

# MMV'S Update

RBM CRSPC meeting, Abidjan

November 22, 2023

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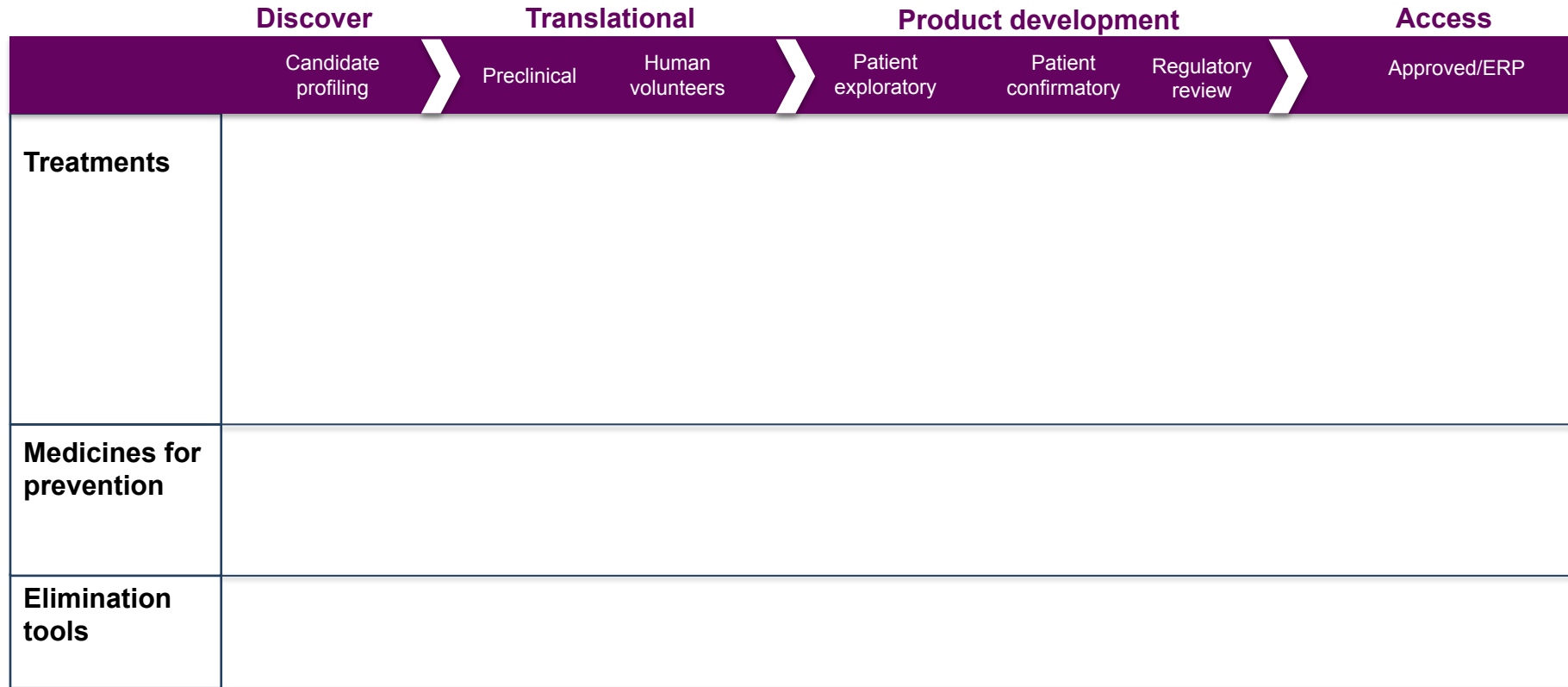
# What is MMV?



MMV is a product development partnership  
(PDP),  
Swiss foundation and US charity

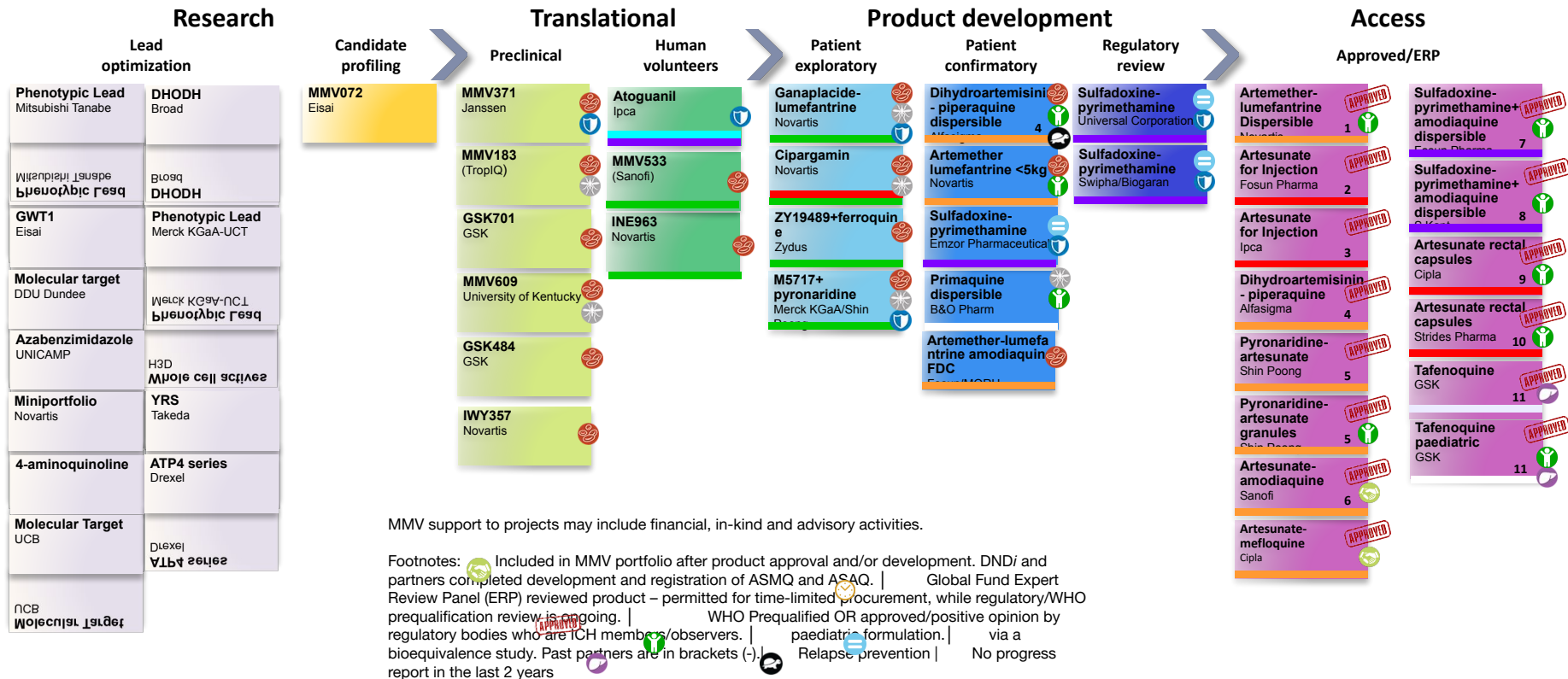
of  
over 100 people  
working towards one mission:  
to reduce the burden of malaria  
in disease-endemic countries by  
discovering, developing and delivering  
new, effective and affordable  
antimalarial drugs

# MMV portfolio at inception (1999)



In 1999 there were **2 projects in lead optimization** (prior to candidate profiling):  
cysteine protease inhibitor and synthetic peroxide

# MMV-supported projects



Brand names 1: Coartem® *Dispersible*; 2: Artesun®; 3: Larinate® 60mg; 4: Eurartesim®; 5: Pyramax® tablets or granules; 6: ASAQ Winthrop®; 7: SPAQ-CO™; 8: Supyra®; 9: 100mg Artesunate Rectocaps; 10: Artecap™; 11: *Kozenis* or *Krintafel* (Trademarks owned or licensed by GSK)

