



# Symposium on Malaria prevention and control in mobile and hard to reach populations

*Paramaribo, April 6-8, 2022*

## Call for abstracts

Mobile and hard to reach populations are exceptionally vulnerable to infectious diseases as a result of mobility and poverty related risk behaviors and barriers to, and distance from, health services. In malaria eliminating countries they are often recognized as drivers of **residual malaria transmission**, or they can be linked to a potential increased risk of emerging malaria drug resistance or to reintroduction of malaria in areas that were cleared of the disease <sup>1</sup>. To be able to effectively progress towards malaria elimination and prevention of reintroduction of malaria it is essential that **no one is left behind**, and that mobile (migrant) and hard to reach populations are identified and incorporated in malaria elimination strategies and policies <sup>2</sup>. Effective management of malaria in these populations will require programs that include **targeted activities adapted to the context of the people at risk**, interventions that are timed with seasonal mobility, development and scale-up of migrant-friendly health services; and strengthening of program activities to engage these key populations <sup>3</sup>. Targeted approaches often require innovative solutions. **Innovation for malaria control and elimination in mobile and hard to reach populations is happening around the world**, but dissemination of information about best practices, the context in which these innovative approaches or new tools may be employed, and their potential applicability in other settings than those in which they were designed is often not done on a similar scale.

Suriname is on the road to malaria elimination. The last mile is challenging because of residual malaria in mobile and hard to reach populations. Within this context, the Ministry of Health in Suriname and collaborating partners organize a symposium that would allow participants from different parts of the world to engage in **presentations of and discussions about innovative approaches and tools for malaria prevention and control in mobile (migrant) and hard to reach populations**.

<sup>1</sup>. IOM (2013) A Global Report on Population Mobility and Malaria: Moving towards elimination with migration in mind; Guyant, *et al.* (2015) Malaria and the mobile and migrant population in Cambodia: a population movement framework to inform strategies for malaria control and elimination. *Malar J* **14**, 252 (2015).

<sup>2</sup>. WHO (2015) Mobile and migrant populations and malaria information systems.

<sup>3</sup>. WHO (2016) Approaches for mobile and migrant populations in the context of malaria multi-drug resistance and malaria elimination in the Greater Mekong Subregion



## UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM

Preparations are ongoing for an international symposium on the control and elimination of malaria (*Plasmodium falciparum*, *P. vivax* and/or *P. knowlesi*) in mobile and hard-to-reach populations. The symposium will be hosted by the Suriname Ministry of Health (MoH) and will be organized by the MoH Malaria Program with collaborating partners. The objectives of the meeting are to :

- 1) share experiences and lessons learned from innovative approaches to malaria control and prevention in mobile and hard to reach populations,
- 2) share (preliminary) results from (ongoing) operational research projects or pilot studies on this topic,
- 3) discuss the applicability of innovative strategies in different contexts, and
- 4) develop a summary report of the meeting with an overview of strategies and the outcome of the discussion. This final document will then be disseminated and may serve as a basis for guidance development for malaria prevention and control in these challenging populations.

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Ministry of Health in Suriname and collaborative partners would like to invite you to submit an abstract for oral presentation (either in person or digitally) at the “Symposium on Malaria Prevention and Control in Mobile and Hard to reach Populations”.

[Hard to reach populations= populations who are not being reached by the national health programs and have difficulty reaching health care themselves]

Submission deadline: February 15, 2022

Submission details and the abstract format are available at the end of this message.

[NOTE: Limited funds are available to support in person participation of selected speakers, information can be obtained via [info@sumalariaprogram.org](mailto:info@sumalariaprogram.org) ]



## ATTENDEES

The audience targeted with this symposium includes international developers and implementers of innovative methods, tools and strategies, scientist active in this field, health institutions working on Malaria control and elimination, especially those dealing with the key risk populations that are discussed here, and international partners, including donors and technical agencies

## ORGANIZING PARTNERS

- Ministry of Health/ Ministry of Health Malaria Program Suriname
- Foundation for the Advancement of Scientific Research in Suriname (SWOS)
- Centre Hospitalier de Cayenne, French Guiana

## FUNDING SOURCES

- WHO/TDR grant to the Ministry of Health in Suriname (TDR-IMP-SDF21-FF-001)
- European Regional Development Fund (FEDER) via the Interregional Amazon Cooperation Program (IACP) as part of support to Centre Hospitalier de Cayenne, French Guiana
- Global Fund Malaria grant to the Ministry of Health in Suriname (SUR-M-MOH)

## DATES

The symposium will be held from **April 6 to April 8, 2022**.

## MEETING FORMAT AND LOCATION

Organization of the symposium will be bimodal with the option for in-person participation in Paramaribo, or participation via internet. While online participation will be made possible to accommodate participants who may not be in a position to travel, in-person participation is encouraged. The symposium will take place at Torarica Hotel in Paramaribo, Suriname. COVID-19 safety measures will be implemented.

## EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- All around improved knowledge about innovative strategies implemented or piloted, and possibility to continue networking after the meeting.
- Summary report with an overview of the strategies developed or in progress and their impact/interest, and dissemination of this report (publication, advocacy, guideline proposal)



## SUBMISSION DETAILS AND ABSTRACT FORMAT

### **Abstract Title (14pt, Georgia, Bold)**

*Presenting Author<sup>1</sup>, Author<sup>2</sup> and Author<sup>1,2</sup> (12pt Georgia, Italics)*

<sup>1</sup>*Affiliation One*

<sup>2</sup>*Affiliation Two*

*Presenting author e-mail: [author1@university.com](mailto:author1@university.com)*

The abstract should not be more than 1-page long. Use A4 page set-up, normal margins. Use 11 pt Georgia font (except for the title). Centre the title, the authors' names, the addresses and contact email address. Underline the presenting author. Please compose a title that clearly describes the content of your work, in order to maximize its impact.

Start each paragraph, except the first, with an indent. Justify the body of the text both left and right. Do not use page numbers. Use clear English to write your abstract, with an emphasis on describing what is new and why it should attract the attention of the audience.

The abstracts will be reviewed by the members of a Scientific Committee consisting of international malaria and health specialists. Accepted abstracts will be provided to conference attendees in the conference handbook.

The abstract should be submitted in pdf format via email address [info@sumalariaprogram.org](mailto:info@sumalariaprogram.org). The deadline for abstract submission is February 15. The notification of the abstract status will be sent no later than March 4, 2022. Updated symposium information will be available at [www.sumalariaprogram.org](http://www.sumalariaprogram.org).

**Keywords:** 3-6 words

