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UGANDA INDOOR RESIDUAL SPRAYING (IRS) PROJECT QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT OCTOBER 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2010



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Submitted to: Gunawardena, Dissanayake, COTR
United States Agency for International Development/Kampala
Kampala, Uganda



Abt Associates Inc. ■ 4550 Montgomery Avenue, Suite 800
North ■ Bethesda, Maryland 20814 ■ Tel: 301.347.5000. ■
Fax: 301.913.9061 ■ www.abtassociates.com

Abt Associates Inc. ■ Uganda IRS Project ■
P.O.Box 37443 / Plot 33 Yusuf Lule Rd, Kampala, Uganda.
■ Tel: 256 (0).414.251.300 ■ www.abtassociates.com

Abt Associates Inc. ■ Uganda IRS Project, Gulu ■ Plot 1,
Oguti Deogracious Road, Senior Quarters, Gulu, Uganda. ■
Tel: 256 (0).471.432.032 ■
■ www.abtassociates.com

UGANDA INDOOR RESIDUAL SPRAYING (IRS) PROJECT QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

Contents

Acronyms	3
Executive Summary	4
Background	4
Project Activities/Achievements	4
Activities by Intermediate Result	5
1.1.Result 1: High-Quality IRS Program Implemented	5
1.2.Result 2: Comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation of the IRS Program Performed	9
1.3.Result 3: National Capacity for Conducting IRS Developed	14
Project Management and Administration	15
Financial Update	15
Reporting Requirements	16
Successful interventions/ Innovative Approaches	16
Challenges/Constraints	17
Lessons Learned and Recommendations	17
Planned Activities for the Next Quarter	17

Acronyms

Abt	Abt Associates, Inc
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDFU	Communications for Development Foundation Uganda
COP	Chief of Party
COTR	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
DDHS	District Director of Health Services
DEO	District Environment Officer
DHE	District Health Educator
DHI	District Health Inspector
DHO	District Health Officer
DHT	District Health Team
EMCaB	Environmental Management Capacity Building
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
GFATM	Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoU	Government of Uganda
GPS	Global Positioning System
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IR	Intermediate Result
IRS	Indoor Residual Spraying
LC	Local Council
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOP	Malaria Operational Plan
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NMCP	National Malaria Control Program
PMI	President's Malaria Initiative
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSC	Pyrethrum Spray Collections
SEA	Supplementary Environmental Assessment
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistance
TA	Technical Assistance
TOT	Training of Trainers
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization
VCD	Vector Control Division

Executive Summary

This report presents the Uganda Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) Project's progress in the first quarter of Year Two (period covering October 1st through December 31st 2010). The report outlines the key project activities and achievements in the quarter, the challenges and constraints faced, lessons learned, innovative approaches and recommendations for future implementation.

Background

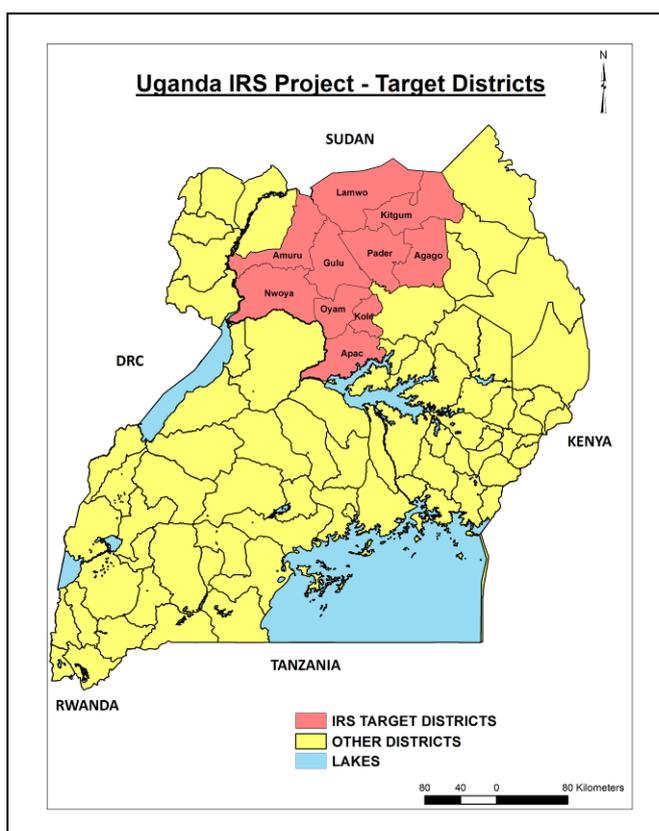
The purpose of the Uganda IRS Project is to achieve the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) Uganda targets in indoor residual spraying. In particular, the Uganda IRS Project contributes to IR.8.1: Effective use of social sector services through three main objectives:

- Implementation of a high quality IRS program;
- Conducting comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of the IRS program;
- Developing the national capacity to conduct IRS.

The goal of PMI was to reduce malaria-related mortality by 50% by the end of 2010 in the following vulnerable groups: children under five and pregnant women. PMI/Uganda has a five-year strategic plan and an annual Malaria Operational Plan (MOP) for Uganda which guides current implementation and scale-up of activities. IRS is the largest component of the MOP and is the cornerstone of the PMI/Uganda program.

The Uganda IRS program activities are being carried out with full collaboration of the Uganda National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and cover ten priority districts. The six original districts of Amuru, Apac, Gulu, Kitgum, Oyam and Pader were revised to create four new districts of Nwoya, Kole, Lamwo and Agago carved out of Amuru, Apac, Kitgum and Pader respectively. The project started referring to the four new districts with effect from October 2010.

Abt Associates, Inc. (Abt), as prime contractor of this program, manages and directs all technical component activities in support of IRS planning, procurement, implementation, monitoring, and capacity building. In addition to Abt, the project is supported by Communications for Development Foundation Uganda (CDFU), a subcontractor which provides expertise and support for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Behavior Change Communication (BCC) activities of IRS program campaigns and population sensitization under the direction of Abt technical staff.



