



TOWARD MALARIA ELIMINATION IN VIETNAM

Inputs from civil society in Vietnam to the Global Fund malaria concept note 2018-2020

On January 11, 2016, in Hanoi, representatives from civil society organizations concerned about malaria, community most affected by malaria and malaria patients gathered in a consultation workshop to give inputs to the Global Fund concept note 2018-2020 on malaria. The workshop is organized by the Center for Supporting Community Development Initiatives (SCDI) with technical and financial support from APCASO, APCRG and GMS Civil Society Malaria Platform. Leadership of the General Department of Preventive Medicine, representatives from the National Institute for Malaria, Parasitology and Entomology, RAI Steering Committee, UNOPS attended and spoke to the workshop.

Participants highly appreciated Vietnam government's commitment towards elimination of malaria at national level by 2030, strongly endorsed objectives of the National Strategy on Control and Elimination of Malaria in Vietnam 2011-2020 with Vision to 2030, were impressed by the achievements of the National Malaria Program. Participants also shared the same views with the National Malaria Program on challenges to achieve malaria elimination in Vietnam, especially in engaging with populations most affected by malaria.

With live experiences and ability to connect with other members of their own community of most affected by malaria, experiences of social organizations in supporting the development of networks of other hard-to-reach populations, and experiences in connecting with different stakeholders, participants strongly believe that CSOs in Vietnam can contribute meaningfully to the national malaria program. CSO participation is best to be designed using the Global Fund's Community System Strengthening (CSS) Framework, which has been successfully implemented in Vietnam in the Global Fund-supported HIV program since 2011.

Participants recommended that in the Vietnam Global Fund malaria concept note 2018-2020 there will be a CSS component, to be implemented by Vietnamese CSOs, in the priority areas as identified based on the National Strategic Plan, focus on populations at high risk of malaria, in close coordination of and collaboration with the National Malaria Program as well as key stakeholders at national and local levels.

The key contents of the Global Fund's CSS Framework have already been articulated in "Towards Greatest Impact and Effectiveness of RAI 2018-2020 - Malaria CSO Positions", which was presented and strongly supported at the Regional Consultation Workshop in Bangkok, December 16, 2016.

Participants deeply believe that the participation of social organizations and community most affected by malaria will contribute significantly to sustainable efforts to control and eliminate malaria in Vietnam.



CSO participants in the workshop include representatives from the Center for Supporting Community Development Initiatives (SCDI), Vietnam Public Health Association, Center for Health Consultation and Community Development (CHD), Phap Bao Center for Community Counseling and Support, PSI, CHAI, representatives of the communities most affected by malaria from Binh Phuoc and Gia Lai.