



Target Malaria: Uganda

Who we are?

Target Malaria is a not-for-profit research consortium that aims to develop and share new technologies for malaria control. Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) is a collaborating partner.

Our work

Target Malaria's vision is to contribute to a world free of malaria.

Our approach is malaria control by mosquito control. By reducing the population of malaria mosquitoes, we aim to reduce the transmission of the disease.

We aim to develop a technology that can be complementary to other mosquito control methods and which offers a solution that is long term, cost-effective and sustainable.

Target Malaria includes institutions in Europe, North America and Africa. The project is currently working in four African countries:

- Uganda: Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI)
- Burkina Faso: Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)
- Ghana: University of Ghana
- Mali: Malaria Research and Training Center (MRTC)
- Researchers in the UK, US and Italy are also involved

Context

Malaria continues to be the leading cause of ill health and deaths in Uganda.



Over **8 million** malaria cases and over **3,000** deaths in 2018.

Although pregnant women and children under 5 are mostly affected, **90%** of Uganda's population is at risk of malaria.

Malaria is responsible for **20%** inpatient deaths and **15-20%** hospital admissions.

30-50% outpatient visits in Uganda due to malaria.

Malaria places a heavy burden on Uganda's economy: over **\$500 million** is the average **economic loss** in Uganda due to malaria annually.



Our priorities

- Conduct Baseline Entomological in field sites and laboratory to better understand mosquito populations, dynamics and behaviour.
- Engage stakeholders at local, regional and national level in Uganda to inform, consult and also provide feedback on the different aspects of the project and its research (science).
- Facility Readiness in preparation for future contained studies on genetically modified mosquitoes.

Our intention is to use this opportunity to introduce Target Malaria to the stakeholders to create more awareness about the project and provide information about Target Malaria activities.

The research is still at a very early stage and there is still a long way to go. When the technology is complete, it will be freely licensed for use by authorities in countries affected by malaria and where it has been approved.

Contact Information:

Dr. Jonathan Kayondo - Principal Investigator
+256 417 757232

Linga Richard Ronny - Communication Officer
+256 414 321 976

Our activities in Uganda



Insectary & laboratory

- A specialized Arthropod Containment Level 2 (ACL-2) insectary has been constructed at the Uganda Virus Research Institute main campus in Entebbe.
- Several experiments with the local wild mosquitoes are being conducted in the new insectary in preparation for future contained studies.
- Baseline scientific studies are being conducted in the laboratory.



Stakeholder Engagement

- Inform and consult stakeholders at national level, in villages, districts and in the communities around UVRI about the project activities to ensure acceptance.
- Feedback to stakeholders about project progress and activities taking into account their views, opinions and concerns.
- Assuring stakeholders that their concerns are taken into consideration as the research progresses to the next level.



Entomology

Regular mosquito collections and studies carried out in villages in various districts in order to obtain information about mosquito populations, species, dynamics and behaviour.