ENSURING THE CONTINUITY OF MALARIA SERVICES IN THE COVID-19 CONTEXT

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Par Impact Santé Afrique (ISA) | Secretariat CS4ME
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FOREWORD

Within a short period, CS4ME has become a major global force in coordinating the Civil Society and Community inputs into Policies and sustained advocacy into the global and national responses to Malaria. To achieve this, CS4ME had engaged in a set of strategic activities towards achieving the developmental objectives empowering civil society organizations, advancing leadership and strategic partnerships at national and regional levels, and supporting social accountability and shared learning amongst CSOs.

The ‘2020 Annual Report’ captures some of the work done and results obtained within the year. And the fact that these were done in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic makes the outcomes more significant. The activities carried out and the results obtained were owed to the generous technical and financial contributions of our partners. Your various dimensions of Assistance to CS4ME have made the results possible and improved civil society coordination and service delivery to communities. We are extremely grateful and count on your continuing meaningful collaborations and support to CS4ME and member organizations.

We also wish to thank the CS4ME members spread across 48 countries, for your enthusiastic participation in activities and engagements. Your timely responses, technical grasp of issues and wisdom have contributed to the results achieved.

The Contributions of the Leadership Teams, made up of the Steering Committee and the Working Groups need to be acknowledged and appreciated. You gave time and significant efforts to guiding the affairs of the Network and your efforts are appreciated.

At the heart of the operations of CS4ME is the CS4ME Secretariat. For your efforts that led to the achievements of these results, we wish to heartily thank you, the hardworking and dedicated Team of Management, Staff and Volunteers. You have done a great job in 2020 and we can only encourage you to keep it up in the ensuing years.

Finally, we commend this ‘2020 Annual Report’ to all Malaria Stakeholders for use and constant reference.

Ayo Ipinmoye,
ACOMIN, Nigeria/ Steering Committee Member.
INTRODUCTION

CS4ME is a global platform of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) committed to ensuring that malaria control programmes are effective, sustainable, community based, human rights-based, equitable, innovative, adequately funded and inclusive. CS4ME was launched in 2019 during the World Malaria Day in Paris. Today, CS4ME has 347 members from 48 countries (Africa and South Asia). Any civil society organization and local base community organization active in malaria can apply to become a member.

To date, a number of key activities have been carried out to by IMPACT SANTE AFRIQUE to increase the commitment and participation of CS4ME members in the global fight for malaria elimination. This work was possible because of your collaboration and partnership. We thank our partners for supporting our mission.

Some of these activities include:

- Assessment of the needs of malaria CSOs in the top 10+1 highest malaria-affected countries
- Recruitment and engagement of new Steering committee members
- Development and validation of the CS4ME strategic plan (2021-2025)
- Development and validation of the CS4ME communications plan (2021-2023)
- Elaboration of CS4ME members communication and advocacy tools for malaria CSOs
- Organization of training of more than 10 webinar trainings for CS4ME members (malaria and gender, CCM Engagement, community monitoring, malaria prevention/mosquito nets etc.)
- Increase malaria CSOs participation in global and regional malaria initiatives (Global Fund committees, RBM committees, WHO revised malaria strategy etc.)
- Analysis of Community Right and Gender inclusion in Global fund Malaria Concept Notes in 7 countries (Niger, Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda Tanzania, Cameroon and CAR)
- Development of the CS4ME position statement on the new Global Fund strategy
- Engagement of CS4ME members in advocacy for community engagement in the new Global Fund strategy
- Increase collaboration and experience sharing among malaria CSOs
- Assessment among CSOs on the impact of Covid-19 on malaria
- Recruitment of new CS4ME members in 2020
- Strengthening Civil Society capacity on Health Financing, UHC and budget advocacy
- Strategic meeting of CSOs on advocacy
- Documentation of the impact of civil society in the fight against malaria and its involvement in Global Fund programmes: Elaboration of cases study
- Production of mini videos on the role of civil society in the fight against malaria
- Development of the ISA BMGF strategic advocacy plan 2021-2024
ESTABLISHING THE CS4ME PLATFORM

a. Vision, mission and objectives

Vision
CS4ME’s vision is a malaria free world by 2030.

Mission
Its mission is to make malaria control programs and interventions more effective, sustainable, equitable, innovative, inclusive of civil society, community-centered, human rights and gender-based and adequately funded.

Objectives
The main goal of CS4ME is to create a global and unified network of CSOs involved in the malaria elimination fight mainly from malaria-affected countries, establish strategic partnerships and increase the influence of civil society and communities in malaria high-level decision-making spaces.

General objectives of the project:

- Empower CSOs to be drivers of change at their own scale and implement sustainable advocacy campaigns within their environment
- Advance CSOs leadership and strategic partnerships at national and regional levels
- Support social accountability, shared learning and use of information to advance progress towards malaria elimination in Africa

Specific objectives of the project:

- Strengthen the presence of local malaria voices in decision making spaces at the global, regional and national levels
- Prioritize the malaria agenda on national and global action plans using vocal and active global, regional, national, and local malaria advocates
- Accelerate South-South collaboration through global and regional CSOs working groups.

b. CS4ME website and social networks

The CS4ME website can be accessed using the link: www.cs4me.org as well as on social media networks like Facebook and Twitter. These social networks pages allow CS4ME to be present on the internet and thus, reach a great number of people. They are used for sharing key information’s. Each Monday, the secretariat CS4ME present new CS4ME member: what they do, where the are based to increase their visibility of their actions and also encourage CS4ME mebers to share their country activities for the CS4ME social media pages. More than 20 CSOs where presented.
CS4ME Leadership team

CS4ME is managed by a Leadership team comprising of:

- The Steering Committee (SC),
- The Secretariat,
- The 3 working group Leaders.

