**ACTwatch Lite Toolkit Stakeholder Mapping Guide**

**Information/ instructions for users**

This tool is designed to guide stakeholder[[1]](#footnote-1) mapping and engagement as part of an ACTwatch Lite study. The purpose of stakeholder mapping is to identify and engage key actors who influence or are impacted by private sector malaria case management.

Users should use this document as a starting point and **adapt it to their local context and study-specific needs**. The tool draws on lessons from the ACTwatch Lite pilot in Benin, Nigeria, and Cameroon, and incorporates elements from global stakeholder mapping frameworks (e.g., WHO guidance[[2]](#footnote-2)).

Stakeholder mapping should begin during the inception phase and be revisited throughout the study as new actors are identified or roles change[[3]](#footnote-3). In decentralized health systems, consider conducting the mapping at multiple administrative levels (e.g., national, state, district).

Why this step is important:

* Ensures the right actors are engaged across all phases of study implementation.
* Supports context-appropriate data collection, validation, and interpretation.
* Promotes use of study findings to inform national policies and strategies (e.g., regulation, MFT, case management improvements).

**Instructions: Read the stakeholder mapping steps (Table A) and complete Table B and Table C provided. Add notes on each stakeholder’s role, level of influence, interest, and recommended engagement approach. Update this document regularly and link to relevant documents where applicable. This tool will serve as a resource throughout study planning, implementation, dissemination, and actioning results.**

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| Table A) Stakeholder mapping steps | |
| **A diagram of a diagram  AI-generated content may be incorrect.** | |
| 1. **Identifying Key Stakeholders:** | * Determine individuals, organizations, and entities with influence over or interest in private sector malaria case management and surveillance. * Consider the 7P’s Framework (Patients/Public, Providers, Purchasers, Payers, Policy Makers, Product Makers, Principal Investigators) to list stakeholders and structure engagement. * Reference **Table B** below |
| 1. **Analyzing Stakeholder Influence and Interest:** | * Use a stakeholder matrix (below) to classify actors based on interest and influence (e.g., high-influence/high-interest stakeholders should be closely engaged throughout). * Consider decision-making authority and map power dynamics * Use **Table C** below |
| 1. **Mapping Relationships and Engagement Pathways:** | * Use flow diagrams to visualize stakeholder connections (e.g., MoH–Private Sector linkages, regulatory oversight) to facilitate coordination, collaboration, and advocacy * Identify champions who can advocate for the integration of ACTwatch Lite findings into national strategies. |
| 1. **Prioritizing and Engaging Stakeholders:** | * Establish a stakeholder engagement plan, including policy dialogues, workshops, and dissemination events to ensure continuous communication and feedback loops throughout the study. |

Table B) Private sector malaria case management and surveillance stakeholder list for potential inclusion in ACTwatch Lite study

*This is not a comprehensive list for all countries or areas of implementation. Users should edit or expand given the local context.*

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| **Stakeholder Category** | **Key Stakeholders** | **Role in ACTwatch Lite** |
| Government & Policy Actors | National Malaria Program (NMP) | Leads coordination and integration of ACTwatch Lite within national malaria surveillance strategies. |
|  | Ministry of Health (MoH) Departments | Oversees surveillance, private sector engagement, and pharmaceutical regulation. |
|  | Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agencies | Assesses antimalarial product registration, ensures quality assurance, and enforces policies. |
|  | Public Sector Health Facilities & Providers | Contextualizes findings and aligns with national case management policies. |
| Private Sector Stakeholders | Private Pharmacies & Drug Shops | Primary sources of private sector malaria treatment data. |
|  | Importers, Wholesalers & Distributors | Provide insights into antimalarial supply chains and market dynamics. |
|  | Professional Associations (e.g., Pharmacists’ and Medical Associations) | Important for dissemination and provider engagement. |
| Funding & Technical Partners | Global Fund & Other Donors | Key funders supporting surveillance and policy implementation. |
|  | WHO & Technical Advisory Groups | Offer normative guidance and validation of methodologies. |
|  | NGOs & Research Entities | Provide technical expertise and facilitate evidence translation into programs. |
| Other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) | e.g. Community-based organizations (CBOs), Faith-based organizations, Advocacy groups, other (non-technical) NGOs | Support community engagement and local context validation; facilitate dissemination of findings to community levels; provide insight into treatment-seeking behaviors and access barriers; and advocate for use of evidence in local decision-making and resource allocation. |

Table C) Stakeholder Matrix

*A few examples are provided below. Complete for all actors identified in Table B*

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| **Stakeholder Category** | ***Name of Organization*** | **Name of Contact Person(s) (Title & Level)** | **Role in the private sector malaria case management/ type of influence (Regulatory, Funding, Policy, Implementation, Advocacy, Private Sector, Research)** | **Level of Influence (High/Med/Low)** | **Role & Type of Engagement (Inform, Consult, Involve, Collaborate, Co-Create)** | **Priority of Engagement (High/Med/Low)** |
| Government & Policy Actors | *EXAMPLE 1*  *National Malaria Program (NMP)* | [Name], Program Coordinator | Policy, Implementation | High | Collaborate – Co-lead implementation, validate findings, integrate into national strategies | High |
| Government & Policy Actors | *EXAMPLE 2 Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency* | [Name], [Role] | Regulatory | High | Consult – Ensure ACT market compliance, support data-driven policy revisions | High |
| Government & Policy Actors | *EXAMPLE 3 Private Pharmacies & Drug Shops Association* | [Name], Executive Director | Private Sector, Implementation | Medium | Collaborate – Facilitate data collection, integrate findings into private sector case management strategies | High |
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1. *A stakeholder for the purposes of an ACTwatch Lite study is any individual, group, entities, or entity that has an interest in, is affected by, or has the ability to influence private sector malaria case management, surveillance, or policy decisions related to the ACTwatch Lite study. This includes those directly involved in the implementation, those who use or benefit from the data, and those who can act on the findings to improve malaria control. In countries with decentralized or devolved health systems, consider conducting stakeholder mapping by administrative level (e.g., national, state, district). This helps ensure relevant engagement and data use at each level of implementation.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *WHO Stakeholder Mapping Guide:* [*stakeholder-mapping-tool.pdf*](https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/reproductive-health/contraception-family-planning/stakeholder-mapping-tool.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *Teams should update the mapping tool regularly as new actors are identified or stakeholder roles evolve throughout the study. Save updated versions with the date in the filename (e.g., Stakeholder\_Mapping\_YYYYMMDD.xlsx) to ensure a clear version history.* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)