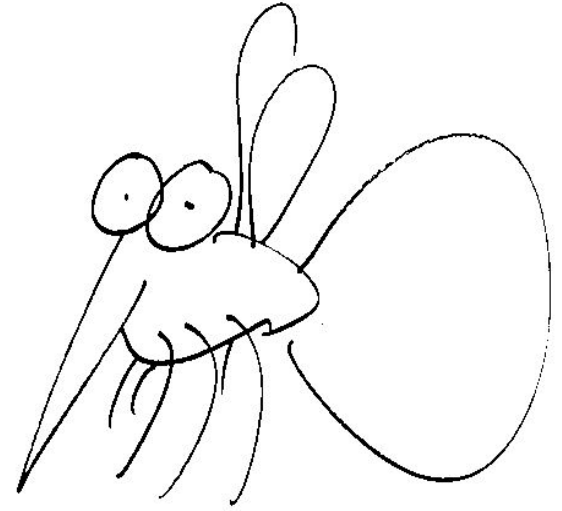
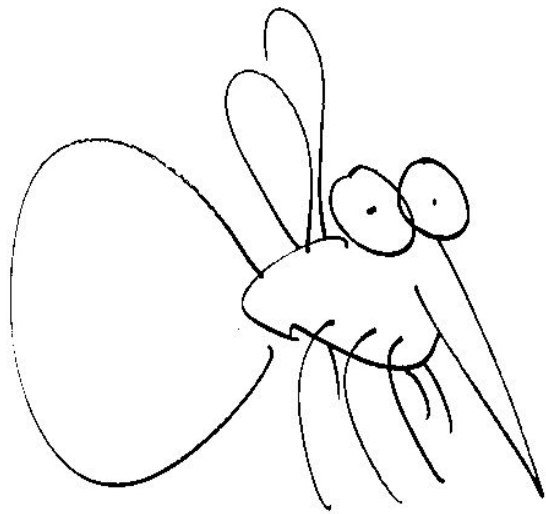
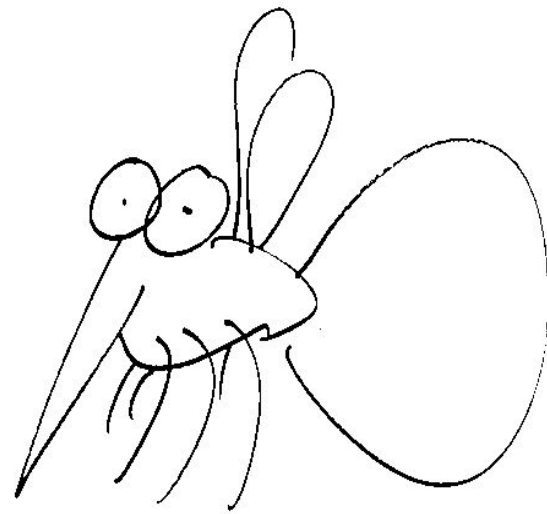


# DSI PROJECT 1





BACKGROUND



# WHAT IS DENGUE AND WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?



MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
SINGAPORE

For Public

For Healthcare Professionals

e-Services

Who We Are



## ⊖ Understanding Dengue Fever

Dengue fever is a disease caused by the dengue virus which is transmitted to humans via the bite of an infective mosquito. There are four different serotypes of dengue virus (DENV1 to 4) circulating in the world, including Singapore. Hence, individuals can be infected with dengue up to four times. First-time dengue infections can be severe, especially among the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions, and repeat dengue infections have been associated with a higher occurrence of severe dengue. Dengue haemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome can be fatal. Together with the National Environment Agency (NEA), we provide regular [weekly updates](#) on all dengue cases and track dengue-related deaths in Singapore which are reported quarterly.

## ⊖ How Dengue Is Transmitted

Dengue fever is transmitted to humans via the bite of an infective Aedes mosquito. A mosquito becomes infected after it takes a blood meal from a dengue-infected person. It becomes infective after an extrinsic incubation period of 8 to 12 days. The mosquito then remains infective for the rest of its lifespan. When a person is bitten by an infective mosquito, they may develop symptoms after an intrinsic incubation period of 4 to 7 days (ranges from 3 to 14 days). Notably, up to 75% of dengue infections are asymptomatic. Dengue fever does not spread from person to person.

Source: <https://www.moh.gov.sg/diseases-updates/dengue>

# MONITORING OF DENGUE CLUSTERS IN SINGAPORE



Source: <https://www.nea.gov.sg/dengue-zika/dengue/dengue-clusters>

## FIGHT ZIKA AND DENGUE

The Zika and Dengue viruses are both transmitted by the female Aedes mosquito. Zika is generally mild and most people infected with the virus do not develop symptoms.

## LAWAN ZIKA DAN DENGGI

Kedua-dua virus Zika dan Denggi disebarkan melalui nyamuk Aedes betina. Zika umumnya adalah penyakit ringan dan kebanyakan orang yang dijangkiti virus ini tidak menunjukkan sebarang tanda.



### Get rid of stagnant water at home to protect our families and neighbourhoods:

Hapuskan bekungan air di rumah untuk melindungi keluarga dan kejiranan kita.



### Protect Yourself Lindungi Diri Anda



### Symptoms Tanda-Tanda



### Together, we can prevent Zika and Dengue in our neighbourhoods.

Please cooperate with our NEA officers – allow them into your home for inspection and to spray insecticide to kill any mosquitoes.

Join your neighbourhood's Mozzie Wipeout activities.

### Bersama-sama, kita boleh mencegah Zika dan Denggi di kawasan kejiranan kita.

Sila bekerjasama dengan pegawai NEA kami dengan membenarkan mereka masuk ke rumah anda dan membolehkan mereka menyemprot rumah dengan nyamuk nyamuk-nyamuk.

