

AMAZON MALARIA INITIATIVE (AMI)
AMAZON NETWORK FOR THE SURVEILLANCE OF ANTIMALARIAL DRUG RESISTANCE (RAVREDA)
XV Annual Evaluation Meeting
Casa Dann Carlton- Salon Britannia
Bogotá, Colombia
3-5 May 2016

AGENDA

Context:

One of the mandates of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) is to provide technical cooperation to countries in the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases and other poverty related diseases, including malaria. Thus, in its 51st Directing Council in 2011, Resolution CD51.R9 the Strategy and Plan of Action for Malaria (2011-2015) was adopted.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) have a long history of partnership in efforts aimed at strengthening public health priority areas in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Region

The collaboration between USAID and PAHO in the Amazon Malaria Initiative (AMI) began in October 2001, to support Malaria control in the Amazon Basin where 88% of reported *P. falciparum* malaria cases originated; initially focusing on resistance of that parasite to antimalarials. During its implementation over the years, the AMI project has supported efforts in the following lines of work:

1. Improving sustaining monitoring of efficacy of and resistance to antimalarials, and prevent emergence of resistance.
2. Improving access to quality diagnosis and treatment.
3. Improving quality assurance and control of pharmaceuticals and other supplies for malaria prevention and control.
4. Improving vector surveillance and integrated vector management.
5. Improving epidemiological surveillance.
6. Improving networking and strengthening systems.

These have contributed to Regional efforts to significantly reduce the global burden of malaria through interventions adapted to local needs as well as towards achievements of the malaria related United Nations Millennium Development Goal.

Also, since malaria transmission does not respect political borders, to complement country specific activities with a Regional approach, AMI was expanded to additional selected countries in Central America in order to simulate progress made in the Amazon Region.

AMI's activities now involve eleven participating countries: Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, and Suriname. Other endemic countries have collaborated as observers in the AMI project and benefit too with developed tools and products, training opportunities and accesses to information.

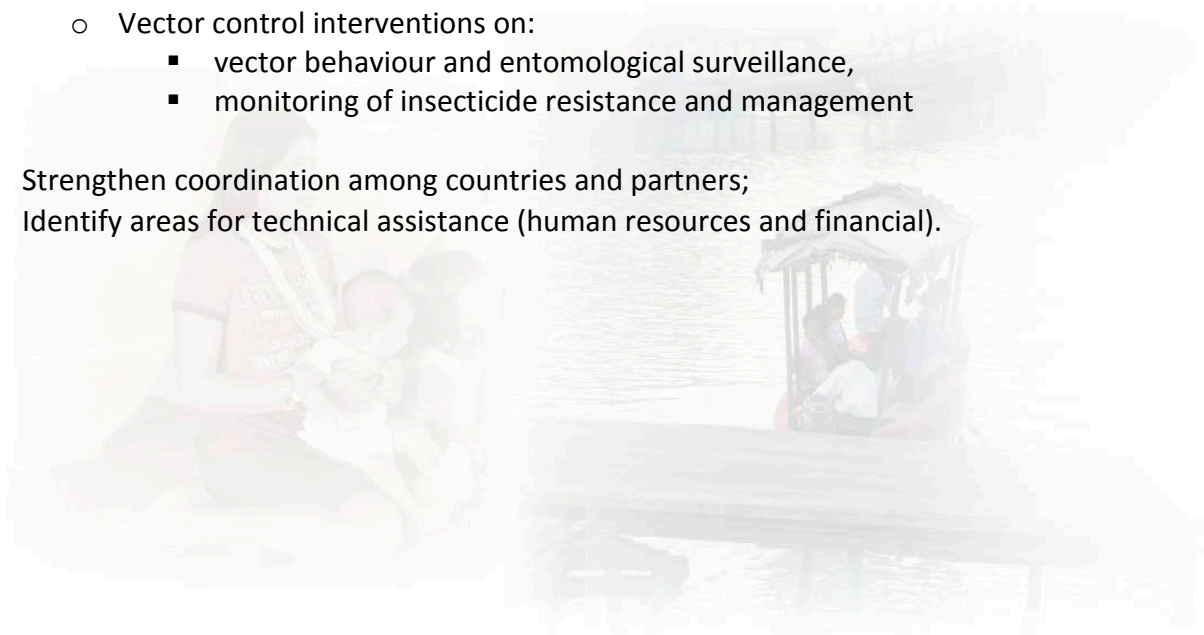
This work has been led by Ministries of Health and performed in collaboration with various partners at the country level, such as, universities, NGOs, as well as with international partners including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Management Sciences for Health (Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems Project), Links Media, and the U.S. Pharmacopeia (Promoting the Quality of Medicines Project).

