





# Global Fund – vector control financing update

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# Overview

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1. Vector control programming in Global Fund grants 2024–2026
  2. Evaluation work
  3. Current issues
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# 1. Vector Control programming in Global Fund Grants 2024 – 2026



Lucia Sango Tembe with her daughter Sina Adao Tembe  
*The Global Fund/Karin Schermbrucker*

# Malaria programmes are facing a range of challenges, within and beyond vector control

## Striving to deploying most effective tools:

- **Cost:** CFP Dual AI nets ~halved cases compared to pyrethroid-only nets in trials, but cost more; IRS has higher absolute cost than ITNs
- **Some factors still unclear how to best address:** residual transmission, urban malaria, *An. stephensi*



WHO Malaria Threats Map

## Programmatic issues

- **ITN coverage** - not maintained between campaign years
- **Field performance and durability** - challenging to maintain effective coverage given ITN durability
- **Use** - whilst most people who have a net use it, there is still sub-optimal use given access in some places.

## External issues

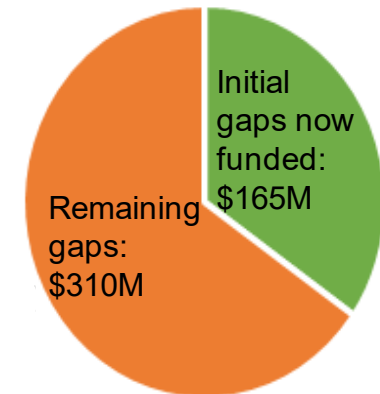
- **Financing** - Unprecedented fiscal pressure
- **Population growth** - 41% increase in population in Global Fund supported countries since 2002
- **Insecurity** - 24 countries classified as COE have 76% of malaria cases
- **Climate** - climate change and extreme weather events drive major upsurges

# These challenges are affecting ITN programming, but this area of vector control continues to be prioritized by programmes

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- 18 countries have ITN gaps and/or gaps to finance the most effective tools
- Maintaining essential costs for campaigns and basic routine distribution is maximum scope in almost all GF requests
- It is well understood that these models can't sustain coverage sufficiently; but funding gaps are preventing further expansion/innovation
- ITN campaign operations being tweaked to find efficiencies

## ITN funding gaps GC7



*As of January '24 grant signing*

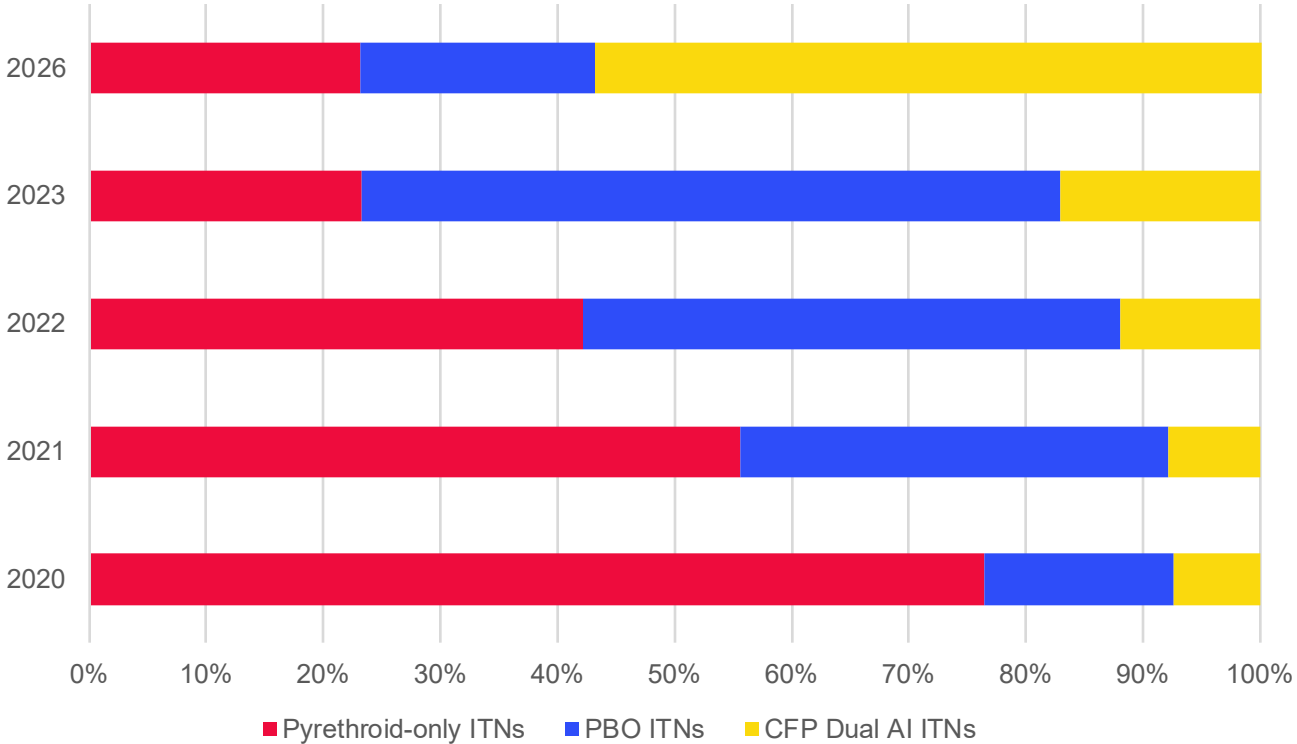
# Despite funding challenges, programmes are prioritizing effective nets

