

2013

Strengthening Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) in Odisha State, India to Improve Malaria Control Programme Management and Impact

Phasing out plan of LQAS for NVBDCP,

Contents

1. Background	3
1.1 Phasing out plan.....	4
1.2 Objective	4
2. Phasing out coordination activities.....	4
3. Phasing out programme activities.....	4
3.1 Phasing out plan for State NVBDCP	4
3.2 Phasing out Plan for District VBDCP.....	5
4. Complete phasing out of support activities	5
5. Phasing out Status.....	6
6. Approach and detailed activity plan	7
7. Assessment Methodology.....	8

Annexure

Organization Capacity Assessment Matrix in Implementing LQAS: NVBDCP,ODISHA

(i) ASSESSMENT OF ORGANIZATION CAPACITY AT DISTRICT LEVEL

- DMO:

- VVDC:

- MTS:

-OFFICE OF DMO:

(ii) ASSESSMENT OF ORGANIZATION CAPACITY AT STATE NVBDCP LEVEL

Strengthening Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) in Odisha State, India to Improve Malaria Control Programme Management and Impact

Phasing out plan of LQAS for NVBDCP, Odisha:

1. Background

National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) Odisha has been using implementing Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) technique for monitoring the performance data of key malaria indicators at district and Block-CHC levels since 2009 in order to ensure and enhance the quality intervention.

LQAS is a rapid classification technique used by district managers to determine whether a Block-CHC is reaching pre-established targets for key programme indicators. Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) has been providing technical support to NVBDCP to implement LQAS in the State with the support of DFID. The ongoing project (Sub-contract with OPTIONS) has been implemented for a period of three years (1 April 2012- 31 March 2015). The project aims to extend the use of LQAS for routine assessment of NVBDCP in 21 districts of Odisha State which was initiated from 9 districts. The current programme focussed on capacity building at the State and District level institutions or stakeholders aiming to foster the sustainability of monitoring and evaluation system.

As per the agreed plan, nine districts initially supported by LSTM will be gradually phased out in two different stages within this year -2013. However, a minimal support, if required will be given to those districts as per request of State NVBDCP even after phasing out period.

Phasing out plans of nine districts as mentioned in the proposal is as follows:

- (i) First lot of phasing out districts: Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Kandhamal and Nabarangpur (phasing out time proposed in the proposal is September 2013)
- (ii) Second lot of phasing out districts: Angul, Dhenkanal, Deogarh, Boudh and Bolangir (phasing out time proposed in the proposal is December 2013)
- (iii) Phasing out districts proposed for the first stages have completed **six** rounds of LQAS survey. Likewise, proposed second stage phasing out districts has completed **three** rounds of survey so far.

The MTS (Data collector) and VBDCS of those districts have gone through all the major LQAS steps. They also include;(i) basic training, (b)-data collection (ii) data tabulation and (iii) data analysing and using the results for programme improvements.

The following sections explain how the phasing out plan is being carried out in the first (4 districts) and second phasing out districts (5 districts):

1.1 Phasing out plan

Phasing out plans are linked with LQAS rounds/data collection. Earlier first stage phasing out districts and second stage phasing out districts were planned in September 2013 and December 2013 respectively, immediately after first and second LQAS rounds. However, due to unforeseen circumstances there were some delays on finishing few important events that need to be completed. Therefore first round LQAS did not happen as plan earlier. As a result, the first round of LQAS will have to go till the end of November 2013. Therefore, complete phasing out of first lot districts (Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Nabarangpur and Kandhamal) would be in December instead of September 2013.

1.2 Objective

As per the project design the key objective of the phasing out plan is to equip the State and District level functionaries (official consultants) to carry out all key events/tasks (as listed in the programme activities below) while implementing Malaria control program independently as part of regular ME system.

