The Department of Health in collaboration with ACTMalaria organized the first international course on Strengthening Training on Malaria Microscopy and Quality Assurance held at Royal Mandaya Hotel, Davao City last September 8-20, 2008. Twenty one participants from nine ACTMalaria member countries attended the training. Dr. John Storey, training consultant and malaria expert together with six Filipino microscopy experts (5 ACTMalaria Alumni and one ACTMalaria Regional Validator) facilitated the training.

The participants of the course were expected to demonstrate competence and ability in designing, planning, implementing and evaluating each of the different kinds of courses available to training in Malaria Microscopy (MM). The main focus being on (a) newly recruited health staff with differing educational levels at entry; (b) for staff receiving identified refresher training; (c) the retraining of working microscopists and (d) within the concept of MM training as part of an integrated training programme. They are also expected to demonstrate competence to design and carry out training for trainers and facilitators for identified national training when they go back to their respective countries.

This training was supported by USAID-Asia through WHO. #
Consultative Workshop
Management of Vector Control Programmes

Twenty-three participants from eleven ACTMalaria member countries were present during the consultative workshop for Management of Vector Control Programmes held at Siem Reap, Cambodia from August 12-15, 2008. This workshop was initiated by ACTMalaria in collaboration with CNM-Cambodia. Technical assistance was provided by entomology and vector control experts from the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium, Dr. Marc Coosemans and WHO Scientists Dr. Chang Moh Seng and Dr. Raman Velayudhan. The workshop goal was to review the existing management and technical capacities of national programmes in assessing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating vector control measures as integral components of their overall vector-borne disease control strategies and identify potential areas for an integrated vector management. The workshop also aimed to establish an insecticide resistance monitoring network among member countries and agreed to report on annual utilization of insecticides.

ACTMalaria and ACTMalaria Information Resource Center (AIRC) activities are made possible with the support from USAID-Asia through WHO.

The Global Malaria Action Plan (GMAP)

The Global Malaria Action Plan was launched in Manila last September 25, 2008 held at Pan Pacific Hotel. It became successful as members of the press gathered to document and witness this historical event. This is just among several launchings that happened in other endemic countries such as Kenya, Mali and Brazil. It was also globally launched in New York during the UN General Assembly in addressing the 6th Millennium Development Goal. Around 70 people including malaria advisers, government sector, multi-lateral organizations, NGOs, the press and private institutions were present as a show of support in the fight against malaria in the Philippines and the world. ACTMalaria, as RBM partner for this advocacy, is proud to be part of this milestone as we level-up the awareness for a malaria free world. This is the network’s expression of support to the RBM Partnership’s vision, goals, strategies and actions as clearly articulated in the GMAP.

ACTMalaria Secretariat with Partners and Friends

Dr. Yolanda Oliveros Being Interviewed by the Press

Dr. Meredith Gaffney, USAID-Philippines Technical Advisor

GMAP Response from Partners and Colleagues
A review of USAID implementation projects for FY 2007 took place last October 7-8, 2008 at Millennium Hilton, Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Cecil Hugo, ACTMalaria Executive Coordinator, reported the completed activities. ACTMalaria is pleased to enumerate the successful international workshops and trainings covering pharmaceutical management, vector control, management and malaria microscopy. ACTMalaria is committed to contribute to the eradication of malaria through sustained networking, partnership and endless communication with all stakeholders. Its primary objective is to provide adequate training skills to uplift capacity building requirements which adheres to international malaria control and prevention standards.

Title: “Meeting to Finalize the Revision of Malaria Training Modules for the International Training Course on Planning and Managing Malaria Control Programmes”

Date: 14-16 October 2008, Geneva, Switzerland

The purpose of the meeting was to review the content and completeness of the first draft of the 5 priority training modules, the revision of which was completed last end of August 2008. The priority training modules under revision based on recommendations from the expert group following agreement in the April 2008 meeting were: malaria diagnosis and case management; malaria entomology and vector control; epidemiological approach to malaria control and elimination; planning and managing malaria control and elimination programs. Participants of this meeting were the experts who attended the first meeting in April 2008, coming from malaria training institutions, Russian institutions involved in the project collaboration and WHO staff. Ms. Cecil Hugo, ACTMalaria Executive Coordinator attended this meeting as among the temporary advisers.

Are you an ACTMalaria alumni? Do you want to be featured here? Please send us your CV at infonetwork@actmalaria.net

The Bureau of Vector Borne Disease Unit together with ACTMalaria Consultants and Partners held its second MMFO course refinement workshop last August 25-29, 2008. ACTMalaria invites its member countries to submit their nominees until October 31, 2008.