## 8-years of catalytic support



WHO recommendation, based on LSHTM led studies in Tanzania and Benin →

Proportions of Global Fund financed ITNs of different types – actuals for 2020 – 2023; funded net types for 2024 - 2026







# Efficacy versus coverage is being discussed in most programmes

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Maximising efficacy at expense of coverage

Some programmes opting to buy only PBO or CFP nets; but leave some at-risk populations uncovered

Maximizing coverage at the expense of 'upgrading' to better tools

Some programmes still include pyrethroid-only nets in areas of pyrethroid resistance to cover as many people as possible

- Modelling has become more widely and urgently used
- Can be a useful tool to examine how to avert most cases with the available funds – e.g. MINT (<https://mint.dide.ic.ac.uk/>) or support from various modelling partners (e.g. GMP, CHAI, SwissTPH, Northwestern University, PATH, University of Geneva, MAP)
- Some country models have shown CFP nets for fewer people, rather than pyrethroid-only nets for more people, is likely to avert more cases. Models are specific to the country context.
- Modelling tools are also being used to identify subnational areas to target with available ITNs/certain types for highest impact, if funding is insufficient for full effective coverage

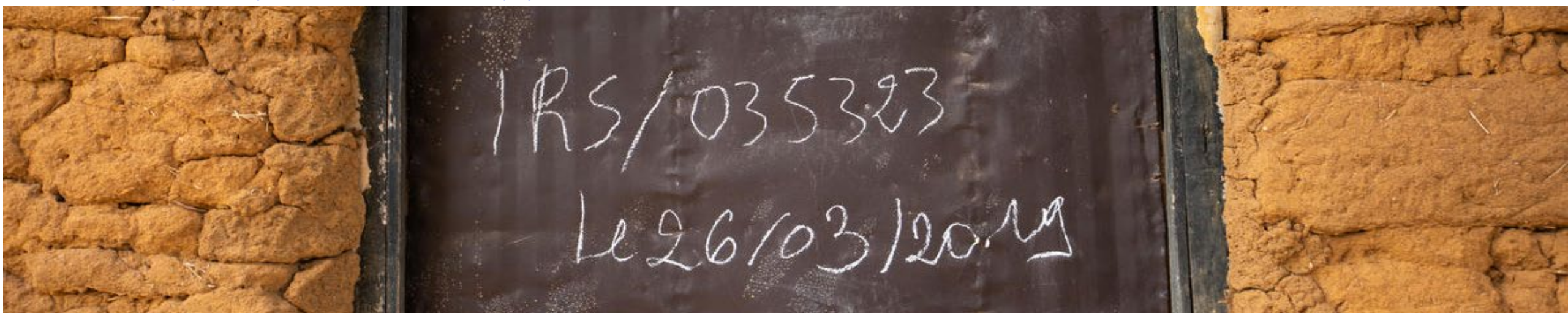
# IRS is scaling back but still plays a role

