



APLMA Senior Officials' Meeting Trilateral Cooperation to Support Malaria Elimination in Papua New Guinea

6 December 2017, Nay Pi Taw, Myanmar

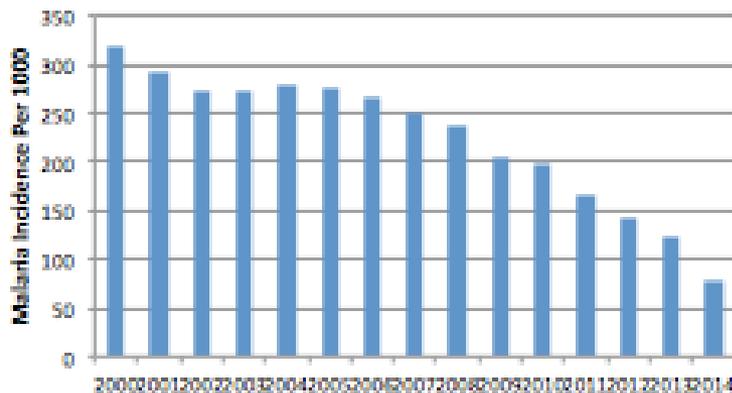


Presented by:
Dr Paison Dakulala
Deputy Secretary, National Health System
Standards, National Department of Health

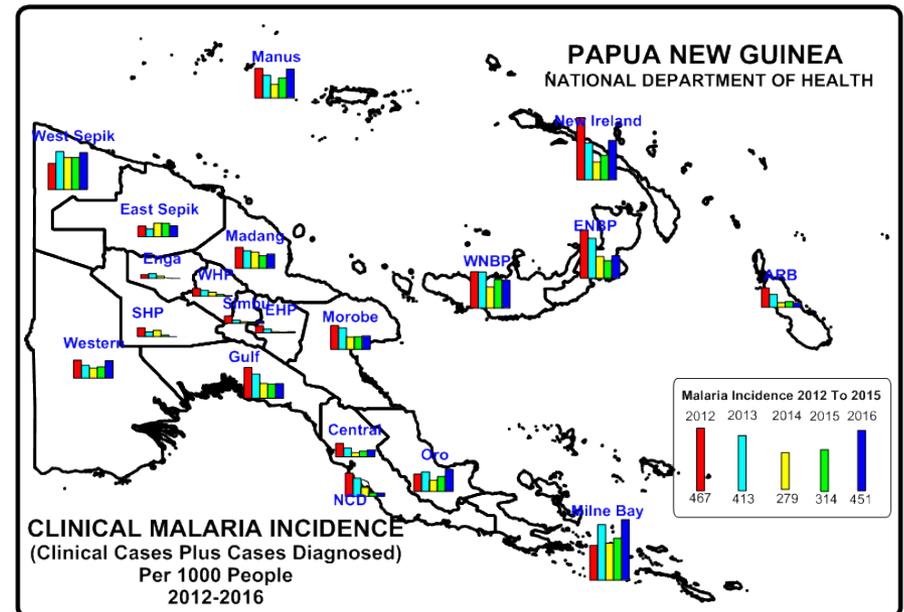


Malaria in PNG: turning challenges into opportunities

- PNG represents a challenge but also **opportunity** to achieving a malaria-free Western Pacific Region by 2030
 - *If we can eliminate malaria in PNG, we are on track to eliminating malaria in our region.*
- **Strong progress:** between 2009 – 2014, incidence reduced by 60% due to universal coverage of bednets (2009) and introduction of RDTs + ACTs (2011)
- **However, gains are fragile:** since 2015, declining funding support and ongoing health system challenges = risk of resurgence



Source: PNG NHIS





Trilateral cooperation: increasing impact and mobilizing resources

- In **resource-constrained** settings, trilateral (South-South) cooperation is a viable model to increase efficiency and maximise impact of development interventions
- **Australia-China-PNG Pilot Cooperation on Malaria Control Project:**
 - First ever trilateral cooperation project between the three countries
 - PGK 8m over three years (2016-18)
- Project aims to improve **malaria diagnosis** in PNG through **laboratory strengthening** and **operational research** activities
- Trilateral partnerships model puts **APLMA Roadmap** actions into practice: :
 1. Tailoring products and services to **local conditions**
 2. Using **existing national systems**
 3. Engaging **additional stakeholders** to join the fight





Trilateral Malaria Project: strengthening diagnostic practices

- **Reducing clinical diagnosis and presumptive treatment**
 - Nearly 40% of “confirmed” malaria cases do not receive a parasitological test
 - Targeted training for PNG’s major medical and nursing schools to ensure PNG’s future doctors, nursing and health workers practice correct case management
- **Strengthening malaria diagnosis in PNG laboratories to prepare for pre-elimination phase (including low parasitaemia settings)**
 - QA and lot testing programmes for RDTs at point of care
 - Routine WHO External Competency Assessments for PNG malaria microscopists
 - Establishment of molecular diagnostic techniques (PCR) at Central Public Health Laboratory

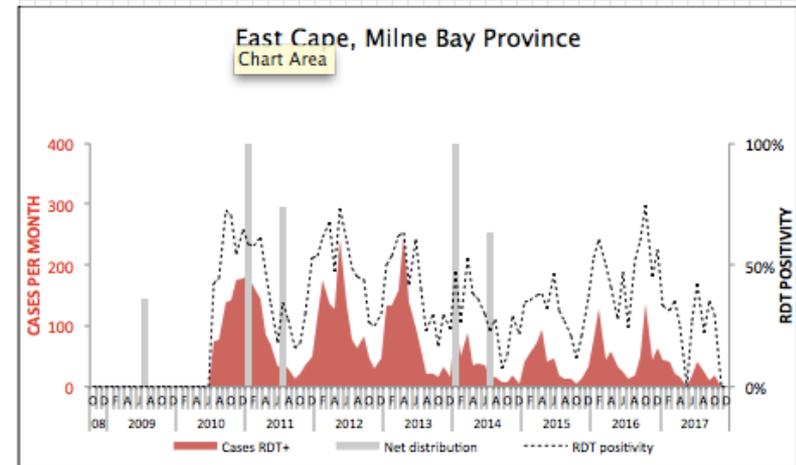




Trilateral Malaria Project: Operational Research

- Research collaboration at 4 sentinel surveillance sites in PNG to **enable adaptation of malaria interventions and prepare for elimination:**

- investigating RDT negative infections in febrile patients and genetic deletions that can escape RDT detection
- pregnant women as sentinel population for surveillance screened via RDT, microscopy and molecular diagnosis
- operational suitability and utility of alternative RDTs and trial of Point of Care testing for G6PD deficiencies
- investigating causes of non-malaria febrile illness
- GPS mapping and investigation of foci of clinical cases



Source: PNG Institute of Medical Research



Yumi Rausim Malaria! Acknowledgements to:



PAPUA NEW GUINEA
INSTITUTE OF
MEDICAL RESEARCH



World Health
Organization

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

