In Mauritania, almost 15% of the population is at high risk and 75% is at low risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 49,560.
Malaria
Global Fund Allocation
The Global Fund announced that Mauritania will receive US$21 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 Mauritania’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 Mauritania this is calculated at US$12.4 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Mauritania 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. In this regard, Mauritania is implementing iCCM at scale. The country has secured sufficient resources to fully finance the ACTs, RDTs and LLINs needed in 2023. The country has submitted insecticide resistance data to WHO. Mauritania has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Mauritania has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet shared on 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 49,560.

Key Challenges
- The country has a less than 20% malaria case reporting rate by surveillance systems.
- Insufficient resources 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>Monitoring</td>
<td>Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and data reported to WHO</td>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>The NMCP in collaboration with research institutes has identified some funding opportunities including the French cooperation and the Global Fund through GC7) for the implementation of the next drug resistance testing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vector control</td>
<td>Work to accelerate the ITN campaign</td>
<td>Q2 2024</td>
<td>The NMCP in collaboration with partners (AMP,WHO) finalized the micro-planning for the ITN campaign and has mapped the budget needs. The ITNs are already pre-positioned at district level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RMNCAH and NTDs
Progress
Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Mauritania is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma and 31% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Mauritania in 2021 is 56, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2020 index value (85).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

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<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Ensure that NTD interventions including Mass Drug Administration, particularly for schistosomiasis, are implemented</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td>The country is conducting NTD control and elimination interventions as planned. In 2022, the country organized MDA for Schistosomiasis and the 2023 MDA is planned in Q4 2023 once schools are resumed. Other routine activities including surveillance are being conducted as planned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mauritania has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of ARTs in children under 14 years of age and vitamin A coverage and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

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