



PROJECT BRIEF

Project Title

Strengthening Uganda's Response to Malaria (SURMa)

Country

Uganda

Donor

UKAID/Department for International Development (DFID)

Partners

Ministry of Health/National Control Program, WHO, UNICEF, Project Implementing districts

Length:

5 year July 2018 – June 2023

Purpose/Aim of the project

Strengthening Uganda's Response to Malaria (SURMa) project seeks to contribute to the reduction in morbidity and mortality due to malaria and other common childhood illnesses in 17 Mid-Northern districts of Uganda by working closely with District Health Management Teams (DHMT) to deliver malaria specific support and other systems strengthening activities. The direct beneficiaries are 3,771,500 inhabitants including 716,585 children under 5 years of age, 482 public health workers, 400 private provides, 17093 Village health teams (VHT), 1730 VHT supervisors, and 147 sub county leaders.

Project outline

Malaria Consortium together with UNICEF are implementing SURMa project in 25 districts of Acholi, Lango and Karamoja. A five (5) project is funded by UKAID/DFID. The project will cover eight districts in Acholi¹, nine in Lango² and eight in Karamoja³. Malaria Consortium is implementing in 17 districts of Acholi and Lango sub regions and UNICEF in eight districts of Karamoja sub region. Working closely with

¹ Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Omoro and Pader

² Apac, Alebtong, Amolatar, Dokolo, Kaberamaido, Kole, Kwania, Otuke and Oyam

³ Abim, Amudat, Kaabong, Kotido, Moroto, Nabulatak, Nakapiripiriti and Napak

implementing districts, the SURMa project will ensure the population at risk access and use recommended standard malaria protection measures so as to reduce and eventually eradicate morbidity and mortality in implementing districts.

By the project end the following will have been achieved;

- Sustained increase in the proportion of children and women protected against and treated for malaria and other common illnesses in 25 high-burden districts.
- Strengthened health systems at district level for increased sustainability of malaria and other RMNCAH interventions
- Improved malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea prevention, diagnostic and treatment practices by Village Health Teams and Community Health Extension Workers in 25 high-burden districts
- Improved malaria prevention, diagnostic, treatment, monitoring and reporting practices at health facility level in 25 high-burden districts.
- Improved family and community knowledge of malaria prevention and care-seeking in 25 high burden districts.
- National Malaria Control Programme capacity enhanced to support the implementation of the Uganda Malaria Reduction Strategic Plan (UMRSP).
- Strengthened malaria surveillance systems and improved quality, use and sustainability of mTrac within the broader eHMIS.
- Improved district management practices and sustainability of malaria interventions in the context of District Health Systems Strengthening approaches in 23 focus districts.

The project will develop community level capacity to ensure prompt diagnosis and treatment of malaria related illnesses at all levels in all districts. In line with Mass Action Against Malaria (MAAM) strategy, the project will extend the fight against malaria up to household level in order to highlight every individual's responsibility in eliminating malaria from Uganda. At village level, the project will re-introduce Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) activities first in all districts in Acholi and six districts in Lango sub-region using existing Village Health Teams (VHTs) structures and there after set up the same in four other districts of Lango so as to increase access to diagnosis and treatment of malaria. Also, efforts will be directed towards strengthening prevention and malaria case management in vulnerable groups (Pregnant women & Children under the age of 5 years) through increased IPTp uptake, use and access to LLINs. Across all districts, there will be massive Social Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) interventions to ensure the population practices correct malaria prevention and management measures.

Using multi-sectorial strategies, the project will ensure there is maximum coordination of all partners in the regions so as to leverage each on other's strength, avoid duplication of activities, support development of policies and standard guidelines on interventions for prompt and improved service delivery, and strengthen sub national capacity to deliver effective malaria control measures. In addition, the project will support strengthening of reporting mechanisms on malaria programs at all levels to enable timely analysis and decision making using the Electronic Health Management Information Systems (e-HIMS). On research, SURMa project will periodically carry out epimiological and entomological surveillance, drug and insecticide resistance monitoring to guide on future strategies for malaria control

and case management. And also the project build capacity at all levels to ensure districts are in position at all times to detect and respond to any epidemic. This will be done through training of health workers on Epidemic Preparation and Response (EPR). At all levels, implementation of SURMa project activities will be led by respective districts while Malaria Consortium will provide technical support and also carry out supervisory roles so as to ensure there is ownership of the programs and sustainability of project achievements.

Objectives

- By project end, achieve and sustain protection of at least 85% of the population at risk through recommended malaria prevention measures.
- By project end achieve and sustain at least 90% of malaria cases in the public and private sectors and community level receive prompt diagnosis and treatment.
- By project end, at least 85% of the population practices correct malaria prevention and management measures.
- By project end, the programme is able to manage and coordinate multi-sectorial malaria reduction efforts at all levels.
- By project end, at least 90% of all implementing districts report routinely on malaria programme performance for decision making.
- Supporting the Government of Uganda to deliver cost-effective interventions to prevent and treat malaria among those most at risk, reducing malaria related illness and death.