

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

TERMS OF REFERENCE
Task Force on Malaria Control and Elimination

By
Country Coordinating Mechanism
2015

I. Background:

Lao PDR experienced tremendous gains in malaria morbidity and mortality between 2000 and 2010. At that time Laos was on track to achieve targets set towards 2015 Millennium Development Goals. However, since late 2011 there has been a resurgence of malaria particularly in its five southern provinces. Furthermore, in December 2013, routine monitoring of therapeutic drug efficacy conducted in Champasack province reported that 22.2% of the patients treated with artemether-lumefantrine remained parasitemic on day 3 of treatment. Artemisinin resistance confirmed by evidence of K13 mutants in circulating parasite populations has been documented.

Lao PDR malaria control and elimination activities are at a critical point. These arising issues require significant engagement from technical stakeholders to work together to address these challenges.

The Lao Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) is being supported by global fund to fight the 3 diseases (Malaria, TB and HIV/Aids) reinforcing the government ongoing efforts. One of the requirements is to establish a Task Force that will provide program oversight from a multidisciplinary Task Force, that can influence partnerships to provide the necessary technical support to program implementation to guide effective control and elimination of malaria for Lao PDR.

II. Objective:

The purpose of the Task Force on Malaria Control and Elimination (TFM) is to increase the opportunity for coordination of efforts and to ensure a coherent system of planning and implementation of malaria control and elimination efforts in the country in line with existing government plans. Specifically, the objective of the TFM is to strengthen the management of the malaria control program to enhance integration, partner coordination and decentralization.

III. Mission

1. Promotion of multi-sectoral integration/collaboration in the national response to Malaria Control and Elimination;
2. Strengthening of national and international partnerships and alliances; and
3. Fostering of policy dialogues and facilitates the formulation of common positions, where appropriate.

IV. Strategies:

1. Strengthen and further intensify cooperation in national response to Malaria Control and Elimination to ensure that main concerns and gaps are mainstreamed in the national efforts;
2. Promote advocacy and enhance the state of Malaria Control and Elimination awareness and related issues at national level;
3. Improve accessibility to Malaria Control and Elimination and related information; and
4. Strengthen the national and collective capacity on the Malaria Control and Elimination related issues and on health implication from regional economic integration, globalization, trade liberalization, new technologies, and innovations.

V. Scope of Work:

In line with the above objectives and strategies, the work of the Task Force on Malaria Control and Elimination will be guided by the following Terms of Reference:

1. To drive development of the New Funding Model concept note and proposal to secure funds for the national malaria control program

2. To formulate and revise the Annual Operation Plan (POA) including objectives and milestones
3. To set standard of technical guidelines to support implementation of the malaria control activities
4. To coordinate malaria control activities including those conducted by other government agencies, international organizations and the community
5. To contribute to the development of the health care system in both public and private sectors with a focus on malaria activities
6. To contribute to the achievement of malaria goals as outlined in the National Health Sector Development Plan
7. To monitor and evaluate the national policies, strategies, guidelines, protocols and plans for the malaria program
8. To coordinate partners and lead the mobilization of resource and advocacy through multiple channels
9. To support, develop and/or provide comments and feedback on documents to be submitted to OC/CCM on the malaria portfolio.

VI. Procedures/Mechanisms

1. The permanent members of the TFM are representatives of selected departments and Institutions of Ministry of Health namely Communicable Diseases Control, Healthcare, Food and Drugs, Hygiene and Health Promotion, Planning and International Cooperation, and Inspection, Malaria Control and Elimination, National Centre for Laboratory and Epidemiology, MCH Centre, Health Information and Education Centre, and Principal Recipient of the Global Fund project. The following UN Agencies, international organizations, NGOs, Civil society organizations will also be invited to attend the regular meetings as necessary : UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO, Burnet, IOM, Lao PHA, NCA, PEDDA, PSI, LRC, Network of PLHIV. Line- Ministries and focal points of Malaria Control and Elimination will also be invited as necessary. The TFM may consider any organization to attend its regular meetings as necessary.
2. The TFM shall meet on quarterly basis. Ad hoc and other urgent meetings could be conducted as deemed necessary.
3. The Director of Centre for Malaria Control and Elimination, Ministry of Health, shall serve as Chairman of the TFM and preside over the task force meeting and report to the Department of Communicable Diseases Control, Ministry of Health.
4. Centre of Malaria Control and Elimination, Ministry of Health shall be Secretariat of the TFM. Centre of Malaria Control and Elimination shall send invitation, prepare meeting documents, meeting program, take note of the meetings and prepare meeting reports and do all necessary logistical arrangements for the task force.

Abbreviations

Burnet	Burnet Institute
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanism
CHAS	Centre for HIV/AIDS and STI
CLE	Centre for Laboratory and Epidemiology
FSW	Female Sex Worker
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
IOM	International Organization for Migration
Lao PHA	Lao Positive Health Association
LRC	Lao Red Cross
LYU	Lao Youth Union
MCH Centre	Mather and Child Centre
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
NCA	Norwegian Church Aid
NCCA	National Committee for the Control of AIDS
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
NSAP	National Strategy Action Plan
OC	Oversight Committee
PEDA	Promotion Education Development Association
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PSI	Population Services International
TFM	Task Force on Malaria Control and Elimination
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nation
UNAIDS	United Nations program on AIDS
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
WHO	World Health Organization