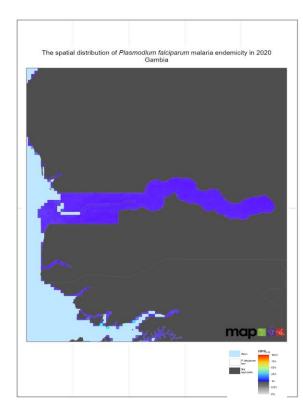
## The Gambia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2025



#### Scorecard for Accountability and Action

Metrics



| etrics  |           |
|---|-----------|
| Financing   |           |
| LLIN financing (2024-2026) projection (% of need)   | 100       |
| Public sector ACTs and RTDs financing (2024-2026)<br>projection (% of need)                               | 100       |
| % of National Malaria Strategic Plan Financed (2024-<br>2026)   | 46        |
| Domestic Financing for Malaria (2025)   | \$144,478 |
| Policy  |           |
| Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC  |           |
| Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic<br>Plan  |           |
| Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic<br>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        | 3         |
| Insecticide resistance monitored since 2020 and data<br>reported to WHO                                   |           |
| % of vector control in the last year with next generation materials                                       | 100       |
| ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)   |           |
| RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)   |           |
| 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<br>Disease (NTD index, %)(2023)                            | 4         |
| % of Neglected Tropical Disease MDAs Achieving WHO<br>Targets   | 33        |
| National Budget Allocated to NTDs   |           |
| Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2023) | 33        |
| DPT3 coverage 2023 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)  | 84        |
| Climate Change and VBDs in NDCs   |           |
| Silf-read   |           |

#### Key

The entire population of The Gambia is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense for most of the year. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 119,104 with 62 deaths.



Target achieved or on track Progress but more effort required Not on track No data Not applicable

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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. 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, and urgently fill gaps created by the recent reductions in ODA. Extreme weather events and climate change present 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. We must also take action to confront the threats of insecticide and drug resistance, reduced efficacy of rapid diagnostic tests, and the invasive 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 primary health care strengthening, climate change and health, 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\$150 million.

#### Progress

The Gambia secured sufficient resources to finance the malaria commodities required for 2024-2026 but has significant gaps to fully implement the national strategic plan. The country has recently submitted the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, the Gambia has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard, although this has not yet been shared to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country should consider establishing an End Malaria Council and Fund to enhance domestic resource mobilization and multi-sectoral action.

#### Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 119,104 with 62 deaths.

#### Key Challenge

• Gaps in resources mobilisation required to fully implement the national strategic plan.

#### **Previous Key Recommended Actions**

| Objective | Action Item  | Suggested<br>completion<br>timeframe | Progress | Comments - key<br>activities/accomplishments since last<br>quarterly report   |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|---|
| Policy    | Sign, ratify and<br>deposit the AMA<br>instrument at the<br>AUC  | Q1 2023                              |          | No progress reported  |
| Impact    | Track the<br>implications of the<br>US Government<br>actions related to<br>PMI support and<br>work to mitigate<br>the impact | Q4 2025                              |          | Gambia being a new PMI country is<br>facing the termination of some key<br>partners implementing malaria<br>interventions. The NMCP has established<br>a tracking system to monitor the gaps in<br>collaboration with the GF, WHO, and<br>RBM. The country has a good delivery<br>pipeline for ACTs and RDTs. |

#### **New Key Recommended Action**

| Objective | Action Item                        | Suggested<br>completion<br>timeframe |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Impact    | Work to address low stocks of ACTs | Q3 2025                              |

# Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health

#### **Previous Key Recommended Actions**

The Gambia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing the low coverage of ART coverage in children under 14 years of age, with a recent 4% increase in coverage and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

## **Neglected Tropical Diseases**

#### Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in The Gambia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2023, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma (as it was eliminated) and 0% for soil-transmitted helminths and 0% for schistosomiasis. The NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Gambia in 2023 is 1, which is the same compared with the 2022 index value (1). The country did not reach any WHO MDA coverage target in 2023.

### **Previous Key Recommended Actions**

| Objective                          | Action Item  | Suggested<br>completion<br>timeframe | Progress | Comments - key<br>activities/accomplishments since<br>last quarterly report   |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|---|
| Climate<br>Change<br>and<br>health | Work to collate data on<br>the impact of climate<br>change on Vector Borne<br>disease and incorporate<br>into the next round on<br>National Determined<br>Contributions and<br>National Climate<br>Change Action Plans | Q4 2025                              |          | The country has incorporated a<br>climate change section in the<br>current NTD Master Plan and<br>discussions are ongoing with the<br>Ministry of environment, Climate<br>Change and Natural Resources to<br>identify how data can be collected<br>and used by the health<br>programmes. The country has a<br>climate change policy of 2015 and<br>a consultant is being recruited to<br>update it. |
| NTDs                               | Work to implement<br>preventive<br>chemotherapy for<br>schistosomiasis and soil<br>transmitted helminths<br>and mobilize the<br>necessary resources<br>and implement<br>community surveillance<br>systems.             | Q4 2025                              |          | Deliverable not yet due   |
| NTDs                               | Submit data to the AUC<br>on the national Budget<br>Allocated to NTDs  | Q4 2025                              |          | The country is working on high<br>level advocacy including mobilizing<br>members of parliament to advocate<br>for establishing a budget line for<br>NTDs for the next year budget vote.<br>Most of NTD interventions are now<br>integrated into Primary Health<br>Care.   |

Key

Action achieved Some progress No progress

Deliverable not yet due