

## ALMA QUARTERLY REPORT SUMMARY – 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER 2012

### Introduction

Africa and its partners in the Global Community now have three years before the December 31, 2015 deadline to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Three years to fully protect hundreds of millions of women, children, and men from a sworn enemy and avoidable death. Malaria is a debilitating disease that saps the energy of its victims, keeps them away from all productive activity, and often claims valuable lives while robbing us of economic growth and development. Over the past few years, African countries, working with partners have demonstrated unshakeable resolve in the fight against malaria, spurred by a keen determination to succeed despite facing an enormous global economic crisis.

### Unmitigated Success - The Value of Partnerships and Alliances

Success in malaria reduction has been well documented, with some countries recording a marked decrease in malaria-related mortality. In this regard, we have included in the Q4 2012 ALMA Scorecard for Accountability and Action the new impact data from the World Health Organization. Nine countries in Africa are on track to have a greater than 75% decrease in malaria incidence between 2000–2015, and another two are on track for a 50%–75% decrease. Two other countries have shown a significant decrease in their malaria burden in parts of their territories. Eight countries have already shown a reduction of over 75% by 2011. This has been the result of aggressive scaling-up of effective interventions, with LLINs as well as IRS coverage increasing significantly.

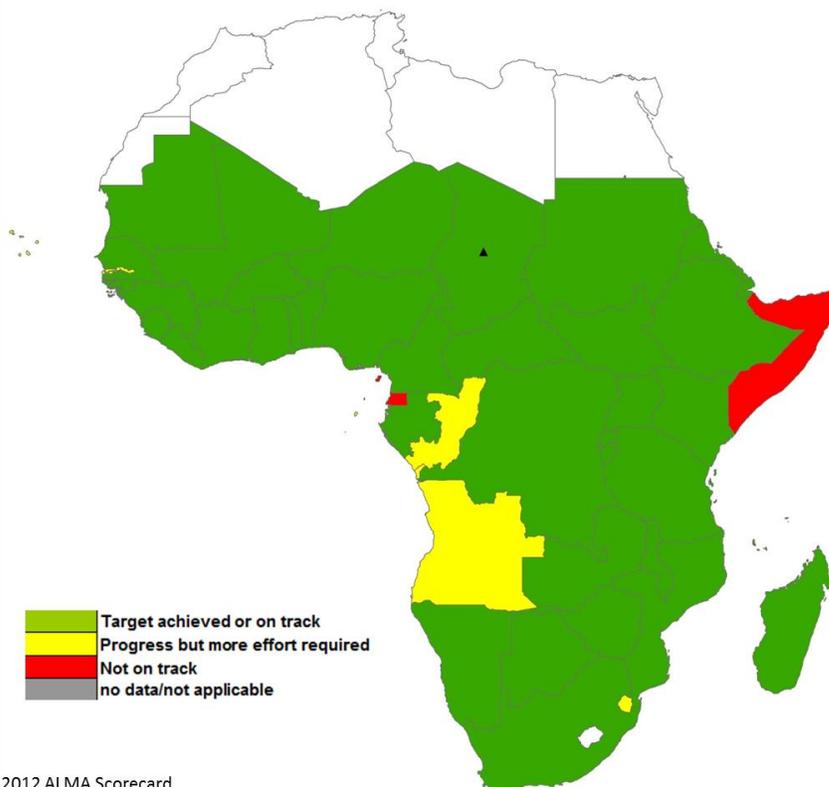
### ALMA Adds Value

The ALMA Scorecard for Accountability and Action, developed at the request of the ALMA Heads of State and Government, has become an important accountability mechanism to track progress. The ALMA Scorecard for Accountability and Action records policy reform across its member states. Since the indicator on the elimination of taxes and tariffs on malaria commodities was first introduced on the ALMA Scorecard just two years ago, more countries have eliminated tariffs on all antimalarial commodities than in the previous decade. Similarly, concerning the indicator on the banning of oral artemisinin monotherapies, an impressive 37 countries have banned these medicines.

MEMBERS

- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Cape Verde
- Chad
- Comoros
- Republic of Congo
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- The Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- United Republic of Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

## Oral Artemisinin Based Monotherapy Ban status



Source: Quarter 4 2012 ALMA Scorecard

*The designation employed and the presentation of material in these maps does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ALMA concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries*

The Q4 2012 ALMA Scorecard shows that since the indicator for use of antibiotics at community level as part of integrated community case management was first introduced to track the introduction of a policy, nine countries have introduced this important policy. Two additional countries have moved to introduce community case management of malaria and pneumonia.

The impressive movement on the policy indicators included in the ALMA Scorecard shows how much can be achieved in a relatively short time!

