

MULTISECTORAL APPROACHES FOR EFFECTIVE MALARIA CONTROL IN BURKINA FASO

Identification of non-health sectors with an impact on malaria transmission, and exploration of possibilities for collaboration.



SUMMARY

Malaria is still a public health challenge

in Burkina Faso – one of 10 African countries facing a high malaria burden according to the World Health Organization. This burden is linked to a number of factors, some of which depend on sectors other than health.

Research has highlighted the role of agricultural pesticides in the development of insecticide-resistance in malaria vectors. In addition, growing insecurity has increased the number of internally displaced persons and further weakened the health system.

Several local malaria prevention and control strategies exist in Burkina Faso, from vector control and indoor residual spraying to improved programme and case management. But, despite these efforts, **progress is limited and involvement of key non-health sectors that impact malaria transmission is not optimal.**

Indeed, malaria transmission is impacted by, among other things:

- The presence of mosquito breeding grounds, involving sectors for water, sanitation and urbanization.
- Resistance of *Anopheles* spp. vectors to insecticides, which is linked to their use in agriculture.
- How promptly patients are treated, which is affected by access to health infrastructure.

As a result, malaria management and control cannot be carried out by the health sector alone. Other sectors must also be taken into account.

This study aims to identify and involve key sectors, while exploring the potential impact of a Multisectoral Approach (MSA) to malaria elimination in Burkina Faso.



Factors contributing to the high incidence of malaria in Burkina Faso include:



Limited access to water and sanitation services



Development of drug-resistant malaria strains and insecticide-resistant vectors



Insecurity that limits the population's access to health centres



Human lifestyle and behaviours, such as population displacement



Lack of coordination and of joint effort between different sectors

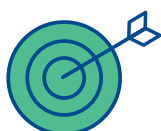
OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

The overarching aim of this study is to strengthen the coordination and participation of sectors in the response to the high incidence of malaria in Burkina Faso. Specific objectives include the following:



1

Identifying non-health sectors that could provide support in malaria control strategies



2

Understanding the potential impact of these sectors on malaria transmission and incidence



3

Exploring the possible benefits of including non-health sectors in the fight against malaria, as well as the benefits for the sectors involved



4

Defining the objectives, structure and resources required for establishing an MSA coordinating committee for malaria control



5

Defining and implementing at least one MSA joint activity, analysing the results and drawing lessons learned in order to further scale up and implement within the country

This study has been initiated in Ougadougou and will be later extended into the other 13 regions in Burkina Faso.



PROPOSED APPROACH

1 Identify non-health sectors and the lead institutions that have an impact on malaria transmission, in order to initiate necessary discussion.

- **Regional health directors and financial and technical partners** need to understand the impact of other sectors.
- **Identified institutions need to contact other facilities** and select a representative to be interviewed for the study.

2 Carry out and analyse interviews with the stakeholders from non-health sectors.

- **Twenty-four semi-structured interviews** with various non-health related stakeholders are organized and conducted with a pre-established survey.
- **Responses are analysed and used to establish how stakeholders view the fight against malaria** and their level of interest in joining the effort to eliminate the disease.

3 Establish an MSA coordination committee, integrating non-health sector stakeholders identified from the qualitative analysis of interview responses.

4 Identify and implement the joint activity in collaboration with relevant focal points from non-health sector institutions.

- **These institutions will be selected based on their capacity** to actively participate in the fight against malaria and to integrate it into their workplan.
- **The joint activity will be determined in agreement with these focal points**, and its objective will be to contribute towards the fight against malaria.

5 Results from the study will be communicated in the form of scientific publications, but also as information briefs and presentations at different levels.

- **An extraordinary session to present the work and results is planned in collaboration with with the national steering committee**, including the Ministry of Health and other key ministries and institutions.
- **A technical report of the results** will be published and will serve as a case study for other countries.

EXPECTED RESULTS

This study is based on the conceptual framework developed by TDR and aims to contribute to the improved control and management of malaria in Burkina Faso through the following expected outcomes:

- 1 **Development of a list of non-health sectors** that have an impact on the transmission of malaria in Burkina Faso, such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure and education.



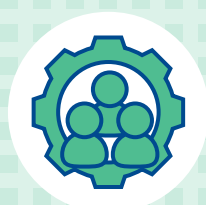
- 2 **An analysis of the non-health related, direct advantages for these sectors**, such as the economic advantages of collaborating with the health sector. This will help to motivate sectors to actively participate in the fight against malaria in Burkina Faso.



- 3 **Establishment of an MSA committee**, including representatives from the identified sectors.



- 4 **Identification of a joint activity**, the results of which will be assessed for both impact on malaria reduction and the benefits created for sectors involved.



This research brief summarizes the planned intervention of the research project *Multisectoral approaches to malaria control in Burkina Faso: identification of non-health sectors with an impact on malaria transmission, and exploration of possibilities for collaboration*. The principal investigator is

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