The World Mosquito Program in New Caledonia is part of a global, not-for-profit initiative that is working to protect local communities from mosquito-borne diseases.

In March 2018, we announced a new partnership with the Government of New Caledonia, the City of Nouméa and the Institute Pasteur in New Caledonia to protect communities in New Caledonia from mosquito-borne diseases.

**NEW CALEDONIA**

Mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue pose increasing health concerns for New Caledonia.

According to a World Health Organization report, more than 4000 dengue cases and 10 deaths were reported between September 2016 and June 2017.

Monash/WMP used reasonable efforts to confirm this data was up-to-date at the time of publication. Please email contact@worldmosquito.org for our most recent data.
Many countries in the Pacific, including New Caledonia, are always at risk from the threat of mosquitoes. With the self-sustaining Wolbachia method, we have a chance to use the best of nature to fight the worst of nature.

- Dr Tristan Derycke, City of Noumea Deputy Mayor

Our pilot project to introduce naturally occurring Wolbachia bacteria to mosquito populations in Nouméa started in 2019. Releases have continued following initial success and the last mosquito releases in the city took place in June 2021. The latest results in May 2023 show that 89% of mosquitoes now carry Wolbachia.

In September 2021, the towns of Mont-Doré and Dumbéa joined forces with WMP and its partners to deploy the Wolbachia method in their municipality. Mosquito releases took place from January to June 2022 in the districts of Auteuil, Koutio, Cœur de Ville, Dumbéa-sur-Mer and Plaine Adam in Dumbéa and in the districts of Yahoué, Pont-des-Français, La Conception, Robinson, Bouli and Saint-Michel in Mont-Doré. At the end of these releases, more than half of the mosquitoes were already carrying Wolbachia. Results in April 2023 showed that 77% of mosquitoes in Dumbéa and 71% of mosquitoes in Mont Doré now carry Wolbachia.

Based on the successful results, two municipalities extended the program to other districts in September 2022. These included Katiramona and Pointe à la Luzerne in Dumbéa and Saint-Louis, La Coulée, Vallon-Dore, Mont-Doré Sud and Plum in Mont- Golden. Releases took place between November 2022 and April 2023, with results in June 2023 showing Wolbachia had already passed through the local mosquito population, with 60% and 70% of mosquitoes carrying the natural bacteria, respectively in Mont-Doré and in Dumbéa.

Païta is the latest town to partner with WMP and the first mosquito releases are expected towards the end of 2023. For the fourth consecutive year, no dengue epidemic has occurred in Wolbachia treated neighbourhoods in New Caledonia.

Public acceptance has also been very high in New Caledonia, with an acceptance rate of 94% of residents in Nouméa and 92% of residents in Dumbéa and Mont-Doré.

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