

Malawi: 2015 Universal LLINs Distribution Campaign Logistics Mission Report

Mission report: Malawi

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Author of report: Jeronimo Zandamela

List of Acronyms

ANC	Antenatal Care
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
CDC	US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
CP	Cluster Point (covering numerous villages)
DHMT	District Health Management Team
DHO	District Health Officer
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DMC	District Malaria Coordinator
DS	Distribution Site
DTF	District LLIN Task Force
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria
HSA	Health Surveillance Assistant
HH	Household
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
ITN	Insecticide-Treated Net
IRS	Indoor Residual Spraying
LLINs	Long-Lasting Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets
LSC	Logistics Sub-Committee
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoH	Ministry of Health
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NMSP	National Malaria Strategic Plan
NTF	National Task Force
NMCP	National Malaria Control Program
NSO	National Statistics Office
PMI	U.S. President's Malaria Initiative
PPM	Pooled Procurement Mechanism
RBM	Roll Back Malaria
TSC	Technical Sub-Committee
UCC	Universal Coverage Campaign
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VCO	Vector Control Officer
WHO	World Health Organization

Preface

This Mission Report is a follow up on the previous Logistics Plan of action developed during my first mission from 28th September to 19th October 2015.

The preliminary PoA was based on data available on February 2015 and the implementation strategy. Quantification uses Malawi census population projections for 2015.

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Context:

In December 2014, **1,158,968** LLINs were distributed in the first phase of the current national campaign. Six districts (Nkhotakhota, Mchinji, Likoma, Mwanza, Neno, and Phalombe) were targeted in this mini-campaign based on the time elapsed since they were covered under previous campaigns.

The second phase of the national campaign includes the coverage of four districts by Concern Universal with support from the Against Malaria Foundation.

The main campaign will be carried out in all districts not covered during the mini-campaign or under Concern districts. Therefore the main campaign will cover a total of 19 districts using a phased approach by zone. For the purpose of this approach, three zones have been identified based on regional demarcation. Due to different weather patterns, the actual distribution exercise will be conducted in three months starting with the Southern zone, then Central and finally the Northern zone.

Consultants in country:

- Jeronimo Zandamela: 01 to 21 December, 2015
- Yves Cyaka: 01 to 11 December, 2015

General Situation

The UCC with LLINs is high on the agenda of Malawi. LLINs are preferred because they do not require re-treatment and remain effective for three to five years. For this reason, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Malawi has adopted the international recommendation from the World Health Organization (WHO) that all public sector distributions should involve LLINs rather than conventional nets as its policy.

The DHMTs in all 19 districts will ensure the planning and implementation at district and peripheral levels, in concordance with the national implementation strategy and the coordination structure / terms of reference validated by the National Task Force.

1. Introduction

The main campaign will target those areas not previously covered during the mini-campaign or the activities supported by Concern Universal. The total quantity of LLINs to be distributed for the 19 remaining districts, according to project census data, is estimated at 6,796,416. However the precise volume will only be confirmed after household registration, which is likely to happen during 15 days from 28 December 2015.

9,061,350 LLINs will be available for distribution based on the request submitted to Global Fund in 2014.

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2. Logistics planning: LLINs shipment/Delivery to the regional warehouses

Shipment and delivery of nets to the regional warehouses in Malawi started 01 week ahead of planning. The first shipment expected on 11th November 2015 arrived on 4th November 2015 at one of the regional warehouses in Blantyre.

According to the plans a total number of 375 containers (373x40' and 2x20') are expected to arrive in 11 shipments at Beira Port carrying 9,061,350 nets.

A total number of 7,192,752 out of 9,061,350 nets have already been received at the 5 selected regional warehouses as of 20th December 2015. The clearing and transportation process up to now is running smoothly.

The table below shows the quantity of nets received up to 20th December 2015.

