

MALARIA CHAMPIONS OF THE AMERICAS



Organización
Panamericana
de la Salud



Organización
Mundial de la Salud

OFICINA REGIONAL PARA LAS **Américas**

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MALARIA CHAMPIONS OF THE AMERICAS

Seeks to identify, celebrate, and provide avenues to emulate best practices and success stories in malaria prevention, control, elimination and prevention of re-establishment



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Malaria Champions of the Americas

- Conceived and launched on November 6, 2008 during the 2nd annual commemoration of Malaria Day in the Americas,
- Malaria Champions of the Americas honors innovative efforts that have significantly contributed towards overcoming the challenges of malaria in communities, countries, the Region, and the globe.
- The recognition is conferred primarily to implementers and provides them and their respective projects and institutions opportunities for capacity building, an expanded network for technical collaboration, and the distinction of being role models and inspirations for the global battle against malaria.
- The annual search for nominees commences on April 25th, as the Region's gesture of solidarity in the commemoration of World Malaria Day
- Since 2009, twenty seven Malaria Champions of the Americas have been recognized. They have come from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Suriname.



Prize / Award:

- The top finalists (one representative each) are invited to participate in a regional event that commemorates Malaria Day in the Americas (November 6th) where the Malaria Champion of the Americas will be honored.
- A documentary is produced about each of the top finalists profiling their achievements and efforts in overcoming the challenges of malaria.
- The Top Malaria Champion of the Americas receives:
 - Opportunity to participate in three PAHO capacity-building trainings for malaria prevention and control
 - US\$2,500 funding support for malaria-related capacity-building efforts (e.g., staff training / education; research; project proposal development; or other activities that enhance skills and abilities to achieve goals and targets)
 - Commemorative plaque; and
 - Opportunity to be featured in various communications platforms of PAHO, UN Foundation, GWU-MISPH, JHU-CCP, FIU-GHC, and ASTMH as a best practice story on malaria.

Who may be nominated this year?

- ***The focus of the 2018 search is on malaria programs or efforts which demonstrate significant emphasis on capacity building as essential components of malaria elimination and prevention of re-establishment.***
- Ideal candidates for this year's search should be able to:
 - Demonstrate initiative to address the challenges of ensuring adequate capacities and infrastructure are developed and maintained aimed at containing malaria transmission and guarding against the re-establishment of the disease.
 - These initiatives may include the strengthening of malaria program integration to the primary health care system; establishment of quality assurance systems; technical support to train researchers, health workers, or affected communities; inter-country exchanges; and innovative courses and training programs relevant to malaria, among others.
 - Activities should be on-going or completed within the last year
 - Candidates must have an outstanding body of work that merits distinction of being role models for malaria work in their respective countries, the Region and the world
 - Exclusion criteria: nominated activities must not be projects carried out directly by any of the Malaria Champions co-presenters

What qualities are we looking for?

- **Diagnosis-Treatment-Investigation and Response (DTI-R):** Exhibits use of the PAHO / WHO best practice in malaria prevention, control, elimination, and prevention of re-establishment, particularly in terms of DTI-R (diagnosis, treatment, investigation and response).
- **Innovation:** Demonstrates the use of approaches to foster equity and increase the quality and uptake of services. This could include use of integrated service delivery; community-based strategies, behavior change communication efforts, efforts to combine treatment with prevention, integration of gender, ethnicity, human rights, health promotion, primary health care, and social protection frameworks, etc., to promote malaria control, elimination, prevention of re-establishment of local malaria transmission, and other health outcomes.
- **Collaboration:** Fosters partnerships with stakeholders that fortify and broaden the scope and reach of activities.
- **Impact:** Demonstrate measurable contribution to decreasing malaria-related morbidity and mortality in the community, country, region or globe.



