



2024 ANNUAL PARTNERS' MEETING: POST-EVENT REPORT

19 – 20 February 2024
Movenpick Hotel
Nairobi, Kenya

amp | The Alliance for
Malaria Prevention
Expanding the ownership and use of mosquito nets

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INTRODUCTION

Building on the success of the 2023 meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, the Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP) Annual Partners' Meeting 2024 took place on 19 and 20 February at the Movenpick Hotel and Residences, Nairobi, Kenya. The Annual Partners' Meeting was followed by a two-day Campaign Digitalization Meeting on 21 and 22 February focused on cross-programme learning, digitalization of health campaigns, integration of campaign platforms into National Health Information System architecture, and product solutions for common issues in health campaigns (report available [here](#)). Both meetings were organized in hybrid format, allowing both in-person and online participation.

The AMP 2024 Annual Partners' Meeting theme was "Sub-national tailoring and prioritization - Technical and operational learning for insecticide-treated nets (ITNs)" and three sessions were organized over the two-day meeting:

- Stratification, sub-national tailoring and prioritization: Optimization of vector control in the context of limited resources (day 1)
- Successes and challenges in adapting the ITN approach (day 2)
- Climate change and malaria (day 2)

A networking reception was organized after the first day's activities to foster relationships, exchange ideas and explore potential collaborations in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere. The reception provided a unique opportunity for participants to engage informally with peers, manufacturers and donors.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The AMP Annual Partners' Meeting is a global platform that brings together a diverse group of partners and stakeholders to share knowledge on ITN distribution through both campaign and continuous distribution channels. Participants included staff from national malaria programmes, technical experts, implementing and financial partners, manufacturers, product solution partners and other stakeholders involved in ITN distribution.

The primary objectives of the meeting were to exchange operational experiences and knowledge, identify shared challenges and potential solutions, and learn about better practices for improving ITN distribution efforts and outcomes. Thus, this meeting provided a vital opportunity for mobilizing partnerships around identified gaps for achieving and sustaining ITN access and use.

The [content of this year's AMP Partners' Meeting](#) included presentations covering technical, research and evaluation updates linked to the theme of *Sub-national tailoring and prioritization - Technical and operational learning for ITNs*.

The 2024 AMP Partners' Meeting marked the 20-year anniversary since the first national integrated campaign to distribute ITNs to children under five in Togo as part of a package of child health services, which followed on pilot integrated campaigns in Ghana and Zambia. The AMP Partnership recognized the efforts of Ghana, Togo and Zambia as pioneering countries on integration and ITN scale-up, as well as for generating important data that led to WHO policy changes and increased funding for scale-up of ITNs. The AMP Annual Partners'

Meeting also allowed participants to celebrate the milestone of three billion WHO-recommended ITNs shipped from manufacturers to malaria-endemic countries by the global malaria community since 2004¹. A short video clip² was produced by AMP with images and video collected from national malaria programmes and partners and was shown at the meeting.

The meeting concluded with the AMP Core Group recognizing exceptional performance in the fight against malaria, specifically vector control with ITNs, presenting [awards](#) to:

- The Madagascar National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) for its outstanding performance in combating malaria, including its efforts to ensure that climate-related data and information are included in the National Malaria Strategic Plan and incorporated into programmatic planning and implementation.
- The Mali NMCP for its outstanding performance in combating malaria in a complex operating environment. The programme ensured that all populations had access to malaria control services, including ITNs, by utilizing both community and Ministry of Health structures for ITN distribution.
- The South Sudan NMCP for their incredible achievements in 2023 in an extremely complex operating environment, including the roll-out of a national digitalization platform for the first time.

1. Press release: <https://www.ifrc.org/press-release/3-billion-mosquito-nets-shipped-prevent-malaria>

2. [World Malaria Day - YouTube](#)

The meeting materials (agenda, presentations, list of participants and recordings) are available on the [AMP website](https://allianceformalariaprevention.com/about/amp-annual-partners-meeting/)³. A [debriefing/summary session of the meeting](#) was organized during

the AMP weekly conference call by one of the AMP Core Group members and key highlights can be found below.



