2023 ANNUAL REPORT



As programmes transition to the use of digital tools, it is important to consider the sustainability of such tools and how they are integrated with the existing tools used for other interventions.

Deploying digital tools for insecticide-treated net mass campaigns: Key risks and mitigation approaches

Microplanning is one of the most important activities for the success of a mass ITN distribution campaign. The availability of geographically accurate information is a prerequisite for developing an effective ITN campaign microplan. (...) To improve the ITN microplanning process, national malaria programmes are increasingly looking to leverage the use of geospatial data and tools.

ITN campaign key geo-enabled resources for microplanning

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It is better to prevent rumours than to react to and manage them (i.e. mitigating the risk of rumours occurring in the first place, rather than mitigating the "impact" of rumours if they do occur). Managing rumours reactively takes time, energy and resources that are typically already allocated elsewhere and often comes after some damage has already been done.

Guidelines for the development of a rumour management plan related to ITN distribution

Three billion insecticide treated nets (ITNs) have been shipped since 2004 to prevent malaria, most of them to countries in sub-Saharan Africa. These ITNs are estimated to be responsible for two-thirds of the reduction in malaria cases over the past decades. Thanks to the efforts of national malaria programmes and partners, about 68 per cent of households across sub-Saharan Africa own at least one net.

🖄 Press release – 3 billion mosquito nets shipped to prevent malaria



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Background

Established in 2004, the Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP) is a global partnership including government, private sector, faithbased and humanitarian organizations, housed and chaired by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). AMP is a member of the Country/Regional Support Partner Committee (CRSPC) of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria (RBM), which provides a platform to engage the RBM Partnership community by coordinating support to countries and regions as they execute their malaria control and elimination programmes. The AMP Partnership focuses on scaling up efforts to prevent malaria through achieving and sustaining access to, and use of, insecticide treated nets (ITNs) and is made up of partners who both uniquely understand and are affected by this challenge. ITNs have been shown to reduce uncomplicated malaria incidence by 50 per cent and allcause child mortality by 17 per cent¹, accelerating progress towards the World (WHO) Organization's Health Global Technical Strategy (GTS) targets².

Through its coordination of partners within the malaria community working on ITN distribution, AMP tracks progress against planned campaigns globally, and advocates for resolution of ITN distribution challenges and resource mobilization in support of members' shared priorities. AMP facilitates trainings aimed at strengthening and sharing the skills of national malaria programme

^{1.} Pryce J, Richardson M, Lengeler C. Insecticidetreated nets for preventing malaria. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2018, Issue 11. Art. No.: CD000363

^{2.} The main targets lead to the reduction of global malaria incidence and mortality rates by at least 90 per cent by 2030.

(NMP) and partner organization staff, focusing on ITN campaign and continuous distribution (CD) planning, logistics, social and behaviour change (SBC), digitalization, and monitoring and evaluation. AMP also provides operational guidance through comprehensive toolkits focused on ITN campaigns, ITN CD and ITN distribution in complex operating environments (COE). The extensively consulted ITN campaign toolkit serves as a base document and it is complemented by the addition of resources of different kinds, such as case studies, reports and guidance documents based on experiences from countries implementing ITN distribution in a wide variety of contexts. Based on requests from NMPs, AMP provides globally recognized expert technical assistance through distance and in-country missions to support NMPs and partners in successfully planning and executing complex ITN distributions, in line with national malaria strategic plans.



Overview of 2023 activities

In 2023, AMP supported twenty countries with the planning and implementation of ITN distribution activities through ninety-eight technical assistance (TA) missions, as well as support provided by the AMP staff team. Support was provided primarily through hybrid models (mix of in-country and distance support), as well as only by distance for document reviews or resolution of specific issues. In 2023, AMP provided support for: 2023 ITN campaign planning and implementation (fifteen countries); 2022 ITN campaign implementation and close out (one country); Global Fund Grant Cycle 7 (GC7) funding application development (two countries); and 2024 ITN campaign planning and implementation (two countries). Seven countries with ITN campaigns planned in 2023 or 2024 received digitalization TA.

AMP technical assistance was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), NMPs through their Global Fund grants, RBM/CRSPC through the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations Foundation (UNF) and the US President's Malaria Initiative (US PMI).

The AMP Partnership continued to monitor country progress related to ITN campaign and CD activities and address bottlenecks through weekly conference calls, advanced partnership work plan priorities through its working groups and co-chaired the monthly Vector Control Access Task Force meetings. The ITN mass campaign tracker was updated on a semi-regular basis in 2023. Data captured in the tracker were provided to WHO to estimate the number of nets distributed in 2022 through campaigns and were used for the 2022 World Malaria Report.

AMP continued collaboration with global partners, such as BMGF, the Global Fund, RBM, UNF, US PMI and WHO, including for development and publication of guidance and recommendations for NMPs and partners to improve the efficiency and reach of their ITN distributions. The list of documents published by AMP in 2023 can be found in Table 2.

In 2023, AMP was awarded a three-year grant from BMGF to implement the "Optimizing ITN Access in Africa (OPITACA)" project. This project will be implemented in collaboration with Tropical Health.

