The World Mosquito Program protects people at risk from mosquito-borne viruses. We couldn’t do this without the partnership of local communities. We work with communities to design our engagements long before any mosquitoes are released.

Our Public Acceptance Model (PAM) guides how we listen to key stakeholders and involve and empower our end beneficiaries. It is underpinned by our core principles and we only progress to mosquito releases when we have secured strong community support.

**Community Engagement**

**Principles**

- **Responsive**
  Showing that requests and concerns are heard and accommodated

- **Respectful**
  Caring for and taking into account the interests and concerns of others

- **Transparent**
  Being clear, open and honest, not letting untruths prevail

- **Inclusive**
  Include a diverse selection of the community within project scope

**Acceptance Rate**

Our high levels of acceptance show that our community engagement strategies work, and we sustain strong community support by maintaining an incident management system to address any new questions or concerns.
How we partner with communities

Partnership starts with a commitment to understanding the needs and interests of local communities. We gain a balanced perspective, activate key stakeholders and address community concerns before we begin our releases.

Here’s how it works:

Step 1
Listen
We develop our Community Profiles to understand the cultural, social and economic dimensions that should drive our project.

Step 2
Involve
Using Surveys, we solicit community input to our campaign design and form Community Reference Groups to involve them in decision making.

Step 3
Empower
Information is power and we ensure communities have answers to their questions by running campaigns, hosting events, broadcasting ads and performing street theatre.

Step 4
Assess
After our campaigns, we evaluate the success of our engagements and assess the level of acceptance through a Pre-Release Survey.

Step 5
Release
Community members also contribute once Wolbachia mosquito releases begin, acting as hosts for mosquito release containers or the traps we use to check for Wolbachia establishment.

Step 6
Monitor
After releases conclude, local communities continue to work with us by helping us monitor mosquitoes for the presence of Wolbachia.

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.