Project Activities/Achievements

The project activities in this quarter focused on the four districts of Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo and Pader. Activities were modified to recognize the new districts of Agago and Lamwo.

Round six spraying (third round under Abt Associates) in the four districts commenced on November 3rd 2010 and was concluded by December 10th, 2010. With the exception of a few urban centers, most sub-counties had concluded spraying by the end of November. Spraying was

completed in an average of 21 spray days involving 1,379 spray operators. The insecticide usage rate was an average of 2.8 houses per sachet with each operator spraying an average of 12 houses per day. A total of 360,882 households were found of which 358,409 (99.3%) were sprayed. The total population found was 1,193,527 of which 1,183,129 (99.1%) were protected after IRS.

Activities by Intermediate Result

1.1. Result 1: High-Quality IRS Program Implemented

Strategy: Planning, management and implementation of indoor residual spraying in collaboration with key stakeholders.

Table 1: Result 1 Indicators

Indicator	Quarter 1 Actual	FY 2011 Target
Number of district level planning and introductory meetings conducted	4	20
Number of people trained in IRS*	334	1,017
Number of IRS print materials disseminated	0	5,000
Number of radio spots aired	560	2,400
Number of radio talk shows conducted	27	120
Number of community members sensitized on IRS	495	3,000
Number of districts sprayed	4	10
Number of households sprayed with IRS	358,409	1,681,011

* Number trained includes clinicians, store keepers and new spray personnel (spray operators, team leaders, supervisors, and wash persons). Returning spray personnel had a one-day orientation meeting.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Procurement and Logistics

A total of 270,160 insecticide sachets of Bendiocarb WP 80% insecticide were procured for use in Agago, Apac, Kitgum, Kole, Lamwo, , Oyam and Pader. Another batch of insecticide, sufficient to cover the remaining three districts, is expected to be delivered by the end of January, 2011. All the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was in stock and distributed to the districts before the beginning of the spray round.

A newly developed logistics system was implemented during this quarter. It has proved to be very successful in ensuring timely distribution of supplies and equipment to the various stores.

IEC/BCC

IEC/BCC activities were carried out by project partner CDFU. The main mode of communication was radio. IEC committees were also used for mobilization and sensitization of the community down

to the parish level before and during the spray round. Each sub-county had an IRS committee consisting of 11 members composed of local leaders including LC I & III chairmen, Secretary of Health, sub-county chief, women representatives, youth representatives, religious leaders and centre head teachers. Each district held two weekly radio talk shows from the local radio stations which were used to sensitize the community pre-, during and post-IRS exercise. Radio spots messages were also aired to reinforce the talk shows. In addition to activities in the four districts sprayed during this quarter, one pre-IRS radio talk show was held in each of the districts of Apac, Kole and Oyam in preparation for the upcoming spray round. There were no IEC materials distributed in this quarter. Table 2 below provides details of the IEC/BCC activities conducted during the quarter.

Table 2: IEC Activities

District	IEC committees community sensitization meetings		Radio spots	Radio talk shows
	No. of Meetings	Committee Members		
Kitgum	10	110	140	6
Lamwo	9	99	140	6
Agago	14	154	140	6
Pader	12	132	140	6
Apac	0	0	0	1
Kole	0	0	0	1
Oyam	0	0	0	1
Total	45	495	560	27

Spraying Operations

Micro-planning

A one-day micro-planning workshop was held for all Health Assistants (IRS supervisors) and District Health Team (DHT) members for the districts of Kitgum (October 5th), Pader / Agago (October 7th) and Lamwo (October 8th respectively). The workshop originally planned to take place in Pader on October 6th had to be rescheduled as all Health Assistance from both Pader and Agago were in the final stages of providing Uganda Red Cross with village data for beneficiaries of ITN's under a project of the Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). It was therefore agreed that the Health Assistants and DHT members from Pader join their counterparts in Agago district the following day.

The workshop had three main objectives:

1. To share the previous IRS successes, challenges, and way forward on operational issues, environmental compliance and data capture and management;
2. To confirm availability of previously used parish stores and draw schedules on when to assess them;
3. To provide the participants with computed human resource requirements for the upcoming spray exercise.

The workshops were successfully attended as shown in the table below:

Table 3: Micro-planning participants

District	Category	Male	Female	Total
Kitgum	DHT members	9	2	11
	Environment officer	1	0	1
	District Veterinary Officer	1	0	1
	IRS sub county supervisors	6	6	12
Lamwo	DHT members	11	1	12
	Environment officer	1	0	1
	District Veterinary Officer	0	0	0
	IRS sub county supervisors	4	6	10
Agago	DHT members	2	0	2
	Environment officer	0	0	0
	District Veterinary Officer	0	0	0
	IRS sub county supervisors	15	1	16
Pader	DHT members	6	0	6
	Environment officer	0	0	0
	District Veterinary Officer	0	0	0
	IRS sub county supervisors	12	0	12
Total		68	16	84

Recruitment and Training for Spray Teams

DHT members and Abt staff were involved in the recruitment of the spray personnel to get more Village Health Teams (VHT) members on board, thus ensuring better transparency and community participation. Members of VHTs were targeted as their status within the community assists in community-level acceptance of IRS and facilitates successful implementation of the program. Spray personnel used in previous spray rounds were selected based on their past performance. A few new recruits were selected on the basis of their current participation in local health activities or involvement in other community activities. Literacy and numeracy were key prerequisites for recruitment. Spray personnel include supervisors, team leaders, spray operators, wash persons, and storekeepers.

