

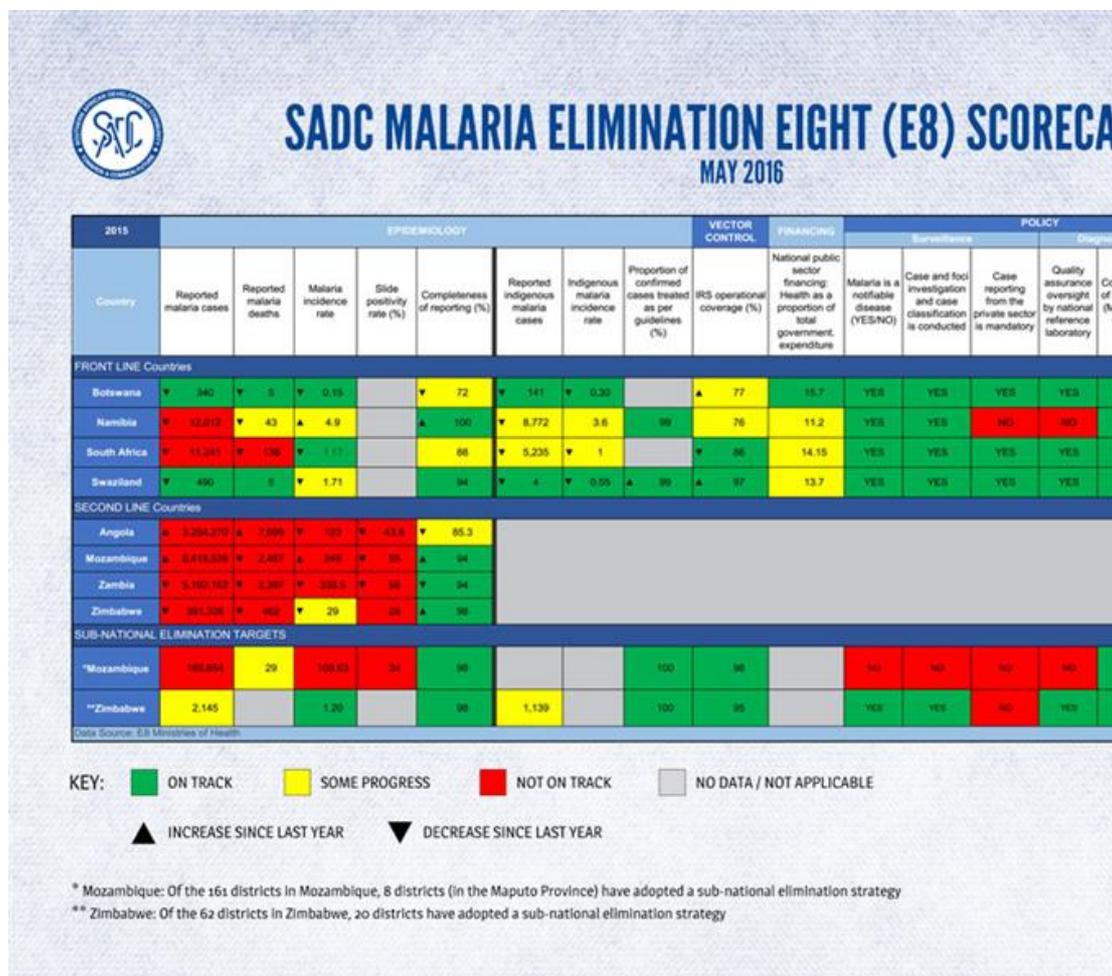


ELIMINATION 8

ANGOLA • BOTSWANA • MOZAMBIQUE • NAMIBIA
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E8 June 2016 e-Newsletter

E8 Ministers Review Scorecard



The E8 Ministerial Committee meeting met on May 20, on the sidelines of the 69th World Health Assembly Meeting in Geneva. During this meeting, the annual [E8 scorecard](#) was presented, highlighting marked progress by both frontline and second-line countries. The E8 Ambassador, Dr. Richard Nchabi Kamwi, facilitated a candid discussion with the Ministers, acknowledging progress made, while emphasizing the need to commit to vigilant surveillance in order to maintain the fragile gains that had been made. In particular, Botswana and Swaziland were recognised for their notable gains; Botswana has an incidence of less than 1 per 1,000, while Swaziland recorded only 4 indigenous cases in 2015.

Zimbabwe and Mozambique have adopted sub-national elimination plans. Although they are categorized as second-line countries, Zimbabwe and Mozambique were congratulated for their commitment to gradual establishment of malaria-free areas. Zimbabwe recorded an incidence of 1.2 cases per 1,000 in its 20 pre-elimination districts.

E8 Technical Committee Meeting May



The E8 Technical Committee Meeting was held from 29 – 31 May in Windhoek, Namibia. The working groups of the Technical Committee – Surveillance and M&E, Diagnosis & Case Management, and Vector Control – were convened during the same period, and presented a set of technical recommendations for endorsement by the larger committee. The meeting was attended by over 60 participants, representing member countries, WHO, and technical partners. The meeting focused on technical implementation of the E8 regional elimination project in the border areas, as well as advocacy for new tools and policies to accelerate elimination.

The minutes of the meeting will be adopted at the next E8 Technical Committee Meeting, after which they will be made available. The minutes of the previous Technical Committee meeting – Kasane, November 2015 – can be found [here](#).

First Convening of the Vector Control and Diagnosis & Case Management Working Groups

Two working groups of the E8 Technical Committee were convened and had their [terms of reference](#) adopted. The working groups bring together country technical specialists together with partner institutions to identify policy priorities for regional adoption and monitoring.

E8 Position Paper on Mass Drug Administration

Following the release of new guidance on the potential for MDA as a tool for elimination settings, the E8 Technical Committee adopted a position paper, recognizing the role of MDA as a tool for accelerating progress towards elimination. While the position paper does not mandate all countries to use MDA, it encourages dialogue, led by malaria programmes, to actively explore the potential for adding MDA to the suite of national interventions, where appropriate. A task team of NMCP representatives and technical partners (including WHO) was put together to finalize a concept note on MDA, for wider circulation.

Namibia and Angola Cross-Border Outbreak Response Plan

Following an increase in the number of cases reported in northern Namibia, and Angola, the two countries convened a cross-border meeting to deliberate on a response plan to mitigate the outbreak. The meeting, which was supported and facilitated by the E8 Secretariat, concluded with the development of an outbreak response plan, with medium term and long term goals for cross-border collaboration. A key outcome of the meeting was also a resolution to develop a costed implementation plan to support resource mobilization for vector control in the 3 provinces of southern Angola.

Upcoming Events

July 31 – August 2. Malaria Research Conference.

The E8 is pleased to partner with the [University of Pretoria](#) to support the 2nd South African Malaria Research Conference. With support from E8, the conference has expanded its reach to make the conference a regional event, serving as a symposium for dissemination of research and learning from around the region, with a focus on new tools and operational approaches to advance malaria elimination. The E8 will, through support from Global Fund and UCSF Global Health Group, will sponsor participation of 12 researchers, from E8 malaria programmes, as well as academic institutions.

August 3-5, 2016. Surveillance and M&E Technical Working Group.

This TWG is scheduled to meet in order review the prototype for the E8 regional surveillance database, as well as to review and adopt the Global Fund Grant M&E Plan.