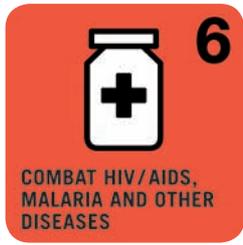


June 2010

# The Impact of UK Companies on the Millennium Development Goals

Based on a survey of UN Global  
Compact UK Network Members





Over **66%** of UK Network member companies have contributed to the achievement of MDG 6 to date.

“Within our South African business, we have worked on many projects that provide practical help and guidance to people which give advice on eating well to strengthen your immunity and help your body to fight against the virus.”

Nicki Crayfourd, Compass Group plc

## Millennium Development Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

### Target 1

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

### Target 2

Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

### Target 3

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

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Malaria, HIV and other diseases comprise a significant health burden worldwide, notably in less developed countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Malaria alone accounts for 863,000 deaths in 2009. 85% of these are children under five years of age living in Africa. There were 243 million estimated malaria cases worldwide in 2009. An estimated 33 million people were living with HIV in 2007, with approximately 2.7 million new HIV infections and two million AIDS-related deaths.

Globally, women and children are hard hit by these diseases: women and children under five years of age are most affected by malaria, and women account for half of all HIV infections. Children worldwide still suffer lower access to life-saving quality paediatric treatments for HIV/AIDS and malaria. This can, and must, change.

But there is hope. Some countries have shown that massive scale-up in access to treatment is possible. Namibia scaled up antiretroviral (ARV) treatment from 1% in 2003 to 88% in 2007, and similarly for Rwanda, from 3% to 71% in the same period. Greater access to treatment is leading directly to reductions in deaths and new infections. Health facility-based malaria deaths in countries such as Rwanda and Zambia have declined by up to 66% between 2002 and 2008.

Businesses are already contributing significantly to this challenge. They invest in corporate prevention and treatment programmes, information and education activities and direct funding of promising interventions. However, more can be done to share experience and transfer core business skills, such as supply chain management, communications and marketing. Corporate Social Responsibility programmes can encourage twinning or mentoring programmes. Direct finance of programmes should be increased. Finally, businesses in the UK are direct partners in public-private partnerships, contributing to the development of new medicines and technologies to tackle these important diseases.

Renia Coghlan, Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)



Source: SABMiller. Contributing to the reduction of HIV/AIDS in Botswana



Source: Anna Wang / MMV. Child taking medication

### How are UK companies contributing?

The top ways in which UK Network member companies are helping to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases are by:

- **Implementing** workplace HIV/AIDS programmes focused on education, prevention, treatment and care;
- **Supporting** HIV/AIDS and other medical funds, NGOs or research institutes and AIDS orphans projects;
- **Providing** affordable products and services;
- **Providing** product donations.

**“Pentland’s Speedo brand supports World Swim Against Malaria, an event organised by the Against Malaria Foundation that runs every two years. So far, Speedo’s fundraising has bought over 31,000 bed nets, protecting over 63,000 children and is set to increase this in 2010.”** Stephen Rubin, Pentland Group



### SABMiller:

#### Strengthening education, awareness and treatment for HIV/AIDS

SABMiller is working to contribute to the reduction of HIV/AIDS within its sphere of influence. The HIV/AIDS pandemic is particularly relevant to the company’s operations in Africa where, in many countries in which the company operates, more than 5% of the population is HIV-positive. Here, SABMiller provides education and awareness programmes to all employees, including access to voluntary counselling and testing. If diagnosed, employees have access to a managed health care system if they have no alternative medical provision. The company actively encourages participation and pays for treatment. Spouses and dependants are also eligible for the programme. In addition, SABMiller appoints peer educators who act as agents within the business to help overcome the stigma and prejudice surrounding HIV/AIDS – a barrier to effective treatment.

SABMiller applies its experiences in Africa to its operations around the world. The company also shares its experience and knowledge of tackling HIV/AIDS externally with other private sector organisations, NGOs, multilateral organisations and local and international governments. For example, ‘Makanudo’ is a wellness programme for all employees in Honduras. Recent activities have included an awareness-raising campaign highlighting the causes and prevention of HIV/AIDS. The programme has included regular employee workshops with educational materials provided to attendees. NGOs such as Hogar Renacer, a local charity which works with people at risk from HIV/AIDS, and other associations working and caring for people affected by HIV/AIDS, have participated in these workshops. The Honduran Ministry of Health is also a key partner in the awareness-raising campaign, providing guidance and assistance for the workshops.

Source: Speedo International. School children take their bed nets home