Prior to the commencement of the spray activities a one-day orientation meeting was held in each of the four districts of Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo and Pader for returning spray personnel. This meeting served to review spray techniques and communication skills for community approach. A few new spray personnel were recruited to replace poor performers of previous rounds and others who were no longer available. All new recruits (spray operators, team leaders, supervisors, and wash persons) were retained for three days of training while the others commenced with spraying. All the storekeepers (new and old) attended the new spray personnel training to get acquainted with new logistics management procedures. The training was conducted by the IRS supervisors. A total of 148 new spray personnel were trained. The table below highlights the spray personnel trained per district:

*Table 4: Spray Personnel Training**

District	Trained (New)	Male	Female
Kitgum	21	16	5
Lamwo	20	18	2
Agago	58	47	11
Pader	49	40	9
Total	148	121	27

**The spray personnel training was conducted only for new recruits and returning store keepers.*

Storekeepers Training

A one-day refresher course on bookkeeping and inventory management was conducted for 131 store keepers on October 18th for Kitgum/Lamwo and on October 19th for Agago/Pader as detailed in the table below.

Table 5: Store keepers training

District	No. of Participants	Male	Female
Kitgum	31	26	5
Lamwo	32	29	3
Agago	35	28	7
Pader	33	26	7
Total	131	109	22

Clinician Training on pregnancy tests

A total of 55 clinicians from hospitals and Health Centers III and IV (HCIII and HCIV) in Agago, Apac, Kitgum, Kole, Lamwo, Oyam and Pader, districts were trained on how to conduct pregnancy tests during the quarter. The training sessions were conducted by doctors from the Ministry of Health (MoH). After the training, and prior to the beginning of the spray round, the clinicians conducted pregnancy tests on all female spray personnel.

Launch of Spraying

Most sub-counties in Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo and Pader districts commenced spraying between November 3rd and 5th. The sub-counties of Lukole, Kitgum Matidi, Lagoro, Mucwini, Akwang and Palabek Ogili started spraying on November 8th, 2010. Except for a few urban centers which concluded all spray activities by December 10th, most sub-counties in the four districts had concluded spraying by the end of November. District Vector Control Officers (VCOs) were brought on board to boost supervision activities. On average, spraying was done in 21 spray days involving 1,379 spray operators in the four districts. The insecticide usage rate was an average of 2.8 houses per sachet with each spray operator spraying an average of 12 houses per day. A total of 360,882 households were found of which 358,409 (99.3%) were sprayed. The total population found was 1,193,527 of which 1,183,129 (99.1%) were protected after IRS as detailed in Table 6 below:

Table 6: Summary of IRS Output Indicators for Kitgum, Lamwo, Agago and Pader districts

Indicator	Kitgum	Lamwo	Agago	Pader	Total
No. of districts sprayed	1	1	1	1	4
Total households	83,209	69,724	109,241	98,708	360,882
Households fully sprayed	82,010	68,262	108,389	97,983	356,644
Households partly sprayed	254	385	722	404	1,765
Total households fully and partly sprayed	82,264	68,647	109,111	98,387	358,409
Households not sprayed	945	1,077	130	321	2,473
% of households partly or fully sprayed	98.9%	98.5%	99.9%	99.7%	99.3%
% of households not sprayed at all	1.1%	1.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.7%
Total population	277,641	226,546	386,476	302,864	1,193,527

Total population protected	274,727	222,700	383,733	301,969	1,183,129
Total population not protected	2,914	3,846	2,743	895	10,398
% of population protected	99.0%	98.3%	99.3%	99.7%	99.1%
% of population not protected	1.0%	1.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.9%
No. of children under five protected	62,394	52,018	98,479	78,099	290,990
No. of pregnant women protected	6,281	5,984	14,312	11,934	38,511
No. of mosquito nets found	75,656	61,131	126,997	106,261	370,045
No. of children under 5 sleeping under a net	53,304	41,125	79,945	65,540	239,914
No. of insecticide sachets used	31,610	24,199	38,025	34,679	128,513
Average number of households sprayed per sachet	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8
Number of spray operators	363	289	374	353	1,379
Average number of households sprayed per spray operator per day	10	12	14	13	12
Average number of spray days	23	19	20	21	21

1.2. Result 2: Comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation of the IRS Program Performed

Strategy: Ensure appropriate program activity monitoring, environmental compliance monitoring, and vector surveillance.

Table 7: Result 2 Indicators

Indicator	Quarter 1 Actual	FY 2011 Target
Annual work plan developed and approved	1	1
IRS progress reports prepared and submitted	5	19
Number of district level digital maps prepared	12	40
Number of inspections done by supervisors per spray round	342	1,000
IEEs and/or SEAs completed as required	0	TBD
Percentage of washing bays and soak pits inspected	100%	90%
Number of entomological surveys conducted	6	51
Number of susceptibility tests conducted	0	6
Number of wall bioassay tests conducted	168	600
Number of PSCs carried out	216	720

Accomplishments this quarter:

Environmental Assessment and Compliance

Environmental assessment and compliance activities in this quarter covered the seven districts of Agago, Apac, Kitgum, Kole, Lamwo, Oyam and Pader. The activities included identification and verification of stores and soak pits, environmental compliance inspections in the four districts of Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo, and Pader, and incineration of IRS waste materials. Following up on the recommendation made last quarter by Susan Anderson from USAID's Environmental Management Capacity Building (EMCaB) Technical Assistance Project, a layer of charcoal was introduced in each of the soak pits

Stores, Soak pits and bath shelters

The district stores for all districts except Pader are currently provided by the local governments. Similarly, 100% of parish stores are being provided at no cost to the project. Most of the soak pits and bath shelters used in the previous spray rounds were rehabilitated and reused. A few new soak pits and bath shelters were sited and constructed. A layer of charcoal was introduced in all soak pits. The cost of maintenance and repairs to soak pits and store repairs was reduced by 60% as compared

to the previous spray rounds. All the soak pits and bath shelters were inspected and verified for compliance before use. Table 8 below outlines the details:

Table 8: Environmental Compliance Details

ITEM	APAC	KOLE	OYAM	PADER	KITGUM	LAMWO	AGAGO	TOTAL
Total No. of soak pits	30	16	25	28	31	31	35	196
New Soak pits	0	1	3	2	4	5	7	22
Old soak pits	30	15	22	26	27	26	28	174
Total No. of stores	30	16	25	28	31	31	35	196
No. of new Stores	0	1	4	2	4	4	6	21
No. of Stores repaired	3	2	2	2	2	0	0	11
No. of Bath Shelters	60	32	50	56	62	60	68	388
No. of Environmental Compliance Inspections conducted	50	30	35	56	59	57	65	352

Incineration of IRS waste

8,030 kg of IRS wastes were incinerated in Nakasongola in December. The wastes consisted of polythene sheets, used nose and mouth masks, used and torn gloves, empty insecticide paper boxes, torn haversacks, empty bendiocarb and Fendona sachets, used face towels and filter cloths, and expired Icon (WP and Liquid CS). Waste materials for the concluded spraying in Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo, and Pader are being sorted, quantified and transported to the central store in Gulu for final disposal arrangements.