Steering committee members commitment

The main duty of the steering committee is to provide strategic guidance on CS4ME work by preparing annual work plan and supporting CS4ME advocacy mission. To achieve this, a call for new members of the steering committee members was launched in February 2020 calling on African civil society representatives. We had a total of 54 applications from several countries. After a first selection by the current steering committee members, 5 candidate profiles were selected. The CS4ME Secretariat interviewed these 5 candidates and the 3 new steering committee members were selected coming from Nigeria, Republic of the Congo and Guinea. The leadership team list of members was published in May 2020.

The Steering Committee members hold meetings to coordinate the activities carried out by CS4ME. So far, three meetings have been held this year online via the zoom.us application: the first took place in February 2020, the second meeting was held in June 2020 and the third on December 2020.

Keys points of these three meetings:

The following table summarizes the highlights from these meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The first meeting which held on February 6th, 2020</th>
<th>1 Overview the membership of CS4ME &amp; launch recruitment campaigns of new members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Preparing the recruitment of new Steering committee members</td>
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<td>3 India /Korea RBM/CS4ME consultation meeting update</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4 Review of planned CS4ME activities 2020</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The second meeting held on June 4th, 2020</th>
<th>1 Introduction of the new Steering Committee members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Reflection on activities for WMD 2020</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 Update on CS4ME current activities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4 Updates from SC members on malaria issues in their countries/regions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>The second meeting held on December 9th, 2020</th>
<th>1 CS4ME Communication Plan and briefing of members</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Latest CS4ME activities: WHO Consultation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 CS4ME Working group</td>
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Working groups members commitment

The working groups are:

- Group I: CCM Engagement
- Group II: Community Rights and Gender in Malaria Control
- Group III: Resource Mobilization and Sustainable Financing for Malaria Control.

Each working group is led by one Chair and one Co-chair. In February 2020, a call for application for working group members was launched. Several applications were received. These working groups are made up of CS4ME members from several countries/regions working together on key CS4ME activities (Advocacy, Development of policy papers and statements, Awareness raising, Data collection, Monitoring and Evaluation of programs, Country analysis of problems, Development of solutions and good practices with a focus on community engagement).

They work in synergy on short-term CS4ME projects to ensure greater representation of different communities/countries and to ensure that the needs of malaria-affected populations are better addressed. The members of the working groups decide on their priority topics with accordance to their key themes.

Today the members in each group are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of members in each group</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>Group 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English groups</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French groups</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>22</td>
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The first project of these working groups was to Elaborate the CS4ME statement for World Malaria Day available on the CS4ME website found [here](#).

CS4ME Secretariat

It is currently run by Impact Santé Afrique (ISA) located in Yaoundé – Cameroon. The Secretariat is responsible for the planning, coordination, execution of activities and administrative support of the CS4ME. The secretariat is in charge of identifying, bringing in and integrating members; enforcing and implementing the content of this charter; and send warnings in case of violation of the group’s charter. The secretariat can also dismiss members if necessary. The Secretariat is also the administrator of the WhatsApp groups and social networks of the CS4ME platform.
WhatsApp groups

CS4ME aims to be a platform for exchange and sharing. Thus, it encourages members to work together to promote the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of people-centered policies. It also shares information and expertise on malaria related issues to ensure adequate outreach and participation of all relevant groups. To achieve this, CS4ME uses WhatsApp to connect all key players. There is a WhatsApp group for Anglophone Africa, one group for Francophone Africa and one group for Asia. In these groups, all members share experiences with its language, from their activities with photos, videos and then share new relevant information about the fight against malaria.

d. Civil Society involvement for CS4ME

In 2020, several CSOs joined the CS4ME platform. On December 2019, the network had 129 members in 37 countries. To date, the network has 347 members from 48 countries in Africa and south Asia meaning more than 200 CSOs have joined the network. This is due to the different communication campaigns launched and coordinated by the CS4ME network on different platforms. This further demonstrates the commitment of civil society to come together and build a high-impact network for malaria elimination.

III CONDUCTING STUDIES TO ENSURE EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACHES

CS4ME carried out 3 studies on Civil Society Organizations.

a. Assessing the current state of the needs of malaria CSOs in 10+1 High Burden High Impact (HBHI) countries

Between 2019 and 2020, Impact Santé Afrique (ISA) conducted a survey of 200 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in 10+1 High Burden High Impact (HBHI) countries, which together account for 70% of global malaria deaths. These 11 countries, 10 of which are in Africa, are: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania and India. This survey aimed to assess the status, needs, strengths and weaknesses of CSOs engaged in the fight against malaria so that, we strengthen their capacities to ensure better access to malaria services and care, particularly among vulnerable populations.

This survey reveal key results which will contribute to better define the type of support for CSOs fighting malaria and contribute to improving the effectiveness of malaria programmes as follows:

- **CSO strengths**: The collaboration between CSOs with health services and health workers, skills in community mobilization, good experience in implementing malaria control activities and good knowledge of the field
• **CSOs weaknesses**: The lack of skills in mobilizing financial resources, insufficient material, technical, financial and sometimes human resources, technical skills and difficulties in intervening in areas that are difficult to access.

• **Capacity building needs of CSOs on**: Setting up an effective malaria control project, access to malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment services, community mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, operational management and implementation of activities.

• **CSO suggestions for improving malaria control interventions**: Foster an enabling environment (facilitate more collaboration with Ministries of Health and each other); Improve access to malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment services; Improve governance and policy environment; develop research tools and innovation.

**b. Assessing the CSOs engagement in the fight against malaria in the COVID-19 context**

The COVID-19 pandemic, which started in December 2019 in China, has spread very rapidly across the world, affecting the fight against other diseases such as malaria and HIV. Despite the response plans put in place by countries, the commitment of Civil Society Organizations to fight diseases at the community level has been negatively impacted. The objective of this survey was to assess the effects of COVID-19 on the malaria control activities carried out by CSOs. It was conducted online and involved about 100 civil society organizations based in Cameroon, Niger, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Mali and Burkina Faso.

