

# Malawi Population by District



# Malaria Control in Pregnancy: Experiences of implementing new policy in Malawi

Kenya

MIP Workshop, July 2016

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# IPT implementation in Malawi

- SP has remained the drug of choice for IPT since 1993
- 2 doses of SP for IPT advocated under DOT in all health facilities till 2014
- IPT policy has been revised and is in place whereby at least 3 doses of SP is given to pregnant women during ANC

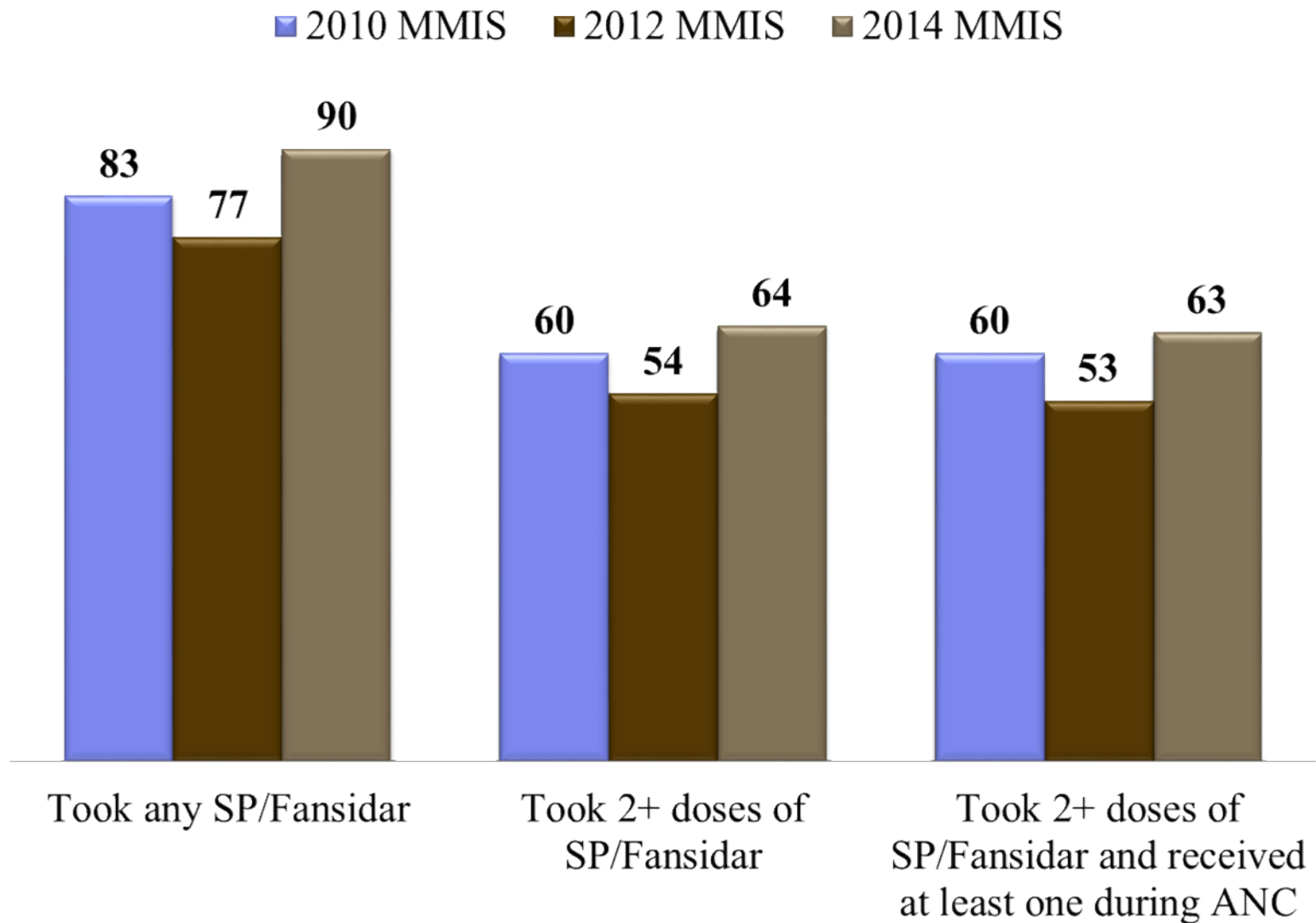
## IPT implementation (cont'd)

- Quantification of SP for IPT done timely to avoid stock outs
- Ensuring there is continuous supply of SP in all health facilities
- Provision of IPT commodities/supplies i.e. cups, buckets, safe water to promote DOT
- 99.9% Health workers providing ANC have been trained of Revised ant malarial policy

## IPT implementation (cont'd)

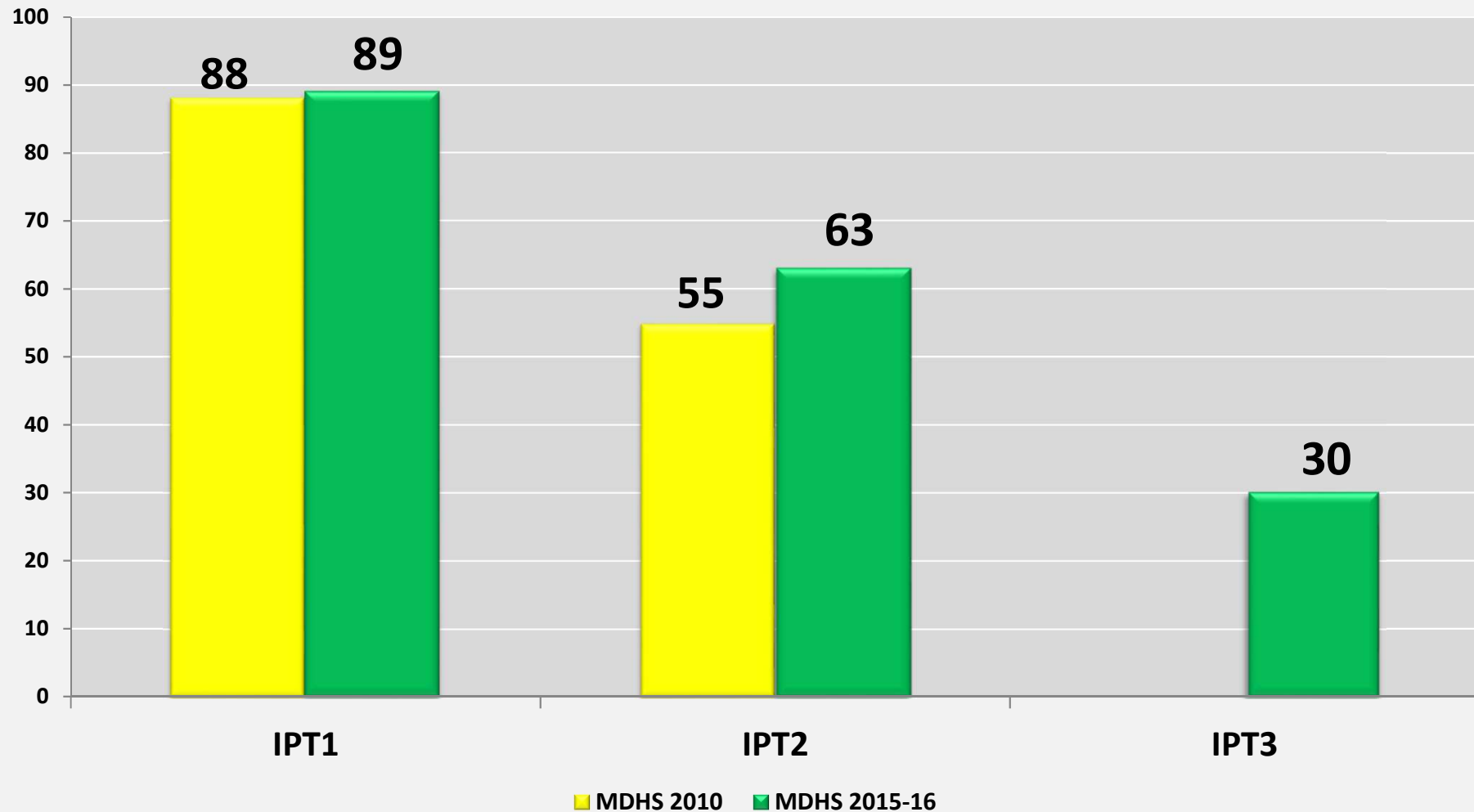
- Regular supervision of IPT implementation at all levels
- Intensified IEC & Advocacy
- Coordination with all implementing partners
- All health facilities are offering ANC Services including IPT

# Trends in IPTp



# Trends in IPTP

IPT1, 2 and 3 (MDHS 2010 vs. 2015-16)



# MiP strategies

- Intermittent preventive treatment (IPT)



- LLINs



- IRS

- Case management

# Experiences

- Women taking at least three doses of SP during pregnancy still low -30%
- Late attendance for ANC only 12% of pregnant women start antenatal care in 1<sup>st</sup> trimester
- Culturally, women believe that they have to start ANC when pregnancy is visible enough
- LA was at some point out of stock and health workers were using SP instead thereby depriving pregnant women of prophylactic treatment



# Experiences cont..

- SP is currently not being administered at community level in order to capture women who start ANC late.
- Along the lake shore fishermen use LLINs as fishing nets
- IRS is currently not being carried out due to financial challenges despite being effective in malaria prevention

## Experiences cont...

- Quality of ANC compromised in the absence of provision of crucial equipment and supplies (pregnancy test kits, Hemoglobin, BP machines in some clinics)
- Pregnant women with malaria are now captured in OPD register
- Pregnant women encouraged to report to ANC if not feeling well in order to capture malaria in pregnancy

# Lessons Learnt

- DOT is essential in scaling up IPT implementation
- Consistent availability of SP for IPT is crucial in increasing coverage
- Regular monitoring of effectiveness of SP for IPT is important for decision making
- A clear policy put in place to guide IPT implementation is crucial
- Strong partnership

## Lessons learnt cont..

- Intensification of IEC is crucial to improve uptake of ANC Services
- Strong collaboration planning & coordination between partners and other stakeholders improves ANC attendance
- Antenatal clinics offers enormous opportunities for delivering the malaria prevention package to pregnant women such as IPT & ITN

# Key MiP Issues

- Problems with DOT vs Infection prevention
- Is SP still efficacious in the presence of high resistance (level resistance)
- What are the alternatives

Thank you

