Malaria transmission in Nigeria takes place all year round in the south but is more seasonal in the northern regions. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 24,968,466 cases and 6,734 deaths.
Malaria

Africa is at the centre of a perfect storm that threatens to disrupt malaria services and undo decades of progress. We must act urgently to both prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of the ongoing global financial crisis, increasing biological threats, climate change, and humanitarian crises. These threats represent the most serious emergency facing malaria in 20 years and will lead to malaria upsurges and epidemics if not addressed. AU Member States face a $1.5 billion gap just to sustain existing, yet inadequate, levels of malaria-related services between now and 2026. To get back on track and eliminate malaria, we will need to mobilise another $5.2 billion dollars annually to fully finance our national malaria plans. Climate change presents a significant threat to the progress that we have made. Africa is disproportionately exposed to the risks of climate change and by the 2030s, 150 million additional people will be at risk of malaria because of warmer temperatures and increased rainfall. Climate disasters displace millions and destroy roads and health facilities, reducing access to health services. There is urgency to decarbonise and reduce our carbon footprint. We must implement integrated and multisectoral solutions, and adapt our health systems to the threats of both climate change and pandemics. We must also take action to confront the threats of insecticide and drug resistance, reduced efficacy of rapid diagnostic tests, and the Anopheles stephensi mosquito which spreads malaria in both urban and rural areas. The good news is that the malaria toolkit continues to expand. WHO has approved the use of dual-insecticide mosquito nets that are 43% more effective than traditional mosquito nets and will address the impact of insecticide-resistance. New medicines for treating malaria and two malaria vaccines for children have also been approved with an increasing number of countries deploying these new tools. The scaling up of these interventions will help us achieve our goal of eliminating malaria. This will require integrated approaches with malaria as a pathfinder for pandemic preparedness, climate change and health, Primary Health Care and Universal Health Coverage. We must work to sustain and increase domestic resource commitments including through multisectoral End Malaria and NTD councils and Funds, which have raised over US$50 million.

Progress

Nigeria has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and in response to the high levels of resistance observed has scaled up the use of next generation mosquito nets. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees and IDPs. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Nigeria has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign. The approval of the World Bank US$200 million loan for malaria control in thirteen states is a significant development.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Nigeria has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard, although the scorecard has not yet been posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country has recently launched the Nigeria End Malaria Council and Fund.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 24,968,466 cases and 6,734 deaths.

Key Challenge

- Resource constraints to fully implement the malaria national strategic plan, especially in 2026.
<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>Resource Mobilisation</td>
<td>Work to fill key gaps in malaria funding</td>
<td>Q2 2024</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due. Whilst the country has significant gaps to finance essential malaria interventions over the next three years, Nigeria has prioritised interventions, aligned to sub national stratification, to maximise impact, targeting malaria prevention with ITNs to the highest burden rural areas. The End Malaria Council is working on resource mobilisation, targeting 100 priority private sector companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health**

**Progress**
The country has significantly enhanced tracking and accounting mechanisms with the development of the RMNCAH scorecard tool.

**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 2024</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nigeria has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing lack of data on coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

**Neglected Tropical Diseases**

**Progress**
Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Nigeria is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2022, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 58% for onchocerciasis, 45% for soil-transmitted helminths, 61% for lymphatic filariasis, 22% for schistosomiasis and 61% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Nigeria in 2022 is 46, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2021 index value (5). The country did not reach any WHO MDA target in 2022. The country has developed an NTD scorecard tool to enhance accountability and action.