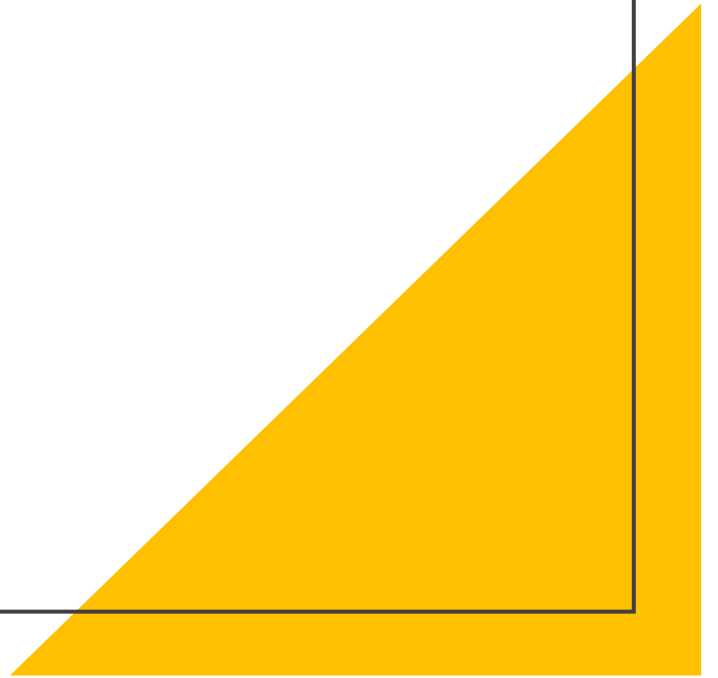


Session 12:
Hearing from
development partners
The Global Fund



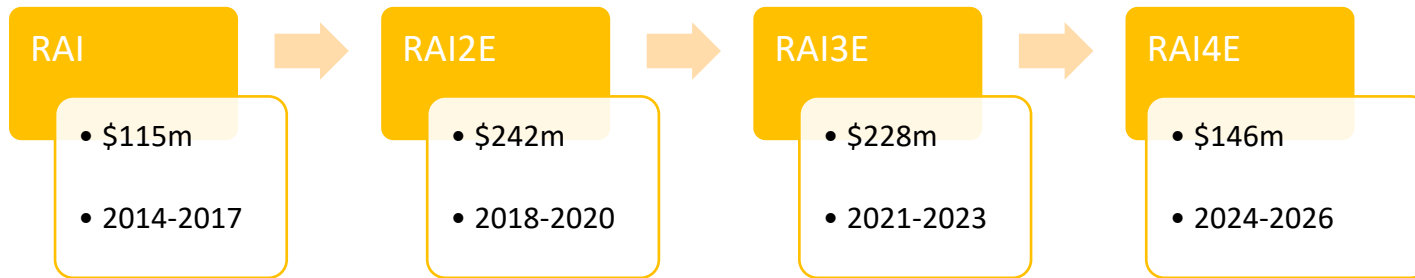


Regional Artemisinin-Resistance Initiative: Eliminating Malaria in the Mekong

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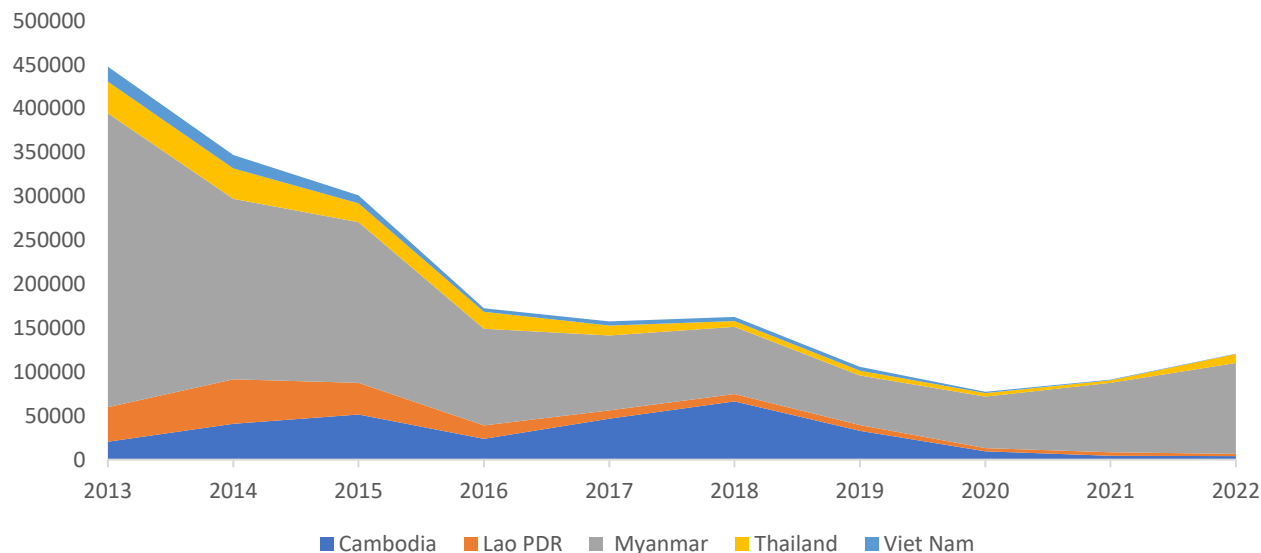
 The Global Fund

The Regional Artemisinin-Resistance Initiative



- Launched in 2014 in response to the emergence of artemisinin-resistant malaria in the GMS.
- Funded by the Global Fund and covers Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- Supports purchase of key malaria commodities, including vector control, diagnostics and quality-assured drugs.
- Enables development of surveillance systems and case management by community health workers.
- Builds resilient and sustainable health systems.

Reported Positive Malaria Cases in the Greater Mekong Sub-region



The Regional Artemisinin-Resistance Initiative

From 2012 to 2022, malaria cases in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) have been reduced by 87% and deaths reduced by 99%. Since 2022 a resurgence in malaria cases has affected two out of five countries of the GMS where the grant is implemented.

The region is historically the cradle for antimalarial drug resistance. Eliminating these parasites from the region will also eliminate this threat to all malaria endemic countries.

Key to the success of the RAI have been the regional approach, bringing together a diverse group of committed Governments, health practitioners and policymakers, scientists, donors and private-sector partners to eliminate malaria in the GMS; and a community-level network of approx. 35,000 malaria workers who provide services in the communities they know best.



