Housing Improvements Small-Scale Roll-Out in Namibia

Vector Control Working Group

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Because poor quality housing is a risk factor for malaria* and housing may be a more sustainable means to achieve and maintain elimination, Namibia’s National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme invested in a small-scale roll out of improvements on a targeted 355 homes, or approximately 1,540 structures

- Government owned, with technical support from CHAI, ARCHIVE Global, and DXA Studio
- Financial support from MNM UK and BMGF

**Namibia National Vector Control Guidelines (2014)** include housing improvements as part of broader integrated vector control, such as IRS and LLINs

Selection method and intervention villages

Improvements conducted

- Mend roofs
- Screen windows
- Screen eaves
- Screen doors
- Seal gaps in walls
Early Cost Results and Core Lessons

- Early estimates for cost per structure are $29, $22, $20 for a modern, traditional, and metal structure, respectively.
- **Careful planning around materials** needs to be done well in advance to maximize effectiveness and efficiencies while minimizing cost.
- **Community engagement is critical.** Community health workers and the headman of the village helped the project team with the identification of the households and getting their approval before roll out.
- **Cross-ministerial engagement** builds ownership and support.
And now, what?

Roll out M&E plan during the 3-month and 6-month follow up:

- Participant satisfaction
- Durability of the improvements and maintenance
- Basic entomological indicators
- Costs per homestead, per type of improvement, per type of house, etc.
- Purpose of project is to assess operational feasibility, but basic epidemiological and entomological indicators will be collected as a “sanity check” for directional effect

Assess the opportunities for scale-up of the housing improvements:

- Mass housing improvement project
- Continued targeting in high risk and epidemic prone areas, as well as areas where scaling back of traditional interventions is being considered
Questions?

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