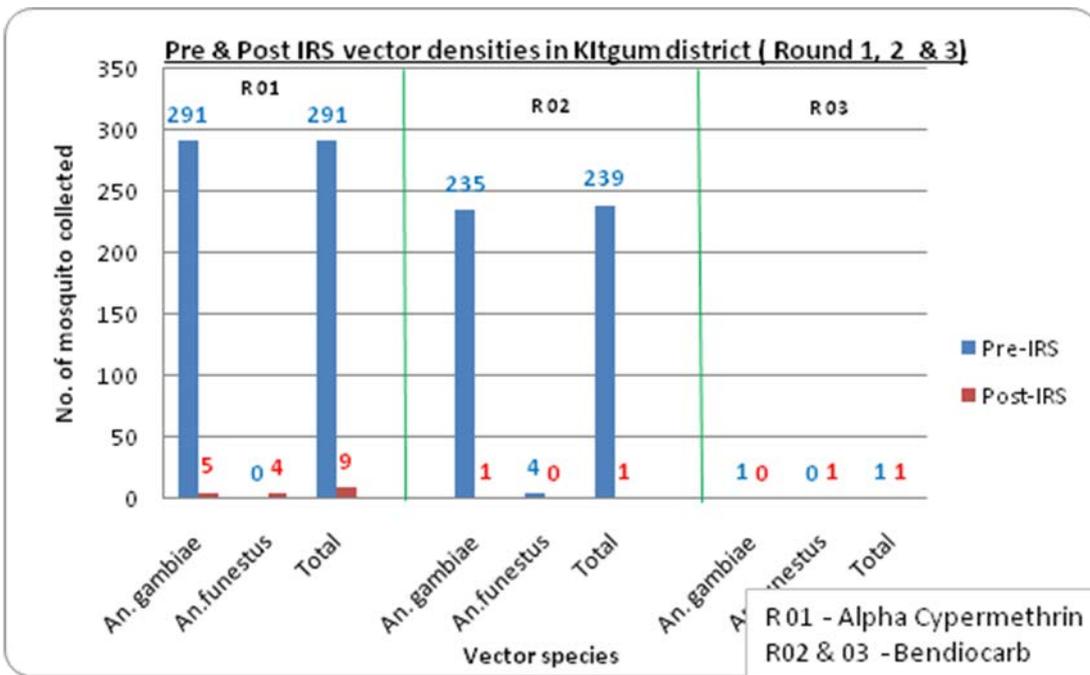
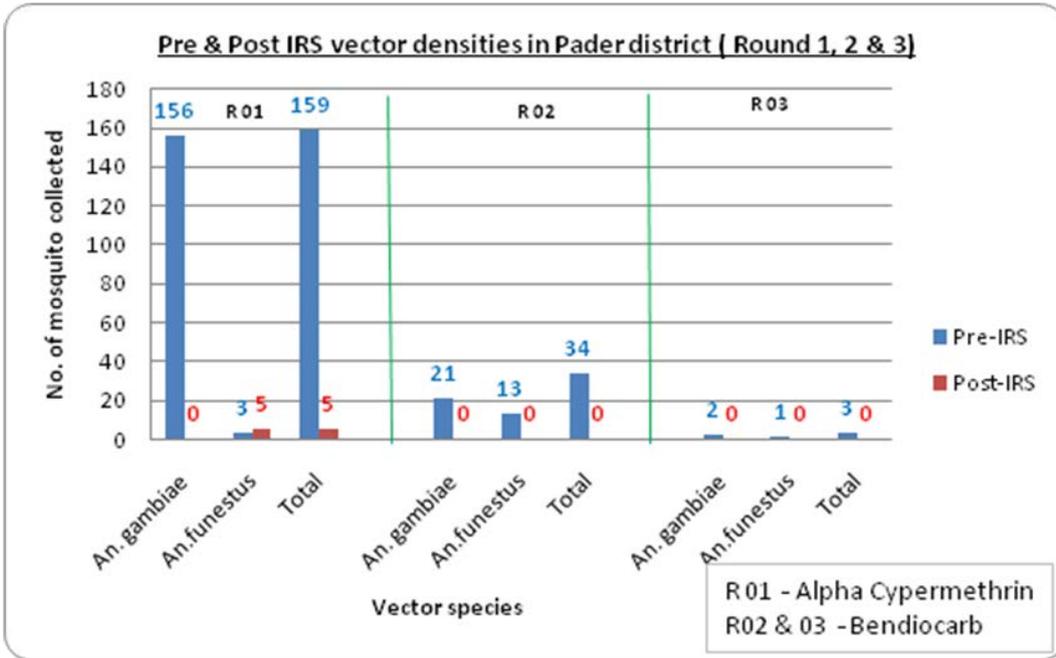
Environmental Compliance Inspections

