Mr. Lamin Jarju

Public Health Entomologist, National Malaria Control Program
Ministry of Health & Social Welfare
The Gambia
Introduction

- Population: 2,190,959 m 2019 (projected from census 2013)
- Seven health regions
- Regional health directorate in each region (Coordination)
- National malaria strategic plan (2014-2020)
  - Parasite prevalence rates, 4% (2011)
  - Parasite prevalence rates, 0.2% (2014)
  - Parasite prevalence rates, 0.1% (2017)
- Incidence rates 24.7/1000 population (2018)
- Regional variations do occur
Key points relative to Vector Control

• The Gambia is an endemic malaria country
• Highly seasonal, 95% of cases (July-October)
• The Gambia put into strata:
  ✓ Relatively high malaria transmission in the eastern part of the country
  ✓ Jan-Sept. in 2019, 16,383 (33% in URR)
  ✓ Much lower transmission in the part western

• Malaria burden distribution is similar to what is observed in Senegal where highest transmission is observed in the south-eastern part of the country
1. (a) How does VC integrate into the bigger malaria control

• Vector Control is well articulated in NMSP
• Integrated into the overall malaria control strategy
• LLINs distribution (Campaign, routine)
• 2009-2013 IRS in all regions (DDT)
• 2015-2019, IRS in high burden regions (2/7)

(1b) Stratification

2018

2019
1 (c) Low and high burden regions/district relative to vector control activities

**Low burden regions/districts**
- LLIN
- IPTp
- SBCC

*Plan: community case investigation & management of malaria by CHWs*

**High burden regions/districts**
- LLINs; maintain universal coverage
- IRS; reduce morbidity & mortality

2014-2019 (regional levels)
- SMC
2. Mapping system for vectors

- Vector mapping conducted in 2009

Benefits:
- Understand malaria vector distribution across regions,
- Understand vector behavior (indoor & outdoor)
- Establish sentinel sites

Recently concluded mapping 2018/19
Data being compiled
3. System for insecticide resistance management

- Yes, system in place (NMSP)
- Outlined in NSP
- Insecticide resistance monitoring is conducted every 2 years
- NMCP contracts Medical Research Council (MRCG at LSHTM)
- Last monitoring was in 2016/17


Deltamethrin and permethrin

- There was marked resistance to deltamethrin and permethrin, coastal/urban region, 30% mortality
- Resistance also observed in NBR and CRR in 2016 but not in 2017

In URRS, resistance to pyrethroids was low in both years with mortality rate of 97%

IRS based on insecticide rotation (2 years)

**Bendiocarb and Actellic are effective against vector**
Sentinel sites for entomological works (IRM)
4. Sub-population (Farmers, migrants)
   • This is not applicable in the context of The Gambia
   • Most farmers (>98%) in Gambia live in own communities/villages
   • Migrants usually from Senegal Guinea live with families in Gambia
   • Access to LLINs is easy

5 (a) Case base surveillance yet to commence

Plans 2020:
• Malaria program review
• Develop New NMSP
• Development of surveillance guideline
  • Protocol/guidelines,
  • tools for case base surveillance (targeted regions/districts
  ✔ Formation of surveillance team
5.(b) Pre-elimination

• Preparing to go into this phase in 2 regions
5.(c) Information sharing with neighbors

SeneGambia collaboration

• Recently signed MOU between The Gambia and Senegal
• Synchronized mass LLIN distribution campaign 2019
• Cross border planning meetings (NMCP & PNLP) and partners
• Sub-national meetings (Regional levels) and partners
• Share data on vector control activities (Vector species, resistance data, therapeutic efficacy studies)
• 50 Communities along borders
• Guinea visited Gambia in May 2019 for study tour
Joint activities during LLIN campaign

Minister of health and NMCP Managers at LLIN campaign launching

Joint campaign teams at border community

Joint LLIN distribution at border community by Senegal & Gambia teams

Gambian vehicle transports Senegal’s nets to health post
Future

✓ Increasing coverage and access to malaria interventions,
✓ Improvements in communication and behavior change,

Registered tremendous gains to date

However; with the fluctuating case incidence rates in the Regions
There is need to consolidate these achievements/gains
Potential to achieve pre-elimination in Gambia
Need more funding, technical assistance, for comprehensive stratification, facilities for IR monitoring
Thank you

• Merci