 

**Terms of Reference**

**Consultant for assessment of past malaria outbreaks in Uganda**

**BACKGROUND**
Malaria Consortium is an international organisation working primarily in Africa and Asia, specialising in the prevention, control and treatment of malaria and other communicable diseases. Malaria Consortium, in collaboration with Uganda Virus Research Institute and other partners[[1]](#footnote-1), is conducting research to improve early warning of outbreaks of malaria and arboviral diseases cause by extreme weather through implementation of the FORECAST project.

Part of the project’s activities involve identifying geographical areas affected by malaria outbreaks in the past alongside the specific periods of the events and assessing potential precipitating conditions prior to the outbreaks. The findings will then be used to investigate the roles of various factors including meteorological conditions that preceded documented malaria outbreaks.

**PRIMARY ROLE**

The primary role of the consultant is to compile retrospective malaria morbidity and mortality data, review published and unpublished reports, identify malaria outbreaks that occurred in different parts of Uganda between January 1995 and December 2023, and gather detailed information on areas affected, the time periods of the events, and relevant conditions that preceded the outbreaks.

**SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Define what constitutes a malaria outbreak in the context of Uganda.

1. Gather all available unpublished and published reports on malaria outbreaks in all parts of Uganda between January 1995 and December 2023, including (but not limited to), government reports, media reports, records of partner organisations, and World Health Organization (WHO) weekly epidemiological/outbreak reports.
2. Use District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2) and/or health management information system (HMIS) records as sources of data on incidence of uncomplicated and severe malaria cases and deaths during January 1995 to December 2023 and compile the data.
3. Compile available malaria data from existing special sentinel surveillance sites, including their catchment population data.
4. Interview relevant key informants at the national level and in relevant districts to identify periods of malaria outbreaks in Uganda, areas affected, and conditions that preceded the outbreaks. The key informants will include (but not limited to): various relevant Ministry of Health departments, Uganda Red Cross, WHO country office, district health offices in affected areas, and malaria partners such as donors and non-governmental organisations.

**EXPECTED OUTPUTS**

1. A comprehensive report including periods of malaria outbreaks during January 1995 – December 2023 and specific areas affected and the timelines, and peculiarities of conditions that preceded the outbreaks.
2. Electronic copies of unpublished documents and a list of published documents reviewed for the purpose of this activity.
3. An electronic database of all malaria morbidity and mortality data gathered for the purpose of this activity.
4. An information database with each identified outbreak and relevant information regarding the outbreak, specific areas affected, the time, and relevant situations or conditions observed or reported prior to the outbreak events.

**Expected Outputs and Timeline**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Output** | **Expected Due Date** | **Number of Days** |
| 1. A comprehensive report including periods of malaria outbreaks during January 1995 – December 2023 and specific areas affected and the timelines, and peculiarities of conditions that preceded the outbreaks.
 |  | 20 |
| 1. Electronic copies of unpublished documents and a list of published documents reviewed for the purpose of this activity.
 |  | 10 |
| 1. An electronic database of all malaria morbidity and mortality data gathered for the purpose of this activity.
 |  | 10 |
| 1. An information database with each identified outbreak and relevant information regarding the outbreak, specific areas affected, the time period, and relevant situations or conditions observed or reported prior to the outbreak events
 |  | 20 |
| **Total number of Days** |  | **60** |

**REPORTING**
The consultant will report to the FORECAST Project Manager at Malaria Consortium Uganda Office, with dotted-line reporting to Senior Country Technical Coordinator of Malaria Consortium Uganda and Malaria Consortium’s Principal Advisor (Disease Prevention).

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTRACT DAYS:** 50 working days.

**DESIRABLE ATTRIBUTES**

A post graduate degree in epidemiology or public health with at least 10 years of relevant work experience

Substantial research or professional experience in malaria epidemiology

Familiarity with Uganda’s health system

Evidence of ability to draft high-quality scientific reports

1. Uganda Red Cross Society, The Netherlands RedCross 510, Erasmus MC, Uganda National Meteorological Agency and Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)