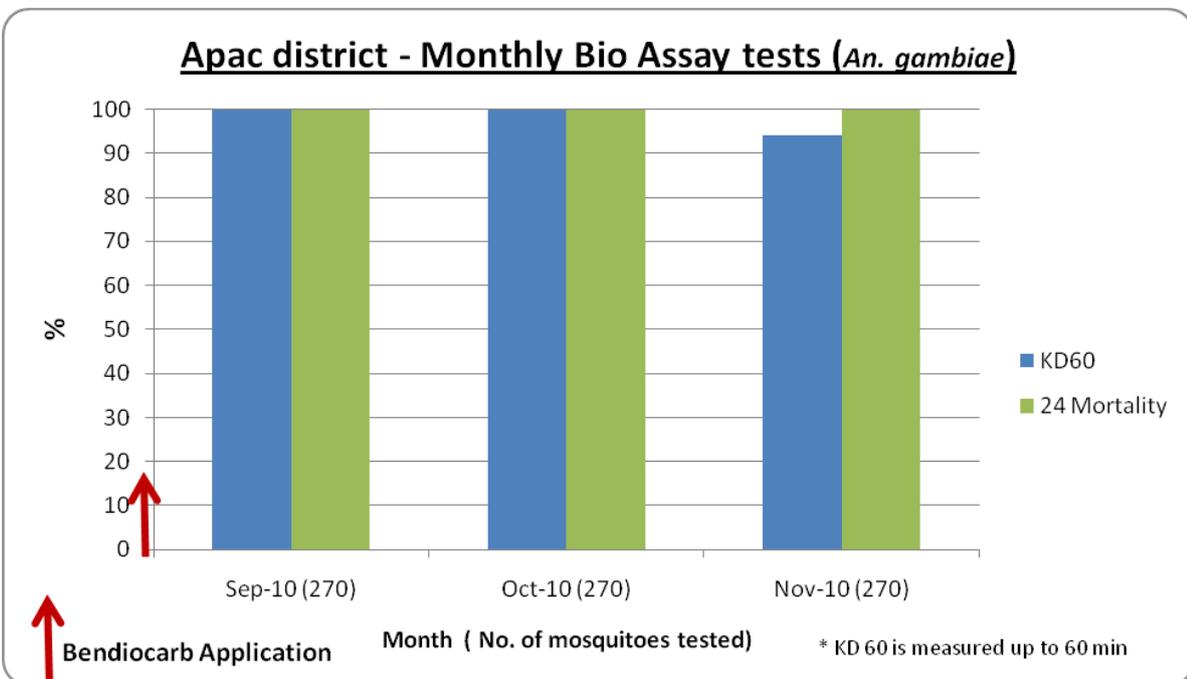
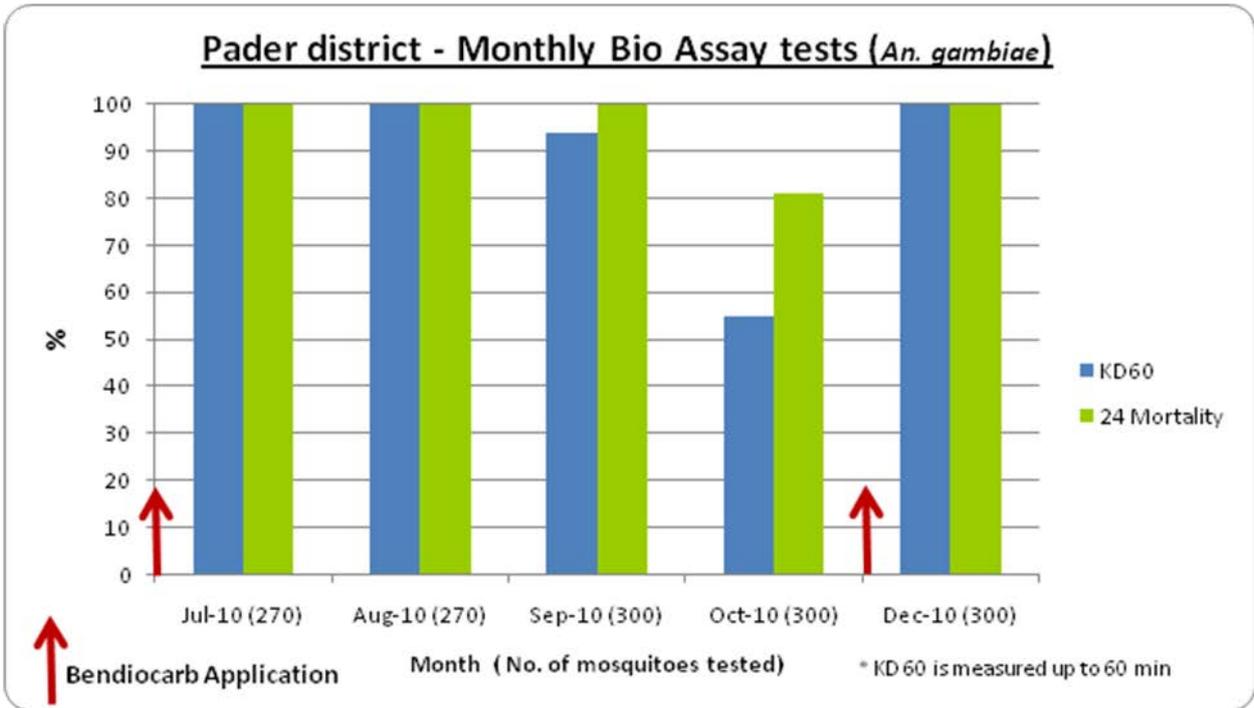
Environmental Compliance Inspections were designed to monitor proper introduction of the charcoal layer in the soak pits and to monitor PPE usage, triple rinsing, store maintenance, and safety of the community. A total of 352 inspections were conducted during this quarter by Abt's Environmental Compliance Officer working together with the District Environmental Officers (DEO).

