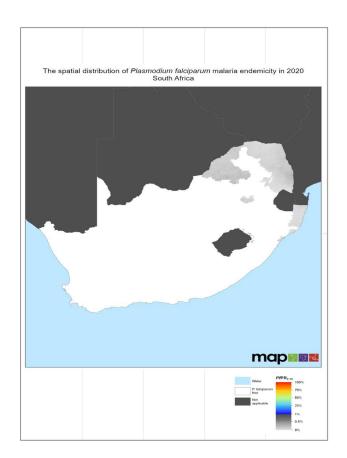
South Africa ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2024



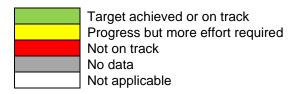
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



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Malaria is present in the three northern provinces of South Africa bordering Mozambique and Eswatini. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 7,280 with 29 deaths.

Key



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Malaria

Africa is at the centre of a perfect storm that threatens to disrupt malaria services and undo decades of progress. We must act urgently to both prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of the ongoing global financial crisis, increasing biological threats, climate change, and humanitarian crises. These threats represent the most serious emergency facing malaria in 20 years and will lead to malaria upsurges and epidemics if not addressed. AU Member States face a \$1.5 billion gap just to sustain existing, yet inadequate, levels of malaria-related services between now and 2026. To get back on track and eliminate malaria, we will need to mobilise another \$5.2 billion dollars annually to fully finance our national malaria plans. Climate change presents a significant threat to the progress that we have made. Africa is disproportionately exposed to the risks of climate change and by the 2030s, 150 million additional people will be at risk of malaria because of warmer temperatures and increased rainfall. Climate disasters displace millions and destroy roads and health facilities, reducing access to health services. There is urgency to decarbonise and reduce our carbon footprint. We must implement integrated and multisectoral solutions, and adapt our health systems to the threats of both climate change and pandemics. We must also take action to confront the threats of insecticide and drug resistance, reduced efficacy of rapid diagnostic tests, and the Anopheles stephensi mosquito which spreads malaria in both urban and rural areas. The good news is that the malaria toolkit continues to expand. WHO has approved the use of dual-insecticide mosquito nets that are 43% more effective than traditional mosquito nets and will address the impact of insecticide-resistance. New medicines for treating malaria and two malaria vaccines for children have also been approved with an increasing number of countries deploying these new tools. The scaling up of these interventions will help us achieve our goal of eliminating malaria. This will require integrated approaches with malaria as a pathfinder for pandemic preparedness, climate change and health, Primary Health Care and Universal Health Coverage. We must work to sustain and increase domestic resource commitments including through multisectoral End Malaria and NTD councils and Funds, which have raised over US\$75 million.

Progress

South Africa has sufficient financing to cover the malaria commodity needs for 2023-2026. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has reported insecticide resistance data to WHO. WHO has identified South Africa as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2025 and the country has reduced malaria incidence and deaths by more than 40% since 2015 and is on track to achieve the 2025 targets.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, South Africa has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Elimination Scorecard, although it is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 7,280 with 29 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Risk of re-introduction of malaria from neighbouring countries.
- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023		No Progress Reported

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing reporting drug resistance monitoring.

Neglected Tropical Diseases

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in South Africa is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminthiasis. In 2022, preventive chemotherapy coverage is 0 % for both soil transmitted helminths and for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for South Africa in 2022 is 0, which is the same compared with the 2021 index value (0). The country did not reach any WHO MDA target in 2022.

Previous Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Work to implement preventive chemotherapy for soil transmitted helminths and schistosomiasis and reach WHO targets.	Q4 2024		The NTD Programme did not organize Mass Drug Administration for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis and Schistosomiasis in 2024 but the Ministry of Education is conducting regular school deworming for school age children. Other routine NTD activities including NTD surveillance and case management for patients with NTDs are being conducted. The country is working to mobilize resources to conduct mapping for all suspected NTDs in order to adjust the strategies.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Climate Change and health	Work to collate data on the impact of climate change on Vector Borne disease and incorporate into the next round on National Determined Contributions and National Climate Change Action Plans	Q4 2025

