Background

Malaria No More (MNM) is a US based non-profit organization that envisions a world where no one dies from a mosquito bite. More than a decade into our mission, our work has contributed to historic progress toward this goal. Now, we’re mobilizing the political commitment, funding, and innovation required to achieve what would be one of the greatest humanitarian accomplishments – ending malaria within our generation.

Since our inception – at the White House event that launched the U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative in 2006 – MNM has mobilized the political commitment, funding and innovation that has contributed to the world turning the tide against malaria. MNM is a global organization with offices in Seattle, Washington, D.C., New York, Kenya, Cameroon, and India and affiliates in London and Tokyo.

Malaria No More India

According to the WHO World Malaria Report 2018, India has the world's fourth highest malaria burden, with 1.25 billion people at risk of contracting the disease. India registered a 24% decrease in malaria cases between 2016 and 2017, which made India the only country among the 11 highest-burden countries to mark progress in reducing cases of malaria during this timeframe.

India's success follows its commitment in 2015 to eliminate malaria by 2030. Last year, India joined 52 Commonwealth nations in their commitment to halve the malaria burden across the Commonwealth within five years.

In 2016, MNM expanded its operations to support India’s 2030 malaria elimination goal. Powered by a dedicated team of technical, programmatic and communication experts based out of Delhi and Bhubaneshwar, we focus on working with high-burden Indian states to reduce malaria cases and deaths using innovative strategies, better data, and new technologies.

At the national level, we are working with the national government to elevate malaria as a priority health issue and support a national behaviour change communications campaign.

The WHO noted that India’s recent progress against malaria was due in large part to substantial malaria case reductions in Odisha State, which has the largest burden in India. Through sustained efforts, such as expanding access to diagnostics and treatment, strengthening data collection, distributing long lasting insecticidal nets and improving health care worker skills, Odisha recorded a remarkable decline of over 80% in reported malaria cases and deaths between 2017 and 2018.

To further Odisha’s goal to end malaria, MNM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Odisha in 2018. The partnership seeks to support expansion of Odisha’s innovative strategies and strengthen Odisha’s malaria program capacity to have even greater impact moving forward. In addition, MNM will help Odisha to create a replicable success model
for other high burden states to similarly drive down malaria cases and deaths as part of India’s national malaria elimination strategy.

Specifically, MNM is providing technical assistance to the Odisha Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (VBDCP) to:
- support overall strategy development;
- strengthen malaria surveillance and reporting;
- improve data collection and data-driven decision-making;
- enhance private health sector reporting of malaria; and,
- create compelling health education and behaviour-change campaigns.

MNM is also working with the Odisha government to engage a range of leading technical, academic, private sector, and media partners to support expansion of Odisha’s drive toward malaria elimination. In January 2019, the global health company Abbott announced its commitment to support Odisha’s efforts with a donation of rapid diagnostic tests for use by the Odisha government, and funding to MNM to increase the impact of our work in Odisha.

Context

Complementing advocacy efforts, MNM India plans to develop and roll out national thought-leader and behaviour-change communications campaigns to accelerate progress toward India’s malaria elimination goal. At the request of India’s National Vector Borne Disease Control Program (NVBDCP), MNM is currently developing the strategy for the first national campaign focused on mosquito borne disease (to be completed in Q1 2019). This strategy will appropriately link malaria with other mosquito borne diseases such as dengue and chikungunya. Though those diseases affect fewer Indians than malaria, they garner more media and public attention due to their existence in major cities.