In terms of ITNs distributed and estimated lives saved (children under five), the impact of AMP's support in 2023 is illustrated in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Impact of AMP support

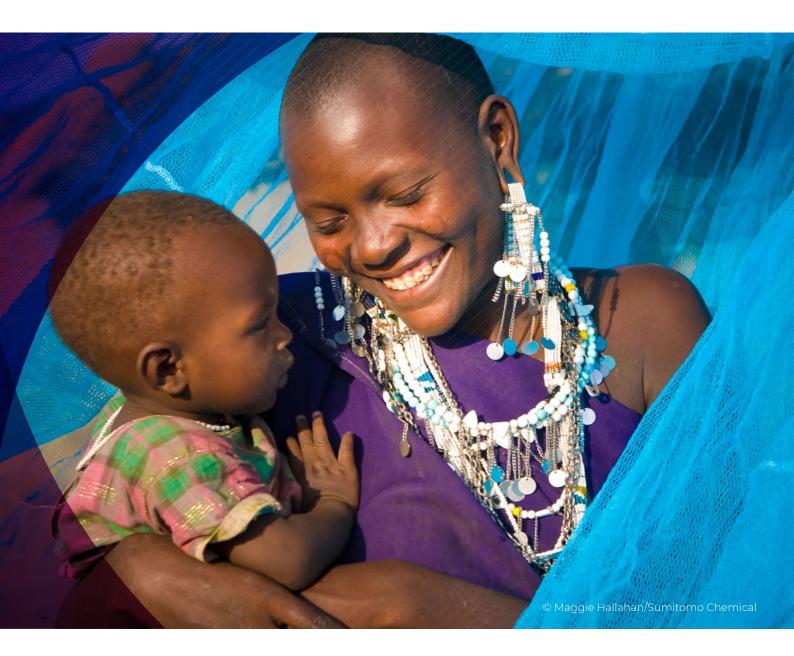
	Number of countries supported by AMP support	Technical consultations (physical mission or distance-based)	Number of ITNs distributed globally	Estimated number of lives saved – Children under five ³
2018	14 countries	41	123,000,000	131,148
2019	23 countries	78	71,092,000	75,801
2020	26 countries	113	162,233,000	172,979
2021	17 countries	73	170,000,000	181,261
2022	22 countries	90	205,000,000	218,579
2023	20 countries ⁴	98	190,000,000	202,586

The approximately 190 million ITNs distributed in 2023 represent about 88 per cent of the total planned nets for the year. The number of ITNs planned and distributed through campaigns are likely

underestimated as data are missing for some countries. The 20 countries that received AMP support for planned 2023 campaigns distributed approximately 70 per cent of the total number of nets in the year.

^{3.} The lives saved estimate for children under five is based on the Cochrane Review (5.6 lives saved per 1,000 using nets). The calculation assumes that children under five represent 17 per cent of the population and that ITN use is 56 per cent as per the 2022 World Malaria Report. Previous year calculations of under-five lives saved have been updated using this same formula.

^{4.} Includes support for GC7 and 2024 campaigns.



1. Country support for ITN mass campaign distributions

a. Technical assistance to countries

In 2023, AMP supported twenty countries – Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo and Uganda – with technical assistance. TA was provided in the areas of strategy/operations, logistics, SBC, monitoring and evaluation and digitalization. TA support was provided to NMPs primarily through a hybrid model of in-country and distance support. Technical assistance was deployed under the CRSPC/UNOPS mechanism or through service provider agreements between Global Fund Principal Recipients and the IFRC/AMP. In 2023, five service provider agreements were active and allowed AMP to deploy TA to Cameroon, Chad, Liberia, Nigeria and Sudan according to defined terms of reference. Additionally, US PMI provided funding to IFRC to embed a TA provider in the Sierra Leone National Malaria Control Programme to support the planning and implementation of the 2023/24 ITN mass campaign.

In addition to hybrid models for technical assistance, AMP also provided "light-touch" technical assistance to requesting countries in 2023. Light-touch technical assistance is support provided for short-term and specific requests (review of plans, participation in calls and discussions, microplanning template review, reviews of protocols and questionnaires for monitoring, etc.). Funding provided by BMGF and UNF for light-touch TA allows AMP to provide real-time and focused support for specific issues almost immediately through contracted experts focused on different technical areas.

The map below shows the countries where TA missions were conducted, either hybrid or light-touch. In most countries, AMP oversaw the deployment of several TA providers who worked with NMPs in different technical areas.



Countries receiving support (total, all types of TA): 20



- Countries receiving support (any type) for 2023 campaigns
- Countries receiving support for 2022 campaigns
- Countries receiving support for 2024 campaigns
- Countries receiving support for GF applications

b. Support to AMP technical assistance providers

In 2023, the TA team calls (90-minute sessions) that gather TA providers and partners, including NMP staff, were organized on average once every three months to discuss different issues and encourage sharing of experiences. The calls have assisted the AMP TA team to keep updated on new research and issues that need to be considered in their support to NMPs and to support standardization in approaches, outputs and work quality. These calls have allowed TA providers to adapt to new ways of working, improve distance support skills, share their experiences and lessons learned, be introduced to new guidance and tools available, and work with their peers to find solutions to emerging new issues.

