Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) are recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the first-line treatment for infection with the most deadly form of malaria, caused by the *Plasmodium falciparum* parasite. The world’s supply of artemisinin, the key common compound in the manufacture of ACTs, can be volatile. PATH and its partners led the development of a new manufacturing process to supplement the historically used botanical supply and strengthen the artemisinin market. During the project’s final phase, PATH and Sanofi, the project’s development and manufacturing partner, successfully moved semisynthetic artemisinin (ssART) from research lab to the factory floor, and on to the global market.

**KEY MILESTONES**

- **APRIL 2013**
  Commercial production of ssART at Sanofi’s plant in Italy. (Current production capacity approximately 60 metric tons per year.)

- **MAY 2013**
  WHO prequalification of ssART as a pharmaceutical intermediate and artesunate produced with ssART as an active pharmaceutical ingredient.

- **AUGUST 2014**
  Successful integration of ssART into a commercial ACT. First 1.7 million treatments manufactured with a new ssART derivative delivered to malaria-endemic countries in Africa.

- **DECEMBER 2015**
  Delivery of 51 million ACTs manufactured with ssART to malaria-endemic countries in Africa.

*The partnership for semisynthetic artemisinin was led by PATH’s Drug Development program and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The project began in 2004, and partners included Amyris, Sanofi, and the University of California, Berkeley.*