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Liberia Mass Distribution Campaign: revised strategies and operational challenges

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Agenda

- I. Country context
- II. Revised strategy of universal net distribution
- III. Operational challenges
- IV. Conclusion

I. Context ^{1/4}

- **Liberia located in West Africa**
- **Estimated population = 4,290,167**
- **Malaria is hyper-holoendemic with intense, year-round transmission across the whole country**
- **The 2009 Health Facility Survey (HFS), malaria accounts for 38% of outpatient department attendance and 42% of in-patient deaths**



I. Context ^{2/4}

Malaria R10 : Scaling up malaria prevention and control interventions through all sectors in Liberia for sustained universal impact (2PRs Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and Plan Liberia)

Starting date: 1st June 2011

Ending date: 30 June 2016

Objective 3: To sustain LLIN coverage at 100% and increase usage to 80% of the population through 2015

I. Context ^{3/4}

- **Lesson learnt from Phase 1 nets distribution (1,019,484) in December 2012: the strategy did not include adequate micro planning**
- **Phase 2 universal coverage through national distribution: Plan of Action/micro planning process led by country teams with assistance from AMP**

**Initial number of nets to distribute through mass campaign: 2,195,796 planned for the last quarter of 2014
MoH is in charge of procurement through VPP and Plan for the distribution**

- June/July of 2013: macro plan and Plan of action
- October 2013 : The POA was agreed upon in large part

I. Context ^{4/4}

- Ebola Virus outbreak

Started in February 2014

Situation on January 20, 2015 (WHO)

Case definition	Cumulative cases	Cases in the past 21	Cumulative deaths
Confirmed	3135		
Probable	1854		
Suspected	3489		
Total	8478	25	3605

370 Health Workers contracted the EV and 178 dead
Montserrado and Margibi are the most affected counties

II. Revised strategy ^{1/6}

Based on the guidance for conducting LLIN distribution in Ebola affected areas developed by the WHO Secretariat of AFRO/PHE (Public Health and Environment), GMP-Geneva and (Service Delivery and Safety), UNICEF, CDC Atlanta and ALMA

- **Development of concept note for the distribution in Ebola context**
- **Process of the revision of the strategy: fixed point to door-to-door campaign**
- **Plan of Action/micro plans approved by Global Fund as of Dec 2014**

II. Revised strategy ^{2/6}

The goal of distributing LLINs during the Ebola emergency situation is to:

- **Reduce fevers due to malaria in order to reduce confusion and confounding between malaria and EVD.**
- **Reach universal coverage with LLINs among the Liberian population and thereby reduce malaria morbidity and mortality.**
- **Strengthen Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) messaging to:**
 - **Prevent malaria through promotion of LLIN hanging and use on a nightly basis**
 - **Reinforce Ebola preventive measures for households**

II. Revised strategy ^{3/6}

- A total of 2.8 million nets will be distributed including 448,084 from GF Emergency Fund
- Main activities
 - LLIN quantification (3 nets/HH)
 - Logistic: Warehouse, transportation, distribution materiel
 - Personnel identification and training (supervisors community, district, county and central level, 3 distributors per village, revised of training materiel at all level)

II. Revised strategy ^{4/6}

- **IEC/BCC : revised of messages, focus on mass campaign through radio, interpersonal communication during the distribution, mobile phone messages, community leaders**
- **Data collection was simplified following WHO recommendation during Ebola outbreak**

II. Revised strategy ^{5/6}

- **Financing mainly from GF with PMI support for TA**
- **Coordination**
 - **Weekly LLIN call with all stakeholders: GF, Liberia country Team (NMCP, Plan Liberia, PMI, UNICEF....), AMP, CDC-PMI, USAID, WHO, UNICEF, Plan Canada....**
 - **National campaign coordinating committee (NCCC)**
 - **3 sub committees at central level (logistic, communication, technical/M&E)**
 - **Decentralized committees (county, district,..)**

II. Revised strategy ^{6/6}

New plan of action

1. Tendering

Procurement process (Launching & closing): Jan 19 to Feb 28

Selection and contracting of vendors : 3rd to 13th March

2. IEC Activities: on going

3. Training

Central Level orientation: 4 to 6 February

SR and County level training: Feb 14th to March 3rd

gCHVs training: 8 to 23 March

4. Pre-positioning & Distribution

Movement of LLINs from Central, District to communities: 14 to 23 March

LLIN Distribution: 28 March to 28 April

III. Operational challenges^{1/2}

- **EVD : Restriction of travel, limiting in-country technical support**
- **Necessity to reprogram entire LLIN budget and ensure CCM buy-in before official CCM submission to GF (increase distribution budget \$607,344)**
- **Delay in the approval of procurement documents causing multiple delays of campaign distribution period**

III. Operational challenges ^{2/2}

- **Procurement of transportation and warehousing at the district level to prepare for prepositioning (central warehouse,....)**
- **Ensuring the security of nets namely at community level**
- **Limitation of BCC (mainly through radio)**
- **Coordination but in the context of an emergency (National committee, technical committees,...)**

Transporting Nets



IV. Conclusion

The support of all stakeholders in Liberia and at international level (GF, AMP, Unicef, USAID, CDC, WHO, PMI, Plan, ...) has pushed this process along in the context of an emergency, and will also allow the country to have the nets properly distributed to community and increase their usage to reduce malaria burden.



Thank you!
Merci!

Questions?