

Active Case Detection screening is carried out in villages to ensure every single case is treated regardless of symptoms

PROJECT BRIEF

Partnership for Containment of Artemisinin Resistance

The aim of this Global Fund Round 10 project is to support efforts to eliminate *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria parasites in Thailand and contribute to the targets of the Global Malaria Action Plan

Project Outline

Malaria Consortium is working closely with the Thai National Malaria Control Programme at the national and provincial levels, as well as with NGOs serving refugee camps along Thai-Myanmar border, to manage artemisinin resistance and work towards malaria elimination in Thailand.

There has been recent evidence confirming artemisinin resistance along both the Thai-Cambodia and Thai-Myanmar borders. This programme has been developed as one of the main initiatives to tackle this resistance, with Malaria Consortium leading the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) component to ensure effective implementation.

Malaria Consortium is collaborating with the Bureau of Vector Borne Diseases (BVBD) and the Mahidol University Center of Excellence for Biomedical and Public Health Informatics on the implementation and use of a web-based, real-time malaria information system (MIS) for the early detection and effective treatment and follow-up of all malaria cases. The aim of

the MIS is to put in place a more robust and responsive system, which will be more suitable for resistance containment and malaria elimination than the current manual paper reporting system. This new MIS should eventually allow prompt detection and response to transmission foci and effectively track every patient for drug compliance, as well as monitor possible drug resistance.

In addition to supporting the national M&E and surveillance system, Malaria Consortium is providing technical support for the development of a Behaviour Change Communications (BCC) strategy for Thailand and the cross border areas along Cambodia and Myanmar. Information, education and communication (IEC) materials are being harmonised across the region to ensure that consistent messages are delivered to the targeted population in ways that will help bring about positive behaviour change.

Malaria Consortium will also periodically conduct large scale surveys to monitor malaria prevalence and impact. More

COUNTRY

Thailand

DONOR

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM)

LENGTH OF PROJECT

Five years, October 2011 to 2016

PARTNERS

Malaria Consortium is a sub-recipient under Thailand's GFATM Principal-Recipient, the Department for Disease Control of the Ministry of Public Health. Malaria Consortium works in partnership with other sub-recipients such as the Bureau of Vector Borne Diseases (BVBD), Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU) and the International Organisation for Migration and other sub-sub-recipients such as the Mahidol University Center of Excellence for Biomedical and Public Health Informatics (BIOPHICS)

sensitive molecular techniques appropriate for low transmission settings, such as real-time PCR (polymerase chain reaction) and serological assays, will be used in these surveys. The data collected will assist the BVBD with ensuring effective programme implementation, such as monitoring for universal coverage of long lasting insecticidal nets among the populations most at risk. Population data collected can potentially be linked to routine surveillance data and can provide valuable information for more targeted interventions.

Besides technical workshops and conferences, Malaria Consortium is responsible for coordinating and facilitating various capacity building activities and undertaking operational research to fill identified knowledge gaps. Evidence gathered will be used to help refine policy and strategy for the Thai malaria programme. Experiences and lessons learned, especially on malaria resistance containment and elimination, will be shared with the international community.

Project Aims

- » To contribute towards the elimination of artemisinin resistant parasites by detecting malaria cases (both asymptomatic and

symptomatic) in target areas and ensuring effective treatment and gametocyte clearance using combination therapies.

- » To prevent transmission of malaria parasites through vector control and improve access to personal protection measures among target populations.
- » To support containment/elimination of *P. falciparum* parasites through comprehensive BCC, community mobilisation and advocacy.
- » To provide an effective management system (including surveillance, monitoring and evaluation) to enable rapid and high quality implementation of the strategy.

THIS PROJECT HAS A DIRECT IMPACT UPON EFFORTS TO:

- ✓ *Combat malaria*
- ✓ *Strengthen health systems*
- ✓ *Provide monitoring and evaluation and surveillance*
- ✓ *Provide behaviour change communication, and information, education and communication (IEC)*
- ✓ *Provide health support to marginalised populations*
- ✓ *Provide operational research outputs*

Sub- and sub-sub-recipients of funding for this project are:

Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU):

American Refugee Committee - International (ARC), Malteser International (MI), Aide Medical Internationale (AMI), Mae Tao Clinic (MTC)

International Organisation for Migration (IOM):

ARC, Raks Thai Foundation (RTF), Foundation for AIDS Right, Stella Maris, Pattanarak Organisation

Bureau of Vector Borne Diseases (BVBD):

BIOPHICS, Kenan Foundation Asia, Photiyalaya Institute Mahachulalongkorn Rajavidyalaya University, 8 Office of Disease Prevention and Control, 43 Provincial Health Offices

Malaria Consortium



A farm owner takes his Cambodian worker for a free test at a malaria clinic in Thailand

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