

Botswana ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2025



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics

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 2020 and data 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 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 (2024)		68
DPT3 coverage 2024 (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

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

Malaria

Africa is at the centre of a perfect storm that threatens to disrupt malaria services and undo decades of progress. Countries must act urgently to both prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of the ongoing global financial crisis, decreasing ODA, 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, US\$5.2 billion is needed annually to fully finance country national malaria plans, and urgently fill gaps created by the recent reductions in ODA. Extreme weather events and climate change present a significant threat. 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. Extreme weather events displace millions and destroy roads and health facilities, reducing access to health services. Countries 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. Malaria can serve as a pathfinder for primary health care strengthening, climate change and health, and Universal Health Coverage. Countries 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 to date.

Progress

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 Indoor Residual Spraying.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, 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 Malaria and NTD Elimination Council. The Honourable Minister of Health has been appointed as an ALMA RBM Malaria champion.

Impact

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

Key Challenges

- Achieving and maintaining IRS coverage above 80%.
- Malaria upsurges in Q1 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
Impact	Ensure that there are sufficient supplies and resources to respond to any malaria upsurges during the Q1 2025 malaria season	Q1 2025		The county now has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs. The malaria upsurge has ended.
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		The country has not achieved high coverage of IRS, resulting in malaria upsurges. The ITNs distributed by the country are pyrethroid only nets rather than the next generation nets able to address insecticide resistance in the country whilst active case detection coverage is insufficient to address and contain upsurges. In response, the country is decentralising malaria prevention to district level and will implement an acceleration plan towards elimination building off the updated national strategic plan. Botswana is planning to launch a Malaria and NTD elimination council, youth corps and Zero Malaria Starts with me in 2025
Impact	Work to identify and address the underlying causes of the ongoing malaria upsurge	Q4 2024		Key factors linked to the observed upsurge in Botswana included much heavier than normal rainfall. Delayed implementation of the IRS campaign and the resulting low coverage also meant that malaria upsurges occurred. Insufficient stocks of RDTs also reduced the ability to implement outbreak responses. In response, the country has developed an updated malaria strategy to drive the country to malaria elimination. Plans are also underway to launch a Malaria and NTD elimination council, youth corps and to launch the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign

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.

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.

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.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

The country has responded to the recommended actions on implementation of preventive chemotherapy for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis and schistosomiasis and on submitting data to the AUC on the national Budget Allocated to NTDs, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due