



MALARIA PROGRAM MANAGERS CONSTITUENCY MEETING REPORT

GABORONE, BOTSWANA

4th to 5th March, 2013

**SARN
Gaborone, Botswana**

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Southern African Regional Network (SARN) – Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership in Southern Africa in conjunction with IFRC convened the Malaria Program Managers Meeting in Gaborone, Botswana, from 04 to 05 March 2013.

Program managers shared information, experiences, best practices progress made in implementation of 2012 country roadmaps, reviewed implementation challenges and their 2013 roadmaps; reviewed the process of development of Business/Financing Plans, technical support (TA) plan for 2013, cross-border collaboration and carried out peer review of each other's programs.

Ms. Tjantili Mosweunyane, SARN Co-chair and the meeting chair welcomed participants to the meeting and Gaborone, and thanked IFRC for hosting SARN Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana. She introduced Mr. Alexander Matheou, IFRC Regional Representative and Dr. Michael Charles, IFRC Programme Coordinator. The Regional Representative said that he was happy to host SARN Secretariat as there were complementarities of IFRC work with SARN and that it was important to explore ways of collaborating with SARN beyond hosting arrangements. He wished participants fruitful discussions. Ms. Mosweunyane accepted role of Co-chair and needed support. She said the meeting was an important one for planning and resource mobilization for 2013 as it was held at the beginning of the year. She further said that as countries, we had made great strides in reducing malaria burden in the SADC region and as such we needed to sustain the gains so that malaria elimination would be achieved. She welcomed all partners to the meeting. She alluded to the challenges countries are facing to sustain gains

The meeting was attended by the following countries: Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe and URT-Zanzibar. It was also attended by partners including IFRC, WHO, ALMA and SADC Military Health Services. Madagascar did not attend because they could not be awarded a VISA while South Africa sent an apology.

2.0 OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the meeting was to share progress in implementation of 2013 country roadmaps and implementation challenges and country 2013 roadmaps; review the process of development of Business/Financing Plans and technical support (TA) plan for 2013, discuss the SARN 2013 Work Plan and budget, country support missions and private sector support for the NMCPs.

2.1 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the meeting were to:

1. Share progress in implementation of 2013 country roadmaps and review implementation challenges and country 2013 roadmaps.
2. Share best practices and information.
3. Review the process of development of Business/Financing Plans
4. Discuss the SARN 2013 Work Plan and budget, country support missions and private sector support for the NMCPs
5. Develop a consolidated network 2013 TA plan.
6. Share progress on development of country gap analyses for period (2013 to 2016).

3.0 MAIN OUTCOMES

The main outcomes of the meeting were:

- Shared resolutions of implementation challenges and best practices.
- Priority for RBM Ministerial meeting
- Plan and template for the development of country Business/financing plans.
- Shared progress on development of country gap analyses.
- Update on the SARN 2013 Work Plan and Budget, country support missions and private sector support for the NMCPs.
- 2013 roadmap template reviewed

4.0 IMPLIMENTATION OF 2013 COUNTRY ROADMAPS AND CHALLENGES

4.1 Country Updates/Challenges

Botswana

- IRS challenges (change of government structures).
- Delayed in delivery of DDT.
- No budget for procurement of LLINs.
- Outbreaks in some districts

Malawi

- Pockets of Vector resistance to insecticides (pyrethroids) in some spraying districts.
- Introduction of DDT (for pilot) for IRS.
- Delayed funding for interventions.

Mozambique

- No spraying done in some provinces bordering other countries due to unavailability of insecticides.
- Insufficient funding for activities.
- Movement of cases across borders with neighboring countries.
- No activities at cross-borders.

Namibia

- Delayed LLINs distribution.

Swaziland

- Imported cases from Mozambique.
- Uncertainty on availability of GF financing.
- Uncertainty on Government's ability to absorb current GF grant's HR positions.
- Lack of strong collaboration (e.g., LSDI) between Swaziland and Mozambique.
- Lack of oversight in private sector.
- Lack of regulations on adherence to diagnosis and treatment guidelines and disease reporting.

Zambia

- Reduced funding for interventions.
- Data pattern not consistent with interventions.

Zimbabwe

- Reduced IRS coverage in areas bordering Beit Bridge (74%).
- Reduced supply of Quinine.
- Reported outbreaks in 3 districts.
- Increased LLINs gap.

URT-Zanzibar

- Increased gametocyemia in some areas.
 - Nothing done on this issue.
- Tourists to input for malaria control, under discussions.
- Delayed funding from Global Fund.

