

Project Title/Name: Universal LLIN Distribution Campaign in Greater Accra, Northern and Upper West Regions, Ghana

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Activity Report for April to June, 2017

Venue of Activity: Northern, Greater Accra and Upper West Regions	Total Number of Districts in the Regions: Forty three (43) districts for AMF work
Implementation period: April to June, 2017	Report Date: July 15, 2017
Activities Organized by: National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP), Episcopal Relief & Development and ADDRO with support from Against Malaria Foundation (AMF)	

Introduction / Background

Episcopal Relief & Development and its partner, the Anglican Diocesan Development and Relief Organization (ADDRO) with support from Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) are supporting the implementation of the universal LLINs campaign and long-term monitoring of net use in three regions in Ghana, namely, Northern, Greater Accra and Upper West Regions.

The campaign activities are in three phases: pre-distribution, distribution and post-distribution. The pre-distribution and distribution phases of the campaign which were led by the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) with support from Episcopal Relief & Development, ADDRO and other partners including Vector Works and USAID Deliver was successfully completed in 2016. The current ongoing activities fall within the post-distribution phase, which is led by Episcopal Relief & Development and ADDRO.

This report highlights all activities carried out under the AMF-funded LLIN Campaign Program during the second quarter (April 2017 to June 2017) in the three regions.

Overview of Key Activities Implemented from April to June 2017

From April to June 2017, Episcopal Relief & Development/Anglican Diocesan Development and Relief Organization (ADDRO) worked in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to implement the following major activities:

- Consultative Meetings with GHS
- Recruitment/replacement of supervisors and enumerators in Northern Region
- Sampling of households (HH), printing and packaging of Data collection tools

- Staff capacity building on AMF data collection tool
- Training of supervisors and enumerators on PDCU survey tool
- PDCU Data collection by Enumerators
- Monitoring/Supervision of PDCU data collection
- Retrieval of completed PDCU forms from Supervisors/Enumerators
- Celebration of World Malaria Day (WMD)
- Data Entry
- Quarterly HH data collection

The table below provides a detailed update of activities implemented within the reporting period:

AMF Second Quarter Activity Report – Table of Activities (April 2017 - June 2017)

№	Date(s)	Location	Activity	Brief Description of Activity	Stakeholders involved	Outcome / Findings / Comments
1. Post-Distribution Phase						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities within the current quarterly reporting period fall within the Post-Distribution Phase More details on Post-Distribution activities in the Northern Region are in the Post Distribution Check-Up (PDCU) Report 						
1.1	April 3 to 5, 2017	Northern Region, Tamale	Consultative Meeting with GHS	ADDRO regional staff had consultative meetings with GHS at the regional and district levels to inform them of the upcoming PDCU at 12 months exercise. These meetings were done via telephone calls.	ADDRO / GHS	<p>Top line- Observations and outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regional Director of Health Services for Northern region and the 20 District Directors of Health services were duly informed. Generally, the meetings via phone calls were very effective and efficient <p>Challenges Encountered and Actions Items Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no challenge
1.2	April 6 to 24, 2017	All 20 AMF supported Districts, Northern Region	Recruitment / replacement of enumerators / supervisors for PDCU	The majority of the enumerators and supervisors who carried out the first PDCU were retained for the second PDCU because of their relevant experience. However, enumerators and supervisors who were not available for the PDCU at 12 months were replaced. Other enumerators and supervisors who did not perform satisfactorily during the first PDCU were also replaced. In addition to standard qualifications and requirements, supervisors were required to have a motorbike to move round to supervise enumerators. Other requirements for both enumerators and supervisors are contained in the detailed PDCU at 12 months report.	ADDRO	<p>Top line- Observations and outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 130 existing enumerators and 77 supervisors who performed satisfactorily in the first PDCU and were available for the second PDCU were retained for the data collection exercise. 124 new enumerators and 16 new supervisors were recruited to replace the old ones who were not available to participate in the PDCU at 12 months and or did not perform satisfactorily during the first PDCU. <p>Challenges Encountered and Actions Items Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no challenge.

1.3	April 11 to 14, 2017	ADDRO HQ and Northern Regional Office	Sampling of HH, printing and packaging of PDCU Data collection tools	<p>The same PDCU form used during the first PDCU was used for the PDCU at 12 months. The only edit made to the form was changing the “form number” to Household ID. The reason for this change was to allow this portion of the form to read same as found on the household list.</p> <p>The sampling of the HH for the follow-up was done by AMF and sent to ADDRO on the 12th of April, 2017. The “spare” household list was increased from 30% (in the first PDCU) to 50% in this current PDCU to have sufficient spare household heads that might not be available for the survey (deceased, relocated, etc.)</p> <p>The packaging of the PDCU forms and printed HH lists was done per community.</p> <p>Each community envelope contained a HH list and a number of PDCU forms (based on the number of HH sampled in that community).</p>	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief & Development / AMF	<p>Top-Line Observation and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 25,542 households were sampled for the 5% main and 2,096 for the 5% checks. <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no challenge
1.4	May 1, 2017	ADDRO Office, Northern Region	PDCU Refresher Training of Trainers (TOT) for ADDRO regional staff	ADDRO Headquarters team organized a one-day PDCU refresher TOT for ADDRO regional staff. The essence was to build their capacities to organize the step-down trainings for both enumerators and supervisors in all the 20 AMF supported districts in the region.	ADDRO	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the three staff were present for the training • The staff were able to fill the PDCU form and supervisory form successfully using scenarios <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Items Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no challenge
1.5	May 2 to 6, 2017	Various Locations (13 clusters) in	Training of enumerators and supervisors	ADDRO Northern regional staff organized a step down training for the enumerators and supervisors for all the 20 AMF supported districts in various locations in the	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief &	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all, 335 enumerators and supervisors (247 enumerators

