



# PRESIDENT'S MALARIA INITIATIVE TANZANIA

On mainland Tanzania, more than 16 percent of all outpatient visits are attributable to malaria, resulting in approximately 4-4 million clinical and confirmed malaria cases annually. With 93 percent of people on the mainland residing in malaria endemic areas, the disease remains a major contributor to maternal, newborn, and under-five mortality.

The U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) strives to reduce malaria deaths and substantially decrease malaria prevalence with the long-term goal of elimination. With support from PMI and its partners, malaria control interventions are being expanded and critical commodities are being distributed to vulnerable populations. PMI employs an integrated approach emphasizing prevention through insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs), indoor residual spraying, and prevention of malaria in pregnancy. Disease control is also emphasized through prompt diagnosis and correct treatment, strengthened malaria surveillance, developing human resources capacity, and promoting positive behaviors for malaria prevention and case management.

Recent PMI support on the mainland has included:

- Indoor residual spraying for almost 570,000 structures in 2021, protecting over 2 million people.
- Procurement of over 3.6 million ITNs, 1.5 million ACTs and 210,000 vials of injectable

Artesunate for management of severe malaria in 2021.

- Expanded distribution of over 3.6 million ITNs to primary school children in fourteen high malaria burden regions in 2021.
- Continued to support the distribution of Global Fund procured ITNs to all public health facilities in fourteen high malaria regions in 2021. These ITNs are issued to pregnant women at their first antenatal care visit, as well as children upon their first measles vaccination; and
- Continued to support and strengthen the implementation of the Malaria Services and Data Quality Improvement package in three high malaria burden regions.

#### **PMI OVERVIEW**

**FUNDING LEVEL** 

\$44 million in FY 2022

#### MAJOR PARTNERS

- National Malaria Control Program
- Zanzibar Malaria Elimination Program
- VectorLink, Abt Associates Inc.
- Tanzania Vector Control Activity, Johns Hopkins University
- Dhibiti Malaria, PSI
- Shinda Malaria, Ifakara Health Institute
- Impact Malaria, PSI
- Malaria Indicator Survey, ICF Macro
- PS3 Plus, Abt Associates Inc.
- Breakthrough ACTION, Johns Hopkins University
- USAID Tulonge Afya, FHI360
- Global Health Supply Chain PSM, Chemonics
- Okoa Maisha Dhibiti Malaria (OMDM), RTI
- Peace Corps

#### COLLABORATING DONORS

The Global Fund

- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- World Health Organization

#### CONTACTS

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# In Zanzibar, recent PMI support has included:

• Procurement of more than 145,000 ITNs and support for delivery of over 115,000 ITNs through

• antenatal clinics and immunization clinics channels; and

• Work with the Zanzibar Malaria Elimination Program (ZAMEP) to sustain gains in malaria control, including intensified surveillance through case detection, entomological monitoring, and SMS-based mobile phone reporting.

Throughout Tanzania, PMI continues to support epidemiological monitoring, health system and supply chain strengthening, improved malaria case management, and the use of mass media outlets and interpersonal communication to improve healthy behaviors.

## **CHALLENGES**

Efforts to prevent and control malaria are complicated by human resources shortfalls, including high turnover at the ministry level, lack of trained malaria officers, and staff shortages. Weak management of the health supply chain also challenges the administering of treatment and prevention measures at facilities nationwide. The ability to monitor and measure malaria interventions is also limited by weak information systems. PMI supports and builds on USAID's health systems strengthening efforts to address these issues.

## IMPACT

PMI contributions in Tanzania since 2005 include:

- Procurement of over 51 million life-saving artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) antimalarial drugs.
- Indoor residual insecticide spraying annually protecting 2 million people in the most recently completed round of spraying (2022).
- Procurement of over 27 million ITNs; and
- Procurement of over 28.8 million malaria rapid diagnostic tests. The expansion of malaria prevention and treatment interventions based on the strategies of PMI, ZAMEP, and the mainland's National Malaria Control Program have yielded dramatic results, including:
- A drop in malaria prevalence to 0.2 percent in children under five in Zanzibar. ZAMEP is now focused on pre-elimination.
- A rise in the number of children under five receiving ACTs within 24 hours of developing a fever from 14 percent to 60 percent.
- An increase in the number of households owning at least one ITN from 38 percent in 2007 to 77 percent in 2017; and
- In households with at least one ITN, 54 percent of pregnant women and children under five reported sleeping under an ITN the previous night in 2017.