³ <https://allianceformalariaprevention.com/about/amp-annual-partners-meeting/>

MEETING SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

During the meeting, discussions focused on adapted ITN operational strategies, sub-national tailoring and prioritization and the impacts of climate events on vector control. The main takeaways are as follows:

Adapted ITN operational strategies:

- **Hybrid and contextually adapted approaches:** There is a need for hybrid and contextually adapted strategies to ensure all targeted populations are effectively reached. This involves setting appropriate, context-specific parameters.
- **Fixed site vs. door-to-door distribution:** Costs vary significantly across countries and contexts, necessitating a tailored approach to distribution. The largest cost driver for door-to-door campaigns is typically last mile logistics.
- **Personnel and commodity security:** As interventions become more targeted, considerations around personnel and commodity security become crucial.
- **Net care and repair:** Emphasis on net care and repair is essential to maximize the lifespan and effectiveness of ITNs.
- **Social and behaviour change (SBC):** The process of determining exclusion and inclusion criteria for ITN distribution is complex and perceived differently by stakeholders, highlighting the importance of contextualized, effective SBC strategies, channels and messages.
- **Strategies for conflict-affected areas:** Adapted, tailored strategies are required for areas where access is affected by conflict, given an overlap between humanitarian needs and malaria burden and the importance of ensuring vector control availability to prevent disease, particularly for last-mile populations.

Sub-national tailoring and prioritization:

- **Criteria for prioritization:** In the face of limited resources, criteria for prioritization must be defined nationally but can include highest transmission areas, limited access to healthcare, presence of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and highly urbanized health zones, among others.
- **Targeting and prioritization in urban areas:** An example from Kwara state, Nigeria, underscored the importance of community engagement and well-defined criteria for decision-making when shifting ITNs away from households in defined urban areas.

Climate impacts and vector control with ITNs:

- **Country actions:** Presentations from Madagascar, Malawi and Pakistan highlighted various actions undertaken to address climate impacts on vector control:
 - **Madagascar:** Coordination between the national malaria programme and the Meteorological Ministry, integrated messaging for malaria prevention with post-cyclone measures.
 - **Malawi:** Establishment of the Department of Disaster Management Affairs under the Office of the President and Cabinet to respond to disasters, including emergency distribution and pre-positioning of ITNs.
 - **Pakistan:** Pre-positioning and emergency distribution of ITNs; inserted climate change actions as a key component of the National Malaria Strategic Plan.

These discussions and key messages underscore the importance of adaptive strategies, effective prioritization, and the integration of climate considerations in malaria control efforts.

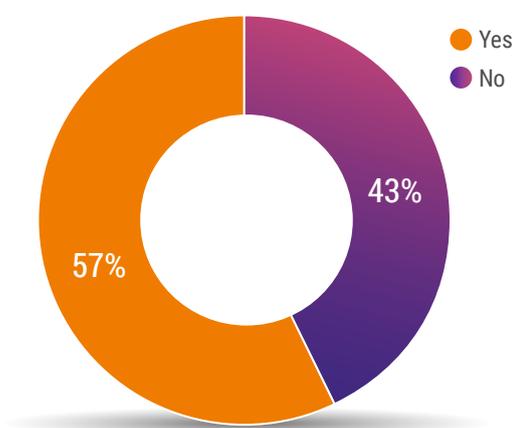


MEETING EVALUATION AND PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK

Feedback was collected through an online questionnaire distributed to all attendees, covering aspects such as session content, speaker effectiveness and logistics arrangements. Ninety-four responses to the post-meeting evaluation survey were received, representing 37 per cent of the 257 participants.

Forty-three per cent of the participants attended the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting for the first time, compared to 57 per cent who had previously attended (Figure 1). This highlights a good mix of new and returning attendees, fostering fresh perspectives alongside experienced insights.