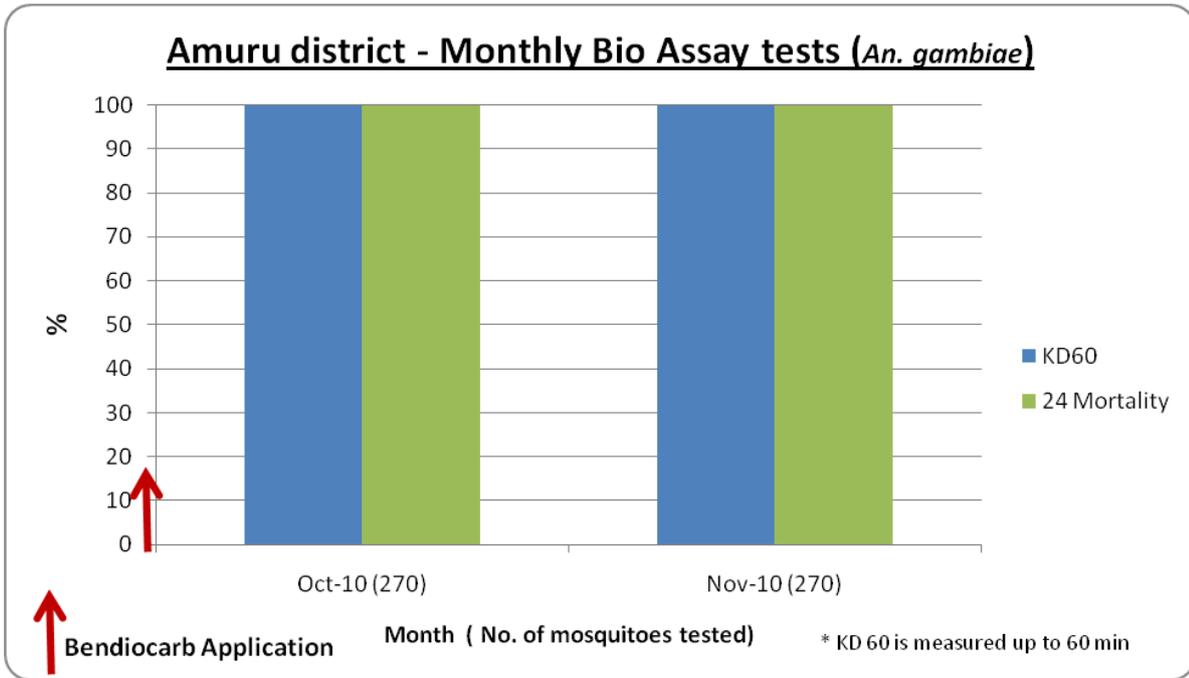
Entomological Monitoring

Routine entomological monitoring was carried out during this quarter. Pre- and Post-IRS Pyrethrum Spray Collections (PSC) were carried out in Kitgum (October) and Pader (December). Post-IRS PSCs were carried out in Amuru and Gulu in October. It was observed that indoor resting vector mosquito populations have decreased significantly in these districts after IRS, as shown in the graphs below.

Monthly wall bioassays were also conducted in Pader in October and December and in Amuru and Apac in October and November. Results shown below indicate that residual efficacy of Bendiocarb starts to decrease markedly after 3 to 3.5 months.

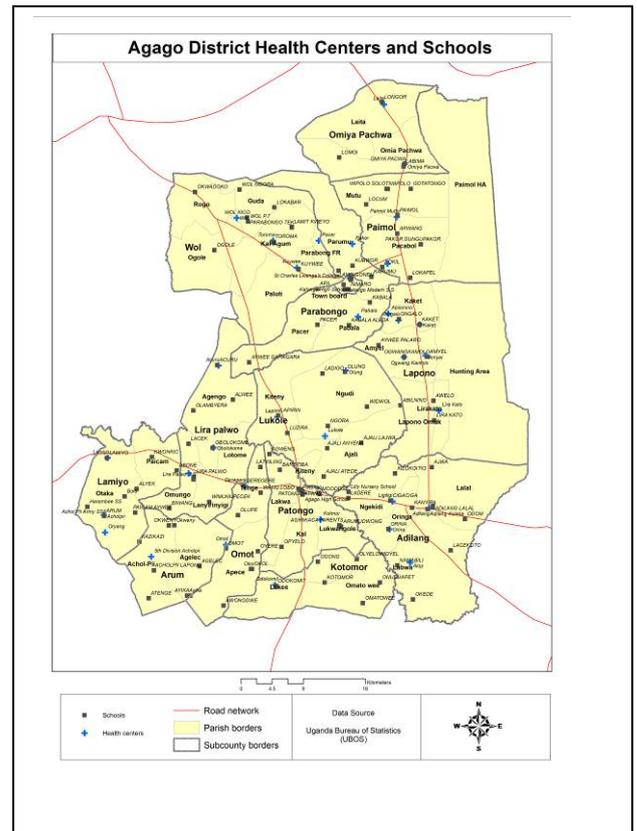
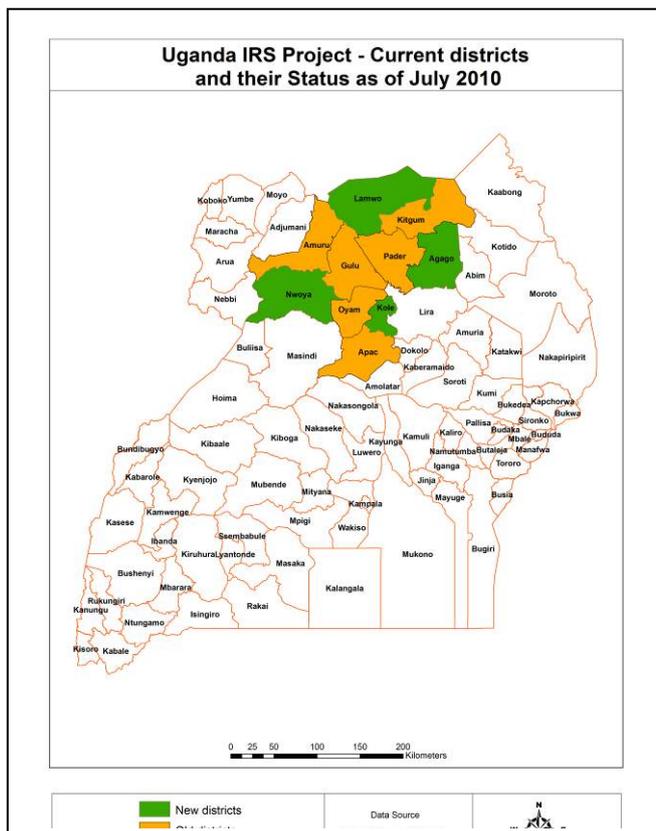


