ABOUT THE RBM VECTOR CONTROL WORKING GROUP

The purpose of the RBM VCWG is to support the implementation of Vector Control Guidance generated by WHO and to harmonise those efforts towards achievement of the global malaria elimination targets. The VCWG disseminates the normative and policy-setting guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) by helping to translate these norms and standards to international and country-level partners.

It supports the generation of evidence to inform global policy and guidelines, to protect the efficacy of existing tools and stimulate the development of new tools. Aiming at coordinating the support to malaria-affected countries with regard to implementing WHO guidelines, the VCWG provides an essential forum where diverse partners of the vector control community from the public sector, the private sector, research and academia, and civil society, can come together, to reach a common understanding of the threats and opportunities, to learn from each other and to develop the necessary networks and activities to overcome these challenges.

The VCWG has six work streams on IRS IRM Priorities; LLIN Priorities; Larval Source Management; New Tools New Challenges in Vector Control; IVM, Evidence and Capacity; VBDs & the Build Environment.

THIS YEAR, the RBM VCWG-15 meeting counts 311 participants (as of 28.1.2020), the highest participation to date! The participants are from 54 countries, representing all 6 WHO regions (AFRO, PAHO, SEARO, EURO, EMRO, WPRO) (Table 1).

| AFRO | Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe |
| PAHO | Cuba, Guyana, Puerto Rico, Suriname, United States of America |
| SEARO | India, Thailand |
| EURO | Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom |
| EMRO | Egypt, IR Iran, Pakistan, Sudan |
| WPRO | China, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore |
CONSTITUENCIES
All constituencies are represented, the majority of the participants are from the private sector (29%), affected countries (28%), and research and academia (16%). For a full overview please consult Table 2. In total, our participants represent 138 different organisations and affiliations!

MALARIA-AFFECTED COUNTRIES
Of the 54 countries represented, 14 are malaria free, 4 have the potential to eliminate malaria by 2020 according to the E-2020 Initiative, and 36 are under malaria control status (Table 3).

GENDER BALANCE
In regards to gender balance, 65% of the participants are male and 35% are female.

SPEAKERS
We count 83 speakers (1/3 of the participants!) showing the active engagement of VCWG members.

THE VCWG NETWORK
Vector control specialists around the world join the VCWG newsletter, which counts 1756 entries as of January 2020, to receive vector control news, project updates, publications, guidelines and job advertisements.

SPONSORING
The annual meeting welcomes partners and participants who join on their own costs. As of 2015, a registration fee was introduced to cover the rental of the meeting rooms, catering and technical expenses of the annual venue. The participation of selected affected-countries at the annual meetings is ensured via leverage funds.

Selected affected-country participants of the RBM VCWG-15 meeting are sponsored by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Swiss TPH and through the participation of 10 companies at the exhibition on vector control innovation during the meeting (Bayer, Goizper Group, In2Care, Micron, Mesto Sprayers, New Mountain, RealRelief, SC Johnson, Syngenta, Vestergaard).

Keziah L. Malm & Justin McBeath, Co-chairs of RBM Vector Control Working Group
Konstantina Boutsika, Coordinator

Mark Hoppé & Dereje Dengela, Co-leaders of IRS IRM Priorities Work Stream
Hannah Koenker & Ikupa Akim, Co-leaders of LLIN Priorities Work Stream
Ulrike Fillinger & Silas Majambere, Co-leaders of Larval Source Management
Allison Tatarsky & Sheila Ogoma, Co-leaders of New Tools, New Challenges Work Stream
Josiane Etang & Birkinesh Amenehesewa, Co-leaders of IVM, Evidence and Capacity Work Stream
Lucy Tusting & Steve Lindsay, Co-leaders of Vector-Borne Diseases and the Built Environment Work Stream