

# RBM Vector Control Working Group

Brief update of VCWG-18 meeting

6-8 February 2023 in Accra, Ghana

## ABOUT THE RBM VECTOR CONTROL WORKING GROUP

The purpose of the RBM VCWG is to support the implementation and dissemination of vector control guidance generated by WHO and to harmonise and galvanise those efforts towards the achievement of the global malaria elimination targets by helping to translate these norms and standards to international and country-level partners. It supports the generation of evidence to inform global policy and guidelines, to protect the efficacy of existing tools and stimulate the development of new tools. VCWG provides an essential forum where diverse partners of the vector control community from the public sector, the private sector, research and academia, and civil society, can come together to reach a common understanding of the threats and opportunities, to learn from each other and to develop the necessary networks and activities to overcome these challenges.

**THIS YEAR**, the RBM VCWG-18 meeting was held **in Accra, Ghana, for the first time in an African country**, and had **339 attendees**. Participants came from **49 different countries**, representing six WHO regions (African AFR, Americas ARM, Eastern Mediterranean EMR, European EUR, South-East Asian SEAR and Western Pacific WPR Regions) (see *Figures 1a & 1b*).

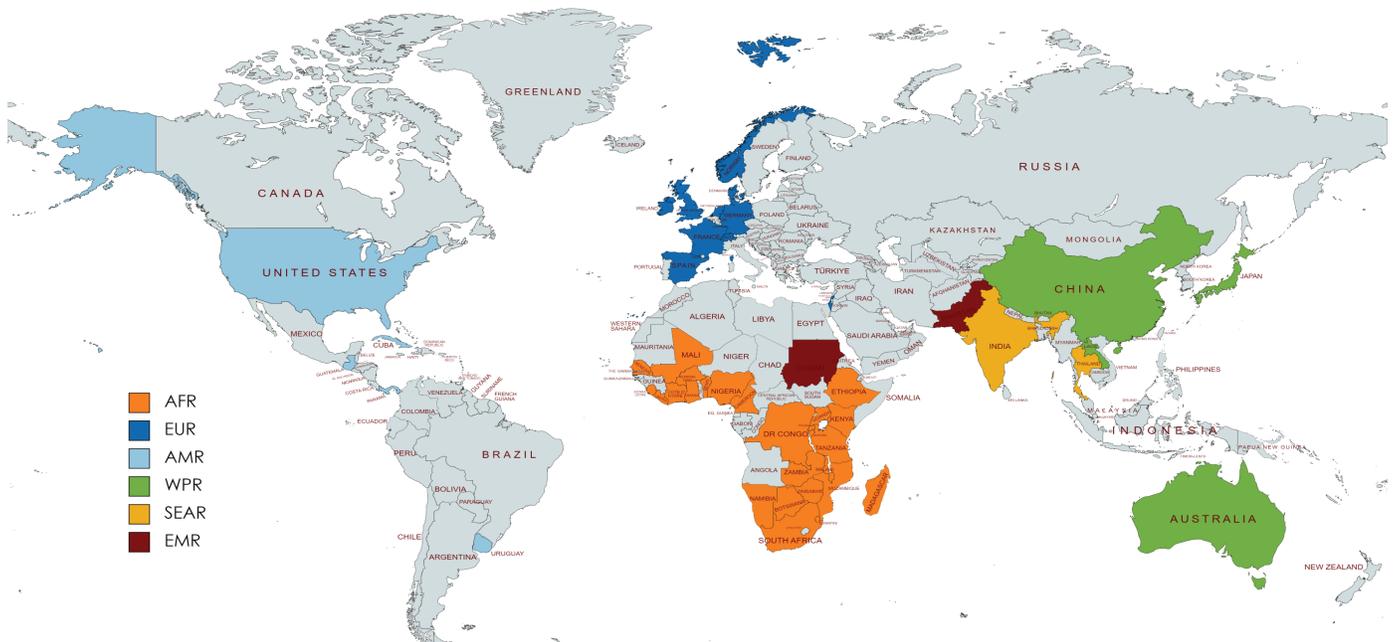


Figure 1a Country Regions of Participants at VCWG-18

**AFR** Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

**EUR** Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom

**AMR** Cuba, Guatemala, Panama, Uruguay, USA

**WPR** Australia, China, Japan, Laos

**SEAR** India, Thailand

**EMR** Pakistan, Sudan

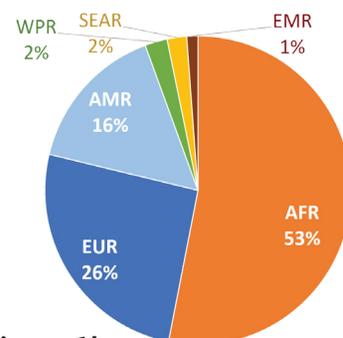


