

"The eco-epidemiology of forest and zoonotic malaria" under Asia Africa Science Platform Program

Shusuke Nakazawa

*Department of Protozoology, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University
Sakamoto 1-12-4, Nagasaki, Japan 852-8523.*

* Correspondent author: Prof. Shusuke Nakazawa
E-mail: nakazawa@nagasaki-u.ac.jp

The Asia Africa science platform program is designed to contribute to the solution of problems in Asia and Africa. Investigators taking part in the program from different academic areas make up a multidisciplinary research team to implement the project titled "the eco-epidemiology of forest and zoonotic malaria".

In contrast to the previous belief that malaria would be eradicated by the control efforts, malaria remains in forested areas today. Environmental changes (primarily caused by destruction of primary forests), the effects of malaria control and the appearance of zoonotic parasites were suggested to be responsible for this situation. It is necessary to elucidate the malaria transmission in the forest both from ecological and epidemiological perspectives. The following subjects are under investigation in this project.

1. The effects of changes in forest environment and surface water flow by logging and other factors on human health
2. The behavior of people, monkeys and mosquitoes
3. Malaria prevalence in people, monkeys and mosquitoes
4. The diversity of malaria parasites

We construct a platform for understanding malaria transmission and to provide control measures.