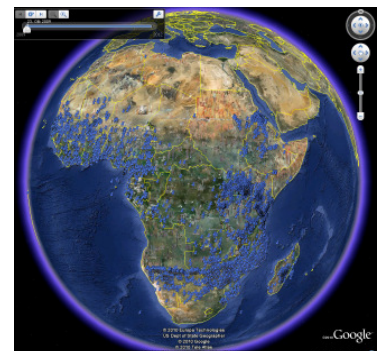


MARA: an Open-Access Database on Malaria Prevalence Data in Africa

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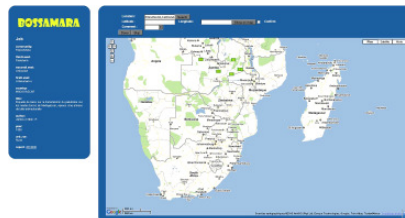
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MARA (Mapping Malaria Risk in Africa) is an open-access and user-friendly internet-based platform to extract and display (Google Earth) malaria prevalence data for Africa from 1900 to date. An interface to enter new data and hence contribute to the expansion of the database is also available.



The database consists of more than 13,000 surveys collected from over 12,000 locations, distributed as follows: 25% in East Africa, 37% in Southern Africa, 5% in Central Africa and 33% in West Africa. The malaria prevalence data are extracted from peer-reviewed publications and unpublished reports, as well as, MSc and PhD theses. Direct communication with authors and researchers help us to clarify issues as required.

Web-application development was carried out using WaveMaker (<http://www.wavemaker.com>), an open source visual development platform.



Through a pilot project for crowd sourcing, we aim to correct errors in coordinates with the help of volunteers.

The web-application went online in 2009, and has since attracted an international user population of malariologists and public health specialists.

The MARA database constitutes a precious global resource in view of the rapid expansion of malaria control activities and the need to provide both a solid epidemiological baseline and an update on the situation as control proceeds.

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 Case study http://wavemaker.com/pdf/MARA_Case_Study.pdf

