

## **Forging on the Vector Control Response**

More than 270 partners from 52 countries convened in Geneva at the end of January for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria Vector Control Working Group (VCWG). The balanced representation which included endemic country programs (and their operational partners), research institutions and the private sector; once again created a unique platform for dialogue and best practice sharing around the challenges and opportunities faced in delivering on the WHO Global Vector Control Response.

These challenges include the ability to ensure continued effective deployment of current vector control interventions; the development and market access of appropriate new tools to address, for example, insecticide resistance and residual transmission, and maintaining (and indeed building) capacity and expertise to ensure sustained impact of these tools against malaria and other vector-borne diseases.

What is encouraging amongst this dialogue around the challenges we face, is the commitment of the partner organizations which are active in the VCWG; the pipeline of new vector control tools (which is arguably richer now than it has ever been); the emphasis on greater collaboration and information sharing with other RBM Partnership Working Groups and an approach which recognizes the need for cross-sectoral engagement beyond the traditional scope of public health.

It is with this spirit of collaboration and engagement that the Vector Control Working Group continues to grow in terms of numbers of participants, diversity and enrichment of dialogue and in linkages with other relevant bodies.

The full meeting report, including initiatives planned over the next two years is available at <http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/organizational-structure/working-groups/vcwg>