CRSPC Guidance on the GF Funding application process
Essential Points: Increasing Emphasis on Sub-National Tailoring

- Explain how the country dialogue prioritised interventions based on a detailed analysis of the country epidemiological stratification. Describe how and why the prioritisation was made.

- Use the sub-national stratification where possible to support better targeting of packages of malaria interventions for highest impact. Examples include expanded SMC coverage; microstratification of urban areas to allow for ITN targeting to higher burden areas and away from low burden areas, scale up of dual ai nets.

- Consider what you need to strengthen delivery of malaria services as issues such as access to care, cultural, socioeconomic, geographic and other factors differ sub-nationally.

- Where countries have reduced the burden of malaria due to vector control, the underlying endemicity before scale-up of vector control should be highlighted, so it is clear why vector control needs to be sustained, if you need to justify sustaining the intervention. Where a country is withdrawing vector control, highlight why this will not lead to an upsurge and/or how you will mitigate the impact of any potential upsurges.
Sustain (and accelerate) the Gains

- Prioritisation of essential interventions in the allocation: Ensure key priority interventions are included in the allocation request as much as is possible. Application forms now highlight if an intervention is a continuation from the current grant, a scale-up of coverage or is new.

- Do not leave gaps in essential life saving services in the early part of the grant—especially for case management.

- Be sure to express above allocation needs in the Prioritized Above Allocation Request (PAAR) to allow for the immediate reprogramming of savings during grant making and programming of additional resources potentially freed up through the portfolio optimisation process throughout the grant cycle.
Gap Analysis - Cross cutting

• Buffer stock:
  • ITNs - for countries where the census is greater than 5 years old, we recommend including a 10% buffer, or for countries to use data from previous campaigns
  • Case management use consumption and experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic to justify a buffer amount

• Highlight where key and vulnerable populations are included in the gap analysis including IDPs, refugees etc

• Use the NEW commodity prices from the GF and note any increases in costs related to recent inflation.

• Use the country stratification to explain how GF resources have been prioritized and why. This can be used to help address the value for money questions, but also ensure that issues around equity are addressed – ensure you have defined your populations at risk and show that they are being prioritized.

• Include insecticide, drug and parasite resistance testing in the allocation if these are not funded elsewhere
Vector Control

- If PBOs or IG2 nets were distributed in the current cycle, countries should plan to sustain the current coverage in the new grant and budget for further scale up, including the additional costs in PAAR if they cannot be covered in the allocation.

- The TRP have not approved any IRS scale up in GC7 to date.

- Entomological surveillance, entomological capacity building and monitoring are critical to decisions on VC choices and should be included in the allocation.

- Strong evidence on differential usage is still required for non-standard LLIN specifications – especially where there are gaps.

- Include resources for digitalization of campaigns and where possible look for opportunities for this to be integrated with other malaria and health campaigns.
**Case Management**

- Do not forget to describe how case management is being managed through the public and private sector, and community level (CRSPC can provide TA in 2023 for the development of private sector engagement strategies).

- The ACT gap analysis now asks for details on types of ACTs as part of resistance management.

- Do not forget to focus on quality of care, rational and feasible scale up of iCCM, and engagement of the private sector where it makes sense.

- For iCCM and CHWs, ensure there is a clear strategy and long-term plans including for the non-malaria commodities – there is now a CHW and non-malaria commodities at community level gap analysis template, and these commodities (e.g. antibiotics, ORS) can now be procured through the GF as long as the requirements are met.
ESSH and Malaria:

- All pillars of ESSH are needed for malaria services to be successful
- Opportunities exist for integration of health activities with malaria campaigns (ITN, IRS and SMC) but need to be based on context, target population and operational considerations
- Main ESSH needs focused on case management (CM), malaria in pregnancy (MIP), supply chain and surveillance
  - Improving access to care (CM and MIP/ANC): community systems and private sector – looking at what makes sense to prioritize based on where people seek care and mapping service availability
  - Quality of care: for both case management including referral and malaria in pregnancy
    - Focus on what is being done and how it is done (i.e. patient-centered care)
  - Last mile distribution
  - Data for decision-making: quantity, quality, timeliness, completeness and use at all level
Filling out the Forms

- Consider including a summary table highlighting what is being prioritised by major intervention in the allocation and above allocation.

- For Programme Continuation countries, you can include expanded implementation where stratification points to expanding (or reducing) an intervention will lead to higher impact e.g. you do not have to maintain the same scale. You can also switch to new nets, insecticides etc where data indicate this is needed.
Essential Points:

• Where country progress has stagnated, highlight the underlying causes and highlight what is being done through this grant, to accelerate progress.

• Remember that the costs of health systems are needed to carry out malaria interventions - include them, and include this amount in the RSSH contribution e.g. iCCM, CHWs etc

• Refer to the TRP comments from the last round – and highlight how any concerns raised by the TRP -or management conditions – have been addressed

• Don’t forget to fully implement the current grant to maximise the use of the resources currently available
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Thank you!

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