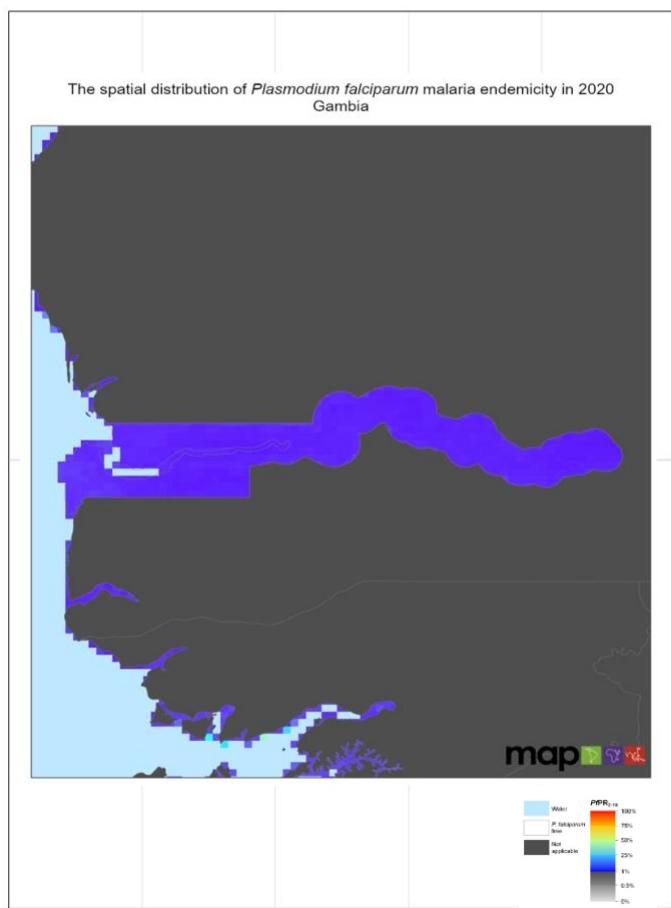


# The Gambia ALMA Quarterly Report

## Quarter Four, 2025



### Scorecard for Accountability and Action



#### Metrics

##### Policy

Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC	<span style="background-color: red; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan	<span style="background-color: white; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan	<span style="background-color: white; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
Zero Malaria Starts With Me Launched	<span style="background-color: green; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
End Malaria Council and Fund Launched	<span style="background-color: white; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>

##### Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact

Drug efficacy studies conducted since 2019 and data reported to WHO	<span style="background-color: green; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> 3
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2020 and data reported to WHO	<span style="background-color: red; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
% of vector control in the last year with next generation materials	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> 100
ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)	<span style="background-color: red; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
On track to reduce malaria incidence by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015)	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
On track to reduce malaria mortality by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015)	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>

##### Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health and NTDs

Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2024)	<span style="background-color: green; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> ▲ 77
% of Neglected Tropical Disease MDAs Achieving WHO Targets	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> ▲ 67
National Budget Allocated to NTDs	<span style="background-color: red; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2024)	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> 42
DPT3 coverage 2024 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> 80
Climate Change and VBDs in NDCs	<span style="background-color: white; width: 100px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>

#### Key

<span style="background-color: green; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Target achieved or on track
<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Progress but more effort required
<span style="background-color: red; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Not on track
<span style="background-color: grey; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	No data
<span style="background-color: white; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Not applicable

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 2024 was 111,465 with 70 deaths.

## **Malaria - The Big Push towards 2030**

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\$181 million to date.

A recent report, "The Price of Retreat," highlights the expected impact of malaria between 2025-2030 on GDP, trade and key sectors for development in Africa. If Gambia cannot sustain malaria prevention due to reductions in malaria financing, this would lead to an estimated 1,546,824 additional cases, 3,826 more deaths, and GDP loss of US\$209 million between 2025 and 2030. However, if we mobilise the necessary resources and achieve a 90% reduction in malaria, in Gambia there will be a US\$171 million increase in GDP.

### **Progress**

The Gambia 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 2024 was 111,465 with 70 deaths.

### **Key Challenge**

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

## 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	Red	No progress reported
Impact	Track the implications of the US Government actions related to PMI support and work to mitigate the impact	Q4 2025	Yellow	The Ministry of health is negotiating a 5 year bilateral MOU with the US government .
Impact	Work to address low stocks of ACTs	Q1 2026	Green	The Gambia NMEP bridged its ACT 2025 shortage using a \$2M China-IFRC grant to supply specific regions, freeing up Global Fund drugs for other areas. By shifting distribution to Village Health Workers, they ensured rural children were prioritized and drug leakage was minimized. The NEMP has confirmed that an emergency batch of ACTs has been already distributed to health facilities and the next major delivery is scheduled for late February 2026.

## 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. In 2024, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma (as it was eliminated) and 52% for soil-transmitted helminths and 87% for schistosomiasis. The NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Gambia in 2024 is 77, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2023 index value (1). The country didn't reach WHO MDA coverage target for soil transmitted helminthiasis in 2024.

## Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
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	Yellow	There is an established climate information sharing by the Department of Water Resources at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources mainly on Rainfall onset and end dates and potential risks in terms of areas likely to be affected with floods. This information is helping the country to plan malaria interventions particularly the timing of SMC. Real time data collection is ongoing to measure the impact of climate change on vector borne diseases
NTDs	Work to implement preventive chemotherapy for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths and mobilize the necessary resources and implement community surveillance systems.	Q4 2025	Green	The country achieved high coverage of MDAs in 2024 compared to 2023 and continues to work to mobilize resources for MDAs. The government provided domestic resources to buy medicines for NTD routine case management. NTD surveillance has been integrated into the existing surveillance system and is being conducted as planned. NTD case management is integrated in the primary health care package.

### Key

Action achieved
Some progress
No progress
Deliverable not yet due