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Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) & Their Control/Elimination in Asian Region with Special Emphasis on Pakistan

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Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) in Asia

- Globally Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) are endemic in more than 100 countries and responsible for almost 20% of the estimated global burden of infectious diseases, claiming 700,000 deaths annually.

- The most populated Asia Region particularly Southeast Asia is particularly vulnerable.

- Major VBDs region are malaria, DF/DHF, chikungunya, JE, L. filariasis leishmania (VL: kala-azar), Schistosomiasis, and Crimean C. hemorrhagic fever (CCHF).

- Mosquitoes are the best known disease vectors. Others include ticks, flies, sandflies, fleas, triatomine bugs and some freshwater aquatic snails.

- The accelerating population growth, rapid and uncontrolled urbanization, and land-use trends, and drastic changes in environment (flood, drought etc) are conducive to the spread of VBDs.

- Development of resistance in both vector and pathogen, conflicts COE) further compounded the situation in region.
Dengue/DHF in Asian Region: An Example from Pakistan

Dengue: Most rapidly spreading mosquito-borne arboviral infection

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Districts</td>
<td>134 Districts</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,134 Suspected Cases</td>
<td>1.87 M Suspected Cases</td>
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<tr>
<td>699 Confirmed</td>
<td>103,333 Confirmed</td>
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<td>7 Deaths</td>
<td>684 Death</td>
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Challenges for the VBDs in Region

The control of VBDs is not sole responsibility of health department. Cost-effective and sustainable control of VBDs in region can only be achieved by involving all stakeholders and partners (IVM: Integration Approach). Currently the region is facing the following key changes:

- Lack of inter-sectoral as well as cross-border coordination
- Lack of appropriate legislation OR Effective implementation of existing legislation
- Fragile surveillance, supervision, monitoring and evaluation system
- Operational research (OR)
- Trained and dedicated human resources
- Complex operating Environment (Conflicts: Local as well as regional)
- Inadequate financial human resources
- Donor dependence!!!!!!
Way Forward

• Broadening the scope of MCPs in VBDs focusing the institutional/system strengthening and capacity building through;
  
  ➢ Adopting the “Coordination & Integration Approach”
  
  ➢ Implementing GVCR (2017–30) in its *true spirit* which provides strategic guidance to programs & partners for strengthening of vector control as a fundamental approach to prevent VBDs & responding to their outbreaks
  
  ➢ Implementation of Improved surveillance
  
  ➢ Strengthening supervision, M&E and impact assessment of interventions

• Enhancing domestic resources.
Thank You for your attention
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