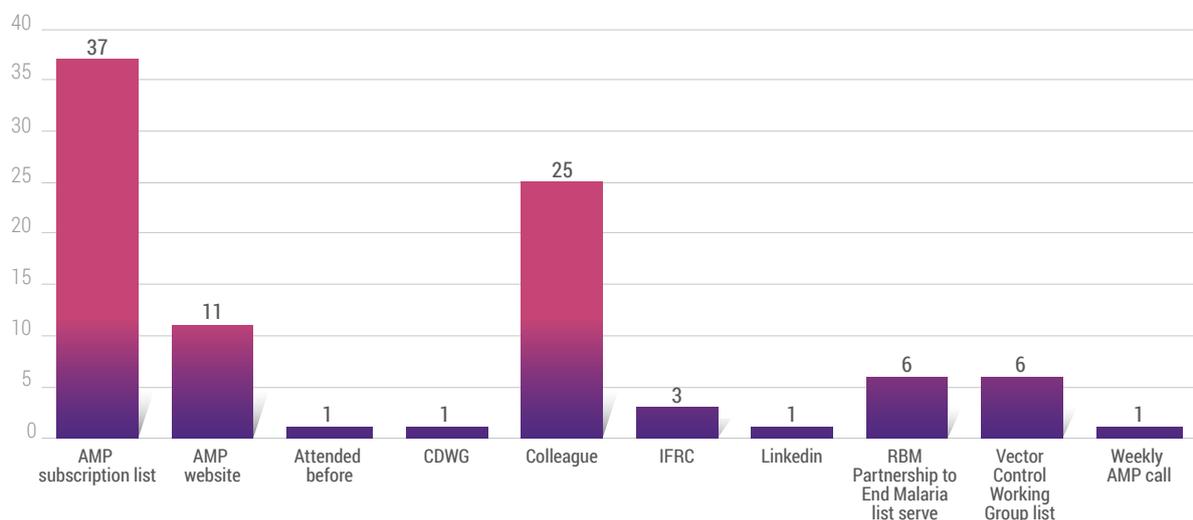
Figure 1: First time participants to AMP Annual Partners' Meeting



Participants in the 2024 Annual Partners' Meeting were informed of the meeting through various channels (Figure 2). The primary source of awareness was the AMP list serve (37 out of 94 respondents), followed by colleagues

(25 participants). Other channels, including the AMP website, RBM Partnership to End Malaria list serve, and the Vector Control Working Group list serve, also played a significant role in raising awareness of the meeting among attendees.

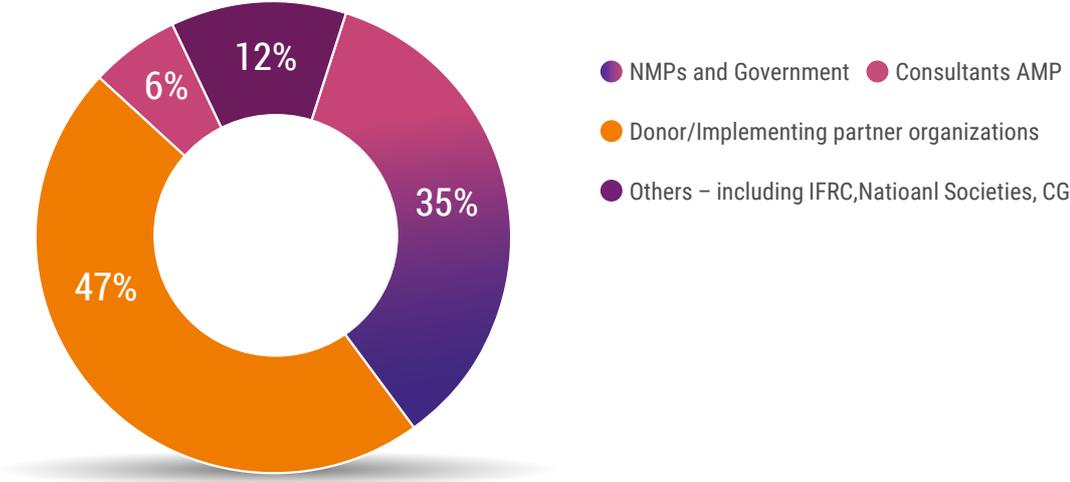
Figure 2: Sources of awareness for the 2024 Annual Partners' Meeting



Participants at the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting included a diverse range of stakeholders, bringing together various expertise and viewpoints. Staff from national malaria programmes and government agencies made up 35 per cent of the attendees, while global donor and implementing partner organizations accounted for 47 per cent,

