

AMP Logistics T.A. Visit Report

In support of

Programme National De Lutte Contre Le Paludisme
(Region – Sikasso, Mali)

Planned for

March 2011

Logistics Technical Assistance Visit – PNLP¹, Mali

Duration of Visit: December 8-18, 2010 (travel time included)
Prepared By: Doug Mole
Report Dated: December 24, 2010

Subject: Support to Ministry of Health and PNLP Logistics Activities for National Universal Coverage LLIN² Campaign – Mali, December 2010

Reference: ToRs³ – Support Mass LLIN Distribution, Mali dated December 6, 2010 (see attachment)

This visit entailed supporting the Mali Ministry of Health/PNLP. This report also covers logistics support provided to one of the PNLP partners, PSI Mali. During this period, Dr. M. Erskine, IFRC Senior Health Officer, was conducting a technical support visit.

Objectives of Visit

1. To support Mali with the development of in-country logistics planning.
2. To support Mali PNLP with developing macro logistics activities (Bamako to health district warehousing and transportation).
3. To support PNLP with the logistics development of dispatching from Bamako to districts
4. To support PNLP with LLIN tracking, training development and security of supply chain planning.

Visit Contacts

During this Logistics T.A. mission the following key contacts / representatives were met:

- Dr. K. Traore - Ministry of Health - PNLP
- Dr. D. Traore - Ministry of Health - PNLP
- Mr. B. Dembele - Ministry of Health - PNLP
- Mr. O. Plea - Ministry of Health - PNLP/Finances/Logistics
- R. Diallo - Country Representative - PSI⁴, Mali
- Dr. D. Fatounata - PSI Mali
- Dr. Y. Djire - PSI Mali
- Mr. S. Kone - PSI / Logistics Mali
- Dr. B. Dembele - GP / SR
- Dr. C. Oumar Coulibaly - OMS / WHO
- Mr. A. Gadon - PMI⁵ / USAID
- Dr. M. Erskine - Senior Malaria Health Officer - IFRC, Geneva
- C. Vondrasek - Director - Voices, Malaria Advocacy Project, JHU

¹ Programme National De Lutte Contre Le Paludisme

² Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Bed Nets

³ Terms of Reference

⁴ Population Services International

⁵ President's Malaria Initiative

PNLP T.A. SUPPORT

General Overview

PNLP has presently joined a partnership in Mali with PMI/USAID, PSI, WHO, UNICEF and others to provide a regional LLIN campaign initially scheduled for end January 2011. The goal is to effectively distribute 670,000 nets based on Universal Coverage (UC) of 1 net per 1.8 persons. As discussed and agreed to between PNLN and partners, the delivery of these LLINs would take place in the Sikasso Region, distributing in 5 of the 8 districts (district de sanitaire). The in-country team and PNLN determined that a mid-March 2011 distribution schedule was more realistic.

Situation on Arrival

Initial briefings on December 10, 2010 in Bamako, Mali indicated that PNLN and their partner in LLIN logistics (PSI) had started developing initial plans. The campaign logistics planning was in its early conception and was somewhat behind the timeline if the campaign date of end January was to be maintained. After consultation with PNLN, the campaign technical committee determined that the mid-March timeframe was a more realistic distribution campaign date. Based on this recommendation, approval for mid-March is being sought.

Presently, 570,000 LLINs are warehoused in PSI facilities in Bamako. Confirmation of location for the balance of 100,000 UNICEF LLINs is being determined. Some areas of logistics that were outstanding or not fully completed were:

- A logistics sub committee had not been formed to facilitate logistics methodology and development of documents;
- A Logistics Plan of Action (PoA) was lacking. This document should be based on guidance from the campaign PoA, which was in the process of development;
- A Gantt Chart (timeline or chronogram) of logistics activities need to be developed based on the campaign Gantt Chart, which was completed by the technical committee during this visit;
- The MACRO storage plan and preliminary transport plan were outstanding; and
- The planning for dispatching LLINs by road to district de sanitaire, aire de santé and beyond had not been achieved.

Technical Committee Development Support

Prior to commencing logistics support, assistance was provided with converting data forms/files into Excel. It was decided by the technical committee that this format would be better suited for data collection during the rollout of the campaign.

PNLP / PSI Mali Logistics Development

During this Logistics TA support visit, it was initially unclear as to who was the PNLN logistics focal point. This position was important since collaboration and close planning was required between PNLN and PSI. Unfortunately resolving this issue took valuable time but with the support of Dr. Erskine it was resolved and the TA support was able to move forward.

The following documents were developed prior to the commencement of PNLN and PSI coming together for planning. Data and strategy was provided to commence building draft logistics plans, with information being furnished by the PNLN Technical Committee. Items that were worked on:

- Developed a draft master positioning plan from National level warehousing down to District de Sanitaire and Aire de Santé locations, including warehouse space requirements at each location;
- Developed a draft Preliminary Transportation Plan indicating a possible inventory of various vehicle sizes and capacities;
- An example of a Plan of Action (PoA) was provided, as a guide for further development,

- once the campaign PoA was completed;
- A draft logistics Gantt Chart was developed with activity items listed by time and importance. This chart is a work in progress and further input by the logistics team was required;
- Both a transport Waybill and warehouse/storage/Stock Card were adapted for this campaign to provide a common standard form throughout the supply chain;
- A MICRO Questionnaire was provided and tailored for gathering logistics information for planning purposes and budget costs; and
- As a capacity building instrument, a French Power Point Presentation on campaign logistics (resource from AMP Logistics Training in Sep 2009) was shared with the logistics team to assist in understanding LLIN campaign planning and implementation.

It is anticipated that both the PNLP logistics focal point and the PSI logistics lead will work closely together to complete the needed Dispatch Delivery Plan once document development is completed. The logistics team was briefed on the importance of involving the successful transport company (winner of bid or bids) in this dispatch planning due to their detailed knowledge of routes, vehicle sizes, road condition, driving distances and general transport security.

Areas suggested for follow-up actions within the PNLP/PSI Logistics Operations

1. The logistics team (PNLP/PSI) did indicate they needed to work as a team and this is critical with the short timelines and the amount of work to be completed. Frequent coordination using the PNLP logistics sub committee is also important, and it is vital that this committee is fully functioning as soon as possible.
2. It is important to verify that existing documents are correct, accurate and current to the country's present strategy and direction. The value of having regular logistics sub committee meetings cannot be understated in ensuring coordination.
3. Update logistics Gantt Chart activities to reflect direction from the campaign Gantt Chart once it is validated and finalized. Include logistics field mission to confirm supply chain is working correctly and proper delivery and security methods are being followed.
4. Develop a logistics Plan of Action (PoA) based on direction from Campaign PoA once it is finalized.
5. Develop a Logistics MICRO Planning Guide (Questionnaire) to gather needed information in supporting the logistics micro planning document.
6. Develop a logistics budget, once "bottom up" information is gathered, to feed into the campaign global budget.
7. PSI to coordinate with PNLP the location, size and availability of storage/warehousing space in all five districts (district de sanitaire) within Sikasso Region.
8. Prepare Request for Quotations (Appel de Offr) for transport of LLINs to districts (district de sanitaire).
9. Confirm with district (district de sanitaire) available personnel for logistics activities during campaign, IE: warehouse, dispatching LLINs and security duties.
10. Prepare and deliver cascaded logistics training (IE: warehouse controls, waybills and dispatching/tracking controls). This training could be combined with other campaign/program training.

Conclusion

The TA visit was productive and lead to important in-country discussions on the upcoming LLIN campaign. The PNLP technical team agreed in principal that the campaign dates needed to be moved from January to March 2011. The meetings highlighted critical planning activities that still needed to occur. Attempts were made to develop draft/working documents to support logistics activities; as overall campaign decisions are made and documents developed the logistics team will need to update and/or further develop planning documents. With the short timelines, a good working relationship and effective coordination between PNLP, PSI, logistics sub-committee and the campaign technical team is essential.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Ministry of Health, and the members of the PNLP and PSI logistics teams for all their cooperation and support provided during this Technical Assistance visit. Dr. M. Erskine, who was on a technical visit during the same period, also provided valuable support in logistics discussions. I wish the PNLP team and the entire Mali team continued success with the planning and implementation of their Regional LLIN Campaign.

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Attached Files: (to this e-mail/report)

File 1	-	Termes de référence
File 2	-	MII (Dec 17) Sikasso – Mali Plan de Stock / Prelim Transport
File 3	-	Gantt Chart (16 Dec) - Logistique - Mali
File 4	-	Logistique PPS Presentation – French
File 5	-	Bon de Livraison
File 6	-	Fiche De Stock
File 7	-	Questionnaire-Logistique de MILDs