



*Training of surveyors on LLIN durability study*

# PROJECT BRIEF

## NetWorks Project

The aim of the project is to support the Nigerian government in the development of sustainable, comprehensive and multi-channel systems to achieve and maintain high ownership and use of long lasting insecticidal nets and related technologies by populations at risk

### Project Outline

In Nigeria, the USAID-funded multi-country NetWorks project is engaged in programme design, monitoring and evaluation, and operational research in support of the National Malaria Control Programme's (NMCP) roll out of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs). This is being implemented by the Malaria Action Programme for States and Targeted State High Impact Project in the USAID-supported states.

Malaria Consortium is the lead implementing partner of NetWorks in Nigeria, which aims to build sustainable LLIN systems that bridge the key technical areas of advocacy, policy, distribution, monitoring and communication. Once these are running effectively, the result will be increased access to and use of LLINs.

NetWorks supports the design of innovative approaches to continuous distribution systems based on the specific conditions (strengths and weaknesses) in Cross Rivers, Nasarawa and Zamfara states

as determined by a situation analysis, local experiences and modeling of data. This will be achieved using the NetCALC tool which is designed to model several scenarios of continuous distribution approaches based on the country's LLIN data and situation. Evaluations will focus on providing conclusive answers on the efficiency of the continuous distribution systems in sustaining LLIN coverage.

The operational research to be conducted by NetWorks is designed to answer critical questions about the durability of LLINs in the field and how this can be influenced by behaviour change communications interventions on net care and repair, and 'social life' of nets, i.e. to what extent, and driven by which factors, are nets received by a member in the household moved within and between households and between communities.

Technical assistance will be provided to any new states introduced to the project by

#### Country

*Nigeria*

#### Donors

*President's Malaria Initiative, USAID*

#### Length of project

*Three years: October 2011 to September 2014*

#### Partners

*Malaria Action Programme for States (MAPS)*

*State Ministries of Health*

NetWorks, but such assistance will focus on the roll out of distribution systems rather than testing new approaches in these new states.

## Project Aims & Achievements

### With respect to LLINs and related technologies, the project aims to:

- » Develop and promote appropriate policies at state and national level to encourage sustained, high levels of ownership and use
- » Develop, promote and support efficient and effective distribution approaches to ensure sustained high level coverage in communities, particularly among the targeted populations (continuous distribution)
- » Promote sustainable high levels of LLIN ownership and use by increasing demand
- » Design, conduct and analyse strategic operational research to pilot, document and scale-up innovative best practices that contribute towards achieving and maintaining high levels of ownership and use.

### Achievements

- » Supported the development of a Standard Operations Procedure on continuous distribution for the NMCP and partners based on NetWorks' experience in the design of community-based continuous LLIN distribution
- » Formed part of the subcommittee setup by the Federal Ministry of Health task force to look at how to integrate malaria and neglected tropical diseases, working with community drugs distributors in Nasarawa
- » Conducted evaluations of LLIN mass campaigns in Sokoto, Kano, Nasarawa and Cross River States. Results have been shared with all stakeholders
- » Designed detailed strategies for continuous LLIN distribution through community drug distributors, schools and communities for Nasarawa, Cross River and Zamfara States respectively
- » Distributed 8,444 LLINs in the first-ever school-based distribution in one local government area in Cross River State in four cohorts at primary and secondary levels

- » Conducted a LLIN durability study across Nasarawa, Cross River and Zamfara states to assess the physical condition (integrity) and attrition rate of campaign nets after one year of distribution, looking at how environmental and climatic conditions affect the durability of nets
- » Carried out a net care and repair pilot study aimed at increasing the useful life of nets by promoting regular care and repair behaviours among LLIN users in Nasarawa state. Interpersonal communication and radio was employed to reach communities.

### This project has a direct impact upon the following:

- ✓ *Malaria control*
- ✓ *Health systems strengthening*
- ✓ *Capacity building / human resource development*
- ✓ *Behaviour change communication*
- ✓ *Operational research*
- ✓ *Monitoring & evaluation*
- ✓ *Policy change / advocacy*
- ✓ *Support for at-risk populations*



School children receive free mosquito nets to take home

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**malaria consortium**

disease control, better health