

Fights malaria mosquitoes from Norway

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Norwegian University of Life Sciences gets NOK 16 million for testing malaria mosquito nets in Africa.

Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) are the current first line choice in malaria vector control in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with most countries adopting universal coverage campaigns with free or subsidised nets. However, there is only limited knowledge from few countries of the effective life of LLINs under user conditions, an essential parameter for determining the operational and cost-effectiveness of this strategy.

Hans J. Overgaard, researcher at IMT and probably the only medical entomologist in Norway, leads the project to be implemented in Tanzania in the next five years.

"There are many different types of impregnated mosquito nets on the market. These are made of different materials, impregnated with different kinds of insecticides, different methods of impregnation, and the claims of the lifespan and duration of nets vary. It is important to inform decision makers of best practices for maintaining high and cost-effective net coverage to maximize current gains in malaria control. This will facilitate for the national malaria control programs to plan when old nets should be replaced and new nets procured," says Overgaard.

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 [A torn net. \(Photo: Albert Kilian\)](#) [2]

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