# MMV's focus: addressing unmet medical needs



ARTEMISININ  
PARTIAL  
RESISTANCE



CHEMOPREVENTION  
FOR  
CHILDREN  
& PREGNANT  
WOMEN

1x

SINGLE DOSE  
CURES

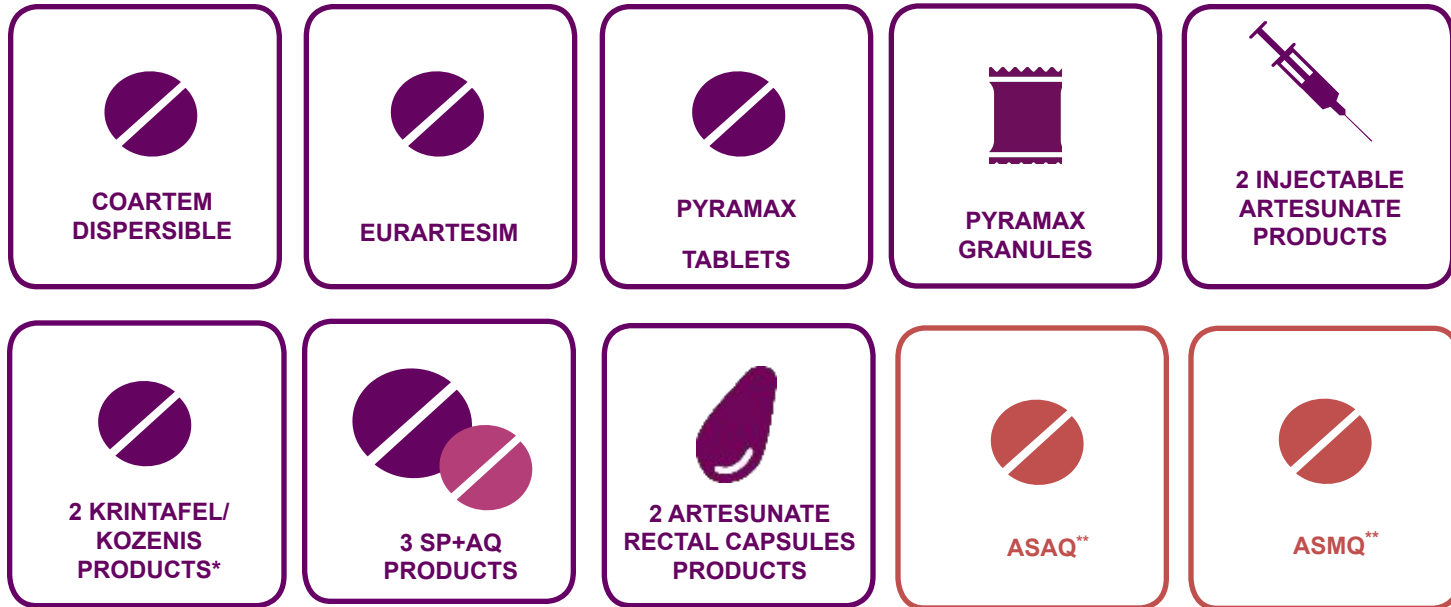


PREVENTION  
OF RELAPSE



TRANSMISSION  
BLOCKING

# 15 medicines launched from 2009-2023



\*Trademarks owned or licensed by GSK

\*\*Transferred from DNDi-led partnership portfolio to MMV-led partnership portfolio 20th May 2015

# Key Achievements – Product Access

## 15 products launched

- **Covering key unmet medical needs**
  - medicines to treat uncomplicated malaria, severe malaria, and relapsing malaria
  - medicines that prevent malaria
  - medicines designed for vulnerable populations (children; pregnancy)
- **First pediatric ACT (AL-dispersible)**
- **First ACT (artemether-lumefantrine) recommended for use in 1st trimester of pregnancy**
- **First new therapy for relapsing malaria in over 60 years**
  - single dose tafenoquine
  - pediatric formulation approved in 2022
- **1.1 billion treatments distributed**
- **13.6 million deaths averted**
- **48 million children protected with MMV-supported SPAQ in 2022 (1 billion SPAQ in 2023)**

# Key Achievements – Product Access

- **MMV increasingly taking the lead on leading on product launch & implementation (tafenoquine)**
  - TRuST and ARCTIC studies
  - Effectiveness and cost effectiveness at different levels of healthcare system (Brazil CONITEC listing)
- **Sharing of best practices**
  - [Severe Malaria Observatory](#) – (a community of practice)
  - [SMC Alliance](#) – sharing best practices across implementing countries and partners
  - [CoP PMC](#): gathering all pilot PMC implementers and countries for introduction of the new PMC
  - [P. Vivax Information Hub](#) – a one-stop shop for information on Plasmodium vivax malaria.
- **Social science**
- **Qualitative and quantitative market research (desired product attributes; barriers to uptake)**
- **Supply chain management**
  - Demand forecasting
  - Generic production
  - Manufacturing cost / price reduction
  - Local manufacturing : UCL (Kenya); EMZOR & SWIPHA (Nigeria)