Regional warehouses stock report								
Regional Warehouse	Expected # of LLINs	Expected # of bales	# of LLINs received	% received	# of Bales received	Balance to be received # LLINs	Balance to be received # of Bales	Remarks
Liwonde	2 092 400	52 310	2 092 400	100%	52 310	-	-	Completed
Blantyre	1 843 400	46 085	1 843 392	100%	46 085	8	0	Completed/8 nets MRA border sampling to be returned
Lilongue	2 438 900	60 973	620 920	25%	15 523	1 817 980	45 450	To be completed
Salima	1 486 000	37 150	1 485 760	99,984%	37 144	240	6	To be completed/discrepancy of 1 bale . (Outcome to be reported after receiving the remaining containers)
Mzuzu	1 200 650	30 016	1 150 280	96%	28 757	50 370	1 259	To be completed
GT	9 061 350	226 534	7 192 752	79%	179 819	1 868 598	46 715	

3. Transport Logistics

3.1 Identification of warehousing / Storage and security

19 district warehouses were identified by the contractors, guided by NMCP through the LSC and following the master storage plan (indicating an estimate of storage space (m2) needs at the district level), as well as criteria for selection of the warehouses.

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Report

Identified storage spaces at district level have been visited by NMCP teams for assessment and inspection following the warehouse inspection checklist that was developed by the LSC and provided to the teams.

The following are partial notes of some warehouses visited. Teams were still working on the reports for the other warehouses.

ZOMBA

The only warehouse identified does not have enough space to store nets for both Zomba rural and Zomba urban. Space available is almost 120 m² opposed to the estimation of 771 m² (see the table attached).

Overall the warehouse is secure and well located. The owner was advised to have pallets, fire extinguishers, clean and paint the warehouse prior to arrival of nets (details on the check list attached).

There is a need to identify additional warehouse space based on the estimation already made available to the contractors.

MANGOSHI

Due to the continuous G4S change of plans, the team was forced to change the travel schedule and this warehouse was not physically inspected, though the team managed to get some information from the warehouse supervisor, who was on the site, over the phone.

Generally the warehouse meets the minimum requirements in terms of location, ventilation and safety. The supervisor was advised to get pallets and fire extinguishers prior to arrival of nets.

Based on the measures provided, the space may be enough to store all nets considering the previous estimation and the 12m high of the warehouse (see table attached).

This warehouse will have to be inspected during the supervision of the actual HHR.

MACHINGA

This district will be served by Liwonde regional warehouse.

3.2 Regional Warehouse monitoring

LIWONDE

Total number of 2,092,400 LLINs are stored in 2 warehouses located in the same area, different compounds.

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Overall the nets are stored in good conditions. By the time that the team visited the warehouses, in both of them and according to the warehouse manager, the fire extinguishers had been taken for refilling and maintenance and were expected to be back on Monday 21st. Buckets of sand were in place as back up.

In the first warehouse the nets are stacked very high and close to the roof, almost touching the iron sheets, which is not advisable considering the heat of the iron sheets.

In the second warehouse the nets are very well stacked including the height.

Stock cards and waybills/delivery notes are in place and correctly filled.

3.3 Tracking tools:

Waybills (Delivery notes) and stock cards have already been printed by the contractors under the guidance and supervision of NMCP.

4. Challenges

The disbursement of money it is still a big challenge and it is affecting the whole campaign. NMCP is always complaining about the FA agent performance and has made the issues around delays and changes in schedule available to the Global Fund to attempt to find a resolution for the problems to date.

G4S is under FA direct supervision and they are not performing according to NMCP plans sent to them via the FA.

Distribution during the rainy season, as the road conditions have changed dramatically, is another challenge that NMCP faces to ensure the distribution on time. Transport plans will have to be adjusted to the current road conditions.

5. Recommendations

NMCP needs to have a close monitoring on the district warehouse selection by the contractors to make sure that they are selecting the warehouses based on the storage space estimations and standard criteria provided to them.

During the HHR teams will have to clearly identify, locate and quantify all distribution points, as it will be based on this information that the transport plans from the districts will be developed.

FA and NMCP need to work together as a team in order to move forward and not block the campaign, by identifying the problems and immediately finding solutions/corrections.

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G4S needs to be told to strictly follow the plans provided by NMCP. I would suggest that someone from G4S be part of the NTF and attend all regular meetings.

As a result of all the finance constraints up to now, the road map may need to be revised and the budget implications identified and accommodated somehow.

Attachments

- Storage space estimation
- Warehouse check list
- Regional warehouse pictures