

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

CS4ME

CIVIL SOCIETY FOR MALARIA ELIMINATION

HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY - JUNE 2024

ABOUT CS4ME

CS4ME is a global network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and communities contributing to malaria elimination, with 649 members in 48 countries. Since its establishment in 2019, the Civil Society Network for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) has been working to strengthen and unite civil society so that it can become a key actor of change towards malaria elimination.

From January to June 2024, CS4ME continued to work on capacity building and experience sharing among CSOs who are network members. During this same period, together with international organizations, National Malaria Control Programs (NMCP), parliamentarians and the media, CS4ME has worked to create synergies for a sustainable mobilization of national resources for health but also for better monitoring the implementation of the Global Fund grant under the new funding cycle (GC7), in particular through the launch of the Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE-SI) project activities in several countries.

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SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Neville NKOSI: Champion of the fight against malaria in the Democratic Republic of Congo



Aged 31, Dr. Neville NKOSI is the Chief Medical Officer at the La Promesse Medical Center. He also wears the hats of Youth Ambassador for Peace and Emissary of the African School for Peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Consultant to Caritas Congo Asbl in the project of post-distribution monitoring of mosquito nets in partnership with Against Malaria Foundation, volunteer at the African

Leaders Alliance Against Malaria (ALMA) for the promotion and involvement of young people in the fight against malaria and the promotion of universal health coverage, Dr. Neville NKOSI has followed several trainings in various fields (Health, Education, Entrepreneurship, Leadership, Strategic Communication, Resource Mobilization). Since 2022, he has been Secretary General of the **Youth Malaria Corps**, an association of young activists for the engagement of young people in the fight against malaria and the promotion of universal health coverage.

National Malaria Youth Corps



The National Malaria Youth Corps is involved in a range of areas to improve action and accountability in the fight against malaria. Its activities are coordinated by the National Malaria Control Programme and supported by the ALMA Youth Advisory Council, which is a coalition of African Union Heads of State and Government working to eliminate malaria by 2030.

There are currently 12 National Malaria Youth Corps, including in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Guinea, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia.

ECHOES OF THE NETWORK

CONGO

Mobilizing Global Fund co-financing funds in time

On February 8, 2024, the CSO “Platform of NGOs and Associations for the Fight against Malaria in Congo”, a member of CS4ME, attended the launch of the new round of funding of the Global Fund (GC7) and advocacy for the co-financing of Global Fund grants in Congo Brazzaville under the patronage of Mr Gilbert MOKOKI, Minister of Health and Population. The latter, joined by the Minister of Finance, committed to ensure compliance with the disbursements programmed in the budget line of cofinancing which was included in the Finance Law of the year 2024. One of the key commitments made at the meeting is a significant step forward for the mobilisation of counterpart funds.



DRC

Mosquito net use and family planning in the KAMUESHA Rural Health Zone

On May 20, 2024, the **Youth Corps against Malaria** of the DRC, Provincial Coordination of Kasai organized a large activity on the use of Long-Lasting Insecticidal Mosquito Nets (LLINs) and family planning in the KAMUESHA Rural Health Zone located more than 80 kilometers from the City of Tshipaka, capital of this province. This Sensitization reached the patients hospitalized at the Kamuesha General Hospital, including more than 85 women and girls.



A guided tour of the health staff of this hospital took place in the company of members of the Youth Corps against Malaria, to acknowledge the proper use of LLINs in this health structure. Sensitized individuals asked to:

- Regularly organize these types of awareness-raising activities with women and community leaders;
- Train community leaders on family planning and malaria control.





CAMEROON

Donation of equipment to Community Health Workers

In Cameroon, from 17 to 21 June 2024, the district CSO RELESS NSONGON organized a refresher activity for Community Health Workers (CHWs) active in the GC7 grant in the Evodoula Health District in the Centre region. This refresher course was also an opportunity to hand over work materials to these CHWs for the fight against malaria at the community level. These activities were organized under the co-coordination of the district chief and the mayor of the Commune of Evodoula. Community synergy in action to counter malaria and pandemics in our communities.



IVORY COAST

CE-SI Project: CSOs mobilized for advocacy and support to vulnerable populations

On May 14, 2024 in Côte d'Ivoire, the "Plateforme des Réseaux et Faîtières de lutte contre le Sida et les autres Pandémies", a member of CS4ME, organized a workshop to launch and present CS4ME's Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE-SI) project, which was attended by 30 participants, including 21 from civil society, 05 technical and financial partners, 03 from the NMCP and 03 from the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) Côte d'Ivoire.

