

Botswana ALMA Quarterly Report

Quarter Four, 2024



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics

Financing		
IRS financing (2024-2026) (% of at-risk population)	100	
Public sector ACTs and RTDs financing (2024-2026) projection (% of need)	100	
% of National Malaria Strategic Plan Financed (2024-2026)	81	

Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC		
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Zero Malaria Starts With Me Launched		
End Malaria Council and Fund Launched		

Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Drug efficacy studies conducted since 2019 and data reported to WHO		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010	2	
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
% of vector control in the last year with next generation materials	100	
On track to reduce malaria incidence by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015)		
On track to reduce malaria mortality by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015)		

Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health and NTDs		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2023)	1	
% of Neglected Tropical Disease MDAs Achieving WHO Targets	33	
National Budget Allocated to NTDs		
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2023)	66	
Vitamin A Coverage 2022 (2 doses)	0	
DPT3 coverage 2023 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	95	
Climate Change and VBDs in NDCs		

The annual reported number of confirmed malaria cases in 2023 was 651 with 6 deaths.

Key

Green	Target achieved or on track
Yellow	Progress but more effort required
Red	Not on track
Grey	No data
White	Not applicable

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\$125 million

Progress

Botswana has secured sufficient resources to fund the required ACTs, RDTs and IRS required in 2024-2026. WHO has identified Botswana as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2025. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance management and monitoring plan, and is using next generation insecticides for vector control.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Botswana has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Elimination Scorecard and this is shared publicly in-country, but not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub. Discussions are ongoing for the creation of the Botswana End Malaria and NTD council.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2023 was 651 with 6 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Achieving and maintaining IRS coverage above 80%.
- Heavy rainfall in southern Africa may lead to malaria upsurges in 2025
- Need to further 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

Botswana has responded positively to the recommended action addressing the lack of data on drug efficacy testing and is continuing to monitor progress against this action.

New Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Impact	Ensure that there are sufficient supplies and resources to respond to any malaria upsurges during the Q1 2025 malaria season	Q1 2025
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the lack of progress in reducing malaria incidence since 2015, which means that the country is not on track to achieve the 2025 target of a 75% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2025

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health

Progress

Botswana has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health Scorecard. The country has achieved high coverage of DPT3.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Botswana has responded positively to the recommended action addressing the low coverage of Vitamin A and is continuing to monitor progress against this action.

Neglected Tropical Diseases

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Botswana is illustrated using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage is zero for schistosomiasis and for soil-transmitted helminthiasis (0%) and 100% for trachoma (disease under surveillance only). The overall NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index in 2023 is 1 and shows a decrease compared to the 2022 index value (10). The country did not reach any WHO MDA coverage targets. Botswana has included Vector-borne diseases in the country Nationally Determined Contribution.

New Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	Work to implement preventive chemotherapy for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis and schistosomiasis and reach WHO targets	Q4 2025
NTDs	Submit data to the AUC on the national Budget Allocated to NTDs	Q4 2025

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due