Berilah aktiviti Mozzie Wipeout kejiranan anda.

For more information, visit [www.nea.gov.sg](http://www.nea.gov.sg) or [www.mozzie.gov.sg](http://www.mozzie.gov.sg)  
Untuk maklumat lanjut, lawati [www.nea.gov.sg](http://www.nea.gov.sg) atau [www.mozzie.gov.sg](http://www.mozzie.gov.sg)

OUR LIVES, OUR FIGHT  
Kita hidup, kita lawan  
Let's take action together!  
Mari kita bertindak bersama!



骨痛熱症由雌性伊蚊傳播，而积水是伊蚊孳生的溫床。採取下列行動，以防伊蚊在家中滋生蔓延。



1. 清除溝渠內的葉枝及枝干，并把种植在花盆內的  
植物封土，避免其积水。  
2. 每月检查花盆内的积水，并加入Bti杀蚊药。  
3. 在雨水池中加入Bti杀蚊药。  
4. 每次维修检查后把门板盖紧，确保密封胶及门板  
周围的区域都已封好。  
5. 每次维修检查后把门板盖紧，确保密封胶及门板  
周围的区域都已封好。



1. 每天一天检查花盆内的积水，并清除积水。  
2. 每月检查花盆内的积水，并加入Bti杀蚊药。  
3. 在雨水池中加入Bti杀蚊药。  
4. 每次维修检查后把门板盖紧，确保密封胶及门板  
周围的区域都已封好。  
5. 每次维修检查后把门板盖紧，确保密封胶及门板  
周围的区域都已封好。



## 全面检查并保护我们的家园

骨痛熱症病例近期有激增的趋势。为了保护您家人的安全，预防伊蚊滋生并清除家中积水，以确保他们免受危害。以下防范措施须知：

检查区域	灭蚊步骤	完成
花草植物 (例如花盆、 植物叶茎、干燥的泥土)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>清除花盆内的积水</li> <li>将叶茎清除干净</li> <li>铲松干燥的泥土</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
家中水容器及积水处 (例如花瓶、喷壶、 水桶、马桶刷/牙刷架、 厨房餐盘架/盛水的托盘)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>将水桶倒置存放，并抹干水桶边缘</li> <li>倒掉花瓶中/刷子撑架的积水</li> <li>定期更换喷壶的水，并刷洗表层</li> <li>抹干厨房餐盘架/清除托盘中积水</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
晒衣竿撑架	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>盖好晒衣竿撑架</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
屋顶水槽及 院内沟渠	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>疏通阻塞的潜在滋生处，例如 屋顶水槽及沟渠，并放入Bti杀蚊药</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>

新增两个灭蚊步骤，  
全面确保您和家人  
的安全：



1. 在家中阴暗角落如  
床底与沙发底下，  
以及宠物后喂食虫剂



2. 使用驱蚊剂，  
穿上长裤长袖衣

## STOP DENGUE WITH B-L-O-C-K.



## PROJECT WOLBACHIA SINGAPORE

For more information, visit [www.projectwolbachia.gov.sg](http://www.projectwolbachia.gov.sg)  
Facebook: [ProjectWolbachia](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectWolbachia)  
Twitter: [NEAsg](https://twitter.com/NEAsg)

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National Environment Agency

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# WHAT IS PROJECT WOLBACHIA?

When female mosquitoes from the field, which do not carry Wolbachia, mate with males that carry Wolbachia, the eggs derived from these matings do not hatch.

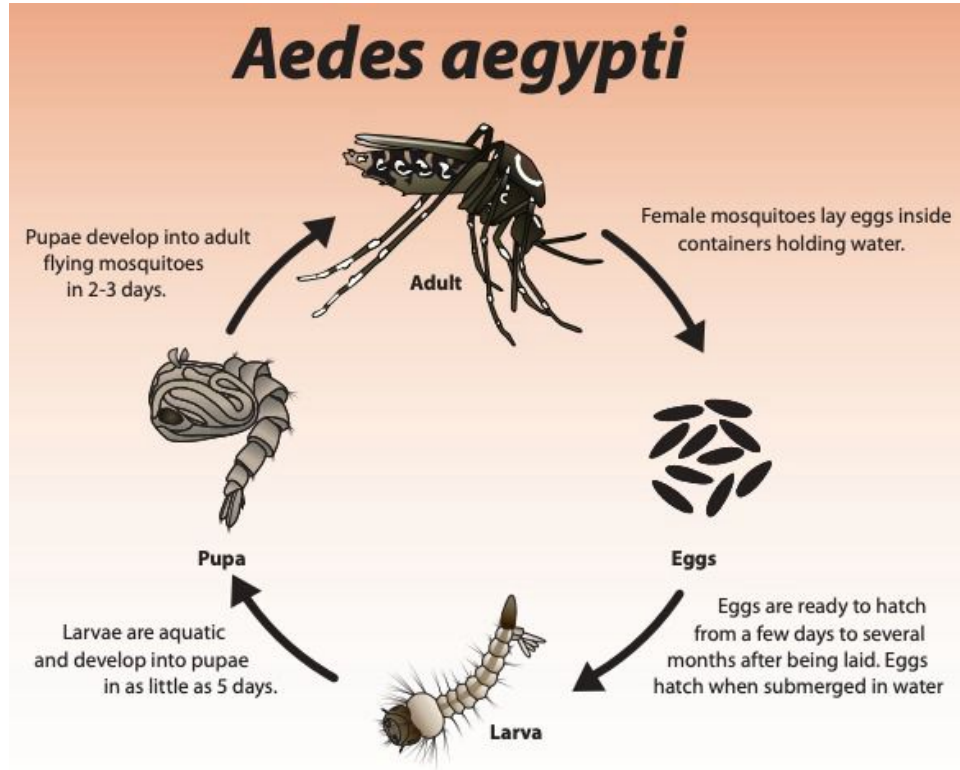


Project Wolbachia Singapore studies the feasibility of using Wolbachia-carrying *Aedes aegypti* males to help suppress the population of these mosquitoes.

