

Overview of short term technical assistance request:

Technical support is required to produce a synthesis report of the evidence on the economic burden and disease burden of Dengue in Myanmar between the period 2010 to 2017.

Location:

Desk based, with some consultations with key stakeholders in country

Timeframe:

Twenty full working days by one subject-matter expert

Background:

Dengue fever is a rapidly increasing public health problem in tropical and subtropical regions with a large percentage of the world's population at risk. The dengue virus, responsible for dengue fever (DF), dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) and dengue shock syndrome (DSS), is the most geographically widespread vector-borne infection in countries of the southern hemisphere.

Environmental change and unplanned urbanisation are combining to raise the health and economic costs of the disease. Quantifying the economic and disease burden is critical for control strategies and to set policy priorities. There are a few published estimates of the disease and economic burden of dengue, i.e. ambulatory and hospitalised forms, in South East Asia. However, if we are to create suitable incentives for larger-scale, more sustained anti-dengue efforts from a wider group of stakeholders, we need a much better understanding of the economic benefits of dengue morbidity and mortality reduction. This work seeks to develop the economic case for dengue control in Myanmar.

Scope of work

Desk-based review and collation of evidence related to the economic and disease burden of dengue in Myanmar. Information from publications and reports should be used to synthesise the disease and economic burden evidence for Dengue in Myanmar. Another objective of the work is to use the existing evidence to develop the economic case for dengue control in Myanmar. Secondary analysis with existing data may be required. The consultant would also need to have discussions, face-to-face or remotely, with the Dengue Control Programme (Ministry of Health and Sports) and with WHO-Myanmar to frame the key issues and address any feedback they will have in reviewing the report before it is finalised.

Work Deliverables:

A synthesis report which should cover the following:

- Estimates of the economic burden of dengue in Myanmar between 2010 and 2017, showing any trends and pointing out any data gaps or discrepancies.
- Estimates of the disease burden of dengue in Myanmar between 2010 and 2017, showing any trends and pointing out any data gaps or discrepancies.
- Estimates of the economic case for controlling dengue in Myanmar, with a description of current issues, key constraints and opportunities related to financing for dengue control in Myanmar. The methodology used for the economic case should be well described and limitations of the approach should be mentioned.
- Two or three examples or cases studies which provide valuable lessons which could inform future financing arrangements for dengue control in Myanmar

The report could be prepared for submission as a perspective piece to a suitable peer-reviewed journal.

Staff Involved:

Dr James Tibenderana, Global Technical Director, will be the technical contact and oversight point for this assignment. Dr Moe Myint Oo, Country Programme Manager, Malaria Consortium – Myanmar, will be the direct contact in Myanmar.

Schedule:

The work is estimated to take up to twenty days and should be completed by Friday 29th March 2019.

Person specifications

The essential and desirable requirements needed by the short-term consultant to be able to perform the work effectively.

Essential criteria:

1. A Masters in health economics, statistics, public health, or equivalent professional experience
2. Decision / health economics analysis experience

Terms of Reference: Economic burden and disease burden of dengue in Myanmar – synthesis paper

3. Experience of doing similar economic analyses in communicable diseases
4. Ability to work independently with effective time management and prioritisation practices
5. Evidence of ability to write clearly and produce high quality written reports and publications
6. Liability insurance covering the period of the work

Desirable criteria:

1. Experience or excellent understanding of working with ministries of health or other government institutions
2. Communicating to non-scientists
3. Currently located in Myanmar or in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS). Applicants located elsewhere may be considered if no suitable subject matter expert from the GMS is available to do the work in the timeframe.