

# Mozambique Country Update: Accelerating Malaria in Pregnancy Programs to Achieve Country Scale-Up

During the recent Roll Back Malaria (RBM)-Malaria in Pregnancy Working Group meeting in April 2012, representatives from Mozambique’s Ministry of Health presented a malaria in pregnancy (MIP) country update (MIP Reported Outcomes + MIP Components) and developed an action plan. The Ministry team developed the country update prior to the meeting and the action plan was developed during the meeting; this document summarizes these efforts. The RBM MIP Working Group, World Health Organization, President’s Malaria Initiative and Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP) hope this information facilitates country teams’ continued dialogue with their Ministry of Health counterparts and in-country partners to effect positive change for MIP programming that builds on current successes, solutions identified to existing challenges and lessons learned.

## MIP Reported Outcomes

The Mozambique team was asked to report on three primary MIP indicators—intermittent preventive treatment during pregnancy (IPTp), insecticide-treated bed net (ITN) use and antenatal care (ANC) utilization—to give the working group a better understanding of the current status of MIP programming. The Mozambique team reported the following progress (as of April 2012) for these indicators: IPTp1 and IPTp2: 33%; ITN use: 13.5%; and ANC/one visit: 92%. Sources for data were not specified.

## MIP Program Components

As Mozambique continues to accelerate and scale up malaria in pregnancy programs, addressing MIP in the context of health systems strengthening will support achievement of sustained results. Focusing on the eight key MIP program components (policy, integration, commodities, capacity development, community engagement, quality improvement, monitoring and evaluation [M&E], and financing) will result not only in improved outcomes for pregnant women and their newborns but also help to strengthen the existing health system.

## Country Program Update

	Successes	Challenges	Addressing Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Integration between National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and Reproductive Health (RH)?</b>	Integrated Package of Antenatal Care (ANC) Services strategy	Inadequate coordination with RH	RH is part of case management coordination group	Reducing maternal and child mortality as a focus of the Integrated Package of ANC Services is prioritized

	<b>Successes</b>	<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Addressing Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<b>Policy</b>	Policy available since 2006 ANC services offered free of charge	High mobility of health workers Health worker attitude Supply chain management Lack of awareness at community level	Ongoing training Improved supervision	Integrated training in RH
<b>Capacity Development</b>	All health facilities with ANC services implemented	Limited resources for training and mostly supervision	Ongoing training Improved supervision	Integrated training in RH
<b>Community Engagement</b>	Communities' health workers (APEs) strategy reactivated	Long distance from communities to health facilities	Communities' health workers (APEs) strategy reactivated	Long distance from communities to health facilities
<b>Commodities</b>	SP available Nets available Multi-sector malaria products quantification team	National SP stock-out from mid-2010 to early 2011 Lack of resources for LLIN logistics	Development of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) distribution guideline (draft) Improve quantification exercise with Central de Medicamentos e Artigos Médicos (CMAM)	Partners interested to support
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	New maternal and child health (MCH) registers with IPTp and nets	Inadequate information on MIP service delivery No clear mechanism for capturing data on MIP	New register book and collections tools developed; implementation started in January 2012 Malaria database development ongoing	Malaria M&E plan developed Focal point in districts (ongoing)
<b>Quality Assurance</b>	Case management policy Maternity model Initiative (module for IPTp)	All health workers trained High mobility of health workers	Training ongoing	Partners support
<b>Financing</b>	Funds guaranteed for 2012	Maintain financing	Engage the partners Increase domestic funds	Partners interested in support

## Mozambique Action Plan

Based on presentations and discussions during the meeting, Mozambique identified the following key actions and solutions to support MIP program scale-up.

### Immediate Actions to Accelerate MIP Programming

- **Improve coordination with RH** through integrated planning between RH/NMCP.
- **Improve information, education and communication/behavior change communication** through partner organizations to support MCHIP (RH) and Save the Children (community).

### Solutions to Key Challenges

- **Key Challenge 1: Prevent Stock-Outs** with improved supply chain management; utilize CMAM at all levels; improve the feedback; and carry out joint planning among CHAM/NMCP.
- **Key Challenge 2: Improve Limited Supervision of MCH Staff** through the mobilization of funds and improve integrated supervision with existing tools.

### Long-Term Actions

- Improve coordination between RH and NMCP.
- Improve M&E.
- Conduct advocacy.
- Conduct operational research.