

MEETING REPORT

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Report of the 2018 annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network Vector Control Working Group: harnessing skills and knowledge for malaria elimination across the Asia Pacific

Latifeh Dahmash^{1*}, Allison Tatarsky³, Fe Esperanza Espino⁴, Theeraphap Chareonviriyaphap⁵, Michael B. Macdonald⁶, Jettsumon Sattabongkot Prachumsri⁷, Pradeep Srivastava⁸, Christina Rundi⁹ and Jeffrey Hii^{1,2*}

Abstract

The 2018 Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network's Vector Control Working Group (APMEN VCWG) annual meeting took place 3–5 September 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was designed to be a forum for entomology and public health specialists from APMEN country programmes (over 90 participants from 30 countries) to discuss current progress and challenges related to planning, implementing, and sustaining effective vector control (VC) strategies for malaria elimination across the region, and to suggest practical and applicable solutions to these moving forward. The meeting was organised as a joint collaboration between the VCWG host institution—Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University, Thailand—and leading partner institutions within the VCWG: Malaria Consortium and the Malaria Elimination Initiative at the University of California, San Francisco, Global Health Group (UCSF Global Health Group), under the leadership of the APMEN Director and VCWG Co-Chairs from ministries of health in Malaysia and India. This report provides an introduction to the role and nature of the VCWG, highlights key themes and topics presented and discussed at the meeting, and outlines the future objectives and focal areas for the VCWG and APMEN at large.

Background: the role and significance of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN) in the Asia Pacific

APMEN

Established in 2009, APMEN is a collaboration of 21 country partner National Malaria Control Programmes (NMCP) within the Asia Pacific (AP) committed to

eliminating malaria from within their borders by 2030. The Network operates through the provision of technical and programmatic guidance working groups, comprised of national malaria programme representatives and academic and research partners from across the globe, operating under the technical supervision of a secretariat group currently based in Singapore. The working groups are centred around three thematic areas of malaria control and management: vector control (VC), surveillance and response, and control of *Plasmodium vivax* (particularly prevalent across the region). The evolution of APMEN over the last decade (initially composed of nine countries) has enabled country partners to access and

*Correspondence: l.dahmash87@gmail.com; hijik1@gmail.com

¹ Malaria Consortium Asia, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

² College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University, Queensland, Australia

Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