A regional approach: the RAI Regional Steering Committee



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PMI | U.S. PRESIDENT'S
MALARIA INITIATIVE

aplma
ASIA PACIFIC LEADERS
MALARIA ALLIANCE

- Established in late 2013 as an **oversight mechanism** for the RAI grant.
- Follows the Global Fund's Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) model to **provide strategic guidance and serves as a forum for coordination, cooperation and accountability.**
- **Stakeholders** represented on the RSC include the five governments, multilateral agencies, technical partners, funders, CSOs, academia, private sector, and affected communities.
- **ADB and ASEAN are Members, ASEAN hold permanent Vice-chairmanship of the RSC.**
- Members of the RSC collectively take **responsibility for the strategic direction and implementation of the RAI grants.**



RAI4E Grant (2024-2026) Priorities

1. Innovative accelerated interventions towards elimination;
2. Case-based surveillance and prevention of re-establishment;
3. Leveraging community health workers to enhance basic health services;
4. Radical cure of *P. vivax malaria*;
5. A data-driven regional approach;
6. Strengthening civil society organizations' contribution to the health system;
7. Strengthening pandemic preparedness and response.



The RAI4E Grant (2024-2026)

RAI4E Allocations

Myanmar \$44,321,000	Regional \$25,000,000	Lao PDR \$16,392...
Cambodia \$30,614,061	Thailand \$15,419,000	Viet Nam \$13,919,0...

