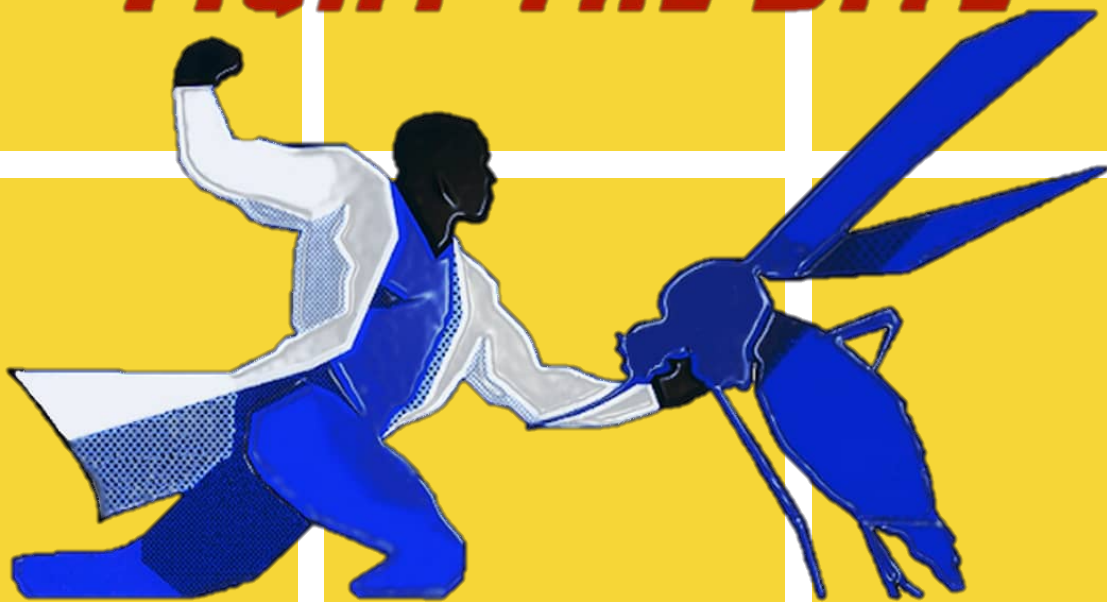


2019 MALARIA THINK TANK



FIGHT THE BITE



**MINI REGIONAL
MALARIA BOOTCAMP
REPORT**



Regional Malaria MINI BOOTCAMPS 2019



This year, we organized the 3rd annual Regional Malaria Mini Bootcamps to educate PCVs throughout Uganda about malaria and provide guidance for conducting malaria-related activities at their sites.



The Malaria Think Tank (MTT) was formed in 2012 to spearhead malaria control and elimination efforts by the U.S. Peace Corps in Uganda. MTT strives to inform and influence Peace Corps malaria programming activities, develop and deliver malaria trainings based on the most up-to-date research, facilitate interactions with various stakeholders, and mobilize volunteers in the fight against malaria.



**BOOTCAMPS
WERE HELD IN
LIRA, JINJA,
HOIMA, AND
MBALE IN
FEBRUARY AND
MARCH**

**A TOTAL OF
48 UGANDAN
COUNTERPARTS &
38 PCVS
ATTENDED &
PARTICIPATED**





WE FIGHT

MALARIA BECAUSE...

Uganda is hyper-endemic for malaria, with over 90% of its population living in areas of active transmission year-round, and ranks third highest among sub-Saharan African countries in the number of *P. falciparum* infections experienced every year. Malaria is the most prevalent disease in Uganda accounting for 34% of all outpatient visits and 37% of all hospital admissions. It is the leading cause of death for children under five, accounts for a large percentage of absenteeism from school, and has a grave economic burden on Uganda.

The longer we spend here, the more we see malaria affecting our neighbors, our friends, our pupils, and our farmers—the people that we have come to know and love.



