



Photo credit: Mwangi Kirubi, PMI Impact Malaria

Malaria remains a fact of life for billions of people around the world and is a leading cause of illness and death across sub-Saharan Africa. Despite a concerted global effort that helped reduce malaria deaths by an estimated 62% from 2000 to 2015¹, malaria still kills far too many

people—with 241 million cases and 627,000 deaths estimated in 2020², most of these in children under five. The remarkable gains achieved in the fight against malaria remain fragile without a rapid and substantial improvement in malaria service delivery. We need to make it easier for those most at risk to protect themselves and their families from illness and death caused by malaria. The U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) Impact Malaria Project is working with PMI-supported countries and partners to help make this possible on a large scale.

ADVANCING MALARIA SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The PMI Impact Malaria project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through PMI, is a five-year (February 2018 – February 2023) service delivery project providing global technical leadership to fight malaria and save lives. PMI Impact Malaria supports countries in their efforts to strengthen malaria diagnosis, treatment, and drug-based prevention in health facility and community settings through implementation and technical support, as well as operational research.

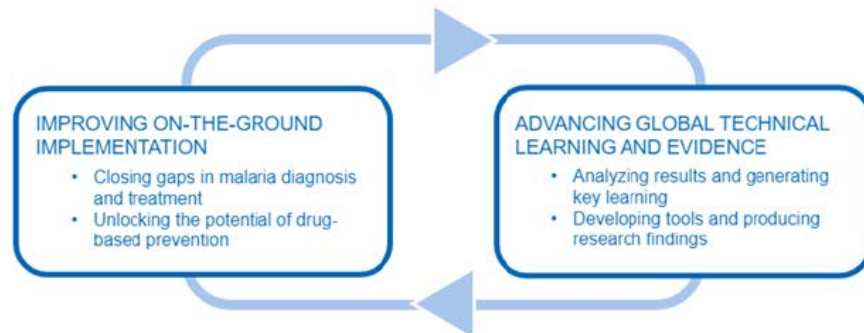
As PMI’s flagship malaria service delivery project, PMI Impact Malaria works in 18 countries and with two regional buy-ins, in Latin America and the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa. In PMI Impact Malaria partner countries, teams support Ministries of Health and their partners to measurably improve the quality of and access to malaria case management, malaria in pregnancy prevention and treatment, and other drug-based approaches, and to inform and advance global technical learning and evidence.

Among PMI Impact Malaria support activities, the cornerstone of the project’s quality improvement (QI) approach is Outreach, Training, and Supportive Supervision Plus (OTSS+), a facility-level approach aimed at improving health facility and provider competency through supportive supervision, troubleshooting, coaching, and on-the-job training in eleven PMI Impact Malaria supported countries. PMI Impact Malaria teams have worked with countries to learn from their implementation experiences with OTSS+ processes and tools, which has informed IM’s QI framework and guide on what to do before, during, and after the OTSS+ visits. OTSS+ was supplemented in selected countries by other QI approaches, including mentorship, peer-to-peer learning, and targeted classroom training for providers.

PMI Impact Malaria’s support to improving implementation on-the-ground and research activities in partner countries generates the lessons learned and results that contribute to advancing global technical learning and strengthening malaria health systems, which are translated into country-level implementation improvements.

¹ World Health Organization (WHO). *World Malaria Report 2020*.

² *Ibid.*



FOSTERING TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AND GLOBAL THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

PMI Impact Malaria works with PMI to support national malaria control programs in their work to fight malaria and save lives by strengthening diagnosis, treatment, and drug-based prevention for those most at risk—particularly children and pregnant women. These efforts significantly contribute to PMI’s overarching goal of accelerating country progress along the malaria elimination spectrum, as elaborated under PMI’s 2021-2026 strategy. To that end, PMI Impact Malaria’s malaria service delivery technical strategy is centered on the following three objectives:

- 1) **Strengthen quality of and access to malaria case management and prevention of malaria in pregnancy.** Getting the right diagnostics and treatment to more patients with suspected fever and confirmed malaria cases and increasing the provision of intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women.
- 2) **Improve quality of and access to other malaria drug-based approaches and provide support to pilot/scale-up newer malaria drug-based approaches.** Deploying innovative approaches, including seasonal malaria chemoprevention, mass drug administration, or other drug-based approaches, as appropriate.
- 3) **In support of Objectives 1 & 2, provide global technical leadership, support operational research, and advance program learning.** Work at subnational, national, and global levels to bolster the linkage of country systems with global policies and dialogue and strengthen malaria health systems and the rigorous use of data for decision making.

PMI Impact Malaria’s strategic approach across all supported activities draws on the core principles of delivering at scale, generating, and sharing evidence to advance technical and operational excellence, building in-country capacity for high quality and sustainable malaria service delivery, and reinvigorating global technical leadership to accelerate the translation of country learning into international practice.

PMI IMPACT MALARIA FAST FACTS

Overview: Five-year USAID contract (2018 – 2023)

Core Team: Prime contractor is Population Services International; Subcontractors are Jhpiego, Medical Care Development International, and the Malaria Elimination Initiative at UCSF

Current Buy-ins: Africa Bureau, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Côte D’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, LAC Bureau, Lao, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Zambia

Technical Focus Areas: Diagnosis and Treatment, Malaria in Pregnancy, Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention, Elimination

Cross-Cutting Focus Areas: Monitoring and Evaluation, Operational Research, and Digital Health Systems Support