



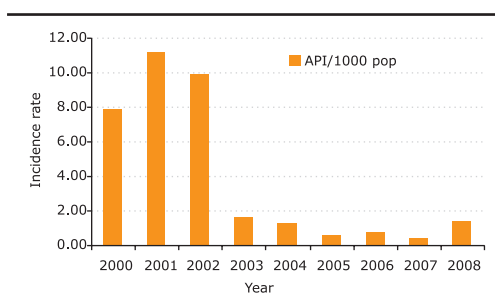
Malaria Situation in South-East Asia Region: Country Reports

DPR Korea

Malaria was eradicated from DPR Korea in 1970s. However, it was re-introduced in the country through the southern border in 1998 as malario-genic conditions persist there in the form of epidemics. A substantial increase in malaria incidence was seen in all seven provinces and two municipalities. Currently, 50% of the population of DPR Korea is at risk. May to October is the peak transmission period. Only *P. vivax* malaria is prevalent with around 16,989 cases reported in 2008. However, the confirmative diagnosis rate is very low. IRS and ITNs are used as a vector control measure along with early diagnosis and prompt treatment. In high risk areas, mass treatment with Primaquine was observed to prevent and control malaria. The country is showing good progress in malaria control and there has been a steep decline in confirmed malaria cases as well as in probable malaria cases enabling country to reach the pre-elimination phase. Malaria control is financed mainly by the government and the International Red Cross Federation.

Malaria situation at a glance: 2008	
Total population	: 23.76 million
Population in malarious areas	: 11.9 million
Number of Lab confirmed malaria cases	: 16,989
<i>P. falciparum</i> proportion	: 0%
Number of probable malaria cases	: 6,422
Number of deaths due to malaria	: 0
Cases treated with ACTs	: 0
No of LLINs Distributed	: 0
No. of effective LLINs+ITNs (cumulative) availability	: 240,000
No. of population Protected with ITNs / LLINs	: 0.60 million
Population protected with IRS	: 0
- Supported by GFATM	
- Reached to pre-elimination phase	

Reported malaria incidence (confirmed cases) in DPR Korea, 2000 - 2008



Programme goals and targets

Reduction in malaria morbidity until the disease is no longer a public health problem in the country.

Targets	Baseline data in 2005	2010
To reduce the morbidity by 30% of the rate in 2005	0.98 / 1000	0.67/ 1000

Partners and donors

- WHO
- GFATM
- Korea Red Cross Federation
- Republic of Korea

Achievement and initiatives in 2008

- Microscopes and reagents provided in 610 health facilities in the endemic areas.
- 72% of confirmed cases received radical treatment.
- 51% of households in risk areas covered with ITNs.
- 10,000 copies of health education modules for prevention of malaria printed and distributed to health workers in five provinces.
- Microscopes distributed to the malaria-endemic areas and 610 lab personnel trained.

Issues and challenges

- Insufficiency of anti-malarials.
- Lack of microscopes and inadequate skill of laboratory technicians at PHC level.
- Lack of availability of insecticides.
- Lack of trained manpower in malaria epidemiology and entomology.

Best practices and success stories

- Dramatic reduction in malaria cases in high-risk areas due to mass Primaquine chemotherapy.