At the end of the survey, 71.7% of CSOs had stopped providing some community-based malaria control services because of the occurrence of COVID-19. Many of them had adapted their implementation strategies to fit into the measures taken by governments to limit the spread of coronavirus. They also highlighted lessons learned from the impact of COVID-19 on the conduct of their activities, particularly through advocacy and NICTs, and consequently on the continuity of malaria control services and care delivery in the COVID-19 context. The results of this survey made it possible to formulate recommendations and propose appropriate solutions to guarantee the resilience and ensure the continuity of malaria control services and care delivered by CSOs even in the context of a health crisis.

The study revealed the following facts about the continuity of CSO malaria control programs:

• The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on malaria control activities has been greatly felt because even after changing their approach so they can continue providing specific services, 15.09% of CSOs had to suspend their activities either because of reduced mobility and interactions (50.94%) or lack of financial resources (39.62%) to adapt to the context of the fight against COVID-19.

• In terms of organizational capacity of CSOs, the percentage of women among permanent staff varies from a minimum of 2% to a maximum of 100%, with an average of 45.4% of women in CSOs.

• Approximately 90.57% of CSOs reported that they work with medical staff during COVID-19.

• 86.79% of CSOs reported providing services during COVID-19.

In light of these findings about the discontinuity in CSO provision of malaria control services due to COVID-19, the following recommendations were made:

- Strengthen the capacity of CSOs regarding the use of NICTs for awareness raising, so that, we continue to reach the maximum number of targets, even in a context of limited movement and lockdown.

- Strengthen the capacity of CSOs in Early Warning Systems, so that they can detect, respond to and control epidemics for a better community response.

- Accompany CSOs in mobilizing funds, in order to increase their chances of accessing funding.

- Involve CSOs in the development of malaria control programs and strategies.
A study was conducted to analyze how community rights and gender issues were included in the concept notes. This analysis was conducted in 7 countries: Niger, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda and Tanzania. This was done in order to highlight the gender and human rights sensitive interventions proposed by the countries in each program or module of the concept note and also to identify the missing interventions.

Overall, this study shows that efforts have been made by all countries to integrate gender and human rights issues into their malaria concept notes. The programs with strengths are: Vector control; Malaria case management; Specific prevention interventions; and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)/Behavior Change Communication (BCC). Some of the programs requiring strengthening are: health information management and monitoring and evaluation systems; program management; and human resources for health, including community health workers. To promote better integration of gender and human rights in the concept notes, it would be necessary to:

- Train all actors involved in the development of malaria concept notes on the integration of gender and human rights in malaria programs:
- Carry out a gender analysis prior to the development phase of the malaria concept note in countries that have not yet done so («Malaria Matchbox» can be a useful tool for this analysis)
- Develop a Malaria, Gender and Human Rights Toolkit

IV LAUNCHING THE CS4ME STRATEGIC PLANS

a. Development and validation of the high level CS4ME strategic plan (2021-2025)

In March 2020, a call for applications was launched to recruit a consultant who will develop the CS4ME strategic plan 2021-2025. The selected consultant consulted with key actors in the fight against malaria (CSOs representatives, international consultants, malaria experts etc.) to gain insights on how to orient the CS4ME strategic plan. After this, a draft plan was made and submitted to the CS4ME Secretariat and Steering Committee for review.

On September 4th, 2020, a bilingual meeting was organized online to validate this plan with the CS4ME members. The recommendations were made and after considering the feedback from members, the plan was approved. The high level CS4ME strategic plan 2021-2025 was then validated and shared with all CS4ME members.
The strategic objectives of the CS4ME strategic plan:
1. Strengthen CS4ME member capacity and commitment to achieve malaria elimination
2. Build civil society influence with CCMs/NMCPs/NMEPs in at least 11 countries
3. Demonstrate the capacity and impact of civil society in at least 5 countries
4. Deepen CS4ME’s advocacy presence and member capacity
5. Advocate for investing in Civil Society for malaria elimination
6. Strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of CS4ME’s governance.

Note: The next step is to develop a detailed work plan from this strategic plan.

b. Development and validation of the CS4ME communication plan

Impact Santé Afrique (ISA), in its role as the secretariat of the Civil Society for Malaria Elimination platform (CS4ME), has worked on a communication plan extending over the period 2021 – 2023. It includes internal and external communication actions to reinforce its commitment towards its members, partners, governance and boost its image with other target audience so that, it realizes its vision.

The main purpose of this communication plan is to program relevant and effective actions to meet:
1. The specific objective of creating a Civil Society for malaria elimination platform, i.e. to strengthen the voices of CSOs involved in the fight against malaria, to maintain malaria as a priority in health programs and to promote South-South collaboration.
2. The specific objectives of the CS4ME strategic plan for the period 2021 – 2025

As at present, many communication tools are already developed to support this communication plan:
- flyer of CS4ME membership (African English speaking, African French-speaking, Asia), flyer describing « Who we are? », A Power point template, A Roll up banner, An Email Banner, Letter head paper, Mouse pads, Tote bags, Computer stickers, CS4ME member charter, A welcome letter, Member certificate, Membership banner for email, Partnership Flyers, Pins.

Other actions of this communication plan are in progress such as: Development of new communication tools and a new process to engage CS4ME members. A bilingual webinar was held on December 10th, 2020 to present the first tools to CS4ME members.
The speakers presented the following internal communication tools:

1) The welcome note
2) The presentation brochure
3) The membership agreement
4) The certificate of membership
5) The poster 40 X 60 cm
6) The email banner

The next step is to put in place a strategy to disseminate all these tools, in order to enhance the credibility of CS4ME as an official and institutional institution.

V STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF CS4ME MEMBERS

The capacity of CSO representatives was strengthened through webinars organized by ISA (CS4ME Secretariat) in collaboration with partners. Flyers were designed and disseminated through many platforms (email, WhatsApp, Facebook). The CSOs targeted were mainly CS4ME members and any other civil society representatives from the public. These training webinars addressed several topics on: Strategic Design, Global Fund process and Country Coordinating Mechanism engagement, Community Right and gender and Community Led Monitoring, malaria prevention/mosquitos nets etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinar training on MALARIA &amp; GENDER:</strong> Integrating gender in malaria responses: What you should know</td>
<td>The Global Fund, EANNASO, WOMEN4GLOBALFUND, Plan Cameroon, Breakthrough Action/PMI</td>
<td>June 16th, 2020 (English session)  June 18th, 2020 (French session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinars series on STRATEGIC DESIGN:</strong> Learn how to develop effective communication strategies</td>
<td>BREAKTHROUGH ACTION</td>
<td>Each Week from April to August 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinar training on INTRODUCING THE MALARIA MACTHBOX:</strong> An Equity Assessment Tool to Improve Its Efficacy</td>
<td>The Global Fund, International Public Health Advisors, RAME, NMCP Niger, PHICC</td>
<td>July 1st 2020 (English session)  July 8th, 2020 (French session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinar training on THE GLOBAL FUND AND COMMUNITY RIGHTS &amp; GENDER:</strong> Training on Human Rights and Gender-based approaches in malaria programming, community systems strengthening to the malaria constituencies in Anglophone and Francophone Africa</td>
<td>EANNASO The Global Fund</td>
<td>August 11th and August 12th 2020 (English session)  September 1st, 2020 (French session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinar training on human rights and gender-based approaches in malaria programming, community systems strengthening to the malaria constituencies:</strong> Promoting Community Systems Strengthening, Human Rights and Gender-based approaches in Malaria programming in Africa</td>
<td>EANNASO WOMEN4GLOBALFUND</td>
<td>September 15th 2020 (English session)  September 21st 2020 (French session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webinar training on Building Community Led Monitoring for malaria civil society:</strong> To improve quality health services to the malaria communities in Africa</td>
<td>EANNASO The Global Fund Stop TB Partnership</td>
<td>September 22nd 2020 (Bilingual: French and English)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These trainings aimed to build the capacity of local actors in the fight against malaria (Civil Society, local NGOs, community organizations) to accelerate the response to malaria and make health programs more effective. Each webinar had at least 100 participants coming from several countries of Africa, Asia, Europe and America via zoom.us application. Other participants followed these webinars via Facebook live (50-150 Facebook views per webinar).

The training on **Strategic Design** was concluded with the award of certificates to the participants who deserved it. The official award ceremony was held on **16 October 2020** in person and also online for participants who were not resident in Yaoundé-Cameroon. In the presence of the trainer, the participants received their training certificates.
While countries are submitting their concept note for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, it is important to ensure that communities’ needs are further integrated in the next concept notes. Impact Santé Afrique (ISA) and the Eastern African National Networks of AIDS and Health Service Organizations (EANNASO) have joined forces to provide technical assistance for Civil Society Organizations on the elaboration of malaria concept notes in 8 countries (4 Francophone countries: Cameroon, Niger, Chad and Central African Republic and 4 Anglophone countries: Nigeria, Rwanda, Ghana and Tanzania). To achieve this goal, many activities implemented amongst which are:

- Assessing communities’ malaria needs and barriers to accessing malaria services by focus groups
- Strengthening of CSOs capacity by organizing webinars on themes like: Global Fund process and Country Coordinating Mechanism engagement, Community Right and Gender, Community Base Monitoring.
- Coaching and mentoring CSOs to strengthen key communities and gender sensitive activities in the concept notes.

Civil society Organizations representatives contributed to the process of developing the malaria concept note. In this process, they:

- Reinforced their capacities and trained their peers around subjects like the Global Fund process and Country Coordinating Mechanism engagement, Community Right and gender and Community Led Monitoring
- Participated in many workshops for the elaboration of malaria concept notes;
- Jointly responded to the TRP letter thereby, making sure that communities needs are taken into account in concept notes.

**VII MALARIA VOICES GLOBALLY**

During the year 2020, despite the health crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, CS4ME members participated in initiatives to fight against malaria and other diseases through several national, regional and international campaigns.

- The joint CS4ME/GFAN Africa statement for President Kenyatta

The CS4ME Platform and GFAN Africa Network issued a joint statement on March 13rd 2020 to congratulate H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta on his nomination as Chair of the Alliance of African Leaders Against Malaria (ALMA). It has been mentioned that 2020 is a critical year in the fight against malaria, not only because there are still 10 years left to achieve the UN 2030 sustainable development goals, but also because several African countries have received their largest allocations of funding for malaria in the 2020 - 2022 cycle from the Global Fund; and that access to these funds depends on the requirement of co-financing amounts from countries.

In this letter, we urged President Kenyatta to remind his peers (African Heads of State) to fully commit to meeting the co-financing requirements in a timely manner. Also, these heads of state should do more by increasing their national health budgets as well as strengthen the preparedness of their health and community systems for emerging pandemics.
• **RDTs campaign**

Rapid Diagnosis Tests (RDTs) allow rapid interpretation & diagnosis of malaria. They comprise one of the pillars for the fight against malaria at the Community Level. To stop producing them is to allow the number of cases and deaths to increase. This is why on **May 19th 2020**, ISA organized and launched a campaign in collaboration with **GFAN Africa**, Health platforms and Civil Society Organizations (CS4ME members) to urge the manufacturers that produce the RDTs not to stop their production. If they do, there is a risk of increased number of deaths due to malaria which will result from late diagnosis. **Through several social networks such as twitter and Facebook, CSOs have advocated for the continuity of the production of RDTs.**

• **“NO TO NTDs” Campaign**

In June 20th, CS4ME members signed a Call to Action and a Declaration calling on other CSOs, governments and partners to ensure that the #NTDs (Neglected Tropical Diseases) including malaria are not neglected during the Covid-19 pandemic.
• **World malaria day 2020 CS4ME statement**

In April 24th and 25th 2020, to commemorate the World Malaria Day, CS4ME issued a very important statement to the leaders and decision-makers. The Declaration was developed by CS4ME members through consultations and working groups. It was a reminder that while the world is currently facing a health crisis due to COVID-19, it is important to continue the malaria fight because malaria will hit the hardest and the most affected will be vulnerable communities that do not have timely access to quality prevention and care services.

