

Global MNTE Update as of 1st July 2009

Update on June 2009 activities:

(for comments please write to fshafique@unicef.org)

1- During June 2009, TT-SIAs were conducted in 117 high risk districts/ areas of 4 countries targeting more than 4.6 million women of reproductive age with one dose of TT vaccine.

i- Angola:

- All TT-SIAs needed in the country are planned in 2 overlapping phases between November 2008 and February 2010. Two rounds of the first phase have been conducted. The first round of the 2nd phase was conducted from 14th-28th June 2009 in 83 high risk districts (HRDs) targeting more than 1.5 million women of reproductive age (WRA). The third round of first phase and the second round of second phase will be conducted in September 2009.
- The country is expected to complete all needed TT-SIAs in 2010 and be validated by WHO as having eliminated MNT in 2011.

ii- Ethiopia:

- Since 2007 TT-SIAs have been integrated with the biannual Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS). Second round in a series of two corrective rounds in 6 zones targeting 1.6 million WRA was conducted in 8th to 12th June 2009.
- All needed TT-SIAs in Ethiopia are expected to be completed by mid 2010 with validation re-scheduled to 2011.

iii- Tanzania:

- A review in July 2008 identified 15 HRDs in need of TT-SIAs. First round was conducted on 13 to 15 June 2009 targeting 1.27 million women.
- The second round of SIAs is scheduled on 18th-19th July 2009 and the third on 19th -20th December 2009. Validation of MNT Elimination is scheduled in 2010.

iv- Timor Leste:

- A review in August 2007 identified all 13 districts in the country as HRDs. Two rounds in these HRDs were conducted in Q4 2008 and the last/third round targeting 222,500 women was conducted in June 2009 integrated with measles vaccination and Vitamin A & Iron/Folate supplementation.
- A data & field review will be conducted in Timor Leste once the coverage data of this round is compiled to assess if the country is ready to claim elimination or if any districts require additional TT-SIAs. MNT validation is currently scheduled in 2010.

2- During June 2009, WHO continued supporting countries in the process of validation of MNT Elimination. Important decisions in this regard were made in 2 countries:

v- A data review in Comoros in June 09, concluded that Comoros is ready for validation. A nation-wide LQA is scheduled for early November 2009.

vi- Another district-data review in Madagascar in June 09 found that the Region of Betsiboka (3 districts) was likely to be the weakest, and that a LQA should take place in this Region to demonstrate whether MNT has been eliminated. The LQA is scheduled for end September/early October 2009.

3- Other news:

vii- UNICEF and Procter and Gamble Pampers' Division, met in Geneva on 24th June 2009, for review of the UNICEF-P&G agreement. The decisions made in the meeting will allow completion of all needed TT-SIAs in at least 16 countries using the funds made available through this partnership.

viii- A national stake-holders meeting was conducted in Abuja, Nigeria to agree on the necessary steps for implementation of the SIAs strategy to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in the country. The National Plan of Action for MNTE was revised/ finalized and a draft activity time line was prepared during the meeting. Nigeria is aiming to begin TT-SIAs in the high risk areas of 3 states in 2009.