

GREATER MEKONG REGION



The President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

Malaria prevention and control is a major U.S. foreign assistance objective, and PMI's strategy fully aligns with the U.S. Government's vision of ending preventable child and maternal deaths and ending extreme poverty. Under the PMI Strategy for 2015–2020, the U.S. Government's goal is to work with PMI-supported countries and partners to further reduce malaria deaths and substantially decrease malaria morbidity toward the long-term goal of elimination.

PMI support extends to the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), which is made up of five countries: Burma, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Regional and Country Context

The Thai-Cambodia border is considered the epicenter for the development and spread of antimalarial drug resistance. In 2007, artemisinin resistance was detected along the Thai-Cambodia border and later emerged in southern Burma, southern Laos, and Vietnam. If artemisinin resistance were to reach Africa, it would have dire consequences on the continent that is most affected with malaria and would undermine global progress to date.

Intensified monitoring of the therapeutic efficacy of routine first-line and alternative antimalarial treatments in the Greater Mekong Subregion is an important and integral component of any ongoing national and regional artemisinin resistance elimination response effort. In line with national and regional malaria elimination goals, PMI recognizes that the best and most sustainable approach to addressing multi-drug resistance is by eliminating malaria altogether. In the context of declining malaria burden and malaria elimination, PMI provides support to national malaria programs to integrate drug efficacy surveillance within robust routine case-based surveillance systems.

The national malaria programs of Thailand and Laos have their sights set on malaria elimination by 2024 and 2030, respectively. PMI works with partner organizations and the national malaria programs of Thailand and Laos to strengthen national malaria surveillance systems to generate and use strategic information for the detection, reporting, and response of each malaria case, to improve the national program capacity for quality laboratory diagnosis, and to ensure that all patients, including vulnerable and most-at-risk populations such as migrant workers and ethnic minorities, have access to critical anti-malarial drugs and other malaria services supported through technical assistance for supply chain management and systems.

AT A GLANCE

Indicator	Thailand	Lao PDR	Vietnam
Population (2017) ¹	69.0 million	6.9 million	93.7 million
Population at risk of malaria (2016) ²	19%	52%	74%
Malaria incidence/1,000 population at risk (2015) ³	2.7	20.9	0.3
Confirmed malaria cases (2016) ²	11,522	11,223	4,161
In-patient malaria deaths (2016) ²	27	1	2
Artemisinin resistance status	Confirmed	Confirmed	Confirmed

1 World Bank, Population Estimates and Projection 2017

2 World Health Organization (WHO), World Malaria Report 2017

3 WHO, World Health Statistics 2017

Progress to Date

Although some of the standard indicators adopted in the GMS differ from those in Africa, several indicators, such as those measuring insecticide-treated net (ITN) ownership and use, remain applicable. The following table provides information on the major indicators used by PMI to measure progress in malaria prevention and treatment activities in the GMS. Please note that data on Burma and Cambodia are presented in separate country profiles.

Mekong Malaria Indicators	THAILAND			LAO PDR		VIETNAM	
	Migrant RDS 2012 ¹	TMS 2012 ²	KAP survey 2015 ³	MICS 2006 ⁴	LSIS 2012 ⁵	MICS 2006	MICS 2011
Malaria prevalence	0%	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-
Proportion of households with at least one mosquito net	83-94%	92%	90%	93%	94%	99%	96%
Proportion of households with at least one ITN	-	47%	51%	45%	50%	19%	10%
Proportion of persons who slept under an ITN the previous night	1-2%	29%	39%	-	-	-	-
Proportion of children under five years old who slept under an ITN the previous night	-	33%	56%	41%	43%	5%	9%
Proportion of pregnant women who slept under an ITN the previous night	-	36%	-	-	43%	-	11%

