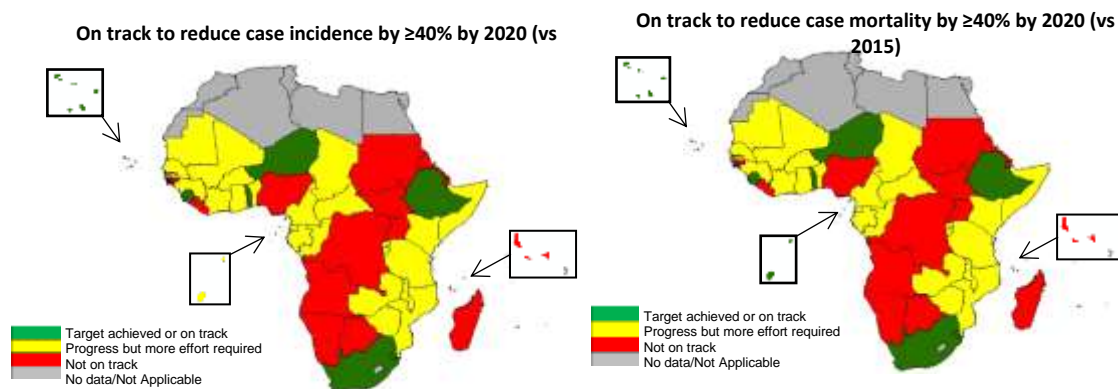


## ALMA SUMMARY REPORT FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2022

### INTRODUCTION

This September in New York, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló President of the Republic of Guinea Bissau and Chair of ALMA, addressed the UNGA. He underscored that the Sustainable Development Goals were under threat. Indeed continued global instability and a slow down in growth from 6% in 2021 to 3.2% in 2022, with an IMF prediction of 2.7% in 2023 is a very difficult environment for strengthening health systems ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic, or regaining lost momentum. Indeed Africa has not achieved the target of reducing malaria by more than 40 percent by 2020.



Source: Quarter 3 2022 ALMA Scorecard  
The designation employed and the presentation of material in these maps does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ALMA concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

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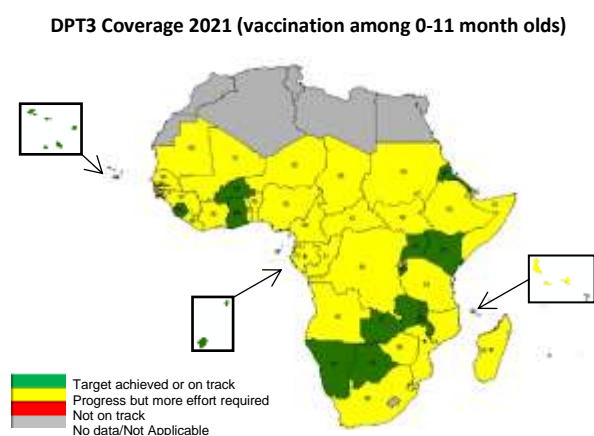
His Excellency called on the global community to both appreciate and embrace the fact that humanity shared a common destiny, living in a globalized world. He called for global solutions based on solidarity, sustainability and science. He called for concerted collective action, including investment in the elimination of diseases like malaria and enhancing the potential of human capital. He underscored the importance of enabling access to scientific innovations and technologies that will save lives and enhance health and well being.

Indeed COVID-19 has demonstrated that without recognizing that humanity must work together to address global challenges; any advantage garnered by the wealthier nations, will be short lived.

- MEMBERS
- Algeria
  - Angola
  - Benin
  - Botswana
  - Burkina Faso
  - Burundi
  - Cameroon
  - Central African Republic
  - Cabo Verde
  - Chad
  - Comoros
  - Republic of Congo
  - Côte d'Ivoire
  - Democratic Republic of Congo
  - Djibouti
  - Egypt
  - Equatorial Guinea
  - Eritrea
  - Eswatini
  - Ethiopia
  - Gabon
  - Ghana
  - Guinea
  - Guinea Bissau
  - Kenya
  - Lesotho
  - Liberia
  - Libya
  - Madagascar
  - Malawi
  - Mali
  - Mauritania
  - Mauritius
  - Mozambique
  - Morocco
  - Namibia
  - Niger
  - Nigeria
  - Rwanda
  - Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
  - São Tomé and Príncipe
  - Senegal
  - Seychelles
  - Sierra Leone
  - Somalia
  - South Africa
  - South Sudan
  - Sudan
  - The Gambia
  - Togo
  - Tunisia
  - Uganda
  - United Republic of Tanzania
  - Zambia
  - Zimbabwe

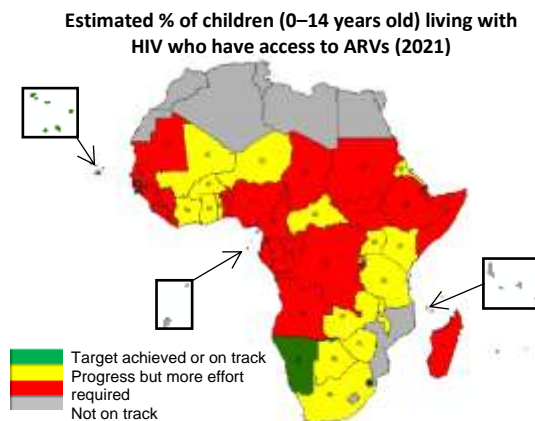
## MALARIA AND REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

The chair of ALMA spoke to the lack of progress on the continent that has been exacerbated by COVID-19. Whilst neo-natal conditions continue to be the leading cause of death on the continent, claiming at least 27 per 1000 live births.



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Source: Quarter 3 2022 ALMA Scorecard

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The 2021 World Malaria Report clearly positions malaria as the second biggest killer in Africa, at over 600,000 deaths, even as it dramatically reduces production, learning outcomes and earning potential; decreases household incomes, increases household expenditures and plunges communities into poverty.

## BEGINNING WITH POLICIES

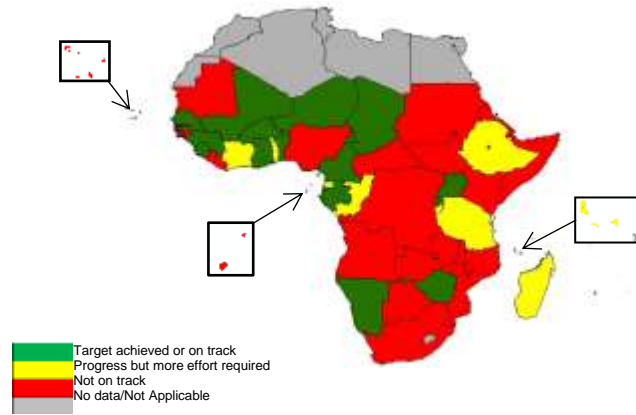
The concerted and collective action has to start with comprehensive integrated policies that will allow for the right legal and regulatory environment to be put in place at country, regional, and global levels.

The ALMA, like the AUC believe that signing, ratifying and depositing the African Medicines Agency (AMA) instruments is critical for harnessing the potential of the 1 Billion 200 Million strong African market to work harmoniously; aligned to defeat counterfeit medicines, enhance the benefits of early introduction of new molecules, fully utilize bulk purchasing and economies of scale, as well as increase local manufacturing.

Currently 22 countries have not yet signed the instruments, 9 countries have signed but not ratified, and 15 countries have signed, ratified and deposited the instruments. All countries are urged to sign ratify and deposit the instruments of the AMA treaty as soon as possible.

Another policy area to be addressed relates to providing for refugees and internally displaced

**Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC**



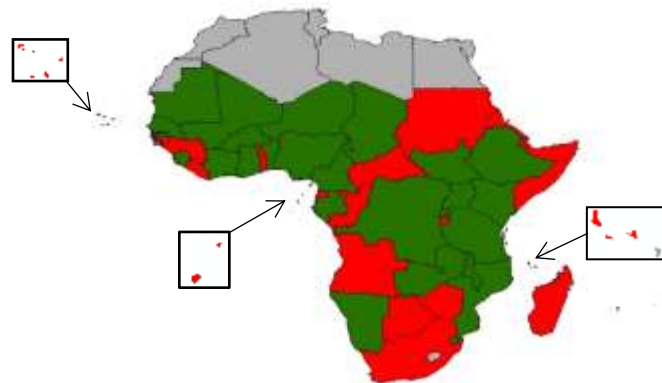
Source: Quarter 3 2022 ALMA Scorecard

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persons to be covered with malaria activities in the Malaria Strategic plan. In the spirit of a malaria free Africa, ALMA urges the 9 countries that have not yet done so; to provide for refugees and internally displaced persons.

Another policy area is making everyone part of the solution in the war against malaria. All AU member states committed to launching Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaigns, engaging all sectors, stakeholders and communities. 20 countries have still not launched the campaign and are urged to do so.

**Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign**



Source: Quarter 3 2022 ALMA Scorecard

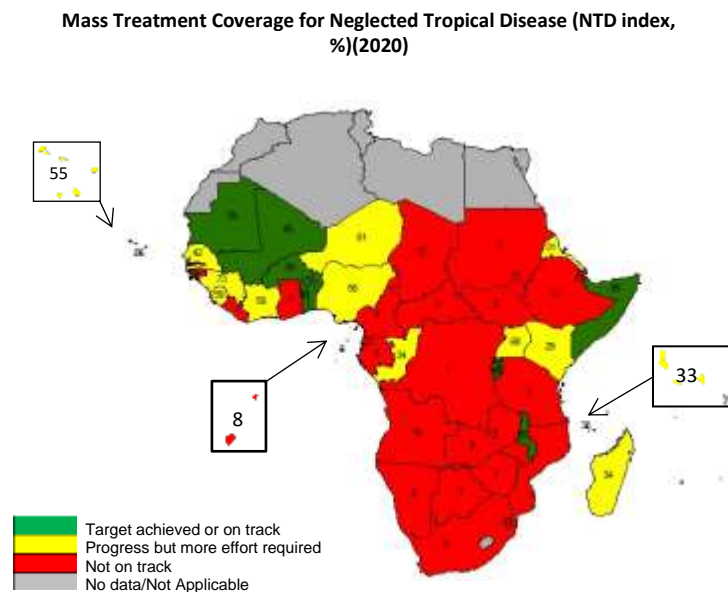
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All these policy areas are critical to the concerted and collective action that the chair of ALMA speaks about.

## FROM POLICIES TO IMPLEMENTATION

Whilst having the right policies in place sets the right foundation, the impact happens when the rubber hits the road. A good illustration is Africa's fight to eliminate NTDs. NTD elimination in Africa, faces major implementation challenges that have been exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is also a need to enhance integration within existing health and non-health systems such as inclusion of NTD commodities in the supply chain, and the integration of NTD indicators into the national health information system.

Other bottlenecks include the limited number of NTD staff, as well as the lack of capacity building. Countries have worked hard to accelerate MDA campaigns to catch up on the ground lost during



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COVID-19, and with the roll out of 16 country NTD scorecards to date, there are enhanced efforts to integrate and use real time data to drive action against NTDs. This includes limited resources (both domestic and external) with some countries experiencing NTD drug expiry due to the lack of funds to carry out the Mass Drug Administration.

## CALLING ON EVERY COUNTRY AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló called on all countries and development Partners to respond to the call to replenish the Global Fund; recognizing the critical role that the Fund plays in making much needed commodities to combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB; available to people across the continent. The replenishment has fallen short of its target of US\$18 billion, and ALMA continues to urge global development partners to step up to the plate and make an investment in this fund that has already saved 50 million lives, and would save another 20 million over the next three years.

