

AMP The Alliance for Malaria Prevention

Expanding the ownership and use of mosquito nets

Situation report #27 – Liberia

Date of report: 04, May 2021
Dates covered by report: 28 April – 04 May 2021
Authors of Sitrep: Jerónimo Zandamela - logistics,
Godwin Aidenagbon - Technical/Implementation/M&E

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.	2,783,264
Number of IG2 (quantity by funder)	All IG 2 nets procured by Global Fund.
Date planned for distribution	May - Jun 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.

There have been a series of challenges and delays for completing the documents in the first quarter of 2021 during the TA initial support over the period including

- Lack of final decisions for the in-country supply chain
- Lack of information for effective planning for waste management
- Lack of detailed planning for monitoring and evaluation
- Adjustment to the communication plan to better align to the context of COVID-19

Objectives for the mission:

This is a follow-up from the first quarter where work continued to finalize the macroplanning package submitted to GF in late February and comments received in early March 2021 which required to be addressed quickly towards implementation of activities.

The coming three months will be intensive in order to finalize the data collection materials, logistics supply chain plans, training material, etc. After the initial phase the support will be punctual with the TA providers giving support for key activities such as cleaning and validation of the microplans, participating in the training of trainers, supporting on data management and any decisions required after the household registration has been completed and developing the final campaign reports.

TA update:

- The actual number of ITNs ordered is 2,783,264 as opposed to initial number of 2,739, 494 that have been used during the entire previous planning process (surplus of 6,230 ITNs in total)
- For this exercise the priority has been given for the districts in the 6 southern counties, including Grand Bassa, being them the most difficult and hard to reach, especially during the rainy season, for which ITNs need to start being delivered ASAP.
- The second priority in line with the need to start delivering ITNs from the FLBs to these districts, is to review first the total number of the population by district and share with the central logistics team.
- The movement of the 46 containers out of 69 of the second batch, is still on hold, due to some outstanding payments that need to be resolved by MOH. This time the issues are between MOH and MAERSK, the shipping line and no longer with the shipping agent – OBT, though OBT is still claiming that they haven't received yet the payment overdue for almost 5 weeks now.
- Accelerated logistics training are planned to start on Saturday this week in the 6 counties of the southern region and it will include Grand Bassa as the seven counties
- Central level training of trainers for national facilitators completed. Thirty personnel trained at national level are to cascade training to county and district health teams at county level. This is a slight amendment of the training plan originally targeted to train 75 national monitors to serve as facilitators for the county level ToT
- The cascade training for county and district health teams is ongoing across all counties of Liberia. This is the second level of implementation training activities. One key activity during this training is the further review of microplan data by county and district health teams working with the service providers.
- AMP TA have provided further feedback to NMCP on the revised protocol of the end process assessment. Summarily the protocol has issues with sampling framework for the LQAS. The ideas to conduct the survey at 93 supervision areas selected on regional basis is considered too few and incapable of providing basis for generalization of the indicators being measured. There are

also issues with timing of the activity and platform for data collection for the end process.

Challenges:

- The M&E plan of action is yet to be finalized despite GF deadline which has since passed
- Microplan data consolidation is completed but is still being reviewed. This may have negative consequences for personnel engagement for the next level of training activities.
- Difficulties in adjusting the quantity of ITNs going to each district based on the final microplanning numbers due to the quality of data that came from the exercise.
- Delays in paying the outstanding bills for demurrage and storage costs at the port, is delaying the process of the movement of 46 out of 69 second batch of containers already at the free port of Monrovia. (Apparently one of the bills is pending since 2019)
- The ongoing strike at the port of Monrovia is also affecting the operations.

Next steps:

- The Liberia team to do a quick data analysis of the microplanning figures for the 6 southern counties including G. Bassa, to decide based in which data ITNs will start being sent from the FLBs
- Finalize the logistics training agenda and materials
- Logistics training on the counties of southern region + G. Bassa
- Completion of overall microplanning data consolidation and adjustment quantities for personnel, tools and materials and final campaign budget.
- Proceed with plans for HHR training