Two new partner libraries have agreed to share resources for ACTMalaria Information Resource Center. They were the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine Biomedical Library and the National Epidemiology Center Library. Both are attached agencies of the Department of Health Philippines.
Local Trainings

ACTMalaria partnered with GF Malaria in the Philippines through Tropical Diseases Foundation, Inc. to provide consultancy in the development, organization and conduct of trainings for the different levels and expertise.

Integrated Approach in the Management, Prevention & Control of Malaria TB & Helminthiases Infection for Barangay Microscopist & RDT Trained Health Workers, September 30-October 2, 2008, Davao City.

ACTMalaria PMM Alumni in 6th International MMFO

ACTMalaria congratulates Ms. Nguyen Thi Minh Thu for having participated in an international course for malaria. She has finished a one-week training on management of malaria jointly organized by the Faculty of Tropical Medicine Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, WHO SEARO, New Delhi, India and Mekong Malaria Programme. The programme ran from September 1-5, 2008. More than 40 participants coming from different malaria endemic countries attended the training.
ACTMalaria presented a poster presentation during the ICTM 17 conference entitled “Digital Health Information Sharing in Asia: the ACTMalaria experience” presented by Ms. Cecil Hugo. The poster was sponsored by USAID-Asia and participation was sponsored by Tropical Disease Foundation, Inc. ICTM 17 was held last September 29-October 3, 2008 in Jeju, Korea. Visit their website at www.ictm17.org.

Similarly, ACTMalaria had an oral presentation during the JITMM 2008 held at Imperial Queen’s Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand last October 13-14, 2008. The title of the presentation was “Digital Malaria Information Sharing in Asia.” AIRC would like to acknowledge and thank the JITMM committee for providing Mr. Joseph Yap the travel award and USAID-Asia for providing participation to attend this occasion. Visit their website at www.jitmm.com.

ACTMalaria congratulates the winners of the MSH/AIRC/Forum contest. They were Ms. Nguyen Thi Minh Thu of NIMPE Vietnam and Mr. Dominador Cabugayan of TDFI Philippines. ACTMalaria in collaboration with Management Sciences for Health successfully finished the five-week long online discussion forum about Pharmaceutical Management and Quantification of Malaria. The participants on this online discussion forum were the participants from the previous PMM course held in Hanoi, Vietnam last November 2007. The online discussion forum started last August 12 and ended last September 9, 2008. Subjects covered were sessions on Data Collection and Reporting/PMIS, Quantification, Storekeeping and Inventory Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Budget Management. Moderators for this online discussion were: Sharri Hollist, Beth Yeager, Rima Shretta and Kathy Webb. Online support were provided by Joseph Yap, Rogelio Mendoza and Arnel Navarra. The prizes of the winners include a round-trip air fare ticket from their country to JITMM in Bangkok, Thailand, hotel accommodation, registration fee, meal and transportation allowance. Winners were selected based on the completion of all the five sessions. An essay regarding the importance of resource centers and fora were submitted by the selected participants as part of the award.
MMFO 2009 Course Announcement


Brochures may be downloaded from: http://actmalaria.net/index.php?page=trainings

MMFO Contact Persons: Dr. Wichai Satimai - wichaisatimai@yahoo.co.th and Dr. Kanungnit Congpuong - nungnit@health.moph.go.th

AIRC Follow-up Visit at NIMPE and BVBDU

The ACTMalaria Information Resource Center conducted a follow-up visit last August 18-19, 2008 at NIMPE, Hanoi, Vietnam and August 20-21, 2008 at BVBDU, Nonthaburi, Thailand. The objective of this visit is to gather more collection for AIRC Bibliographic Database and train other contributors that are presently working in their offices. Since 2006, the AIRC collection grew to more than 1,600 online records with more than 100 uploaded full-text research documents ready for request to download. AIRC would like to thank NIMPE and BVBDU for their continuous support to contribute research works. This will elevate the malaria health information literacy rate of the people in Asia and the world.

GHL/WPRIM Participants visit ACTMalaria

Ms. Normah Chik Ahmad Nordin, Librarian of the Institute for Medical Research Malaysia, and Mr. Fang An, Librarian & Chief of the Department of Network Management, Institute of Medical Information Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, China visited the ACTMalaria office last August 29, 2008 as part of their GHL/WPRIM system database orientation that took place in WHO/WPRO from 26 to 29 August 2008. Also, in the photograph are ACTMalaria Secretariat, WHO and DOH Librarians.

Interested to announce something? Email us at infonetwork@actmalaria.net

ACTMalaria (Asian Collaborative Training Network for Malaria) is a training network to which the National Malaria Control Programmes of Bangladesh, Cambodia, PR China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam are members. The network aims at 2 major activities:

- Provide collaborative training for member countries to meet the needs of malaria control in Southeast Asia and the Mekong Sub-region;
- Improve information and communication exchange among member countries, partners and other stakeholders on malaria problems affecting the region.

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