Following the publication of the <u>Procedures</u> for assessing the quality of ITN mass distribution campaign household registration and ITN distribution activities using clustered lot quality assurance sampling (cLQAS), AMP organized a virtual training for AMP TA providers and representatives from NMPs in June 2023. The objective of the training was to enhance the capabilities of participants to improve ITN campaign outcomes through collection, analysis and use of robust data for decision-making.

c. Participation in the Vector Control Access Taskforce

The Vector Control Access Taskforce, co-chaired by AMP and the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), met regularly in 2023. Key topics discussed over the course of the year included:

- TA/evaluation needs for deployment of new ITN products
- ITN quantification for continuous distribution
- Strategies to increase female employment in vector control, focusing specifically on case studies and results from PMI programmes in Madagascar, Rwanda and Zambia
- Revolving facility/chlorfenapyrpyrethroid (CFP) dual AI net opportunity
- Long-term vector control forecast

One joint task force meeting (diagnostics, case management and vector control) was organized to discuss the malaria commodity forecasts and the revision of the Global Fund indicators.

Given the challenges in 2023 related to insufficient malaria resources for many national programmes, including for vector control, regular topics of discussion included ITN prioritization in the face of limited resources and updates on funding allocations (Global Fund) and implications for countries. Updates were provided over the year on progress with grant applications and mock technical review panel meetings, as well as on global and regional meetings and outcomes specific to vector control.

d. Support to the New Nets Project

AMP was a partner in the New Nets Project (NNP) consortium which, from 2019 to 2022, focused on distribution and evaluation of new ITN types treated with an additional active ingredient (or ingredients) in addition to a pyrethroid insecticide. As part of the NNP close-out process, AMP supported the dissemination of the results from the project during the Vector Control Working Group (VCWG) meeting in Accra/Ghana (February 2023) and the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting in Nairobi (May 2023), events that gathered NMPs and their partners.

2. Annual Partners' Meeting

The AMP 2023 Annual Partners' Meeting took place on 8 and 9 May 2023 in Nairobi, bringing together 204 people, including 152 in-person participants and representatives from nineteen different national malaria programmes⁵. This was the first occurrence of the annual meeting hosted in a malaria-endemic country. The meeting theme was "tailoring and prioritizing ITN interventions" and included four sessions:

- Deployment of new ITN types: Results from the New Nets Project and lessons learned for future planning
- Sub-national tailoring for ITNs: Approaches and quantification
- Improving planning, measurement, outcomes and availability of data for decision-making
- ITN performance and quality and post-market monitoring

Two working lunch sessions were organized by the Innovation and Evaluation Working Group during the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting:

- A session on <u>reaching IDPs</u>, <u>refugees</u> and <u>last-mile populations</u>
- A <u>session on waste management and</u> end-of-life nets

All presentations from the 2023 AMP Partners Meeting can be found on the AMP website.

^{5.} Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Tchad, Uganda, Zambia.



Campaign Digitalization Meeting

In partnership with BMGF, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), CHAI and e-Governments Foundation (eGov), a two-day Campaign Digitalization Meeting was held on 10 and 11 May in Nairobi, with 212 participants in total, including 161 in-person attendees and 51 virtual participants. The meeting facilitated the exchange of knowledge and experiences on campaign digitalization efforts and featured presentations on various topics such as digitalization for delivery of health services, geo-enabled microplanning, RapidSMS, integrated campaign digitalization and capacity-building efforts, as well as demonstrations of various campaign digitalization platforms. Attendees from 50 countries included representatives from NMPs, implementing partners, financial and technical organizations and digital solution partners.

The first day of the meeting focused on digitalization for delivery of health services

and recommendations for the future based on implementation experience. National malaria programmes and partners from Benin, Chad, DRC, Malawi, Mozambique and Nigeria shared their experiences and lessons learned on the use of digital tools during ITN distribution campaigns.

The second day of the meeting focused on product solutions to address common problems across health campaign interventions, including round robin tool demonstrations from six different companies, namely Commcare, DHIS2, eGov, GRID3, RedRose and Reveal. The objective of these demonstrations was to present potential solutions to NMPs to support informed choices about tools as part of future digitalization efforts. The BMGF OPITACA project funding includes an annual campaign digitalization meeting for the three years of the investment.

3. Implementation and coordination staffing

At the beginning of 2023, AMP had a team of five staff:

- Manager Malaria Programmes 100 per cent funded by USAID. This position is based in the IFRC Geneva Headquarters.
- Officer, AMP Coordination 50 per cent funded by USAID and 50 per cent funded through the BMGF ITN Campaign Efficiency Project. This position is based in the IFRC Geneva Headquarters.
- Senior Officer, New Nets Project – 100 per cent funded by IVCC. This position was based in the IFRC Geneva Headquarters and ended on 31 March 2023.
- Malaria Technical Advisor ITN Campaign Efficiency Project (Senior Officer) – 100 per cent funded through the BMGF ITN Campaign Efficiency Project. This position was based in the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation in Abuja, Nigeria.
- Information Systems and M&E Officer – ITN Campaign Efficiency Project – 100 per cent funded through the BMGF ITN Campaign Efficiency Project. This position was based in the IFRC Africa Regional Office in Nairobi.

The staff team changed during 2023 to the following:

- Lead Malaria Programmes (as above).
- Officer, AMP Coordination 50 per cent funded by USAID and 50 per cent funded through the BMGF OPITACA Project. This position is based in the IFRC Geneva Headquarters.
- Malaria Technical Advisor ITN Campaign Efficiency Project (Senior Officer) (as above).
- Senior Officer OPITACA –
 100 per cent funded through the BMGF OPITACA Project. This position is based in the IFRC Geneva Headquarters.

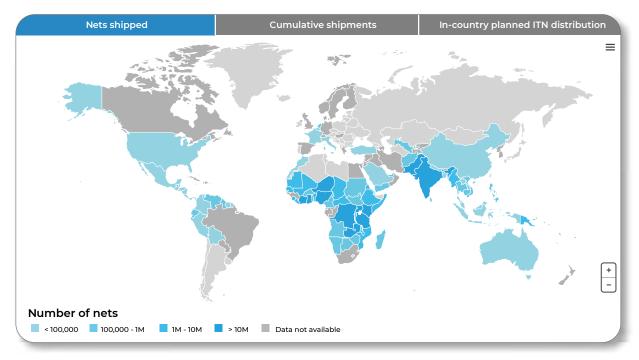
These staff positions provided their support to the mission of AMP, while additional consultants were hired in specific technical areas to further improve AMP's ability to coordinate activities, meet targets for project-specific deliverables and work plan priorities, ensure timely availability of guidance and tools and provide technical assistance to NMPs and partners based on requests.

4. AMP Net Mapping Project

The <u>Net Mapping Project</u> surveys every WHO pre-qualified ITN manufacturer each quarter and quantifies the number of nets that have been shipped to each country worldwide. The Net Mapping Project maintains a database from 2004 to the present, providing a solid and reliable base for calculations on progress toward universal coverage, market changes linked to the introduction of new ITN types and overall global demand for ITNs.

The Net Mapping Project documented that over 220 million ITNs were shipped globally in 2023, of which over 195 million, or 89 per cent, were shipped to sub-Saharan Africa. The data indicate a significant rise in the proportion of piperonyl-butoxide (PBO) nets shipped compared to standard and dual active ingredient ITNs in 2023. Of the nets shipped, approximately 66 million were standard ITNs, 114 million were PBO ITNs and 40 million were dual active ingredient ITNs.

The project tracking shows that 3,084,878,107 nets have been shipped worldwide since 2004. A <u>press release</u> highlighting the three billion nets milestone was developed in collaboration with key stakeholders of the AMP Partnership and published by the IFRC in November 2023. The press release was shared by AMP partners through various social media channels.



AMP Net Mapping Project, 2023 data⁶

6. https://netmappingproject.allianceformalariaprevention.com/

5. AMP partners' conference call, website and newsletter

The AMP partners' conference call takes place once a week and the call reminder and minutes are shared with partners registered to the mailing list. In 2023, the AMP Partnership hosted weekly conference calls to provide updates on technical assistance and successes, innovations and challenges with mass ITN campaigns and continuous distribution. The weekly calls continued to provide opportunities to flag gaps in resources for ITN campaigns or CD, and to raise the visibility of better practices presented by NMPs themselves.

In 2023, presentations facilitated by technical partners during the AMP weekly partners call included:

- <u>ITN campaign digitalization</u> <u>matrix</u> and <u>new AMP website</u> – AMP staff
- Procedures for assessing quality of ITN distribution campaign activities – AMP consultants
- Human centred design John Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (JHU CCP)
- Presentation on the article <u>"Reported</u> reasons for non-use of insecticidetreated nets in large national household surveys, 2009–2021" – Tropical Health
- <u>Campaigns to Distribute Insecticide-</u> <u>Treated Nets and Conduct Seasonal</u> <u>Malaria Chemoprevention in Ghana:</u> <u>The Decision Process on Campaign</u> <u>Integration in 2018 and 2021 – Health</u> <u>Campaign Effectiveness Coalition</u>
- <u>Read out from AMP Annual Partners'</u>
 <u>Meeting</u> AMP consultant

- Presentation on story map and blog post on malaria and AMP – United Nations Foundation
- Presentation on <u>AMP 2022 annual</u> <u>report</u> – AMP staff
- <u>National consultant review</u> AMP consultant
- <u>Malaria campaign digitalization</u> <u>handbook</u> – Catholic Relief Services
- <u>Malaria Behaviour Survey</u> <u>Dashboard</u> – JHU CCP
- Net care survey Tropical Health
- <u>Per diem review paper</u> Tropical Health
- <u>Outcomes from AMP Core Group</u> meeting – AMP Core Group Member
- Presentation on <u>Net Mapping</u>
 <u>Project</u> and three billion nets
 milestone AMP consultant
- <u>Read out from refugee and displaced</u> <u>populations roundtable series</u> – AMP Core Group member

All presentations completed in 2023 can be found on the AMP website at the following link.

