

“Make development work for malaria
and malaria work for development”

The Steering Group

MSWG WORK-STREAM III –THE PATHFINDER ENDEAVOUR

4th Meeting of the RBM Multisectoral Working Group (28 – 30 June, 2021)

The Steering Group – Who are we?

- **Ahmad Raisi** – National programme manager for malaria control, Associate Professor of Epidemiology (DCD/MOH&ME), IR Iran
- **Fatima Bashir** – UNDP, Geneva (*Secretariat*)
- **Justin McBeath** – Malaria Vector Control Strategy Lead at Bayer, United Kingdom
- **Luciano Tuseo** – Mekong Malaria Elimination Coordinator, WHO Cambodia
- **Mah Talat** – Project Director, The Indus Hospital and Health network, Pakistan
- **Peter Kwehangana Mbabazi** – Finance and Multisectoral Collaboration Expert, NMCP-MoH, Uganda
- **Erik Blas** – Consultant, Denmark (*Secretariat*)

All had participated in the final review of the MSAFM document and were appointed by the MSWG Leadership

What were we supposed to do?

- To “***try, learn, and share***” in real-life situations the ideas and approaches described in the refreshed Multisectoral Action Framework for Malaria (MSAFM)
- To identify partners, tools, path-finder countries and start rolling out in 10 to 15 countries covering different geographic, epidemiologic and ecologic situations.

(RBM-MSWG 3rd annual meeting 6 – 7 February 2020)

What did we do?

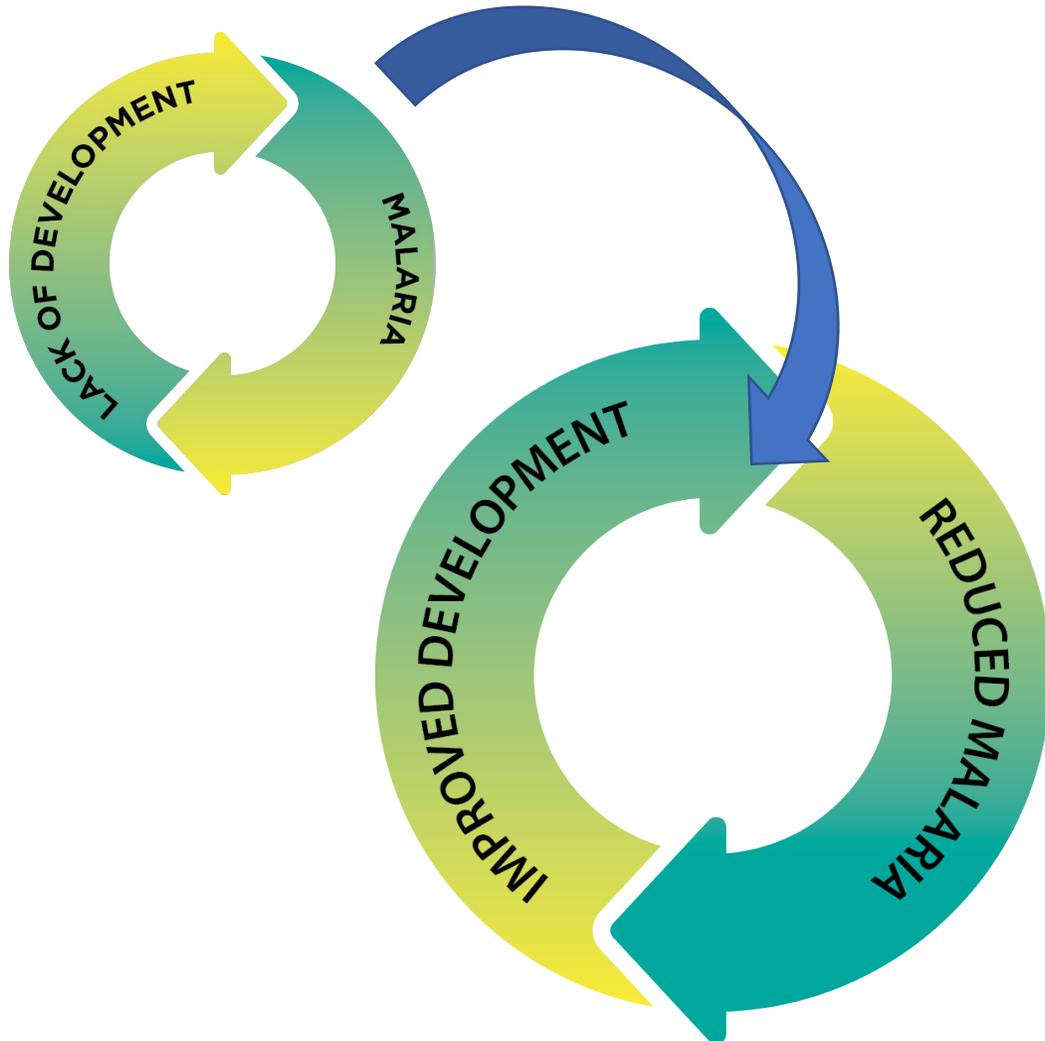
Meetings

- 7 virtual meetings of the Steering Group
- 3 virtual meetings /rounds of consultation with the MSWG Coordinator and Co-chairs
 - Approval of ToR and Membership
 - Approval of products
 - Input and guidance for way forward

Products

1. Concept Note
2. Annotated timeline until Batch 1 is on the path
3. Budget scenarios [x3] with Excel sheets
4. Malaria Pathfinder Rapid Appraisal Tool (MPRAT)

Concept – benefits and selection



'Try, learn, and share' jointly

- with collaborative partners, and
- across countries and districts

Co- and added benefits

- Primary objectives across sectors
- Control of all diseases linked with social, economic, and environmental determinants, and inequities, including Covid-19

Four criteria for district selection (using the MPRAT):

- *The hardest districts* – in terms of malaria persistence and development challenges
- *The best people* – i.e., the strongest District Pathfinder Champions
- *The strongest local government commitment* – expressed in terms of a written statement
- *The widest diversity of contexts* – e.g., variety of underlying causes for malaria persistence

5 STEPS

TO BECOMING MALARIA-SMART

**SUSTAINABLE
ELIMINATION**



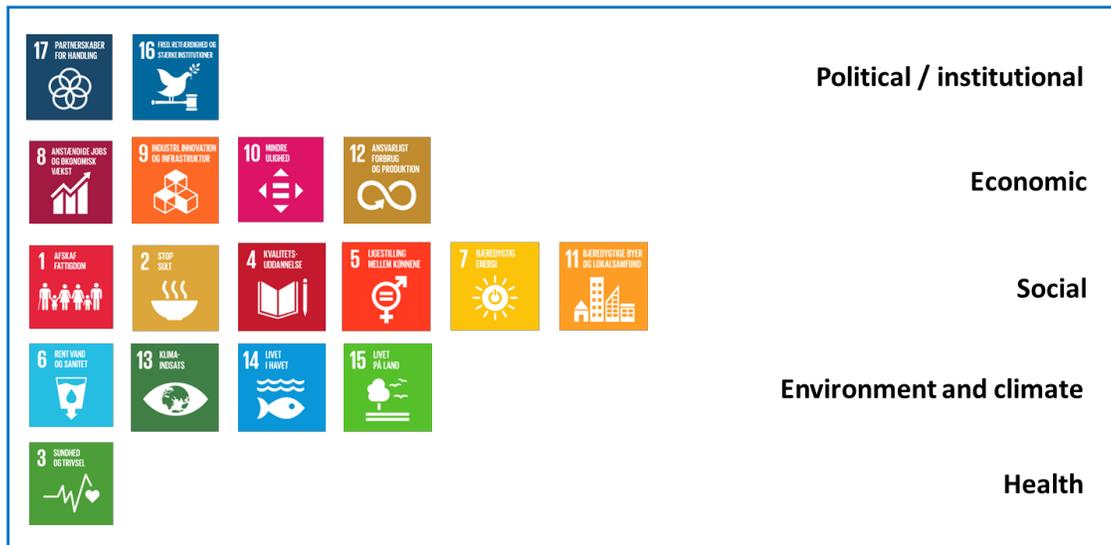
Indicators – monitor, action, and accountability

