

Border malaria descriptive and analytical framework

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The following are attributes of border malaria that should be analysed for both sides of the border, and described in detail to lead to an improved understanding of the transmission dynamics that lead to malaria transmission along and across international borders. The characteristics and dynamics of malaria transmission along the border will inform an appropriate suite of interventions to reduce transmission.

1. Political context of the border

- Historical political and civil tensions around border
- Time when the border was defined
- Current political context

2. Geography, environmental and natural features

- Physical features that separate the two countries (rivers, mountains, deserts, game reserves, etc.)
- Distribution of settlements

3. Demographic characteristics of populations

- Tribal/ethnic groups
- Familial linkages across the border
- Languages
- Economic similarities and differences

4. Population movements

- Push and pull factors (conflict, humanitarian crises, natural disasters, economic opportunities, trading, provision of health care, etc.) for border crossers
- Migration patterns (circular, seasonal, etc.)
- Length of stay of border crossers
- Origin of border crossers and level of malaria transmission at their origin

5. Health service availability and access

- Health system coverage:
 - Fixed facilities (hospitals, clinics, health posts)

- Border posts
 - Community health workers, etc.
- Access to health care
 - Limits to access for non-citizens
 - Limits to access for undocumented workers or persons engaged in illegal activities
 - Cost (free vs. out of pocket)

6. Malaria ecology

- Parasite and vector species
- Antimalarial and insecticide resistance data
- Type of vector breeding sites
- Temperature and rainfall
- Incidence and prevalence of malaria
- High risk groups

7. Malaria interventions

- Case management policies and availability of malaria diagnostics and antimalarial medications
- Vector control coverage
- Type and coverage of passive detection
- Type and coverage of active detection
- Reporting systems for surveillance
- Case notification, investigation, response, focus investigation and response

8. Existing cross-border collaborations

- Memorandum of understanding or cross-border agreements in place
- Type, level and frequency of information or data sharing
- Mechanism of data sharing
- Joint risk assessments
- Synchronization of case management policies, vector control, case investigation, focus investigation, outbreak response
- Involvement with any border collaboration initiative