# ightarrow Leveraging expertise and partnerships to help end malaria

## Relevant clients and partners include:

- National MOHs and other partners
- RBM Partnership to End Malaria Surveillance, Monitoring, and Evaluation Reference Group (SMERG)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- President's Malaria
  Initiative (PMI)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Bill & Melinda Gates
  Foundation

Since 1996, ICF has partnered with ministries of health (MOHs), national malaria control programs (NMCPs), development agencies, and other stakeholders to provide technical, analytical, and capacity-building expertise across a broad area of activities to support life-saving malaria prevention and treatment services at the community, health facility, national, and global levels.

### **Relevant global projects**

From infectious diseases to health security and climate change, ICF address today's most pressing global health issues using our decades of expertise in over 90 countries. We bring significant experience managing large flagship global health projects for USAID. These projects are all global mechanisms implemented in concert with a consortium of partners worldwide.

**PMI Measure Malaria:** Under PMI Measure Malaria, ICF leads the effort to strengthen the capacity of NMCPs and other health system actors at all levels to collect, analyze, and use malaria data for malaria surveillance, monitoring, and evaluation. For more information, see www.measuremalaria.org.

**USAID Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program:** Having managed the DHS Program since its inception over 30 years ago, ICF has conducted more than 400 large-scale, nationally representative surveys in more than 90 developing countries. ICF partners with national agencies in conducting all aspects of each survey, trains counterparts in using the data for decision-making, and provides technical assistance across the entire survey-to-policy continuum. This work encompasses DHS surveys, Service Provision Assessment surveys, AIDS Indicator Surveys, and Malaria Indicator Surveys (MIS). For more information, see www.dhsprogram.org

#### USAID Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) Program:

As the lead implementer of the IDDS Program, ICF is strengthening public health diagnostic networks and surveillance systems to detect and monitor infectious diseases in more than 20 countries in Africa and Asia. The project supports the collection, analysis, and interpretation of health data, which is essential to detecting disease outbreaks and enhancing global health security. For more information, see icf.com/clients/public-policy/strengthening-defensesagainst-infectious-diseases.

## Comprehensive delivery of health facility and community-based malaria services

**PMI Measure Malaria and USAID IDDS Program:** Under these two programs, ICF conducts supportive supervisory activities at the facility and laboratory levels, including the supervision of malaria treatment interventions. For facilities, we review malaria case management protocols, practices, and tools to monitor and improve service quality. For laboratories, IDDS manages the supportive supervision of laboratory workers and their supervisors to reinforce training on new prevention, detection, and surveillance standards and operations and to encourage problem-solving and the application of solutions at central and decentralized levels.

**USAID Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP):** As a member of the MCSP Consortium, ICF helped lead the development of the community health worker (CHW) Coverage and Capacity (C3) Tool. The tool, applicable at the national and subnational levels, helps governments with CHW workforce planning and time use modeling.

#### Malaria diagnosis and case management

**USAID IDDS Project:** In Cambodia, IDDS collaborates with PMI to improve malaria diagnostics. Ensuring fast, reliable, and accurate diagnoses will be critical for maintaining malaria elimination and preventing resistance to antimalarial drugs.

In early 2022, ICF experts at IDDS worked in Cameroon to build the capacity of 23 MOH staff on cross-border surveillance and safe specimen collection and transport for the prevention of and response to public health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic for the influx of visitors expected for the Africa Cup of Nations.

WHO Rapid Access Expansion Programme (RAcE): ICF worked in five African countries to catalyze the scaleup of community case management of malaria. We used integrated community case management (iCCM) to stimulate policy review and regulatory updates in each country on disease case management and to accelerate the adaptation of supply management and surveillance systems, including services at the community level.

**Global leadership:** ICF experts participated in the WHO technical consultation on Institutionalizing Integrated Community Case Management (Addis Ababa, July 2019), serving as the community engagement subgroup rapporteur.

#### Prevention of malaria in pregnancy

**USIAD MCSP:** Under MCSP, ICF conducted a landscape analysis of national CHW programs that included data on which programs included provisions for CHWs to refer pregnant women for intermittent preventive therapy. The analysis also included data on national programs that included community case management for children.

**Global leadership:** An ICF expert previously served on the RBM Partnership to End Malaria's Malaria in Pregnancy Working Group from 2017 to 2021.

#### Seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC)

**PMI Measure Malaria:** ICF supports countries implementing SMC to set up tools and processes for monitoring and assessing campaigns. In Cameroon, for example, ICF supported the NMCP to streamline malaria surveillance

in selected health facilities through designing and providing data reporting tools, training healthcare providers on malaria surveillance, increasing supportive supervision visits, and conducting regular data review and analysis.

## Health systems strengthening

**USAID IDDS Project:** IDDS improves infectious disease diagnostic networks by developing and strengthening human and institutional capacity and improving the quality of diagnostic services. The project also provides functional equipment, strengthens specimen referral, and supports improvements to commodity supply chain systems.

**Heath Systems Strengthening Accelerator:** ICF works with Results for Development (R4D) to support the USAID Office of Health Systems Strengthening (OHS). Under the Accelerator, ICF led a team of experts in developing an institutional architecture framework for health systems strengthening. In addition, ICF led a study and an extensive dissemination and data utilization effort on the linkages between social accountability and social and behavior change. Our work from this effort is reflected in the USAID OHS "Social and Behavior Change and Health System Strengthening" white paper, released in January 2022.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

USAID

**Data for Accountability, Transparency and Impact Monitoring (DATIM):** As a partner to Digital Square, ICF supports the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Health Diplomacy with data exchange and health information systems (HIS) expertise. ICF has developed HIS foundational tools and guidance, digital solutions, and knowledge dissemination communities of practice to facilitate access, integration, and use of systems and data for programmatic decision-making at all levels.

**WHO RACE:** ICF provided WHO with assistance in promoting and planning for sustainability of the project by developing and implementing a strategy for transitioning grantee work under RACE to the MOH. ICF also supported NGO grantees to develop transition plans, monitored implementation of transition plans, and conducted a sustainability assessment in each country.

## Data collection and use for malaria service delivery

**PMI Measure Malaria:** Under PMI Measure Malaria, ICF's in-country advisors work closely with NMCPs to generate the information that NMCPs use to determine where to implement malaria interventions and their effectiveness. PMI Measure Malaria also hosts the Secretariat of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria Surveillance, Monitoring, and Evaluation Reference Group (SMERG).

**MIS under the USAID DHS program:** The MIS collect data on internationally recognized, standardized malaria indicators at both the national and subnational levels. ICF has provided technical and operational oversight and guidance in implementing more than 75 MIS surveys in 25 countries.

#### Malaria Data Entry and Tracking System (MADETS)

The DHS Program has developed as MADETS to help ensure high-quality results from malaria parasite testing. Some MIS and DHS surveys include the examination of blood smears for the presence (and species) of malaria parasites by microscopy in addition to field-based rapid diagnostic testing for malaria. MADETS helps ensure high-quality results, organize the laboratory workflow, and increase overall efficiency. **USAID IDDS:** ICF assisted in setting up a community surveillance pilot program in Mali. Partnering with the MOH, ICF set up a national pilot project to train and equip district-level health officials and CHWs to collect data on 16 human and zoonotic diseases, including malaria and COVID-19. This community involvement led to faster reporting of disease outbreaks.

**Data for Impact (D4I):** Under the D4I project, ICF assists countries in using data to improve programs, policies, and—ultimately—health outcomes. Under D4I, ICF is leading an activity to develop guidance documents that outline the research and evaluation requirements to support self-reliant health programs. For more information, see www.data4impactproject.org.

**USAID MCSP:** Under MCSP, ICF experts facilitated the development of a series of guidebooks to help communities use health data for decision-making. The guidebooks were compiled into a resource package titled "Supporting Communities to Use Health Data A Resource Package."

## Monitoring and evaluation of malaria programs

**Environmental Compliance Support (ECOS):** ICF's support includes evaluation and training on the environmental management of malaria indoor residual spraying programs.

Assessment of the Zimbabwe Assistance Program in Malaria (ZAPIM): Under D4I, ICF led a team to carry out a formal assessment of ZAPIM, the flagship PMI malaria program in Zimbabwe. The results of the mixed-method assessment were used to provide broad, high-level guidance on future approaches to institutional strengthening of partners to choose and implement malaria interventions in Zimbabwe.

**Mid-term performance evaluation of the Cambodia Malaria Elimination Project (CMEP):** As a subcontractor to Mendez-England and Associates, ICF conducted an evaluation aimed at determining CMEP's results, identifying lessons learned and best practices, and making recommendations for future USAID malaria programs.

#### ICF's in-country presence

We have a rich history of cooperating with partners in more than 100 countries, working at both the national and subnational level. We currently have malaria field teams in Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, and Sierra Leone.



Partnering with the NMCP to perform data quality assessments in Cameroon

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