



FACT SHEET

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**“CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COLLABORATION, LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE TOGETHER”:
USAID AMAZON MALARIA INITIATIVE (AMI) AND AMAZON NETWORK FOR THE
SURVEILLANCE OF ANTIMALARIAL DRUG RESISTANCE (RAVREDA) PAHO EVENT**

On Thursday, September 15, 2011, USAID Amazon Malaria Initiative (AMI), and Amazon Network for the Surveillance of Antimalarial Drug Resistance (RAVREDA) will commemorate 10 years of successes and lessons learned in the prevention and treatment of malaria in the Amazon Basin.

Malaria situation in the region

The latest data reported to PAHO reveals that between the years 2000 to 2009, the 21 endemic countries of the Region collectively reported a 52% reduction in malaria cases and 69% decrease in deaths attributed to the disease. Eighteen of the malaria-endemic countries saw a decrease in cases during this period. Nine of these countries reported reductions of more than 75%, thereby meeting both the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) and UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Four countries, with decreases of 50% to 75%, have already met the RBM target; while five others, with reductions of up to 50%, are making progress to the goals. Three countries (DOR, HAI, VEN) report a relative increase in cases between 2000 and 2009 but the trend has already shifted downward for two of them (DOR and VEN) since 2005.

About AMI

The Amazon Malaria Initiative (AMI) was launched in 2001 by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to improve the control and treatment of malaria in Amazon Basin countries. Current AMI partner countries are Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname. AMI technical partners include USAID, PAHO, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP), Management Sciences for Health (MSH), Links Media, and Research Triangle Institute (RTI).

About RAVREDA

RAVREDA is the network organized in 2001 by Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela with technical support from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).



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USAID AMI and RAVREDA PAHO's accomplishments

AMI and RAVREDA have implemented a collaborative and participatory approach that has produced an environment favorable for expanded collaboration and greater coordination of investments in malaria control efforts. The collaboration has helped bring about cross-regional success in providing efficacious treatment, ensuring availability and access to quality diagnosis and drugs, improving malaria surveillance, and improving the selection and implementation of vector control interventions in the Amazon Basin. AMI and RAVREDA's work together has contributed to the 52% decrease in malaria cases and 73% decrease in malaria deaths reported in 2009 in the Amazon Region, as compared with the year 2000.

Among achievements, particularly outstanding are the evidence based and systematic introduction of Artemisinin based Combination Therapies (ACTs) in all Amazon countries, and the increase in South-South collaboration between the countries. AMI and RAVREDA have supported the overall improvement of individual and community well-being and increased productivity, thus reducing costs to health services and economic and social disruption to the countries.

The event's goal

The event's goal is to present breakthroughs in the regional fight against malaria and call for a sustainable roadmap to control and eventually eliminate this disease. The participants will reflect on the collaboration between USAID AMI and RAVREDA PAHO over the last decade and its positive impact on malaria control in the Amazon. They will also examine ways to align resources and coordinate investments in malaria control efforts in the Americas.

Invited speakers

Invited Speakers include Susan Thollaug, Health Team Leader, LAC Bureau, USAID; Rear Admiral, (U.S. Navy Retired) Timothy Ziemer, US Global Malaria Coordinator, President's Malaria Initiative; Dr. Mirta Roses, Director, PAHO; and Dr. Ana Carolina Santelli, Director Malaria Control Program, Brazil, among others.

For more information on the Amazon Malaria Initiative, visit www.usaidami.org.

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