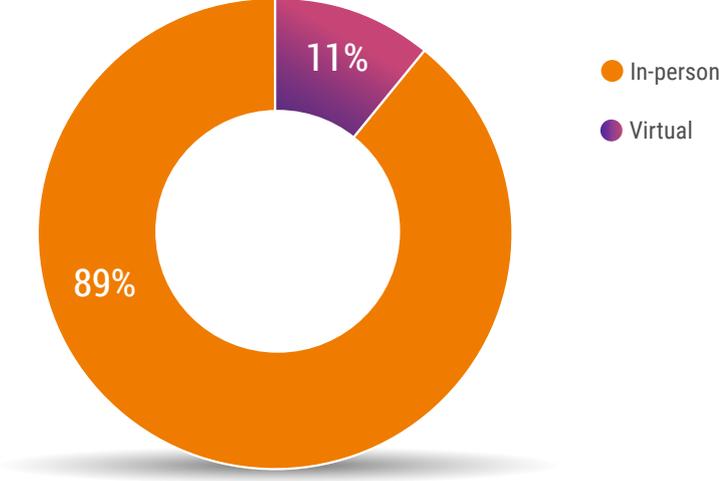
showcasing strong support and engagement from key players in the field. Consultants, including technical assistance providers on ITN distribution, comprised six per cent of the participants. The remaining 12 per cent included representatives from the IFRC, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and AMP Core Group (CG) members (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Geographical distribution of participants to AMP Annual Partners' Meeting



Eighty-nine per cent of attendees were present in-person, while 11 per cent participated online (Figure 4).

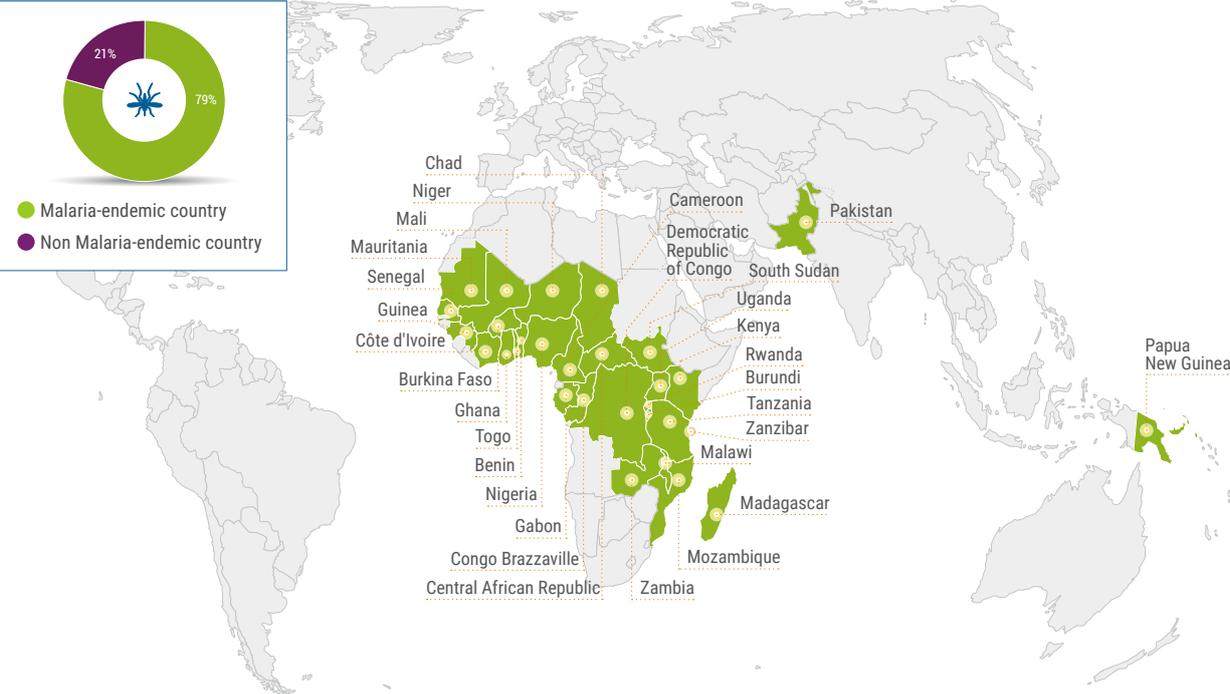
Figure 4: Percentage of participants online vs. in-person



The event attracted participants from malaria-endemic and non-endemic countries. **Seventy-nine per cent of the participants (including in-person and online) were based in 29 malaria-endemic countries** (Figure 5) (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic,

Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zanzibar).

