



Integrating NTD drug packages into a Child Nutrition Campaign

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Overview of the Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program (NTDCP)

- USAID's NTD program began in 2006 in 5 countries- *Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Uganda* – and rapidly expanded to 9 additional countries- *Cameroun, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Togo, Tanzania, Southern Sudan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Indonesia* - by the end of 2010
- Focus on preventive chemotherapy for 5 NTDs that can be targeted through mass drug administration (MDA)
- Promote integrated delivery of mass treatment as opposed to separate support for vertical disease control programs
- Program has supported the **distribution of more than 385 million drug treatments to 69 million** individuals in 10 countries

NTDs Targeted by USAID



Onchocerciasis
(River Blindness)



Lymphatic Filariasis
(Elephantiasis)



Intestinal
Helminths
(Worms)



Blinding Trachoma



Schistosomiasis
(Snail Fever)

Hookworms, Trichiuris, Whipworms and Schistosomiasis → anemia

Integration Project

Integration of NTD control into *Semaine d'Intensification des Activités de Nutrition (SIAN)*, a national nutrition campaign in Mali, in 2 districts - Kolokani and Banamba

National week for the intensification of child nutrition activities (SIAN)

- Nationwide program
- Takes place twice a year
- Supported by MoH/Mali, UNICEF and Helen Keller International
- Promotion of Breastfeeding
- Vitamin A supplementation
- Bed-nets distribution

Objective

- Assess the effectiveness of the co-administration of NTD drug packages (ALB, IVM, ZTH & PZQ) with vitamin A supplementation and breastfeeding promotion

Why integrate?

- Common aspects:
 - Almost the same community volunteers and the same supervisors for both programs
 - Overlapping districts and geographical areas
 - Same partners/donors
 - Need to coordinate campaigns and schedules
 - Need to decrease burden on peripheral health units and communities (multiples campaigns, overwhelmed staff)
 - Expecting enhanced coverage and cost-effectiveness for both programs
 - Directorate of national health services

SIAN / NTDCP Integration

- **Facilitating Factors:**
 - Existing national policy (PRODESS), frameworks, WHO master-plans and NTD protocols
 - Nutrition and Health Programs are under the same directorate
- **Processes:**
 - Integrating planning and budgeting,
 - Designing integrated tools: registers, training manuals, guidelines etc...
 - Integrating training, social mobilization, logistics, supervision and monitoring

Rolling NTDCP/SIAN Integrated Packages

- NTD Maps and Distribution plans
- SIAN timetable and schedules
- IEC/Community mobilization
- Trainings
- Delivery to distribution posts
- Monitoring tools

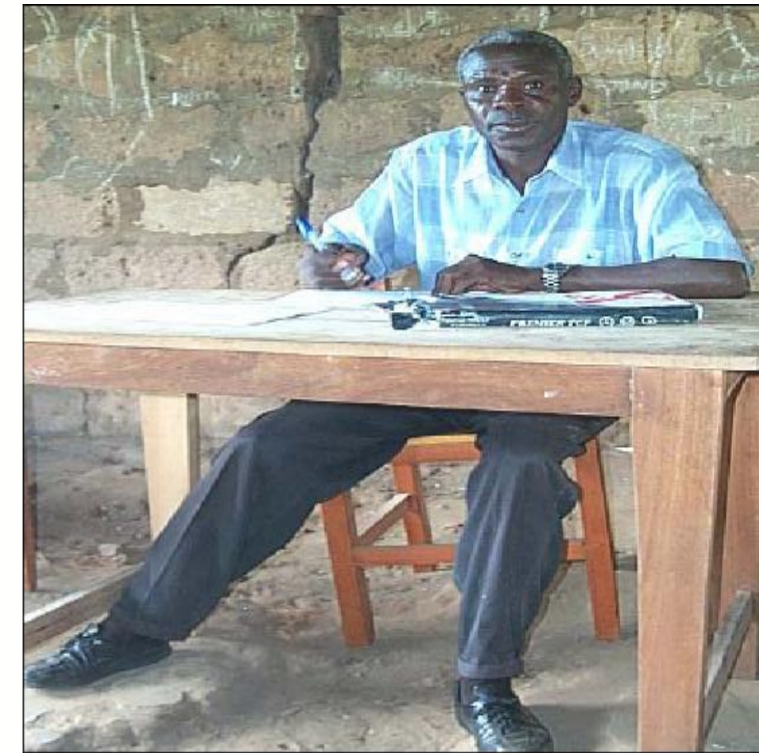


Pre-& Post- Campaigns Measurements



Heights/weights

Questionnaires



Some Challenges Along the Way

- Challenging field operations: targets, distribution mechanisms, availability of drugs/commodities
- Complex trainings with potential for confusion
- Some IEC materials may yield mixed/confused messages (should always be pre-tested)
- Fear of losing some privileges/advantages (harmonizing incentives for volunteers for all programs)
- Diluting individual programs specific interventions (losing momentum of diseases targeted for elimination)

General Reflections on Integration

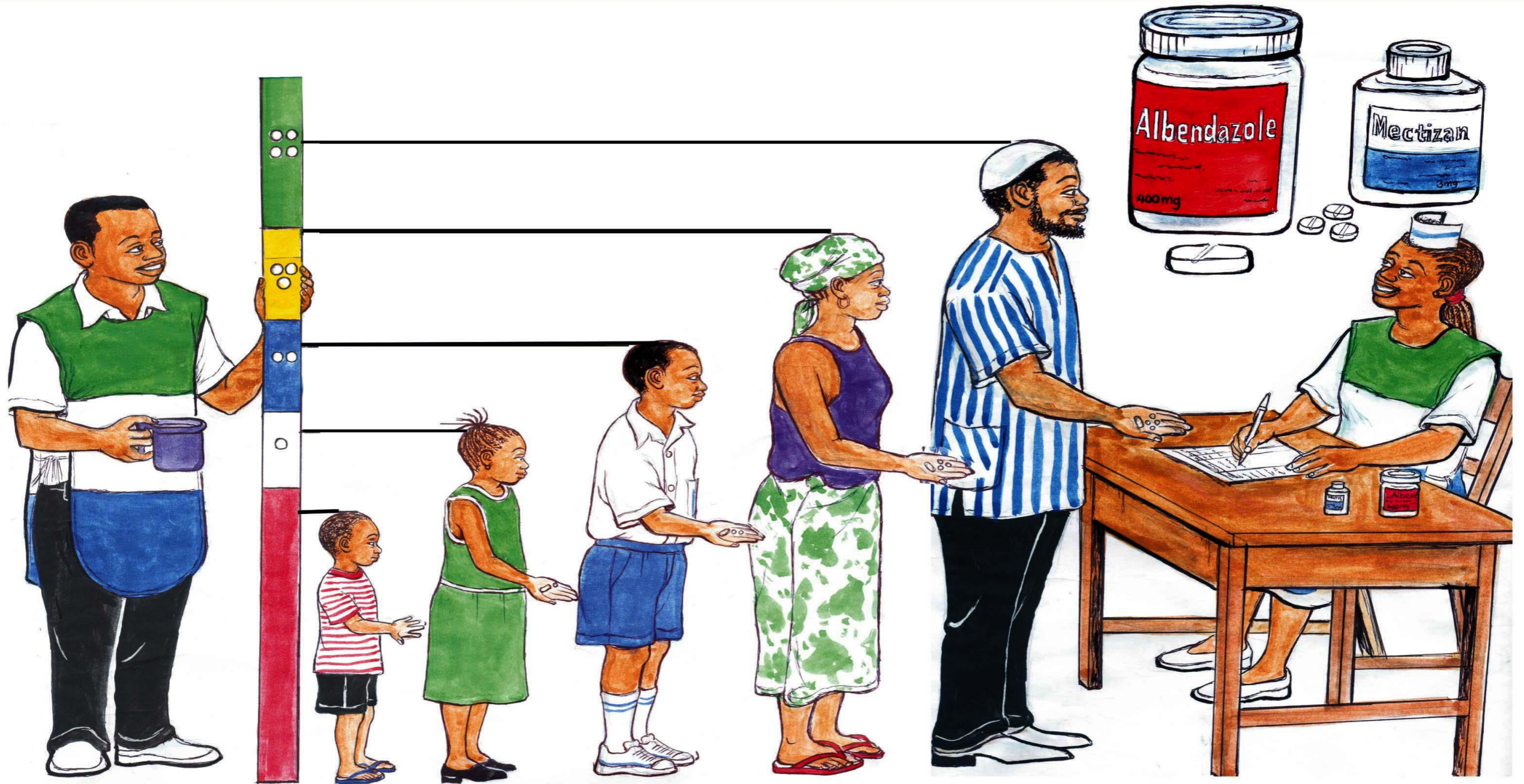
- *Integration is an attitude*, not a recipe
- Efficient and appealing approach with the potential to minimize field work and costs
- Balanced and pragmatic approach to treat or prevent diseases for groups of people and individuals
- Illustrates importance of investing in teamwork to minimize overall program costs by being able to target intervention

Integration Trade-offs

- Need to reach consensus on the essential elements of each individual program
- Inherent differences in the approaches for each program need to be carefully considered and reconciled

Clear and simple messages!!

