



# Framework for a National Vector Control Needs Assessment





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# Acknowledgements

This document was prepared using as a foundation the following documents: i) Guidelines for vector control needs assessment. Harare, Zimbabwe: WHO Regional Office for Africa; 2003, ii) Methodology to carry out vector control needs assessment. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2008, iii) Guidelines for vector control needs assessment. Cairo, Egypt: WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean Region; 2009, iv) Rosensweig F, Williams J. Guidelines for assessing the management and organizational capacity of national malaria control programs. Bethesda, MD: Health Systems 20/20 Project, ABT Associates Inc; 2008, and v) Dengela D. Tool to assess entomological monitoring, environmental compliance, and vector control capacity for the prevention and control of Zika and other arboviruses. Bethesda, MD: USAID Health Finance and Governance Project; 2016.

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# Preface

The need has never been greater for a comprehensive approach to vector control. The recent unprecedented global spread of dengue and chikungunya viruses and the outbreaks of Zika virus disease and yellow fever in 2015–2016 have highlighted the challenges faced by countries. Most VBDs can be prevented through vector control, but only if it is implemented effectively. This is, however, hampered by numerous challenges that include: lack of capacity and capability (human, infrastructural and institutional) in country programmes; lack of a comprehensive national strategy for vector control and the necessary legal framework; a limited toolbox of interventions; lack of community involvement; and ongoing environmental and social changes that result in the proliferation and geographic expansion of vectors.



In 2016, Member States called upon the World Health Organization (WHO) to provide strategic guidance on a comprehensive approach to vector control in order to improve the control and prevention of VBDs. WHO developed the *Global vector control response 2017–2030* (GVCR) through a fast-tracked process that included broad consultation with Member States and other technical experts. The GVCR received strong support at the World Health Assembly in May 2016, with the adoption of a dedicated resolution entitled *Global vector control response: an integrated approach for the control of vector-borne diseases* (WHA 70.16).

The GVCR provides strategic guidance to countries and development partners on how to strengthen vector control as a fundamental approach to preventing VBDs and responding to outbreaks. To tackle all VBDs and engage across all relevant sectors, vector control programmes need to be realigned and enhanced to improve action and coordination. To this end, one of the priority activities outlined in the GVCR is for countries to conduct or update the vector control needs assessment. Such an assessment should describe the current situation with respect to VBDs, outline the vector control measures being implemented, identify challenges or constraints to optimal implementation, and determine resource needs.

This information can then be utilized to develop or update countries' vector control

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