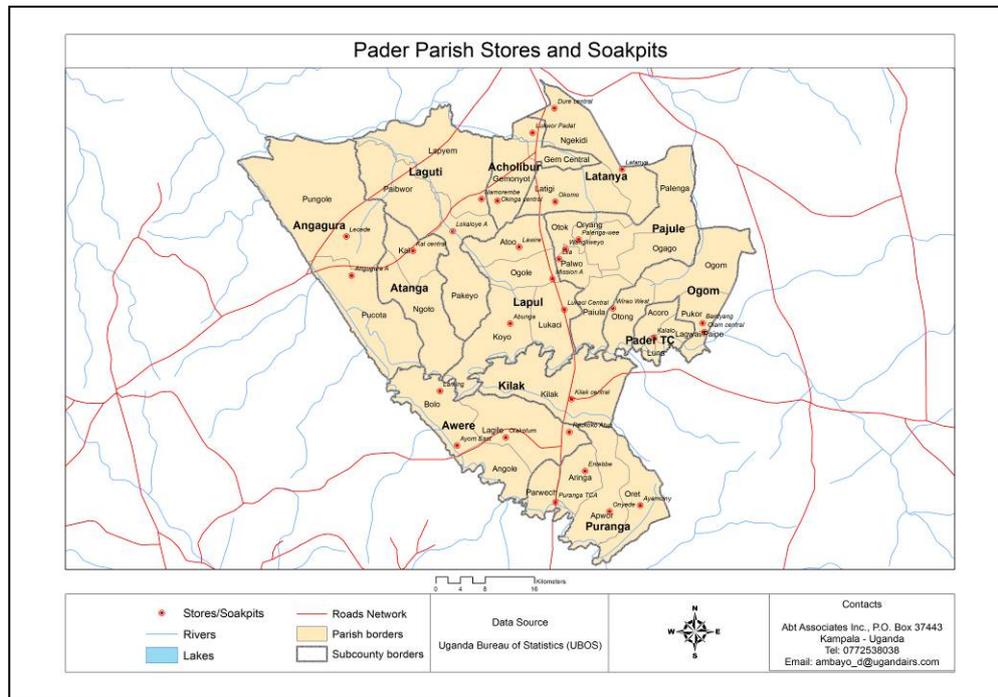




Geographic Information System (GIS)

GIS maps were used to identify boundaries of the newly formed districts and their sub-counties. Maps showing the road network and the location of the IRS stores were also produced. These maps were very useful in studying routes to be followed by the data collectors and for logistics. Maps showing Health Centers and Schools were also designed. Below is a sample of some of the maps that were designed in this quarter:





Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The M&E system has greatly improved with the introduction of motorbikes to collect data from the parish stores and deliver it to the data entry points on a daily basis. This daily data collection has made it possible to have real time data reporting which is provided to field coordinators to identify areas requiring quick intervention. The data centers were maintained at the old district locations of Kitgum and Pader but data is being disaggregated to match the newly formed districts of Agago and Lamwo. Office space in Kitgum was provided by the district. Pader district, however, did not provide office space; hence the project had to rent premises. Every data entry point has three clerks who update the database and email it each day to the project staff. Updated reports are shared with field staff for quick interventions.

1.3. Result 3: National Capacity for Conducting IRS Developed

Strategy: Improve the technical skills and capability of NMCP/MOH (national and district level) and other relevant government bodies including National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

Table 9: Result 3 Indicators

Indicator	Quarter 1 Actual	FY 2011 Target
IRS training module developed	0	1
Number of IRS and entomological monitoring plans developed and implemented	0	1
Number of national and district staff conducting the in-service training	0	225
Number of students trained in IRS	0	28

Accomplishments this Quarter

The activities for Result 3 are to be implemented starting in this second year of the project. A workshop to review the curriculum for the school of entomology is planned for January 2011.

Project Management and Administration

Accomplishments this quarter:

Human resources

Based on the approved staffing plan for Year Two, the Logistics Unit was strengthened with the addition of two District Store Managers and two Dispatch Agents. (Two more District Store Manager positions are yet to be filled.) The Operations team was also reinforced with the addition of a fifth Field Coordinator position. Three staff members resigned; a driver, the logistics manager and a field coordinator. These positions have already been filled. Simon Smith, the Home Office-based Technical Coordinator for the project, left Abt associates. He was replaced by Rebecca Patsika, who was scheduled to visit the project in January

Staff retreat

An all-staff retreat was held December 14th to 17th in Jinja . The focus was on: Achieving a common understanding of the current situation at Uganda IRS; Discovering challenges and creating a way forward; Celebrating the successes of the past year; Getting to know each other better and bonding as a team.

In addition to the presence of 33 out of 34 staff, the retreat was attended by two representatives of CDFU, and also by the Abt Associates Portfolio Manager for the project, Susan Scribner.

The retreat was facilitated by Coach Africa Ltd, using an approach of “facilitating from the back”, allowing participants to discover essential attributes about themselves and how they affect team performance. The key aspect to this approach is participatory experiential learning, which actively involved all participants in the process. Sessions included presentations by each of five functional groups, showing strengths, challenges, current situation and recommendations. This was followed with cross-functional group exercises and presentations. These were then distilled into a session defining priority issues for the coming year, which then led into action planning to address the issues and challenges which were raised. The retreat resulted in renewed enthusiasm and motivation for all staff, and culminated in a celebratory dinner.

Abt Vice President's Visit

Mr. David McGuire, Abt's Division Vice President responsible for the IRS project, visited Uganda from November 14th-19th, 2010. In addition to meeting with officials from USAID and MoH, David interacted with staff in both the Kampala and Gulu offices. He also took the time to visit field operations in the districts of Kitgum and Pader, and met with spray personnel and members of the community. David also participated in the Award Fee Board meeting held November 18, 2010.

