Community Engagement in Survey Implementation

USAID TAS WORKSHOP, Abidjan

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Outline

- ❑ Purpose of community engagement
- ❑ Key considerations
- ❑ Community-based surveys
- ❑ School-based survey
- ❑ Experiences and lessons

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Purpose of community engagement

- ❑Secure cooperation of target population
- ❑Limit non-compliance to minimum
- ❑Achieve sample size

Key considerations

- ❑ Sensitize community well in advance of survey
- ❑ Provide information to cover possible scenarios

Key considerations

- Sensitize community well in advance of survey
  - Local health team – when site is selected, at planning stage
  - District school administration – when TAS clusters/communities are selected
  - Community (volunteers, leaders, members, school management) – led by local health team, at least 4 weeks before, reminder about a week to survey and day before survey
  - Establish contacts to communicate changes

Key considerations

- Provide information to cover possible scenarios
  - Purpose of survey
  - Date and duration of survey
  - Nature of survey – take blood samples, site testing or remote testing, treatment of positive cases, repeat test
  - Risks and benefits
  - Results – test results options, implication and actions
  - Follow up

Community-based survey - Pre-TAS, household TAS

- Engage community leaders – by local health team & volunteers
  - sensitize & inform
  - discuss and agree suitable date and time of day
  - identify location for sample collection
  - when to meet population
- Community meeting – by local health team/survey team, community leaders & volunteers
  - sensitize and inform
  - communicate survey location, date & time
  - opportunity for community concerns/questions & responses

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Community-based survey - Pre-TAS, household TAS

- ❑ Community announcement 1 or 2 days before survey
- ❑ Survey day engagement
  - o door-to-door mobilization by volunteers/local health staff
  - o repeat information session
  - o explain testing process – registration, consent, sample collection, waiting for results
  - o communicate test results and implication

School-based TAS

- Engage district education administration and school heads
  - by local health team
    - sensitize & inform
    - determine suitable date and time
    - discuss parents notification and consent – act and follow up
    - opportunity for school and parents concerns/questions and response
    - secure contact of school focal point for ongoing communication

School-based TAS

- ❑ Notify school 1 or 2 days before survey
- ❑ Survey day engagement
  - o Work with class teachers to organize children – grades 1 & 2
  - o Sensitize and inform children – use illustrative IEC materials
  - o explain testing process – registration, assent, sample collection, token pacifier, waiting for results, treatment for positive cases
  - o communicate test results and implication
  - o communicate summary results to teachers and follow up actions

Lessons and challenges, questions

- Discussion/share
  - What has been your experience?
  - What lessons learnt?
  - Challenges?
  - Any questions?

Thank you