This project aims to strengthen the leadership and engagement of the communities most affected by malaria in the Global Fund's processes and national processes, throughout the grant lifecycle, to improve the impact of Global Fund-funded malaria programs. One of the objectives of this workshop was to discuss the advocacy axes to be carried

out within the framework of the project in favor of populations vulnerable to malaria and to define the work strategy to be used within the framework of this project. CSOs took this opportunity to request and obtain support from the CCM and NMCP for implementation activities.



NIGER

Launch of the CE-SI Project: a validated action plan

As part of the launch of the activities of the CS4ME CE-SI project in Niger for the period 2024-2026, a workshop for the development and validation of an action plan in collaboration with the malaria control CSOs member of the CS4ME platform in Niger was held on April 25, 2024 in Bangoula under the leadership of ONEN. This meeting, the objective of which was to produce an action plan for the conduct of the project's activities, saw the participation of all 11 malaria CSOs who are members of the CS4ME

platform.

The presentations allowed the participants to see that despite the progress made, there are still weaknesses and even threats to community participation in the fight against malaria health in Niger. However, the ownership of the project by CSOs, their involvement in the exchanges as well as the quality and relevance of their interventions will undoubtedly contribute to the achievement of the objectives set.

SPEAKER ON

When Civil Society makes its voice heard

— Advocating for the transfer of skills to local organizations

In a letter dated June 4, 2024 addressed to the Chairs of the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) of the 10 countries most affected by malaria in Africa, CS4ME advocates for the effective transfer of skills from Principal Recipients (PRs) to Sub-Recipients (SRs) in the implementation of malaria grants from the Global Fund to local organizations.

Indeed, the Global Fund places community participation at the heart of the action. It defines community participation as an ongoing, inclusive and effective process, which involves communities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of interventions. It considers that communities are best

placed to understand their needs and identify the most appropriate solutions.

However, the transfer of skills is not yet effective in the implementation of Global Fund grants. Some countries do not have a community-based SR for the implementation of community-based awareness and empowerment activities. Also, the main civil society recipients are most often International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs).

The latter retain most of the skills and knowledge acquired through Global Fund-funded programs. This situation leads not only to leadership conflicts between PRs and SRs but also to inadequacies in coaching and supervision.

This dependence of recipient countries on international NGOs deprives local actors of the skills and knowledge needed to implement effective infectious disease programs and limits the reach and sustainability of Global Fund-funded programs.

Through this advocacy, CS4ME advocates for an effective transfer of skills, an essential element to guarantee the sustainability of programs financed by the Global Fund and to accentuate the resilience of beneficiary countries to infectious diseases and malaria in particular.

— CS4ME calls on the Governments in a statement

As a prelude to the commemoration of World Malaria Day on April 25, 2024 and on the occasion

of its Annual Forum, the members of the CS4ME network in a statement, call on governments on the urgency of taking into account human rights, gender and equity in the fight against malaria.

In this statement, CS4ME recognizes the crucial role of women in the malaria response and advocates for their participation in decision-making on strategies and interventions, and highlights the need to pay special attention to vulnerable populations, such as displaced people, refugees, and people with disabilities, to ensure their access to prevention and treatment services.

The platform calls on malaria control decision-makers to remove barriers to access for vulnerable populations, to reach the 20% of the population who do not yet benefit from malaria control services.



Human rights, gender integration and equity in the fight against malaria must become an urgent reality!

April 23, 2024

On this day, April 23, 2024, marking the Annual Forum of the Civil Society Platform for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) and in the run-up to World Malaria Day on April 25, 2024 under the theme «Health Equity, Gender Equality and Human Rights».

We, Civil Society Organization under the global platform CS4ME, whose mission is to strengthen, organize, engage and empower civil society and affected communities to be creative and bold catalysts for change, in order to accelerate the elimination of malaria.

We are committed to making malaria programs gender focused, right based and equitable.

Convinced that to achieve this goal, we must implement initiatives that promote respect for human rights, such as ensuring that free or low-cost services and care are available to all targeted populations, and that all populations, regardless of location, have access to quality malaria control services.

Acknowledging the efforts and progress made and being made by our governments, and all actors involved in the fight against malaria.

Wishing for a commitment to gender mainstreaming to better take into account the socio-cultural contexts of populations and the key role of women in the response to malaria.

We therefore advocate gender mainstreaming, with community participation in decision-making on the development of strategies and the implementation of interventions to fight malaria as a guarantee.

We emphasize the need for malaria control services to be administered equitably to all population groups in their context. In situations of crisis and humanitarian conflicts, pandemic and climate change impacts, this implies that displaced populations, refugees, people deprived of their freedom or people with disabilities must be taken into account in prevention activities such as the distribution of LLINs, prevention services for pregnant women and children, as well as the proper management of malaria for all.

We reiterate that «everyone has the right to benefit from all high-quality existing preventive and treatment measures to fight malaria», so that no life is lost to malaria.

We therefore call on decision-makers in the fight against malaria to:

• **Identify and address** barriers to access of quality malaria services for the vulnerable populations, including displaced persons, refugees, orphans, and those with disabilities and all others groups. Consider advocating for targeted interventions to reach these groups, such

Scan to view the statement



— Don't leave orphans behind in the distribution of mosquito nets



As part of the advocacy carried out by CS4ME for the consideration of vulnerable populations in the fight against malaria, 150 Long-Lasting Impregnated Mosquito Nets (LLINs) have been distributed to 07 orphanages in the commune of Douala 5th in Cameroon.

In preparation for the country dialogue during the development process of the Global Fund's GC7 malaria concept note, CSOs that are members of CS4ME, including the Association des Femmes Engagées pour le Développement du Cameroun (AFEDEC), conducted community consultations to identify the priority needs of communities vulnerable to malaria in the Commune.

Seven (07) orphanages have been identified and their LLIN needs estimated at 150. Following this observation, the CSOs members of the NMCP Task Force - CS4ME Cameroon, with the invaluable support of the Programme, have made a strong plea to the Cameroonian government for the deployment of mosquito nets in these orphanages so that these

vulnerable targets to malaria are no longer left behind. On January 11, 2024, it made it possible to obtain the agreement of the Prime Minister, Head of Government, for the provision of LLINs in the orphanages of the health districts concerned.



We are still talking about it

Key figures from the CS4ME 2023 annual report



One of the challenges for civil society last year was to participate effectively and efficiently in the malaria concept notes to ensure that the needs of communities, especially the most vulnerable, are addressed in Global Fund grant cycle 7. While the CS4ME 2023 annual report is already available, here are some key figures :

- The number of CS4ME members has increased from 709 in 2022 to 774 in 2023, in 48 countries, mainly in Africa and South Asia;

- The production of eight (08) tools for the enhancement of the knowledge of civil society actors of the Global Fund mechanism, in particular to improve their participation in the GC7 process, also in the areas of human rights and human rights, gender and community engagement in malaria;
- Community-led malaria surveillance funded under the GC7 Global Fund concept of notes in more than ten (10) countries;
- The organization of seven (07) webinars to increase the knowledge of CSOs in malaria and to better equip CSOs so that they can contribute to advocacy and programs implemented in their countries;
- Increased commitment and leadership of CSOs in the four (04) working groups: Country Coordinating Mechanism, Advocacy and Communication, Capacity Building, Technical Group.

Parliamentarians and Civil Society hand in hand

The CS4ME network, through **Impact Santé Afrique (ISA)** which serves as its secretariat, with the support of the **RBM Partnership to Eliminate Malaria** and the technical support of partners such as the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, organized on 5th and 7th March 2024 in Yaoundé, the first Regional Forum of parliamentarians, opinion leaders and civil society from the 11 countries most affected by malaria.

This is to prepare and accelerate the follow-up to the Yaoundé Ministerial Declaration, but also to ensure the mobilization of national funds and the commitment of the community to malaria elimination following the conference of ministers of health. **More than 100 participants**, including parliamentarians, civil society organizations, technical partners, and National Malaria Control Programmes from **Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Senegal, Tanzania, Ghana and Uganda, Mozambique and Nigeria.**



CS4ME members with Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund

At the end of this event, the Coalition of Parliamentarians for the Elimination of Malaria in Africa (COPEMA) was officially created!



