Malaria is endemic in Ethiopia with differing intensity of transmission, except in the central highlands which are malaria-free. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 1,487,758 with 175 deaths.
Malaria

Global Fund Allocation
The Global Fund announced that Ethiopia will receive US$427.6 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 Ethiopia’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 previous disbursements. For Ethiopia this is calculated at US$116.3 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Ethiopia 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. The Global Fund resources are especially important in the current resource constrained environment. The ongoing economic crisis, increased costs of doing business, and the need to introduce newer more expensive commodities to address insecticide and drug resistance mean that countries may experience shortfalls in sustaining their life-saving malaria essential services.

Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, Ethiopia has scaled up iCCM and secured sufficient resources to sustain coverage of LLINs in 2023. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees and IDPs. The country has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with me campaign. Ethiopia 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, Ethiopia 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 received the ALMA Joyce Kafanabo Award for Innovation and Excellence during the AU Summit in February 2023. 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 2021 was 1,487,758 with 175 deaths.

Key Challenge
- Ethiopia has documented insecticide resistance to 4 insecticide classes.
RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress
Ethiopia has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard, including with the institutionalisation of community scorecards.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Ethiopia 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 66% for onchocerciasis, 65% for trachoma, 38% for schistosomiasis, 26% for lymphatic filariasis, and 18% for soil-transmitted helminthiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Ethiopia in 2021 is 38, which represents a substantial increase compared with the 2020 index value (11). The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD Scorecard.

Recommended Action
Ethiopia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of ARTs in children, with recent increases in coverage and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.