# SMS for Life

Using market information to support public health

MMV 11th Stakeholder Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011



### **Overall Goal**

# To eliminate ACT and Quinine Injectable "stock outs" at all health facilities in Tanzania

- Using a combination of SMS text messages and electronic mapping technology to monitor Health Facility stocks of ACT and Quinine on a weekly basis throughout Tanzania.
- stock visibility will support the elimination of stock outs, reducing the number of deaths from malaria.



### Project structure

An RBM partnership initiative

- MoHSW ownership
- led by Novartis and MMV
- with the support and collaboration of PSI, SDC and Vodacom





### A Roll Back Malaria Partnership Initiative

1 Receive a text message requesting stock information



2 Count stock



3 Compose and send an SMS message to: 15009



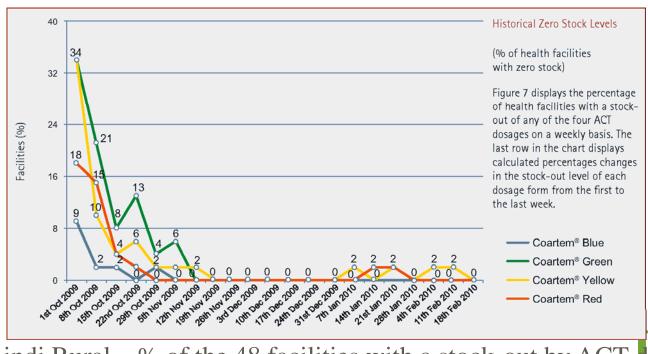
4. Receive free air time credit





## Pilot stage 2009/2010

- Lindi Rural, Ulanga, Kigoma Rural
- Results: 77% 'stock outs' reduced to 26%

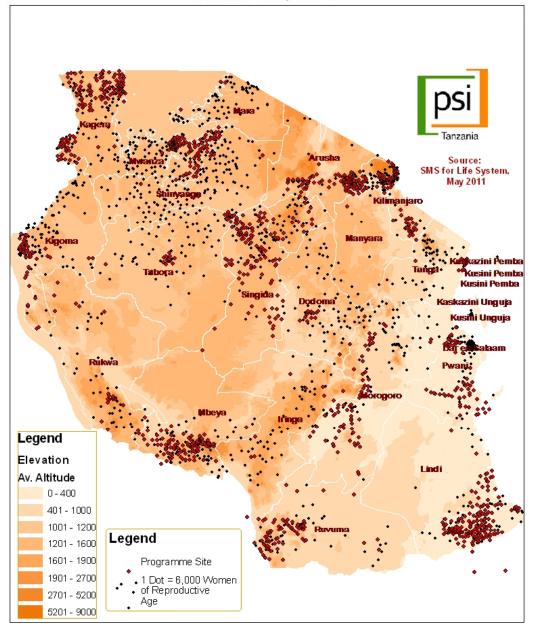


■ Lindi Rural – % of the 48 facilities with a stock-out by ACT

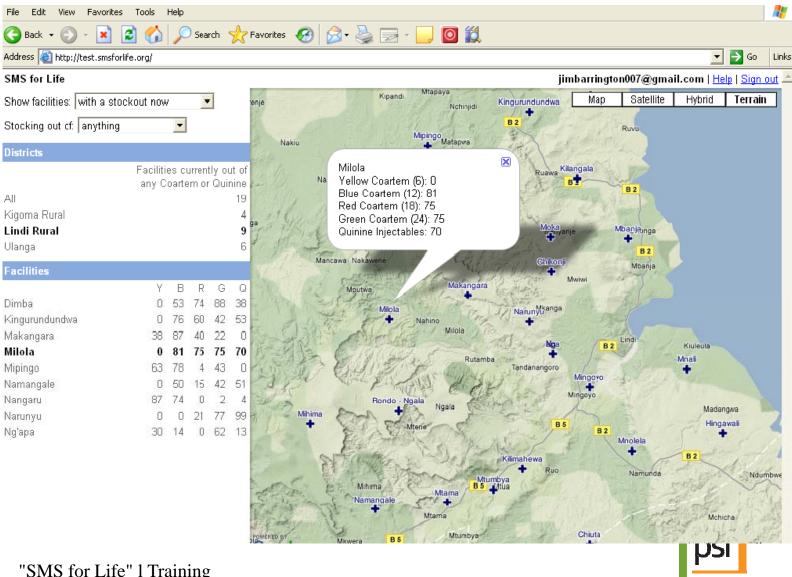
#### Map of Tanzania Showing SMS for life Rollout - May 2011

## Rollout progress

- National scale up 2011
  - 62 districts to date
  - 2,261 health facilities (45.2% of total)
  - The scale-up will end in October 2011
  - Using M-Pesa to pay per diems



### Reporting – Geographic Mapping



# Challenges

- Technical challenges
  - IT literacy of DMOs
  - Payment of incentives
  - Network issues



### Successes

- Ease and acceptability of the system
- Rapid scale up
- High response rates
  - Low error rates
- M-Pesa for per diems
- Examples of DMOs redistributing stocks



# Future opportunities

- Expanding SMS for Life
  - RDTs?
  - Monitoring ACT through ADDOs?
  - Other commodities?

