



Global Vector Hub: Colombia Case Study

Participant Information Sheet and Informed Consent Form

Background

The Global Vector Hub (GVH) is a novel online resource that is designed to enable easier communication and operation within the vector control and vector research communities. It was initiated after the Zika outbreak in 2015, and is being developed by researchers based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK, with a steering committee constituted by experts from around the world.

The aims of the resource include (i) building a network to encourage communication, the sharing of experiences, and the building of a community of practice, (ii) provide a platform for the dissemination and visualisation of data, such as vector distribution and insecticide resistance data, and (iii) provide a free online resource that gives information, standard operating procedures, guidelines and other materials to help standardise and improve vector control interventions and data collection.

Colombia is endemic for malaria, and experiences the circulation of dengue, chikungunya and other viruses transmitted by arthropods. The country also reports cases of Chagas disease and leishmaniasis.

Scientists from LSHTM and Universidad Cooperativa De Colombia are working together to develop a case study on Colombia for the Global Vector Hub. Through meetings with experts, and the collection of publically available data, the study is expected to provide:

- A summary of institutions in Colombia involved in vector control programmes and research.
- A summary of vector control activities implemented by the Ministry of Social Protection.
- A summary of the capacity of Colombia to respond to vector-borne disease outbreaks.
- Maps of known distributions of vectors and vector-borne diseases.
- An assessment of the threat of future vector-borne disease outbreaks.
- Recommendations for future capacity building and research priorities.

If you would like to share your knowledge on vector borne diseases in Colombia, whether this is on vector control implementation, capacity building, surveillance, research, or any other related activities, we would love to speak with you!

Please sign and date the consent section at the end of this document to indicate your interest. We would like to hold discussion sessions (either alone or in groups). These will be audio recorded, and we will take notes of the session. It is planned that the work will be disseminated on the Global Vector Hub and potentially in a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. It is up to you whether you speak in English or Spanish during the session.

Risks and benefits



There are no direct benefits to taking part on this study. Those that contribute may be asked if they would like to join the GVH network and/or contribute to a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Further information

If you have any queries or if you need further information, please contact Gloria Isabel Jaramillo Ramirez on [telephone number]. Your participation in the study would be greatly appreciated.

If you are professionally involved in vector-control research, implementation, surveillance, or other related activities in Colombia and are happy to take part in the study, please read the following statements and then sign below. Thank you.

Verification of consent

- I agree to be a participant this study.
- The goals and methods of the study are clear to me.
- I understand that the information that I give will be treated in the strictest confidence and that my name will not be used when the discussions are typed up.
- I understand that I have the right to refuse to participate in the study, or withdraw from the study at any time, and no adverse consequences will follow on from my refusal to participate or withdrawal from the study.
- I understand that the scientific team is committed to treating participants with respect and privacy throughout the discussions.

I am willing to have my comments made public through online or printed material (e.g. manuscript, Global Vector Hub website)

Yes

No

If no, I would be prepared to have my comments in such material made anonymous

Yes

No

I would prefer the session, and follow-up communication, to be in the following language:

English

Spanish

Participant: _____

Printed name, signature, and date

Research Assistant: _____

Printed name, signature, and date

One signed copy of this form is given to the Participant
One signed copy of this form is kept for the Principal Investigator