

World Health Organization

# World Malaria Report 2018

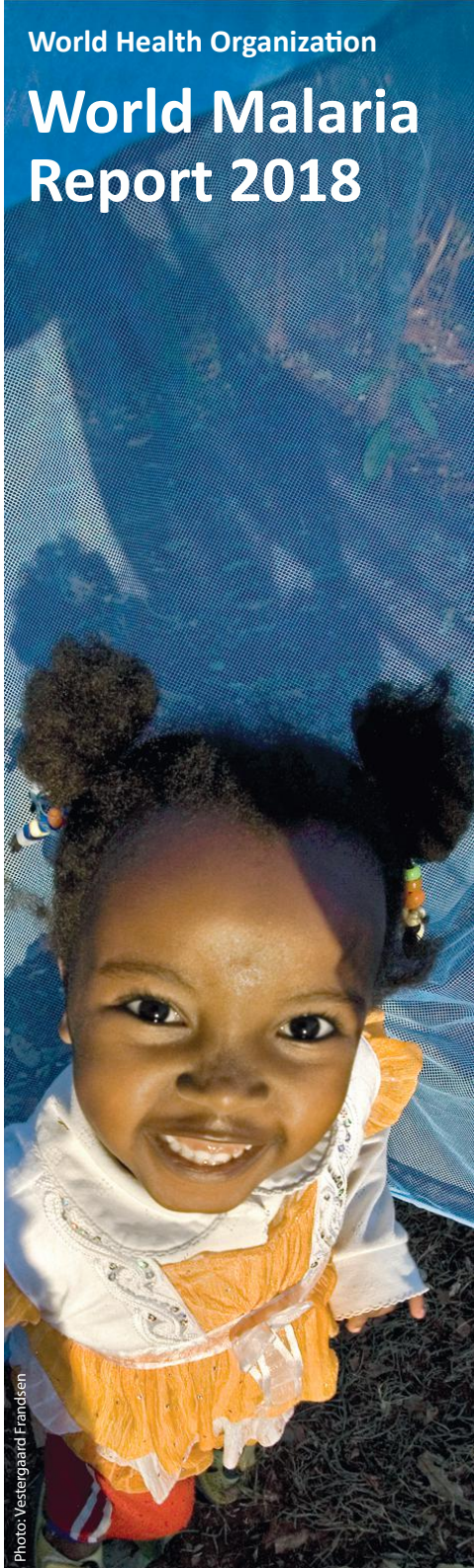


Photo: Vestergaard Frandsen

## A tale of progress and peril

Every year we are saving half a million lives compared to the early 2000s. However, this year's World Malaria Report shows that the rate of change has slowed, and while signs of progress continue in half of all malaria-affected countries, malaria is creeping back in some of the highest burden areas.

## Key facts and figures

- ✖ Malaria cases are on the rise for a second year in a row, after more than a decade of unprecedented decline. There were 219 million cases of malaria in 2017.
- ✖ 435,000 malaria deaths in 2017. Deaths from malaria are declining more slowly than over the past decade. 61% of deaths were among children – one child every two minutes.
- ✖ 70% of cases and deaths occurred in 11 high burden countries, seven in the Commonwealth. There were an estimated 3.5 million more cases of malaria in the 10 highest burden African countries over the previous year.
- ✖ Progress continues to be uneven. Whilst cases are on the rise in the highest burden countries, more countries than ever are in a position to eliminate malaria. The number of countries with less than 100 indigenous cases increased from 15 in 2010 to 26 in 2017.

The fight against malaria is still one of the biggest success stories in recent times and represents great value for money for public health spending.

We must step up efforts to save more lives and get back on track towards the 2020 and 2030 global targets.



# #WMR2018

**Tweet your support:**



**With @DFID\_UK support, the world has halved malaria since 2000, but the #WMR2018 shows that cases are on the rise in high burden countries. I call on @Commonwealth18 leaders to accelerate progress towards halving malaria across the Commonwealth by 2023.**

## **Phenomenal progress at risk**

UK aid and innovation have played a leading role in cutting malaria deaths by over 60% since 2000, saving almost seven million lives. However, competing political priorities, plateauing global funding, gaps in the development of and access to tests and treatments, and emerging drug and insecticide resistance threaten this hard-won progress.

The report confirms that the world is currently off track to achieve global targets to cut cases and deaths by 40% by 2020.

## **Halving malaria across the Commonwealth by 2023**

The Commonwealth continues to be disproportionately affected by malaria. At the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in April, leaders committed to halve malaria across the Commonwealth by 2023.

This commitment will prevent 350 million cases of the disease over the next five years, save 650,000 lives, and help get the world back on track towards achieving global malaria targets.


The UK, as Commonwealth Chair-in-Office until 2020, and Rwanda, as Commonwealth Chair-in-Office until 2022, both have critical roles to play in working with other leaders to help ensure maximum progress against this commitment. Rwanda made significant progress this year, recording 430,000 fewer cases in 2017 than in 2016.

## **The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria**

Since its creation in 2002 the Global Fund has saved 27 million lives. It channels almost 60% of all international financing for malaria and has invested more than US\$10.5 billion in malaria control programs in more than 100 countries. The sixth Replenishment will take place in France, 2019. A fully funded Global Fund, with international, domestic, and private sector contributions, will be key to achieving the Commonwealth halving commitment, accelerating action against malaria, and strengthening health systems in the coming years. Sustained UK investment will be vital.

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