

World Malaria Day

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#worldmalaria day



25th April 2018

READY TO BEAT MALARIA

With renewed focus and commitment, we can be the generation to end one of the oldest and deadliest diseases in human history. Join us and get **#readytobeatmalaria** this World Malaria Day



In recent decades the world has made historic progress against malaria.

- Since 2000, malaria related deaths have been cut by more than half, saving nearly 7 million lives.
- Since 2010, 7 countries have been certified malaria-free (Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Morocco, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan and United Arab Emirates.)
- Several countries, including Algeria, Argentina, Paraguay and Uzbekistan are on track to be certified by WHO as malaria-free.
- 44 countries that had a high malaria burden in 2000 reported less than 10,000 malaria cases in 2016.

However, we are now at a crossroads: funding has plateaued and progress has stalled, putting millions of lives and decades of investment at risk.

- Half the world is still at risk from malaria, a preventable, treatable disease, which still kills a child every two minutes.
- In 2016 malaria cases rose for the first time in a decade as global funding for malaria control and elimination stands at less than half of what is needed to fulfil global targets.
- In 2016, a staggering 216 million people around the world had malaria — 5 million more than the year before. Malaria related deaths stood at 445,000, with 91% of these in Africa.
- Some countries saw an increase of over 20% in malaria cases between 2015 and 2016.

Africa stands to gain the most from investing in the fight against malaria.

- Just 15 countries carried the heaviest malaria burden in 2016, together accounting for 80% of all global malaria cases and deaths. All but one were in Africa.
- Malaria already costs the continent's economy US\$ 12 billion per year in direct losses, and 1.3% of lost annual GDP growth.
- Nigeria is the highest-burden country, accounting for 27% of global malaria cases. The country's overall financial gap over the next three years to implement national malaria strategy is US\$ 1.4 billion (68% of the country's needs).
- Several African countries, including Madagascar, Senegal, The Gambia and Zimbabwe, reduced malaria cases by more than 20% between 2015 and 2016.

We must act now to continue the momentum and stop malaria in its tracks – from new life-saving treatments to a renewed political commitment.

- Tackling malaria is critical to achieving the collective ambition of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and represents excellent value for money; every \$1 invested in malaria interventions delivers \$36 in social and economic benefits.
- Investing in malaria control is investing in productivity, progress and people centred development. Research has shown that over a period of 25 years, GDP per capita growth in countries not affected by malaria was over five times higher than in countries affected by malaria.
- 2018 is a key year in the fight against malaria as political, scientific, business and civil society leaders come together from London to Dakar to commit to beating malaria and saving millions more lives.
- A global focus and action is needed to build on remarkable gains and meet the 2020 targets to cut malaria cases and deaths by 40% and eliminate the disease in at least 10 more countries.



If we don't seize the moment, our hard-won gains against the disease will be lost. This World Malaria Day, declare you're ready to beat malaria.

Key sources:

- World Malaria Report 2017
- Financing Malaria Strategic Plans in Africa in 2018-2020
- Copenhagen Consensus, 2015
- The economic burden of malaria, 2001

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