

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



IMPROVING ACCESS TO TREATMENT OF THE NTDS – CHALLENGES AND MEASURES

Dr. Sultani Matendehero
Head, Kenya National NTD Programme

Background

- 17 Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)
 - ▣ 5 Preventive Chemotherapy (PCT) NTDs
 - ▣ 12 Intensified Disease Management (IDM) NTDs
- 12 priority NTDs in Kenya (4 PCT and 8 IDM)
- 2 main intervention strategies
 - ▣ Mass drug administration (MDA)
 - ▣ Morbidity management & disability prevention (MMDP)
- Role of the NTD programme

Challenges

- Poor access to treatment
- Management of (drug) donations
- Scarcity of resources
 - ▣ For utilization of (drug) donations
 - ▣ For direct procurement
 - ▣ For coordination of treatment interventions
- Lack of adequate training among health workers
- Weak Quality Assurance and Control systems
- Stakeholders slow to embrace integration

Measures to mitigate challenges

- Review of the National Strategic Plan for NTDs
- Development of policies and guidelines
- Establishment of a coordination mechanism
 - ▣ Inter-agency coordinating committee (ICC)
 - ▣ 5 Technical working groups (TWGs) of the ICC
- Massive ACSM activities planned
- Assumption of full control of (drug) donations
- Improvement of programme staffing status

Next steps

- Role of operational research
- Capacity building and technical support
- High level government ownership
 - ▣ Direct participation
 - ▣ Baseline funding of programme activities
- More resources towards programme support
- Regular NTD fora (forums)
- Cooperation among stakeholders