

Angola trip October 2014 field notes: Scott Morey and Warren Lancaster

Please see schedule **attached**.

General Observations:

- Mentor presence in Luanda with MoH NTD program has been critical to progress and program trouble shooting. Mentors needs to ensure a good person in Luanda - [REDACTED]
- It does not seem to me that a coordinator is required in each province. There is easy access to all three regional centres within less than 1 day drive. Could another configuration be considered?
- My intuition tells me that by just splitting 1/3 across the Provinces is not sound.
- Vasco has developed with Sergio very good M&E tools for providing information systems to gather data for reporting linked to deliverables.
- Sophia takes up a position in Zaire [REDACTED]
- Travel Luanda to MBC or back to Luanda; about 5-6 hours on very good road, travel to Uige 5-6 hours. Two routes both good sealed roads but hill route should not be used of preference as you can not see traffic coming in the other direction. Travel to Huambo 9 hours, good road.
- Many program components are depending on the recruitment of expat staff.
- Staff turnover remains a significant concern: Surprised and sadden to hear of Sergio and Fernando's departures by December.
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] EF wants Angola personnel more engaged with EF program documentation.
- Mentor's experience in the country does not seem to have provided as much leverage as expected (i.e. no community based distribution) to enhance program success; senior staff turnover might be hindering continuity.
- Alessandro extremely knowledgable public health doctor and understands NTDs well. He sees how a programme should be developed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- We have to find a way of getting the mapping done for LF. Also need to stay close to WHO AFRO re mapping balance of the country. mark remind WL to email Impuma. File the email I sent to Pat Lamie.
- We need a 'Summitt' with Mentor in Angola. Richard needs to be there and Katie. WL, SM and MR. Needs to be a Summitt on what has been achieved and where to from here. Needs to be part of planning Helmsley Y2 - planning Y2. To

Program Observations:

- Emphasis made with Mentor staff on scale up and achievement of program targets and reporting results in a timely way. (especially next deadline of October 31st)
- Mapping results just being made available for the three provinces. Analysis of the treatment strategy under development. **(Annex of Worksheets)** Impact of new mapping data on program strategy.
- Mapping especially for LF has been put on hold as the MoH with support from WHO has decided to progress with this themselves. Timeline for LF mapping is unknown but should take place in the next 12 months. LF test kits for mapping are in country for the 3 provinces but depend on the agreement of the protocol. The issues of the expiry of the test kits may help speed up implementation of the mapping exercise.

- Glad that PZQ made it to the provinces and that MDA is being rolled out with cascade of trainings. All disappointed with MDA not including ABL.
- Did any of the other 3 million get distributed?
- Two or three program output indicators (3.2.3) need to be revised in the next 3-4 months to be more relevant to implementation. [REDACTED]
- Strategy and implementation of Health Facility supervision; and community based strategy for NTD needs to be revisited in view of a) the SCH/STH mapping results; and b) eventual LF mapping results.
- [REDACTED]
- Potential National NTD workshop to be held 24-28 November to finalize National plan, etc.

Procurement:

Medicines:

- Close follow up with WHO Joint Request forms.
- Procurement of meds for pre-SAC and for adults needs to be determined and budgeted for; as this is not donated. But (see WL mail)
- PZQ is available for adults and <5s from WVI if we give them data - this is urgent.

Vehicles:

- Still need clarity of vehicle requirements for the program.
- [REDACTED]

WASH Hygiene Kits;

- Clarifications to get started urgently on procurement so that this component can be rolled out without delays.
- I think I would consider trying to combine clinic programme people in the wAaSHE team - not sure possible. Mark needs to put on a planning hat and think it through logically how to cover clinics and schools. Do we need to visit clinics or can it be done another way - trainings etc

Donor visit(s)

New donors: Possible March/April (see comments in Asana) [REDACTED] and issue of rainy season access in Uige where MDA is most needed.

Existing donor(s);

People met:

Mentor Personnel:

- Sergio Lopes; Mentor Program Coordinator - Public Sector Program – Uige; currently in Luanda.
- Met Zaire program staff and met with NTD program manager and supervisor
- Basco ()(new Uige Program coordinator) met with him and Sergio Tuesday afternoon and evening to go over deliverables. And reviewed the output indicators.
- Alessandro Bavcar, Mentor Country Director; met in Luanda
- Fernando del Costa, Mentor Head of Finance; met in Luanda
- Sophia () (new Zaire Program coordinator) met her on Saturday Oct. 18th in Luanda.
- Nico (); Logistics coordinator

Other Angola officials; representatives; consultants:

- Met Zaire provincial and municipal leaders at the Mapping Report Workshop of Zaire province on Tuesday October 14th.
- Dr. Pedro van Dunem, Director of NTDs Angolan MOH; met with him an entire morning of Thursday October 16th. to discuss plans.
- Dr. Adelide; National Director of Public Health (reports to Minister, superior of Dr.Filomeno) Discussed the programme and plans; Met her Thursday afternoon October 16th. Main achievement was to secure the signature of the MoU between Mentor and the MoH of Angola. (Attached)
- We briefly greeted Dr. Nzuzi, NTD Focal point; WHO Angola; as well as Dr. Alice deputy NTD director for MoH Angola.
- Jose Figueiredo, came to meeting with Dr. Adelide and for dinner with family Friday evening October 17th.
- Very good discussion with Head of Health in Uige [REDACTED] Keen to make NTDs a success. Sees NTD success as reflecting well on her and Uige MOH.
- Also met head of education. Both directors attended the launch of the training of teachers.
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New Contacts:

- (Name of consultant) from Central Planning MoH; met in MBC during mapping report workshop.
- Domingos Chiconela, MSc. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Manager; UNICEF Angola
- Nuno Serra Martins; General Manager of Merck Serono (Angola). Helpful with understanding the Angola drug regulatory environment.

Follow up Actions:

- PAF updates and strategy revisions.
- Meeting with German and Anita (and perhaps Johann) on the budget revision work.
 - o Have not received updated cost sharing calculation tables.
 - o Drug lines
 - o Vehicle rentals

o Allocation of drivers

- WASH engagement of Elena already on moving forward with KAP surveys and with her and Nico on the procurement of items for the Hygiene Kits.
- Finalize treatment strategies for each province following mapping results with population statistics from recent census data.
- Close follow up on the WHO Joint Request form for NTD meds.
- Budget of and plans for procuring drugs for pre-SAC and adults
- Potential expansion of program to other provinces with MoH engagement. (follow up of MoH distribution of PZQ to 5 other provinces)
- Copy of MoU?
- Follow up on how the National NTD Workshop is coming together in November.
- Mentor to review Annex D; Communications; follow up on getting EF stickers for vehicles and other items.