Disciplinary Measures

Undisciplined spray personnel were discontinued from further participation in any project activities.

Financial Update

Uganda Indoor Residual Spraying Project

Budget and Expenditures for Year Two Quarter One

Period: Oct - Dec 2010

Contract No: AID-617-C-09-00001

Contract Cost \$31,804,017

Fixed Base Fee	\$954,121
Award Fee	\$1,590,201
Total Contract Obligation	\$34,348,339
	\$23,461,645

Expenditures to Date by Line Item

Line Item	Total Actual Expenditures Aug 2009 - Sept 2010	Total Estimated Costs for Year Two	Actual Expenditures (Oct 2010 - Dec 2010)	Accruals Dec 2010	Remaining Funds from Year Two Estimated Costs	Cumulative Expenditures & Accruals to Date
Labor	\$710,546.95	\$872,411	\$182,714		\$689,697	\$893,261
Fringe	\$298,508.03	\$366,413	\$76,823		\$289,590	\$375,331
Overhead	\$234,527.55	\$255,591	\$54,014		\$201,576	\$288,542
Consultants - Fees/Travel/ODCs	\$53,023.09	\$49,193	\$536	\$1,794	\$46,864	\$55,352
Travel and Per Diem (Less Consultant Travel & ODCs)	\$244,181.72	\$39,022	\$28,399	\$7,181	\$3,442	\$279,762
Allowances	\$220,490.77	\$245,457	\$38,650	\$14,447	\$192,360	\$273,588
Other Direct Costs	\$2,105,661.70	\$3,151,116	\$1,028,812	\$124,217	\$1,998,087	\$3,258,691
Equipment	\$373,924.70	\$51,038	\$12,933		\$38,104	\$386,858
Materials	\$4,511,553.69	\$6,764,517	\$1,472,415	\$39,421	\$5,252,681	\$6,023,390
Subcontracts	\$275,269.38	\$275,378	\$75,805	\$21,292	\$178,280	\$372,367
Other Indirect Costs	\$1,028,069.82	\$1,346,326	\$364,044	\$33,350	\$948,931	\$1,425,464
Total Estimated Cost	\$10,055,757.40	\$13,416,460	\$3,335,146	\$241,703	\$9,839,612	\$13,632,606
Fixed Base Fee (3%)	\$301,678.33	\$402,494	\$100,060	\$7,251	\$295,182	\$408,990
Award Fee (5%)		\$670,823	\$0	\$0	\$670,823	\$0
Total Cost Plus Fixed Fee	\$10,357,435.73	\$14,489,777	\$3,435,207	\$248,954	\$10,805,617	\$14,041,596

Total Expensed Funds	\$14,041,596
Total Obligated Funds	\$23,461,645
% Obligated Funds Expensed	59.85%
Total Obligated Funds Remaining	\$9,420,049
Total Base Fee	\$954,121
Total Base Fee Billed	\$408,990
Base Fee Remaining to be Billed	\$545,131

Reporting Requirements

The Uganda IRS Project developed and submitted the following program documentation as contractually obligated:

1. Monthly Reports: October, November
2. End of Spray Reports: Apac/Oyam and Gulu/Amuru
3. Project Quarter 4 Report: July-Sept 2010
4. Annual Report: Oct 2009 to Sept 2010)

Successful interventions/ Innovative Approaches

1. IRS has been well received by many community members who have opened their houses without hesitation.
2. With the introduction of motorbike data collectors, there has been a great improvement in data reporting making it possible to have real time data for project monitoring and decision making.

3. In Kitgum and Lamwo districts, two VCOs from neighbouring districts were brought on board to bridge a temporary supervisory manpower gap in the two districts. The VCOs worked closely with the field coordinators and the DVCOs.
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Challenges/Constraints

- Incidences of misconduct are still reported among spray personnel. Below are some of the occurrences:
 - A storekeeper in Ogom sub-county was arrested on allegations of defilement. The defiled girl is a student at the school hosting the IRS parish store. The community was incensed, and CDFU intervened to coordinate community mediation. The community leadership allowed the spray exercise to continue, but gave strict conditions to the project if it intends to use the same store in future.
 - An incident of suicide through insecticide poisoning in Pader Town Council was reported. The incident was reported to the police for further investigations.
 - In Palabek Gem a case of gross indiscipline with possible wide-spread collusion was picked on day one involving deliberate over-dosing of insecticide and falsification of data. The Team Leaders were discontinued from participating in the IRS program. The rest of the spray personnel underwent re-orientation and re-training.
 - A case of indiscipline with possible malice aforethought was picked in Lamwo. A total of four insecticide sachets packed with a powdery cement-like material were picked up among the stock distributed in the field.
 - There were allegations of bribery involving Health Assistants related to recruitment of spray personnel in some sub-counties.
 - Delayed distribution of logistics in some sub-counties due to poor road networks.
 - An isolated case of resistance to the spray exercise was reported in Puranga sub-county.
 - Primary Leaving Examinations were conducted during the spray round so some schools limited spray personnel's access to parish stores situated in the school compounds.
 - Laxity among some Health Assistants (supervisors) was noted.
 - Mobilization in some areas e.g. Awere was not properly carried out during the spray round.
 - Recruitment of incompetent spray personnel (notably store keepers) by some supervisors.
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Lessons Learned and Recommendations

- Real time data facilitates decision making and close performance monitoring of field operations.
 - Involvement of project staff in the recruitment of spray personnel is crucial in ensuring competency.
 - Use of GIS maps helps to improve planning of movements (e.g., of data collectors and distribution trucks)
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Planned Activities for the Next Quarter

1. Spraying of Apac, Kole and Oyam districts which includes:
 - Micro-planning with the district health office
 - Procurement of required supplies
 - Entomological studies
 - Environmental compliance inspections

- Logistical supplies to the sub-counties/parishes
 - Orientation of spray personnel
 - Actual spraying
2. Development of the national capacity to conduct IRS
- Hold a workshop to review the curriculum for the school of entomology