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U.S. President's Malaria Initiative



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OKOA MAISHA Dhibiti Malaria Activity (OMDM)

The OMDM project seeks to institutionalize malaria surveillance and monitoring at all levels of the Government of Tanzania (GOT), maximizing the epidemiological impact of implemented malaria interventions by improving the targeting and implementation of interventions, refining approaches to manage transmission foci and respond to outbreaks, and providing key data to the GOT and stakeholders for policy development and programmatic decision-making.

OMDM provides technical assistance to the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and Zanzibar Malaria Elimination Program (ZAMEP) across four major result areas:

- sustaining results through programmatic integration, local ownership, and capacity strengthening;
- maximizing data for decision-making;
- building on what works and what is there;
- making gender integral to our technical and management approach; and,
- leveraging national and global knowledge and networks.

Result 1: Malaria Surveillance is Improved

Result 1 activities focus on the first major element of OMDM's Results Framework: disease surveillance. Activities build upon the programmatic context of Tanzania's existing surveillance systems, including the health management information system (HMIS) / district health information system (DHIS2) platform, surveys, and studies, as well as program-specific

information systems to monitor and evaluate the country's health status and health sector performance, including for malaria.

Result 2: Entomological Monitoring is Improved

Entomological monitoring is a staple activity of NMCP and ZAMEP vector control and includes entomological surveillance, insecticide resistance testing, and residual efficacy assays. Through grants to local organizations and provision of technical assistance to NMCP and ZAMEP, OMDM centralizes entomological monitoring data, ensuring the conduct of entomological monitoring on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, facilitating quarterly meetings of NMCP and ZAMEP vector control TWGs, and supporting the development and/or regular updating of national policy and technical guidance documents on entomological monitoring data and protocols.

Result 3: Drug Efficacy Monitoring is Improved

To mitigate the threat of antimalarial drug resistance to malaria control efforts, the NMCP, ZAMEP, and stakeholders must regularly evaluate—through use of therapeutic efficacy studies (TES)—antimalarial drug efficacy in a way that provides timely, relevant, reliable, and understandable information. OMDM provides grants to local stakeholders and technical support to the NMCP and ZAMEP to centralize TES data; ensures TES are conducted annually on mainland Tanzania; develops a drug efficacy monitoring approach for Zanzibar; facilitates quarterly meetings of NMCP and ZAMEP TES TWGs; and supports the development and regular updating of national policy and technical guidance documents on TES data and protocols.

Result 4: GOT's Evidence-Based Decision-Making is Improved

To further progress on their respective paths to malaria elimination, OMDM provides technical assistance to the NMCP and ZAMEP to strengthen their capacity to analyze and interpret data for use in evidence-based decision-making. OMDM's capacity building approaches include (1) building a critical mass of entomologists, epidemiologists, ICT specialists, data analysts, and policy specialists through short- and long-term courses, mentoring and coaching; (2) engaging NMCP, ZAMEP, and stakeholder staff in buying into, implementing, and ultimately owning OMDM's *Learning Agenda*; and (3) providing opportunities and support to NMCP and ZAMEP staff to attend national, regional, and international meetings and conferences, participate in study tours, and publish programmatic results and achievements in peer-reviewed and grey literature.

BUDGET

\$19.5 million

DURATION

August 2018 – August 2023

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

OMDM's activities works at the national level across Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

RTI International

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