AMP published two newsletters in 2023, one focused on SBC and one focused on continuous distribution. The newsletters are available on the <u>AMP website</u>. AMP newsletters are designed to showcase the work being carried out by NMPs and their partners, as well as the AMP Partnership, in a non-technical format to ensure information is accessible to a wide audience. The <u>AMP website</u> is regularly maintained and restructuring of some sections took place in 2023. The AMP Partnership also maintains the ITN <u>Continuous Distribution</u> <u>website</u>, which includes extensive information for planning and implementing ITN distribution through non-campaign channels, as well as accompanying resources and case studies.

In 2023, the AMP website was visited by 19,000 users which represents a 90 per cent increase over the number of website users registered in 2022. In total, the website registered 105,000 page views against 31,853 views in 2022.

6. AMP Core Group meeting

The <u>AMP Core Group</u> is an advisory body for AMP. Core Group members commit to AMP's vision to support NMPs and their partners to expand the ownership and use of mosquito nets through all channels and improve effectiveness of strategies and approaches. The AMP Core Group met regularly during 2023 with key areas of discussion including the AMP work plan, the structure and membership of the AMP Core Group, the organization of the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting and Campaign Digitalization Meeting and challenges arising with TA deployment and management. The AMP Core Group met for its biannual meeting in Washington DC on 11 and 12 September.



7. ITN Campaign Efficiency Project

The ITN Campaign Efficiency Project, funded by BMGF, was a three-year project that aimed to address critical bottlenecks identified by NMPs and their implementing, funding and technical partners, including AMP, during planning, implementing and reporting on ITN campaign and continuous distribution. <u>The project focuses on</u> seven priority areas:

- 1. Improved approaches to ITN quantification
- 2. Quality control of household registration
- **3.** Cost-effective options for assessing post-distribution ITN coverage and use
- Digital tools for ITN campaign implementation
- 5. Multi-product ITN campaign operations
- 6. Sustaining ITN access and use beyond campaigns
- 7. Adapting to COVID-19 challenges

In 2023, the project focused on developing key guidance and tools across the seven priority areas of the project as well as providing technical assistance on ITN campaign digitalization and quality assessment of household registration and ITN distribution using clustered lot quality assurance sampling.

8. Optimizing ITN Access in Africa (OPITACA) project

In 2023, AMP was awarded a three-year grant from BMGF to implement "Optimizing Insecticide-Treated Net (ITN) Access in Africa (OPITACA)". This project will be implemented in collaboration with Tropical Health. With the new investment, AMP will focus on five work-streams based on identified gaps and with the overall objective of increasing the use of data and leveraging digital tools for improving the effectiveness of ITN distributions:

- Optimizing ITN distribution
- Campaign digitalization
- Improving use of data for decisionmaking for ITNs
- ITN quality and performance, durability and plastic/waste management
- Supplemental capacity-building, mentoring and TA



9. AMP guidance and tools

AMP continued to focus on development of operational guidance and tools based on identified gaps and iterative learning from country experiences (see Table 2 for documents development in 2023). New documents were introduced during the AMP weekly partners' meeting or/and during AMP TA team calls and disseminated widely through the website. Case studies are generally developed by NMPs and implementing partners and are designed to showcase achievements and challenges and to provide information and recommendations to programmes and partners considering similar strategies.

Table 2: Guidance, tools, reports and case studies published in 2023

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AND ASSOCIATED TOOLS		
TITLE	DESCRIPTION	
Vector control epidemiological impact evaluation. Staff and technical assistance request guidance – ENG FR PT	Guide for national malaria programmes to inform requests for staff and/or technical assistance for evaluations of the impact of new ITN types on malaria burden or transmission as part of Global Fund applications.	
Guidelines for the development of a rumour management plan related to ITN distribution – ENG, FR, PT Associated adaptable tool: Rumour management template– ENG, FR, PT	This document has been developed to support rumour management discussions early in the ITN distribution planning process. A template to guide development of country-specific rumour management plans is linked to the guidelines.	
Risks and possible mitigation measures for digitalization of ITN mass distribution – ENG, FR, PT	A non-exhaustive list of examples of risks associated with digitalizing ITN mass campaign activities and possible mitigation measures that national malaria programmes could consider.	
Planning and budgeting checklist for digitalization of ITN mass campaigns – ENG, FR, PT	A tool to ensure that all activities are considered when taking decisions on digitalization of ITN mass campaigns, included in the campaign timeline and costed in the campaign macro budget.	

