

Programme Update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Global Malaria Initiative

Appeal No. MAA00031

05/08/2008

This report covers the period 01/01/08 to 30/06/08.



Red Cross volunteer supporting Hang Up activities in Madagascar, following mother child health week in November 2007. **International Federation**

In brief

Programme purpose: This programme has a global approach but will prioritize funding to National Societies in countries with the highest malaria-related morbidity and mortality rates. The programme focuses on five core activities:

- Immediate post long lasting insecticide-treated net (LLIN) distribution, Hang Up, and multi-year Keep Up activities integrated within community-based first aid activities (CBFA).
- Development of a malaria toolkit.
- Procurement and distribution of LLINs during emergency situations, to fill unmet needs in larger-scale LLIN mass distributions, and Red Cross/Red Crescent home-based care activities.
- Expansion of malaria-specific technical support provided to National Societies at the zonal and regional levels.
- Support to exchange visits between National Societies, participation in regional/global malaria networks, and an annual Red Cross/Red Crescent malaria meeting.

Programme summary: Community health-malaria activities expanded during the first half of 2008. As countries work towards achieving the Roll Back Malaria 2010 targets, National Societies in their role as auxiliary to government are working in partnership to support social mobilization activities during mass LLIN distribution programmes, and post-distribution Hang Up and Keep Up activities designed to achieve and sustain high LLIN utilization rates. At the time of reporting, modules within the malaria toolkit are being pre-tested. The toolkit will be ready for

distribution during the fourth quarter of 2008. The International Federation will support mass LLIN distributions in Burundi and Burkina Faso at the end of 2008.

During the reporting period, the International Federation worked to expand malaria-specific technical support available to National Societies at the zonal and regional levels. This initiative has had mixed results with no additional technical support in place mid-2008. Additional technical support will be in place by the end of 2008. Exchange visits between National Societies expanded during the reporting period, and will continue during the second half of 2008.

Financial situation: The total 2008 budget has been reduced to CHF 3.5 million (USD 3.3 million or EUR 2.1 million) to reflect donor response to the appeal to date. Seventy-two per cent of the appeal is covered at the time of reporting. Expenditure overall is 10 per cent. Budget expenditure is less than income due to the timing of when funds were pledged to this Appeal (start of the second quarter of 2008), and the time it takes National Societies to start up activities once funding is committed.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

Our partners: The International Federation works within a global partnership on malaria. Principle partners include the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations (UN) Foundation, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At the country level, the Ministry of Health (national malaria control programme) is the coordinating body for in-country partners. The International Federation and GFATM co-chair the "Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP): Expanding the ownership and use of mosquito nets". The AMP is participating within the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, and supports the scale up of LLIN programmes in a number of African and Asian countries.

Context

As malaria-affected countries and donor organizations (GFATM, World Bank) work to achieve the Roll Back Malaria 2010 targets: Eighty per cent of people at risk from malaria are protected; eighty per cent of malaria patients are diagnosed and treated within one day; malaria burden is reduced by 50 per cent compared with 2000; and by the end of 2010, National Societies are initiating and expanding community health–malaria prevention activities. Changes in WHO's policy on malaria prevention, from targeting the most vulnerable with LLINs (under five and pregnant women), to universal LLIN coverage (covering every sleeping space) of populations at risk from malaria has impacted Ministries of Health, national malaria control strategies on LLIN scale up, and as a result, the support provided by National Societies in their role as auxiliary to government. The International Federation's involvement with the AMP partnership has ensured changes made to policies at the WHO and donor level are correctly understood and shared with National Societies.

Progress towards outcomes

1. Immediate post-long lasting insecticide-treated net (LLIN) distribution, Hang Up, and multi-year Keep Up activities integrated within community-based first aid activities (CBFA).
2. Development of a malaria toolkit.
3. Procurement and distribution of LLINs during emergency situations, to fill unmet needs in larger-scale LLIN mass distributions, and Red Cross/Red Crescent home-based care activities.

4. Expansion of malaria-specific technical support provided to National Societies at the zonal and regional levels.
5. Support to exchange visits between National Societies, participation in regional/global malaria networks, and an annual Red Cross/Red Crescent malaria meeting.

Outcome(s)/Expected result(s)

1. Immediate post-LLIN distribution, Hang Up, and multi-year Keep Up activities integrated within CBFA.

- Hang Up and Keep Up programmes expanded in 2008. Ongoing programmes include: Indonesia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi, Kenya and Sierra Leone. New programmes include: Mali, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea, and Uganda. The Togo Red Cross Society has expressed an interest in restarting Keep Up activities in early 2009, following the countrywide distribution of LLINs in December 2008.