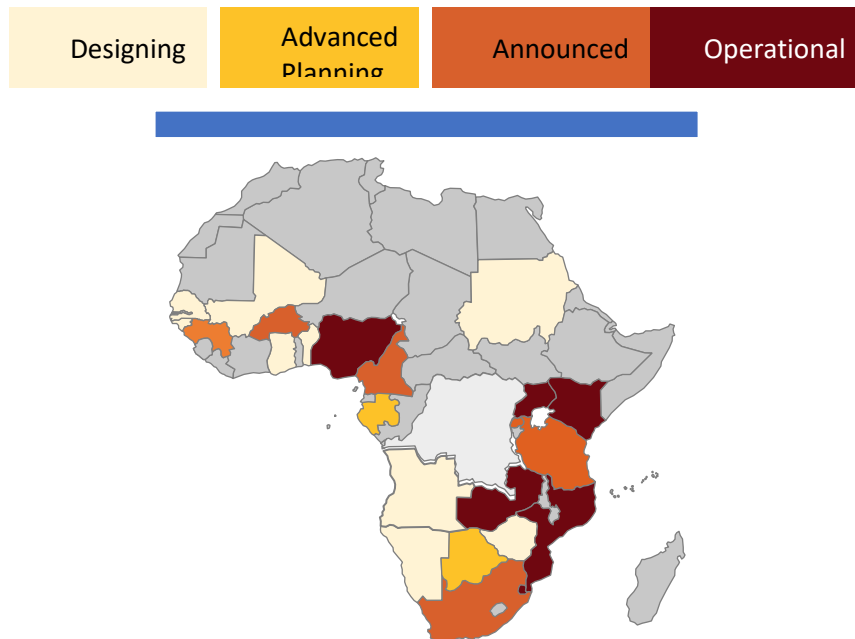
Inflation, insecticide, drug and parasite resistance, increased energy costs and new technologies, have dramatically increased the per capita cost of fighting malaria, reducing the purchasing power of the Global Fund and other resources. The potential life saving impact is further reduced by the high cost of new interventions like the RTS,s malaria vaccine. Malaria program managers have highlighted that even at the same level of allocation as before the replenishment, they will have to reduce their commodities and coverage with much needed interventions, potentially opening the floodgates for major malaria outbreaks. Priority must be given to essential life saving services to maximize impact and save lives.

### **NATIONAL COLLECTIVE ACTION**

Spurred by this desperate situation, the Chair of ALMA has called for national solidarity and is strongly pushing for the establishment of multi sectoral, multi stakeholder National End Malaria (& NTD) Councils and Funds in every country.

The Councils will bring everyone to the table to be part of the fight, and the Funds will tap resources from the private sector and the people, to complement the public sector budget allocation and Global Fund and US President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) support. This is particularly critical with the reduced overall government purse, given shrinking revenues.

Countries with End Malaria Councils and Funds



Currently 6 End Malaria Councils and Funds are operational. An additional 5 have been announced, 2 are at an advanced stage of planning and 10 are at the design stage.

## **HARNESSING YOUTH POTENTIAL**

The Zero Malaria starts with me campaigns are an ideal vehicle for introducing and driving EMCs and EMFs. The mobilization across communities, sectors and stakeholders and partners, enables participation of a critical stakeholders group – youth. Where youth are effectively engaged as part of the solution, to drive change and enhance coverage and impact; results and sustainability are assured.

ALMA youth champions are advocating from 39 African countries. Coordinated by the continental Youth Advisory Council, National Youth Malaria Armies are participating in the campaigns, in implementing interventions, including as health workers, and as researchers and innovators in science and technology.

Currently 3 countries have operational national Malaria Youth Armies, and at least a dozen have expressed an interest.

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

In order to ensure sustainability in the fight against Malaria and NTDs; as well as sustainable health and well being for every mother, newborn, child and adolescent; global, national and community-based solutions must be employed and owned by all stakeholders. They must be driven by a commitment to collective action, results and impact.

This is the solidarity for the Africa we want.