2. Phasing out coordination activities

- Reduce the number of meetings, and visits by LSTM from phasing out districts.
- Progressively hand over to NVBDCP full responsibility for to organize and plan LQAS rounds from phasing out districts
- Progressively increase responsibilities to M & E consultants (other NVBDCP consultants) to facilitate LQAS basic training and refresher training as require from the phasing out districts .
- Work with NVBDCP and TMST to ensure a smooth hand-over of all activities and major technical support in place, so that quality of the work will remain in a sustained manner.
- Agree with NVBDCP to continue minimal technical support if required and also agree the timing of periodical coordination meetings.

3. Phasing out programme activities

3.1 Phasing out plan for State NVBDCP

- Organisation assessment of NVBDCP on key areas of management of LQAS activities through a set of indicators and parameters (annexed list of indicator)
- Provide basic LQAS training to the State consultants NVBDCP.
- Involve State consultants to supervise the data collection of MTS at districts/blocks.
- Orient State consultant in hand tabulation and result analysis.
- Work with NVBDCP to increase the usage of LQAS data for planning.
- Work with TMST to support State NVBDCP for going into LQAS automation (for collecting data, report generation)-

3.2 Phasing out Plan for District VBDCP

- Assessment of skills and knowledge of MTS on data collection, Tabulation, analysis and dissemination of data. Basing on the assessment results (gap identified) MTS will be given support/orientation in the field by LSTM consultants.
- Train VBDC and DEO in preparing sampling frame for their districts (LSTM together with NVBDCP will train district VBDC/DEO in preparing SF for their respective districts)
- Access the knowledge of VBDCs on principles and important components of LQAS events in order to carry out survey in the districts.
- Access knowledge of DMOs on principles and important components of LQAS events in order to carry out survey in the districts.
- Assessment of quality of LQAS documentation at district level.
- LSTM will work with State NVBDCP to address the gaps identified at district level.

4. Complete phasing out of support activities

- (i) **Pre round activities:** Reviewing of questionnaires and hand tables, prepare sampling frame, planning (for all important events) and pre round orientation.
- Phasing out Strategy:* The state and district managers are already actively involved in these activities. NVBDCP will be supported in the current round to strengthen the necessary skills required for the programme.
- (ii) **During round activities:** Supportive supervision, coordination with districts, and supervision of data collection by VBDC & DMO in district.
- Phasing out Strategy:* LSTM field staff together with NVBDCP will plan/organize a joint supervision to support the data collection work at district level.
- (iii) **Post data collection activities:** Facilitation of hand tabulation workshop, data analysis and dissemination of the results.
- Phasing out Strategy:* The MTS, VBDC, State consultants will be capacitated on these activities during coming LQAS round (December 2013).
- (iv) **Phasing out workshop:** A two days workshop upon completion of current LQAS round will be carried out in December 2013 to formally hand over all the technical support so far given to five districts (Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Kandhamal and Nabarangpur) and State NVBDCP by LSTM. DMOs, selected MTS, VBDCs of respective districts and State consultants and partner will be participating in the workshop.

A similar workshop will also be organized to hand over second lot phasing out districts (Boudh, Balangir, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, and Angul).The date for this will be decided later in consultation with NVBDCP and TMST.

5. Phasing out Status

MTS experience in LQAS

District	Number of MTS	MTS received LQAS Training	MTS experienced in Data collection and Hand Tabulation	Competency of MTS in working independently on LQAS (LSTM's view)
Kandhamal	11	11	10	4
Mayurbhanj	15	15	14	13
Nawarangpur	7	7	3	3
Sundargarh	15	15	15	9
Total	48	48	42	29

Status of different activities for phasing out and experience of NVBDCP

Sl No	Activity	Status of progress
1	Involvement of State Consultants in preparation of questionnaires	M&E Consultant, IEC Consultant, SM & PPP Consultant already went through the process
2	Basic training (5 days) to State consultants	M&E Consultant, IEC Consultant, SM & PPP consultant & DEO already went through the training
3	Supportive supervision	M&E Consultant, IEC Consultant, SM & PPP consultant, Training consultant are exposed and engaged in supportive supervision
4	Hand Tabulation	M&E Consultant, SM & PPP consultant have some experience, but need more training
5	Result dissemination and planning at distric	Most of the state consultants have this experience and skills.

