

Human Interest Stories Zaire:

1. Interview with Director Ines M.D. Paulo

Ines M.D Paulo is the director of the Sacred-heart primary school in M'banza Kongo in the province of Zaire. She attended a MENTOR training on NTDs to prepare the Mass Drug Administration in October 2014.

What did you learn from this training?

I learnt a lot of things during this training and it helped me to explain to our teachers the recommended procedures in case a pupil suffers from an NTD as they are the one directly in touch with the children. We are also considering inviting their parents to share with them the information we learnt.

How did you put in practice the hygiene concepts you were taught during the training?

We already had a program to make children wash their hands more often. However, we also want to have a discussion about basic hygiene and sanitary precautions with the parents as they are the primary responsible for their children's education. The problem is there. Giving drugs is not enough, we also need to teach hygiene best practices.



2. Municipio do M'banza Kongo – 04 Novembro 2014

Antonio is an 11 years old 6th grade pupil. He has been studying in Ngoma school since 2008 in the province of Zaire. He had taken the Praziquantel the day of the interview. Despite its bitter taste, he said he was happy to take it because the drug would kill the worms that often give him stomach aches. He said he would advise his little sister to take the pill upon his return home.