### The Call for a Big Push

However, in the wake of this success, the 2012 World Malaria Report warns of a looming crisis as global funding to fight malaria has leveled off between 2010 and 2012. This funding slow-down is reversing the remarkable gains made over the past decade. In January 2012, the ALMA Forum raised the alarm and called for donor support to the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria, a major funder of efforts to combat these three diseases. In July 2012, the ALMA Forum called urgently for new sources of funding as some traditional funders reduced funding support and the Global Fund failed to salvage the cancelled Round 11.

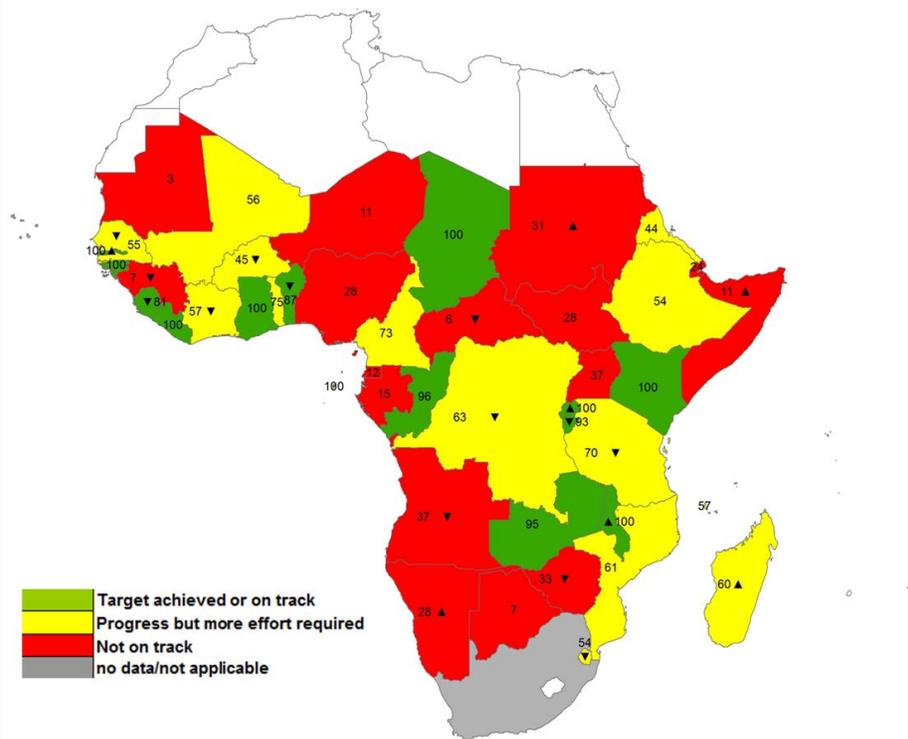
As we start the New Year, ALMA now seeks commitment from member countries, traditional donors, and new partners across the public, private, and foundation sectors.

## A Deteriorating Situation

The ALMA Scorecard for Accountability and Action and Quarterly Reports for Q4 2012 detail progress on malaria and tracer maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) indicators. At the same time, the ALMA Scorecard also shows gaps in financing as well as a devastating trend of declining operational coverage of essential antimalarial commodities.

A key area of concern highlighted in the Q3 2012 ALMA Scorecard and continuing in the Q4 2012 ALMA Scorecard is that 13 countries have actually seen a decrease in their operational LLIN coverage in the last quarter, reflecting an overall slowdown in LLIN distribution across the continent. It is essential that populations that have been protected by LLINs require ongoing protection in order to avoid malaria upsurges, outbreaks, and a reversal of the impressive gains made to date.

### Operational LLIN Coverage (% of at risk Population)



Source: Quarter 4 2012 ALMA Scorecard

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## **A Time for Stakeholder Action and Accountability**

2013 must be a year of action and accountability. This will require enhanced support for data tracking and surveillance to allow progress and impact to be tracked. The ALMA countries call on all partners in the public sector, private sector, civil society, international donor partners, and academia to join them in committing to the Big Push: The January 2013 ALMA Forum must therefore squarely address the following challenges that we all face:

1. Existing innovative financing as well as new sources of funding must be fully utilized by all domestic and international partners
2. Emergency financing mechanisms must be explored, as well as the full utilization of existing funding channels
3. Replacement LLINs must be secured to keep children protected from exposure to malaria
4. Bulk purchasing, standardization of commodities and efficient supply chain management are critical
5. Existing mechanisms for global financing must be protected
6. Efficient and effective use of resources must be strengthened in all ALMA countries

In support of the valiant efforts required of all stakeholders, ALMA is replacing two of the Policy-Level Indicators with the new challenges that face us. It will also be necessary to expand the implementation indicator in 2013 to include overall vector control coverage by also incorporating indoor residual spraying (IRS) coverage data into the Scorecard.

## **Conclusion**

The fight against malaria has become more urgent with the economic growth and development of Africa. The growth potential of the continent has been unleashed. Relapse is not an option. This means that gains to date must be sustained and a Big Push made to accelerate progress.

