Malaria transmission is seasonal in Eswatini; the annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 581 and 5 deaths.
Malaria
Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, Eswatini secured sufficient resources to fund the IRS, ACTs, and RDTs required to sustain universal coverage in 2023 and has good stocks of ACTs and RDTs. Eswatini is a member of the Elimination 8 and MOSASWA initiatives, strengthening their cross-border collaboration with neighbouring countries. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign. WHO has identified Eswatini as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, building of the agenda of His Majesty King Mswati III, in May 2019, the country launched an End Malaria Fund. Eswatini was the first country in Africa to introduce a malaria elimination scorecard to enhance tracking, accountability and action as the country moves towards malaria elimination and this has been publicly posted to the ALMA Scorecard hub.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 581 and 5 deaths.

Key Challenge
- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda.

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>Policy</td>
<td>No Progress Reported</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eswatini has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing reporting insecticide resistance data to WHO and the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea.

RMNCAH and NTDs
Progress
Good progress has been made on the tracer RMNCAH intervention ART coverage in children and DPT3 coverage.
Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Eswatini is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 0% for both schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminths. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Eswatini in 2021 is 0, which is the same compared with the 2020 index value (0).

**Previous Key Recommended Actions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Ensure that NTD interventions including MDAs for schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminths are implemented</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>The country is conducting NTD control and elimination activities as planned. In May 2023, the country conducted MDAs for Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis successfully and is working on the MDA report. Other routine activities including surveillance are being conducted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing vitamin A coverage and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

**Key**

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