Reviewer's report

Title: Community-Owned Resource Persons for malaria vector control: enabling factors and challenges in an operational programme in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Version: 1 Date: 20 April 2011

Reviewer: Maru Aregawi

Reviewer's report:

I. Major compulsory revisions:

1-The background section is extremely long. First paragraph in page 3 could be shortened much by focusing on community related activities to malaria and other vector born control and relate to the community behaviour in Tanzania urban settings. This is already discussed in page 5 (paragraph 2).

2-In page 6, (Par 3), include type of larviciding applied, types of chemicals used if any, parameters used to decide to apply larviciding, who does the larviciding, how often they apply larvicides once a breeding site is detected, seasonality?

3. Methods:

3.1 The method section is too long and fails to give clear understanding of the main messages. Study area and qualitative preliminary assessment could be shortened.

3.2. Explain clearly the gold standard used to determine the detection sensitivity of CORPs and how comparisons were done.

3.3. Explain how would the investigator control the ward supervisor from informing the CORPs that the person visiting is the investigator.

3-Findings:

3.1 Contextual determinants of detection coverage identified through the guided walks. This section is not worthy for publication at all. It is long and can not be considered as evidence. It reports on personal opinions and grievances from individual respondents. A reader would not conclude anything from this section. Suggestion: Categorize determinants and quantify as frequency of respondent. Examples of satisfaction indexes for categories: supervision, feedback and response, payment adequacy, workload, other incentives, leave days, community acceptance (opening houses or fences), etc.

II. Minor Essential revisions:

Abstract: Methods: Describe the gold standard against which the detection sensitivity or capacity) was used.

Results: Although, the aim of the study is to generate better understanding of the role that the CORPs play within the programme, you results mainly emphasize on comparisons of detection coverage of CORPs recruited through programme admin vs local government officials. Therefore, you have to either revise the aim
of the study to reflect the results or provide more results that reflect the roles of the CORPs to the UMCP programme.

Page 9: The second last sentence: replace the word "reacted" to "related" and "insufficient" as one word to "insufficient" as follows: ... late-stage (3rd or 4th instar) mosquito larve, could be related to insufficient time....

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No,