Figure 5: Participants' geographic origin

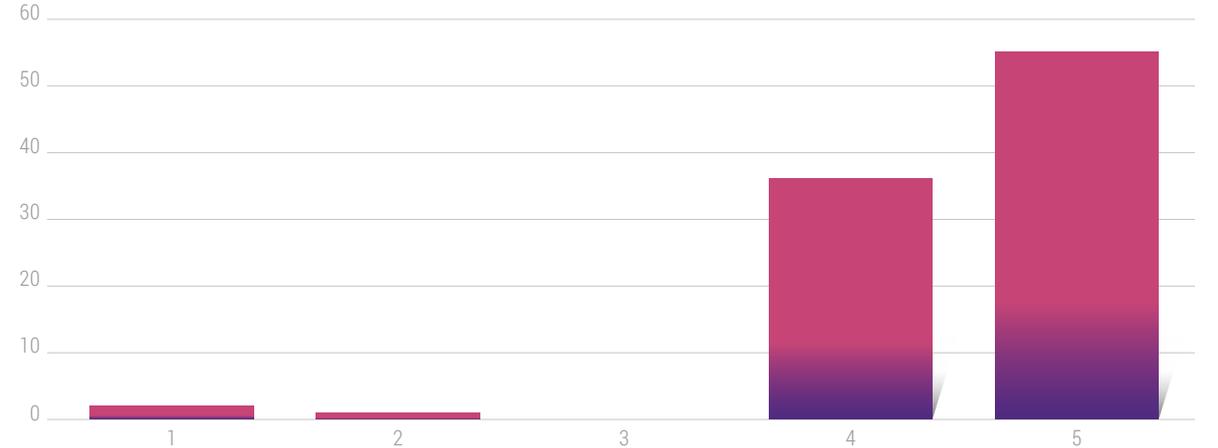


Overall satisfaction

Most participants rated their satisfaction at 5 – very satisfied (59 per cent) or 4 - satisfied (38 per cent) (Figure 6). Only a small percentage rated their satisfaction at 2 – dissatisfied (one per

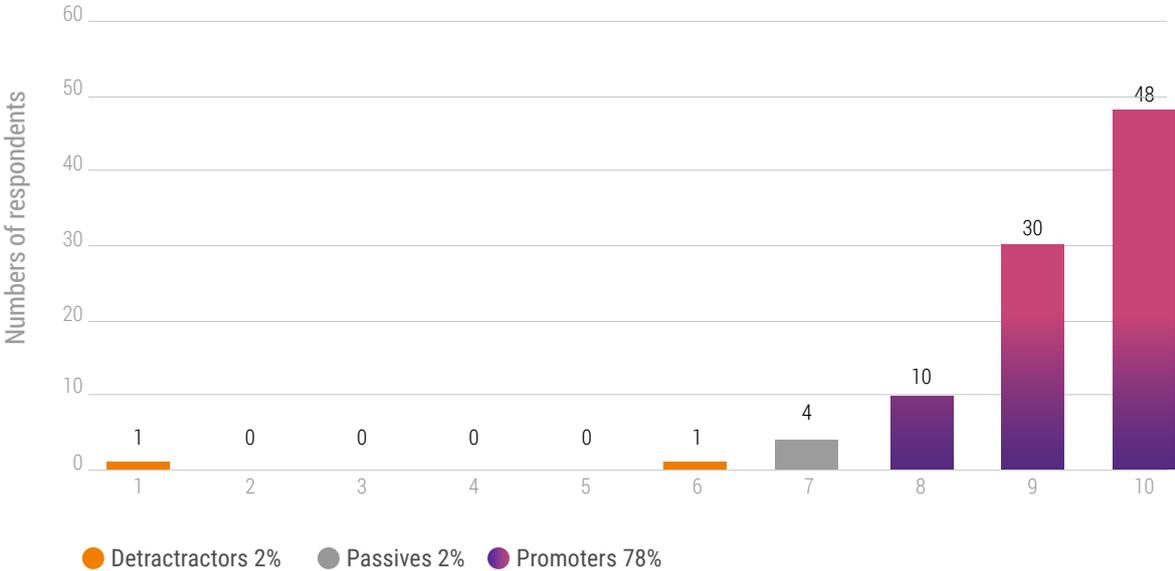
cent) and 1 – very dissatisfied (two per cent). This demonstrates a high level of satisfaction among attendees. The average level of satisfaction across the 93 respondents was 4.5/5.