Wolbachia are naturally-occurring bacteria present in more than 60% of insects.

With a suppressed population, the expected outcome is that dengue transmission will be reduced hence decreasing the number of dengue fever cases in the country.

# THE LIFE CYCLE OF Aedes Aegypti



## Some facts about *Aedes aegypti*

*Aedes aegypti* has 4 stages, namely egg, larva, pupa and adult.

The entire life cycle, from an egg to an adult, takes approximately 8-10 days.

Adult mosquitoes can lay up to 100 eggs each time.

Eggs can stick to the sides of containers, and can survive drying out for up to 8 months.

Dried out eggs can still hatch when enough water is present to completely cover it, triggering the larva to emerge.

# SOME OTHER STATISTICS ON THE AEADES AEGYPTI

**Persistent presence of *Aedes* and climatic and spatial factors** Singapore's warm and humid climate year-round allows for favourable breeding and survival conditions for the *Ae. aegypti* vector. An increase in the ambient temperature between 25°C and 35°C accelerates the life cycle of mosquito vectors [40] and reduces the EIP of the dengue virus in the vector [41], thereby increasing the transmission potential of dengue virus [42]. For example, in Cairns,

were associated with reduced dengue [45]. Singapore has warmed over the past decades, with the number of months per year with mean temperature above 27.5°C (the optimal temperature for the survival of *Ae. aegypti*) exhibiting a positive trend between 1980 and 2021 (as measured at Changi meteorological station) [46]. With warming facilitated by climate change and urban



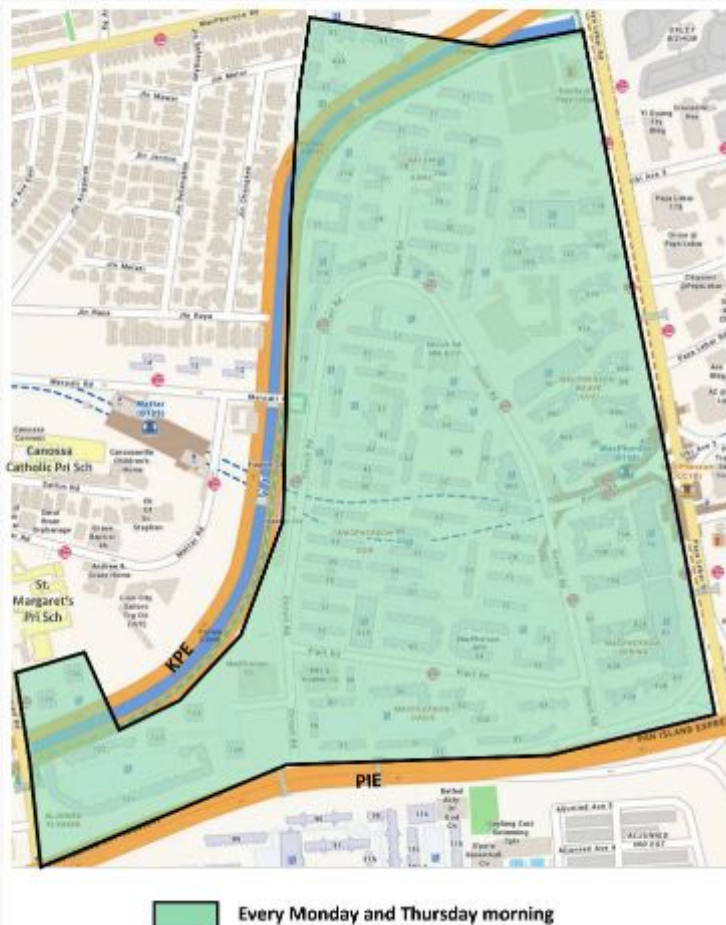
# Areas with Higher Aedes aegypti Mosquito Population

The information provided in this map is from October 2023.



# SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF THE RELEASE OF AEDES AEGYPTI

Geylang



Bedok



# IS IT WORKING?

CNA, 21 September 2023

“Professor Tikki Pangestu, a visiting professor at NUS’ Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, also highlighted that there are several challenges in scaling up the project countrywide. These include **high costs, manpower requirements, potential negative ecological impact on the ecosystem as well as overcoming public concern** if more mosquitoes are released.”

“(Dr Ng) added that it is **not just the number of mosquitoes that matters**, but whether the mosquitoes will survive long enough in the field to increase the effectiveness of Project Wolbachia.”



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Singapore

## Project Wolbachia: 300 million mosquitoes released but not a silver bullet to deal with dengue, says NEA

In areas with many mosquitoes, the Wolbachia mosquitoes cannot compete with them and will be “overwhelmed”, says the National Environment Agency.



NEA senior scientist Deng Lu points at containers that hold strips where mosquitoes land to lay eggs. (Photo: CNA/Raydza Rahman)

Natasha Ganesan

21 Sep 2023 06:00AM  
(Updated: 21 Sep 2023 05:14PM)



SINGAPORE: A nondescript industrial building in Ang Mo Kio houses a lab that has bred more than 300 million mosquitos and is producing another 7 million every week.

This is the headquarters of Project Wolbachia, which produces and releases non-biting male *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes at selected locations to mate with their female counterparts.

Because the male mosquitos carry the Wolbachia bacteria, the resultant eggs do not hatch and this helps to suppress the mosquito population.

