

A Pathfinder-flyer Companion Factsheet

What? *A novel integrated approach to rolling-out bottom-up comprehensive multisectoral action for sustainable development with malaria as tracer.*

Themed within populations and governance, the Pathfinder targets public and private actors as well as politicians and citizens. It comprehensively addresses the political, institutional, economic, social, environmental and climate, health, as well as disease factors that intersects to fuel the vicious cycle.

The Pathfinder brings together all relevant tools from partners and others, fills tool-gaps, and pilots processes to complement and enhance existing structures, programmes, and resources to become mutually supportive and accountable, more sustainable, and more efficient, effective and equitable.

Who? Four malaria endemic countries with 100 or more annual malaria cases per 1000 population or with very inequitable case distribution. The countries will be included based on opportunities and discussions with partners, funders, and governments. Discussions are ongoing with Madagascar, Uganda, Rwanda, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, and others.

Sub-national focus and within each country, three districts identified among those most challenged on malaria-critical SDG-indicators and malaria cases.

How? A three-year process to become ‘malaria-smart’¹ with five physical intercountry workshops, short monthly online workshops, capacity building, planning and target-setting, peer reviews and cross-learning, adjusting, technical assistance, and small catalytic funding for in-country programming.

- **Kick-off** with *Pathfinder Impact and Investment Cases* to identify the worst-off districts, listen to, initiate dialogue with, and commit national, district and sub-district stakeholders for collaborative action.
- **Phase 1** (six months): Anchor multisectoral action in local governance and community ownership, understand the situation and its determinants, engage public and private employers and providers of goods and services to boost demand and access to conventional disease interventions (steps 1 and 2).
- **Phase 2** (six months): Further improve effectiveness of Phase 1 actions; start to monitor and act on malaria-critical SDG indicators; identify co-benefits; and address harmful and promote ‘do-good’ practices (steps 3 and 4)
- **Phase 3** (six months): Further improve effectiveness of Phase 1 and 2 actions; identify and ameliorate the root causes of inequities within the district.
- **Phase 4** (12 months): Further improve effectiveness of Phase 1, 2, and 3 actions; and institutionalize the new ways of comprehensive multisectoral action working-together.
- **Evaluation:** Participatory, externally guided documentation of what works, what does not and why, process, outcome, impact, sustainability, replicability and potential for scale-up.

Result? The participating districts will level-up compared to other districts measured on improved SDG-indicators and malaria case reduction. New ways of working across sectors and actors will have been institutionalized.

Because the Pathfinder emphasizes enhancing already existing structures, indicators, programmes, and resources rather than duplication or replacing, the chance of lasting effect is higher – and scale-up and replication based on shared documented learnings easier.

¹ See the Flyer for the five steps to become malaria-smart. Malaria is tracer for NTD, some enteric diseases as well as for inequity in sustainable development.