Proxy for impact and SDGs

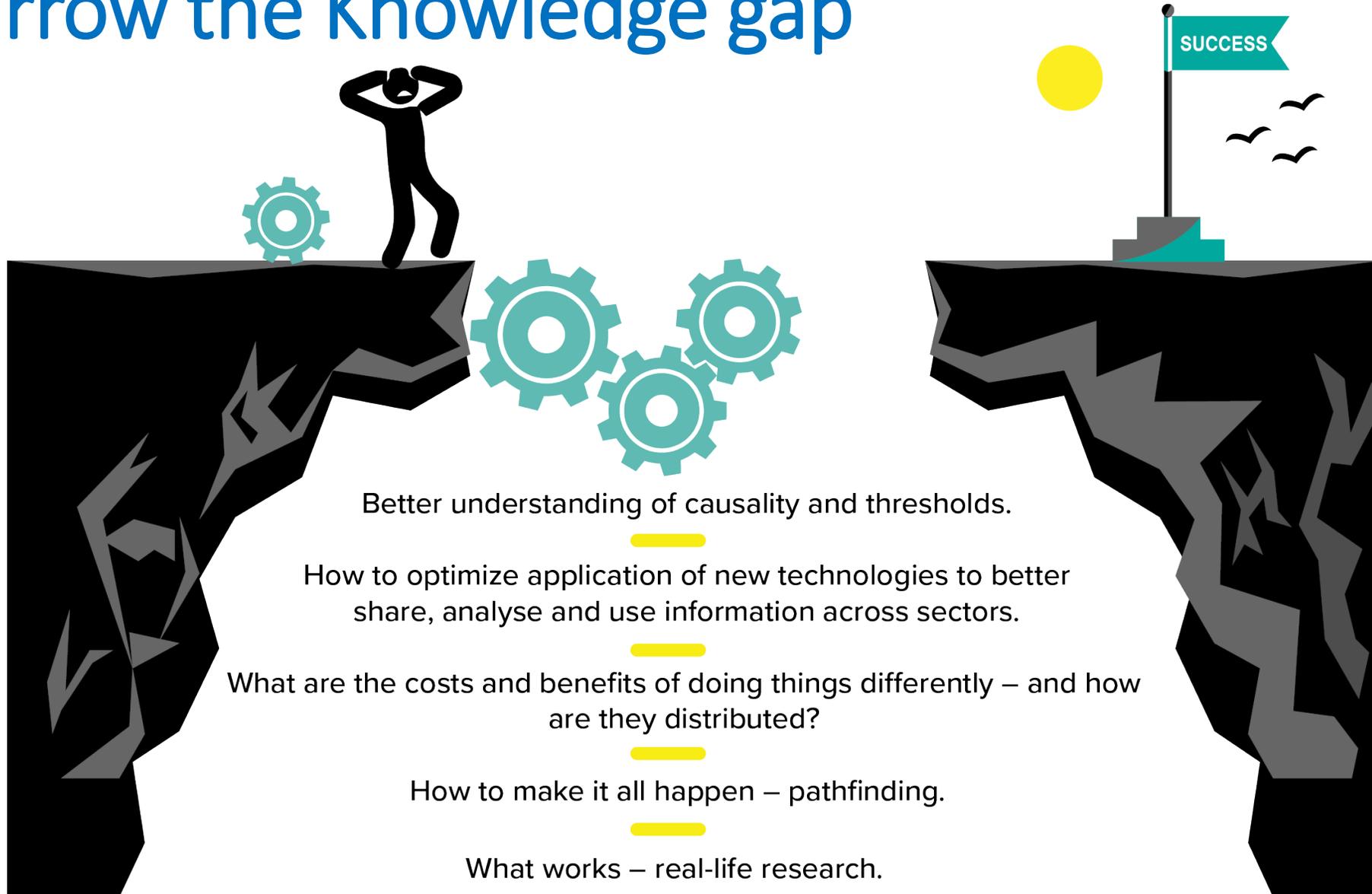
- Malaria influences all SDGs and all SDGs influence malaria
- Release potentials for synergies and co-benefits

Elements

- Malaria specific indicators – as per NMCP / GMP
- Two key indicators per SDG
- Citizens
- Local authorities
- Locally present development partners
- International development partners
- National statistics authorities
- Research partners



Narrow the Knowledge gap



Better understanding of causality and thresholds.



How to optimize application of new technologies to better share, analyse and use information across sectors.



What are the costs and benefits of doing things differently – and how are they distributed?



How to make it all happen – pathfinding.



What works – real-life research.

So ... where did we stop and why?

Where?

- Ready to go – since December 2020
- Right now orphaned

Why?

- Incremental rather than lateral thinking [i.e., *within-the-box* \ \ *of out-of-the-box*]
- Silos, competition, and turfs (*organizations and interest groups*)
- Lack of courage to "***try, learn, and share***"

Way forward

Next steps

1. Seed funds (~\$150K) to
 - Meet and engage with core partners
 - Launch with missions and wider partners
 - Tools development (*workshop, limited new and adaptation of existing tools*)
 - Initial set-up of social media approach
 - Mobilize resources for 4Runner Batch-1 roll-out
 - Rally for path-finder countries
 - Provide back-office
2. Batch-1 Roll-out (*two, three or more 4Runner countries*)
 - e.g., Great Lakes Cross Border Malaria Initiative

We ask the MSWG to

- Request UNDP to provide a *structural home* for the Pathfinder Endeavour
- Request UNDP and RBM for *shared parenting* of the Pathfinder Endeavour

Thank you

Ahmad, Fatima, Justin, Luciano, Mah, Peter, and Erik