 40% of the world's population.

SLIDE 4 (7 Clicks)

Recent statistics from the 2019 WHO Report state that the number of cases worldwide has increased from 214 million a year to 228 million. The number of deaths has been reduced by 30,000 but the percentage of children dying is up by 6%. Globally, there are 1,109 deaths a day
Sobering thought that potentially 3 billion people around the world are at risk

SLIDE 5

The WHO has drawn up the "Global Technical Strategy" for Malaria which aims to reduce both the disease incidence and death rate by 90% by 2030.
The improvement in stats for Australia's countries of focus however is due to the ongoing programs that have been instigated, the outstanding work done by numerous research teams, substantial international funding and the crucial support and backing by RAM Australia over the last 25 years

SLIDE 6 Partners

These are just some of the leading malaria research institutions RAM works closely with

Visit their websites and see their contributions and achievements in this area.

The UN International Global Fund created in 2002 is the leading contributor in the international fight against malaria, AIDS and TB. It invests nearly US \$4billion a year to support countries in need of financial assistance with these health issues

As you know another huge contributor is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

SLIDE 7 - BILL GATES Quote

Bill Gates is very involved in ridding the world of malaria and this is one of his quotes

SLIDE 8

Our globally acclaimed research teams are at the forefront of research into the development of a vaccine that will induce immunity eg the WEHI and Burnet Institutes right here in Melb.

Also the Griffith University's Institute of Glycomics in Queensland has successfully induced malaria immunity to the malaria parasite in animals.

SLIDE 9

The first registered malaria vaccine – RTS,S or Mosquirix is being piloted in 3 African countries but is not commercially available . The RTS,S vaccine has only limited success Why?

- Need 4 doses administered, at 1 month, 2 months and 20 months and there's a follow up between 38-48 months.
- It's short lived
- Only about 30% - 40% protection
- Is administered alongside using Long lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and indoor residual spraying (IRS)

SLIDE 10

Over a number of years there has been reduction in malaria cases in each of the 3 original partner countries but other factors then complicate matters

- complacency
- increasing mosquito resistance to drugs
- inadequate use of treated bed nets

the message here is these outcomes are great but **no one** can relax in the fight to control malaria

SLIDE 11

An important goal of RAM

SLIDE 12, 13 and 14 Challenges

12 and 13 Home is galvanised iron walls and there's no screen between the top of the wall and the roof. These typical dwellings or **mozzie havens** highlight the crucial importance of the treated nets. They also show us why the push is for the old nets to be used to cover walls, windows and doors.

14 -Terrain, weather and isolation also present large challenges. This highlights that many isolated communities are vulnerable to malaria resurgence if elimination campaigns are left incomplete

SLIDE 15

RAM works closely with the Governments in our focus countries and their Ministries of Health.

Treated bed nets and spraying remain the best methods of vector control. Ongoing surveillance ensuring rapid and accurate diagnosis is essential for prompt and effective treatment.

Also, education sessions on such things as the correct installation, maintenance and use of nets and are a crucial part of each country's malaria elimination program

SLIDE 16

The first RAM sponsored PhD Scholarship was awarded to Edgar Pollard from the Solomons who this year completed a research doctorate degree in vector control at the James Cook University in Queensland.

In the near future RAM will start to plan to sponsor a second candidate.

SLIDE 17 Partner countries talk to slide

West Timor

TL is very grateful to RAM for initiating support in Indonesian West Timor. The Indonesian provinces that share a border with TL have significant "hot spots" for malaria incidence and potentially could be an obstacle to TL being granted malaria free status by 2021.

A team of 4, led by National RAM Manager Jenny Kerrison, went to the border provinces in W Timor in Feb 2019 to do a community assessment to find out where and how RAM can actively provide support. A Rotary Global Grant application was submitted in June for malaria elimination in West Timor.

SLIDE 18 Adopt-A-RAM-Project

Now that we are involved in 5 partner countries RAM really needs to increase its funding capacity. Hence in 2019 the Adopt-A-RAM-Project was introduced to the 5 Rotary Regions in Australia and SR was chosen to support Vanuatu. A fundraising RAWCS account was set up and the money accrued was used in an Application for a Global Grant led by D9910 in NZ. (June 2020) As Vanuatu is in Rotary D9910 NZ, this District has always offered strong support for that country. Information on the challenges faced by Vanuatu in its malaria elimination program was sent to all Rotary, Rotaract and Interact clubs in Victoria

SLIDE 19 'End Malaria in Vanuatu – for Good'

SLIDE 20 PNG

RAM started active programs in 1997. 40,000 nets a year were distributed but that's not enough when coping with about 7 million people.

So the "Adopt a Village" project was born in 2004. When a village was adopted, mainly by Rotary Clubs, every villager received a lifesaving net.

It was initiated in the Solomons in 2005 and TL from 2011.

Large Rotary F'n Grants assisted PNG, but huge injections of funds were needed.

In 2005, 2009 and again in 2012 following submissions by PNG, the Global Fund approved **substantial** funding grants. Global Grants fund 75% of malaria program. Between 2010 and June 2020, more than 12 Million nets were delivered by RAM PNG.

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The "Chasing Malaria" Program is mostly funded by RAM and is making great progress. School children are surveyed and receive a free net if results are positive. If 2 or more are from the same village, a team is sent in with more nets, they set up school clubs to find and destroy mosquito breeding sites. In 2019, a group of teachers were trained to identify and treat malaria. They assist in the cleaning up of the area and run education sessions. This information is registered and closely monitored so outbreaks can be mapped.

As previously said surveillance is a major intervention tool.

SLIDE 22 and 23 Reasons for a resurgence – talk to slide and add COVID-19 and it's not just PNG

Spikes in malaria cases always follow an epidemic eg restrictions on movement, not being able to go to hospitals, face to face meetings not allowed. Plus, the Solomons and Vanuatu were hit by Tropical Cyclone Harold. Both factors will inevitably lead to a resurgence

SLIDE 24 The Solomon Islands

(Note how the graph portrays firstly what happened to statistics when DDT spraying was abolished in 1975 and secondly when RAM was launched in 1996)

Notice the trend up since 2017. Partly due to the complacency I mentioned earlier

SLIDE 25 and 26

A few years ago RAM Australia, implemented a Basic Tools **Healthy Village Program**. Tools such as these were distributed and used to eradicate mosquito breeding sites. This program complemented the distribution of nets funded by the GF and the accompanying education sessions.

SLIDE 27 Timor Leste

Emphasise the objective of being certified malaria free by 2021

SLIDE 28 Reasons for Reduction

SLIDES 29 and 30 Timor Leste

29 This picture was taken during a regular census check. It shows the lists, which are crucial, based on census figures compiled for every household in every village that are rigorously kept up to date. The aim is for teams of distributors, often including a volunteer team of Rotarians, to find out which families need a new one, track any new cases then follow up with remedial action. When a new one is needed the family receives a chit
A great example of monitoring and surveillance in the quest for malaria intervention

30 On Distribution Day the chit is exchanged for a new net

The teams are active in all of Timor Leste's 65 sub districts.

Lists like these are also in operation in PNG and the Solomon Islands. Different formats but same result

SLIDE 31 Vision (Handouts)

How can Rotarians help?

- more volunteer teams to undertake malaria intervention programs
- increase awareness by
 1. handing out more brochures and MAD leaflets
 2. selling more pins (\$5)
 3. showcasing nets, Mosbar, PNG colouring books
 4. Informing our local communities
- clubs considering making a donation to RAM