# Key Achievements – Scientific Advances

- **First non-ACT combination for resistance management progressing to Phase III in 2023**
- **>9 million compounds screened; >20 novel targets identified**
- **Human and non-human platforms developed to expedite and de-risk clinical development**
  - MMV*so/a* platform (machine learning) that predicts PK/PD and dose, including predictions for pregnant and lactating women
  - Non-clinical reproductive safety platforms
- **Tool for rapid assessment of drug combinations**
- **Advanced modeling and simulation capabilities established**

# Some sample projects

# OPT-SMC Project

## Strengthening the capacities of the NMPs implementing SMC:

- To define research priorities for **optimizing SMC effectiveness**
- To **conduct IR/OR projects** for improving SMC effectiveness:
  - interpret and make use of malaria surveillance data
  - target effectively (high risk or hard to reach populations, and periods of the year)
  - monitor delivery, uptake and effectiveness

**Promote inter-country collaboration, information sharing and expertise**

**Working with 13 SMC implementing countries**



LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



**OPT-SMC**  
Optimizing Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention  
in West and Central Africa



- **Contributing to cover the remaining gaps for the current eligible target**
- **Contribute to the body of evidence about**
  - Efficacy and cost effectiveness of increasing SMC to 5-10 years old
  - Additional impact of adding one month of SMC coverage during the transmission season
- **Development of SPAQ line extension for 5-10 years old;** in anticipation of the eligibility of this target group to SMC
- **Contributing to increase knowledge about Pyramax® and introduction in malaria endemic countries as an alternative therapeutic solution**
- **5 countries: Nigeria, The Gambia, Niger, Mali, Guinea**



**NATIONAL MALARIA  
ELIMINATION PROGRAMME**  
Federal Ministry of Health, Abuja



Global Disease  
Eradication Fund

KOREA

**KOICA**  
Korea International  
Cooperation Agency



**malaria  
consortium**  
disease control, better health

**MMV**   
Medicines for Malaria Venture

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# MiMBA strategy aims to address the gaps to better serve the needs of women

MMV will accelerate discovery, development and delivery of appropriate antimalarial options for women who are/could become pregnant and for women who are breastfeeding

1

**Broaden access to currently used antimalarial medicines**

...by collecting evidence on the safety and efficacy of existing antimalarials in pregnancy and lactation and ensuring quality-assured supply of medicines

2

**Invest in appropriate new molecules for the future**

.....by exploring new modalities and enriching the future pipeline with appropriate New Chemical Entities for medicines that serve all malaria populations from the start

3

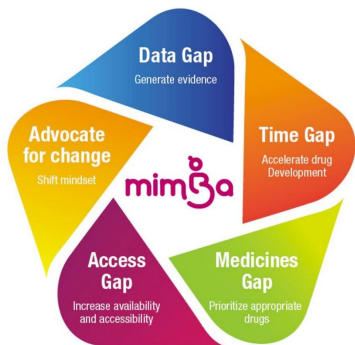
**Accelerate population appropriate compounds in the current pipeline**

...by intentionally addressing the needs of women who are - or could become - pregnant and breastfeeding women

4

**Advocate for greater inclusion of women who are – or could become – pregnant and lactating across antimalarial R&D and access**

...by leveraging MMV's position at the interface of academic, pharmaceutical industry, regulatory, and global health communities



# MMV, facilitator of the ALARM partnership / consortium



- The ALARM Partnership has been instituted with the aim of piloting / expanding then deploying at scale, MFT in 13 African countries
- It draws on the expertise and experience of **Kenya** and **Burkina Faso**, pioneer pilot countries
- Members include **Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Mozambique, Tanzania, DRC, Malawi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Nigeria, Guinea, Ghana and Benin**

"ALARM" (African Leadership for ACT Resistance Mitigation) Consortium Update



The ALARM Consortium Goes Live!  
May 2023



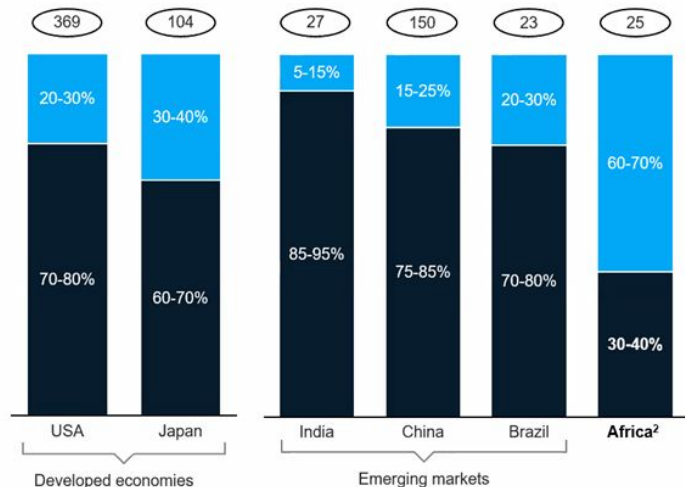
# Supply security Situational analysis – Africa -

