Malaria Consortium and other partners have received funding from the Global Fund Malaria Round 9 to expand the work on containment of artemisinin resistant malaria in Cambodia and to move the country towards pre-elimination of malaria. The organisation has been selected to fulfil two roles. Firstly, the provision of technical assistance to the National Malaria Programme for monitoring, evaluation and behaviour change communications support. Secondly, the management of five SSRs (local and international non-government organisations).

To help ensure detection and effective treatment of all malaria cases, Malaria Consortium is continuing to support the National Programme in the strengthening of Health Information Systems. It is leading the development and deployment of a new national malaria database. Each operational district is supported to provide information, via the database, on malaria cases identified by community village malaria workers and health facility staff and potential resistance to anti-malarial drugs. This will help to ensure that control efforts are focused on the areas that most need them.

Malaria Consortium is also providing technical assistance in the development of behaviour change communications (BCC) strategy and plans. Thanks to the work conducted through the Containment Project, the organisation is in the ideal position to ensure learning and best practice is taken forward by the National Programme. It is also supporting four SSRs in the area of BCC. Messages about prevention, treatment and diagnosis, and correct drug use will be broadcast to populations at risk via TV, radio and mobile broadcasting units in targeted villages.
PROJECT AIMS

- To detect all malaria cases and ensure effective treatment and parasite clearance.
- To prevent transmission of artemisinin resistant malaria parasites through mosquito control and personal protection.
- To increase community awareness and behaviour change among the population at risk and support containment of artemisinin resistant parasites through comprehensive behaviour change communication (BCC), community mobilisation and advocacy.
- To provide effective project management (including information systems and surveillance) and coordination to enable rapid and high quality implementation of the strategy.

Other work by SSRs includes the training of Village Health Volunteers to provide community education and Village Malaria Workers and Mobile Malaria Workers to provide diagnosis and treatment of malaria. Border officials and police will also be trained to recognise malaria symptoms and convey basic malaria messages to migrant populations moving between Cambodia and Thailand.

Malaria Consortium is facilitating the use of centrally approved materials by its SSRs as well as monitoring and evaluating activities to ensure high quality implementation.

The organisation will be providing technical assistance throughout to ensure effective implementation and monitoring and evaluation commitments are met. Delivering a successful Phase I will be critical to secure agreement to continue for the full project term of five years.