The entire population of The Gambia is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense for most of the year. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 77,287 with 42 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, The Gambia secured sufficient resources to finance the malaria commodities required for 2023. The country has procured sufficient LLINs and carried out IRS to sustain 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. The country has recently submitted the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees. The Gambia has decreased the estimated malaria incidence by more than 40% since 2015.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, the Gambia 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 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 77,287 with 42 deaths.

Key Challenge
- 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>
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<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>
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RMNCAH and NTDs
Progress
Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in The Gambia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma and 47% for soil-transmitted helminths and 15% for schistosomiasis. The NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Gambia in 2021 is 41, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2020 index value (1).

Previous Key Recommended Actions
The Gambia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing the low coverage of vitamin A, and ART coverage in children under 14 years of age and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

Key

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