Objectives of the meeting:

- Review the progress of activities developed by countries and described in their National Strategic Plans during the past year.
- Analyse the progress and lessons learned with a view to the future work plans under the new PAHO *Plan of action for Malaria 2016-2020*.
- Discuss and review of feasible actions and recommendations for surveillance, management, control and elimination of malaria in the Americas.

Expected Results:

- Elaborate recommendations during sessions to evaluate implementation and follow up in the subsequent year, including the identification of opportunities for south-south collaboration in regards to:
 - In vivo studies; and in vitro molecular surveillance
 - QA Diagnosis and capacities at local level
 - Treatment schemes:
 - Moving towards elimination:
 - same scheme of treatments (standard regional schemes)
 - joint procurement of antimalarials and other malaria commodities through PAHO SF
 - Vector control interventions on:
 - vector behaviour and entomological surveillance,
 - monitoring of insecticide resistance and management
- Strengthen coordination among countries and partners;
- Identify areas for technical assistance (human resources and financial).



Tuesday, 3 May 3 2016 Morning Session	
Moderator: Maria Paz Ade	
Time	Session
07:30 – 08:00	Registration
08:00 – 08:45	Welcome remarks PAHO/WHO Colombia Representative, Dr. Gina Watson PAHO/WHO WDC Representative, Dr. Luis Gerardo Castellanos USAID Representative, Mrs. Natalia Machuca Colombia Ministry of Health Representative, TBD
08:45 – 09:15	General aspects of the meeting, presentation of participants Ade, MP., PAHO Security orientation - UN/Colombia
09:15 – 10:15	SESSION 1: SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AND CHALLENGES IN COUNTRIES REGARDING PREVENTION, CONTROL AND ELIMINATION OF MALARIA Global and Regional Perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global overview. Alonso, P., WHO (:20) • Regional overview. Carter K., PAHO (:20) • Support for expansion of Regional program. Machuca N., USAID (:20)
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Break</i>
10:45 – 12:30	Q&A (:20) Country Perspectives: recent outbreaks and challenges in their prevention and management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colombia (:15) • Haiti/Ecuador (:15) • Peru (:15) Discussion (:40)
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Tuesday, 3 May 2016 Afternoon Session	
Moderator:	
14:00 – 16:00	<p>SESSION 2: MONITORING AND CURRENT SITUATION OF DRUG RESISTANCE AND EFFICACY OF ANTIMALARIALS</p> <p>-Global situation, update and next steps of artemisinin resistance. Ringwald P., WHO (:20)</p> <p>Country activities: Reactivation of efficacy studies - Update on recent efficacy studies conducted (methodology and results) <i>in-vivo studies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil (:15) Molecular marker studies - Update on recent studies/surveillance conducted (methodology and results) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honduras (samples from different countries) (:15) • Institute Pasteur. WHO CC (:15) Discussion (:40)</p>
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:30	<p>- Updates on the WHO Malaria elimination guidelines. Carter. K., PAHO (:20)</p> <p>Q&A (:40)</p>

Wednesday, 4 May 2016
Morning Session

Moderator:

