MalariaGEN Vector Observatory  
Partner study proposal form (July 2019 | Version 4.0)

The MalariaGEN Vector Observatory is a global collaborative project to establish an open access resource of *Anopheles* genome variation data, focusing primarily on species that are major vectors of human malaria. The Observatory is made up of multiple partner studies that each contribute mosquito specimens for genome sequencing.

**Please complete this form if you would like to propose a new partner study**. The purpose of the form is to get an idea of what mosquito specimens you have already collected, or are planning to collect in the near future. Once we have this information, we will contact you to let you know whether it is possible to include these specimens in the Observatory and to discuss the details.

Thanks in advance, from the MalariaGEN Resource Centre. You can send us the completed form, or you can contact us with any questions, by mailing [support@malariagen.net](mailto:support@malariagen.net).

# Partners

## Principal investigator (PI)

This is the person who has responsibility for ensuring compliance with legal, ethical and academic requirements regarding sample collection, export and use.

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Primary institutional affiliation** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Phone number & country code** |  |
| **Postal address** |  |

## Contact person

This is the person who will be the primary contact and representative of this partner study in communications with the MalariaGEN Resource Centre.

Please tick the box if same as PI.

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Primary institutional affiliation** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Phone number & country code** |  |
| **Postal address** |  |

## Key people

List any other key people involved in this partner study. Add more rows if needed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Affiliation | Email |
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**Please note that in the rest of this form we use the term “partnership” to mean the PI, contact person and key people listed above together with members of the MalariaGEN Resource Centre based at the Wellcome Sanger Institute and the University of Oxford.**

# Sample information

Every sample submitted to the Wellcome Sanger Institute for genetic analysis must:

* Have been collected in accordance with good research practice
* Have local ethics approval where appropriate
* Have approval from other local stakeholders (e.g. the local institutional review body) where appropriate
* Have been accessed in accordance with the provider countries access regulations and/or legislation. (<https://absch.cbd.int/>)
  + In addition, be accompanied with the relevant documentation to satisfy Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) if obtained from a country Party to the Nagoya Protocol.

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| Please confirm that you will take responsibility for local ethics approval and for any other review processes that are required at the local level. | Yes  No |
| Please provide details of the ethics committees that approved the study and ethics approval number(s), or reasons for exemption from ethical approval. | |
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Every sample submitted to the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory must:

* Be part of an approved partner study with a partner study reference code
* Be submitted with a complete Sample Manifest that provides collection date and location
* Be submitted as per the format outlined in the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory Protocol (provided separately)

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| I understand that samples submitted without prior approval or without a complete sample manifest will not be processed and may be returned. | Yes  No |

# Sample collection

## Existing collections

Please describe existing specimens which could be contributed to the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory. Please include information about the collection locations, years, species collected, type of specimen and number of specimens. The most common types of specimen are (a) whole mosquitoes (b) body parts and (c) DNA. If whole mosquitoes, please state method of storage, e.g., silica gel or alcohol. Please note that they will need to be shipped as outlined in the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory protocol and this may require you to transfer them from their current storage format. The number of specimens can be approximate.

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## Planned collections

Please list specimens that you plan to collect and could be contributed to the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory. For frequency and timing of collection, please state how frequently you will collect specimens and over what period e.g. 3-monthly collections. The number of specimens collected at each time point can be approximate.

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## Additional information

For example, are you collecting these specimens as part of a programme of entomological monitoring, and/or to address a particular scientific question?

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# Data processing and release

All samples will be processed by the MalariaGEN Resource Centre team at the Wellcome Sanger Institute and the University of Oxford. Processing will include sample preparation, sequencing, and computational analyses. The following data will be generated and released:

* **Raw sequence reads** – For each sample, raw sequence reads are generated. These data will be automatically deposited in the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA) shortly after a sequencing run is complete. These data will be publicly accessible via the ENA web site and there will be no restrictions on use by third parties. These data will not be associated with any sample metadata other than morphological species identification.
* **Curated variation and population data** – Raw sequence reads will be processed via standard bioinformatics pipelines to generate variant calls, which will then be curated to filter poor quality data and add useful annotations. The curated variation data will then be analysed to generate population data such as allele frequencies. The curated variation and population data will be made available to partners as soon as possible. These data will also be publicly released via the MalariaGEN web site, with restrictions on use by people outside the partnership, which includes a publication embargo.
* **Surveillance reports** – The MalariaGEN Resource Centre is developing standardised analyses that extract and summarise key data that are relevant to malaria vector population surveillance, such as reports on the prevalence and spread of various forms of insecticide resistance. These analyses and reports are still in development, however it is our intention that these reports will be made available to partners as soon as possible, and will also be published via the MalariaGEN web site.

Please note that the timeline for producing data is dependent on a number of external factors, therefore while we aim to return data to partners within 9 months of receiving samples, this cannot be guaranteed.

Please also note that information about the partner study, including the name of the PI and contact person and information about sampling sites, will be published on the MalariaGEN web site.

# Publication policy

As mentioned above, the curated variation and population data will be released to partners, and will be publicly released with terms of use that restrict use by people outside the partnership. These restrictions will include a publication embargo which is intended to protect the rights of researchers within the partnership to make the first academic publications on these data. To balance the needs of researchers within the partnership, and researchers in the community outside the partnership, the publication embargo will be limited to a maximum of 2 years.

During the embargo period, any publications from within the partnership that make use of curated variation or population data will be discussed with and approved by all members of the partnership, prior to submission to a journal or preprint server.

All publications arising from the partnership will attribute authorship in accordance with ICMJE guidelines.

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| **IMPORTANT NOTE**  We are in a period of transition as we increasingly focus on translation of our work into impact on public health and are therefore modifying our Governance Framework. The goal of this is to broaden the representation of key stakeholder groups including global partners and public health bodies.  Under this new Framework, a newly constituted Governance Committee will meet regularly to provide oversight of the project as a whole, the data products returned to partners, the release of data and data products and publication policies for data resources, analysis, and methods development. As part of its terms of reference, the Committee may decide to review and revise the descriptions of the data products and the data release and publication policies. Any changes will be conducted transparently with plans shared and opportunity for feedback from all active partners. Documentation will then be modified as appropriate, and formally ratified by the Governance Committee. Changes made will be in the spirit of balancing the needs of public health and research, and considering the interests of all stakeholders. | |
| Please confirm that you have read and understood the note above. | Yes  No |

# Commitment statement

The Wellcome Sanger Institute, working through the MalariaGEN collaborative framework, is committed to integrating genetic and epidemiological data to understand the evolutionary changes in malaria relevant genomes (human, parasite and vector) particularly in response to control measures. By partnering with research and public health programmes operating in endemic regions through the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory we are committed to producing actionable knowledge for the purpose of controlling and eliminating malaria.

# Confirmation

Please write or type your name below to confirm that you agree to the MalariaGEN Vector Observatory partner study requirements and policies as laid out in this form.

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| Please confirm that you agree to the use of your samples as described above. | Yes  No |
| If you said no, please state the reasons why. | |
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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Date** |  |