Malaria No More India is seeking a State Technical Lead to support MNM India’s mandate designed to support the national programme in achieving India’s malaria elimination goal. Based in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha the State Technical Lead will work collaboratively with the Technical and Programme team of Malaria No More at Delhi and Government of Odisha, while reporting to the State Lead

State Technical Lead will be responsible for the technical aspects of the state level malaria programs monitoring and ensuring high quality and timely inputs, and for ensuring that the project maintains its strategic vision and that its activities result in the achievement of its intended outputs in a cost effective and timely manner. S/He will also be responsible for designing and implementing the M&E activities of the Project; preparing Quarterly/Annual reports on project progress, development of district and state Program Implementation Plans in alignment with operational plan for malaria elimination, Conducting trainings of health workers based on training plan under supervision of MNM’s India team and State NVBDCP and will monitor the project activities on a regular basis, and will be responsible for the collection & analysis of different data in relation to the project activities.
Location

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Specific Responsibilities

Primary Research

- Conduct monitoring field visit to review progress towards malaria elimination in the project districts.
- Collate and support the analysis of state malaria epidemiological and logistics data
- Lead the conceptualization, design, implementation and reporting of the research studies outlined in the program and see that good research practices are followed.

Secondary Research

- Review research papers and evaluate the results to integrate it on all aspects of project planning and implementation.
- Analyze policies as well as current strategies and the support of the development of strategies plan, knowledge briefs, alternative/ shadow reports.
- Develop evidence-based strategies taking experience from research papers and strategic plans of other countries for malaria elimination for the state.
- Conduct literature review for new developments, promoting best practices, policies and emerging issues in malaria in pregnancy

Technical Project Support & Program Development

- Assist in all technical components of project formulation, especially newer components like rapid diagnostic test (RDT) kits, artemisinin-based combination treatment and long-lasting insecticidal nets.
- Work with MNM India central team for the development of state level operational plan for malaria elimination and other technical aspects of state malaria programme.
- Support the technical working group of Malaria Action Coalition on situation analysis, data analysis as well as other technical aspects of malaria program.
- Identify the technical requirement of the RDTs and prepare a replenishment plan to avoid stockouts
- Prepare and submit monthly reports on districts performance towards malaria elimination
- Support development of district and state program implementation plan in alignment with the operational plan for malaria elimination
- Assess the training need for the state and district health staff and conduct training under the supervision of State VBDCP.
- Provide strategic support to the state malaria program through development of strategy based on research evidence from Knowledge, Attitude, & Practices (KAP) survey.
• Provide expertise in malaria project management, accounting and programming
• Provide leadership in the development of innovative approaches to increase demand for Anti Natal Care (ANC) and Malaria in Pregnancy (MIP) services and provide overall technical assistance to plan for MIP and U5
• Provide technical support to interpret MIP programmatic data and incorporate data from project implementation into project work plans
• Document and maintain an inventory of successful tools and approaches for MIP including development and submission of abstracts, papers and presentations to journals and conferences in line with project collaboration, learning and adaptation plan.
• Monitor the performance of the program and see that the work is of high technical quality.

External Contact Working Relationships

• Malaria No More
• Malaria No More affiliates in United Kingdom and Japan
• Central government, state government(s) and non-government departments/ agencies
• Donor Institutions – Bilateral, Multi-lateral, Foundations etc.
• Other NGOs – UNICEF and other organizations in the malaria community (i.e. RBM Partnership to End Malaria, APLMA)
• Creative agencies
• Training institutions

Profile & Qualifications

• MBBS or master’s degree in Public Health, Population Studies or similar field; Ph.D. or other advanced degree will be preferred.
• Extensive public health experience of at least 10 years of related M&E and KM work experience. Candidates worked in the National / State malaria Programme will be preferred.
• Excellent technical and report writing skills, attentive to detail with high levels of accuracy, and excellent planning and organization skills
• Experience in integrating gender equality aspects in health project programming and a good understanding of health systems strengthening approaches.
• Experience using quantitative statistical and qualitative data analysis software
• Demonstrated skills in conducting research, developing research protocols, articulating research questions, quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis and management, and in development of knowledge management and dissemination products such as reports, briefs, and case studies.
• Thorough knowledge and understanding of the health programs.
• Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, prioritize assignments, work effectively under pressure, and meet deadlines.
• Demonstrated skill and effectiveness in communicating with others, particularly technical and program project staff.
• Proven ability to work well with diverse groups and as part of a team using a consultative and collaborative approach.
• Excellent verbal and writing skills.
• Microsoft Office computer skills, proficiency in Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.