- **>95% of world's malaria cases and deaths occur in sub-Sahara Africa** and yet the continent imports **>90% of the drug needed**
- The continent overall has ~375 drug makers, to serve a population of around 1.3 bill people<sup>1</sup>
- African population set to triple by 2050.<sup>2</sup>
- **Top three African markets** (Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria) import significant pharma products

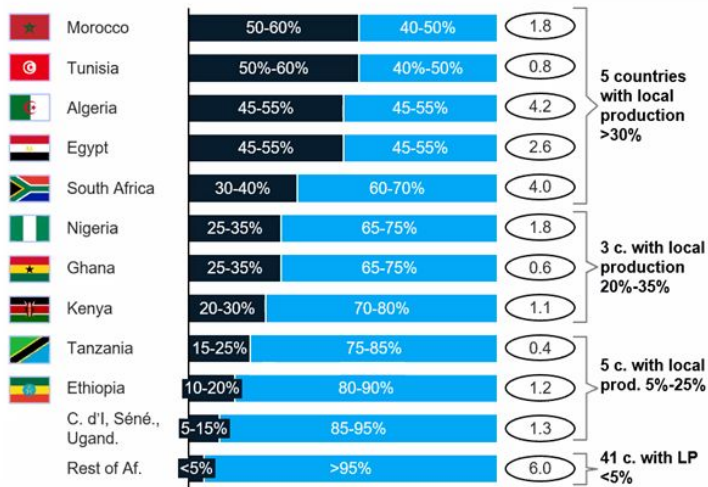
■ Local production ■ Imported (x) 2019 market size in Bn USD

Share of pharmaceutical market value per country between imports and local production, 2019<sup>1</sup>

