

Vector Surveillance and Control Assessment: Post Zika- Response and Tick Capacities

OSTLTS Generic Data collection Request
OMB No. 0920-0879

Supporting Statement – Section B

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Program Official/Project Officer

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Table of Contents

Section B – Data collection Procedures..... 3

- 1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods..... 3
- 2. Procedures for the Collection of Information..... 4
- 3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates Deal with Nonresponse..... 4
- 4. Test of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken..... 5
- 5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data..... 5

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS – Section B..... 6

Section B – Data collection Procedures

1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

All local vector control and surveillance organizations in 50 U.S. States, 12 Territories, and the District of Columbia will be invited to participate in this data collection. Many of these organizations are housed within local health departments but some are also housed in other governmental entities, including state health departments, public works departments, streets and sanitation departments, mosquito abatement districts, and parks and recreation departments. The individuals who will respond to the assessment within these organizations consist of environmental scientists and specialists, including health. No private, non-profit, or federal entities will be invited to participate in this assessment.

Data will be collected from a total of 3000 respondents across state, local, tribal, and territorial health departments/jurisdictions. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will collect data from the 3000 environmental scientists and specialist, including health, within these jurisdictions. Of the 3000 vector control individuals 2,933 are local, 50 state, 12 Island/Territory, and 5 are tribal agency respondents.

Every attempt will be made to ensure total identification of and invitation to all vector control organizations in each of these areas for participation in this assessment. The inclusion of all identified vector control organizations is necessary to establish an updated contact list along with baseline activities of vector control and surveillance performed in each state or jurisdiction.

The respondent universe for this assessment will include vector organizations from 50 U.S. States (listed below), Territories, and the District of Columbia. These states have not had information pertaining to their vector control capabilities collected since the initiation of Zika Response funded activities, and each is at risk for Vector Borne Disease infection via travel-related cases and/or the localized vector exposure.

NACCHO will work with the CDC and the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) to identify all environmental scientists and specialists, including health directors or control managers in departments and districts within states for which information related to vector control capabilities is not available. These include: Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the District of Columbia (DC).

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Data will be collected through a one-time web-based assessment and respondents will be recruited through a notification email to the respondent universe (see **Attachment C—Notification Email**). The notification email will explain:

- The purpose of the assessment, and why their participation is important
- Method to safeguard their responses
- That participation is voluntary
- The expected time to complete the assessment
- Contact information for the assessment team

The email will also state instructions for participating and a link to the online assessment. The Qualtrics online data collection tool will be used to develop the assessment instrument and gather the data. This will reduce the burden on respondents by allowing them to take the assessment online at their own convenience and by allowing them to skip irrelevant questions. The assessment was designed to collect the minimum information necessary for the purposes of this project.

Respondents will be asked for their response to the instrument within a four-week period to allow ample time for respondents to complete it (see **Attachment C—Notification Email**). Respondents may complete the assessment in multiple sessions, if necessary. Reminders will be sent to non-respondents at the end of the third week to urge them to complete the assessment (see **Attachment D—Reminder Email**). For non-respondents, the assessment will remain open for an additional two weeks. Upon completion, data from the web-based instrument will be downloaded, cleaned, and analyzed in STATA. The assessment contains quantitative items only and thus analysis will consist of descriptive statistics and cross tabulations. Assessment answers will be coded and scored; ‘yes’ answers will be scored positively, ‘no’ answers will be scored negatively. The sum of a respondent’s score will be calculated and a rating will be assigned. Respondents will receive a rating of “fully capable”, “competent”, or “needs improvement” based on the CDC framework for mosquito control competency.

3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates Deal with Nonresponse

Although participation in the assessment is voluntary, NACCHO will make every effort to maximize the rate of response. The assessment tool was designed with particular focus on streamlining questions to allow for skipping questions based on responses to previous questions, thereby minimizing response burden. Using an online tool will reduce the burden of the respondents by allowing them to take the assessment online at their own convenience.

Following the distribution of the invitation to participate in the data collection, (see **Attachment C—Notification Email**), respondents will have 20 business days to complete the instrument. A reminder email will be sent to those who have not completed the assessment at the end of the third week of the assessment period (see **Attachment D—Reminder Email**). If response rates are low at the end of the fourth week, NACCHO will extend the assessment period by up to two weeks and continue to send the reminder email to non-responders. Those who do not respond within 10 business days will be considered non-responders.

4. Test of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

The estimate for burden hours is based on a pilot test of the information collection instrument by 9 public health professionals. In the pilot test, the average time to complete the instrument including time for reading the instructions/questions and completing the instrument, was approximately 8 minutes (range: 7 to 9 minutes). For the purposes of estimating burden hours, the upper limit of this range (i.e., 9 minutes) is used.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

Individuals Consulted
Mr. Josh Smith Environmental Health Supervisor Disease Carrying Insects Program joshua.smith@fairfaxcounty.gov 703-246-8477
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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS – Section B

Note: Attachments are included as separate files as instructed.

- A. Attachment C - Notification Email**
- B. Attachment D - Reminder Email**