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AND ASSOCIATED TOOLS

Guidance for the training of community leaders in an ITN campaign – ENG, FR, PT Associated adaptable tools: Job aid for community leaders during an ITN campaign - ENG Job aid for schoolteachers/ school health educators during an ITN campaign - ENG, FR, PT	This document is designed to help national malaria programmes and partners plan for training of community leaders to ensure they fulfil their roles and responsibilities in ITN mass campaigns. It is accompanied by two modifiable job aids – one for community leaders and one for schoolteachers/ school health educators – that can be contextualized for the country where they will be used.
ITN campaign key geo-enabled resources for microplanning – ENG, FR, PT	This non-exhaustive summary of available geospatial tools for microplanning for ITN mass campaigns provides an overview of available resources and capacity-building opportunities related to geo-enabled microplanning, along with potential partners and their areas of focus. This is a 'living document' and will be updated with new resources as they become available.
The role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in ITN distribution – ENG , FR , PT Associated adaptable tools: Annex 1: Civil society organization training agenda – ENG , FR , PT Annex 2: Training or orientation supervision and participation list – ENG , FR , PT Annex 3: Monitoring checklist for community-based activities – ENG , FR , PT Annex 4: Reporting template for CSOs – ENG , FR , PT	This document outlines the role of CSOs and how they can contribute to the success of ITN distribution activities. It provides guidance on how to engage with CSOs to ensure sustainability of ITN SBC messaging at community level. It is accompanied by adaptable tools, including an example agenda for training of CSOs, example tools for supervision of capacity-building sessions and monitoring of SBC activities implemented by CSOs, and a template for CSO reporting.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AND ASSOCIATED TOOLS

Digitalizing malaria campaigns:	A handbook to support national malaria
ITN and seasonal malaria	programmes and country partners to better
chemoprevention (SMC)	understand the steps for digitalizing their ITN and
handbook – ENG , FR	SMC campaigns.
Note: This handbook was led	
and funded by Catholic Relief	
Services with contributions	
from AMP and the OPT-SMC	
project hosted by the London	
School of Hygiene and Tropical	
Medicine.	

CASE STUDIES		
TITLE	DESCRIPTION	
Geospatial tools for microplanning in Nigeria – ENG, FR, PT	This case study presents an overview of a pilot project implemented in 2022 by the Nigerian National Malaria Elimination Programme to digitalize the microplanning for the Kano State ITN campaign using geographic information systems (GIS) and satellite imagery.	
Digitalization in Ghana: The use of an in-house Android platform (NETAPP) during the 2018 and 2021 ITN mass distribution campaigns – ENG, FR, PT	This case study describes the introduction of the NETAPP platform during the 2018 ITN mass campaign in Ghana to overcome the challenges experienced during previous paper-based ITN campaigns.	
Sierra Leone case study: Innovations and adaptations for a successful mass ITN campaign distribution in urban context in 2020 – ENG, FR, PT	This document describes the set of modifications implemented during the 2020 ITN mass campaign by the Sierra Leone National Malaria Control Programme to ensure successful ITN distribution in densely populated urban and peri-urban areas.	

REPORTS		
TITLE	DESCRIPTION	
AMP net care SBC survey report - ENG, FR, PT Report developed in collaboration with Tropical Health as part of the ITN Campaign Efficiency Project	The report summarizes the findings of a survey to understand the approaches being used for net care messaging across malaria-endemic countries and provides recommendations based on the information received from national malaria programmes and partners.	
ITN access among male and female-headed households - ENG Report developed in collaboration with Tropical Health as part of the ITN Campaign Efficiency Project	This report outlines the difference in ITN access between male and female-headed households to identify gender disparities in ITN distribution activities, and/or signal potential differences in ITN retention and care behaviours.	
Roundtable 1 - Protecting displaced populations from vector-borne diseases through multisectoral collaboration Report – ENG, FR Summary – ENG, FR	This report summarizes the outcomes of a first meeting organized as part of a roundtable series on vector control in humanitarian contexts. The meeting focused on issues linked to protecting displaced populations from vector-borne diseases through multisectoral collaboration. Note: The roundtable series was organized through a collaboration between AMP's Innovation and Evaluation Working Group (IEWG), CRS, RBM/ VCWG, and UNF.	
Roundtable 2 - Addressing the needs of displaced and last mile populations in NFM4/GC7 malaria grant applications Report - ENG, FR Summary – ENG, FR	This report summarizes the outcomes of the second roundtable discussion, which focused on addressing the needs of displaced and last mile populations in Global Fund GC7 malaria funding applications.	
Roundtable 3 - Addressing malaria in displaced and last mile populations through improved tools and innovation Report – ENG, FR Summary – ENG, FR	This report summarizes the outcomes of the third roundtable discussion focused on addressing malaria in displaced and last mile populations through improved tools and innovation.	

REPORTS	
Review of the use of national consultants for supporting country-led ITN mass distribution campaigns – ENG, FR	Based on review of terms of reference for national consultants, as well as key informant interviews and focus group discussions with representatives from NMPs, TA providers and partner staff, this report outlines the value-added of national consultants for NMPs and partners in supporting ITN mass campaigns.
Trends in ITN campaign per diems – ENG Report developed in collaboration with Tropical Health as part of the ITN Campaign Efficiency Project	This report summarizes the findings from a review of ITN campaign budgets to assess changes in campaign per diem rates, with a focus on community/implementation-level personnel, in a context of global inflation.
Deploying digital tools for ITN campaigns: Summary of key risks and mitigation approaches – ENG, FR, PT	This report summarizes findings from interviews with national malaria programme staff and partners across 13 countries that had planned and implemented digitalization for ITN campaigns and highlights experiences from national malaria programmes in the use of digital tools by examining the processes, decisions and successes.



