The entire population of Ghana is at risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 6,077,543 with 277 deaths.
Malaria
Global Fund Update
The Global Fund has announced that Ghana will receive US$234 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2024-2026. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Ghana’s disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and the importance of sustaining life-saving essential services. For Ghana this is calculated at US$120.8 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Ghana is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation, as well as from domestic resources, to accelerate progress.

Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, Ghana has secured sufficient resources for the essential anti-malarial commodities required to sustain coverage in 2022 and has distributed sufficient numbers of LLINs and carried out IRS sufficient to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. Ghana has scaled up coverage of iCCM. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Ghana has also launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign. Ghana has decreased the estimated malaria incidence and mortality rates by more than 40% since 2015.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Ghana has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard and has posted the scorecard to the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 6,077,543 with 277 deaths.

Key Challenges
- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control effectiveness.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.
### Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>Ensure that malaria services including case management and vector control are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>The country has good stocks of ACTs and a strong delivery pipeline. The IRS and SMC campaigns were completed as planned. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the costs of campaigns, creating some gaps in funding for the operational costs. The country implemented diagnosis and treatment activities at health facility and community levels. ITNs were distributed to U1 and PW in EPI and ANC services. The NMCP is planning the process of the MPR in collaboration with WHO and partners which will lead to the development of the MSP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RMNCAH and NTDs

**Progress**

The country has achieved high coverage of tracer RMNCAH DPT3. The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard, including with the introduction of community level scorecards. The country has also published the RMNCAH and community scorecards on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Ghana is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma, 100% soil-transmitted helminths, 70% for lymphatic filariasis, 59% for schistosomiasis and 49% for onchocerciasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Ghana in 2021 is 73, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2020 index value (0).
### Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>RMNCAH¹: Impact</td>
<td>Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. Address any stock-outs of essential RMNCAH commodities</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Ghana reports there have been improvements in RMNCAH services for ANC, PNC and EPI since the COVID-19 pandemic disruptions. The country continues to offer essential services. Child health services have improved: Penta 3 coverage remains high at 91% in Q4 2022. Measles/ Rubella vaccination rates have held steady at 77%. In terms of Maternal Health Service, ANC 4 is also remaining steady from 84% in Q4 2022; PNC remains high at 97%. Ghana have offered continuous training and rolled out COVID-19 vaccination among health staff. These have boosted the staff confidence to render essential services across all levels of service delivery. To mitigate for the impact on RMNCAH services, Ghana has adopted COVID-19 protocols and guidelines for paediatric and obstetric care. The guidelines establish special arrangements for COVID-19 prevention and service delivery in the context of COVID-19 with key messages for service providers and communities. The guidelines aim to enhance trust in the capacity of the health system and ensure appropriate care-seeking behaviour. The COVID-19 pandemic has also affected the regular in-flow of essential commodities to render effective RMNCAH services at the service delivery point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions are implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic.</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>The country is conducting NTD prevention and control interventions as planned whilst respecting COVID-19 measures. NTD routine activities are being conducted as planned. The country has completed the second round of Lymphatic Filariasis and Onchocerciasis MDAs for 2022. Other activities include NTD surveillance and joint cross boarder activities with neighbouring countries.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ghana has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of vitamin A and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

### Key

- **Action achieved**
- **Some progress**
- **No progress**
- **Deliverable not yet due**

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO