

ALMA QUARTER 2 2023 SUMMARY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

2023 marks the end of the 1st decade following the adoption of Africa’s agenda 2063. It is the first key milestone of the implementation plan; a time to take stock; redouble our efforts and accelerate progress.

Under the leadership and guidance of Africa’s Heads of State and Government, ALMA has focused on goal 3 actions under the 1st aspiration of ‘The Africa we Want’. The AU’s 2nd continental progress report on Agenda 2063, released last year, showed that neonatal and under five mortality were 24.4 and 63.9 respectively, instead of the targeted 12 for neonatals and 17 for under Fives. A key contributor to this slow progress has been the limited progress in the fight against malaria. Indeed the catalytic framework, guided by Agenda 2063, set a target of reducing malaria by 40% by 2020 and by 75% by 2025.

The 2023 report indicates that Africa had 234 million malaria cases and 593 thousand deaths in 2021, showing little progress since 2013.

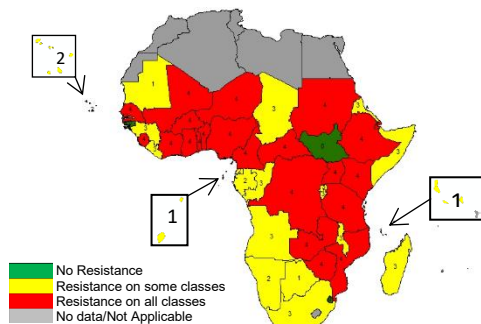
A SUBSTANTIAL GAP

The 2022 World Malaria Report pointed out an annual 3.5 billion US dollar gap in malaria investments globally. In 2026, this gap will have increased by another 1.5 billion US dollars, making it impossible for Africa to sustain even the current programs in malaria control, and elimination.

In addition to the increased cost of new technologies for ITNs and IRS (indoor residual spraying) fueled by insecticide resistance, tests kits have had to be modified to address parasite mutations and new antimalarial medicines to address the partial resistance recently observed in Africa. There is also increasing endemicity resulting from flooding and increased temperatures associated with climate change.

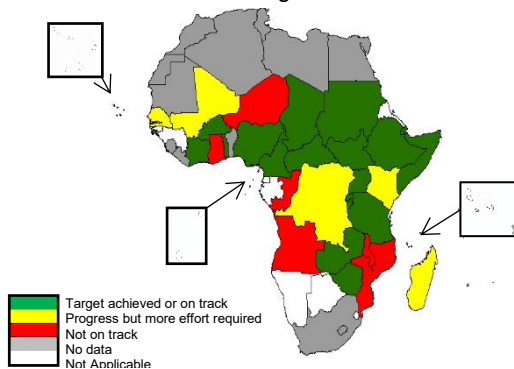
- MEMBERS
- Algeria
 - Angola
 - Benin
 - Botswana
 - Burkina Faso
 - Burundi
 - Cameroon
 - Central African Republic
 - Cabo Verde
 - Chad
 - Comoros
 - Republic of Congo
 - Côte d'Ivoire
 - Democratic Republic of Congo
 - Djibouti
 - Egypt
 - Equatorial Guinea
 - Eritrea
 - Eswatini
 - Ethiopia
 - Gabon
 - Ghana
 - Guinea
 - Guinea Bissau
 - Kenya
 - Lesotho
 - Liberia
 - Libya
 - Madagascar
 - Malawi
 - Mali
 - Mauritania
 - Mauritius
 - Mozambique
 - Morocco
 - Namibia
 - Niger
 - Nigeria
 - Rwanda
 - Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
 - São Tomé and Príncipe
 - Senegal
 - Seychelles
 - Sierra Leone
 - Somalia
 - South Africa
 - South Sudan
 - Sudan
 - The Gambia
 - Togo
 - Tunisia
 - Uganda
 - United Republic of Tanzania
 - Zambia
 - Zimbabwe

Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance confirmed since 2010



Source: Quarter 2 2023 ALMA Scorecard
The designation employed and the presentation of material in these maps does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ALMA concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan



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In addition, countries are increasingly dealing with the need to extend coverage to protect refugees and displaced persons. The illustrations above reflect the enormity of the challenge. Though countries are strategically targeting interventions to maximize impact with the limited resources, the financing blanket is shrinking, making it more and more difficult to prevent and to control outbreaks and upsurges.

