

DEWORM3 PROJECT

The Deworm3, funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through Natural History Museum and the London School for Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and implemented in Mangochi, Malawi by Ministry of Health through BICO in collaboration with College of Medicine, is a 5 year multi-country research programme which aims at determining whether community wide mass drug administration (MDA) of albendazole can interrupt the transmission of soil transmitted helminths (STH).

The trial includes a package of implementation science research designed to assess the feasibility and sustainability of the MDA approach to STH control through stakeholder analysis, qualitative and quantitative formative research and process mapping.

Main activities conducted include:

- a) Stakeholder sensitization meeting which took place on 15th August 2017 in Lilongwe. This meeting drew participants from BICO, Ministry of Health, Education and their district line officers.



Lazarus Juziwelo (seated C) Programme Manager for STH, MoH and Prof K Kalua (Seated R) during stakeholder's sensitization meeting

b) Pilot Census which commenced on 25th August, 2017 and ended on 5th September, 2017. This was done jointly with its collaborating partner; London school of hygiene and Tropical medicine (LSHTM), to pretest pragmatic tools and team composition.



An enumerator collecting data at a household

- c) 19th to 21st October 2017 - Recruitment of enumerators. A total of 48 enumerators were recruited and invited to the training which happened on 24 and 25th October 2017. 40 were finally selected to be part of the baseline survey team for the project
- d) Briefing of health surveillance assistants, volunteers and area development committee members within the study catchment areas Enumerator training, done between 30th October and 1st November 2017
- e) Baseline census started 3rd November 2017 with the final 40 selected enumerators (13 females and 27 males) who were divided into 10 teams, each team having 4 members and a team leader. Below an enumerator doing census at a household as a village volunteer helps with obtaining consent forms at a household as the supervisors from BICO and LSTHM observe.
- f) Quality control survey was conducted using 6 nurses in areas under 7 of the 8 selected health centers.



Supervisors (standing) observing while an enumerator doing census at a household level