# HAITI

PAHO/WHO Technical Cooperation

in the aftermath of the earthquake 2010-2011






## Priority Communicable Diseases: Malaria



Haiti reports approximately 30,000 confirmed cases of malaria per year. In 2008, the National Plan for Malaria Control was adopted to eliminate Malaria in Haiti by the year 2020. The plan, which is the first that has been formalized in the last 20 years, has led to significant changes in the policy for malaria control. Improvements were made in the following sectors of Malaria control: diagnosis and treatment; the detection and reaction to epidemics; and vector control. The plan also aims to strengthen Haiti's Ministry of Public Health and Population, and to ensure free access to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention measures (mosquito nets) of malaria.

In 2009, Haiti signed a US$45 million from Round 8 of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to carry out a five year project. The country intended use these funds to help finance the main activities of the National Plan together with community volunteers and with the Dominican Republic. However, due to administrative issues, the country have not had access to these funds in 2009 and the National Malaria Program has not been implementing planned activities since no funding is available. Funds should be available at the end of 2010.

The earthquake that hit Haiti on January 12th has seriously raised concerns over Malaria and other Vector Borne Diseases. Risk of malaria epidemics has increased with seasonal rains and the presence of 1 million internally displaced populations (IDP) living in poor habitats. Also, the offices of the National Malaria Program were destroyed. The already precarious situation of the National program was aggravated by loss of data and the insufficient resources to address the emerging risks of malaria epidemics.

### Activities carried out:

- Support the National Malaria Program in coordinating the National post earthquake response with all partners
- Development of ERRF (spell out) proposal (project, work plan and budget) with National Malaria Program in order to get funding to address the malaria emergency with the upcoming rainy season
- PAHO/WHO supported the National Malaria Program in ordering vector control equipment and reagents to address the outbreaks
- PAHO/WHO provided impregnated mosquito nets to a large number of hospitals within the affected areas
- PAHO/WHO will distribute 20,000 Insecticide treated mosquito nets to support the Malaria Program in the rainy season
- Support to Malaria National Program with the dissemination of national guidelines for malaria treatment and care (ex: via the Health Cluster)
- PAHO/WHO conducted Field assessments (to assess malaria situation in affected populations)

### Next steps:

- Support the National Malaria Program in negotiation process for the Global Fund Round 8 for Malaria along with partners (CDC)
- Support for the development of a National Plan for Malaria Control.
- Support for data collection and the development of annual reports on the Malaria situation in the country.
- Support the revitalization of the binational Malaria activities between Haiti and the Dominican Republic