1. Migrant RDS – Migrant Respondent Driven Sampling survey conducted in Ranong.

2. TMS – Thailand Malaria Survey

3. KAP – Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices survey

4. MICS – Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

5. LSIS – Lao Social Indicator Survey

PMI Contributions Summary

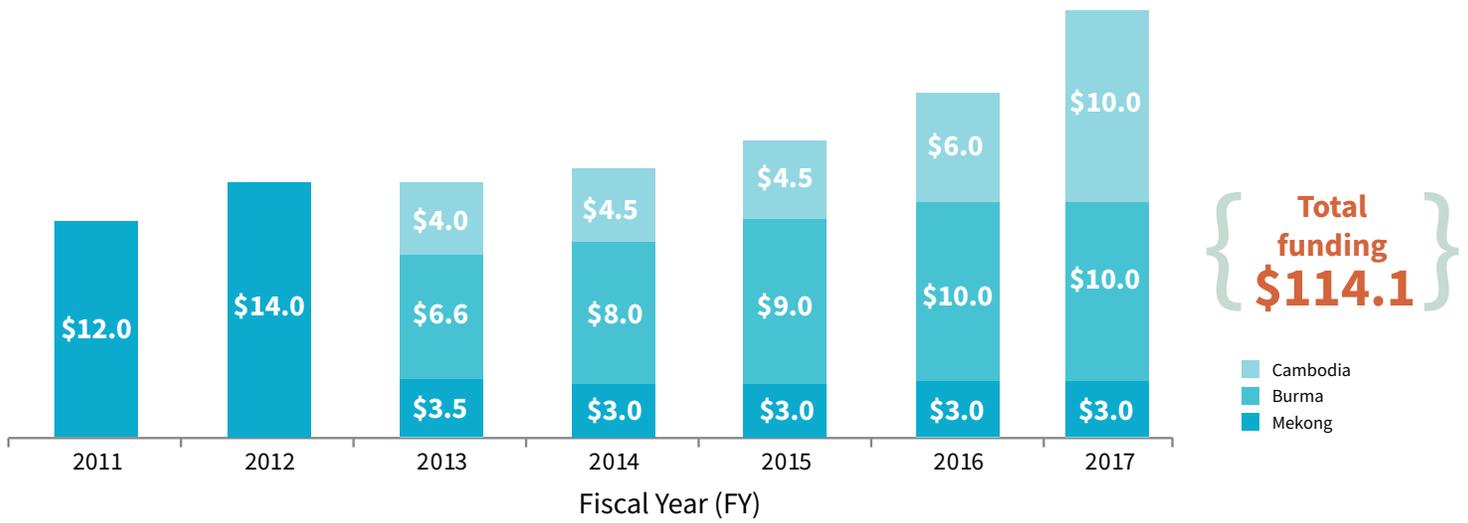
The Greater Mekong Subregion has received PMI funding since FY 2011. With support from PMI and its partners, malaria control interventions are being implemented, and vital commodities are being distributed to vulnerable populations. The following table shows PMI contributions for fiscal year 2017 and cumulatively across the key intervention areas.

		PMI CONTRIBUTIONS ¹	FY 2017	CUMULATIVE
Insecticide-treated Nets		ITNs procured	160,000	1,492,673
		ITNs distributed	160,000	726,044
		ITNs procured by other donors and distributed with PMI support	0	1,299,521
Rapid Diagnostic Tests		RDTs procured	10,000	1,122,200
		RDTs distributed	0	498,651
Artemisinin-based Combination Therapy		ACTs procured	0	302,315
		ACTs distributed	0	44,878
Health Workers		Health workers trained in treatment with ACTs	0	n/a ²
		Health workers trained in malaria diagnosis	0	n/a ²

1 The data reported in this table are up-to-date as of September 30, 2017. Please refer to Appendix 2 of the [PMI Annual Report](#) for year-by-year breakdowns of PMI contributions.

2 A cumulative count of individual health workers trained is not provided since some health workers were trained on more than one occasion.

PMI Funding (in millions)



For details on FY 2018 PMI activities in the GMS, please see the [Greater Mekong Subregion Malaria Operational Plan](#).