## Africa vs rest of the world



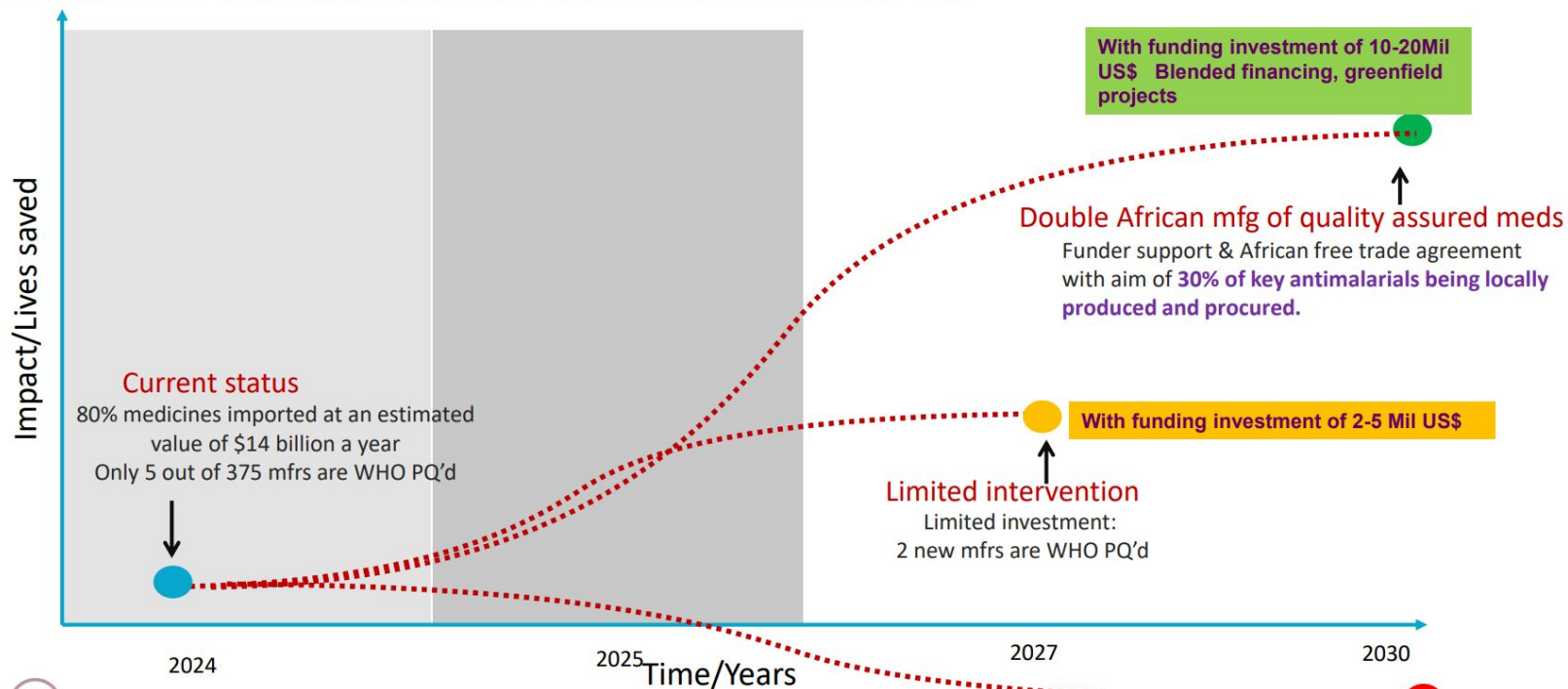
## Deep dive on African countries



Notes: 1. <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-and-social-sector/our-insights/should-sub-saharan-africa-make-its-own-drugs>  
 2. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/01/the-children-s-continent/>

# Supply security for essential medicines in Africa

## Enabling malaria drug supply by strengthening local manufacturing in Africa



2.5 billion people are expected to live in Africa by 2050

CHAI long term forecast: Based on continuation of current coverage trends for case management, ITNs, and IRS, antimalarial need (treatments) is projected to reach 1.1 billion by 2032, while demand is expected to be 784 million by 2032.

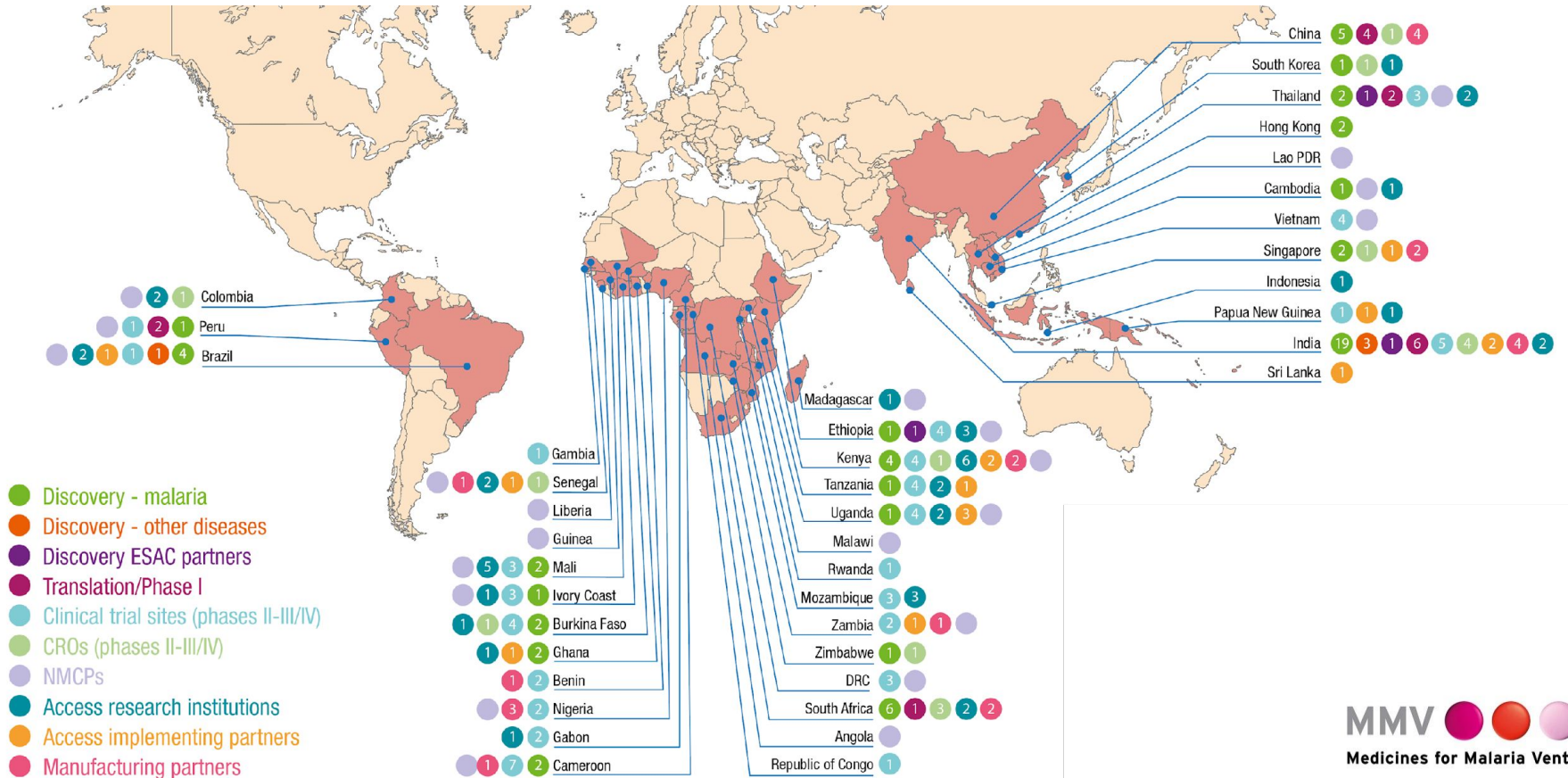
Low investment  
in African-mfd QA'd meds