- IRS scaling back alongside a shift to more effective nets
- IRS activity ~half that of previous grant cycle; \$20.4M gaps included as 'unfunded quality demand'
- Programmes are prioritizing CFP Dual AI nets in areas of scaled back IRS, with associated monitoring
- Updated list of available products; Vectron a new important option

[https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/5857/psm\\_indoorresidualsprayirsgf\\_list\\_en.pdf](https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/5857/psm_indoorresidualsprayirsgf_list_en.pdf)

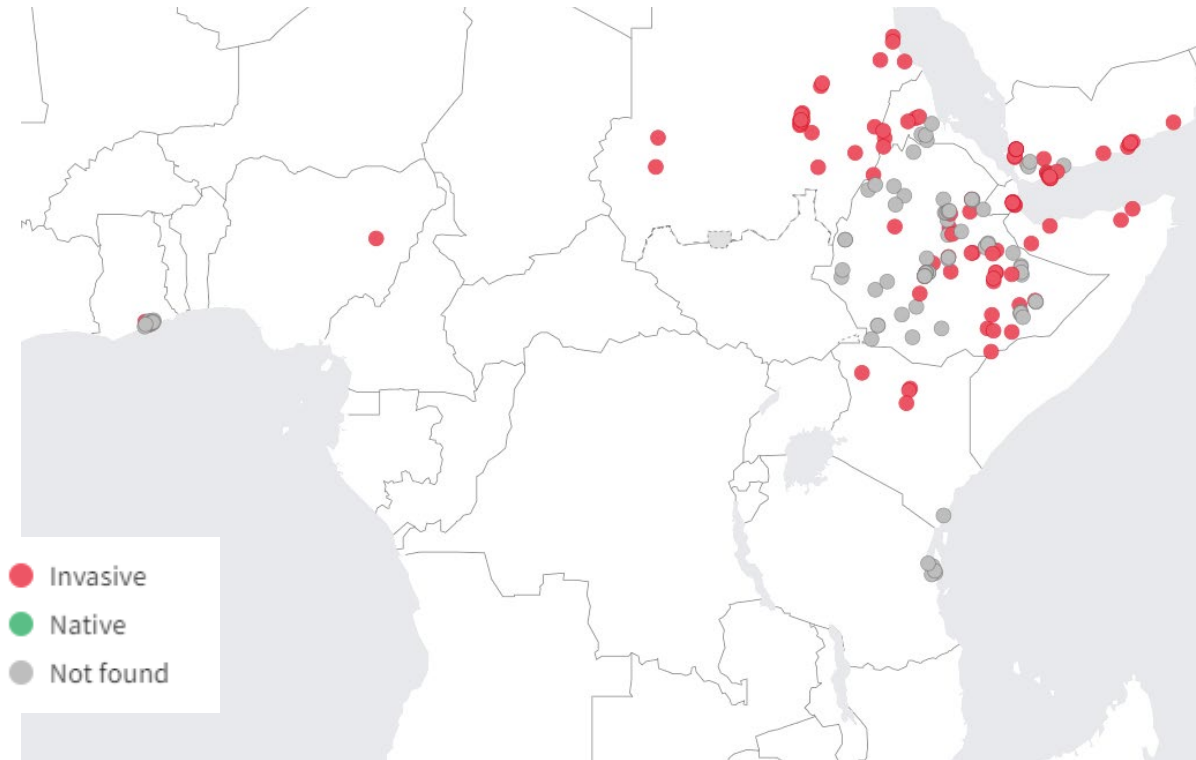
# Monitoring and evaluation for vector control is prioritized, though scope and scale varies

- Entomological surveillance is being prioritized within grants, though to varied levels of scope
- Insecticide resistance monitoring is still a top priority for countries, and being used to inform insecticide selection
- More granular data collection would be ideal to support more robust sub national tailoring of VC, but financing is limited and consensus on how /how best to collect these data is still being built