OUR MEMBERS

Chairperson
Ada Sloop

MRE Coordinator
Jennifer Stenback

Grants Coordinator
Emily Brodke

Training Coordinator
Kelsie Wring

Communications Coordinator
Andrew Honken

Regional Managers
Shayna Krasnoff (North)
Manyi Eno (East)
Patricia Brown (SW)
Chloe Siegel (West)
Anton Schneider (Central)



“Learning how to perform a barrier analysis will make community sensitization easier and allow for addressing community specific misconceptions, knowledge gaps, and concerns.”
-PCV Lira Camp

OUR FOCUS **TECHNICAL, ENGAGING, AND APPLICABLE LESSONS**

The bootcamps were created to address the malaria knowledge gap of Peace Corps volunteers (PCVs) and counterparts. Although many PCVs working within the health sector had received some technical sessions during their pre-service training, education and agribusiness PCVs did not. The bootcamps included many technical sessions to help participants gain a better understanding of malaria and how to create community specific malaria control activities.

Understanding we would be working with education volunteers and their fellow teachers, the Think Tank incorporated youth-friendly lessons, activities, and ideas that have already been proven successful in Uganda.

The camps serve to provide the knowledge, resources, and skills to equip participants to do malaria work at their sites. As a group, we identified gaps in malaria knowledge and addressed them accordingly. This year, we developed and disseminated resources on translating malaria work into existing groups such as youth groups and women's groups. Additionally, the camps were used to provide a platform for cross-sectoral work against the burden of malaria in participants' communities.



LIRA BOOTCAMP PARTICIPANTS
LEARNING ACTIVITIES FROM THE
GRASSROOT SOCCER MALARIA
SKILLZ CURRICULUM

TOPICS COVERED

- New Developments in Malaria Work Worldwide
- An Overview of Malaria in Uganda
- The 4 Pillars of Prevention
- Malaria & HIV Coinfection
- Teaching Malaria Activities in Schools
- EPCMD & Malaria
- The Cost of Prevention Vs. Infection
- Malaria & Agriculture
- Intro to Epidemiology & Entomology
- Grassroot Soccer Malaria Skillz Curriculum
- Barrier Analysis & Coding Framework
- Bed Net Care & Repair
- Malaria Mythbusters



THE IMPACT

All participants were provided with a pre-test upon arrival to the mini bootcamp. The pre-test consisted of 20 questions reflecting the objectives of the bootcamp sessions. After the last session, participants were given a post-test with the same 20 questions. Participants were then asked to rank their understanding of malaria before and after the mini bootcamp.

Test results were compiled and disaggregated by mini bootcamp location, question, and participant classification (Peace Corps Volunteer or Counterpart). Overall, all participants combined improved by an average of **33.8%** between tests.

FAST FACTS

36.5%

AVERAGE PCV PRE-TEST SCORE

77.0%

AVERAGE PCV POST-TEST SCORE

27.5%

AVERAGE COUNTERPART PRE-TEST SCORE

56.3%

AVERAGE COUNTERPART POST-TEST SCORE

At the conclusion of the camp, participants self-reported their knowledge of malaria before and after the camp using a scale of 1 (not at all) to 10 (very well).

On average, attendees rated their knowledge of malaria before the camps at **5.6/10** compared to an average of **8.7/10** following the camps.

Participants also self-reported the most useful sessions as summarized in the following ranking:

1. Bed Net Care & Repair
2. Epidemiology/Entomology
3. Four Pillars of Prevention
4. Malaria & HIV Coinfection
5. School Activities & Grass-root Soccer Curriculum

“I ENJOYED LEARNING TO MAKE A SQUARE NET INTO A ROUND [NET]. MOST PEOPLE IN MY COMMUNITY LIVE IN GRASS-THATCHED HOUSES WHERE IT IS HARD TO TIE A SQUARE NET”

-COUNTERPART FROM JINJA CAMP

“[THE CAMP] INCREASED MY KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE IN DISSEMINATING INFORMATION IN MY COMMUNITY”

-PCV FROM JINJA CAMP