

AMP The Alliance for Malaria Prevention

Expanding the ownership and use of mosquito nets

Situation report #16 – Liberia

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Dates covered by report: Feb. 2 - 9, 2021
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Campaign summary table

Target population (2021)	4,931,090 (2018 campaign microplan population projected to 2021 at a growth rate of 2.1 %.)
Scale of campaign	National, covering all 15 counties in Liberia
Total number of ITNs required.	2,739,494
Number of IG2 (quantity by funder)	All IG 2 nets procured by Global Fund.
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:

This is a follow-on mission to 2 earlier missions in 2020. At the end of 2020, information was received regarding the ITN delivery that requires that the logistics plan is completely revised. The communication plan has elements that require further reflection and updating in line with recommendations from financial and technical partners. The budget has not yet been updated with these changes and aligned to the plan, which is creating a delay in submitting the final documents for approval by the Global Fund. Additionally, the new microplanning packages have not yet been reviewed with the in-country partners in Liberia and will need to be adjusted and finalized following a virtual orientation to the entire microplanning package. Finally, with the changes that have come in late 2020, the training packages will need to also

be updated prior to their use. The objective is to complete the development of the campaign macro plans and set the stage for microplanning and implementation activities.

TA update

- Generally, progress have been made with respect to the finalization of the campaign macro documents
- The final draft of the campaign budget is being reviewed by the thematic cluster leads. Finalized draft to be hopefully presented to the joint steering committee of the campaign on Friday.
- A cleaned copy of the draft campaign plan of action have been shared for review by NMCP and partners. The PoA now incorporates most of the strategy refinements from December 2020 till date (especially with logistics and communication).
- Final drafts of the communication plan of action have been shared with stakeholders for final review, including alignment with the communication budget.
- Communication microplanning tools are being aligned with new aspects of the Communication Plan of Action.
- Final draft of the logistics plan of action is also currently being reviewed by NMCP and stakeholders. There are a number of pending decisions such as:
 - Possible change of incoterm allowing the containers being delivered by PPM directly to the regional warehouses out of Monrovia after the customs clearance process is completed.
 - Hand over process of ITNs from GF/PPM to MoH/NMCP.
 - Hand over process from MoH/NMCP to Plan Liberia.
 - Country policy for net type transition (campaign to routine) and for reverse logistics.
 - Logistics tracking to be used along the supply chain for fixed and D2D distribution teams.
- Work is ongoing on the campaign M&E plans. A choice needs to be made whether to have an M&E section in the PoA or have the M&E plan as a separate document.

Challenges:

- Campaign planning process have been slowed down by the ongoing GF grant negotiations. Thematic calls were cancelled last week.
- Slow process of decision making by NMCP. Whatever decision taken during the thematic group calls need to be ratified by the NMCP. NMCP is yet to concur with key decisions already cleared at the thematic group calls. For example, reverse logistics, post campaign use of IG2 nets, independent monitoring, and waste management. There are causing avoidable delays
- It has still not been possible to re-set the campaign timelines as neither NMCP nor PLAN is willing to make any commitments to any activities in the absence of guaranteed funding.

Week ahead:

- Put finishing touches and present macro documents to the joint campaign steering committee.
- Discussions on the micro planning package developed with the support of the AMP TAs
- Refine the Logistics training structure
- Get agreement on type of logistic tracking tools to be used along the supply chain
- Finalize Communication Plan of Action and communication budget.