

**Situation report #13 – Liberia**

**Date of report:** December 8, 2020  
**Dates covered by report:** December 1 to December 8, 2020  
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**Campaign summary table**

Target population (2021)	<b>4,931,090 (2018 campaign microplan population projected to 2021 at a growth rate of 2.1 %.)</b>
Scale of campaign	National, covering all 15 counties in Liberia (including Urban and Rural)
Total number of ITNs required.	2,739,494
Number of IG2 (quantity by funder)	Global Fund – All IG 2 nets procured by GF.
Date planned for distribution	May 2021

**Context:**Liberia

National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) is planning to organize an insecticide treated net (ITN) mass distribution campaign in 2021. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic resulting in national restrictions being put in place to prevent its transmission, the NMCP is obliged to align the planning for the campaign with the new context and design adapted, safe and innovative approaches to deliver the nets to the end users. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, Liberia also will be distributing a new net type, Interceptor G2, and it is critical that high quality implementation is assured for maximum coverage with the ITNs.

**Objectives for the mission:**

TAs are to assist the country with the development of all Macro and Micro plan documents related to the mass campaign distribution. The current technical assistance (TA) is provided by AMP (through UNOPS/RBM and IFRC) on the country’s request for support. Deliverables include the Campaign plan of action, Logistics plan of action, Communication plan of action, Rumour management plan, Review and revision of campaign messages and communication tools, Campaign timelines, Risk management and mitigation plan, development of microplanning package and campaign budget. All documents are to be aligned with COVID - 19 prevention measures.

**TA update**

- The general and thematic calls for the Liberia campaign have ended. TA support for Liberia under the current annex A ends on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

- Liberia NMCP have shared an updated PoA with the Global Fund. AMP had not reviewed the current draft prior to sending it to GF.
- Continuous support to the Liberia team in refining the macroplanning documents in line with the adopted strategy
- Ongoing discussions to understand the shifting advocacy strategy, especially at the county and district levels in order to revise and update the communication plan of action.
- TA team working to support NMCP with the development of a comprehensive quantification of campaign resources and to feed same into the current Liberia budget template. These are part of steps to arrive at a realistic budget for the Liberia campaign.
- Continued development of microplanning template for the technical and logistics microplanning exercise to be able to capture the elements of the Liberia hybrid strategy based on existing and improved AMP tools inspired by good practices from other countries
- Ongoing discussions within Global Fund and Liberia NMCP to change the initial decentralized delivery mechanism, whereby containers would be sent directly to the counties and unloaded at county storage sites to a centralized delivery mechanism whereby containers will be unloaded at central warehouses in Monrovia.  
In line with the change of the delivery mechanism ongoing considerations are being made to identify the budget implications and decide on the best options for the in country supply
- **Challenges:**
  - The three weekly virtual meetings including the three core thematic area meetings by NMCP and power outages in Monrovia limited the time available to consult with NMCP.
  - The ongoing budgeting process is likely to require a rethinking of some of the approaches that NMCP and partners have put forward. The budget appears to be incapable of funding some key components introduced based on lessons learned from the past campaign.
  - Coordination between NMCP and Plan Liberia is very challenging and its slowing down the decision making and having a significant impact on the process of finalization of campaign documents
  - Frequent changes in the components of the campaign requires a constant updating of the PoA and submitting documents and tools; this is continuing despite the fact that the AMP mission ends Dec. 10.
  - As a result of the change of the delivery mechanism there is a potential risk of insufficient funds to support the transport logistics operations (warehousing and transportation)
- **Week ahead: (Mission ends Dec. 10)**
  - Continued updating of the plans of action to reflect changes in strategy.
  - Review and update the logistics plan of action in line with the centralized delivery mechanism.
  - Finalize the development microplanning templates and quantification of campaign materials and tools including human resources
  - Continued updating of risk mitigation plan, SBC timeline, Rumour Management Plan, and SOPs.