The malaria capacity strengthening landscape

RBM VCWG-14 meeting, January 30-February 1, 2019 Geneva
Swiss TPH Mandate

Following years of fruitful collaboration, Swiss TPH was designated **WHO Collaborating Centre for Modelling, Monitoring and Training for Malaria Control and Elimination** in March 2017. Activities focusing on:

1. Modeling of malaria epidemiology
2. Molecular monitoring of malaria interventions and control programmes; innovation and validation of diagnostic techniques
3. **Teaching and training in the field of malaria epidemiology, control and elimination**

I. Develop tools for (a) mapping of training institutions in malaria endemic countries and the training conducted in relation to malaria control and elimination, (b) training needs assessment at national and sub-national level, (c) assessing the type and quality of regional, national and subnational training in malaria control and elimination.

II. Support the development of GMP’s global strategy for human resource capacity development in support of accelerating progress toward malaria elimination.

III. ....

https://www.swisstph.ch/en/about/eph/health-interventions/whoccmalaria/
What’s the current landscape?
   Where are the gaps linked to the training needs?
   How can we evaluate the quality of the trainings?

Who needs additional training to perform his/her tasks?
   Who will design/perform the desired training(s)?
   How these trainings will look like?
   When the training(s) should be planned?
Discussion with GMP staff: Leonard Ortega & David Schellenberg

Swiss TPH develops and pilots the two tools

Tool 1 – preliminary results
Tool 2 – collection of data starts in March 2018

✓ WHO course repository
✓ Develop GMP’s global strategy for human resource capacity development
What’s the current landscape?

**Mapping the malaria-related courses worldwide – Tool 1**

- **User-friendly** (excel) and **comprehensive design**.
- Excel outline was based on a TDR’s tool to collect data on vector control training worldwide.
- **Pilot study for the design** with malaria experts.

- **Fields**: Region, Country, Title, Training Category, Institution, Institution Category, Address, Link, Format, Language, Description, Date, Duration, Frequency, Level, Target group, Number of Participants, Fees, Additional Information (optional).
- **Descriptions** (introduction & instructions tab, drop down menus).

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What’s the current landscape?

**Mapping the malaria-related courses worldwide – Tool 1**

- Search for short courses to PhD programmes provided by Ministries, WHO, Academia or NGOs.
  - **Web-based***
    - keywords
  - **Institutions’ websites**
  - **Direct communication** with malaria experts
- **4 languages** (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese).
- **20 training hours** in malaria minimum (based on in-depth courses examples).

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*Google, Yahoo, Bing
** Institutions’ websites offering courses and degrees in the area of biology, public health or epidemiology
What’s the current landscape?

*Mapping the malaria-related courses worldwide – Tool 1*

95 courses

- Majority of courses are taking place in AFRO and PAHO, followed by EURO.

AFRO: Benin (1), Burkina Faso (1), Ethiopia (2), Ghana (3), Kenya (2), Malawi (1), Mali (1), Tanzania (2), South Africa (13), Uganda (5), rotating course (1).

EURO: Georgia (1), Germany (1), Italy (1), Portugal (1), Spain (3), Sweden (1), Switzerland (2), UK (6).

EMRO: Sudan (3), Tunisia (1), rotating course (1).

PAHO: Argentina (2), Brazil (2), Canada (1), Colombia (1), Cuba (3), Mexico (6), Peru (1), Suriname (1), USA (13).

SEARO: India (4), Myanmar (1), Thailand (2).

WPRO: Australia (1), China (1), Lao (1), Philippines (2).
The majority of courses (~78%) offered in English.

No courses found in Portuguese.
2/3 of the courses taught in-person.

Online courses are uncommon. MOOCs seem to be on the rise.

Mixed courses (in-person and online) are available.
- Academia is the leading actor offering malaria-related training.
- The Regions have different approaches.
- Mixed models are also available.
Limitations of the web-based search

- Lack of online information.
- Many courses offered on-demand and they are donors’-driven.
- Several are not advertised widely.
- Different languages (Chinese websites etc).
  ✓ 79 courses

Additional opportunities for data collection

- **Direct communication** with malaria experts attended high-level WHO meetings in mid-December 2017 and their networks.
  ✓ 16 additional courses found 95 courses
  ✓ Private sector?
Methodology

What’s the required level of malaria knowledge for key positions working at all levels of the Malaria Programme?

- **User-friendly** (excel) and **comprehensive design** (introduction & instructions tab, drop down menus, multiple choice).
- **Pilot study for the design** with 21 malaria experts attended high-level WHO meetings in mid-December 2017.
Who needs additional training to perform his/her tasks?
Training needs assessment at national and sub-national level – Tool 2

Profile of the 21 malaria experts

### WHO Regions
- AFRO: 45%
- PAHO: 23%
- EURO: 18%
- SEARO: 9%
- WPRO: 5%

### Organizations
- NMCP: 33%
- Academia: 19%
- Ministry of Health: 19%
- Governmental Organization: 14%
- WHO: 5%
- NGO: 5%
- Global Fund: 5%
Four levels of the Health System: National, Regional, District and Health Centre

Seven fields:

- Key position of Health Staff with responsibilities in the Malaria Programme.
- Main functions / tasks.
- Minimum educational requirement.
- Hard skills.
- Training related to malaria attended in the last 2 years by Person/People currently in post.
- Transferable skills.
- Additional information.

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Next steps

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**Tool 1**
- Inclusion of private sector.
- Publicly available report.
- Online WHO repository with the offered courses.
- Dissemination of information.
- Maintenance.

**Tool 2**
- Translate in French and Spanish.
- Test in high and low endemic countries.
- Data collection via National Malaria Control Programmes.
- Report.

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Planned workshop in May (Rwanda)
Ideas and inputs are highly appreciated

Konstantina Boutsika

konstantina.boutsika@swisstph.ch