



Zero malaria starts with me: World Malaria Day (April 25)

World Malaria Day is commemorated every 25 April. Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. Although malaria is a preventable and curable disease, every year there are more than 200 million cases of malaria. The WHO African Region carries a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden. In 2018, the region recorded 93% of global malaria cases and 94% of global malaria deaths. Total funding for malaria control and elimination reached an estimated US\$ 2.7 billion in 2018. Contributions from governments of endemic countries amounted to US\$ 900 million, representing 30% of total funding. No significant gains were made in reducing malaria cases in the period 2015 to 2017. This year, it is worth exploring how technology can support the SDG target to eliminate malaria cases and deaths.

Impact of Malaria

- In 2018, there was an estimated 228 million cases of malaria worldwide.
- Children aged under 5 years are the most vulnerable group affected by malaria; in 2018, they accounted for 67% (272 000) of all malaria deaths worldwide.
- Globally, 25 million pregnant women are at risk for malaria.
- About half of women at risk of malaria do not receive a single dose of preventive treatment during their pregnancy
- Malaria accounts for over 10,000 maternal and 200,000 neonatal deaths per year.

Zero malaria starts with me

Everyone can help to eliminate malaria by 2030. Here are some malaria preventive measures:

- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin. The recommended repellent contains 20–35% percent N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET).
- Wear long-sleeved clothing and long pants if you are outdoors at night.
- Use a mosquito net over the bed if your bedroom is not air-conditioned or screened. For additional protection, treat the mosquito net with the insecticide permethrin.
- Spray an insecticide or repellent on clothing, as mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing.
- Spray pyrethrin or a similar insecticide (mosquito spray) in your bedroom before going to bed.
- Maintain clean and hygienic living to avoid creating mosquito breeding grounds.

Technology for a malaria free world

- Malaria Vaccine pilot launch in Malawi ([Read now](#))
- Fighting malaria: How to achieve high impact in hardest hit countries ([Watch now](#))
- E-2020 initiatives; In 2016, WHO identified 21 countries, spanning 5 regions, that could defeat malaria by 2020. ([Read now](#))
- Mamola app- Mamola is an acronym for Mobile malaria lab. It is a medical app which helps identify malaria at an early stage. ([Watch now](#))