Regional networks for knowledge sharing

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Outline

• Overview of networks supporting malaria elimination & what networks can achieve
• APMEN as a platform for elimination
• Networks and the shift to elimination
## Regional networks supporting vector control

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<th>Network</th>
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| RBM Vector Control Working Group | To develop a common vision among diverse partners, establish networks and activities to overcome challenges. | • Forum for vector control community  
• Dissemination of WHO guidelines  
• Support evidence generation (re: existing/new tools) to inform global policy and guidelines | Global, with regional hubs                           |
| APMEN Vector Control Working Group | To support Asia Pacific regional malaria elimination (by 2030).         | • Forum for vector control community  
• Knowledge exchange  
• Training & small operational research projects | 18 Asia Pacific countries WPRO and SEARO               |
| ACTMalaria                      | To improve the quality and effectiveness of malaria control and elimination programmes. | • Forum for vector control community  
• Collaborative training on integrated vector management, & insecticide resistance monitoring. | Primarily South East Asian and Mekong countries      |
What a network can do

- Bring together unique spectrum of stakeholders in elimination – establish partnerships, and exchange experience
- Advocate for (country-led) elimination efforts across the Asia Pacific region – political & financial commitment
- Support technical working groups/streams – to build evidence/capacity
- Share and assimilate information & tools
APMEN VcWG activities

• Advocacy for increasing the level of vector control capacity at country and regional level required to attain and maintain malaria elimination

• Stimulation of operational research on questions directly related to intensified malaria control and elimination

• Supporting training and skills development

• Support development and sharing of information and resources within & between countries
APMEN VcWG activities
Anopheles pocket guide

- Contains 26 main malaria vectors in Asia Pacific
- Jointly produced with The Walter Reed Biosystematics Unit & AFRIMS, Bangkok
But what more can networks do?

How can their strengths be built upon?
Moving forward: addressing gaps

Areas we can do better:

• Systematic identification of priorities:
  - vector surveillance & control
  - integrated vector management
  - insecticide resistance monitoring
  - larval source management
  - outdoor & residual transmission
  - improving the consistency and targeting of vector control interventions
  - increasing entomological skills & capacity in the region
Moving forward: addressing gaps

Areas we can do better:

- More explicit action and (achievable) outcome orientation
- Focus on *effectiveness* of interventions
- Stronger support for implementation
- Facilitation for translation of evidence to policy/practice
The new context

• Regional leaders have committed to malaria elimination in Asia Pacific by 2030

• The Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA) is now responsible for political advocacy activities

• APMEN and APLMA secretariats will join together for synergy and efficiency

• Uncertain funding for APLMA/APMEN, and support for the working group(s)
The future for regional networks?

• Need to remain adaptable & responsive to changing landscape and evolving priorities – harness opportunities for harmonisation

• Address critical barriers of direct programmatic relevance – clear outputs

• Continue to provide an open forum for collaboration: with a focus on driving elimination agenda forward – helping the vector control community to speak ‘with one voice’ to solve entomological problems

• To communicate what is needed by countries: simple, practical and actionable.
Questions and discussion