It emphasized these key points:

- **Increase the allocation of national resources for health** and prioritize high-impact, community-led interventions;

- **Ensure that high-quality malaria control tools and effective products** (such as Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets) continue to be deployed even in the most remote communities;

- **Increase the technical, financial and institutional capacity of Civil Society and community-based organizations** so that they can contribute effectively and qualitatively to the reduction of malaria morbidity and mortality;

- **Expand community-based interventions against malaria** by increasing the number of trained, equipped and equitably remunerated Community Health Workers (CHWs);

- **Ensure the protection of health workers and community health workers** who are essential for the continuity of malaria control services during the COVID-19 crisis.

The statement was widely shared with partners such as: the media, parliamentarians, private sector actors, the Ministry of Public Health of Cameroon, 45 National Malaria Control Programs in Africa, the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Public Health of Niger and all members of the CS4ME platform in addition to social networks.
To commemorate the World Malaria Day celebrated on April 25th 2020, the Global Civil Society Network for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME), the Global Fund Advocates Network Asia Pacific (GFAN AP) and the Regional CSO Platform on Malaria (GMS) also issued a joint statement expressing deep concern and fear that malaria elimination would not be reached by 2030 at this current trajectory because the rate of progress globally towards malaria elimination has slowed down in recent years.

From 21st to 25th April 2020, for the 13th celebration of the World Malaria Day, the CS4ME initiative was illustrated in various key actions on the web. With its partners: The Global Fund, GFAN Africa, GFAN Asia Pacific, the platform participated in the dissemination of the key messages through social networks (Facebook and Twitter) with the «Zero Malaria Starts with Me» campaign, which aims to raise community awareness about malaria.
In the same line, CS4ME marked World Malaria Day 2020 with several activities including the organization of two webinars (English and French) in partnership with WHO on the theme: «Avoiding a Malaria Crisis: Collective Actions for Impact» which took place in April 22 and April 23 2020. Many partners contributes to the success of this conference: WHO, RBM Partnership to End Malaria, Malaria CSO Platform GMS, EANNASO, ACOMIN, WACI Health, GFAN Africa, Speak Up Africa, APDSP, RAME, ONEN.

Each webinar was attended by more than 100 participants composed of representatives of Civil Society Organizations, media, National Malaria Control Programmes and other partners from various countries (Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Gambia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United States, Zimbabwe, etc.).

Thanks to the Facebook Live, the audience has been expanded. Hundreds of Internet users were also able to follow the speakers live. There were 535 views with a reach of 2520 people for the French-language webinar and 696 views with a reach of 2820 people for the English-language webinar.

Through these webinars, Civil Society has gained a better understanding of its importance and the key role it can play in the strategy to eliminate malaria.

Even with the dominance of COVID-19 pandemic news on international health news outlets since January, CS4ME members were able to take advantage of the World Malaria Day during the month of April to convey important messages on the fight against this disease in the international media.
Impact Santé Afrique from Cameroon and ONEN from Niger emphasized the importance of continuing the fight against malaria (one of the leading causes of mortality in Africa) during this COVID-19 pandemic period by reminding authorities that the actions to fight against malaria are likely to stagnate or even regress if attention and efforts are relaxed and focused only on COVID-19 pandemic. Also, part of the discussion was the need for local decision-makers to ensure an increase of national resources allocation for health to deal with both COVID-19 and malaria and other epidemics that cause deaths in Africa.

Impact Santé Afrique, through its Executive Director, Olivia Ngou, and some experts such as Dr Corine Karema from Rwanda, Pr Ibrahima Seck from Senegal, Mr Hamza Djibo from Niger, Mr Ayo Ipinmoye from Nigeria intervened in the following audiovisual media: AFRICANEWS, AFRICA 24, AFRICA RADIO (Ex - Africa N°1), MIKADO FM (one of the United Nations radio stations), RT FRANCE, DEUTSCHE WELLE, FRANCE 24 (in French and English) and RFI.

The discussion centered around: the prevention and management of malaria, good practices to be followed during the COVID-19 pandemic period and the importance of community involvement to continue the fight against malaria during the COVID-19 crisis.

• World Mosquito Day Campaign

World Mosquito Day is celebrated on August 20 of each year. It commemorates Sir Ronald Ross’ discovery in 1897 that female Anopheles mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans.

This year, ISA used the date of August 20, 2020 to renew the opportunity to raise awareness of the dangers of malaria through a short campaign targeting mainly social networks. All CSOs and communities willing to contribute to this action for the fight against malaria were invited to post or forward, on its social networks (twitter, facebook and whatsapp, Instagram, linkedIn and even by email), a set of key messages accompanied by a visual created for the circumstances. And to ensure that the voice of Civil Society Organizations working in the fight
against malaria resonates as much as possible during this small campaign, Impact Santé Afrique has both mobilized the support of all members of the CS4ME platform and joined forces with the GFAN Africa network.

Thus, ISA joined forces with GFAN Africa, which proposed a catalog of messages that could be adapted by all CSOs and communities with the hashtags #worldmosquitoday #TheBeatContinues #unitedtoendmalaria #zeromalaria #CS4ME. While in terms of visuals, it was Impact Santé Afrique that provided all CS4ME members and other organizations and communities with a visual bearing the message «Every year, more than one million people die from mosquito bites: We must continue the fight!" By the end of the day, many messages from the catalog, the suggested visual and the hashtags associated with this mini-campaign had been widely circulated on the web. The publication in French on the facebook account Global Civil Society for Malaria Elimination reached up to 4500 people totaling 423 likes.

• Regional media roundtable coordinated by GFAN-Africa and CS4ME

The Civil Society For Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) and GFAN Africa organized on November 26, 2020 an Advocacy Work on «Luttons Ensemble» advocacy campaign on COVID-19. Journalists from 15 African countries attended this roundtable!
• Unite Global Summit: Virtual 2020

«Community health workers are critical to help test, track, treat every cases of COVID 19 and also malaria» said Olivia Ngou, Global Coordinator of CS4ME and Executive Director of Impact Santé Afrique during the #UniteGlobalSummit UNITE Global Parliamentarians Network.

