

WEBINAR

Global Vector Control Response (GVCR) 2017-2030 Reducing the burden and threat of vector-borne diseases to achieve the NTD road map targets

14:00-15:00 CET, 5 April 2022

More than half the world's population is at risk of infection from vector-borne diseases, especially dengue, leishmaniasis and malaria. Vector-borne diseases affect more than 1 billion people and cause the death of an estimated 1 million people globally.

Vectors are responsible for transmitting many neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)¹, mostly among the poorest populations of the world where there is a lack of access to adequate housing, safe drinking-water and sanitation. Malnourished people and those with weakened immunity are especially susceptible to vector-borne diseases.

During the past two decades, many vector-borne diseases have emerged or re-emerged, spreading to new parts of the world. Other factors, such as environmental changes, increased international travel and trade, changes in agricultural practices and rapid, unplanned urbanization have facilitated the spread of many vectors worldwide. Addressing the burden of diseases transmitted by these vectors is critical.

In 2017, recognizing the importance of vector control, the Seventieth World Health Assembly adopted resolution <u>WHA70.16</u> on *Global vector control response: an integrated approach for the control of vector-borne diseases*. The Response (GVCR) focuses on reducing the burden and threat of vector-borne diseases that affect humans through effective, locally adapted and sustainable interventions.

Results from a WHO global survey to assess national implementation of priority activities indicate that while GVCR is on track for some activities, targets were not reached for most other activities (e.g. establishment of national training programmes for public health entomology, multisectoral task forces and national research agendas for vector control, which fell short of the 2020 target). Consequently, further investments in vector control and targeted advocacy are needed to implement integrated vector management through coordinated action.

The NTD road map for 2021–2030 encourages shifts from disease-centred to cross-cutting, multisectoral, community-based approaches using a range of interventions and capacity-building to deliver interventions and achieve the 2030 road map targets. GVCR is a crucial cross-cutting pillar of the road map; other integrated activities will be implemented based on country experiences.

This webinar will consider specific GVCR approaches that can further contribute to achieving these targets.

¹ https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/201071

1. Objectives and expected outcomes

- To provide an update of global progress in implementing the GVCR;
- To share operational experiences in capacity-strengthening, vector surveillance and control;
- To highlight and promote key integrated and multisectoral actions through practical examples and facilitated discussion;
- To identify critical areas for support towards the road map goals.

2. Participants

The participants will be key stakeholders involved in planning, implementation and multi-sectoral and community action for vector control, namely:

- country vector control focal points and programme managers (Ministry of Health);
- public health entomology experts, researchers, academia;
- non-health sector stakeholders involved in multisectoral actions;
- non-State actor stakeholders (nongovernmental organizations, industry, donors);
- WHO HQ, regional and country office personnel (NTDs, malaria, water, WASH [water, sanitation and hygiene]): and
- international organizations (IAEA, FAO).

3. Date and time

• 5 April 2022

• Duration: 60 min

Times: 14:00–15:00 CETMode: virtual (Zoom)

• Organizers: WHO HQ (NTD)

4. Language

English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Spanish