

AMP The Alliance for Malaria Prevention

Expanding the ownership and use of mosquito nets

Country profile

Guinea-Bissau



Background

Target population: 1,582,496

Distribution dates: 1 to 4 November 2011

Distribution strategy: Universal coverage, defined as ownership of at least 1 LLIN for every 1.8 household members

Technical assistance provided by AMP:

Implementation and logistics

LLINs distributed: 880,939

Malaria is endemic and among the main causes of illness and death among adults and children under five in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. According to the National Malaria Control Programmes' 2009 statistics, malaria accounts for 58.7 per cent of deaths among children under five and is a major cause of school absenteeism.

The objective of the campaign was to provide one LLIN to every two persons to attain 100 per cent universal coverage and contribute towards ensuring an 80 per cent utilization rate by the population. UNICEF mobilized additional funds from Natcom Italy and UN Foundation/Nothing But Nets to cover the funding gap.

The Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP) provided technical assistance to:

1. define the implementation strategy as well as the logistics, communications and monitoring and evaluation plan for the campaign
2. develop an action plan, i.e. a schedule of activities and budget for the distribution including advice on and tools for micro-planning at both national and regional levels
3. identify focal points accountable for the coordination, communication and logistics of the national campaign
4. identify gaps in human resources and technical capacities
5. ensure existing tools and materials used during campaigns in other countries were made available.

A lot of great things have been achieved over the years. It has been with AMP's support that we have been able to put nets where they are right now.

– Dr Peter Olumese, Global Malaria Programme, WHO



For additional information:

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The Alliance for Malaria Prevention

The Alliance for Malaria Prevention worked together with NMCP and partners to provide a range of support to build country capacity for LLIN scale-up in Guinea-Bissau. AMP-specific support to date includes:

Implementation: AMP supported the work of UNICEF, NMCP, WHO, *Centrale d'Achat des Médicaments* and other partners on developing an action plan, a schedule of activities and budget for the mass distribution.

Logistics: Technical assistance was provided for the development of a specific action plan for logistics including warehousing and transport plans, budget and implementation timeline. Support was also provided for the establishment of a central logistics team. Training was carried out at central level to the central logistics team for macro and micro-logistics, and on tools used for LLIN tracking and accountability.

Monitoring and evaluation: The central logistics team developed tools and systems to ensure monitoring, traceability and safety during LLIN distribution to sites. Indicators were developed to complete the monitoring and evaluation plan of the campaign. The suggested indicators, adapted to the context of Guinea Bissau are those used in any LLIN distribution campaign. Monitoring of 'hang up' of nets by volunteers started three days after distribution was completed. The LLINs hang up rate was 88.4 per cent, exceeding the target of 80 per cent.

Lessons learned

1. In order to facilitate the decision on the final distribution strategy and related logistic planning household registration should be carried out just before micro-planning.
2. It was also found that information with regard to the number of nets to be distributed per household should be made public only after arriving at a decision concerning the final distribution strategy.
3. Entry and analysis of household registration data using SPSS software helped with simulations towards the determination of the most appropriate distribution strategy; main innovation of the campaign process.
4. The revised distribution strategy putting a cap on the maximum number of LLINs per family with more than 14 persons was sound and helped maintain the campaign on track leading to good coverage.

Guinea-Bissau conducted a highly successful campaign. The Government's commitment was key to the success. The Republic of Guinea Bissau was presented with an award for excellent performance in the roll out of the national campaign at the AMP partners meeting which was held from 9 to 10 February 2012 in Geneva. The strong partnership between NMCP and partners (especially UNICEF) was highlighted as key to this success.