Still, dengue cases in Singapore do not appear to have fallen since Project Wolbachia's launch in 2016. A total of 32,173 dengue cases were reported in 2022, the second-highest in a year, with the record high being 35,266 in 2020.

### Related Topics

Wolbachia dengue NEA

### Also worth reading



Singapore condemns 'heinous attack' at... Man took voyeuristic videos of university...



Singaporean... killed... Woman charged with...

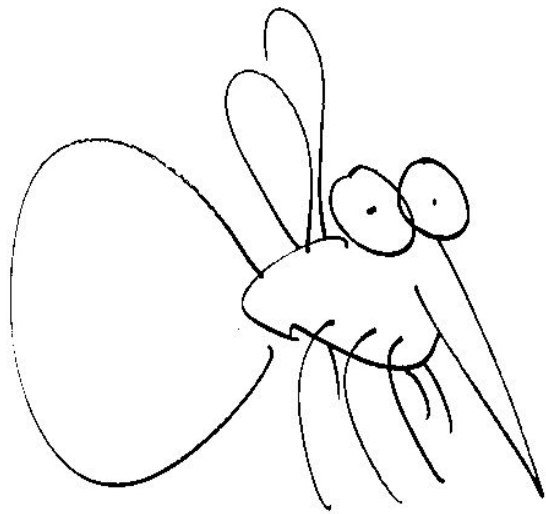


# PROBLEM STATEMENT

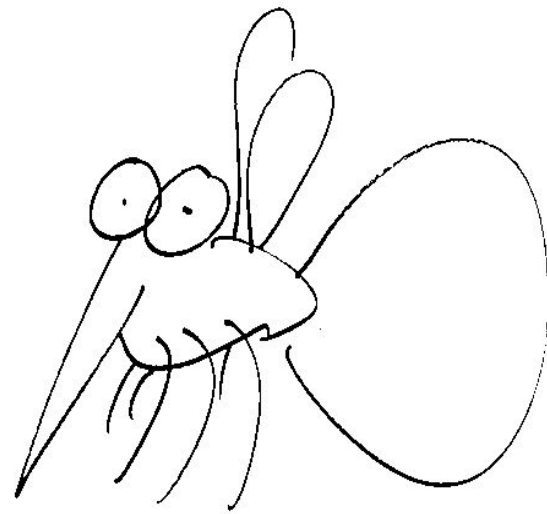
High incidences of dengue fever is a persistent issue in Singapore despite measures taken by the government to curb it. For example, an increase in rainfall could lead to an increase in the population of mosquitoes, which in turn leads to higher incidences of dengue fever.

With the implementation of Project Wolbachia, the drop in the number of dengue cases has been observed. However, the release of Wolbachia-carrying *Aedes aegypti* are currently carried out on a weekly basis, which could be resource intensive and have a negative ecological impact.

As mosquito activity is highly influenced by weather conditions, this project aims to analyse trends in Singapore weather and the number of dengue cases between 2014 to 2018. This analysis can be used to help NEA plan optimal time periods for the release of the male Wolbachia-carrying *Aedes aegypti* into the environment to enhance effectiveness of Project Wolbachia. This can in turn curb dengue transmission to decrease the number of dengue cases.



ANALYSIS





# DATA DICTIONARY

Feature	Description
Number of Dengue Cases	Number of dengue cases per week (comprises of dengue fever cases & dengue haemorrhagic cases), from Jan 2014 to Dec 2018
Total Rainfall	Total rainfall per month (mm), from Jan 2014 to Dec 2018
Number of Rainy Days	Total number of days with rainfall per month, from Jan 2014 to Dec 2018
Mean Temperature	Mean monthly temperature in SG (°C), from Jan 2014 to Dec 2018
Mean Relative Humidity	Mean monthly relative humidity in SG, from Jan 2014 to Dec 2018

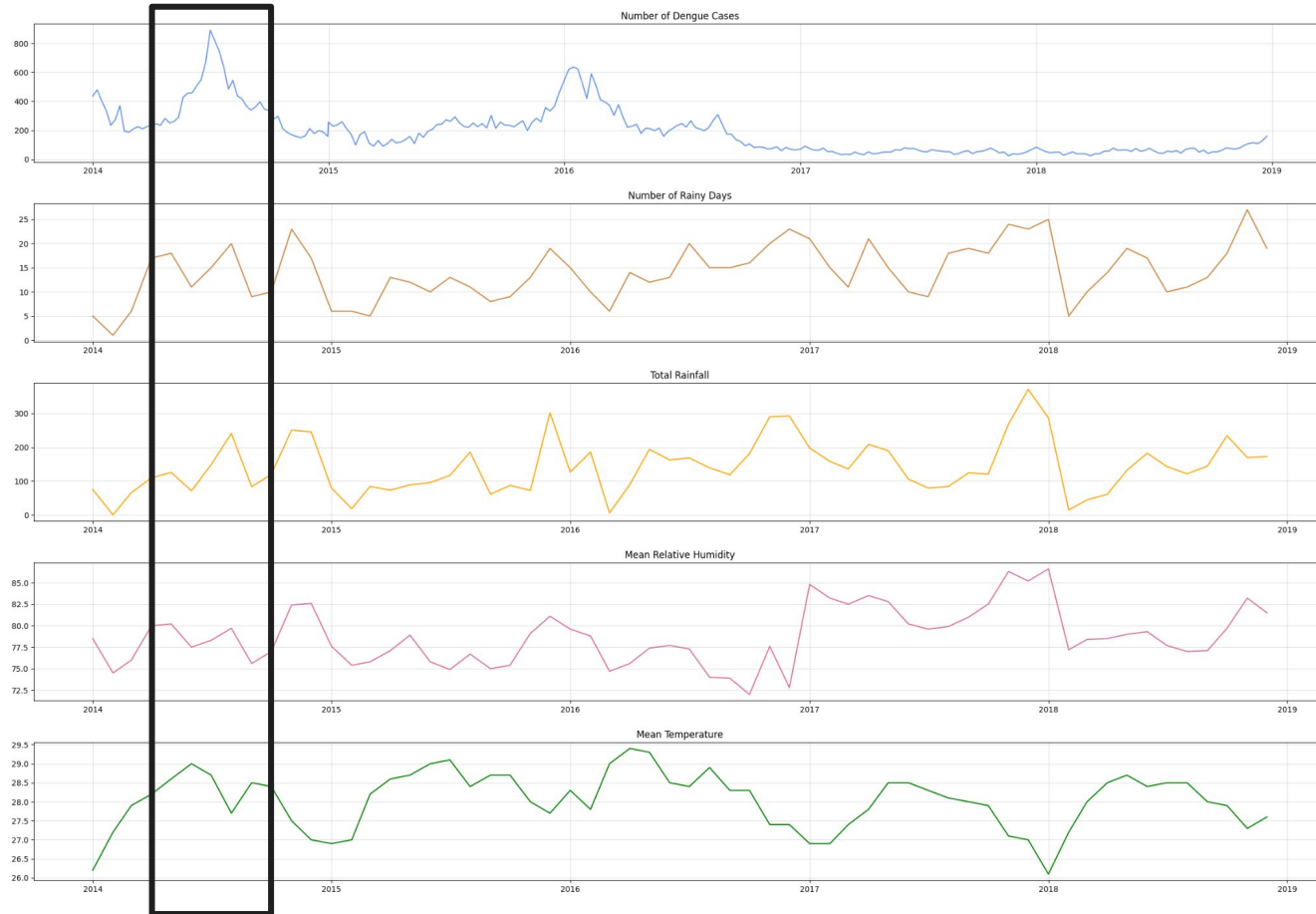
01

# ANALYSIS

01

As weather conditions such as rainy days and total rainfall increased towards mid 2014, the increase in dengue cases was observed to peak during the similar period.

- Number of Dengue Cases
- Number of Rainy Days
- Rainfall
- Humidity
- Temperature



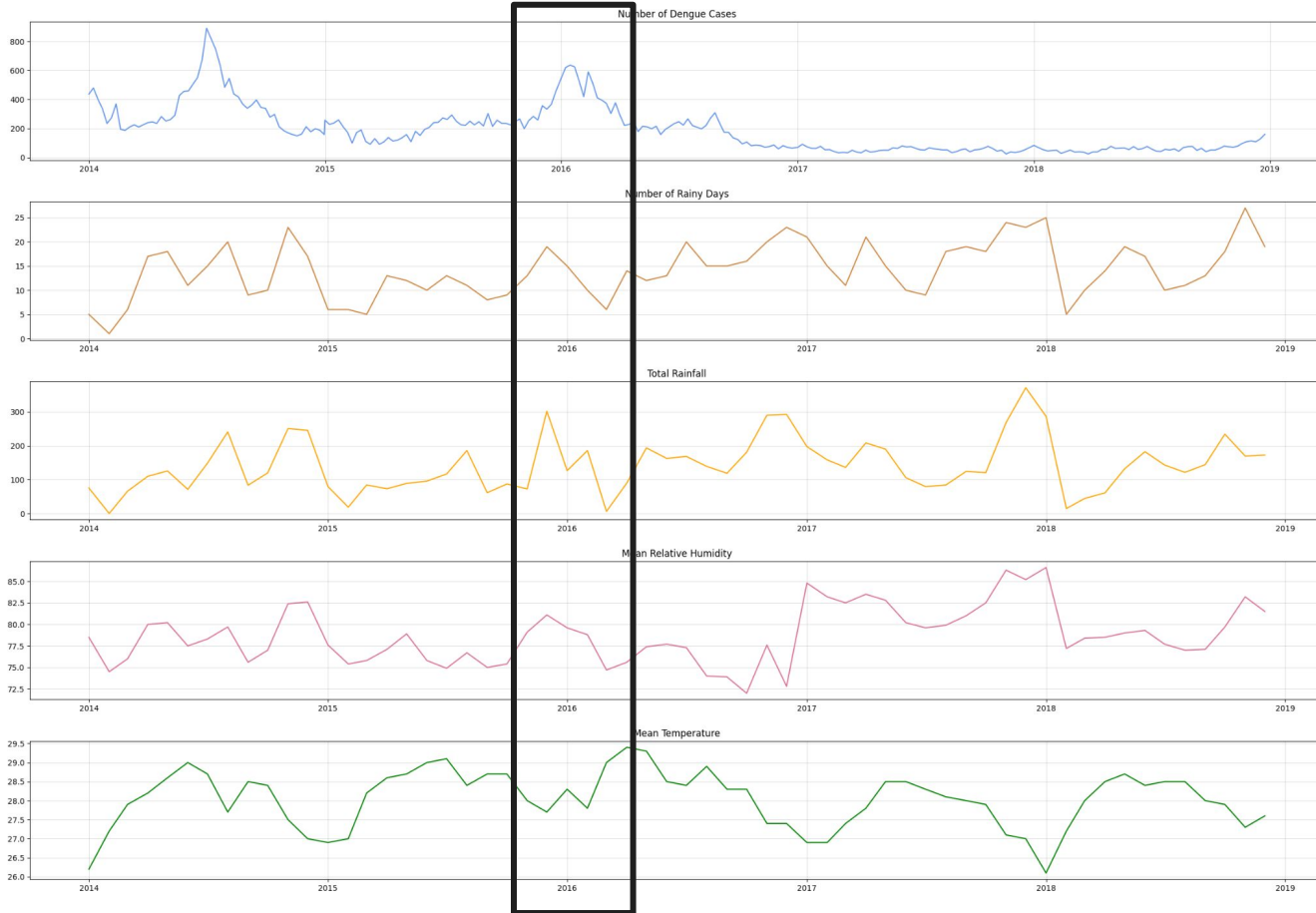
# ANALYSIS

02

Towards Nov 2015, rainfall and temperature spiked. The peak in the number of dengue cases was delayed by approximately 1 month after the peak of the respective weather conditions.

- Number of Dengue Cases
- Number of Rainy Days
- Rainfall
- Humidity
- Temperature

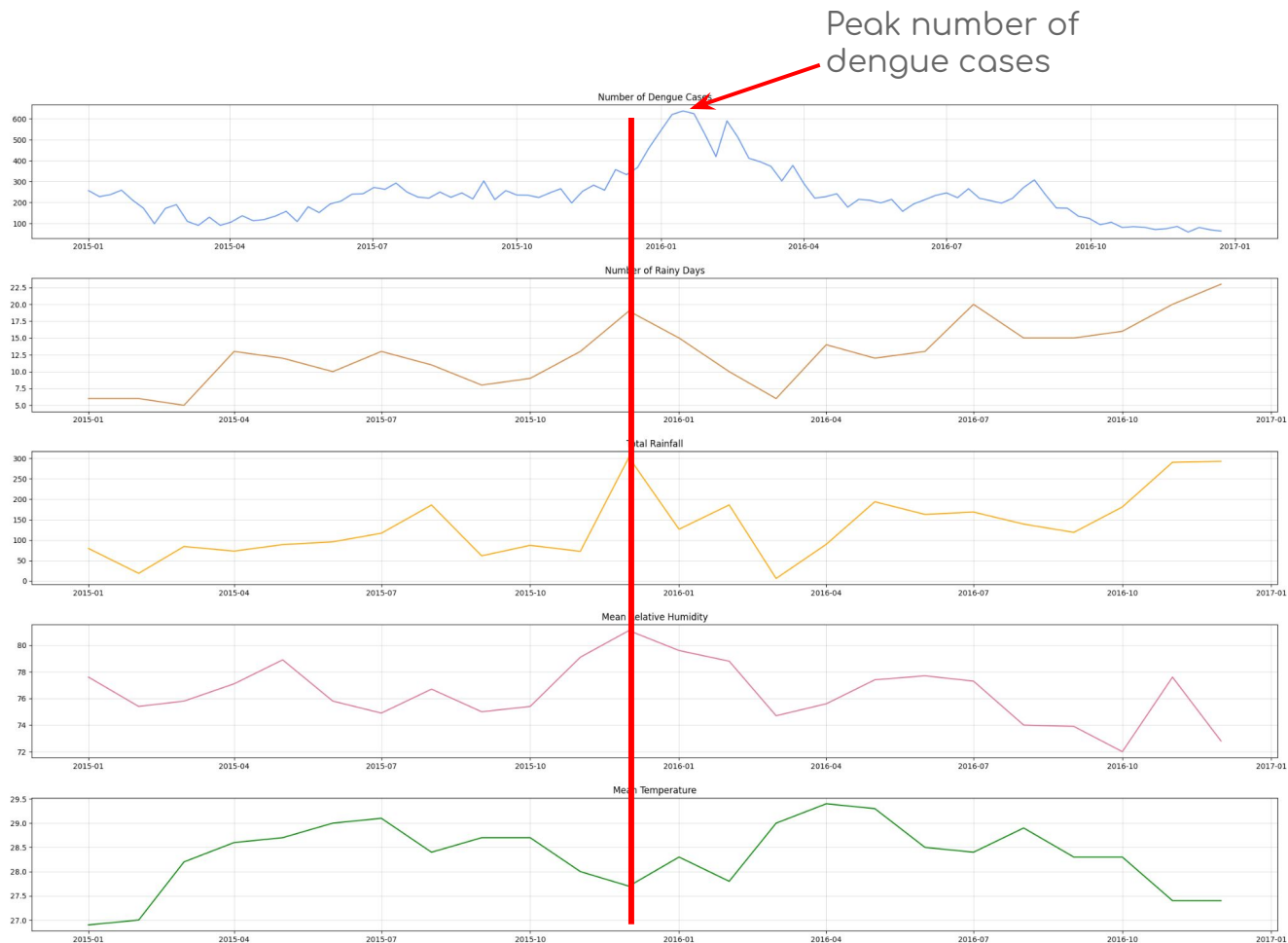
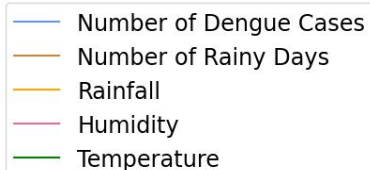
02



# ANALYSIS

02

The peak of the rainfall and temperature values are observed to coincide with the start of the increase in number of dengue cases.



# INSIGHTS

## 01 & 02

- With the relationship between number of dengue cases and weather conditions, given a known/ estimated weather conditions' profile, profile of increase in dengue cases could be determined
  - Approx. 1 month delay from spike/ dips in weather conditions' profile
  - Peak/dips in weather profile suggests initial increase in dengue cases
- According to available research, the optimal temperature for the survival of *Aedes aegypti* has a mean of 27.5 deg C, similar to the trend seen in the line plot.
  - "... overall the flight performance of *Ae. aegypti* tethered females was better below 27 °C."
  - "Connor [22] stated that *Ae. aegypti* is most active at 28 °C. Marchoux et al."

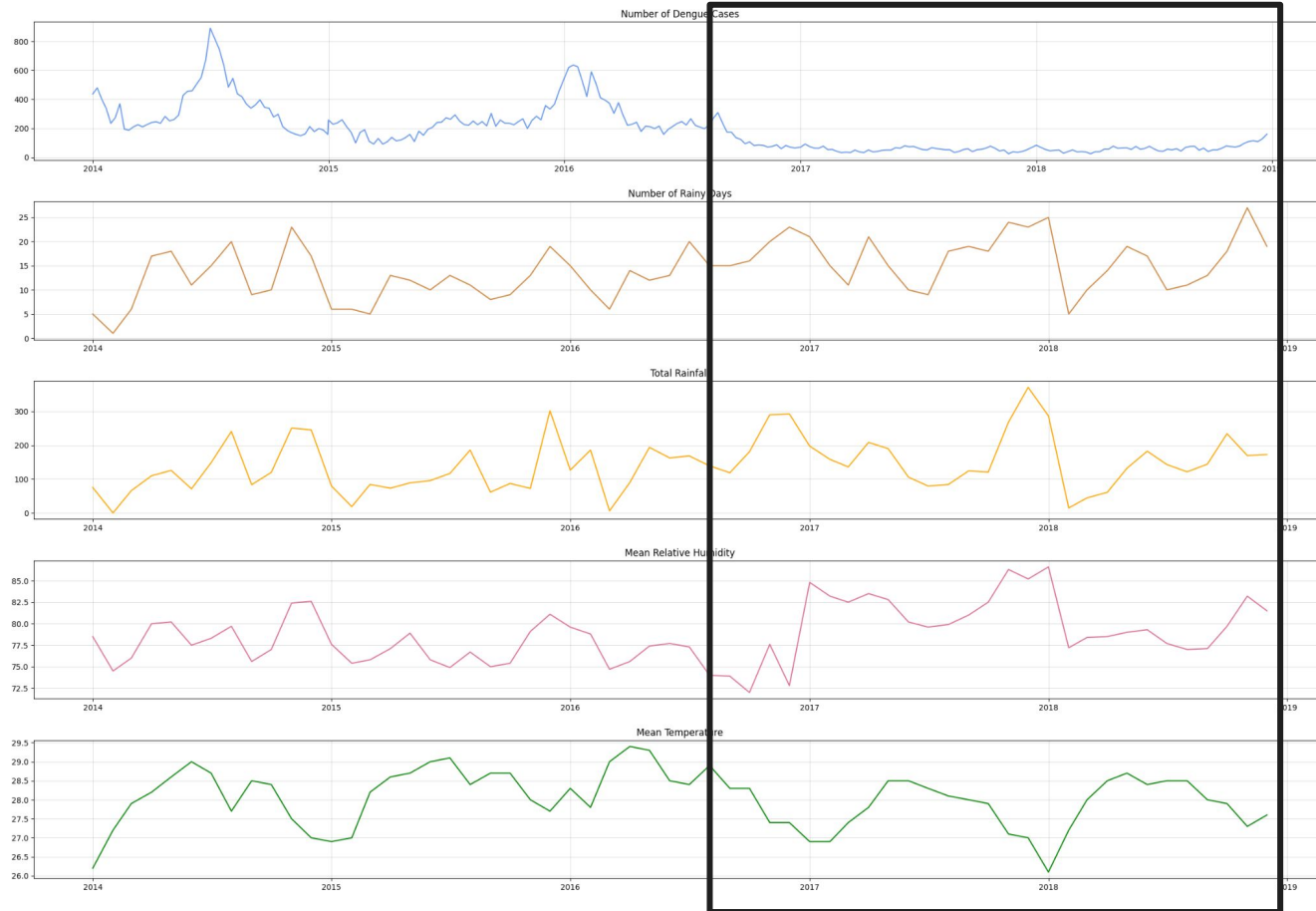


# ANALYSIS

03

From Oct 2016 onwards, the number of dengue cases dropped even though there were spikes/ drops in rainfall, temperature and relative humidity.

- Number of Dengue Cases
- Number of Rainy Days
- Rainfall
- Humidity
- Temperature

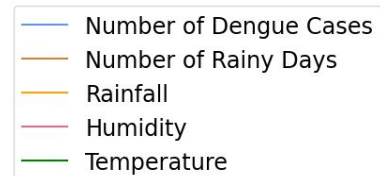


03

# ANALYSIS

03

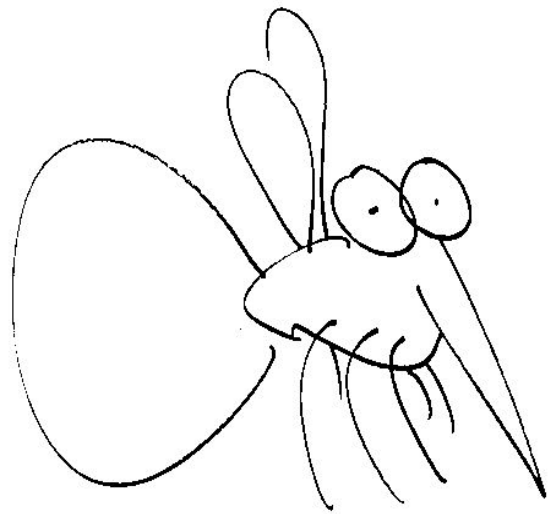
Despite the typical spike in rainfall/ temp occurring at the end of 2016, further analysis of the dengue cases profile did not suggest an increase in number of infections.