		Northern Region		<p>region.</p> <p>The training methodology used included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief introduction of ADDRO and partners - AMF and Episcopal Relief & Development • Taking participants through the form and terminologies • How to successfully enter a HH for data collection • Practical session of filling the PDCU form using scenarios • Practically filling the form by visiting nearby HH 	Development	<p>and 88 supervisors) turned up for the training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These comprised 125 old & 122 new enumerators and 72 old & 16 new supervisors • A total 12 expected participants (7 enumerators and 5 supervisors) did not turn up for the training <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Item Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It rained heavily in two training centres in the morning of the training and hence the enumerators/supervisors did not report at the scheduled time. This delayed the start of the training for about 2 hours. • Households that would have been visited by the enumerators who did not attend the training were added to other enumerators in the community to collect the data. • The enumerators who did not have supervisors were directly supervised by ADDRO regional Staff.
1.6	May 8 to 18, 2017	Various communities in Northern region	PDCU Data Collection	<p>The PDCU data collection was carried out concurrently in all the communities in the 20 AMF supported districts. The 247 enumerators were supervised by their various subdistrict supervisors to collect data from sampled HH using the PDCU form.</p>	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief & Development	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 88 supervisors supervised the 247 enumerators to collect the data • Though the number of enumerators per supervisors depended on the size of the community, averagely one supervisor supervised three enumerators. <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some HH Heads had travelled to their farms. Enumerators had to visit such HH several times to get the HH Heads

						<p>for the data collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was difficult tracing some sampled HH heads because their full names or popularly known names were not used during the HH registration exercise. Enumerators had to seek for community volunteers (who participated in the HH registration) assistance in identifying such HH heads • HH across rivers without bridges were not easily accessible due to the rainy season. Enumerators had to travel on canoes to get to those HH for the data collection
1.7	May 8 to 18, 2017	Various communities in Northern region	Supervision of PDCU Data Collection by ADDRO	ADDRO Northern Regional and HQ staff monitored some districts/communities to supervise the PDCU data collection by Enumerators. The aim of this monitoring was to provide support to enumerators and supervisors where necessary.	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief & Development	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was observed that few enumerators counted rooms as sleeping spaces. • ADDRO team visited 12 out of 20 AMF supported districts to monitor the PDCU process. Thirty eight (38) sub-districts were visited in all these 12 districts. A total of 80 enumerators and 35 supervisors were met on the field. • Some sampled HH heads complained that though they registered during the HH registration exercise, they did not redeem their nets. Reasons for this was that some lost their coupons, others had travelled and did not leave coupons behind for relatives to redeem the LLINs on their behalf.

						<p>Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADDRO team did not meet some supervisors and enumerators on the field. The team therefore followed up to the houses of those supervisors and enumerators to check their work. • Sampled HH heads that did not get nets resisted to be interviewed but later accepted when the purpose of this exercise was explained to them.
1.8	May 22 to 30, 2017	Various communities in Northern region	Retrieval of completed PDCU forms	ADDRO staff visited all the sub-districts in all 20 AMF supported districts to retrieve completed PDCU forms and to pay enumerators and supervisors for the work done. The teams checked and made payments for correctly filled PDCU forms.	ADDRO	<p>Top-Line Observation and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PDCU forms were packaged according to districts. Each district's envelope contained all its sub-districts forms. • The PDCU forms collected were correctly filled <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was difficult to reach a few communities across rivers without bridges, for example, Abromasi in East Gonga District. The PDCU forms were transported by supervisors across with the use of canoes. • There were also difficulties in reaching some of the supervisors and enumerators for the retrieval of their completed forms due to poor mobile networks. The regional team had to pass the message through the accessible supervisors to relay the information to their colleagues in those hard-to-reach communities to present their forms.

