External Review Committee to the Longitudinal Study on the Support to the National Malaria Programme Phase II (SuNMaP2) in Nigeria
Call for Expressions of Interest

1. Overview
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), in partnership with Malaria Consortium, is seeking members for an External Review Committee to act as an advisory body to the SuNMaP2 longitudinal study team. The five-year longitudinal study aims to assess SuNMaP2’s theory of change in Nigeria, and to establish the key drivers that sustain the programme’s achievements after discontinuation of external support. The study is led by LSHTM and incorporates quantitative and qualitative methods, with data collection and data management activities led by Malaria Consortium Nigeria. The committee will be responsible for helping the longitudinal study team members by:

1. providing guidance and critical oversight to the research work undertaken by the study team;
2. contextualising the study within national and international priorities;
3. facilitating national and international uptake of research findings.

Membership of the External Review Committee is on a voluntary basis. There will be a minimum of one meeting annually (maximum of three meetings a year), with the majority of meetings conducted remotely. The External Review Committee’s membership will be limited to no more than five members, excluding Ex-officio members. The five members of the External Review Committee will be comprised to ensure a breadth of expertise and institutional representation. The committee should include both Nigerian and international experts, ideally including academics with expertise in quantitative and qualitative research, to join representatives from the National Malaria Elimination Programme, the UK Department for International Development, and UN organisations. Further information is provided in the terms of reference for the External Review Committee in Annex 1.

2. Applications
If you are interested in applying to be a member of the External Review Committee. Please send your CV via email to Bilal Avan (bilal.avan@lshtm.ac.uk) and Sarah Marks (sarah.marks@lshtm.ac.uk) by 17:00 GMT on Friday, 13th March.
Annex 1: Support to the National Malaria Programme Phase II (SuNMaP2) - Longitudinal Study External Review Committee

Terms of Reference (2020-2024)

1. Background
The Support to the National Malaria Programme (SuNMaP) in Nigeria is a two-phase programme funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and primed by Malaria Consortium. Phase I (2008-2016) aimed to assist the Nigerian government in malaria prevention and treatment through improvements in capacity, project planning and coordination, drug and net distribution, and demand creation in ten states. Phase II (2018-2024) is working in six of the states from Phase I and is focused more on sustainability, with the aim of reducing Nigeria’s malaria burden through strengthening the capacity of the National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP), and the State Malaria Elimination Programme (SMEP) to efficiently deliver sustainable and replicable pro-poor services. The six states are based in the Northeast (Yobe), Northwest (Jigawa, Kano, Kaduna, Katsina), and Southwest (Lagos) of the Nigeria. A longitudinal study will be conducted in two of the six supported states, Kaduna and Kano. The study is led by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and incorporates quantitative and qualitative methods, with data collection and data management activities led by Malaria Consortium Nigeria. The study is being conducted to evaluate the programme’s theory of change, and to establish the key drivers that sustain the programme’s achievements after discontinuation of SuNMaP2 support.

2. Purpose
The External Review Committee acts as an advisory body to the SuNMaP2 longitudinal study team. The committee will be responsible for helping the longitudinal study team members by:

4. providing guidance and critical oversight to the research work undertaken by the study team;
5. contextualising the study within national and international priorities;
6. facilitating national and international uptake of research findings.

3. Membership
Membership of the External Review Committee will comprise of leading national and international experts in malaria and health-systems, including malaria practitioners, academics, and representatives of international organisations that are recognised professionally for their research excellence, experience and insight in the field of malaria control. The External Review Committee’s membership will be limited to no more than five members, excluding Ex-officio members. The five members of the External Review Committee will be comprised to ensure a breadth of expertise and institutional representation. The committee should include both Nigerian and international experts, ideally with institutional representation from the National Malaria Elimination Programme, the UK Department for International Development, UN organisations, and academics with expertise in quantitative and qualitative research expertise.

Ex-officio members include:

- Malaria Consortium SuNMaP2 team representatives (two members)
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Study Team
Members will be appointed from a call for expressions of interest which is sent to relevant experts and organisations. Members will be appointed for the length of the longitudinal study. Should an expert want to withdraw their membership from the committee this should be communicated to the Chair in writing, and the member replaced either through recommendations from committee members or through a call for expressions of interest. External Review Committee members will elect a Chair and Deputy Chair, who will be appointed for the length of the study. Should the Chair step down, the committee members will elect a replacement Chair, with the Deputy Chair acting as Chair in the interim.

4. Working Methods

4.1 Meetings
The External Review Committee will meet as required by the LSHTM study team, but at minimum on an annual basis and no more than three meetings annually. Members of the External Review Committee are encouraged to attend regularly in order to ensure adequate representation at all meetings. Membership will be terminated if a member fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings, unless there are extenuating circumstances for the absences.

The majority of meetings will be conducted remotely with occasional in-person meetings during the course of the study. The costs of attending in-person meetings will be covered by LSHTM in line with LSHTM’s organisational policies. However, ex-officio members will be expected to cover their own costs of attendance at in-person meetings through existing SuNMaP2 funds.

The LSHTM study team will be responsible for:

1. convening committee meetings
2. circulating agendas and documents to the committee ahead of each meeting
3. updating the External Review Committee on research activities at each meeting
4. documenting the meetings
5. sharing the minutes of each meeting with committee members

Non-members of the External Review Committee can attend with prior permission from the Chair, if their attendance is relevant to the purpose of the meeting.

4.2 Sharing of Information
All information relevant to the External Review Committee will be shared via email. Meeting minutes and related documents will also be made available through a cloud based shared drive with all committee members. In addition to the meetings described in section 4.1, members of the External Review Committee may be required to review and comment on documents via email.

5. Review of Terms of Reference
These terms of reference will be reviewed on request by External Review Committee members.