The World Mosquito Program (WMP) is a not-for-profit initiative that works to protect the global community from mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue, Zika, yellow fever and chikungunya. Previously known as the Eliminate Dengue Program, the World Mosquito Program uses naturally occurring bacteria called *Wolbachia* to reduce the ability of mosquitoes to transmit viruses that cause life-threatening disease.

A growing body of evidence to support the efficacy of the method includes a randomised trial in Indonesia which shows a 77% reduction in dengue incidence in areas treated with *Wolbachia*. In the decade since implementation began in north Queensland, dengue has effectively been eliminated as a public health concern in the region. Ongoing projects in Asia, the Pacific and the Americas continue to accumulate promising results.

Following years of laboratory research, independent risk analysis and successful field trials, WMP has undertaken deployments in 11 countries around the world and has widespread support from communities, governments and public health regulators. We are now undergoing rapid organisational growth. Scale-up plans for national deployments in existing countries are in preparation in addition to groundwork for potential expansion to new countries.

Multiple risk analyses conducted on the *Wolbachia* method have concluded that it is safe for people, animals and the environment. Releases of *Wolbachia*-carrying mosquitoes receive regulatory approval from relevant government bodies in every country where they take place. We only release mosquitoes with community endorsement.

### A sustainable approach

- **Non-GMO**
- **No insecticides**
- **Self-sustaining (needs only 1 application)**
- **Affordable long-term solution**

### Our method

* Ae. aegypti mosquitoes with *Wolbachia* (blue) are released into the wild mosquito population (black). Over a series of releases, the percentage of *Wolbachia* mosquitoes increases.

Once a threshold frequency of *Wolbachia* mosquitoes is reached, *Wolbachia* will continue to spread after releases have finished until the majority of mosquitoes carry *Wolbachia*.

### #RELEASING HOPE

When a village leader in Fiji told us he felt like we were ‘releasing hope’, we could not have been happier. It’s crucial we have the support of the people in the communities where we work. This is our ultimate goal. To free people from the fear and suffering caused by mosquito-borne disease.
Our impact

A growing body of evidence to support the efficacy of the method includes a randomised trial in Yogyakarta Indonesia which showed a 77% reduction in dengue incidence in areas treated with Wolbachia. The true impact of expanded Wolbachia deployments now underway in Yogyakarta is expected to be even greater, potentially resulting in local dengue elimination.

GLOBAL BURDEN OF MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE

40% of the world’s population is vulnerable to dengue

3.9 billion people are affected by dengue every year

Girls are more likely to get severe dengue than boys

Dengue is the world’s fastest spreading tropical disease

GLOBAL BURDEN OF MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE

Where we work

WMP has undertaken deployments in 11 countries across three continents with widespread support from communities, governments and regulators. View factsheets for each country.

Empowering communities

Before we release mosquitoes, we work with communities to explain our method and address any concerns. We partner closely with community groups, local health officials and advocates like Rene Silva in the communities where we work. We ensure the local community endorses our method before Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes are released in our project sites.

We encourage community members to become actively involved in our research by growing mosquitoes in their own backyards and by hosting bug traps. We only undertake release activities with community support. Community engagement and education are key to our approach.

79-98% public acceptance across the countries where we work

Our supporters

Contact us

www.worldmosquitoprogram.org/