

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Research Consultant

Feasibility Study of a Malakit-Based Radical Cure Intervention Targeting *Plasmodium vivax* Among Mobile and Migrant Communities in Thailand

Duration: 50 days USD 160/day

Period: December 2026 – April 2027

Study sites: Two villages, one in Mae Ramat District and one in Phop Phra District, Tak Province, Thailand

Project Summary

The feasibility study is a malaria prevention and treatment intervention using pre-existing approved medications, social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) and rapid diagnostic kits (RDTs), and the existing health and community systems supporting malaria in Thailand. It is composed of a package of actions for mobile populations at the Thai/Myanmar border: (1) SBCC activities; (2) targeted administration of treatment against *P. vivax* after screening against G6PD deficiency to asymptomatic persons considered at risk of silently carrying the parasite; (3) distribution and follow up of a self-testing and self-treatment kit (Malakit) associated with user training for self-management of malaria symptoms occurring while in extreme isolation. The study relies on a hybrid design, informed by similar study in the Guiana Shield, aiming to evaluate both the effectiveness of the intervention on malaria transmission with a pre/post quasi-experimental design, and its implementation, with a mixed methods study approach.

Job description:

The lead Research Consultant will provide technical support with data collection plan for community-level data collection, qualitative data analysis, and preparation of the study report and draft manuscript for journal. The consultant will have his own team to collect data and be able to monitor and supervise them independently. It is also expected the lead consultant supports routine participant follow-up, conducts formant interviews (KIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs) with diverse stakeholders, ensure the quality and confidentiality of research data, and translate findings into clear, evidence-based conclusions and recommendations. Project team will provide necessary support on administrative part and local coordination with the stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities:

Data collection and coding (40%)

- Prepare a data collection plan, prepare a team and train them
- tools translation into Karen and Burmese
- Conduct key informant interviews (KIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs), as assigned and in accordance with approved study protocols.
- Translate data collected in local languages into English and assign coded participant identification numbers to protect confidentiality.
- Compile, organize, and quality-check the final English-language data and transcripts, producing one consolidated file for each data source
- Data coding

Data analysis (30%)

- Analyze qualitative data using an appropriate and transparent analytical framework, and provide technical guidance on the interpretation of findings.
- Participate in Project Advisory Group meetings and incorporate relevant feedback and recommendations into the analysis and final recommendations.
- Participate in monthly meeting with Provincial Advisors

Report and manuscript writing (30%)

- Prepare a complete research report in clear, professional English, including the methodology, findings, discussion, conclusions, and practical recommendations.
- Draft Manuscript for publication

Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in health, public health or epidemiology, social sciences, epidemiology, or a related field.
- Demonstrated experience in qualitative research and field-based data collection, including KIs, in-depth interviews (IDIs), and FGDs.
- Experienced in Malaria or related research in Thailand
- Experienced and/or understanding of border communities and their health issues in Thailand
- Experience in qualitative data management, coding, analysis, and interpretation; familiarity with mixed-methods research is an advantage.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to build rapport with diverse stakeholders.
- Good understanding of the local context and proficiency in Thai and English
- Excellent analytical and academic writing skills in English.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in challenging field environments.

- Strong attention to detail and demonstrated commitment to data quality, participant confidentiality, and ethical research practices.

Deliverables and number of days:

Tasks/Activities	Number of days
Data collection and coding (40%)	20
- Prepare a data collection plan, prepare a team and train them	2
- tools translation into Karen and Burmese	2
- Conduct key informant interviews (KIIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs), as assigned and in accordance with approved study protocols.	4
- Translate data collected in local languages into English and assign coded participant identification numbers to protect confidentiality.	4
- Compile, organize, and quality-check the final English-language data and transcripts, producing one consolidated file for each data source	4
- Data coding	4
Data analysis (30%)	15
- Analyze qualitative data using an appropriate and transparent analytical framework, and provide technical guidance on the interpretation of findings.	12
- Participate in Project Advisory Group meetings and incorporate relevant feedback and recommendations into the analysis and final recommendations.	1
- Participate in monthly meeting with Provincial Advisors	2
Report and manuscript writing (30%)	15
- Prepare a complete research report in clear, professional English, including the methodology, findings, discussion, conclusions, and practical recommendations.	10
- Draft Manuscript for publication	5

Application:

Applicants are invited to submit a CV and a one-page cover letter by email to tenders@malariaconsortium.org no later than **2 November 2026, 10:00 a.m. Thailand time**.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at tenders@malariaconsortium.org