REDOUBLING OF EFFORTS

The Catalytic Framework’s strategic investment area one, targets health systems strengthening, and identifies diversified and innovative domestic financing for health as its first action. This is particularly critical for ending malaria, since the financing gap has grown exponentially.

In response, ALMA’s Chair has called for the establishment of national End Malaria (and Neglected Tropical Diseases) Councils and Funds. This is an innovative, multisectoral domestic oversight and financing mechanism, with clear efficiency gains measures, as required by the Catalytic framework.

EXCERPT FROM THE EMC/EMF MATURITY FRAMEWORK

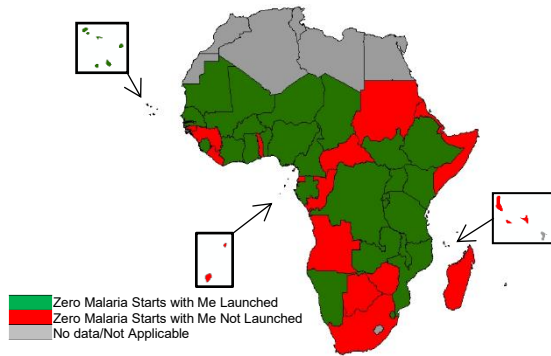
	Initial	Strengthening	Mature
Action & Resource Mobilisation	Capital campaign launched to mobilise in-kind and financial resources from domestic and international sources for priority gaps.	Advocate to parliament for sustained and increased funding for health and malaria. Annual resource request from NMCP is used to set resource mobilisation targets.	Innovative financing strategy developed and implemented, including identifying cost-savings and efficiencies.
Accountability	NMCP and EMC members provide quarterly status updates during meetings, including the national malaria scorecard.	Annual report and quarterly financial reports prepared and disseminated to all sectors.	Relevant indicators integrated into the national malaria scorecard and other management tools.

The innovative oversight and financing mechanism has a maturity framework (see excerpt above) which enables countries and national stakeholders to monitor and measure impact; whilst engaging the whole of society to own the fight against malaria and hold the right actors accountable, at all levels.

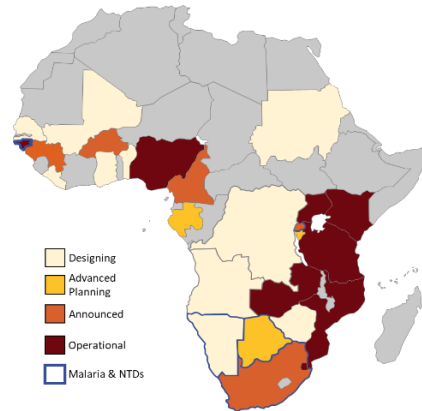
Every country should adopt the establishment of an EMC/EMF as the logical next step after launching their zero malaria starts with me campaign.

Once the various sectors and national actors are engaged, an investment must be made in their collective capacity to support the national malaria program and eliminate this scourge.

Zero Malaria Starts with Me Launched



EMC/EMFs Status



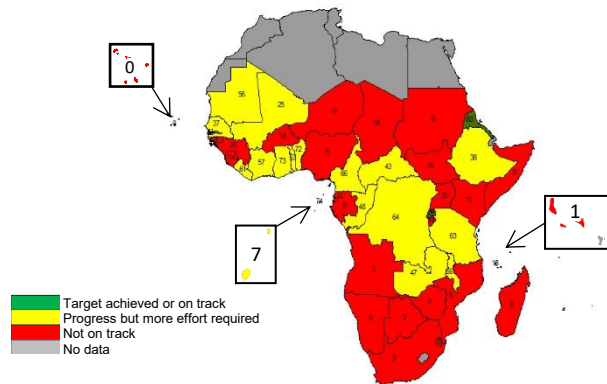
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To date, 8 EMC/EMFs are operational, 5 have been announced, 3 are in the advanced planning stage, and another 10 are being designed.

