Malaria transmission is seasonal in Zimbabwe with about 60% of the population at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 133,137 and 131 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, Zimbabwe secured the resources required for ACTs, RDTs, LLINs and IRS in 2023 and has achieved high coverage of vector control. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO, and has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Zimbabwe has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Scorecard, but this is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub. Zimbabwe is exploring whether to establish an End Malaria Council.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 133,137 and 131 deaths.

Key Challenge
• There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.

Previous Key Recommended Actions
The country has responded positively to the recommended action addressing reporting drug resistance data to WHO and is working to enact this action.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress
Zimbabwe has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Zimbabwe is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 15% for trachoma and zero for schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Zimbabwe in 2021 is 0 which represents a decrease compared with the 2020 index value (2).

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>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td>Address the falling coverage of vitamin A</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>The country increased vitamin A coverage in the second round of 2022 to 50% but coverage of the two doses remains low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Work to implement preventive chemotherapy for schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis and reach WHO targets</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>