Malaria is endemic in all parts of Malawi. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 6,982,423 with 2,368 deaths.
Malaria Allocation

The Global Fund announced that Malawi will receive US$517.1 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2024-2026. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Malawi’s disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and previous disbursements. For Malawi this is calculated at US$ 92.1 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Malawi 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. Sufficient LLINs have been procured to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. Malawi has scaled up iCCM. Malawi has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. The country has also developed an insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Malawi has recently launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Malawi has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard and is planning to post the scorecard to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The NTD scorecard has already been posted to the 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 2021 was 6,982,423 with 2,368 deaths.

Key Challenge

- Resource gaps to fully implement the malaria national strategic plan

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>Policy</td>
<td>Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC</td>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>No progress reported</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>Work to incorporate activities targeting refugees in the Malaria Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>The country is currently working to update the National Strategic Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress
High coverage has been obtained for the tracer RMNCAH intervention DPT3 coverage. Malawi has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Malawi 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 both lymphatic filariasis and trachoma, 86% for onchocerciasis, 37% for schistosomiasis and 22% for soil-transmitted helminthias. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Malawi in 2021 is 59, which represents a substantial decrease compared with the 2020 index value (76). The country is commended for reducing Trachoma prevalence to less than 5%, and beginning the trachoma elimination dossier. Malawi has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the NTD Scorecard.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Ensure that NTD interventions including Mass Drug Administration, particularly for soil transmitted helminths, are implemented</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>In February 2023, the country completed the MDA for onchocerciasis in the two additional districts where the Onchocerciasis MDA is planned twice a year. Other MDAs for Schistosomiasis and STH were conducted in Q4 2022 and reached WHO with a coverage of 91%. Onchocerciasis 2022 MDA coverage achieved coverage of 82%. Lymphatic Filariasis and Trachoma surveillance activities are being implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key
- Green: Action achieved
- Yellow: Some progress
- Red: No progress
- Grey: Deliverable not yet due