Figure 6: Overall level of satisfaction



Seventy-eight per cent of respondents indicated they would attend the AMP Annual Partners' Meeting again in the future (Figure 7).

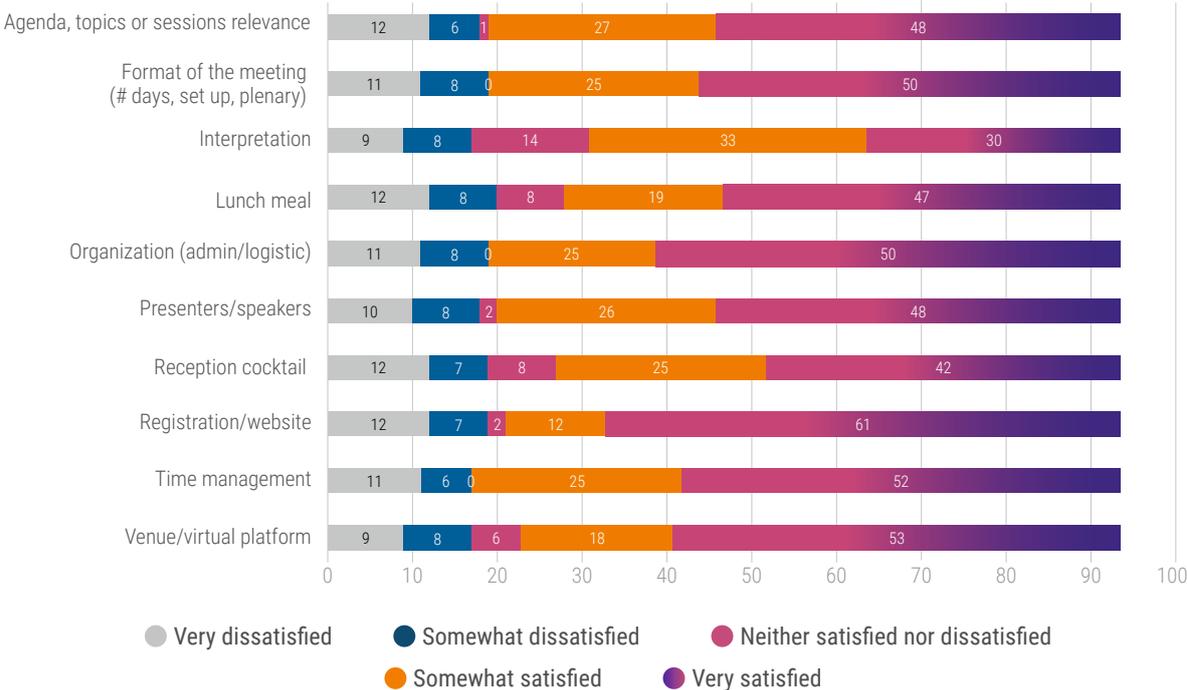
Figure 7: Likelihood of attending future meetings



Meeting activities rating

Overall, most participants were satisfied with the various aspects of the meeting including the registration process, organization, agenda and topic relevance, format of the meeting, speakers, interpretation, time management, venue and virtual platform, lunch meals and reception cocktails (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Satisfaction of respondents with various activities