1.9	June 1, 2017	Northern Region to ADDRO data entry center, Bolgatanga	Transportation of completed PDCU forms	The packaged PDCU forms were transported to ADDRO data entry center.	ADDRO	<p>Top-Line Observation and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PDCU forms were successfully transported to ADDRO Data Centre. A total of 23,941 and 1686 PDCU forms for 5% main and 5% checks respectively were received at the data centre. <p>Challenges and Action Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no challenge
1.10	June 13 to 23, 2017	Data Entry Centre	Data entry	<p>The data entry for PDCU forms was done by 39 data entry clerks. Approximately ten days were used for the data entry.</p> <p>For details of data entry results, refer to the NR PDCU12 report submitted to AMF.</p>	ADDRO	<p>Top-Line Observation and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 39 data entry clerks participated in the entry A total of 23,940 HH PDCU forms were successfully entered. <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no challenge
1.11	April 24, 2017	Accra International Conference Centre	World Malaria Day (WMD) Celebration launch	<p>The NMCP invited ADDRO to join in the National launch of World Malaria Day (WMD) celebration. ADDRO HQ was represented by the ADDRO Greater Accra team. WMD is commemorated every year to underscore the need for continued investment and sustained political commitment for malaria prevention and control. The theme for this year's WMD celebration was <i>End Malaria for Good</i>.</p> <p>The guest speaker was the First Lady of the Republic of Ghana, Mrs. Rebecca Akuffo-Addo. Other dignitaries were present; various speeches were made with regards to</p>	NMCP, GHS, ADDRO, Traditional Authorities.	<p>Top-line Observation and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The launch was very successful

				successes achieved in the fight against malaria in Ghana and how we can consolidate the gains and move forward in the fight against malaria.		
1.12	April 25, 2017	Upper West, Northern and Greater Accra regions	World Malaria Day Celebrations	<p>ADDRO in collaboration with GHS joined the global world to celebrate this year's WMD in selected districts.</p> <p>The celebration was observed in West Gonja, Ga East and Nadoli-Kaleo districts in the Northern, Greater Accra and Upper West regions respectively. The choice of these districts was informed by the high rates of malaria cases. Some of the activities that marked the celebration included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of pregnant women on malaria prevention at Antenatal Care centres • Demonstration of appropriate way of hanging LLINs • Voluntary testing and counselling for malaria • Walk around the principal streets carrying placards with malaria messages written on them such as; <i>Test for Malaria before Treatment, Malaria Lowers Business Productivity and Increases Employees Absenteeism, etc.</i> • Speeches by various stakeholders on the fight against malaria were delivered. The day afforded ADDRO the opportunity to give education and information to the public on ADDRO's community-based activities for 	ADDRO / GHS	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The celebration was largely successful • The celebration was well attended by community members including chiefs, opinion leaders and some beneficiaries of LLINs. In all, over 2,000 people attended across the three regions • Float through the street amidst brass band music attracted a lot of people to the celebration grounds to listen to the malaria messages. • Various speakers at the occasion were grateful to ADDRO/partners for their work in the communities <p>Challenges Encountered and Action Taken</p> <p>There was no challenge.</p>

				<p>malaria prevention and control including supporting in LLINs distribution, PDCU activities, monthly sensitization in communities and households, and quarterly data collection aimed at sustaining net culture and ultimately reducing the malaria burden in the communities.</p> <p>All the district directors of health services in these districts were present to grace the occasion.</p>		
2. Miscellaneous Activities						
2.1	April 18 & 22, 2017	Skype	PDCU debrief and planning meeting	<p>Prior to the Northern region PDCU, ADDRO held a series of meetings with its regional staff and Episcopal Relief & Development. The purpose of these meetings were to review the first round of PDCUs conducted in the three AMF supported regions, Northern, Upper West and Greater Accra, and plan towards the Northern region PDCU at 12 months.</p>	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief & Development.	<p>Top-Line Observations and Outcomes</p> <p>Key action points discussed and agreed upon included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting enumerators and supervisors after the sampled HH list is shared by AMF. This is to avoid recruiting enumerators and supervisors too far from the sampled communities as was the case in the first PDCU in Northern region. • The need to replace enumerators and supervisors who performed poorly during the first PDCU. • Involving supervisors who participated in the first PDCU in the recruitment/replacement of enumerators to assist ADDRO identify enumerators resident in the sampled communities. This is to avoid recruiting enumerators who are not resident or who live far away from sampled communities.

						Challenges Encountered and Action Taken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no challenge encountered
2.2	June 26 to 30, 2017	Northern, Upper West and Greater Accra	Monthly sensitization and quarterly LLINs data collection (<i>NetsforLife</i> ® methodology)	The first LLINs follow-up and quarterly data collection (<i>NetsforLife</i> ® methodology) was carried out in the three regions. The monthly sensitization of household members on malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia is still ongoing in the communities.	ADDRO / Episcopal Relief & Development	Top-Line Observations and Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection was done by volunteers in the communities Challenges Encountered and Action Taken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no challenge.

Conclusions

Episcopal Relief & Development/ADDRO with support from Against Malaria Foundation have successfully completed the first round of Post-Distribution Check-Ups (PDCUs) in the three regions namely Northern, Upper West and Greater Accra.

Lessons learnt from the first round of PDCUs were applied to the PDCU training and data collection at 12 months for the Northern Region. Generally, this has helped to increase correctly filled PDCU forms in the database from 82% in the previous PDCU to 94% in the PDCU at 12 months.