10. AMP Working Groups

In 2023, a decision was taken by the AMP Core Group to form the Humanitarian and At-Risk Populations (HARP) Working Group. Previously, activities related to internally displaced people, refugees, displacement and population movement and complex operating environments were covered under the Innovation and Evaluation Working Group plan but given the critical importance of ensuring effective operations to reach these populations with ITNs and other services, the decision was taken to have a stand-alone group. The Innovation and Evaluation Working Group has been renamed the Emerging Issues Working Group (EIWG) and will focus on issues of concern coming from programme planning and implementation experiences, including waste management, population denominators, end-of-life nets and operationalizing sub-national tailoring for ITNs.

a. Priority issues addressed by the Country Support Working Group

In 2023, AMP technical assistance deployed through RBM or through IFRC took place both in-country and by distance, with most country support becoming hybrid. AMP moved towards a more flexible TA model with funding from the ITN Campaign Efficiency Project, the OPITACA Project and UNF, which allowed for tailored approaches and rapid responses to requests for document review, participation in calls and sharing of documents and tools.

The main issues of focus for the Country Support Working Group in 2023 included:

- Advocacy to improve sustained access to ITNs through noncampaign channels: participating in discussions about campaign replacement timelines, promoting more sustainable and less resource intensive channels for sustained ITN access and improved malaria outcomes based on country data and moving beyond continuous distribution pilots in appropriate countries.
- Geo-enabled microplanning: supporting discussions on improving ITN campaign efficiency through use of geospatial tools to improve, for example, population and distance estimates coming from microplanning, ensuring resources are sufficient to reach all targeted populations.
- Scale up of digital tools for ITN campaigns: including collection of information for a retrospective review of countries that have transitioned from paper-based to digital tools and for prospective tracking of countries that planned to transition for 2023 ITN campaigns. A decision-making matrix for analysis of context and needs for transitioning to digital tools was published and technical support was provided based on requests.

- Monitoring of campaign activities: focusing on defining cost-effective approaches for data collection and use of data for decision-making to improve campaign quality and outcomes, specifically for household registration and ITN distribution.
- ITN prioritization recommendations in a context of constrained funding: collaborating with the Global Fund, PATH, Tropical Health, RBM, US PMI and WHO on the development of high-level guidance to assist national malaria programmes with deciding where to target nets and to whom to target them, as well as which ITN types to distribute, to maximize the impact of limited resources in country envelopes for GC7.
- ITN quality and performance: working with global partners to better define the scope of the work for countrylevel issues related to ITN performance and supporting involvement of national malaria programmes and country-level implementing partners to ensure that discussions are from both a top-down (manufacturing, shipping, etc.) and a bottom-up (ITN distribution, use, care, repair, repurposing) perspective.

b. Priority issues addressed by the Innovation and Evaluation Working Group (now Emerging Issues Working Group)

In 2023, the IEWG focused on two main issues: (1) vector control access for internally displaced persons, refugees and hard-to-reach populations and (2) waste management of ITN packaging and end-of-life (EOL) nets.

1. Vector control access for internally displaced persons, refugees and hard-to-reach populations

In 2022 and 2023, the IEWG, in collaboration with CRS and UNF, convened partners involved in vector control to increase attention, funding, operational support and research on new tools to improve access to and use of vector control commodities for hardto-reach and displaced populations in humanitarian settings and COE. The IEWG launched a series of three roundtable discussions on this topic and the last roundtable discussion -"Addressing malaria in displaced and last mile populations through improved tools and innovations" - took place on the sidelines of the RBM VCWG and Multisectoral Working Group (MSWG)

2. Waste management of ITN packaging and end-of-life nets

In 2023, the IEWG worked with the Continuous Distribution, Multi-Product and Country Support Working Groups on the collection of information about policies, existing regulations and procedures for plastic import, waste management and EOL nets. The review of waste management existing guidance, knowledge and practices was completed at the end of 2023, including review by WHO's Global Malaria Programme vector control specialist. A table of priority recommendations and actions from the report will be used to guide work on plastic waste management in AMP's 2024/25 workplan.

meetings in Accra in February 2023. The reports and briefs from all the roundtable meetings are accessible on the AMP website at the <u>following link</u>.

Case studies focused on optimizing ITN distribution within COE settings in Cameroon, Nigeria and Uganda were developed, integrating insights from comprehensive assessments and consultations with local stakeholders and emphasizing technological solutions, logistical efficiency, community engagement, adaptation to local contexts, and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms as critical aspects for success.

