



Call for Letters of Interest

Post-Campaign Survey/Baseline Survey for continuous distribution of LLINs in Eastern Region, Ghana

NetWorks, a five-year USAID-funded global project focusing on distribution and use of LLINs, is led by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Communication Programs (JHUCCP), with partners Malaria Consortium, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (SwissTPH), and Mennonite Economic and Development Associates (MEDA).

Background

The NetWorks project is a global USAID funded project with activities in various countries, designed to address the following award objective and four results:

Award Objective: To support National Malaria Control Programs (NMCP) to develop efficient, comprehensive and multi-channel sustainable programs for achieving and maintaining high ownership and use levels of LLINs and related technologies by at risk populations. The project will build upon previous successful investments and efforts achieved through a range of public, private, campaign and routine approaches.

Result 1: Develop and promote appropriate policies at national level to encourage sustained, high levels of LLIN and related technologies ownership and use.

Result 2: Develop, promote and support efficient and effective distribution approaches to ensure sustained high level coverage of LLINs and related technologies in communities, particularly among the targeted populations.

Result 3: Increase demand for and use of LLINs and related technologies to promote sustainable high levels of LLINs ownership and use.

Result 4: Design, conduct, and analyze strategic operational research to pilot, document and scale-up innovative best practices that contribute towards achieving and maintaining high levels of LLINs and related technologies ownership and use.

Background on call for expression of interest

Ghana is currently engaging in a massive effort to scale up malaria prevention using mass distributions of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN). While previous LLIN distributions have

focused at biologically vulnerable groups (children under 5 and pregnant women) current efforts are aimed at reaching universal access to LLIN for the general population (on average one net for every two persons).

One of the regions implementing this new approach is Eastern Region, where implementation took place in December 2010/ April 2011, supported by the NMCP and implementing partners. Eastern Region is also the pilot region for a set of continuous distribution activities to be conducted in 2012 and 2013, where nets will be distributed through antenatal care (ANC), the expanded program on immunization (EPI), Child Health Promotion Week, primary and secondary schools, and also through the commercial sector. Monitoring and evaluation of the campaign as agreed by all partners and stakeholders and includes two main approaches:

- a) A scientifically sound household survey to assess the outcome of the campaign with respect to coverage, retention and use of the distributed LLIN.
- b) A follow-up survey in mid 2013 to assess the outcome of the continuous distribution activities with respect to coverage, retention and use of the distributed LLIN.

The purpose of this survey is to evaluate the outcome of the LLIN distribution campaign in Eastern Region with particular emphasis on the achieved level of universal coverage as defined by indicators recently revised by MERG (RBM Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group).

Objectives of Survey

The primary objectives of the survey will be:

1. To capture the outcome of the universal LLIN access campaign in Eastern Region
2. To provide a baseline for the piloting of continuous LLIN distribution activities in Eastern Region
3. To assess the level of net retention ten to fourteen months after the distribution
4. To assess the use of nets in general and LLIN in particular at the end of the rains

Secondary objectives of the survey are as follows

- Measure the equity in access to campaign nets
- Obtain detailed information about net use and sleeping patterns in the family
- Measure the proportional hole index of nets distributed during the campaign
- Evaluate the success of the IEC and BCC activities associated with the campaign

Methods

This will be a cross-sectional household interview survey with a two stage cluster sampling design. 60 clusters will be used in all. No urban/rural stratification will be done but clusters will be defined as urban or rural based on their categorization in the 2010 census.

Within each cluster all households will be eligible for selection and the target for interview at household level will be the head of household or his/her spouse and the person who was present for the door-to-door visit. In addition to application of a structured questionnaire all existing mosquito nets will be inspected by the survey team provided permission is given.

Figure below illustrates general description and timeframe for activities to be carried out by consultant firm within the period.

	Feb '12				Mar '12				Apr '12				May '12			
Activity	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Preparatory Phase																
Collate sampling frame and select clusters		X	X	X												
Identify survey team			X	X												
Prepare training guide				X	X											
Prepare data entry system				X	X											
Pilot questionnaire						X										
Field work																
Mobilize selected communities						X	X									
Training of field team							X									
Preparation of questionnaires and interviewer's materials							X									
Data collection								X	X	X	X					
Data entry																
Data entry									X	X	X	X				
Cleaning of double entry data										X	X	X	X			
Data preparation													X	X		

Who should apply

EOI are expected from research agencies with demonstrable presence in study area and experience in qualitative and quantitative market research.

The selected research agency will be responsible for recruiting and supervision of field staff, providing orientation and training including piloting, assisting with sampling process, carrying out the survey in the field with adequate quality control, entering the data according to an agreed format and submitting a report on the field experience. The data analysis and final report will be carried out by an international consultant and is not part of this assignment.

All field data collection needs to be completed by the 20th April 2012. To allow time for orientation, interviewer recruitment and training it is expected that the chosen agency will need to conclude all preliminary arrangements and contracting by the second week of February 2012.

How to apply

EOI should be in English providing **all** the following information:

1. Company profile
2. Description of the research team
3. List of institutional collaborations
4. Name of principal investigator with telephone, fax and e-mail address
5. Records of similar on-going and past surveys in the past 5 years
6. Information on experience managing regulatory / Ministry of Health / ethics committee application process & timelines
7. Minimum lead time for mobilization for study

Please indicate whether your agency would be able to carry out this type of work in the time frame given and whether you would be willing to submit a formal bid for this work with 7 days notice.

Note that the purpose of this inquiry is only to determine if your firm would be interested in this work and consider being able to meet the scheduled timeline. Formal requests for bids will be sent out later

Responses must be received by email to r.selby@malariaconsortium.org **No later than the 25th of January 2012**