• Zero malaria challenge: How the lessons of the past can inspire progress to #endmalaria?

To achieve #ZeroMalaria, we must learn from the past. Join us on 1 Oct as our Executive Director Ms Olivia Ngou and Professor Awa Coll-Seck discuss the lessons learned from decades of progress and why it is vital for the achievement of the #SDGs to #endmalaria #UNGA

VIII BUILDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

• CSOs meeting in Rwanda on the sidelines of the preparation of the African Union Summit in Kigali/Rwanda

ISA/CS4ME Secretariat participated at a meeting in Kigali organized by the RBM Partnership to End Malaria and the Government of Rwanda. On 27th January 2020 during this meeting, it was announced that, the Kigali Summit on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases will take place in line with the Commonwealth in June 2020. An webinar was held on February 7, 2020 with the Civil Society and partners to explain the role of Civil Society Organization on the road to the Kigali Summit on Malaria and Neglected Diseases.

This new high-level global meeting will be a unique opportunity to galvanize further progress and accelerate action
for the elimination of malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in the short and long term, and to amplify advocacy for this goal before the Heads of State and Government from across the Commonwealth who will be present at the event.

**Impact Santé Afrique** took advantage of this visit to Kigali to deepen its synergies with CSOs in Rwanda. The highlight of this was a day spent with Ms Nooliet Kabanyana of the Rwanda NGOs Forum working on AIDS and Health Promotion (CS4ME member), an NGO that has been in existence since 1999 and has brought together several other organizations with a focus on monitoring, advocacy and capacity building. The resurgence of malaria in recent years in Rwanda has led this NGO to gain interest in the fight against malaria and for that, Impact Santé Afrique offered its expertise to plan side events during the **Kigali Summit**.

**Summit of Francophonie Parliamentarians**

On November 24 2020, Impact Santé Afrique sensitized parliamentarians at this forum on the importance of mobilization for malaria. «Community health workers are essential to help monitor the treatment of all cases of COVID-19 and also malaria,” said Olivia Ngou, global coordinator of CS4ME and executive director of Impact Santé Afrique at the #UniteGlobalSummit UNITE Global Parliamentarians Network.
• CS4ME/ISA & Africa Union collaboration

The CS4ME/ISA marked its first collaboration with the African Union in July 2019 by holding a strategic meeting of CSOs from Francophone Africa at the 33rd African Union Summit in Niamey, Niger. This resulted in an important civil society declaration from 15 Francophone countries. Drawing from this success, the collaboration with the African Union was solidified by the participation of CS4ME/ISA as a panelist in the webinars organized by the African Union with Ministries of Health and Ministries of Finances members of African Union on October 2020. This year again, ISA intends to continue its collaboration with the African Union.

• Strategic working groups and partners

Partners:

CS4ME: developed a strong partnership with organizations in the fight against malaria to ensure the active participation of CSOs advocates, establish strategic partnerships and increase the influence of civil society and communities in malaria high-level decision-making spaces.

CS4ME’s partners include: African Union, WHO, the Global Fund, Breakthrough Action/PMI, RBM Partnership to End Malaria, GMS MEKONG, ACOMIN, GFAN Africa, GFAN Pacific Asia, RAME, EANNASO, International Public Health Advisors, ALMA (African Leaders Malaria alliance), WOMEN4GLOBALFUND, National Malaria Control Programs (Cameroon, Niger, Ivory Coast, Nigeria etc.).

Working group:

CS4ME joined working groups and various partners’ platforms to provide technical contributions in the fight against malaria. These groups include: The Commonwealth summit working group, WHO-Civil Society malaria platform, RBM partnership to End malaria working group, African Union, WACI Health, EANNASO, Youth Council of the Global Fund, Youth Army of ALMA.

CSOs representatives:

Some CSOs representatives have distinguished themselves, so there are individual partnerships such as: M. Shreehari ACHARYA joined Communities Delegation of the Global Fund Board, M. Joseph WATO and Mrs Cecilia SENOO joined the Delegation of Developing NGOs of the Global Fund, Dr Shampa NAG joined the Global Fund CRG advisory group, Mrs Olivia NGOU became alternate board member of the Communities Delegation of the Global Fund Board, RBM Advocacy Steering Committee and member of the Global Fund communities delegation to the Board, M. AYO IPINMOYE who joined RBM global fund strategy taskforce and Mrs Zeinabou Ide joined the Global Fund Council Advisor and Mrs Cecilia SENOO joined the delegation of developing NGOs of the Global Fund Board.

Global Fund Community Rights and Gender advisory group

In addition of all the afore-mentioned, for the first time, CS4ME is well represented by 3 of its members in the Global Fund Community Rights and Gender advisory group. After a competitive process involving other CSOs, these 3 members were selected to join this high-level decision-making platform to provide strategic guidance for malaria programs and increase com-
On Tuesday, 1st December 2020, Impact Santé Afrique organized, a strategic meeting on the theme: « It is urgent to act against malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in the context of Covid-19 in Douala, Cameroon. On Monday, December 7, a strategic meeting of francophone African civil society (included CS4ME members) was organized focusing on advocacy planning 2021. 24 participants were present and discussion panels were formed to address specific themes. After reflecting on the lessons learned during the year 2019, the participants were divided into two groups, based on their field experience, and were asked to specify their technical assistance needs as well as, to formulate their recommendations for the future.

In addition to the problem of financial constraints, they highlighted many needs, particularly in terms of human resources, in terms of recruitment, training and contractual retention. It was also discussed that, there is a need to amplify the current efforts in eradicating the stigmatization of sick people as well as, the need to adapt CRG-type approaches to their context of implementation.