09:00 – 10:30

SESSION 3: ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF DIAGNOSTICS

- Updates on malaria diagnostic tools, including G6PD tests and the use of molecular tools for detection of subclinical infections. Bosman, A., WHO (:20)

Improving access to diagnosis in hard to reach areas:

- Application of RDT Quality assurance in remote areas of La Moskitia: a country experience. Honduras, HON (:15)
- Plan for expansion of diagnosis network using RDT's, example from Ecuador, ECU (:15)

Implementing Quality Assurance practices for malaria diagnosis

- Results of the External Quality Assurance Program (EQAP) for malaria microscopy and actions implemented with participating countries PER/HON/PAHO. Ade, MP., PAHO (:20)

Comments and questions (:20)

10:30 – 11:00

Break

11:00 – 12:30

Specific issues in the Americas: HRP2 deletion

- Update of results and future work: molecular surveillance for HRP2 and HRP3 gene expression in *Plasmodium falciparum* parasites from South and Central America. Kumar, V. CDC (:20)
- Updates on Global situation. Cunningham, J. WHO (:20)

Round Table : News on diagnostic tools and specific implementation (:30)

- RealAMP implementation and results of pilot study in Brazil. Kumar. V. CDC
- Digital microscopy and development of highly sensitive RDT's. Bell D., IV
- RDT's for use in areas with *P. falciparum* HRP2 deletions and *P. vivax* infections. Jane Cunningham, WHO

Discussion and next steps (:20)

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

Wednesday, 4 May 2016
Afternoon Session

Moderator:

14:00 – 16:00

SESSION 4: USE OF AND ACCESS TO ANTIMALARIALS

- Malaria pharmaceutical management interventions in AMI countries; Monitoring of antimalarial stock/ challenges. Barillas, E., MSH (:20)
- Current status of procurement and technical cooperation from PAHO Strategic Fund and future steps. Giron, N., PAHO (:20)
- Presentation of needs and explanation of joint procurement processes for antimalarials. Giron, N., PAHO
 - Discussion and next steps (:40)
- WHO Mass Drug Administration Policy update. Bosman, A. WHO (:20)
- Discussion (:20)

16:00 – 16:30

Break

16:30 – 17:30

SESSION 5: QUALITY OF ANTIMALARIALS

- Updates on Quality Control of antimalarials in AMI countries: Does quality still matters? Pribluda, V. USP (:20)
- Country interventions/programs for quality control of antimalarials
- Peru: A case study for the successful integration of the Three-level Approach for QC of medicines in country's Regulatory System. PER. TBD (:15)
- Discussion on regional approaches (:25)

Thursday, 5 May 2016
Morning Session

Moderator:

09:00 – 10:30

SESSION 6: VECTOR SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL

- Regional Perspective:

Public Health and Entomology. Challenges and next steps. Bezerra H., PAHO (:20)

-Country perspectives & activities implemented:

- COL: Insecticide resistance surveillance and future perspectives for their management (:15)
- PAR: sustaining capacities for vector surveillance and control moving towards elimination (:15)

-Challenges maintaining capacities for outbreaks of other vector-borne diseases.
Lenhart, A., CDC (:20)

Discussion (:20)

10:30 – 11:00

Break

11:00 – 12:30

SESSION 7: MOVING onward TO ELIMINATION

-General findings of data verification missions to the Mesoamerican countries. Singh, P., PAHO (:20)

-Framework for artemisinin resistance containment and elimination in South America. Ruebush, T. (:20)

General discussion on country challenges to eliminate malaria (countries with < 1000 cases) (:30)

Recommendations (:20)

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

Thursday, 5 May 2016
Afternoon Session

Moderator:

14:00 – 15:30

SESSION 8: CAPACITY BUILDING AND COMMUNICATION

- WHO Plans for capacity building. Ortega, L. WHO (:20)

- Communication for malaria prevention, control and elimination. LinksMedia (:30)

Discussion (:40)

15:30 – 16:00

Break

16:00 – 17:30

Conclusions and closing ceremony

18:30 – 21:30

Reception