Civil society strongly represented at the signing of the Yaoundé Declaration

On March 6, 2024, civil society from the DRC, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Niger, Cameroon, Uganda, and Mozambique took part in the Yaoundé Ministerial Conference and attended the signing of the Yaoundé Declaration, thus marking the recognition of the importance of civil society as a stakeholder in making important decisions. The accountability mechanism set up by parliamentarians and civil society will therefore make it possible to assess the progress of the commitments made by the governments of the countries most affected by this disease.

In addition, on the same day, a meeting was held between Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund and the members of CS4ME to discuss the role of civil society in the fight against malaria and advocacy for communities. Topics such as the replenishment of the Global Fund and the increase of domestic funds allocated to health were also discussed.



“ We need to be able to allow grassroots communities to take ownership of the fight against malaria. Let’s be inclusive, and synergistic and work together to provide solutions. ”

Honorable Juliette Zingan

Parliamentarian in Senegal, member of COPEMA

STRONGER TOGETHER

Understanding resistance in malaria control

As part of the capacity building of civil society organizations involved in the fight against malaria, a bilingual online training was organized on Thursday, June 27, 2024. This webinar, which was attended by 85 participants from 22 different countries and 60 organizations, allowed **Dr Magellan TCHOUAKUI**, Researcher at the Center for Research on Infectious Diseases (CRID) and facilitator on the occasion, to edify CSOs to understand the causes of resistance in the fight against malaria, assess the issues and associated challenges, and propose concrete and effective actions to remedy it.

During the webinar, the facilitator defined the notion of mosquito resistance to insecticides, which is a phenomenon by which mosquitoes develop the ability to survive treatments designed to eliminate them. He also explained that resistance emerges when resistant mosquitoes survive treatments and pass on their resistant genes to the next generation. Finally, he addressed the impacts of this resistance on control interventions and then detailed the

actions needed to mitigate this resistance and move towards the elimination of the disease.

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LA RÉSISTANCE DANS LA LUTTE CONTRE LE PALUDISME : CAUSES, ENJEUX DÉFIS ET ACTIONS POUR Y REMÉDIER

Expert:
Dr. Magellan Tchouakui
Chercheur au Centre de Recherche en Maladies Infectieuses (CRID)

Jeudi 27 juin 2024
Heure: 10h00-11h00 GMT

Veillez **cliquer ici** pour vous inscrire

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The Global Fund and Civil Society strengthen their collaboration

As part of the activities of the Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE-SI) which aims to strengthen the capacities of communities and civil society actors involved in the fight against malaria, a bilingual regional training was organized on June 6, 2024 online, on the theme: **Global Fund - what I need to know as a civil society organization active in the fight against malaria**. The meeting brought together 169 participants from 21 different countries and 155 organizations. The objective of this webinar was to inform civil society organizations about: the specific role of the Global Fund in their respective countries, how it works, particularly through grant cycle 7 (GC7) for the period 2023-2026 and to highlight the importance of community engagement. A Q&A session provided an opportunity for participants to interact directly with the speakers, delve deeper into the topics discussed, clarify points and exchange ideas for better understanding and collaboration.

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Fonds Mondial : ce que je dois savoir en tant qu'Organisation de La Société Civile active dans la lutte contre le Paludisme

Global Fund : what I need to know as an active Civil Society Organisation in the fight against malaria

06 Juin 2024
06 June 2024

09h00 - 11h00 GMT
09:00 AM - 11:00 AM GMT

Veillez **cliquer ici** pour vous inscrire
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MALARIA COFFEE TALK

Sharing experience to meet the challenges of the GC7

The objective of this online meeting held on 30 May 2024, which had the privilege of welcoming 156 participants from 21 countries and 116 Organizations, was to allow CSOs to share the level of implementation of malaria activities under the Global Fund's GC7 grant, as well as to highlight the challenges they face in different countries.

A report on the implementation of malaria control activities funded by the GC7 grant and the challenges encountered was presented for Nigeria, Guinea Conakry, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. The meeting concluded with recommendations from the constructive exchanges, including collaboration among the various organizations, which are expected to contribute significantly and effectively to the achievement of the objectives set out in the GC7.



DON'T MISS: UPCOMING CS4ME EVENTS

October						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

● OCTOBER 2024

- CS4ME Malaria Civil Society Coffee Talk.
- Online training on the CS4ME guide on community led monitoring of malaria control interventions (CLM).
- On-line training on the development of SMART advocacy action plans.

● NOVEMBER 2024

- Webinar on gender mainstreaming in the fight against malaria.



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Contact us

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