Figure 1b

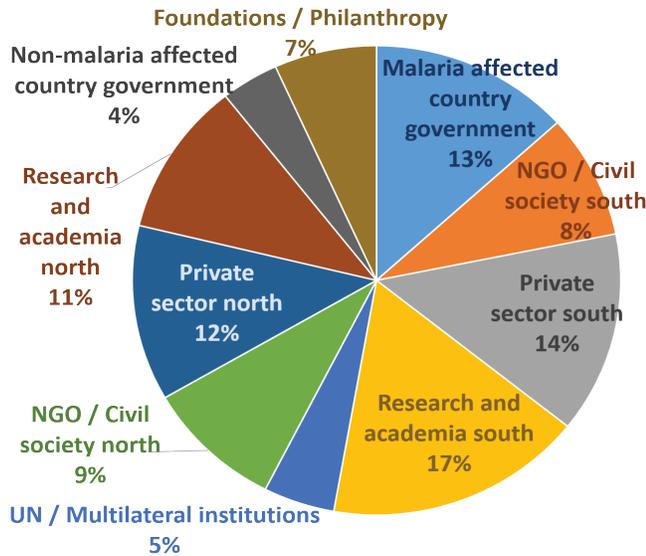


Figure 2 Constituencies at VCWG-18

## MALARIA-AFFECTED COUNTRIES

34 of the 49 represented countries were malaria-affected (see Figure 4) which accounted for 58.1% of the participants. Ghana, Tanzania, Kenya and Nigeria made up the majority.

## SPEAKERS

We counted 85 speakers (25% of the participants!) showing the active engagement of VCWG members.

## SPONSORING

The annual meeting welcomes partners and participants who join at their own cost. A registration fee covers the rental of the meeting rooms, catering and technical expenses of the annual venue.

Selected affected-country participants of the RBM VCWG-18 meeting were sponsored by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) through the GlobMal project at Swiss TPH and with the participation of 10 companies at the exhibition on vector control innovation during the meeting (Envu, Goizper Group, IVCC, MESTO, Mitsui, RAFT, SC Johnson, Swiss TPH, Syngenta, Vestergaard.

## CONSTITUENCIES

The majority of the participants were drawn from the south: research and academia (17%), governmental agencies (13%), private sector (14%) and civil society (8%). From the north, the private sector accounted for 12% of the total, followed by research and academia at 11%, civil society at 9% and foundations & philanthropy at 7% (see Figure 2).

## GENDER BALANCE

In regards to gender balance, there were 63.4% male, 36% female and 0.6% I don't prefer to answer among the participants. Figure 3 shows the comparison between genders in the different constituencies.

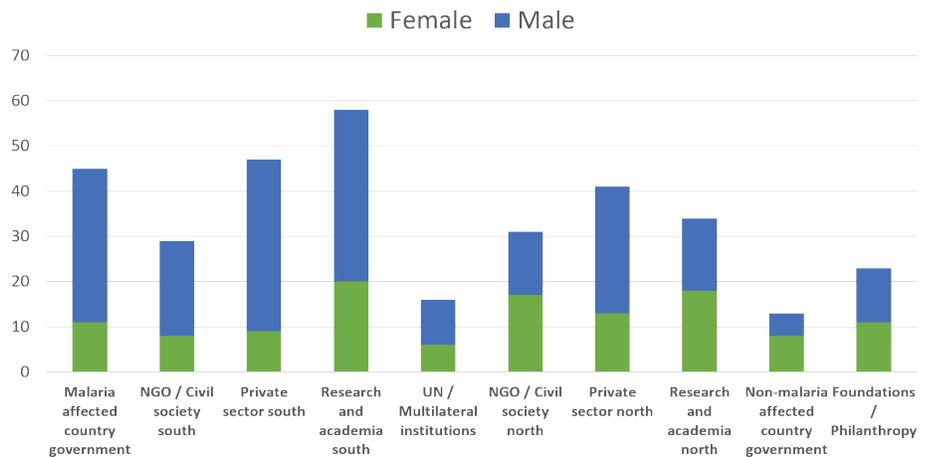


Figure 3 Gender and Constituencies at VCWG-18

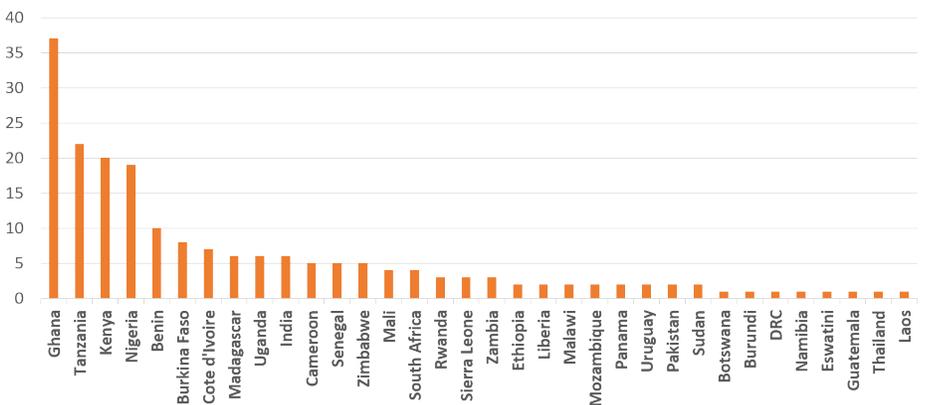


Figure 4 Malaria-affected countries at VCWG-18