

**Situation report #36 – Liberia**

**Date of report:** 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
**Dates covered by report:** 29<sup>th</sup> June – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
**Authors of Sitrep:** Jerónimo Zandamela - logistics,  
 Godwin Aidenagbon - Technical/M&E

**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
Total number of nets required	2,739,494
Total number of ITNs available	2,783,264
Number of IG2 (quantity by funder)	All IG 2 nets procured by Global Fund.
Date planned for distribution	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:**

- ITN distribution is still ongoing in the 6 counties of Montserrado, Sinoe, Maryland, Gbarpolu, Lofa and Grand Kru. For the 9 counties where distribution activities are winding down, JTSC is reviewing the distribution data and providing guidance for next steps in terms of mop up, reverse logistics and waste management on a county-by-county basis.
- The KoBo database for the Liberia campaign shows that over 2,326,411 ITNs have been distributed in the Liberia campaign. This is an improvement over the 1.8 million reported last week and represents 84% of the total amount of ITNs planned for distribution
- As part of the efforts to improve the accomplishment of the remaining campaign activities, the contracts with service providers have been extended for 15 days in counties where distribution started on 16/17 Jun and 30 days in counties where distribution started late due to late arrival of ITNs.
- The campaign data team is working to improve the entry of data on the KoBo data base so as to bridge the gap between actual distribution and reported data.
- As part of efforts to ensure a credible end process exercise, AMP arranged for a call with an LQAS expert, Mac Otten to share his thoughts with the Liberia NMCP/M&E team. It was agreed that it was too late to change sampling procedure (convenience sampling) for random sampling from pre-registered households.

## **Challenges:**

- The rains have become quite heavy and are affecting distribution activities in some of the 6 counties still actively distribution ITNs.
- There are increasing rumours associating ITNs with COVID 19. It is being reported that households are taking extreme measures like burning the ITNs. This has led to low voucher redemption rates in some counties and the potential to reverse huge quantity of unclaimed ITNs.

## **Next steps:**

- Continue with review of Liberia campaign distribution data
- Monitor final ITN distribution activities in 6 remaining counties
- Reverse logistics planning