medicines for malaria Venture



# 400+ strong partnership network – spanning more than 50 countries



# MMV | Guiding Principles of Equitable Partnership

Reduce death, suffering and hardship from malaria, by delivering...



**Sustainable**  
R&D and  
product access



that addresses  
key **unmet**  
**patient needs**



with **urgency**  
and clear  
**prioritization**



...in a manner  
that fosters  
**equity,**  
**inclusion,**  
**empowerment**  
& **shared**  
**leadership** with  
partners

# THANK you to you and our committed funders



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation



EDCTP



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

GHIT Fund

Global Health Innovative Technology Fund



Gouvernement Princier  
PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO



Irish Aid  
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An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha

KOICA

Korea International  
Cooperation Agency



Global Disease  
Eradication Fund | KOREA



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands



RIGHT  
국제보건기술연구기금



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

Unitaid  
Innovation in Global Health

UKaid  
from the British people



USAID  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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# Back up slides

# Key Projects, Uncomplicated Malaria

- **Anti-Malarial Drug Resistance (AMDR)**
  - Supporting deployment of Multiple First-Line Treatments (MFT)
  - Triple ACT combinations: approval and launch
  - Ganaplacide-Lumifantrine SDF (Gan-Lum) launch
  - ACT +sLDPQ
- **Coartem Baby (AL<5kg) launch**

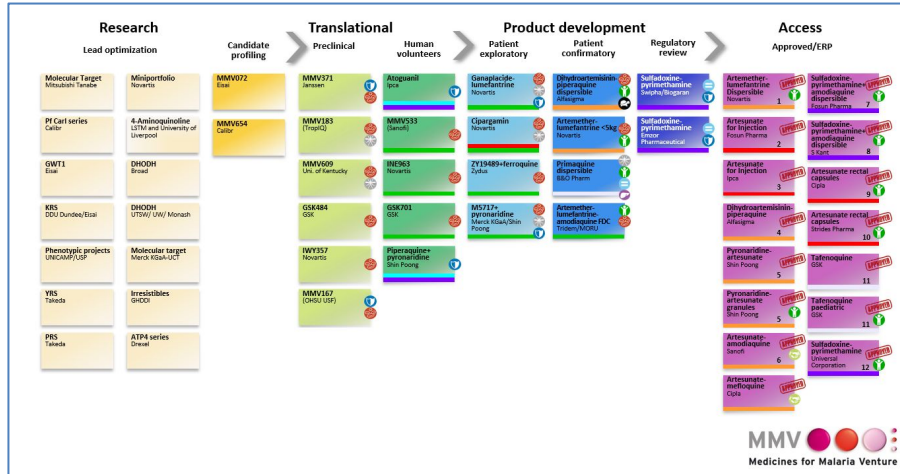
# Multiple First-Line Treatment (MFT)