Regional Component

<p>Package 1: Elimination-Focused Service Delivery</p> <p>Ensure equitable access to quality malaria services across the GMS for elimination and prevention of re-establishment (PoR).</p> <p>Package 1.1 Ensure equitable access to quality case management among hard-to-reach and mobile migrant populations in border areas, including through accelerated elimination activities, integrated CHWs with a view to sustainability, data-driven targeting of vector control prevention measures, and support for Pv radical cure. (CSO delivery TBD)</p> <p>Package 1.2 Ensure program quality, surveillance, community engagement, filling gaps and troubleshooting, and capacity strengthening through roving and embedded technical support. (WHO, CHAI, CSO Platform)</p>	<p>Package 2: Better Data for Decision-Making</p> <p>Effective and timely data collection and analysis to inform evidence-based decisions.</p> <p>Package 2.1 Malaria & Resistance Surveillance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Malaria Elimination Database 2. Drug efficacy and resistance monitoring 3. Genomic surveillance/ Molecular markers <p>Package 2.2 Certification & Prevention of Re-Establishment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidance and training 2. Practical implementation support
<p>Package 3: Governance, strategic monitoring & management</p> <p>Share lessons learned for rapid regional iteration & response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package 3.1 Regional Steering Committee, advocacy & communications • Package 3.2 Strategic monitoring & evaluation • Package 3.3 Grant management





Regional Health Cooperation 2024-2030 Proposed Strategic Framework

Vision	To promote a healthy and environmentally sustainable GMS community in which the well-being of all citizens is pursued		
Outcomes	Improved GMS health system performance in responding to acute public health threats	Selected demographic groups have reduced disparity in their access to identified health care services.	
Pillars	Regional Health Security	Health System Strengthening Towards UHC	
Programing Areas	IHR Core Capacities	Health Workforce and Infrastructure Strengthening	
	Antimicrobial Resistance	Migrant Health	
	Linkages between national CDC systems strengthenedb	Health Standards (e.g., clinical, laboratory, medicines etc.)	
Possible Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regional EWARS strengtheningModeling and forecasting competency development (e.g., floods, pandemics etc.)Strengthening governance and regulatory infrastructure for emergency-use therapeutics and vaccinesStrategic regional stockpiles of essential medical equipment and vaccines creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Workforce development - hosted in-country e.g., FETP ThailandEstablishment of centres of excellence and/or collaboration (e.g., MCHN and/or Road Safety)Regional conference presentation on GMS Health CooperationGMS Climate Hub/Collaboration Centre	
	Establishing a regional network for AMR surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Migrant Health (e.g., extending access to essential health services, policy coherence and promoting financial risk protection)	
	Enhancing coordination between National IHR Focal Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Health Standards (e.g., clinical, laboratory, medicines etc.)	
Crosscutting Themes	Digital Health	Climate Change	Gender and Social Inclusion

Possible activities for collaboration

Integration of malaria volunteers

The GMS Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030 can serve as a framework to:

- strengthen GF/RAI programming in the Region;
- foster innovation in GF/RAI interventions;
- increase GF/RAI engagement with the private sector;
- align investments and mobilize resources.



Regional Collaboration on workforce development - opportunities on integration of Village Malaria Workers (VMWs)

- RAI supports approx. 35,000 VMWs to provide community malaria services.
- VMWs played a significant role not only for maintaining malaria efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic doing referral of malaria negative fever cases for COVID-19 testing and supporting health staff in COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.
- If VMWs provide only malaria services, people may stop seeking testing from the volunteers as malaria declines.
- Integration can take on a wide variety of approaches, from vector-borne diseases to a broad number of infectious diseases contributing to regional health security.

Regional Health Cooperation to support integration of community workforce:

- Support multisectoral engagement when planning for workforce integration. Participation beyond MoH is needed including government agencies, and stakeholders.
- As governments move to decentralized governance structures, support is required for a shift in financing to subnational level.
- Support disease programs and ministries to develop sustainability strategies for maintaining vigilance for the long term. Sustainability planning requires detailed understanding of communities' needs and risks, strong workforce, political commitment, and financing.



Thank you

A photograph showing a woman on the left and a man on the right, both sitting on the floor. The woman is wearing a patterned, reddish-brown dress. The man is wearing a red t-shirt and blue jeans. They are both looking down at a small, white box of medicine that is on the floor between them. The background shows a wooden wall and a window with a view of a landscape. A red and white floral patterned cloth is visible on the right side of the frame.

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