This meeting was an opportunity for CS4ME members to discuss, give recommendations and define new advocacy strategies for CS4ME. Then the elaborated a draft of Civil Society Francophone Africa advocacy action plan 2021-2022.
**ONLINE CS4ME MEETING CONSULTATIONS**

**a. Online meeting consultation on CS4ME priorities**

In February 2020, the CS4ME Secretariat organized 2 conference calls (one in French and one in English) to consult CS4ME members on 2020 priorities. The main points of this meeting were:

- CS4ME Presentation
- Recap of CS4ME 2019 activities
- Working groups presentation
- The joint CS4ME/GFAN Africa statement for President Kenyatta
- Recommendations following discussions on CS4ME 2020 priorities.

Then, CS4ME members had an important discussion and made recommendations on CS4ME priorities for 2020 advocacy such as:

- Increase the collaboration between CSOs/NMCP
- Integrate the fight against the 3 diseases in CSOs action plans
- Increase political approach and communities’ programs
- Capacity building to educate CSOs on malaria issues (basic sciences)
- Integrate Gender Strategy on Malaria Prevention and response

**b. CS4ME Consultations on Global Fund Strategy**

On Tuesday October 20, 2020, 2 CSO Consultation meetings on Global Fund Strategy were held (1 in French and 1 in English). The outline of the next Global Fund strategy was presented and feedback of CSOs representatives were collected.

Different themes were discussed during the session:

- Overview
- Strengthening Program Implementation
  - Supporting Stakeholders and Partnerships
  - Delivering Results and Innovation
  - Best ideas for Change.

The attending CSOs made strong recommendations for this next strategy in order that,
Communities are taken into account in all Global Fund process:

- Advocate for free consultations and medicine, mostly for pregnant women and children under 5 years of age in order to reduce the incidence of the 3 diseases.
- Strengthen the technical and financial support of the civil society for the fight against the 3 diseases.
- Create a group that links the Global Fund directly to Civil Society and simplify the process of accessing funds.
- Integrate further Community-led monitoring in the strategy.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is starting a process to review its recommendations on the use of medicines to prevent malaria in people living in affected areas. As part of this process, WHO is soliciting perspectives from affected communities.

The Civil Society for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) led CSOs consultations on malaria issues for WHO. A questionnaire was developed and centered on: general malaria issues, malaria in pregnancy and malaria in children. The questionnaire was shared through CS4ME WhatsApp platforms and by email. Also, two online consultations were conducted on October 29, 2020 (1 for French speaking and 1 for English speaking). The participants brought relevant responses to the questionnaire.

Each consultation was facilitated by a CSO representative. It was an interactive discussion and civil society through this consultation expressed their points of view on the issues discussed. This will enable WHO to improve its policies on the use of drugs to prevent malaria among people living in affected areas.
STRENGTHENING OF CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY ON HEALTH FINANCING, UHC AND BUDGET ADVOCACY

The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Global Financing Facility, the Global Fund Advocates Network Africa, RBM Partnership to end Malaria, The World Bank, GAVI, Global Financing Facility, ISA, CS4ME and UHC 2030 are collaborating to develop and deliver training on UHC Budget Advocacy in sub-Saharan Africa. The goal is to promote a multi-stakeholder collaboration that will hold governments in a constructive way to account for the use of funding allocated to health.

This project aims to develop a cadre of trainers who can deliver training on health financing, UHC and budget advocacy to country level actors from civil society, media organizations and elected representatives that can provide in-country support and mentorship to budget advocacy activities undertaken by CSO actors.

A selection committee was set up by project partners and after a rigorous review of the applications, 20 potential trainers were selected coming from: Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Benin, Togo, Ivory Coast, Chad and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Among these selected trainers, there were CS4ME members. From November to December, they have been attending online training sessions on several themes:

- **Theme 1:** Health rights
- **Theme 2:** Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- **Theme 3:** Health financing and national commitments
- **Theme 4:** Impact of direct expenditures
- **Theme 5:** Fiscal space, sources of public funding
- **Theme 6:** Pooling of funds and health insurance
- **Theme 7:** Efficiency and strategic procurement
- **Theme 8:** Budget cycles and systems; budget monitoring
- **Theme 9:** Budget Advocacy
- **Theme 10:** Training Methods
This training has enabled us to combine efforts, support civil society for health financing and implement qualitative changes on health financing in terms of effectiveness and efficiency for the achievement of Universal Health Coverage goals. The next step is to organize country sessions by trainers.

ENGAGEMENT OF CS4ME MEMBERS IN ADVOCACY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE NEW GLOBAL FUND STRATEGY

On August 2020, CS4ME Secretariat launch the call for the task force volunteers among CS4ME members for the next Global fund strategy. 13 CSOs answered the call and then constituted the CS4ME Task force on Global Fund Strategy.

First of all, the task force members attended a meeting put together for CS4ME members one pager of Key orientations guidelines from CS4ME. After this, they elaborated a questionnaire for CSO involvement on Global Fund strategy development process. This questionnaire was shared through an online survey with CS4ME members by email and WhatsApp platform.
Then CS4ME members gave their contributions and propositions for the Global fund strategy. On October 2020, CS4ME Secretariat organized 2 consultations meetings (1 for francophone members and & for anglophone members) for CS4ME for this purpose.

CSOs made strong contributions and recommendations in order to make sure that the next Global fund Strategy take into consideration communities needs. These recommendations serve for the consultation for the development of the CS4ME position paper. And also, these recommendations was shared with CS4ME members to prepare their interventions in the Global Fund Partnership Forum and other strategic regionale and international meeting.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE CS4ME POSITION STATEMENT ON THE NEW GLOBAL FUND STRATEGY

The Global Fund’s next strategy is currently being developed and will start in 2023. This strategy is the Global Fund’s roadmap for the years to come. It will define priorities to accelerate the progress in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, and to improve global health. The Global Fund encourages all stakeholders to participate in an open consultation by identifying the most pressing challenges and opportunities in the fight against the three diseases; the establishment of resilient and sustainable systems for health; promotion and protection of human rights and gender equality; and resource mobilization. To do this, CS4ME decided to hire a consultant to support the development of a position statement to be submitted as part of the open consultation of the Global Fund. CS4ME has decided to submit this position paper before the deadline from December 1st, 2020 in order to be part of the material produced for the occasion of the 6th Partnership Forums in early 2021.