2. Development of a malaria toolkit.

- The malaria toolkit consists of four modules. The LLIN mass distribution-Hang Up and Keep Up modules are malaria specific. They expand upon the information already available within topic 10 (malaria) of the CBFA manual. Both modules have been developed for use by National Societies supporting LLIN scale up and community-based activities to achieve and sustain high LLIN usage rates. The Keep Up module has been pre-tested in Mozambique, Madagascar, and Mali.
- The coaching and supervision, and behaviour change communication modules are not malaria specific, but are cross cutting and can be used to support any Red Cross/Red Crescent activity from CBFA to disaster preparedness.
- Final versions of the LLIN mass distribution – Hang Up module, Keep Up module, and coaching and supervision module will be distributed to National Societies during the fourth quarter of 2008. The behaviour change communication module will be distributed during the first quarter of 2009.

3. Procurement and distribution of LLINs during emergency situations, to fill unmet needs in larger-scale LLIN mass distributions, and Red Cross/Red Crescent home-based care activities.

- The International Federation will support mass LLIN distributions in Burundi and Burkina Faso followed by immediate post-distribution Hang Up activities. The Burundese Red Cross Society will support the Ministry of Health LLIN distribution in two provinces during December 2008. Lessons learned from the 2008 distribution will inform the June 2009 LLIN distribution integrated with measles vaccination. The Burkina Faso Red Cross Society will support a Ministry of Health initiative to achieve universal LLIN coverage and 80 per cent use in one health district (120,000 population) in the country.

4. Expansion of malaria-specific technical support provided to National Societies at the zonal and regional levels.

- Efforts have been made to expand malaria-specific technical support available at the zonal and regional levels. At the time of reporting, this additional technical support is not in place. This is due mainly to a shortage of qualified human resources and support for these additional positions at the zonal and regional levels.

5. Support to exchange visits between National Societies, Red Cross/Red Crescent participation in regional malaria networks, and an annual Red Cross/Red Crescent malaria meeting.

- Exchange visits between National Societies expanded during the reporting period. National society participation in malaria-specific meetings at the regional and international levels will expand during the second half of 2008.

Achievements

Preliminary results from the CDC coverage and usage survey evaluating the results of the November 2007 Sierra Leone integrated child survival campaign show a 23 per cent increase in LLIN utilization, following a single visit from a community-based volunteer promoting LLIN usage. These excellent results highlight the impact Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers are having in reaching the Roll Back Malaria 2010 targets. The roll out of the malaria toolkit, supported by exchange visits and expanded technical expertise will provide National Societies with the tools needed to actively support their countries national malaria strategy.

Hang Up and Keep Up activities positions will be expanded in National Societies within in-country partnerships to effectively support health priorities as identified by Ministries of Health.

Constraints or Challenges

The main constraint/challenge faced during the reporting period was the timely allocation of funds to support this programme, and the ability of National Societies to implement quality programmes within the proposed timeframe. The programme is making an effort to expand potential funding streams from new donors. Expanded technical support should minimize delays in implementation and improve the quality of activities.

Working in partnership

The International Federation's community health–malaria activities from global to country level are effective examples of the benefits of working in partnership. At the global level, the International Federation and GFATM co-chair the AMP work stream within the Roll Back Malaria partnership. The AMP conducts a weekly conference call and an annual two-day planning meeting, focused on programmatic and operational issues in scaling up LLIN ownership and use at the global level. The AMP provides a forum where the Red Cross/Red Crescent can share technical expertise on net scale up, community-based activities to achieve and sustain high net usage rates, as well as on developing linkages with Ministries of Health and partners at a national and international level to position and generate funding for Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies in malaria prevention activities.

At the country level, Ministries of Health lead in-country partners supporting the national malaria control strategy. National Societies play an important role in both malaria-related social mobilization activities, and in linking vulnerable communities with government health services.

Contributing to longer-term impact

Most mass LLIN distributions include a post-distribution evaluation that examines the impact of Red Cross/Red Crescent supported social mobilization and Hang Up and Keep Up activities. Data from country-specific evaluations is shared during monthly Red Cross/Red Crescent conference calls and during the annual Red Cross/Red Crescent malaria meeting. Technical support missions and exchange visits encourage sharing of best practices.

Gender and child protection will be included in the CBFA and/or malaria toolkit. On a global scale, the International Federation has contributed to the development of a Roll Back Malaria housed toolkit, designed to be used by Ministries of Health and in-country partners to scale up the ownership and usage of LLINs in an effort to reach the Roll Back Malaria 2010 targets.

Looking ahead

Priorities for the second half of 2008 include the roll out of the International Federation malaria toolkit, and expansion of technical support available to National Societies at the zonal and regional levels.

Delays in the implementation of Keep Up activities and concerns over the quality of the Keep Up activities will be addressed with specific National Societies by the zonal offices, and through increased technical support where appropriate. Expanding the donor base to cover unmet needs and allow for more flexibility of funding remains a priority.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jason Peat, Senior Officer, Health and Care Department, Geneva; e-mail: jason.peat@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4222; and fax: 41 22 733 0395.	