4.2 Other Issues/Updates

4.2.1 Expiring Medicines Expiry

- **It's a challenge to move drugs** from country to country when there is oversupply in one country and stock outs in another.
 - Issue of customs and transportation
 - Partners can support shipment
 - Expiry dates need to be noted in time
 - Need to stagger deliveries of commodities to avoid expiry

4.2.2 Health Financing

- Use of Parliament forums.
- Motivation letters to Ministry of Finance.

4.2.3 LLINs expiry

- Manufacturers need to include manufacturer dates on packs.
- WHO to provide more information to countries on LLINs expiry period.

4.2.4 HIV vs Malaria

- Countries were advised to follow WHO guidelines in order to provide the right treatment 2004.

4.2.5 Primaquine vs Artesunate

- The importance of a single dose of primaquine plus ACT was discussed if malaria elimination has to be realized.
 - Countries in the process of malaria elimination should strongly consider introduction of primaquine.
- Details are available from WHO Policy Recommendation (October 2012).

4.2.6 Update on 2013 SARN Work Plan and Budget

- Funding is available for
 - Technical support (Business plan, PSM plans, UAC, IRS) & others.
 - 2 Program managers meetings.
 - Country missions.
 - SARN's operational funds.

4.2.7 Country Missions

- Needs clear and agreed upon TORs.
- Report after completion of mission and shared with partners for follow up of issues.
- Mission team should be well beefed up to include technical experts.

4.2.8 2013 Zimbabwe Roadmap

- It was noted that a section on resources, there is no budget column for interventions and it was suggested to that it should be included.
- Advice was given on the need for including subsequent years in filling the roadmap for easy tracking of the funding gaps.
- By and large the template has been improved and user-friendly.
- By end of March all countries would submit Roadmaps for January, February and March 2013.

4.2.9 Business Plan Development Process, Zimbabwe experience

- Business plan is a resource mobilization document indicating key interventions to be carried out, funding gaps and other issues.
 - It highlights among other things cost effectiveness and return on investment
- One health costing tool was also presented which is used to cost strategic plans, business plans and other documents.

4.2.10 Priority for RBM Ministerial meeting

- Resources allocation for malaria control and elimination is crucial (to be proposed to the RBM Executive Director).
 - High level advocacy has been done at all levels however the concept is not operational; trickledown effect is not realized.
 - Countries should no longer be donor dependent
 - Use of a well known malaria champion (advocate) to make a strong case on the need for malaria resources;
 - What proportion of health budget goes to Malaria Control and Elimination?
- Task to Managers
 - Managers agreed to prepare ministers for RBM Ministerial meeting once a priority area has been agreed upon.

4.2.11 Movement of Commodities Across Borders

- Moving commodities from one country to another particularly medicines
 - SADC malaria committee should take a lead on this agenda
 - At country level it should be discussed at senior management level
 - International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) have strict regulations in moving commodities from country to another, IFRC is willing to support NMCPs in this matter.

4.2.12 Regional Events

- MIM Conference in South Africa
 - The MIM 2013 conference will take place in October 2013
 - It was agreed that countries would send abstracts to SARN for the MIM conference.
- World Tourism Organisation Workshop
 - The workshop will be co-hosted by Zambia and Zimbabwe in August 2013 to take place in Victoria Falls and Livingstone.
 - The concept note was ready and would be circulated.

- RAM 2
 - Concept note is ready will be circulated.
 - Launch of RAM 2 is expected to be held in Dar es Salaam, and then travel to Kyela, Mwanza, Zobue, LSDI, MOZIZA, TZMI ending up in TKMI area.
 - Some partners have been approached, shown willingness to support

4.2.13 Cross Border Strategy

- The strategy is critical and need to be addressed and one of the strategies suggested is surveillance.
 - To be addressed at local level by ensuring all affected countries are taking deliberate roles.
 - Regional business plan to be developed, partners might buy in some of the proposed interventions.

5.0 WAY FORWARD

It was agreed that country reports and a regional report would be developed. The meeting agreed on the following activities to be implemented:

No.	Activity	Due Date
1.	Submission of country TA plans	12 March
2.	Upload of country roadmaps (for January, February and March)	31 March
3.	Submission by SARN Coordinator to EXD of the proposed priority topic for ministerial session	8 March
4.	Development of 2012 country malaria reports	May/June
5.	Peer review of 2012 country malaria reports	May/June
6.	Development of regional 2012 country malaria report	June/July
7.	Submission of abstracts for the MIM conference	April
8.	Finalisation of the RAM concept note	13 March
9.	Submission of WTO concept note to Zambia and Zimbabwe	8 March
10.	Commodity movement between countries	June
11.	Development of country business plans	August



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