



## INDOOR RESIDUAL SPRAYING FOR MALARIA CONTROL

# Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) Program

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### Cost Effective and Efficient Payment System

The Kenya IRS project used an innovative popular mobile-phone based money transfer service (MPESA) used in Kenya to make payments to seasonal workers during the 2010 spray campaign in all the districts they were working in. The service is internet based and it makes electronic transfer of funds to individual phones numbers making the turnaround time for paying seasonal workers fast. The service eliminates the risk of transporting cash since electronic. The service is widely available and flexible therefore workers do not have to take time off work to withdraw cash. The system was able to handle payments for 2,337 IRS temporary staff and 68 Ministry officials

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### IRS Project Sustainability Tool

As part of ensuring the sustainability of the IRS project, a sustainability tool was developed to help measure the positive progress of sustainability and capacity building along a continuum that incorporates stages of growth called the IRS Sustainability Continuum. The tool consists of four stages with indicators that assist countries identify the continuum stage they are in and the tool has suggestions on certain program benchmarks and advocacy activities that can be undertaken to help countries measure progress to the next stage along the continuum.

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### IRS Environmental Compliance Workshops

RTI and International Resources Group (IRG) are running a series of Regional Environmental Capacity Building Workshops. The workshops are designed to prepare host country professionals working with the PMI program in sub-Saharan Africa to use a uniform environmental approach for IRS activities that will ensure compliance with USAID and host country environmental regulations in a continued effort to ensure the safe and judicious use of insecticides in vector control.

The goal is to create a cadre of technical experts from sub-Saharan Africa who are able to evaluate and provide guidance on how to effectively implement environmental compliance for IRS programs and who can share lessons learned and emerging best practices.



Participants in one of the workshops

The workshop discusses the Best Management Practices for IRS programs combined with field exercises that provide an opportunity to practice the techniques discussed in the classroom. Participants are drawn from agencies working on malaria control programs in Africa's comprising

- Host country consultants (potential environmental compliance evaluators)
- Representatives from host country Ministries of Environment
- Members of host country National Malaria Control Programs
- WHO, Global Health, FAO representatives, USAID/Missions

So far, two Regional workshops were conducted in Kisumu Kenya and in Madagascar for the Anglo-phone and Francophone respectively.

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### IRS Data Collection Goes Hi Tech

The IRS project is piloting a new data entry system using the cell phone technology to collect real time spray operation data. The cell phones will be linked to a database that transmits data to the RTI M&E system. The data collection process will involve a simple data sequence that follows a data string containing structure information which is sent by SMS to a number that is linked to the database. This system will enable the collection of primary data thus reducing errors. This system will be piloted in selected districts in Ethiopia and Ghana.

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### Project Planning Week (PPW)

The Nairobi Regional office hosted 2010 Africa Health Chief of Party Conference and the annual IRS Program Planning week from November 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The conference was attended by the PMI Washington representatives, NC and DC IRS staff, COPs and the Nairobi IRS regional office staff.



Conference Group Photo

During the same week the official opening of the Nairobi regional office was conducted.



Ribbon cutting ceremony conducted by Jim Gibson, Mr. Silvester Kasuku and Julie Wallace. Looking on is Barbara Kennedy and Bert Maggart.

**For more photos check share point/knowledge base/photo library.**

### Below are the staffing changes in the region during January - March, 2011

#### New COPs

- Dereje Dengele, Ethiopia
- Jacob Chishiba, Zambia

