INDONESIA

August 2023

The World Mosquito Program (WMP) has been working in Indonesia since 2012, protecting nearly two million people from dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases.

In Yogyakarta and across neighbouring Sleman and Bantul districts, the project was funded by Yayasan Tahija (Tahija Foundation), and implemented in partnership with Universitas Gadjah Mada. After two years of community engagement, we released *Wolbachia* mosquitoes in Yogyakarta in 2014. The first randomised controlled trial of the *Wolbachia* method was conducted over 3 years and completed in 2020. Results showed a 77% reduction in dengue incidence in areas treated with *Wolbachia* when compared with untreated areas.

In 2023, the World Mosquito Program began its work in Denpasar and Bulelung, Bali.
The World Mosquito Program and the Balinese Government, with the support of the Australian Government and the Gillespie Family Foundation, joined forces to "dengue-proof" Bali by using the *Wolbachia* technology.

A 2020 study predicted that the deployment of *Wolbachia* mosquitoes for dengue control would be a cost-effective intervention in Bali. Based on that modelling, the *Wolbachia* mosquito releases in Denpasar and Bulelung are expected to avert around 35,000 dengue cases every year and more than half a million cases - including 80,000 hospitalisations - over 15 years. This translates into expected savings of about US$ 25 million in healthcare costs over 15 years, based on the estimated cost of dengue illness in Indonesia.

Yogyakarta project start	Yogyakarta pilot releases	Yogyakarta RCT	Yogyakarta citywide releases	Sleman releases	Bantul releases	Bali project start
2012	2014 - 2015	2016 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022	2022

3
project sites

size of the project
608 km²

2,720,000
people reached

PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE
measured by survey
88% Yogyakarta
95% Sleman District
90% Bantul District

80
project staff

MOSQUITO- BORNE DISEASE BURDEN IN INDONESIA

Dengue was first reported in two of Indonesia's 29 provinces in 1968. Today dengue has spread to all provinces and is endemic in many large cities and small towns.

For decades, dengue has been taking its toll on Bali's people, health system and economy. In 2020, Bali, of all Indonesian provinces, had the highest dengue incidence with some 270 cases per 100,000 people.

“WMP is pleased to scale up its work in Indonesia and extend the benefits of the *Wolbachia* technology to Bali’s communities and to the many visitors to the island. A dengue-free Bali is in sight. This is an exciting prospect.”

Dr. Claudia Surjadjaja,
WMP’s Director of Advocacy and External Relations, Asia.

“This is an intervention that’s been proven. It works. It’s simple. And once it’s done, it’s done. That’s what’s so beautiful about it. There are no expensive vaccinations. There’s no year after year problems. And anything that anyone can give to support this, is money well spent.”

Lesley Gillespie,
Chair, World Mosquito Program
Philanthropy Advisory Council

“In Indonesia, particularly in Bali, we have been using various methods to control dengue. Yet, we haven’t had good results. This has been worrying. We believe that implementing the *Wolbachia* technology is the right step. It offers the best solution to eliminating dengue and, at the same time, it doesn’t harm the environment.”

I Ketut Kariyasa Adnyana,
Member of Indonesia’s Parliament,
Health Commission (Commission IX)

Partners and supporters

Australian Aid

Yayasan TAHIJA

Further information:

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About us

The World Mosquito Program (WMP) is a not-for-profit group of companies owned by Monash University that works to protect the global community from mosquito-borne diseases. The World Mosquito Program uses naturally occurring bacteria called *Wolbachia* to reduce the ability of mosquitoes to transmit viruses to humans.

Following decades of research and successful field trial results, the World Mosquito Program is currently partnering with communities in 14 countries around the world to implement our ground-breaking solution. We have staff working in countries across Oceania, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, and offices established in Australia, Vietnam, France and Panama.

Our approach has widespread support from communities, governments, research institutes and philanthropic partners around the world. Through collaboration and innovation, we are making a difference to millions of lives.

A collaboration between:

World Mosquito Program | MONASH University

Contact us