

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue

Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies

A malaria-free Asia Pacific by 2030: A reality in 10 years?

Editors

Professor Tikki Elka Pangestu

*Lee Kuan yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
The Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance, Singapore*

Professor Vivian Lin

*University of Hong Kong
La Trobe University Melbourne*

Introduction

In 2015, Asia Pacific leaders endorsed a detailed plan to eliminate malaria throughout the region by 2030. 22 countries of the Asia Pacific region are pursuing this goal. Despite notable progress towards elimination, especially with China, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Bhutan, and Timor-Leste on their way to eliminate malaria by 2020, there remains some significant challenges.

Some of these challenges include:

- Emergence of drug-resistant malaria in the Greater Mekong Subregion, which underpins the need for new treatments to reach the most affected populations quickly
- Rising relative burden of *P. vivax* malaria, a type of malaria that is harder to detect
- Sustaining adequate levels of funding and political will, despite the dwindling number of cases and competing priorities
- Incorporating elimination efforts and strategies within the broader context of implementing universal healthcare

Eliminating malaria and improving regional health security against all infectious diseases will require a multi sectoral and multi-disciplinary approach. Innovative ways of engaging the private sector and increasing domestic financing for malaria are needed to avoid 'business as usual'. Efforts to strengthen the malaria response are in concordance with general health systems strengthening efforts to improve universal health coverage.

The malaria community is reviewing progress against the Leaders' Roadmap in 2020, 5 years after the 2015 East Asia Summit to end malaria. This special issue aims to spark conversation on what remains to be done to ensure sustained leadership and progress, political commitment, adequate financing, and optimal access to health services and malaria commodities for all populations at risk.

Themes and topics

We welcome abstracts on the following subjects:

Leadership: Maintaining political commitment, leadership at all levels including at sub-national level and encouraging a multi-agency response to eliminate malaria.

Financing: Highlighting the need for more domestic funding for health, to re-think external grant funding and support innovative financing mechanisms for health in the region.

Access: Reinforcing the importance of access to affordable, quality commodities and health services, including tools to prevent, test and treat malaria, down to the last mile.

Communities: engagement of communities to support the delivery of malaria services to the last mile, from awareness campaigns to community engagement and ownership in case management efforts.

Frontline: Addressing remaining implementation challenges to elimination in the region including drug resistant malaria, the rising burden of *P. vivax*, and substandard and falsified medicines.

Science: Underlining the need for continued investment in research and development, new technologies and improved surveillance data to support malaria elimination.

What are the priorities for the next decade and how does progress in the region to date inform our next steps as a regional and global community?

Dates and Deadlines

Abstract Submission Deadline: July 30, 2019

Manuscript submission deadline: October 30, 2019

Review and communication with authors: March 2020

Planned month for issue publication: May 2020

Please send your abstract (max. 300 words) directly to Dr Marie Lamy at malariaspecialissue@aplma.org by July 30.

Please do not submit your paper to APPS unless your abstract has been approved.

We will notify you about our decision by August 31, 2019

Submissions

Submitted papers are expected to fully comply with the standards of Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies and will be subject to blind peer review.

For more information on APP5 submission requirements, please see:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20502680/homepage/forauthors.html>