

INDONESIA

January 2022

The World Mosquito Program has partnered with the Indonesian Government to bring our *Wolbachia* method to local communities in Yogyakarta City. The Indonesian Ministry of Health has identified Yogyakarta Province as one of the 10 provinces most affected by dengue each year in the last three decades.

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.

Mosquito releases began after two years of engagement with communities and approval by the provincial government. Our Public Acceptance Model guides engagement, communication and issues management. No mosquitoes are released without full endorsement from the local Community Reference Group.

Funded by Yayasan Tahija (Tahija Foundation), and in partnership with Universitas Gadjah Mada, community engagement began in 2012, with releases from January 2014 of *Wolbachia*-carrying mosquitoes.

The first randomised controlled trial of the



1
project sites

size of the project
269 km²

1,149,035
people reached

4500
samples of public acceptance surveys

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

80
project staff

16,284
volunteers who released mosquitoes

2
local partners and supporters

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.

A large-scale efficacy study to evaluate the impact of our *Wolbachia* method was completed in 2020 with extremely promising results. This was the first gold-standard randomised controlled trial of *Wolbachia* for dengue control.

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This is a breakthrough research program that aims to find a solution to our dengue fever problem. We hope the World Mosquito Program will be able to provide evidence on the impact of *Wolbachia*, in reducing the number of dengue fever cases in Yogyakarta City.

- Dr Ani Mufidah Sari
Head of Jetis Community Health Centre



Warsito loves mosquitoes – to him, they are family

Warsito feeds mosquitoes every day with his own blood. This might seem like a strange thing to do, but for Warsito and others who work for the World Mosquito Program around the world, it's a safe and normal daily occurrence.

The World Mosquito Program breeds *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes that contain the *Wolbachia* bacteria, which blocks the transmission of viruses between people. As we breed the mosquitoes in our labs, we need to keep them fed and healthy until they are ready to be released, and in order to do this we need to give them their food source – blood.

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The best outcome is when we build the knowledge about the project together.

Warsito joined the World Mosquito Program in 2012, helping to set up and launch the first project in Indonesia, in the beautiful city of Yogyakarta.

Warsito has been involved in many aspects of the project: rearing mosquitoes (he's an entomologist, a scientist who studies insects), community engagement, running events, collaborating with partners and liaising with the local and national governments. He believes that the key to success is building communication and transparency.

Partners and supporters



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 11 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:



Contact us