## Background

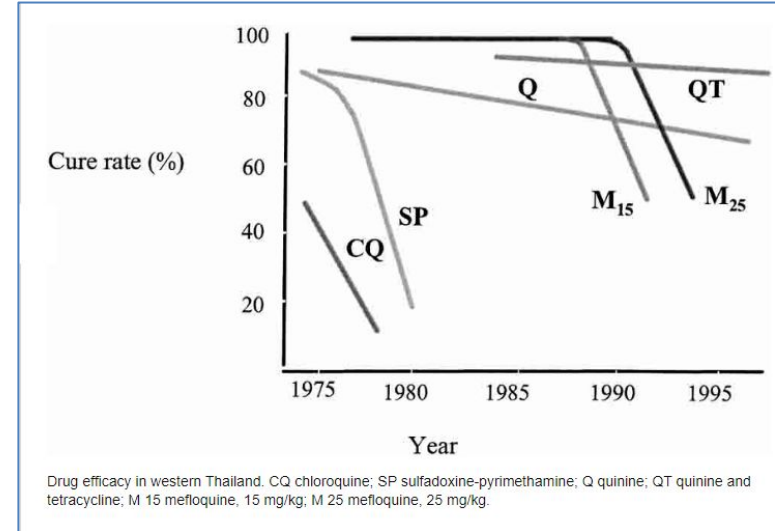
- Markers of ACT resistance together with delayed parasite clearance have been detected in a growing number of African countries (Rwanda, Uganda, Eritrea, Tanzania, Burkina Faso)
- Proactive and pre-emptive intervention is needed to mitigate the emergence and spread of partial ACT resistance and to protect partner drugs (especially lumefantrine)
- WHO's strategy to respond to ACT resistance in Africa recommends ACT diversification as part of the toolkit to mitigate emergence and spread of resistance
- One way to achieve this is by deployment of MFT, which has been postulated in modelling studies to be highly effective in achieving this
- Pilot studies to demonstrate feasibility have been completed in Kenya and Burkina Faso

# MMV's pipeline – our *raison d'être* – is a global “insurance policy” to defend against the devastating threat of drug resistance

The largest end-to-end pipeline for defeating malaria in the history of modern drug development



A grim reminder of how earlier medicines have been swept away by resistance <sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> S. Yeung et al (2004). Antimalarial drug resistance, artemisinin-based combination therapy, and the contribution of modeling to elucidating policy choices. The American journal of tropical medicine and hygiene. 71. 179-86. 10.4269/ajtmh.2004.71.179.

# Expected impact

***By the end of 2027, at least 10 countries will have implemented MFT as a resistance mitigation strategy on a partial or national basis***

ALARM will help diversify ACT use through the following activities: 1) supporting new countries in deploying MFT strategies, based on learnings from the MMV-supported pilots in Kenya and Burkina Faso; 2) bolstering resistance monitoring in all ALARM countries; 3) supporting education, training, logistics management and stakeholder engagement; and 4) bundling and analyzing the combination of rotational, stratification and geographical approaches across all ALARM partners.



# Triple ACTs: development and introduction

## Background

- Against a background of ACT partial resistance in South-East Asia and now sub-Saharan Africa, dual ACT combinations are under increasing pressure
- Adding a third drug has been shown in studies to date to be highly effective, even against resistant strains
- Triple ACTs (TACTs) have the advantage of using existing drugs which are already familiar to healthcare providers and patients
- Funding has just been granted by GHIT to Fosun Pharma, MORU, MMV and Marubeni to develop an affordable fixed-dose combination of AL+AQ including a child-friendly formulation – a Phase III study to support registration will commence in 2024

# Ganaplacide-Lumefantrine (Gan-Lum) development and launch

## Background

- Despite interventions such as MFT and TACT, at some point ACTs will begin to fail as a class of antimalarials - in the absence of effective alternatives, a resurgence in malaria cases and deaths will ensue creating a potential public health catastrophe
- It is therefore crucial that alternative treatments are developed, approved and included in treatment guidelines before such a situation develops
- Ganaplacide-Lumefantrine (Gan-Lum), being jointly developed by Novartis and MMV, is expected to be the first modern non-artemisinin-based combination treatment (NACT) to be approved and launched
- First approval expected 2027

# Coartem Baby (AL<5kg) launch

## Background

- No ACT is currently approved for very young infants (<5kg)
- Although AL dispersible is often used for malaria in this age group, the current ratio of artemether: lumefantrine raises the risk of overdosing and causing potential neurotoxicity
- Quantifying the potential number of patients is difficult as current surveys (eg WMR) do not differentiate infants and older children
- Novartis and MMV are co-developing a formulation with a different A:L ratio specifically intended to address this unmet need
- Launch currently expected in 2025