Journey to find and celebrate the Champions

Selection Process and Calendar of Events:

- Nomination Period: April 25th (World Malaria Day) – June 25th (M), 2018
- Screening Committee Meeting / Selection of Top 3 Finalists: July 19 (TH), 2018
- Filming / Production of Mini-documentaries: August to September, 2018
- Final Judging: October 11 (TH), 2018
- Public Premiere of Short Films / Awarding: November 6 (T), 2018 (Malaria Day in the Americas)
- Year-round communications / media efforts to showcase the work of the Champions



Our Malaria Champions of the Americas for 2017



Malaria Day

In the Americas

End malaria for good

Binational Plan for Malaria Elimination in the Hispaniola Island - Dominican Republic and Haiti

Haiti & Dominican Republic

Following being the initial sites by the Carter Center and other partners, Haiti and the Dominican Republic are working to bring malaria to zero through a binational approach to malaria control and elimination.

The binational efforts to success involved building surveillance and harmonizing malaria diagnosis, treatment, and surveillance interventions across the border communities of this country and together for a more holistic, evidence-based approach to malaria control. This includes strengthening surveillance of malaria data including integration of case data, effectively engaged the private sector, traditional healers, and religious institutions, and ensuring that surveillance data is shared for better understanding and response. Community-based approaches are being developed to reach every district and ensure that malaria is not a disease that is being primarily seen in rural, remote areas.

The binational approach has the goal to achieve elimination in the Dominican Republic and Haiti by 2020, with a focus on the most vulnerable populations and ensuring that malaria is not a disease that is being primarily seen in rural, remote areas.



Malaria Day

In the Americas

End malaria for good

Project Eirurepé - "From Chaos to Surveillance" Eirurepé Municipal Health Department, Eirurepé, Amazonas, Brazil

With the objective of ensuring gradual and sustainable reduction in malaria cases and associated morbidity and mortality, the Municipality of Eirurepé in Amazonas, Brazil engaged in a process of building a solid and well-structured system that enables universal access to malaria control interventions.

The municipality and local health departments, through the development of a solid and integrated surveillance system, have been able to improve the quality of diagnosis, treatment, and surveillance, and to ensure that the population has access to the services they need.

The work of this champion included the installation of malaria control units in approximately 8000 homes in 100% of the territory, the implementation of a surveillance system, and the implementation of a community-based approach to malaria control.



Malaria Day

In the Americas

End malaria for good

Parque Nacional do Jaú (PNJ) Amazonas Project Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (IOC/FIOCRUZ) Brazil

The original intention of this project was to understand the epidemiology of malaria in the Jaú National Park, with very high malaria transmission. The project began by conducting the seroprevalence of malaria antibodies, risk factors, and the impact of interventions.

Following the results of the seroprevalence, interventions that strengthen the capacity of community health workers, health promoters, and other community members, and the implementation of interventions in the community and the Ministry of Health.

During the last intervention, the results have shown a reduction in the number of malaria cases, and the implementation of interventions in the community and the Ministry of Health.



Links to Malaria Champions Webpage and Videos

Malaria Champions of the Americas Webpage: <https://www.paho.org/campeonesmalaria/en/>

Short Versions

- HAITI and DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Binational Plan for Malaria Elimination in Hispaniola Island – Ouanaminthe-Dajabon Project: <https://youtu.be/Ugj4IQKjvIA> (3 min. 08 sec.)
- BRAZIL: Project Eirunepé – “From Chaos to Surveillance”: <https://youtu.be/tOHUcl22PE0> (3 mins 43 sec.)
- BRAZIL: Parque Nacional do Jaú (PNJ) Amazonas Project. Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Fundacao Oswaldo Cruz (IOC/FIOCRUZ): <https://youtu.be/77AJCCMwfEk> (3 min. 22 sec.)

Full Versions

- HAITI and DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Binational Plan for Malaria Elimination in Hispaniola Island – Ouanaminthe-Dajabon Project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tVqyAxn4N0> (9 mins. 06 sec.)
- BRAZIL: Project Eirunepé – “From Chaos to Surveillance”: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQl0XI_pjvk (8 mins 30 sec.)
- BRAZIL: Parque Nacional do Jaú (PNJ) Amazonas Project. Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Fundacao Oswaldo Cruz (IOC/FIOCRUZ): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFktB6HxGK0> (7 mins. 55 sec.)



Thank you!

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