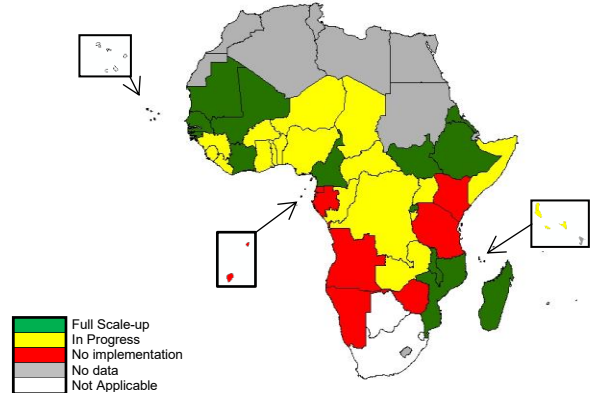
AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Increasingly, countries are extending the responsibility of EMC/EMFs to include neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), or other key health challenges. NTDs are viral, parasitic and bacterial diseases mainly affecting the poor, that are both preventable and treatable.

Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2021)



Scale of Implementation of iCCM



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Universal coverage with the right affordable interventions , including mass drug administration, will enable Africa to achieve its 2030 target of eliminating NTDs. Another area of intergration with the malaria program is in the scaling up of the intergrated community case management

(iCCM) ensuring every household and every child has access to prevention and case management. This will place the African continent on a robust path towards achieving its neonatal and under five morbidity and mortality targets. In addition, a well run and well structured End Malaria Council and Fund, can instantly switch to a pandemic response council and fund as required in an emergency.

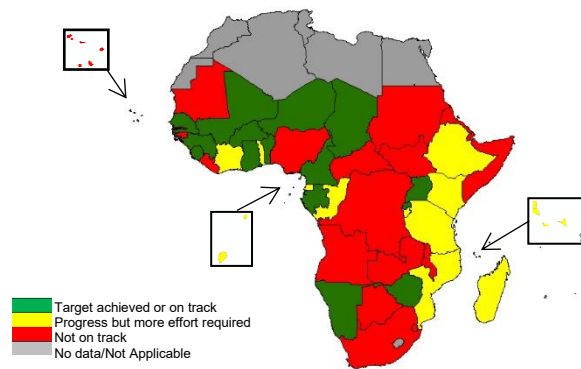
A PATHFINDER

Our Malaria programs must be well structured and resourced; with effective universal surveillance using real time robust digital HMISs, as well as advanced laboratory support, with capacity for genomic surveillance. Reaching this level of operation will enable malaria to act as what Dr. Philip Welkhoff of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation calls the canary in the coal mine. Every outbreak acts as an opportunity to test the robustness of the system, providing early warning of any weaknesses that need to be rectified in readiness for pandemic prevention and response.

CONCLUSION-SOLIDARITY

During his visit to Guinea Bissau last year, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa emphasized the urgency of African countries cooperating to manufacture their own vaccines, and other medical countermeasures. This is well aligned with ALMA Chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló's calls for solidarity - for the continent to work together. The Africa Medicines Agency (AMA) is the vehicle that will move the continent forward on this road through mutual collaboration to self reliance.

Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC



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To achieve the Africa we want in access to medicines and our proportional share of the 1.8 trillion US Dollar pharmaceutical industry; every country must sign, ratify and deposit the

AMA instruments. Currently 23 countries have ratified and deposited; 12 have signed but not ratified; and 20 have still to sign.

We have a responsibility to deliver an Africa free of malaria, the time to act is now.

Zero malaria starts with you, with me, with all of us.