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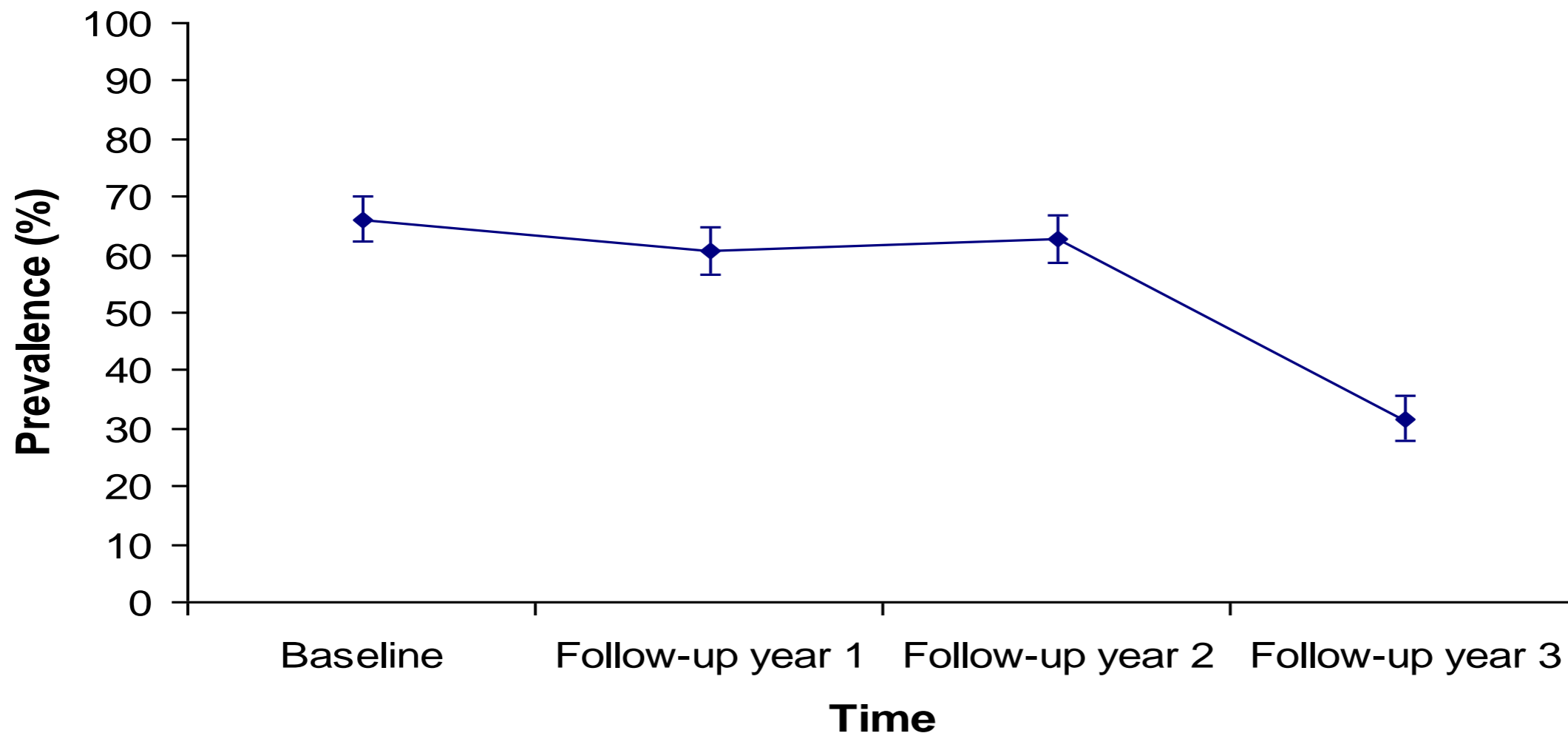


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Is integration successful?

Reduction in anemia in Burkina Faso

Overall prevalence of anaemia for n=562 children during 4 years of study (longitudinal data)



Integration of SCH/STH into school health campaigns:
dramatic decrease of anemia prevalence at follow-up year 3

THANK YOU

- Mali National Control Program staff
- Sierra Leone NTD/Oncho Control Program
- USAID NTD Control Program
- Helen Keller International
- Schistosomiasis Control Initiative, Imperial College, London (SCI)
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation