



# Mosquito Awareness Campaign

20 JULY - 20 AUGUST

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GLOBE Asia - Pacific Regional Coordination Office

# INTRODUCTION

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Mosquitoes are common insects that occur in many places around the world, particularly in the tropical and subtropical regions. Mosquitoes play an important role in ecosystems. They are food sources for many species of fish, birds, amphibians, and reptiles. Some mosquitoes are pollinators and so they help to make fruits and vegetables.

There are over 40 genera and over 3500 known species. However, three of these genera, *Aedes*, and *Culex*, and *Anopheles* have species that transmit diseases that impact people including malaria, chikungunya virus, dengue fever, Zika virus, and West Nile virus. Identifying the breeding areas of mosquitos that are disease vectors for humans is an important component of local disease management and eradication.

The life cycle of mosquitoes is closely related to their environment. The egg, larvae, and pupae stages of the mosquito life cycle are dependent on water, especially standing water.

Different species have different preferences for where to lay their eggs, whether in natural ponds or puddles, or artificial containers left by humans. Land cover and vegetation also play a role. Species vary in their preferences for vegetation cover, and some favor urban environments and proximity to human dwellings. Temperature is another important factor. The speed of the mosquito life cycle can be impacted by changes in temperature.

Tracking where mosquitoes and larvae have been observed, along with environmental data, can help determine when outbreaks of disease such as malaria or dengue most likely will occur, or when chemical or other controls will be most effective.

# MAIN OBJECTIVE AND GOALS

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The campaign connects students, teachers and citizen scientist of all ages to monitor changes in the frequency, range and distribution of potential disease vector mosquitoes by reporting observations using the GLOBE Observer Mosquito Habitat Mapper mobile app.

We invite you, to join us in this focused effort to gather observations of mosquito breeding sites.





# TO PARTICIPATE

simply follow these seven steps

1. Grab your mobile phone containing the GLOBE Observer app and open the Mosquito Habitat Mapper.
2. Go outside to check your local environment for standing water (mosquito breeding sites).
3. Take a photo of the site.
4. Check the water for the presence of mosquito larvae. (No larvae is valuable data!)
5. If possible, identify the type of mosquito larvae (optional step - instructions are in the app).
6. Eliminate the standing water if feasible.
7. Upload your observations

Certificates will be awarded for the top number of observations and for the best photos.



## GLOBE ASIA - PACIFIC REGIONAL COORDINATION OFFICE

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