

Costed and comprehensive state Annual Operational Plans for malaria control were developed in Oyo State with the support of the Malaria Action Program for States (MAPS) in 2013. The process has helped build the capacity of state managers in the planning and budgeting of malaria control activities.

However, no similar plans for malaria control were developed in any of the State's 33 Local Government Areas (LGAs). Although the funds were budgeted for at the State level, the lack of costed work plans at LGA level limited the amount of funds that could be released and used for malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment services in primary health facilities. Thus the provision of malaria control services at this level of the health system was poor leading to lives being lost unnecessarily.

**Success Story**

Beating malaria with money from below

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Mobilizing resources at LGA level for malaria control

In 2014, in an effort to further build capacity for planning at the LGA level, MAPS supported ten LGAs in Oyo State to develop 2015 work plans for malaria control. In a commitment to on-going sustainability of the initiative, Dr Sola Akande, the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics, the department responsible for the planning in the Oyo State Ministry for Health, requested that support for this be extended to all the 33 LGAs and promised that the state would take the lead and provide most of the required funding with MAPS providing mainly technical support. Dr Sola Akande says:

“In Oyo State, the MAPS project has set standards in programme implementation for us to emulate and sustain. For instance, the AOP on malaria control was MAPS’ innovation and this is worth replicating at LGA level. And since we cannot leave everything to MAPS alone, it behoves us to take the baton to the LGAs. Anything worth doing is worth doing well with a spirit of excellence. I believe that one must learn to think outside the box and plan for work with excellence”.

More funds to fight malaria

As a result, all 33 LGA work plans were developed in collaboration with MAPS. The state government paid for accommodation and transportation while MAPS provided the technical assistance to facilitate the process with state personnel who were also facilitators. So far, at least one of those LGAs (Atiba LGA) has had the budget adopted and funds released for malaria control activities as a direct result of its work plan.

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Cooperative Agreement Holder:



Implementing Partners:



Supporting:



MAPS is funded by the USAID through the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI), implemented in nine states (Benue, Cross River, Ebonyi, Kogi, Nasarawa, Oyo, Kebbi, Akwa Ibom and Zamfara) across Nigeria between 2010 and 2016. FHI 360 is collaborating with Health Partners International and Malaria Consortium to support the implementation of the National Malaria Strategic Plans (2014–2020).