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

Accelerating the end of Malaria across sectors
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
Questions

Thank You

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