



## SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS: JULY – DECEMBER 2009

### **One in four children dies before their first birthday and one in fifty women die during labour.**

These statistics make Angola one of the most dangerous places in the world for a child to be born. For families living in Huambo in Angola - life is hard - they have to walk up to 30 kilometers to get to the nearest health facility if they fall sick. 70% of babies are born at home rather than in a hospital. With the generous support of Reckitt Benckiser, we're changing the lives of mothers and children in Angola.

Thanks to Reckitt Benckiser, we have been working in Huambo since 2006, improving the quality of healthcare for thousands of children. Thanks to renewed support in 2009, we have been able to expand our reach, and we hope to help up to 250,000 children in the next three years. Below are just some examples of what your support has helped us achieve in the last six months. Together we are:

### PROVIDING CHILDREN AND MOTHERS WITH QUALITY HEALTHCARE.

- **Preventing and treating malaria:** There has been a 50% reduction in malaria cases in health facilities compared to 2008. This shows the positive impact of distributing 2,900 mosquito nets. Malaria, if left untreated, is life-threatening. We treated 19,009 people for malaria and all recovered. Of these, 6,647 were children under five, whose lives have been saved thanks to Reckitt Benckiser.
- **Supporting health workers:** We have been training midwives and nurses, as well as providing on-the-job technical support at health facilities. We have seen improvements in health workers delivering vaccinations, pre-natal and post-natal consultations as well as consultations with children under five, such as this nurse (above right), who is weighing and measuring a child to follow up his progress, making sure he is strong and healthy.



### IMPROVING COMMUNITY HYGIENE AND HEALTHCARE PRACTICES.

We are promoting community-based health care by training village health committee members. Each committee has the potential to reach between 4,000-5,000 people.

**“My name is Agda Alice, I am 13 years old, from Mbulo village. We used to fetch water from the river and drink it without boiling it and used to have a lot of tummy pains and diarrhoea.**

**Save the Children trained our community members (uncles, aunts and elderly people). Then the health committees told us about diseases that come about due to lack of hygiene and taught us that if we don't boil water before drinking it, we might get sick. Now I boil water and have no tummy pains and my little brothers don't have diarrhoea anymore.”**

**“WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE A NURSE SO THAT I CAN HELP MY COMMUNITY TO BE HEALTHY.”**



Thanks to you, the project is supporting 25 health committees and we have reached 16,010 people through awareness raising sessions on health and hygiene, building latrines, vaccinations, the importance of exclusive breastfeeding for up to 6 months, malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory diseases, HIV and AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

We are also ensuring traditional midwives are trained to undertake safe deliveries and are able to identify problems and refer them to the nearest health facility. Now, 75% of all births are managed by midwives. The midwives are doing a great job providing the right assistance during the delivery.

**“My name is Ângela Nhanjeque I am 47 years old. I was displaced from my native village due to the war. I have seven children, three of them under five years old.**

**My children (especially those under five) used to be sick all the time. I didn't know the need and importance of mosquito nets, boiling water, or using latrines. My husband and I used to worry and we used to wonder why our children were sick with diarrhoea and malaria all the time.**

**In July 2009 Save the Children trained members of our community in healthcare. Now we have a group called a health committee trained by Save the Children which is teaching us very good things: we learned we must boil water before we drink it, we built a latrine and we have mosquito nets to protect the children from mosquito bites.**



**“NOW MY CHILDREN ARE HEALTHIER THAN BEFORE.”**

**I am also learning about family planning and the need to have space between one birth and another as this will help our children to develop well. I thank Save the Children for bringing such good knowledge to our community.”**

## THE IMPACT ON CHILDREN'S LIVES

- **16,010** people have been sensitized on malaria prevention, basic sanitation, conjunctivitis, pneumonia, breast feeding, HIV and AIDS, how to construct and use latrines, diarrhoea and skin diseases.
- **13,423** children under one year old have received a complete course of immunisations.
- **679** children under five years old received Vitamin A supplements.
- **6,647** children under five were treated for malaria and cured.
- **5,320** pregnant women and women were vaccinated against tetanus.
- **1,740** children and 1,160 pregnant women received mosquito nets protecting them against the threat of mosquito bites and malaria.
- **294** labours were assisted by the midwives trained by the project.
- **82** community members have been trained in primary health care.
- **16** midwives have been trained in reviving newborns.
- **24** health workers have been trained in malaria case management.



**A mother holds her baby wearing a hat in Tchicala, Huambo. We have distributed over 52,000 baby hats to newborns this reporting period, helping to protect babies from the cold and diseases such as pneumonia**

## THANK YOU RECKITT BENCKISER.