Experience state consultants of NVBDCP in LQAS

Number of existing state consultants	Received LQAS 5 days basic Training	Experienced in Data collection and Hand Tabulation
7	3	2

6. Approach and detailed activity plan

MTS: Out of total 48 MTS 29 are competent enough to do the LQAS independently as they have already gone through several rounds of full LQAS. Six MTS of original four districts were mobilized as supervisors for data collection 2011. The new 19 MTS of four original districts can be supported by MTS of respective districts who have gone through the process several times.

MTS Mentor: MTS who were very good in LQAS can be engaged to support the new and less experienced MTS in the field.

VBDC: Out of the 4 VBDCs, 3 i.e. Kandhamal and Sundargarh and Nabarangpur have already 5 to 6 rounds of experience. Mayurbhanj VBDC position is vacant, so once the position is filled she/he will be trained.

DMOs: None of the DMOs had full LQAS training however they have some idea about the LQAS. As these positions are very volatile we need to help them on how to plan, implement and support the programme.

Workshop on phasing out : A two days workshop will be planned and organised for DMO, VBDC and 2-3 selected MTS from each district to work out the detail plan for individual districts on how to sustain the programme with the minimal (in the beginning) and without (or little) support of LSTM.

Activity Plan from 15th Sept to 2nd week of December

Activities	Time	Responsibility
Preparation of Assessment indicators/questions for state and district stakeholders	11 th Sept	LSTM
Finalisation of assessment formats		NVBDCP/TMST & LSTM
Orientation of state consultants on assessment formats and monitoring formats		NVBDCP
Sending district assessment forms to individual DMOs & VBDCs		NVBDCP
State NVBDCP assessment		LSTM
District assessment during monitoring visit of LSTM consultants		NVBDCP/LSTM
Workshop on preparing handing over strategies /sustainability plan		NVBDCP/LSTM
Phasing out documentation and reporting		LSTM

7. Assessment Methodology

The assessment will be mainly based on carrying out organizational assessment of the stakeholders involved in the program. For this several indicators for organization assessment have been planned to be utilized in the phasing out process. A list of organization assessment indicators to be utilized during the phasing out process is presented in the annexure of this document (see annexure). These indicators will be used to identify the existing capacity of the districts in carrying out LQAS independently or with a minimal support of NVBDCP. These indicators will be used by the State NVBDCP Consultant, TMST consultants and LSTM field team for assessing the capacity. The following table summarizes about the methods to be used during phasing out period, objective, and institutions to be involved on assessing the capacity of the stakeholders. The gaps identified will be discussed and addressed in subsequent period.

A scorecard has been developed by LSTM, NVBDCP and TMST on basis of which the performance of organisation and individual staff (consultants and MTS) will be classified in three levels (Very good, good and poor).

Type of tool	Objective of the tool	User of the tool
Assessment of organization capacity at district level	Measure the skill and knowledge of MTS, VBDC and DMO to carry out LQAS in the districts with a minimal support. This also assesses the existing overall capacity of the district in implementing LQAS.	NVBDCP Consultants, TMST, LSTM
Assessment of organization capacity at state level	Assess the existing capacity of the State NVBDCP in overall planning and managing LQAS in participating districts	NVBDCP Consultants, TMST, LSTM

**Organization Capacity Assessment Matrix in Implementing LQAS:
NVBDCP,ODISHA**

(i) ASSESSMENT OF ORGANIZATION CAPACITY AT DISTRICT LEVEL

DMO:

Assessment of DMO for phasing out : Date:

Name of District:

Name of DMO:

Working as DMO since:

Number of round of LQAS completed during tenure as DMO:

Please tick in the box corresponding to your level of agreement

SI No	Indicators	Very good	Good	Poor
	Knowledge and Skill			
1	Knowledge on basic objective of LQAS			
2	Knowledge on processes/steps of LQAS application			
3	Knowledge of sample size and how samples are drawn I from each CHC			
4	Knowledge on fixing district targets for an indicator			
5	Knowledge of key indicators being assessed in LQAS in the survey			
6	Skill on planning the programme based on LQAS results.			
	Total			

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation:

VBDC:

Assessment of VBDC for phasing out :

Date:

Name of District:

Name of VBDC:

Working as VBDC since:

Number of round of LQAS completed during tenure as VBDC:

Please tick in the box corresponding to your level of agreement

Sl No	Indicators	Very good	Good	Poor
1	Knowledge on how samples are drawn from a sampling frame(Procedures)			
2	Skill on preparation of sampling frame			
3	Skill to facilitate preparation of micro plan (Tour plan) of individual MTS to collect data as per schedule time period			
4	Knowledge on how district targets are fixed.			
5	Skill to fix district target for an indicator			
6	Knowledge of key indicators assessed in LQAS survey.			
7	Understanding on the contents of the questionnaire (Understanding the objectives of each question included in questionnaires)			
8	Skill to facilitate MTS in finding the sample HH (Index house hold randomly)			
9	Skill to guide the MTS in filling questionnaire			
10	Knows the logic of Indicators being analysed in LQAS.			
11	Skill to supervise and facilitate Hand Tabulation workshop			
12	Skill on using random table.			
12	Skill on using decision table (LQAS table)			
13	Skill to analyse the data and use the result for programme improvement.			

Planning , Management and Documentation				
14	Skill on preparing micro-plan (Tour plan)			
15	Results shared at district level meeting after each round			
16	Able to decide priority indicator based on LQAS results			
17	Filing of LQAS documents (up-to-date LQAS filing)			
18	Display of the LQAS results at district headquarters.			
19	Integration of data collection into routine work of MTS taking place			
	Total			

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation:

MTS:

Assessment of MTS for phasing out :

Date:

Name of District:

Name of MTS:

Working as MTS since:

Number of round of LQAS completed during tenure as MTS:

Please tick in the box corresponding to your level of agreement

SI No	Indicators	Very good	Good	Poor	Total
1	Knowledge on why 19 samples are selected in LQAS				
2	Knowledge on selection of index HH randomly				
3	Able to use random table properly				
4	Understand the objective of the questions in the questionnaire				
5	Able to use the decision table				
6	Able to fill the questionnaire properly				
7	Able to tabulate (Result and summary table) the data				
8	Able to analyse the data in summary table				
9	Data collection is integrated with routine field work				
	Planning , Management and Documentation				
10	Preparation of micro plan (Tour plan)				
11	Results shared at Block-CHC meeting after each round				
12	Able to prioritise priority indicators based on LQAS results.				
13	Filing of LQAS documents (Up-to-date of LQAS				

	filing)				
14	Display of the LQAS results at Block-CHC				
	Total				

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation:

Assessment: DMO Office

Assessment of DMO Office :

Date:

Name of District:

Number of LQAS round completed:

Please tick in the box corresponding to your level of agreement

SI No	Indicators	Yes	No
1	LQAS documents with data of previous rounds available		
2	LQAS file with results of previous rounds available		
3	Tour plan /LQAS data collection plan of individual MTS available		
4	Communication to all MO ICs completed prior to each round.		
	Total		

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation:

Remark and suggestion of the VBDC on LQAS :

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation:

(ii)ASSESSMENT OF ORGANIZATION CAPACITY AT STATE NVBDCP LEVEL

Sl No	Indicators	Yes	No	Remarks
1	Separate file maintained for LQAS			
(i)	LQAS documents with data of previous rounds available			
(ii)	LQAS file with results of previous rounds available			
(iii)	Tour plan /LQAS data to support districts during LQAS rounds			
2	Enough budget available with state to carry out LQAS			
3	Results shared at State level meeting after each round			
4	Data/results being used for planning (annual & periodic plan)			
5	District and block level LQAS events/activities supported/ supervised by consultants in field during their regular field trip			
6	Able to prepare sampling frames require for LQAS survey			
7	Capable to facilitate basic LQAS training			
8	Able to facilitate hand tabulation workshop (hand tabulation, analyse the result and using results for the programme improvement)			

Data collected and verified by:

Organisation: