Papua New Guinea

- Post conflict
- Stronger health systems
- Technical capacity (lower than Sierra Leone)
- *Anopheles* mosquito transmits LF
- MDA using DEC plus albendazole
- Initiated MDA in 2004 but has struggled to scale up and now a bad spot in the Pacific region.

Why is PNG struggling?
PNG endemicity by district

- **Red:**
  - high endemic;
  - >=5% pos

- **Yellow:**
  - low endemic;
  - >=1% and <5% pos

- **Green:**
  - non-endemic;
  - <1% pos

- **White:**
  - unknown

Mf results used if available, otherwise ICT.
How do we reach the population?

• Reaching the populations through the health delivery system has not worked or has produced very limited results
  – Implementation is variable throughout the country
  – The costs of MDA has been very high
  – It had taken a very long time to complete
  – Reporting has been unsatisfactory
Moving forward

• The plan is to group villages into manageable populations
• Appoint and train volunteers
• Ensure the availability of drugs and other tools
• Ensure there is adequate information
• Conduct MDA on an appointed day
• Partners can also be involved so every partner is involved in some way
Challenges

• Recouring for the volunteers and communities
• Supervising volunteers
• Working with highly decentralized system
• Logistics of the availability of drugs and other tools