1	Crowded and warmer: unequal dengue risk at high spatial resolution across a			
2	megacity of India			
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29 Abstract

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31 The role of climate factors on transmission of mosquito-borne infections within urban 32 landscapes must be considered in the context of the pronounced spatial heterogeneity of 33 such environments. Socio-demographic and environmental variation challenge control efforts 34 for emergent arboviruses, a major class of pathogens responsible for dengue, Zika and 35 chikungunya, transmitted via the urban mosquito Aedes aegypti. We address at high 36 resolution, the spatial heterogeneity of dengue transmission risk in the megacity of Delhi, 37 India, as a function of both temperature and the carrying-capacity of the human environment 38 for the mosquito. Based on previous results predicting maximum mosquitoes per human for 39 different socio-economic typologies, and on remote sensing temperature data, we produce a 40 map of the reproductive number of the disease at a resolution of 250m by 250m. We focus 41 on dengue risk hotspots during inter-epidemic periods, places where chains of transmission 42 can persist for longer. We assess the resulting high-resolution risk map of dengue with 43 reported cases for three consecutive winters. We find that both temperature and vector 44 carrying-capacity per human co-vary in space because of their respective dependence on 45 population density. The synergistic action of these two factors results in larger variation of 46 dengue's reproductive number than when considered separately, with poor and dense 47 locations experiencing the warmest conditions and becoming the most likely reservoirs off-48 season. The location of observed winter cases is accurately predicted for different risk 49 threshold criteria. Results underscore the inequity of risk across a complex urban landscape, 50 whereby individuals in dense poor neighborhoods face the compounded effect of higher 51 temperatures and mosquito carrying capacity. Targeting chains of transmission in inter-52 epidemic periods at these locations should be a priority of control efforts. A better mapping is 53 needed of the interplay between climate factors that are dominant determinants of the 54 seasonality of vector-borne infections and the socio-economic conditions behind unequal 55 exposure.

56

57 Introduction

58 Climate change, globalization, and rapid population growth are accelerating the spread of 59 established pathogens and facilitating the emergence of novel ones, modifying geographical 60 limits and environmental suitability for transmission (1,2). Spatial resolutions finer than those 61 of countries and cities are becoming critical to understand the epidemiology of vector-borne 62 infections, including those transmitted by the widespread urban mosquito Ae. aegypti and 63 caused by arboviruses such as dengue and Zika (3-5). Although traditional "well-mixed" 64 mathematical models provide a foundation for epidemiological theory (6,7), the increasing 65 availability of fine-scale data has underscored the importance of explicitly considering the 66 spatial dimension (e.g. 8,9). Consideration of highly-resolved spatial scales is essential to 67 the prediction of transmission risk and efficiency of control efforts in urban landscapes where 68 human density and mosquito abundance can vary widely.

69

70 The persistence of dengue virus transmission in urban settings is challenging to control 71 efforts given the pronounced heterogeneity in environmental, demographic and socio-72 economic conditions. Because humans effectively generate breeding sites for Ae. aegypti in 73 the form of a variety of small water containers (10), vector abundance within cities depends 74 on population density and infrastructure (11). The generation of water containers can vary 75 spatially also as a function of socio-economic conditions, especially in developing countries 76 where unplanned urbanization and limited resources leave a part of the population without 77 regular or continuous access to pipe water and garbage collection.

78

Temperature, another important determinant of vector-borne transmission, can also vary within cities because of the urban heat island effect (UHI). Temperature influences the demographic parameters of mosquitoes, as well as transmission parameters, ultimately determining vectorial capacity (12–14). Importantly, land surface modifications make urban areas warmer than their surrounding peri-urban or rural landscapes (3). Although the local cause of the UHI can vary, several high-resolution remote sensing studies have shown that

85 the intensity of UHI can correlate positively with human population density (15–17). Usually, 86 these temperature differences are larger at night than during the day and are more 87 noticeable during summer and winter (18,19). A better understanding of how UHI contributes 88 to dengue transmission hotspots would be invaluable to optimize deployment of mosquito 89 control resources across the scale of a metropolis. Thus, high-resolution datasets allowing 90 translation of temperature heterogeneity into transmission risk especially outside the 91 epidemic season could help us locate environmental niches where mosquitoes survive and 92 breed, enabling viral persistence. Hypothetically, targeting such localized reservoirs could 93 interrupt or minimize chains of transmission across seasons.

94

95 Here we examine dengue transmission risk at a high resolution (250m by 250m) in the 96 megacity of Delhi, India. By considering the basic reproduction number, we explore the 97 interplay of temperature in winter with the vector's carrying capacity in relation to human 98 population density. We show that these two environmental factors act synergistically, 99 producing a larger variation in local disease risk than when considered separately. Case 100 reports for three winters are used to evaluate our risk map. Results underscore the inequity 101 of risk across a complex urban landscape: individuals in dense poor neighborhoods face the 102 compounded effect of warmer temperatures. We then discuss this result in the greater 103 context of global climate change.

104

105 Results

We focus on the basic reproduction number, *R*0, one of the most fundamental quantities in epidemiology measuring the average number of secondary infections produced by one single infection in a totally susceptible population. Although the precise form of *R*0 depends on the model, its general expression for mosquito-borne diseases (with a single host and vector) can be typically written in such a way to separate the respective effect of two key factors, namely temperature and the maximum number of mosquitoes per human the environment can support, hereafter referred to as the vector's carrying capacity. Specifically,

113 *R*0 can be decomposed into the product of two terms: a function of temperature (that 114 impacts biological parameters of the mosquito and the pathogen within the mosquito), and 115 the ratio of the vector's carrying capacity (V) to the human population (N) (Methods). We can

116 thus write $R0=f(T)\sqrt{\frac{V}{N}}$, an expression decomposing the effects of climate and socio-

117 economic conditions.

118

119 These two variables in the general expression for R0 are spatially heterogeneous within the 120 city of Delhi in the winter season (Fig. 1A). Spatial temperature (T) varies about five degrees 121 Celsius (mean T=18.6 °C) and the ratio of the vector's carrying capacity to the human 122 population (V/N) shows values ranging from zero to 1.5 (mean V/N=0.4). Importantly, both 123 quantities, T and V/N, can vary as a function of human density and therefore share a 124 common source of spatial variation. To first address this dependence for V/N, we note that 125 mosquito recruitment in urban landscapes is intrinsically related to human activity. The map 126 for V/N specifically relies on the previously inferred dependence of the vector carrying 127 capacity on human density in (20) (Fig. 1B, see Methods). The shape of the function was 128 shown to vary for different socio-economic categories (low, medium and high) as defined in 129 (20,21). In particular, 87% of the spatial units correspond to socio-economic conditions for 130 which V/N increases with population density, with locations that exhibit the most deprived 131 conditions experiencing the fastest increment. Second, for winter temperature, we find here 132 that values, at the same high resolution of interest, are also affected by human density. Although the least dense areas show the highest variability, those most populated tend to be 133 134 systematically warmer (Fig. 1C). Together, these two patterns suggest the potential synergy 135 of the two environmental variables on dengue risk across the city. In particular, population 136 density would drive the spatial co-localization of elevated winter temperature and vector's 137 carrying capacity.

138

139 Fig. 1. Temperature (T) and vector carrying capacity per human (V/N) in Delhi. A Maps

for a spatial resolution of 250m by 250m for temperature (November night-time) and V/N in the city of Delhi. B Vector carrying capacity (maximum number of mosquitoes per human) as a function of population density for deprived (triangles), medium (circles) and rich (dots) typologies. C Boxplot of November night-time temperature as a function of population density (boxes illustrate, as is standard, the median with the 25th and 75th percentiles, and the dotted lines indicate the extremes of the distribution).

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147 To address this hypothesis, we examine first the separate effect of each of the two variables 148 and then their joint influence on the spatial variability of R0. Frequency distributions in the 149 form of histograms show that both T and V/N generate broad ranges in R0's spatial 150 variability. Compared to the spatial average of R0 (about 0.4), consideration of temperature 151 introduces a variation of up to 40% (Fig. 2A) and consideration of V/N of up to 75% (Fig. 2B). 152 The associated maps exhibit variation that would be absent not only under constant 153 temperatures as expected, but also under the common assumption of a linear increase of vectors with humans in standard coupled vector-human mathematical models (Fig. 2A, B 154 155 and C). Importantly, when both factors are considered together, the range of R0 is larger than when they are considered separately, with many more units at the two extremes of high 156 157 and low risk conditions (Fig. 2C). In particular, units that do not exhibit a high dengue risk under either factor alone, can do so when their joint effect is considered together (Fig. 2D). 158 159 Thus, comparison of the maps indicates that T and V/N act synergistically in a considerable 160 part of the city.

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Fig. 2. The effect on the basic reproductive number R0 of temperature (T) and vector 162 163 carrying capacity per human (V/N). Maps and histograms of local R0 at 250 m by 250 m 164 spatial resolution for: (A) local temperature with spatially averaged V/N, (B) local V/N with spatially averaged temperature and, (C) local temperature and V/N. Blue, agua green and 165 166 red colors represent respectively a low (R0 < 0.3), medium (0.3 < R0 < 0.55) and high (R0 >167 0.55) risk of local dengue transmission. (D) Percentage of units at high risk for different risk threshold values, computed for: local T with spatially averaged V/N (green dots), local V/N 168 169 with spatially averaged T (red dots), and both local T and V/N (black dots). 170

To examine whether the generated risk map has predictive value, we rely on surveillance data over three winter seasons for reported dengue cases at high spatial resolution (Methods). First, we establish a threshold *R*0* to classify spatial units at risk of dengue

174 transmission when R0 is above this value $(R0_u > R0^*, u=1,2,..., U)$, where U is the total 175 number of units). Since small values of R0* imply a higher number of units at risk, we expect 176 the percent of "hits", defined as units whose observed cases surpass the threshold, to 177 decrease with increasing R0*. However, a high number of hits is not necessarily informative. 178 We can illustrate this by the trivial extreme of R0*=0, for which we would obtain a 100% 179 trivial success rate because the whole city would be at risk. Thus, to evaluate the R0 180 criterion, we compute as a baseline the probability of the number of realized hits under the 181 assumption of a random spatial distribution of infected units (for a given threshold). We 182 specifically compute the *p*-value of a binomial process:

183
$$p-value = \sum_{i=K}^{U_f} {U_f \choose i} p^i (1-p)^{U_f-i}$$

184 where the number of trials is the number of infected units U_f , the number of units with cases 185 classified at risk is the number of hits *K*, and the probability that a risk unit is randomly 186 infected is p=UR/U, for the number of risk units *UR*. We find that the *p*-value is consistently 187 below 0.05 as $R0^*$ increases, leading us to reject a random distribution of cases relative to 188 our risk map. (A *p*-value larger than 0.05 is only obtained when $R0^*$ equals the 97.5th 189 quantile, that is when 2.5% of the units are classified at high risk).

190

Because population density underlies both components of *R*0, we can further ask whether considering a threshold defined directly on the basis of local human density would also be informative. We repeat the calculation of a binomial probability now with a minimum population density threshold as an indicator of dengue transmission during the winter season. We find that this condition works as well as one defined on the basis of *R*0 as an indicator of winter hotspots (see Fig. 3).

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Fig. 3. Performance of risk maps for the prediction of dengue cases in winter (at a resolution of 250 m by 250 m). The *p*-value is computed from a binomial process for different risk thresholds. The threshold values are defined by the percent of units at risk (quantiles), for the criterion based on either *R*0 (black dashes) or population density (*N*) (red

202 circles).

203

204 Discussion

The spatial distributions of the two dengue drivers taken together, for temperature and vector carrying capacity to human ratio, are here shown to produce important variability in local suitability for virus transmission at high resolution within the city. Although the influence of these drivers could be expected, their joint action reflects a common underlying influence of population density, which proves critical for the localization of winter hotspots. Identification of such hotspots will be invaluable for interrupting the chain of transmission during the low season when it should be most vulnerable to intervention.

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213 The synergistic action of the two drivers especially affects the least developed areas of the 214 city, with 70% of the winter cases reported from within socio-economic units classified as 215 deprived, and only 22% and 8%, from medium and rich typologies respectively. Deprived 216 units are typically densely populated with only a few green areas, which can favor the UHI 217 effect. In addition, the number of vectors per human is higher in poor areas of the city, where 218 one can expect a higher production of breeding containers (10). This socio-economic 219 disparity in dengue suitability is also clear in our risk map, which yields a higher percentage 220 of risk units in the deprived typology as the threshold R0* increases (Fig. S1).

221

222 The location of reported cases over three winter periods validates the high-resolution risk 223 map obtained here when compared to the random distribution of infections across units. 224 Although the values of R0 obtained for our map remain below one, this does not necessarily imply the absence of transmission (22,23). The commonly used threshold of R0=1 assesses 225 226 the risk of an outbreak from a purely deterministic perspective. Although such an outbreak is not expected in Delhi during the off-season and transmission in small areas is inherently 227 228 stochastic, higher values of R0 even below one, should indicate higher transmission 229 suitability, and therefore a higher chance of persistence of transmission chains off-season.

230

Because human density influences local vector carrying capacity and temperature, this quantity can also be used effectively as an indicator of dengue transmission risk in winter. As a purely statistical indicator, the associated threshold can be less informative, however, than a more mechanistic and direct understanding of how population density ultimately impacts risk (24–26).

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A limitation of our results is the reliance on a single detailed remote sensing image. The pattern of increasing temperature with density should, however, hold more generally as it has been reported by other studies (15,16).

240

241 Direct measures of mosquito abundance across the urban landscape would be valuable but 242 extremely challenging in practice, especially at fine scales (27). Mathematical models of coupled vector-human transmission commonly assume a constant vector-to-human ratio 243 244 (28). This implicit assumption implies a constant risk landscape across the city in terms of 245 V/N and, therefore, precludes the variation in risk described here. We have relied, for our 246 risk map, on an indirect estimate of maximum mosquito numbers per human (20). 247 Interestingly, the predictive power of the R0 threshold provides support for this indirect 248 estimation of V/N.

249

250 The challenges posed by climate change require a robust and holistic approach to 251 understanding infectious disease dynamics (23). Understanding climate change effects on 252 infectious disease transmission remains a crucial gap within urban landscapes at sufficiently 253 high spatial resolutions, including potential synergies with various demographic and socio-254 economic drivers. We have shown that the fine-scale interaction of temperature and socio-255 economic conditions (related to vector production) amplifies local dengue transmission 256 suitability. Both these factors are sensitive to climate change directly and indirectly. Warmer 257 winter temperatures where cold temperatures limit transmission can favor persistence of

mosquito populations outside the epidemic season. Climate change can also favor breeding site production, as climate instability in the form of extreme events can contribute to poverty and overcrowding as the result of enhanced and unplanned human migration (29). Although our findings are for dengue in the megacity of Delhi, we expect the described synergistic effect of temperature and mosquito carrying capacity to apply more broadly to other urban landscapes and other climate-sensitive infections, especially in developing countries with seasonal transmission.

265

- 266 Methods and Materials
- 267

268 Expression of the basic reproductive number as a function of temperature and 269 vector carrying capacity per human.

270

The basic reproductive number gives the average number of secondary infections that would result from introducing a single infective individual into an entirely susceptible population. Calculation of *R*0 for dengue infection involves a two-step process: host to vector, then vector back to host (or vice versa). To illustrate this process, we rely on the following standard equations for the infectious classes in coupled vector-human models:

277

278

 $dI/dt = a P_{MH} Z S/N - (\mu_H + \gamma)I$

279

 $dZ/dt = a P_{HM} W I/N - \mu_M Z$ (1b)

(1a)

280

281 where *W*, *Z* and *M* (for mosquitoes), and *S*, *I* and *N* (for humans), denote susceptible, 282 infectious and total populations, respectively. Parameter *a* denotes the biting rate, 283 P_{MH} (for a human) and P_{HM} (for a mosquito) are the respective probabilities that an 284 infectious bite results in an infection, γ is the recovery rate of infected humans, and μ_H and μ_M the respective mortality rates for humans and mosquitoes.

286

285

287 Let RO_{MH} be the number of hosts directly infected by the introduction of a single 288 infective vector into an entirely susceptible host population. Similarly, let R0_{HM} 289 denote the number of vectors that become directly infected upon the introduction of a 290 single infectious host into an entirely susceptible vector population. When the host 291 population is entirely susceptible (I=0 and then S=N), the transmission rate from the 292 vector population to the host population is given by $a \cdot P_{MH} \cdot Z$. Thus, the 293 transmission rate per infective vector equals $a \cdot P_{MH}$ (eq. 1a). Since infective vectors 294 live for an average of $1/\mu_M$ time units, a single infective vector will give rise to $R0_{MH} = a \cdot P_{MH} / \mu_M$ infective hosts. Employing a similar argument for an entirely 295 296 susceptible vector population (Z=0 and thus W=M), we obtain (eq. 1b) $R0_{HM} = [a \cdot P_{HM}/(\mu_M + \gamma)] \cdot (M/N)$. Therefore, over the entire transmission cycle we 297 298 obtain the following expression,

299

300

$$R0 = \sqrt{R0_{HM}} \cdot R0_{MH} = \sqrt{\frac{a^2 P_{HM} P_{MH}}{\mu_M (\gamma + \mu_H)}} \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}} = h(T) \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}}$$
(2)

301

302 (e.g. (30)). We can decompose this expression into two main factors: one that 303 depends on demographic and biological parameters which are constant or depend 304 on temperature (h(T), where *T* is temperature), and another that is the ratio between 305 mosquito and human numbers.

306

307 Because the developmental life cycle of *Ae. aegypti* is complex, coupled mosquito-308 human models commonly assume that the total abundance of mosquitoes follows 309 logistic growth, with for example an equation of the form

$$dM/dt = \lambda M (1 - M/K)$$
(3)

311 312

313 where λ represents the number of offspring per adult female per unit time, and, K, the carrying capacity supported by the environment. By making a quasi-stationary 314 assumption whereby the population dynamics of the vector equilibrates quickly to 315 316 temporal variation, we can consider that $M \sim K$ (by equating eq. (3) to zero). 317 Variations of this expression for mosquito abundance are of course obtained 318 depending model details. example, (30, 31)on For proposes that $dM/dt = EFD \cdot pEA \cdot MDR \cdot \mu_M^{-1} \cdot M \cdot (1 - M/K) - \mu_M \cdot M$ (an expression obtained by 319 adding equations (1), (2) and (3) for susceptible, exposed and infectious mosquitoes 320 321 populations in the original article), and therefore

322
$$M \left(1 - \mu_M^2 / (EFD \cdot pEA \cdot MDR)\right) \cdot K$$

where *EFD* is the number of eggs laid per female per day, *pEA* is the probability of mosquito egg-to-adult survival, and *MDR* is the mosquito egg-to-adult development rate. Another example is found in (20) where

326 $M(\lambda/\mu_M) \cdot K$

327 In short, models in which the differential equation for mosquito abundance follows a 328 form in the family of logistic functions (eq. (3)), produce generically the form 329 $M \ g(T) \cdot K$, where the particular expression of the function g(T) depends on the 330 model.

331

332 Here, we specifically used the following differential equation for adult mosquitos

333
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = EFD \cdot pEA \cdot M \cdot \left(1 - \frac{M}{K}\right) - \mu_M \cdot M \quad (4)$$

Then, by introducing the value of *M* obtained from equating the left-hand side of this equation to zero into the expression in eq. (2), we specifically obtain

$$R0 = \sqrt{\frac{a^{2} P_{HM} P_{MH}}{\mu_{M}(\gamma + \mu_{H})}} \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}} = \sqrt{\frac{a^{2} P_{HM} P_{MH}}{\mu_{M}(\gamma + \mu_{H})}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu_{M}}{EFD \, pEA}} \sqrt{\frac{K}{N}} = h(T)g(T)\sqrt{\frac{K}{N}} = f(T)\sqrt{\frac{K}{N}}$$

337

338

(5)

336

The values of the parameters of f(T) and their dependence with temperature are given in Table 1. We emphasize that although we illustrate the risk maps for this model and therefore this specific form of f(T), the results should generalize to other models.

343

344 The carrying capacity as a function of the human population per spatial unit is 345 computed with the curves inferred in (20). We summarize here the basic approach. 346 For Ae. aegypti, it is reasonable to consider that K depends on N, or K=K(N), since humans generate the breeding sites for the mosquito. We can expect that this 347 348 production of breeding sites and therefore the shape of the K(N) function, depend in 349 turn on socio-economic conditions of the local human population. Because it remains 350 extremely challenging to sample and quantify mosquito numbers, we rely on the 351 results obtained in (20) where mosquito numbers were inferred from human 352 population density. Importantly, K(N) was shown to vary with socio-economic 353 conditions on the basis of the typologies classified in (21), with $K \propto N^2$ and $K \propto N^{1.24}$ 354 for typologies denoted respectively as deprived and intermediate, and a non-355 monotonic, increasing and then decreasing, behavior for those denoted as rich (see 356 Fig. 1B).

symbol	description	formula	parameters value
а	biting rate (days ⁻¹)	$c \cdot T \cdot (T - T_{min}) \cdot \sqrt{T_{max} - T}$	(32)
EFD	rate of eggs laid per female (days ⁻¹)	$c \cdot T \cdot (T - T_{min}) \cdot \sqrt{T_{max} - T}$	(32)

рEA	probability of mosquito egg-to- adult survival	$c \cdot (T - T_{min}) \cdot (T_{max} - T)$	(32)
μм	mosquito mortality (days¹)	const.	0.09 (33)
Рнм	probability virus transmission from human to mosquito	const.	0.8
Р _{мн}	probability virus transmission from mosquito to human	$c \cdot T \cdot (T - T_{min}) \cdot \sqrt{T_{max} - T}$	c=0.00092 T _{min} =13 T _{max} =33
γ	human recovery rate (days ⁻¹)	const.	1/7 (34)
μн	human mortality (days ⁻¹)	const.	1/(60.365) (35)

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TABLE 1. Model parameter specifications. Values without references indicate that have been determined for this article (see Fig S1).

362

363 Temperature data from remote sensing

Satellite brightness temperature was retrieved from LANDSAT 8 TIRS (band 10). The thermal image was taken on November 15, 2013 at around 5:00 AM. Land surface temperature was computed by the methods of [Walawender 2014] (by incorporating the correction equations for land surface emissivity and atmospheric bias). Surface temperatures were obtained at a 38 m scale and then aggregated to the 250 m by 250 m spatial resolution (see details on (36)).

370

371 Dengue cases for the winter season

The dengue cases were geo-localized for the winter seasons from 2013 to 2015. These are the seasons for which dengue cases were reported in winter for the first time. Dengue cases were confirmed for the presence of IgM antibodies against DENV by MAC ELISA using a kit prepared by the National Institute of Virology, Pune, India as an integral part of the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. 377 These confirmed cases were geo-coded with QGIS (36).

378

379 Ethics Statement

- 380 Written consent to participate in the study was obtained from all participants and
- 381 ethical approval was granted by the ethics committees of the Indian Council for
- 382 Medical Research, India (N° TDR/587/2012-ECD-11, 10 December 2012) and Institut
- 383 Pasteur, France (N° 2011–20, 29 April 2011). If human subjects were not adult, a
- 384 parent or guardian of the child provided written informed consent on their behalf.
- 385 Patient data were anonymized.
- 386

387

388 Acknowledgments

We are grateful for the support of a collaborative grant from the National Science 389 390 Foundation's Division of Mathematical Sciences and the National Institutes of Health (no. 391 1761612: Collaborative Research: Urban Vector-Borne Disease Transmission Demands 392 Advances in Spatiotemporal Statistical Inference to M.P. and E. Ionides). During the initial 393 part of this work, V.R-A. was jointly supported by this grant and by the Mansueto Institute for 394 Urban Innovation through a Mansueto Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship. MP also thanks the 395 FACCTS program of the University of Chicago (France and Chicago Collaborating in the 396 Sciences), which made possible the initial collaboration of the co-authors, and MSV, the 397 support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (no. 109848) 398

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- Fig. S1. Model parameters (eq. 5) as a function of temperature. The black circles
 represent experimental data (from (32) Supp Material), the red dots the mean value (with
 respect to temperature) and the dashed red lines the curves used as a model to describe the
 parameters variation. A biting rate (data values from (37,38)). B Number of eggs laid per

female per day (data from (39,40)), **C** probability of mosquito egg-to-adult survival (data from (41–45)). **D** Probability of virus transmission from a bite of an infected mosquito to a susceptible human . **E** Probability of a susceptible mosquito to get the virus following a bite on an infectious human (D and E data are from (46–49)). The parameters of the curves shown in panels A, B and C are taken from (32) and those of panels D and E were determined in this article.

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601 Fig S2. Percent of units at risk that belongs to the different socio-economics typologies as a

function of $R0^*$ (threshold to classify spatial units at risk of dengue transmission when R0 is above this value). Pink triangles denote low socio-economic typologies, whereas black

604 circles and gray dots represent medium and rich socio-economic conditions, respectively.





Fig1









R0 high risk threshold





Quantile

Figure





Figure supporitng information



Figure supporitng information