

# Malaria Situation in South-East Asia Region: Country Reports



## Thailand

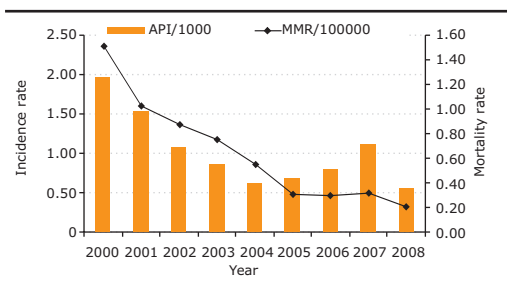
Malaria has been a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in Thailand for many decades. Around 47.4 million people are at risk of malaria. All the four types of malaria are prevalent in the country. The border areas with Myanmar and Cambodia are worst affected. Non-immune migrant workers occupied with gem mining in forests, logging, agriculture and construction are the most vulnerable and most affected. High mobility of migrant and cross-border population also encourages the spread of multi-drug resistant of *P. falciparum* malaria from the Thai-Cambodia border to the Thai-Myanmar border, which poses more difficulties.

The intensive malaria control programme in Thailand during the past five decades has resulted in considerable reduction in malaria incidence. Confirmed cases declined from 81692 in 2000 to 26,150 cases in 2008. *P. falciparum* proportions were around 50% of the confirmed cases. All reported cases are examined microscopically or by RDT. Malaria epidemics occurred periodically in high risk areas, especially along the international borders of Thailand and Myanmar and Thailand and Cambodia. ITNs /LLINs and selective indoor residual spray (IRS) are the main vector control measures employed. Thailand was the first country in the Region to adopt ACT. The programme performance is good and the malaria situation is improving. The NMCP mainly financed by the government funds and by GFATM.

### Malaria situation at a glance: 2008

Total population	: 63.3 million
Population in malarious areas	: 47.4 million
Number of Lab confirmed malaria cases	: 26,150
<i>P. falciparum</i> proportion	: 47%
Number of probable malaria cases	: 0
Number of deaths due to malaria	: 101 (Reported)
Cases treated with ACTs	: 12,554
No of LLINs Distributed	: 380,890
No. of effective LLINs+ITNs (cumulative) availability	: 447,167
Population protected with ITNs	: 1.32 million
Population protected with IRS	: 650,742
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No epidemics reported in 2008.</li> <li>• Supported by Global Fund in Rounds 2 and 7</li> </ul>	

### Reported malaria incidence (confirmed cases) and malaria mortality in Thailand, 2000 - 2008



### Achievement and initiatives in 2008

- Collaboration between the partners and stakeholders at all levels has been strengthened and the people and community empowered for malaria prevention and control.
- The establishment of malaria posts in the remote areas and hard-to-reach villages has increased access to malaria early diagnosis and prompt effective treatment among vulnerable people.
- Standard IEC materials have been developed.
- The Malaria Early Detection System has been developed for monitoring malaria epidemics at the early stage.

### Programme goals and targets

To reduce malaria morbidity and mortality until the disease is no longer a public health problem in the country.

Targets	Baseline data in 2005	2010
Reduction in malaria morbidity in population at risk of malaria	4.1/1000	<2 /1000
Reduction in hospital base severe malaria case fatality rate	NA.	< 15% by 2011
Control of malaria outbreaks at ward level	NA.	Within six weeks after detection
% of people at high risk of malaria sleeping under bednets	NA.	80% 2011
% of malaria cases confirmed by microscope and RDT	NA.	80% in 2011
% of public health facilities providing appropriate treatment	NA.	80% in 2011

### Issues and challenges

- Occurrence of multi-drug resistant *P. falciparum*
- Scaling up the malaria control measures and effective interventions at all endemic villages focusing on both Thai and non-Thai population.
- Capacity building of local health personnel in malaria prevention and control.
- Problem of malaria control in the areas along the southern border provinces urgently.

### Partners and donors

- Kenan Institute Asia Foundation
- Global Fund
- ADB and WHO
- JICA
- USAID

### Best practices and success stories

- Collaboration and partnership with all stakeholders at district, provincial and national levels including the community.
- Establishment of malaria posts in remote and hard-to-reach villages.
- Standard IEC materials in appropriate languages.
- Malaria Early Warning System helped in responding to disease outbreaks in a timely manner.