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USAID/Zambia HEALTH IMPACT MALARIA

Despite steady global advances in the fight against malaria over the last decade, The World Health Organization's 2018 World Malaria Report indicated that between 2017 and 2018, the global number of malaria deaths remained the same. In Zambia, thanks to the collaboration between the United States and Zambian governments, malaria deaths continue to decline. To accelerate this progress, with support from the United States' President's Malaria Initiative, the Impact Malaria (IM) program reduces illness and death caused by malaria, advancing Zambia's ultimate goal of malaria elimination.

- **Life of Project:** September 2018 - January 2023
- **Geographic Focus:** Central, Copperbelt, and Lusaka Provinces
- **Partners:** Population Services International and Medical Care Development International
- **Chief of Party:** Victoria Kalota
- **Total USAID Funding:** \$400,000 a year
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Impact Malaria works across 23 districts in Central and Copperbelt Provinces to support the Zambian National Malaria Elimination Center's (NMEC) strategic plan. In alignment with NMEC's priorities, project activities focus on providing effective and efficient diagnosis and treatment to patients at health facilities and in communities. The program also targets the prevention and management of malaria in pregnant women, advocates for stronger malaria health systems, and improves the use of data for analysis and decision-making at central, provincial, and district offices. Key activities include:

- building the capacity of supervisors in quality assurance of rapid diagnostic tests;
- coaching lab technicians on malaria microscopy skills;
- conducting refresher training for clinical case management of malaria;
- supporting supervisors in outreach training and use of supportive supervision tools;
- addressing high staff turnover through regular clinical and diagnostic refresher training; and
- working at national level to harmonize outreach, training, and supportive supervision plans and policy.

Expected Results

In 2021 and 2022, Impact Malaria will support outreach training and supportive supervision activities to strengthen malaria diagnosis and treatment in over 450 public and private health facilities, reaching 76 percent of all health facilities in Central and Copperbelt provinces each year. We anticipate the program will increase the proportion of targeted health facilities who meet national standards in malaria case management from 78% to over 90%. Through its technical assistance, Impact Malaria will help the Ministry of Health to finalize the national malaria slide bank and revive community-based malaria surveillance in Lusaka.