

## MOSQUITO NET UTILIZATION

**Issue:** Regular use of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) has been shown to reduce all-cause child mortality by around 20%. The two variables with the greatest influence on net use are the number of nets in a household, and the size of a household. LLIN use increases with the number of nets in a household, but decreases as the size of the household increases. Achieving universal coverage with mosquito nets is therefore the key strategy towards achieving high utilization rates and ultimately impact in terms of child mortality. Once high household coverage has been achieved, other key determinants of net use include ambient temperature, presence of nuisance biting mosquitoes, knowledge of malaria risk and knowledge of how to hang a net. These factors can be effectively addressed through well-designed communication programmes and initiatives that are delivered at the same time as the nets are distributed to households.

**ALMA action on net utilization:** ALMA, working with UNICEF and other key partners, is prioritizing the collection and dissemination of best practices in improving net utilization. It is also encouraging Countries and funding partners to prioritise communication strategies to enhance net utilization in conjunction with national level campaigns. ALMA partners are also working to ensure strategies such as routine distributions, post-campaign “hang-up” visits and periodic wide-spread communication and messaging are established to ensure that nets are being used in the years after their distribution.

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