An estimated 97% of Nigeria’s population is at risk of contracting malaria. Pregnant women and young children living in places where malaria is highly prevalent are four times more likely than other adults to get malaria, and twice as likely to die of the disease (2007, MICS).

The PMI-S project is USAID Nigeria and PMI’s flagship project to reduce malaria mortality and morbidity in Nigeria. The project supports the Government of Nigeria through its agencies at the federal, state, local government areas, and community levels to improve quality and access to services for the prevention and management of malaria and its complications. PMI-S contributes to the National Malaria Elimination Program’s (NMEP) vision of achieving a malaria-free Nigeria, and to the PMI Strategy 2015-2020 goal to further reduce deaths and decrease morbidity toward the long-term goal of elimination.

OBJECTIVES

The current phase of the PMI-S project (December 2018-November 2023), supports activities at the federal level, with a main focus on strengthening the capacity of the NMEP to develop national malaria control policies and guidelines for the effective implementation of Nigeria’s National Malaria Strategic Plan 2014-2020. A key component is to improve capacity for data analysis and use to inform program decisions and investments. PMI-S is strengthening capacity at the federal level to:

1. Improve the quality of and access to comprehensive malaria case management (MCM) services;
2. Improve evidence for decision-making;
3. Improve drug-based malaria prevention and treatment approaches; and
4. Strengthen existing health systems and improve NMEP management.

PMI-S is proposed to target eight states that represent a combined population of 38 million people: Akwa-Ibom, Benue, Cross-River, Ebonyi, Nasarawa, Oyo, Plateau and Zamfara. In collaboration with the Nigerian government and local partners, PMI-S will implement innovative strategies to increase malaria
test rates and appropriate treatment including intermittent preventive treatment (IPTp) among pregnant women, seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC) for children under-five, and appropriate treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea through integrated community case management. In addition, project support will increase reporting rates, accuracy, and use of data, enabling national and local leaders make decisions based on evidence.

**KEY ACTIVITIES**

- Provide technical assistance (TA) to the NMEP to improve MCM, IPTp, and SMC policy and strategic communication
- Support NMEP to strengthen systems for state level monitoring and mentoring
- Provide TA to pre-service training institutions to update the MCM curriculum
- Collaborate with regulatory and professional bodies to improve MCM
- Support strengthening of Health Management Information System
- Mentor NMEP personnel in the analysis, presentation and use of data
- Conduct Therapeutic Efficacy Studies
- Support NMEP to strengthen coordination structures and program management
- Support development of federal-level malaria Annual Operational Plans, updating of National Malaria Strategic Plan, and annual program review

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

**KEY RESULT #1: Improved quality of and access to comprehensive MCM services**

- Improved policy environment for MCM at federal level
- Strengthened and functional coordination environment for malaria program

**KEY RESULT #2: Improved evidence for decision-making**

- Improved ability to measure malaria burden and program impact
- Improved use of data for decision making at national level and increased capacity to provide feedback and mentor state level malaria programs

**KEY RESULT #3: Improved drug-based prevention and treatment approaches**

- Strengthened policy environment and NMEP branches for implementation of IPTp and SMC
- Increased coordination and implementation readiness

**KEY RESULT #4: Strengthened existing health systems and improved NMEP management**

- Improved planning, coordination, and monitoring of malaria activities at the federal level

**STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION**

In close collaboration with the Nigerian government, PMI-S is enhancing synergies with stakeholders that are working towards malaria control and elimination including professional regulatory bodies and associations, private sector providers, and other USG implementing partners and global organizations such as Breakthrough ACTION Nigeria (BA-N), Global Health Supply Chain–Procurement Supply Management (GHSC-PSM), Integrated Health Project (IHP), the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), the Global Fund, and the World Health Organization.

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