Vector Control Working Group
Update

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APMEN Annual General Meeting
Bangkok, Thailand
12th May, 2016
Purpose

• The Vector Control Working Group (VcWG) is composed of APMEN Country Partners and Partner Institutions with special expertise/interest in entomology or vector control.

• The VcWG was established when the Network was formed in 2009 with two (2) main objectives:

  ❑ To advocate for the level of vector control capacity at regional and country level required to attain and maintain malaria elimination.
  ❑ To stimulate and where possible coordinate operational research on questions directly related to intensified malaria control and elimination.

• Despite the fact that vector control constitutes major components of the elimination strategy, many programmes still lack qualified entomologists/vector control specialists.
## VcWG Activities & Outcomes

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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yearly VcWG Meeting</td>
<td>Information sharing and discussions on vector Control</td>
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<td>APMEN Vector TWG in Kuala Lumpur: Trade Fair Café Session - private sector rep showcased latest industry innovations in vector control.</td>
<td>Good opportunity to learn about new developments and technologies, as well as discuss countries’ specific needs and challenges.</td>
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<td><strong>Malaria vectors in Asia Pacific countries</strong> Pocketbook</td>
<td>Useful reference tool for field entomologists, provide faster and more effective accuracy in identifying vectors in the field.</td>
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<td>Outcomes</td>
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<td>3 IR Thematic Fellowships</td>
<td>Regional peer-to-peer learning and leadership</td>
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<td>5 of the annual Fellowships related to VC incl Thematic Fellowship supported by VecNet.</td>
<td>Increased vector operational capacity including for malaria</td>
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<td>Supported 23 people to attend IVM course (MOH Malaysia &amp; ACT Malaria)</td>
<td>Increased capacity at subnational level in IVM</td>
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<td>Vector Research Grants</td>
<td>Improve and increase effectiveness of VC techniques</td>
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## Activities / Outcomes (cont)

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<tr>
<td>Co-supported <strong>Vector Control in Elimination training</strong> led by WHO WPRO</td>
<td>Improved planning, implementation and evaluation of VC intervention, including monitoring IR</td>
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<td><strong>Workshops / Meetings / Study Tours</strong></td>
<td>Working papers on VC &amp; elimination tool, training needs and capacity mapping; role of larvicides &amp; of repellents in APR malaria elimination. 2015 IR Workshop identified action agenda for IR prevention in the region</td>
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Key challenges

- Capacity development and operational research on vector control for a range of vector borne diseases. Example: Following IVM course,
  
  - Country programme manager to form an “IVM Inter-sector Steering Committee” (National, State, District level)
  - The programme manager to allocate funds to support proposed IVM project
  - Participants should carry out a TOT at their districts level
  - Participants should carry out the IVM implementation plan at their level.

- Limited knowledge of new appropriate technologies and tools for vector control. Few opportunities for accessing this information.
- Limited capacity development opportunities for field based/district staff in vector control and field entomologists (IVM Training & WHO)
- Limited number of “specialist” vector control staff in region has compromised VCWG leadership and activities in region
- Need for dedicated administrative support and funding for the working group
Key challenges

• Limited knowledge of new appropriate technologies and tools for vector control. Few opportunities for accessing this information.

• Larval Source Management
  • Reduce host-vector contacts: topical repellents, spatial repellents, insecticide treated clothing, long lasting insecticidal hammocks, insecticide treated plastic sheeting (temporary shelters in the forest)
  • Toxic sugar baits, fungal biopesticides
  • “Proper” housing – to further reduce indoor transmission
• Capacity building and need for training in region
• Strategies to address:
  ➢ Outdoor transmission
  ➢ Residual Transmission
  ➢ Vector control methods for mobile populations
  ➢ Monitoring and prevention of increased insecticide resistance in region. (The number of available and effective insecticides for malaria vector control is decreasing. Only pyrethroid class of insecticides for nets.)
• Increased consistency in ITN usage
• Quality assurance of use of insecticides
• Appropriate use of IVM
VcWG Meeting, January 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia