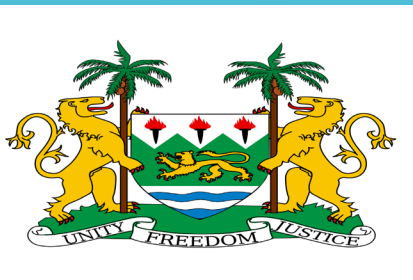


Abstract Title

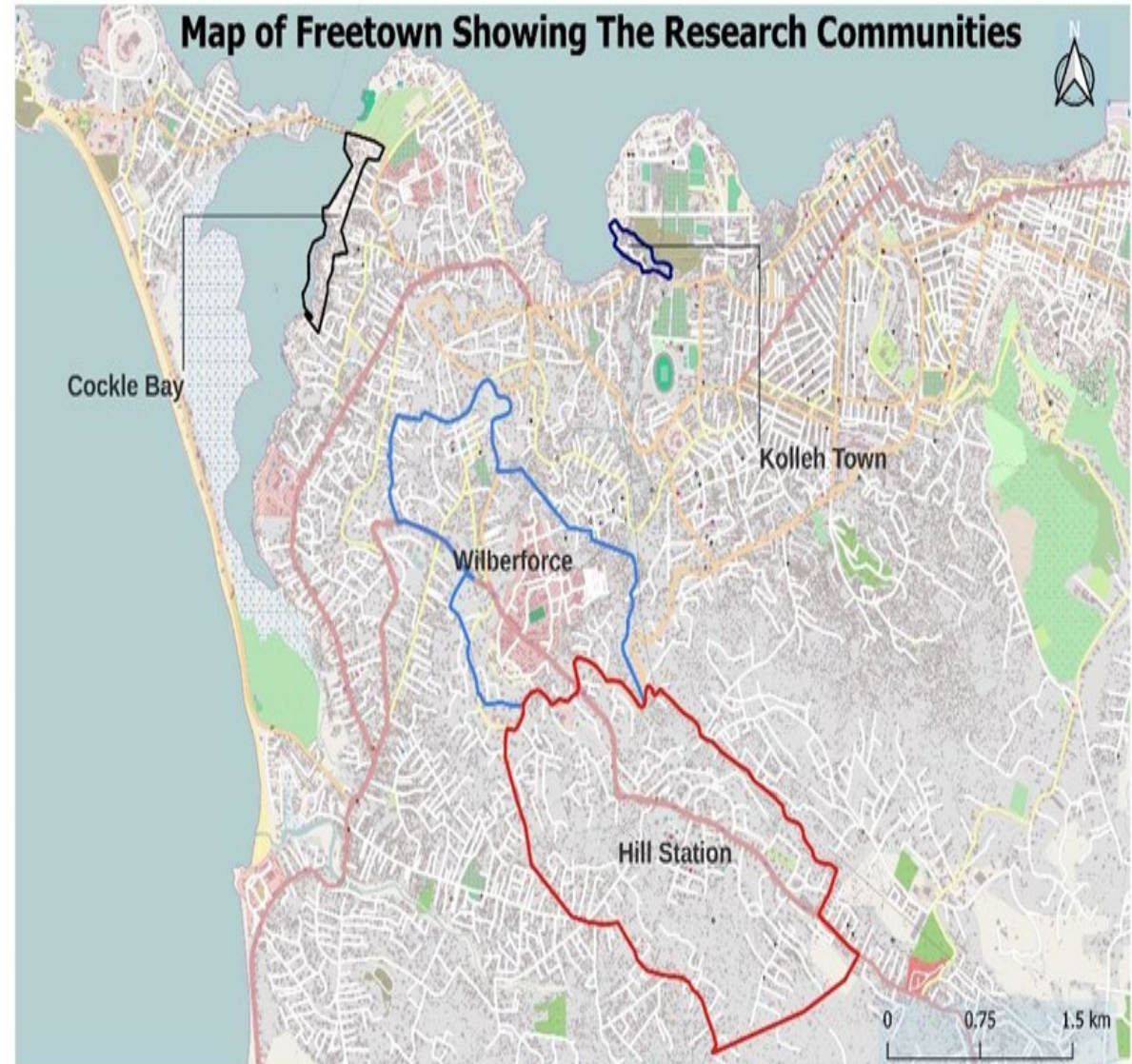
Improving malaria programming in Freetown Sierra Leone through multisectoral approaches: Exploring determinate factors for malaria transmission in formal and informal communities.



Background/Overview of the Project

- In 2021 & 2022, CRS conducted a malaria prevalence study at different seasons in 4 communities in western urban district of Freetown.
- 2 informal settlements & 2 formal settlements.
- To establish the baseline prevalence to inform planned housing improvements & WASH interventions in the slum communities within the informal settlements.

Partner- College of medicine and Allied Health Sciences- University of Sierra Leone, the National Malaria control program, Western area district health management team, the Freetown City Council



Objectives

Objective 1

- Determine prevalence rates of malaria among formal and informal settlements in western area urban district, Freetown Sierra Leone

Objective 2

- Determine the effects that improved WASH and housing infrastructure have on malaria burden in Urban Areas of Sierra Leone



Methodology

A cross sectional study was used to investigate prevalence of malaria at different transmission seasons

Malaria prevalence using RDT and Microscopy

Two arms of the study

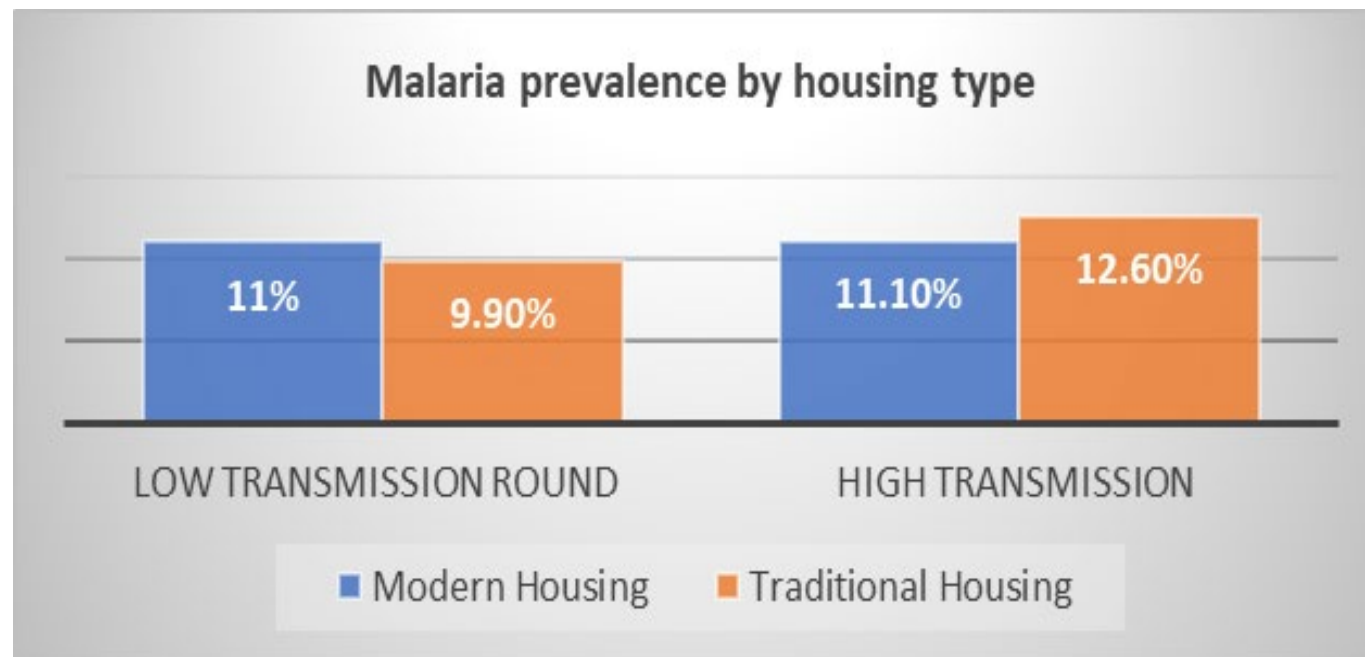
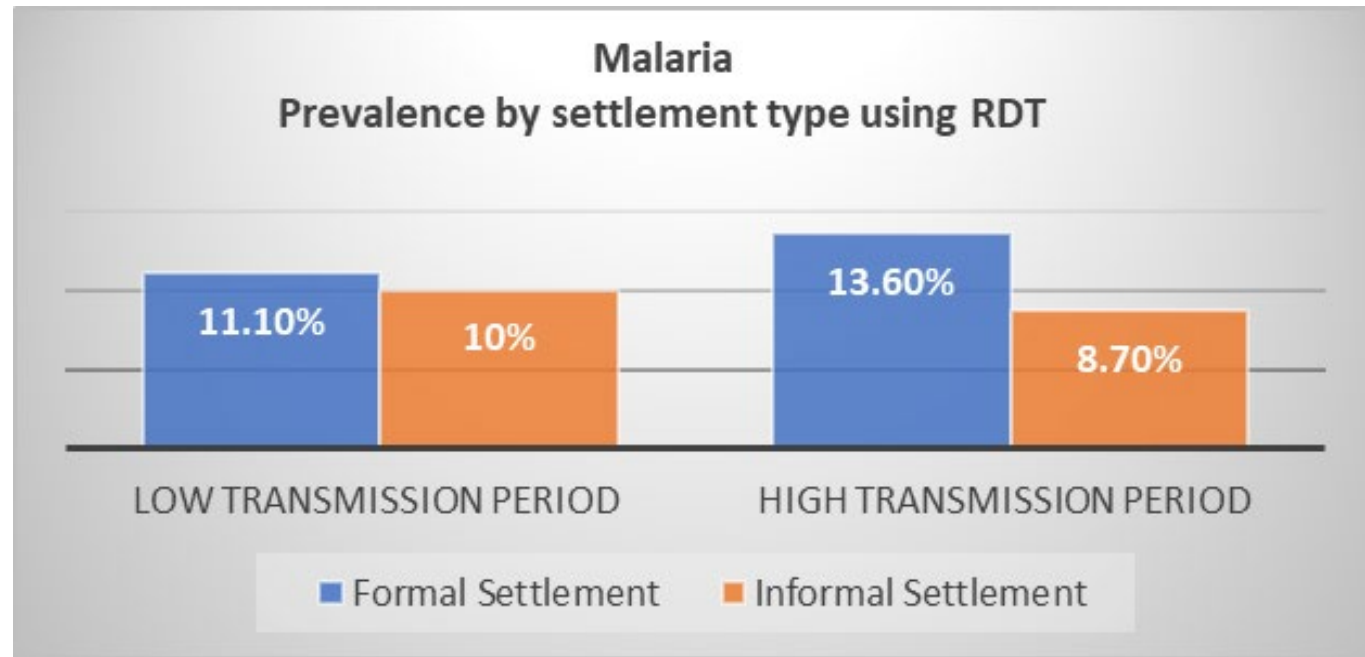
One community (formal) has good wash and housing structures whilst the other community (informal) has poor wash and housing structures

Primary target children 6-59 months



Results

- Low transmission period (August-September 2021) formal settlement (11.1%), informal (10%) settlements
- High transmission period (June-July 2022) formal settlement (13.6 %) over informal (8.7%) amongst children <5.
- Traditional housing (8.1%), modern housing (7.5%) in both settlement types.



Conclusion/Next steps

- Conduct third rounds of malaria prevalence and a KAP survey
- Work with Transform Freetown consortium consider housing improvements as a supplementary intervention for Malaria control in Urban slums.
- Work with civil society organizations and other non-governmental organizations to promote advocacy
- Support the nationwide ITN campaign
- Promote malaria social behavior and communication messages
- Capacity building for health care workers and community health volunteers
- Work with communities to develop action plans on how to address malaria



Photo by Ahmed David Kamara/CRS

Questions

Thank You

