



**Under
the Net**



Lessons learnt and during a phased ITN campaign for continuous improvement of COVID-19 adaptations

AMP 2021 Annual Partners' Meeting

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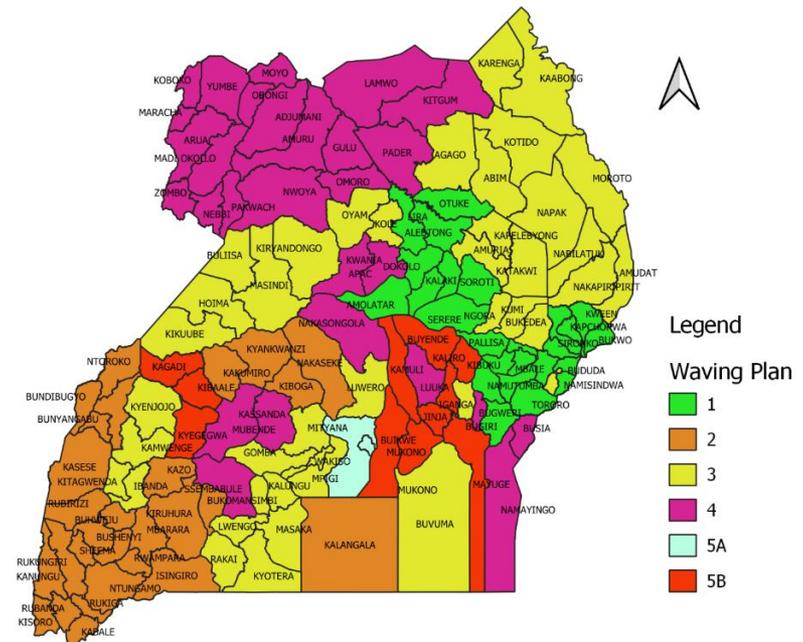
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Introduction



- Campaign Goal: Contribute to a **malaria free Uganda** by building and achieving **malaria prevention, management and net use culture**
- The campaign was designed to be done in a set of clustered districts (waves)
- Distribution of LLINs was done in 5 waves with a consideration of a number of factors
 - High malaria Transmission
 - Flood districts
 - Yellow fever
 - Delivery Pipeline for nets
 - Geographical Coverage
 - Available quantities of Net and Types





Operations

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- Implementation of the ITN Campaign 2020 in Uganda was planned to begin in March 2020, however the advent of Covid-19 disrupted the plan
- Modification of the implementation design was done to align to the Covid-19 adaptation proposed by AMP and within the country context
- The campaign work plan was adjusted in order to commence activities in July 2020
- Distribution followed a single-phase door to door distribution with simultaneous registration and distribution for waves 1-3
- During waves 4-5, a hybrid mode was adopted with distribution done through (mainly) distribution points



Operations

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- Implementation considered Infection prevention and control for Covid-19 through procurement of additional PPE such as aprons, face masks, with hand gloves, gum boots and alcohol-based hand sanitizers
- We utilized already operation Covid-19 task forces at district and sub county level to oversee the campaign activities
- Meetings and trainings were done virtually
- Microplanning strategy was reviewed, and micro plans were developed from village level upwards
- Payments to teams were heavily done using Electronic mobile money
- Districts of Karamoja, Wakiso and Kampala used cash payments due to peoples' life style of living like daily earnings for their survival



Logistics

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- A total of 28,805,800 ITNs were received and warehoused by National Medical Stores (NMS) for the campaign
- Some consignments of nets landed late due to Covid-19 disruptions to both water and road transport, which was mitigated by revising the waving plan
- NMS was responsible for transportation of nets to sub county warehouses
- Quantification of nets and transportation was based on district microplans
- Transportation to village level utilized available means of transport namely small trucks, boats, donkeys, etc.





- Electronic household registration and distribution was employed to be carried out by two teams and four teams in rural and urban settings respectively
- Team composition was VHTs, Data Entry Clerks, Local guards and the Local Council Ones (LCIs).
- In the urban strategy we co-opted members according to the context
- We utilized mobile phones owned by the clerks to supplement the phones supplied by the programme
- There was automatic allocation plan per household using the electronic system



SBC

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- The campaign employed heavily digitized communication
- IEC materials translated in 13 key languages. IEC materials included banners, brochures, factsheets, information posters, t-shirts, pastoral letters, etc.

- All campaign materials were branded with Under the Net logo
- Virtual advocacy meetings occurred at national level
- Mass media engagements on radio and tv
- Social media engagements through online platforms, social media influencers, blogs
- Community engagements through district and community radios, megaphones
- Public Relations through press conferences
- Engagement of cultural leaders





Lessons Learnt



- Initial waving plan was revised to cater for high malaria transmission areas, flooded districts, yellow fever outbreaks and availability of the various net types
- During wave 1 & 2, we found out that unreliable data on populations from villages in some districts led to households missing nets. We revised the microplanning strategy to involve Village LCIs
- Simultaneous registration and distribution led to risk of loss of control of movement of nets.
- During Wave 4, we introduced Min distribution points in most locations which strengthened control of nets





Lessons Learnt

- Internet coverage was poor in many locations. We utilized an electronic app (CCIMS & EDMIS) that works offline and employed manual data collection in Karamoja and other areas
- Furthermore, poor data synchronization that led to risks of loss of data. We deployed manual extraction of data from phones of data clerks
- Poor grid coverage that affected the use of phones required hiring of generators for charging of phones
- Existing government structures were great to work with and eased implementation and ownership of the campaign

10:16

New Household Distribution

HH distributed*

SUBMIT

First Name: Alex

Surname: Gunamawe

Phone: 0785645359

NIN: N/A

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z x c v b n m

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Lessons Learnt



- Advance team was deployed immediately before wave 3 to mitigate issues of net loss at sub-county warehouses and poor ownership of campaign activities in the districts
- Concurrent delivery of nets and logistics tools to enable real time verification of net deliveries and improved their security
- Developed village allocations to minimise misallocation of nets to village level and the need for reverse logistics
- Worked with NMS to ensure nets are delivered at sub-county stores after arrival of district coordinators to enable better security and confirmation of quantities of nets



Logistical Challenges in Pictures