To develop the CS4ME position statement, the consultant carried out several activities including: reviewing the literature on malaria and notes from the CS4ME consultation webinars, conducting interviews with key CSOs, analyzing the results of all these consultations and developing the draft position statement; and then after several reviews the final document was developed and validated.
CS4ME IN MALARIA ADVOCACY IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

The “Luttons Ensemble #Le Mouvement Continue” campaign was launched by ISA to conduct a field action of African civil society organizations (CS4ME members) that aims to sensitize local leaders and decision-makers on the importance of ensuring the continuity of malaria services in the context of COVID-19 on the one hand, and on the other hand, to solicit the contribution of donor countries for programs to reduce the effect of COVID-19 on malaria. The campaign is taking place simultaneously in 5 countries: Cameroon, Senegal, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic and Niger. The targets of this campaign are leaders and decision-makers (political, traditional, religious), the media, representatives of donor countries, Civil Society Organizations and communities. CS4ME/ISA coordinate several actions:

- Presentation of the CSOs letters to the Champions
- Engagement of parliamentarians
- CSOs Press Conferences
- Media tours by CSOs
- Sensitization Campaign against Malaria in the Context of COVID-19

In this campaign, RBM supported a national press conference on Thursday November 12th 2020, with parliamentarians, civil society and NMCP in Cameroon and the development of an advocacy tool targeting parliamentarians’ champions identified by CSOs. The tool is a one pager reminder “It is urgent to act” on the need to ensure continuity of malaria services by delivering on the global fund malaria domestic co-funding due for this new cycle 2021-2023.

Several champions were present, among which: Honorable Cabral LIBII, Honorable MENGUE Germain and comedian M.TAGNE TAGNE Martial. In the presence of the representatives of NMCP, civil society drew the attention of the Cameroonian authorities and the media to the mortality rate and infections of populations from HIV, Malaria and Tuberculosis in the context of Coid-19 and the importance of ensure the continuity of services to fight these diseases. At the same time, the Champions present reaffirmed their commitment in favor of the fight against these three diseases and the increase of domestic funds allocated to health.
Civil society plays an important role in the fight against malaria. However, it is often not easy to demonstrate this clearly because of the shortcomings they have (very few write their activity or project reports, do not know how to communicate their achievements themselves). It is therefore not easy for them to show the impact of their involvement in the fight against malaria and health in general. Thus, CS4ME/ISA has taken the initiative to develop 5 case studies to demonstrate the impact of civil society in the fight against malaria and its involvement in Global Fund programmes.

1. The aim is to prove that society can contribute as a key actor to the elimination of malaria through the case studies developed on the following themes:
2. The contribution of civil society in the distribution of LLINs in 2020 in the context of COVID-19
3. The contribution of civil society to the malaria concept note process
4. Community monitoring as a key tool for CSO involvement in health systems
5. CS4ME: the first network uniting civil society to boost malaria elimination by 2030
6. Civil society advocacy that contributed to increased African contributions to the Global Fund’s 6th replenishment conference

These 5 case studies highlight in a remarkable way the key role that civil society plays in the fight against malaria.

CS4ME members participated in an advocacy campaign «Let's fight together: the movement continues» in 5 francophone countries: Niger, DRC, Senegal, Cameroon and CAR from June to December 2020. During this campaign, mini-videos were made with leaders and members of
CSOs working in the fight against malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in these different countries. These are videos of testimonies of these people within the communities: the personal experiences they have had in relation to these 3 diseases and the activities they carry out in the field on a daily basis. These videos are advocacy tools that will be deployed on different communication platforms (media, website, social networks, blogs, etc.) in order to raise the voice of the communities towards the leaders to ensure the continuity of the fight against these 3 diseases, particularly in the context of Covid-19 which is currently raging.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISA STRATEGIC ADVOCACY PLAN 2021-2024

In 2020, ISA team participated from End of 2020 to January 2021 in a training on advocacy facilitated by an external consultant. Through this training, the ISA team learned the methods and tools necessary to design and develop an advocacy plan. In terms of methodology, this includes: internal and external diagnosis, situation analysis, targets, advocacy objectives, activities, expected results, budget, partners, monitoring and evaluation. In terms of advocacy tools, these are: the technical advocacy note and its different forms, the advocacy plan, the tactical action plan.

Following this training, ISA and l'Atelier des Luttes launched a series of advocacy training sessions for CS4ME members. This training was held online from February to March and then 26 CSOs representative from Francophone Africa attended.
Session 1 focused on the introduction to advocacy. Then, participants learned about: What advocacy is/what advocacy is not, Communication and advocacy, Tactical Advocacy Repertoire, Targets of advocacy, the importance of professionalizing advocacy and advocacy tools.

The second session was more technical and focused on why advocacy should be done and the steps to follow to do good advocacy that will have impact with leaders. This course had a lot of case studies with issue of Getting decision-makers to disburse the 20% of the counterpart funds from the global fund malaria grant for the 2021 - 2023 cycle before 2023. Home exercises were given to participants so that they could come back with ideas to develop and argue.

The third session was much more hands-on than the other sessions, using the advocacy tools:

- Internal advocacy brief
- The Strategic Advocacy Plan
- The importance of communication in advocacy: Getting your voice to the highest level effectively!

After these examples of advocacy tools, the participants went around the table and were asked questions on the Mentimeter.com application.

A post-test of the training was submitted online via Google Forms to the participants in order to evaluate their new knowledge and they were awarded with a training certificate from ISA ACADEMY.

After this training, ISA team and the consultant conducted several working sessions which led to the development of the ISA internal strategic advocacy plan for ISA 2021-2025.