**Omo Nada, Mettu T- Mettu R- Bilo Nopa and Gena- Z/Gazo RB Stop-MDA justification and supporting data.**

**Introduction:** Omo Nada, Mettu T- Mettu R- Bilo Nopa and Gena- Z/Gazo clusters consist of eight districts namely: Omo Nada, Omo Beyam, Kersa, Mettu Rural, Mettu Town, Bilo Nopa, Gena, and Zaba Gazo. MDA in these districts were started in 2004 with annual MDA (Mettu Rural) and then shifted with twice per year MDA since 2013, and six of the districts commenced MDA during 2014/15.

**Treatment Coverage:** These districts received ≥15 rounds of MDA and the reported coverage at district level was consistently reported between 66%-90% of the total population. The history of treatment was with 100% geographic coverage. Survey was also conducted to confirm the administrative report and confirmed that the coverage was great.

***Table 1.* Treatment Data**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Zone** | **OTZ** | **District** | **Year of Treatment** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **2014** | | **2015** | | **2016** | | **2017** | | **2018** | | **2019** | | **2020** | | **2021** | | **2022** | | **2023** | |
| **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** | **R1** | **R2** |
| Jimma | Omo Nada | Omo Nada | 79 | 83 | 81 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 84 | 86 | 86 |  | 84 | 83 | 84 | 84 | 85 | 84 | 89 |
| Jimma | Omo Nada | Omo Beyam | 79 | 83 | 81 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 83 | 84 | 73 | 74 |  | 81 | 82 | 83 | 83 | 86 | 81 | 85 |
| Jimma | Omo Nada | Kersa | 81 | 82 | 82 | 84 | 84 | 83 | 83 | 82 | 83 | 83 | 86 | 84 |  | 84 | 82 | 83 | 83 | 86 | 87 | 87 |
| Illubabor | MettuT-MettuR-Bilo Nopa | Mettu Rural | 80 |  | 82 | 83 | 84 |  | 84 | 85 | 84 | 84 | 66 | 66 |  | 84 | 83 | 84 | 84 | 84 | 85 | 77 |
| Illubabor | MettuT-MettuR-Bilo Nopa | Mettu Town | 78 | 72 | 83 | 82 | 83 |  | 83 | 85 | 84 | 89 | 83 | 87 |  | 85 | 85 | 84 | 84 | 84 | 86 | 85 |
| Illubabor | MettuT-MettuR-Bilo Nopa | Bilo Nopa | 84 |  | 84 | 84 | 84 |  | 84 | 86 | 83 | 83 | 73 | 76 |  | 84 | 87 | 84 | 84 | 85 | 85 | 87 |
| Dawuro | Gena- Z/Gazo | Gena |  |  |  | 82 | 82 |  | 85 | 87 | 88 | 87 | 85 | 84 |  | 84 | 87 | 90 | 84 | 87 | 84 | 87 |
| Dawuro | Gena- Z/Gazo | Zaba Gazo |  |  |  | 82 | 82 |  | 85 | 87 | 88 | 87 | 87 | 90 |  | 85 | 86 | 88 | 84 | 87 | 84 | 86 |

\*coverage is

**Impact Survey:** Following the repeated MDA has been provided to the above districts impact assessment was conducted from 2018 to 2021. Serological evaluations were considered for impact survey and about 21 villages with 2,100 DBS samples were collected analyzed and reported. The findings showed that the districts prevalence found below the 1% threshold indicating for stop MDA evaluation.

***Table 2. Impact Data***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Woreda** | **No. Village** | **No. Children (5-10 Yrs)** | **No. Pos. (%)** |
| Metu Rural | 3 | 300 | 1 (0.3%) |
| Metu Town | 3 | 300 | 0 |
| Bilo Nopa | 3 | 300 | 0 |
| Omo Nada | 3 | 300 | 0 |
| Omo Beyam | 3 | 300 | 0 |
| Kersa |  |  |  |
| Gena Bosa | 3 | 300 | 0 |
| Zaba Gaze | 3 | 300 | 0 |

**Stop MDA survey:**

With the aim of determining the status of onchocerciasis transmission and whether MDA could be halted stop MDA evaluation has been conducted in the eight districts grouped into three OTZs. Both serological and entomological assessments were conducted in the cluster. About **9,900** DBSs were collected and analyzed and the summary result showed that OV 16 prevalence and skins snips confirmatory tests were below the WHO threshold and hence passed for PTS.

**Table. 3 Serological and skin snips PCR results of Stop MDA, 2023**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Zone** | **District** | **No. of districts** | **Tot. Pop.** | **No. of DBS collected & analyzed** | **OV-16 positive (% 95% CI)** | **No. of pos. children skin snipped** | **No. skin sniping positivity (% UCL)** |
| Jimma | Omo Nada-Omo Beyam-Kersa | 3 | 645,450 | 3,300 | 2 (0.1%) | 2 | 0 |
| Illubabor | Metu town-Metu Rural-Bilo Nopa | 3 | 180,672 | 3,320 | 8 (0.2%) | 8 | 0.05 |
| Dawuro | Gana-Zaba gaza | 2 | 98,489 | 3,280 | 4 (0.1%) | 4 | 0 |
| **Total** | **3** | **8** | **924,611** | **9,900** |  |  |  |

Similarly entomological assessments were conducted in 2023. More than 6,000 flies were collected and analyzed from each OTZ, and the result showed that the upper bound Confidence limit was below the WHO cutoff and hence pass.

**Table;4 Fly PCR Results, 2023**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Zone** | **OTZ** | **No. of District** | **Pop.** | **O 150 PCR-pool screening analysis** | | | **Remark** |
|
| **# Of flies (pools)** | **Pools pos.** | **95% UCL/ 2000 flies** |
| Jimma | Omo Nada-Omo Beyam-Kersa | 3 | 645,450 | 8573 (53) | 0 | 0.442 | Pass to PTS |
| Illubabor | Metu town-Metu Rural-Bilo Nopa | 3 | 180,672 | 6171 (36) | 0 | 0.6 | Pass to PTS |
| Dawuro | Gana-Zaba Gazo | 2 | 98,489 | 6541 (38) | 0 | 0.609 | Pass to PTS |

**Conclusion**

Based on the data presented to the EOEEAC, the committee has recommended that, in accordance with WHO guidelines, MDA against Onchocerciasis should cease in the following areas:

In Oromia Region, MDA should be stopped in Omo Nada, Omo Beyam, and Kersa woredas from the Jima zone, as well as in Mettu Town, Mettu Rural, and Bilo Nopa woredas from the Illubabor zone. Approximately 826,122 people in these regions will be exempted from MDA starting in 2024.

Similarly, in the South West Ethiopia Peoples Region, Gena-Z and Gazo Woredas have satisfied the WHO criteria for stopping MDA. This decision will benefit a combined total of 98,489 people.