# *An. stephensi* surveillance and response

- Plans to expand surveillance and – as needed – respond to the *stephensi* threat were highlighted in many funding requests
- Swiss TPH contracted to do a thematic review of current practices and gaps/needs around *An. stephensi* surveillance and control
  - focused on the Horn of Africa countries
  - found national plans had on the whole been updated to reflect this emerging threat, though financing and technical capacity to respond was variable
  - A range of recommendations for consideration at national regional and global levels are being disseminated
- Example of types of activities included in Global Fund investments for implementation in 2024-2026:
  - entomological surveillance
  - targeted management of mosquito breeding sites
  - capacity building on controlling *Anopheles stephensi* including training on surveillance and identification
  - IVM in urban areas



WHO GMP Threats map – detection of *An. stephensi*

## 2. Evaluation work



CRID research facilities/CRID

# Evaluation work to help inform response to challenges and prepare for GC8

## Building understanding of potential resistance to new actives

- CRID led grant in Cameroon and Burkina Faso



## Exploring factors affecting programme decision making around ITN deployment models

- Tropical Health led grant



## Strengthen understanding of Dual AI net performance over time and in combination with other tools including IRS

- LSHTM led grant RCT in Cote d'Ivoire
- PAMVERC led grant in Benin and Cdl
- KCMUCo led grant in Tanzania
- Rotarians led grant in PNG



## Modelling work to examine questions around coverage v efficacy, sub national tailoring of campaign frequencies

- Imperial College London led grant

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### 3. Other current issues



Umar Abdulhamid, delivering information during a door-to-door mosquito net distribution in Kano, Nigeria  
*The Global Fund/Andrew Esiebo/Panos*

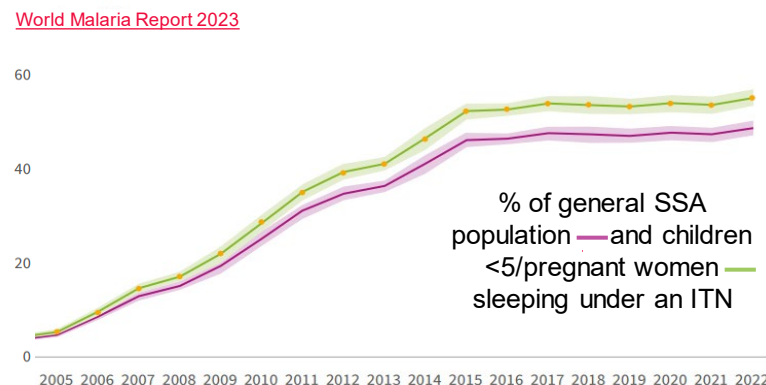
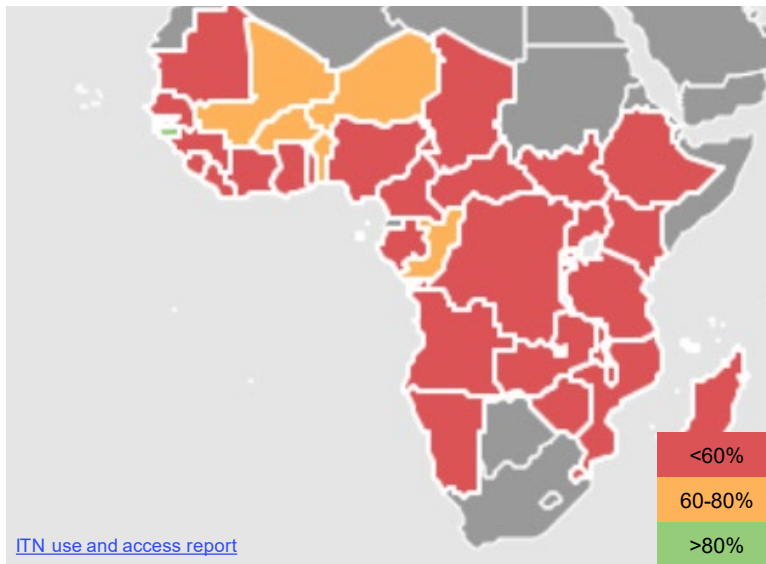
# Increase in skepticism about ITNs as a tool – especially at high levels of government.

Strengthening understanding of net use has been important – as below.

