

## USAID's Malaria Action Program for Districts

### Supporting the Government of Uganda to reduce childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality due to malaria

#### Background and project overview

Uganda has one of the highest malaria burdens in Africa and transmission rates remain persistently high in most areas of the country,<sup>[1]</sup> despite significant progress having been made over the past 10 years.

Building on the expertise of USAID/PMI, the UK Department for International Development, Malaria Consortium and partners, the Malaria Action Program for Districts (MAPD) aims to prevent and control malaria-related morbidity and mortality in Uganda by supporting the government on a range of activities to minimise social impact and economic losses.

Malaria Consortium is providing overall technical direction and oversight, programmatic and representation leadership, as well as coordination of the partners. Project partners are bringing critical technical expertise and implementation experience in the Ugandan context, in the areas of capacity building and malaria in pregnancy (Jhpiego), gender inclusion (Banyan Global), diagnostics (IDI), communications (CDFU) and grants management (Deloitte Uganda).

The project is providing technical and programmatic support to the government at central and local levels and seeks to increase the impact and reach of malaria prevention and diagnostic services, and to strengthen the government's capacity to design, plan and monitor malaria control activities.

#### Country

Uganda

#### Donors

USAID/U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

UK aid from the UK government

#### Length of project

August 2016 – August 2021

#### Partners

Banyan Global

Communication for Development Foundation  
Uganda (CDFU)

Deloitte Uganda

Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI)

Jhpiego

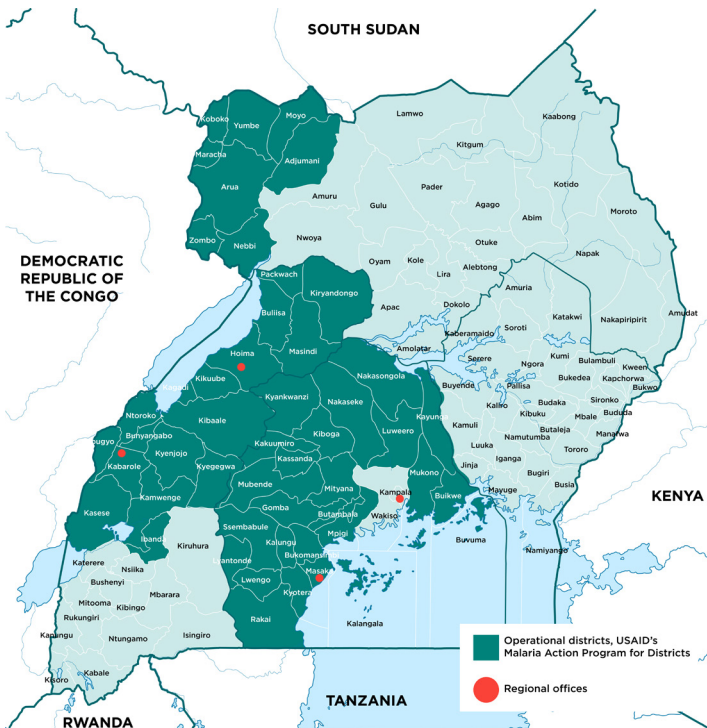


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The project is being implemented in 43 districts in the Central, Western and West Nile regions of Uganda. It aims to reach an estimated 13 million people (37 percent of Uganda's population) with a specific focus on children under five, youth (aged 18–30 years), pregnant women and women of childbearing age.

Figure 1: Map showing MAPD's operational districts



## Objectives

The project's specific objectives are to:

1. implement effective malaria prevention programmes in support of the national malaria control strategy, including:
  - capacity building and technical support to malaria in pregnancy activities at health facilities
  - distribution of long lasting insecticidal nets through campaigns and continuous channels

## Reference

1. PMI. Uganda country profile. Washington, D.C.: USAID; 2018.

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Cover image: A mother in Uganda carries home the nets she received from a net distribution campaign

2. implement effective malaria diagnosis and treatment activities in support of the national malaria control strategy through:
  - capacity building and technical support to diagnostics and case management practices at health facilities
  - quality assurance systems of diagnostics and case management practices
3. build the capacity of the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and the district health management teams (DHMTs) to manage and sustain efficient malaria activities in the focus districts through:
  - involvement in coordination and planning processes at national and local levels
  - support to monitoring, evaluation and learning processes at national and local levels.

## Activities

Following current national policies, guidelines and international practices, the project is working alongside the NMCP and DHMTs to:

- improve malaria prevention in the communities by supporting malaria in pregnancy services at health facilities and increasing access to nets
- improve health workers' diagnosis and treatment practices and enable them to provide quality services to patients
- improve the capacity of the NMCP and DHMTs to plan, manage and sustain effective malaria control activities.

Working within government structures and the district health authority framework, the project is providing technical and programmatic expertise to create an enabling environment for malaria control activities and ensure sustainable gains for the targeted communities. Special emphasis is being placed on innovative social behaviour change communication approaches to reach all targeted communities with efficient messages. These approaches will be designed with consideration to gender and youth to ensure inclusion of all groups and encourage greater access and use of health services.

