Daw Wint Wint Soe and Daw Mar Mar Aung are Health Assistants working in the Pinlebu township in Sagaing region, Myanmar. Since April 2018, they have been working as supervisors on the Comic Relief-funded Expanding Rural Communities’ Access to Health Services in Myanmar project.

As supervisors, they are responsible for supporting malaria volunteers (MVs) to accurately diagnose, treat and refer for malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia in children under five years, as well as assess malnutrition symptoms effectively. Through the project, supervisors are trained on how to assess danger signs for these diseases, as well as how to provide MVs with regular, constructive feedback.

Daw Wint Wint Soe commented that she had learnt new skills through being a supervisor with the Malaria Consortium project. Previously, she had been trained on malaria diagnosis and treatment, but hadn’t understood the danger signs for other childhood diseases for children under five. Now, she has become skilled in recognising these danger signs, and through training and experience she has learnt how to train volunteers to identify danger signs too.

Daw Mar Mar Aung mentioned that she had learnt new communication skills through Malaria Consortium’s approach to supervision. If MVs became demoralised after making a mistake, she felt confident that she could encourage and motivate them, teaching them how to correct errors in a supportive and constructive manner.