The review of management of EOL nets will be completed as part of AMP's 2024/25 workplan. Discussion of EOL net final disposal was separated from plastic waste management due to the level of "control" that the national malaria programme has over the process. For plastic waste management at the time of distribution through any channel, there is a possibility to ensure effective and appropriate waste management through training of distributors and establishment of procedures and policies for collecting, packing, storing and final disposal of plastic waste. For EOL nets, the national malaria programme has little or no control over when nets will become EOL, where they will be at that time, what options exist for household level management of EOL nets, etc.

c. Priority issues addressed by the Toolkit and Training Working Group

The AMP toolkit (2012) has been prioritized for review and updating in AMP's 2024/25 workplan.

d. Priority issues addressed by the Multi-Product Working Group (MPWG)

Following the closure of the New Nets Project at the beginning of 2023, the Multi-Product Working Group was merged with the Country Support Working Group. Most ITN campaigns in GC7 will be multi-product, with ITN types targeted based on available insecticide resistance data.

e. Priority issues addressed by the Continuous Distribution Working Group (CDWG)

Continuous distribution of nets through different channels, including routine, schools and communities, is an increasingly critical topic for the AMP Partnership, particularly given evidence, including from NNP, that sustaining access to ITNs is critical for reducing malaria morbidity and mortality. Additionally, data from many countries show that ITNs distributed through campaigns are not lasting from one campaign to the next, which is typically three years later. While routine services for pregnant women and children under five during immunization visits are typically a core ITN distribution channel for ensuring access to malaria prevention for the most vulnerable, this channel is not optimally performing in many countries.

Two new co-chairs of the CDWG were nominated in 2023 to continue supporting the AMP Partnership with raising the profile of and interest in non-campaign ITN distribution channels and highlighting best practices and successes, as well as lessons learned, from countries that are rolling out more differentiated ITN distribution channel mixes. A major priority for the new co-chairs in 2024/25 will be the review and update of the CD toolkit as well as the CD.org website.

A webinar on ITN quantification for CD was organized in collaboration with Tropical Health in November 2023 to introduce findings from the paper '<u>How many mosquito</u> <u>nets are needed to maintain universal</u> <u>coverage: an update</u>'. More than 60 participants attended the webinar, which provided an update on the number of ITNs needed to maintain universal coverage under various scenarios and the importance of continuous distribution channels to meet and sustain national ITN targets.

A <u>newsletter focused on Continuous</u> <u>Distribution</u> was published by AMP in July 2023, highlighting case studies and examples of school- and community-based continuous distribution activities.



The year ahead

Priorities for the AMP partnership for 2024/25 include:

- Updating the ITN campaign toolkit: reviewing the 2012 version of the toolkit and updating it to align to current best practices, reorganizing resources for improved access and updating tools and resources. A specific focus will be put on "adaptable tools" to facilitate use of any documents and guidance produced.
- Updating the ITN CD website, guidance and tools: reviewing the current website and reviewing and updating information, guidance and tools considering new data and information. A specific focus will be put on "adaptable tools" to facilitate use of any documents and guidance produced.

• Supporting operationalization of ITN sub-national tailoring: working with NMPs on planning and implementing ITN distribution in targeted geographies and populations and developing guidance and case studies to highlight country better practices.

Supporting use of geo-enabled mapping for improved microplanning and

implementation: working with NMPs and partners to better integrate the use of geospatial tools into microplanning to improve population and distance estimates and into implementation planning to ensure all populations are reached. A strong focus will be put on digitalization of the microplanning templates for auto-generated outputs, as well as on reuse of maps for improved efficiency across health campaigns.

• Supporting the digital transition for ITN campaigns and continuous

distribution: working with NMPs to define needs aligned to context to ensure that the use of digital tools achieves desired results for efficiency and data quality/availability, as well as use of data for optimized distribution outcomes. An annual Campaign Digitalization Meeting linked to the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting will be organized to encourage sharing of experiences and lessons learned across health campaigns to improve use of digital tools.

- Strengthening M&E and improving use of available data: supporting NMPs and partners to improve ITN distribution planning, implementation and outcomes through improving ITN campaign monitoring approaches for household registration and ITN distribution and using data collected for decisionmaking. A specific focus will be put on training and capacity-building of staff from national malaria programmes and partners.
- Strengthening planning for the hard-to-reach: working with NMPs to define operational strategies and approaches to reach last mile populations, IDPs, refugees and people on the move will be a high priority given increasing insecurity and complexity in many countries.
- Addressing ITN waste management: working with NMPs and partners to improve planning and implementation of waste management for ITN distribution (campaign and continuous), including tailoring to context and identification of private sector opportunities for final plastic disposal. Waste management of end-of-life nets will be further explored and innovations and better practices disseminated through case studies.
- Expanding the AMP TA model: focusing on national and sub-national capacity-building and providing improved opportunities for learning and sharing of experiences by national malaria programmes and partners.

AMP thanks the following partners for their financial contribution towards achievement of the Partnership's work plan in 2023:

> Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Catholic Relief Services Innovative Vector Control Consortium International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies RBM Partnership to End Malaria US President's Malaria Initiative United Nations Foundation



To join the weekly AMP conference call each Wednesday at 10:00 AM Eastern time (16.00 PM CET) use the following Zoom meeting line:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2367777867?pwd=a1lhZk9KQmcxMXNaWnRaN1JCUTQ3dz09

You can find your local number to join the weekly call: https://zoom.us/u/acyOjklJj4

To be added to the AMP mailing list visit: https://allianceformalariaprevention.com/weekly-conference-call/signup-for-our-mailing-list/

To contact AMP or join an AMP working group please e-mail: allianceformalariaprevention@gmail.com

For further information please go to the AMP website: https://allianceformalariaprevention.com

