Sumitomo Chemical Co. and the UN Foundation’s Nothing But Nets campaign have made joint commitments to Every Woman Every Child to effectively protect vulnerable mothers and children in refugee situations from malaria. The commitment recognizes that there are 3.4 million refugees and 7.9 million internally displaced people in Sub-Saharan Africa - most of whom are at risk for malaria - and that globally, 75% of refugees are women and children.

Specifically, Sumitomo Chemical committed to:

- Support the Nothing But Nets “Million Nets Pledge” in 2015 through a matching grant challenge of 500,000 long-lasting insecticidal Olyset Nets at discount pricing ($1.75 million in value) to refugees and internally displaced persons across Africa.
- Enable Nothing But Nets to double the amount of nets provided through its grassroots malaria fundraising for bed nets and thus reach 1 million nets by the end of 2017.
- In 2016 Sumitomo Chemical re-committed to providing Nothing But Nets with a further 350,000 nets ($1.225 million in value), to be matched via grassroots donations to reach a total of 700,000 nets and protect approximately 1.4 million refugees by the end of 2017.

Sumitomo Chemical also agreed to fund additional advocacy activities by Nothing But Nets.

**KEY RESULTS**

- **1 million long-lasting insecticidal bed nets** were distributed between 2015-2016, of which 500,000 were provided by Sumitomo Chemical and a further 500,000 were funded by UNF’s Nothing But Nets grassroots fundraising efforts.

- Over 2 million refugees and vulnerable populations including newborns, women, children and adolescents were protected between 2015-2016.

- Over $3.8 million dollars was raised in total to support the Million Nets Pledge.

- Of the 1 million bed nets distributed, **555,000 were distributed by UNHCR** to refugees and internally displaced populations in Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger and Tanzania.

- The other **445,000 bed nets were distributed by UNICEF** in Central African Republic and South Sudan, targeting pregnant women and children in particular.

- **13,304 grassroots donors** were inspired to send nets and save lives.

**ABOUT EVERY WOMAN EVERY CHILD**

Every Woman Every Child is an unprecedented global movement that mobilizes and intensifies international and national action by governments, multilaterals, the private sector and civil society to address the major health challenges facing women and children around the world. The movement puts into action the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health which presents a roadmap on how to enhance financing, strengthen policy and improve service on the ground for the most vulnerable women and children.

www.everywomaneverychild.com
PARTNERSHIPS

The principle partner in the relationship is the United Nations Foundations’ Nothing But Nets campaign, which has been responsible for managing the essential partnerships with UNICEF and UNHCR, as well as driving grassroots efforts to successfully fund the purchase of bed nets to match Sumitomo’s contributions. Through the first year of partnership in The Million Nets Pledge in 2015-2016, Sumitomo Chemical and Nothing But Nets, working with UNICEF and UNHCR, effectively helped to protect more than two million beneficiaries from the risk of malaria, and a further 1.4 million are expected to benefit in the second year.

This partnership has further enabled UNICEF and UNHCR to fulfill their mandates of ensuring that the lives of women, and children, and other vulnerable populations are protected and enhanced through access to live saving commodities and services. The partnership also further catalyzed Nothing But Nets’ awareness raising and advocacy activities to secure thousands of new supporters and help secure robust funding for the fight against malaria.

This partnership also sparked the production of an innovative, award-winning virtual reality film “Under the Net” which chronicles the experience of a young girl living with her family in a refugee camp in Tanzania and their hopes, dreams and challenges, including malaria.

LESSONS LEARNED

The biggest initial challenge in the partnership was coming to a shared understanding of the processes around manufacturing, shipping and delivery of bed nets, and the parameters for acceptance of the bed nets by the UN agencies. Following a complete review of the complexity of the different systems by all partners involved, including UNICEF and UNHCR, the process was successfully streamlined for 2017.

The United Nations Foundation’s Nothing But Nets team played a critical role in brokering the partnership between the two UN partners and Sumitomo Chemical Co as a member of the private sector, which ensured successful achievement of the commitment.

NEXT STEPS

Sumitomo Chemical and Nothing But Nets are currently executing the renewed 2016-2017 commitment which will deliver an additional 700,000 bed nets to UNHCR and UNICEF to complement their global stockpiles that can be immediately dispatched in case of emergency.