

# PROJECT BRIEF

## Monitoring and Evaluation of Malaria Activities in the GMS

The aim is to support national malaria programmes and partners in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) to put in place a reliable evidence base that is continuously updated and used to refine and improve control strategies and mobilise resources

### COUNTRIES

Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Yunnan Province - China

### DONOR

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

### LENGTH OF PROJECT

Five years (2008 – 2013)

### PARTNERS

United States Agency for International Development, Mekong Malaria Programme, World Health Organization, Cambodia National Center for Parasitology, Entomology and Malaria Control, Lao PDR Center for Malaria Parasitology and Entomology, Thailand Bureau of Vector Borne Diseases, Vietnam National Institute for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology, Myanmar Vector Borne Disease Control, National Institute of Parasitic Diseases, China CDC, Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network, ACTMalaria, Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group, MEASURE/Evaluation, Kenan Institute Asia

### PROJECT OUTLINE

Malaria Consortium works closely with partners in developing and updating comprehensive evidence on monitoring and evaluation (M&E), surveillance, and operational research through provision of technical assistance to national malaria programmes in the GMS.

In a region where challenges are unique or specific to this geographical location – including low or unstable malaria transmission, artemisinin resistance, and pre-elimination and elimination efforts - Malaria Consortium assists countries in the GMS in developing comprehensive national malaria strategic plans which are supported by robust national M&E plans. Strategic information generated through M&E, surveillance, and operational research are used for improved decision-making.

The goal of this project is to support countries and partners in the GMS to put in place a robust, reliable and recent evidence base, which is continuously updated and

used by the countries to refine and improve their control strategies and to mobilise resources. Malaria Consortium will address the need through the following three strategies:

- contribute to developing a comprehensive updated base of evidence on malaria burden (epidemiological, economic and social) and drug use to improve access and rational use;
- develop efficient systems for ongoing information management; and
- develop regional capacity for long-term evidence collection and use for policy development and programme implementation.

Many countries in the GMS are now shifting their national malaria programmes from control to pre-elimination and elimination. Supporting national programmes, Malaria Consortium provides technical assistance in the development of methodologies and tools for M&E and surveillance in low

*Thai resident interviewed by Bureau of Vector Borne Diseases during the IEC/BCC evaluation in Si Saket, Thailand*



This project has a direct impact upon efforts to:

- ✓ Combat malaria
- ✓ Strengthen health systems
- ✓ Provide operational research outputs
- ✓ Provide monitoring and evaluation

*A mobile family in Sampov Loun district in Cambodia. This is one of the many challenges of the work in the region – working with mobile families and testing/following them up if they are positive for malaria*

transmission settings, including the use of innovative methods such as a respondent driven sampling (RDS) approach to survey migrant and mobile populations.

Malaria Consortium is working through programmes and partners to evaluate effective tools and strategies for pre-elimination and elimination settings.

The organisation supports national programmes to improve M&E and surveillance in the GMS. It has contributed to the development

of a bi-regional Malaria M&E Indicator Framework (BMIF) which aims to harmonise and standardise key indicators collected, reported and used in the region. In support of this initiative, Malaria Consortium is taking the lead in developing and implementing an M&E and surveillance training curriculum at regional and country levels.

Through this project, Malaria Consortium continues to provide technical support to strengthen capacity building in the region. It

has also been an active partner with the Asian Collaborative Training for Malaria (ACTMalaria) network since its inception, and has contributed to development and facilitation of various training curricula, including the Management of Malaria Field Operations (MMFO) training course.

Furthermore, Malaria Consortium has been instrumental in the development of a Regional Malaria Operational Research framework which identifies the key priorities of operational research for the GMS.

## PROJECT AIMS

- Assist National Malaria Control Programmes to undertake monitoring and evaluation, contributing to developing a comprehensive updated base of evidence on malaria burden, drug use, access to health services and behaviour change
- Provide technical assistance in developing and implementing a malaria operational research agenda
- Strengthen institutional capacity of the region's malaria programmes for long-term evidence collection and use for policy development and programme implementation, by contributing to training curricula
- Assist programmes to incorporate findings of research and lessons of practice into their operations
- Assist national programmes in the dissemination of results, developing efficient systems for ongoing information management

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*disease control, better health*