



**Partnership**  
To End Malaria

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# Multi Sectoral Working Group Update

20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

MSWG co-chairs, Peter Mbabazi & Graham Alabaster

# *Multi Sectoral Working Group*

## Purpose

The RBM Multi Sectoral Working Group (MSWG) is a mechanism at global level aiming to minimize wasteful duplication, maximize synergies, and encourage harmonization and pooling of efforts for faster uptake and scale up of multi sectoral strategies

Multi Sectoral Working Group (MSWG) Terms of Reference, revised in April 2018.

*English:* <https://endmalaria.org/sites/default/files/RBM-MSWG-TORs-Approved-by-Board-Apr18.pdf>

*French:* <https://endmalaria.org/sites/default/files/FR-RBM-MSWG-TORs-Approved-by-Board-Apr18-1.pdf>

# Multi Sectoral Working Group

## Main Objectives

- The main objectives of this group are to:
  - **Explore gaps** in the design and delivery of integrated multi sectoral approaches, building on the RBM multi sector framework
  - Encourage a **wider participation** in malaria control and eradication from other, non-health sectors
  - Identify **additional resources** to support activities
  - **Establish priority regions/countries** where political will and resources in existing initiatives are conducive to multisectoral action
  - **Develop prototype project concepts** aimed at demonstrating new multi/intersectoral approaches

# MSWG Meetings

2-3 October 2018,  
Basel, Switzerland



4-5 February 2019,  
Geneva, Switzerland



6-7 February 2020,  
Geneva, Switzerland



Next meeting planned for June/July 2021 (virtual)

# *Multi Sectoral Working Group*

## Top activities for 2020-2021

- ❑ Multisectoral Action Framework (waiting final editing lead: Erik Blas and UNDP)
- ❑ Multisectoral Action Guide to End Malaria (final stages Josh Levens RBM)
- ❑ Multisectoral Action Guide to End Malaria Zambia (final stages Josh Levens RBM)
- ❑ Organize information disseminations events (stand-alone, at relevant conferences) (postponed to late 2021, due to COVID-19)

# Multi Sectoral Working Group

## Top activities for 2020-2021

### Accelerating the Commonwealth Healthy Cities Agenda

— CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT —

DRAFT v5 23/04/21 COMMONWEALTH HEALTHY CITIES AGENDA

#### Healthy Cities, Healthy People A Common Position and Commitment to Action

##### Endorsers:

[City/Country]

Supporting  
Organisations:

International  
Organisations:

UN Habitat:

Networks:

Asia Pacific Leaders'

Malaria Alliance

BOVA Network

Commonwealth Local

Government Forum

RBM Partnership to

End Malaria

Uniting to Combat

NTDs

Academic  
Organisations:

Centro de

Investigação em

Saúde de Moçambique,  
Mozambique (CSM)

Durham University

Liverpool School of

Tropical Medicine

London School of

Hygiene and Tropical

Medicine

Wageningen

University, The

Netherlands

##### Preamble

The rapidly growing cities and towns of the Commonwealth are key drivers of economic growth and prosperity, but need to be healthy and safe in order to thrive.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of our urban communities, particularly those lacking adequate sanitation, water, housing, waste management, planning and transport infrastructure. Lack of access to basic services will continue to have a significant impact on our resilience to COVID-19 and other communicable diseases including future pandemics, which are highly likely to occur.

Over 600 million people in urban/perurban areas globally still lack access to clean running water and soap to wash their hands. The situation for urban sanitation is even worse. This is unacceptable in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and a major cause of disease. An estimated 1.6 billion people do not have access to adequate housing with the greatest demand being in cities. Many of these people also depend on informal food markets and transport hubs that can be infectious disease hotspots.

The pandemic could provide the impetus for a new wave of cooperation and investment to make our cities and towns healthy and prosperous places to live. However, COVID-19 could also precipitate a major resurgence of other diseases including malaria, dengue, tuberculosis, soil transmitted helminths, rabies, schistosomiasis, and scabies in urban areas due to disruption to supply chains and prevention activities. It already threatens to reverse progress towards the SDGs.

##### We have a Common Position...

We, the mayors and local government leaders of the Commonwealth, are at the frontline of the COVID-19 response. We have played a vital role in public communication, ensuring basic services, and responding to the crisis with targeted support to protect vulnerable communities. We have learned a lot about the importance of local and community-anchored approaches in controlling the pandemic.

We commit to play our part in preventive disease control through better planning and development of urban environments and we are the best actors to catalyse multi-sectoral and community-based efforts.

- The *purpose* of this initiative is to support a network of Commonwealth city leaders and link them with international health advocates, vector borne disease, tuberculosis and Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) specialists, experts on the built environment, philanthropic and other external funders and pharmaceutical companies to address vector-borne (especially mosquito-transmitted), tuberculosis (TB) and Neglected Tropical Disease<sup>1</sup>(NTD) prevention in cities.
- The initial *objective* is to agree a *Common Position and Commitment to Action*, with a focus on the leadership role of cities in galvanising action outside mainstream health initiatives to prevent vector-borne disease, TB and NTDs and build healthier and more resilient cities.
- The initial *goal* is to present the *Common Position and Commitment to Action* at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali in June 2021, bringing city and community leaders into the highest levels of decision making with respect to the prevention and control of high-risk vector-borne diseases, TB and Neglected Tropical Diseases.
- The *longer term aim* of this initiative is to mobilise substantial and sustainable support for urban health investment across the Commonwealth, with a strong focus on vector-borne diseases, TB and NTDs, with city and local government leaders playing a central role in decision-making at local, national and global level.

# Multi Sectoral Working Group

## Top activities for the coming period

- ❑ Finalise the Consensus Statement for the MSWG (in progress)
- ❑ Develop work malaria smart agriculture eg: improved rice farming to avoid mosquito breeding grounds;
- ❑ Develop community participation in integrated mass action against Malaria and other VB diseases, building on our work with BOVA eg: Malaria smart homes which involves, Housing improvement options like; screening windows and doors, larval source management around homes (remove or turning upside down, broken pots, bottles, old tyres, compound drainage, fill up potholes).
- ❑ Malaria smart work places( free of mosquitoes, & case management/company clinics)
- ❑ Incubation of Malaria businesses eg local IRS companies,
- ❑ Promotion of new innovations like planting mosquito repellent plants around homes and their products
- ❑ Promotion of mosquito larvae predators like the following fish; Guppies, Bass, Catfish, Bluegills, Goldfish, and especially Gambusia affinis (mosquito fish).
- ❑ Mainstreaming Malaria in Multisectoral Government; Ministries`, Departments` & Agencies` Workplans eg; Uganda

# *Multi Sectoral Working Group*

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**The coordination of the MSWG is secured by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funds through the GlobMal project at Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute**

**<https://endmalaria.org/our-work-working-groups/multi-sectoral-action>**





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## Multi Sectoral Working Group

Thank you for your attention and  
for your comments and observations