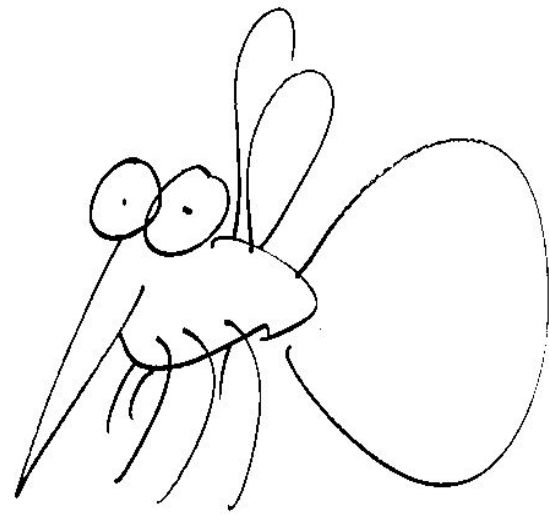
# INSIGHTS

## 03

- The drop in number of dengue cases from Oct 2016 could be attributed to the launch of Project Wolbachia during the same time frame
- Number of dengue cases did not drastically increase despite the spike/ dip in weather conditions in Dec 2016 as compared to prior of project launch
  - Could indicate the effectiveness of the project in curbing mosquito breeding and reduction in dengue cases

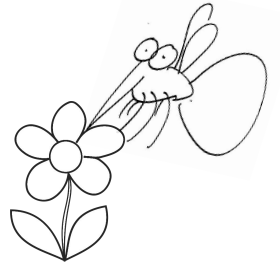


OUR  
RECOMMENDATIONS



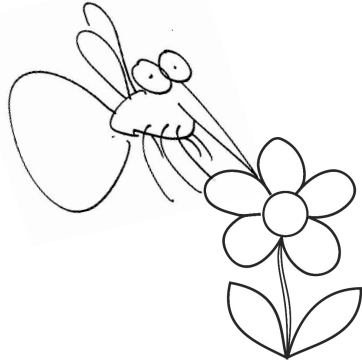
# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Propose for time-specific release of Wolbachia mosquitoes to maximise cost-efficiency and optimal use of resources (e.g. manpower), while reducing ecological impact
- Release of Wolbachia male mosquitoes are recommended to be 2-4 weeks before the spike in rainfall/ temperature profile
  - Spike in rainfall/ temperature suggests to initial increase in dengue cases
  - Life cycle of mosquito is approx. 2-4 weeks

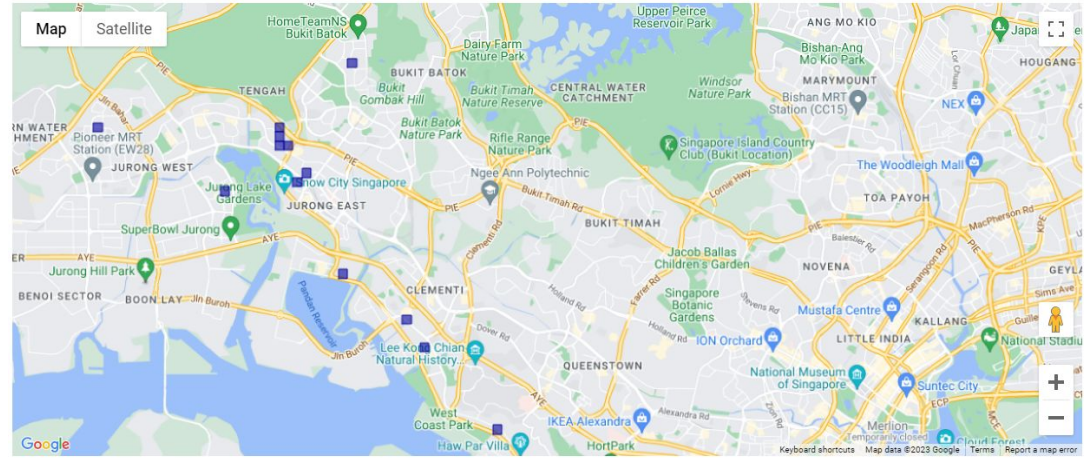




# RECOMMENDATIONS



Aedes Mosquito Breeding Habitats - South West (GEOJSON)

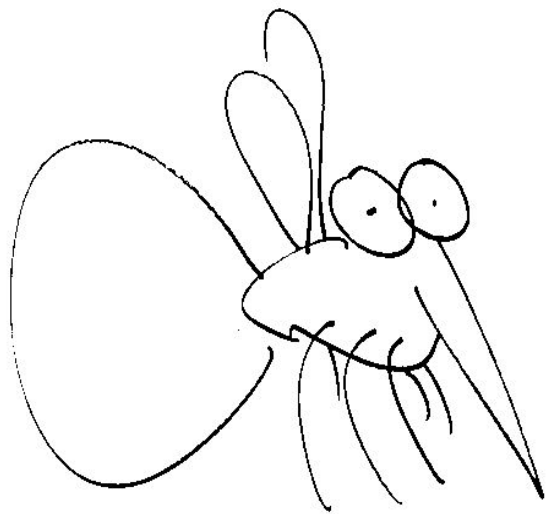


- Prediction of profiles in spikes/ drops in weather conditions would be critical in planning for the release of the mosquitoes
  - Prediction of weather conditions could be readily obtained for analysis; from wide availability of past historical data
  - Partnership with meteorological services for minimal error in weather prediction could be explored

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(<https://www.nea.gov.sg/corporate-functions/resources/research/wolbachia-aedes-mosquito-suppression-strategy>)
- 6) Project Wolbachia: 300 million mosquitoes released but not a silver bullet to deal with dengue, says NEA  
(<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/project-wolbachia-mosquito-dengue-nea-facility-3773176>)



THANK YOU!