## Overall coverage is suboptimal

% pop. who sleep under an ITN

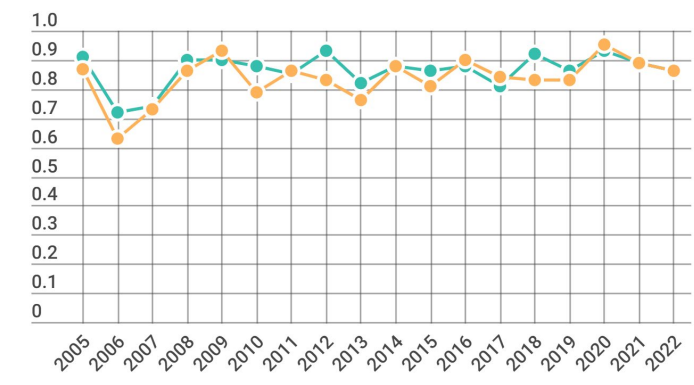
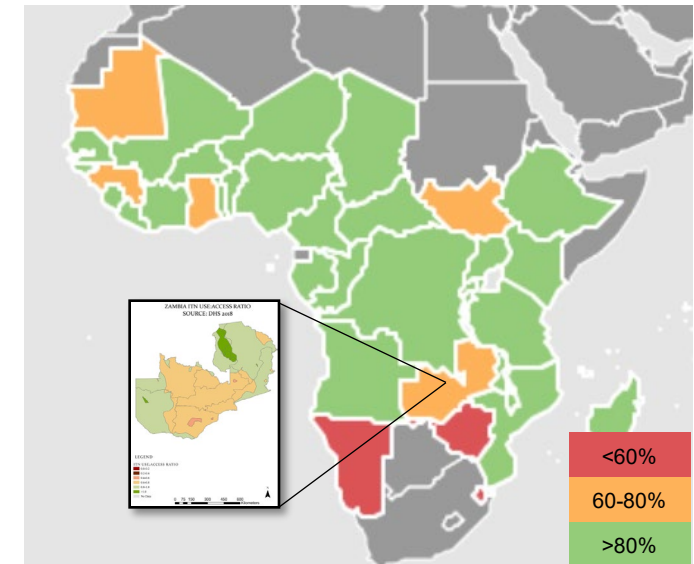
- ITN net use is suboptimal and hasn't improved since 2015
- Note that *Per capita* ITN funding rose to 2015 and has since fallen



## But - use of nets by those who have them is high

% pop. with access to an ITN who slept under it

- People who have nets, to large extent (>85%), use them
- Some subnational variation
- Access to nets is suboptimal: insufficient funding and volumes/frequency of distribution are the major contributors



# Key messages we are using

ITNs are a) highly effective and b) known to be very well used.

⑩ Deploying more nets = higher net access = higher net use = higher malaria impact.

While *per capita* malaria funding increased to 2015 progress in net coverage and malaria impact increased. With stalling *per capita* funding, access, use and impact has stalled.

⑩ This does not mean the tool 'is not working' or has 'done all it can'

⑩ Available financing has meant there have not been enough nets to maximize impact

Country plans should be tailored subnationally, addressing low access or low use where needed; or selecting tools that are more appropriate for the context.

⑩ This won't always be nets; nets are a highly cost-effective tool but in some use-cases other tools may be appropriate

**We still have a serious amount of mileage to get out of nets in most high burden areas.  
This is low hanging fruit for impactful and cost-effective use of available malaria funding.**



# Expanding tool box

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- Working closely with partners including GAVI as malaria vaccine is introduced
  - Urgent need for gov't and population to understand the vaccine is needed IN ADDITION to the foundation of vector control and other interventions
- The potential of new vector control interventions in the near term is encouraging, we will work to support appropriate adoption
- Potential modified approaches also provide opportunities – e.g. higher throughput continuous distribution models for ITNs, which we encourage programmes to consider
- Evidence-base for decision-making between growing set of options is urgently needed

# ITN quality and field performance

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- New Quality Assurance Policy for Vector Control Products bring brought to our Board for consideration late April 2024
- Detailed operational guidance will depend on on-going discussions:
  - Remain in close discussion with WHO PQ about their future plans, in particular on post-market surveillance
  - i2i/CHAI 'Raise the Floor' work to develop guidance on ITN performance monitoring