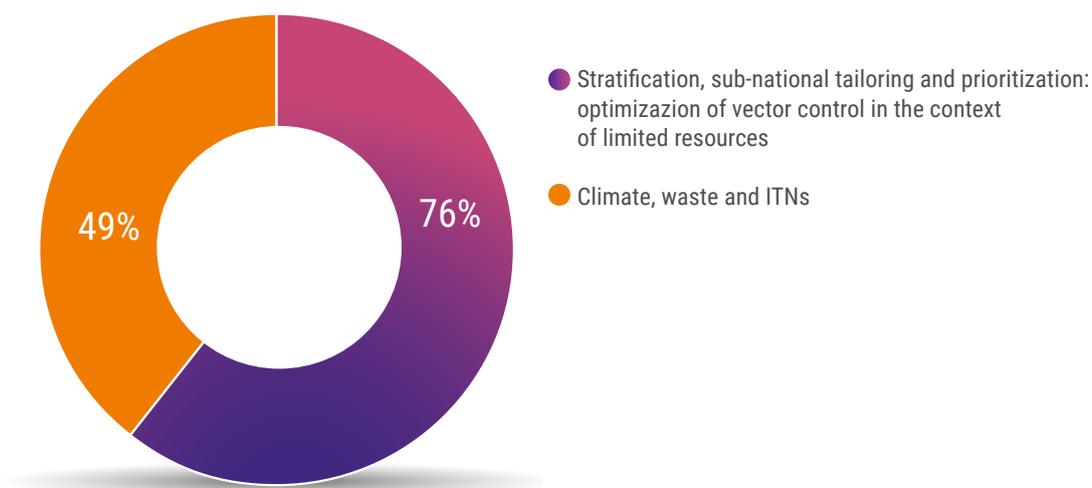


Relevance of event sessions

Participants indicated their preferences for various sessions from the events programme. The “Stratification, sub-national tailoring and prioritization: Optimization of vector control in the context of limited resources” session was deemed most relevant by 76 attendees, followed

by “Climate, waste and ITNs” with 49 participants finding it pertinent (Figure 9). Note that while there were three sessions over the two days, only these two options were provided to respondents for the meeting evaluation.

Figure 9: Relevance of sessions



Participants' top likes about the Annual Partners' Meeting

Participants' comments expressed appreciation for the diverse range of speakers, enriching the experience with insights from various countries and programmes. They valued the opportunity to learn from others' challenges and the networking opportunities within the community, particularly the ability to connect with national

malaria programmes, manufacturers and funding agencies. Additionally, participants praised the efficient time management, the well-thought-out topics and rigorous agenda, and the energy of the discussions. The quality of presentations and the chance to ask questions were also highly appreciated.

“The rigour, the welcome, the order, the breaks and the relevance of the themes”

“Time management and coordination”

“The diversity of topics: sub-national tailoring, waste management, EOL nets, climate change”

“The quality of the presentations and speakers”

“The ability to network and connect with national malaria programmes, manufacturers and funding agencies”



Participants' least likes about the Annual Partners' Meeting

Participants expressed dissatisfaction with the time allocation, noting that there was not enough time for question and answer (Q&A) sessions and discussions. Some highlighted the absence of panel sessions for in-depth discussions and more active thematic feedback. Issues with interpretation were also pointed out, with some translators having difficulty keeping up, leading to miscommunication. Additionally, participants felt there was a lack of a practical approach, suggesting a desire for more hands-on, actionable content during the meeting.

“Short time for Q&A and discussions”

“The conference room was warm”

“It would be good to hold in a different country in Africa”

“Importance of enhancing interactions between partners”

“Translation issues that led to some ideas not being well conveyed”

Suggestions and ideas for the 2025 AMP Annual Partners' Meeting theme

General technical content suggestions:

- Address ITN durability, waste management and end-of-life net management (eight responses)
- Incorporate vector surveillance, insecticide resistance monitoring, Intermittent Preventive Treatment in pregnancy (IPTp), Intermittent Preventive Treatment in infants, Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS), etc. (five responses), as well as plan for the introduction of the malaria vaccine (four responses)
- Integrate ITNs with other public health interventions/campaigns (three responses)
- Geographic Information System (GIS) use in malaria epidemiology and entomology for larval control (two responses)
- Develop future roadmaps for mass campaigns in single-phase distribution
- Emphasize routine distribution
- Chemoprevention of perennial malaria
- Advanced strategies for community treatment
- Modelling
- Discuss the causes of funding shortages for integrated vector management
- Present different ITN distribution options and indicative costs
- Address the logistical challenges of an ITN campaign
- Provide further standardized information on funding and procurement of nets to ensure that all countries have the same information
- Highlight distribution gaps and strategies to address them
- Share updates on innovations in net technology
- Include a few scientific presentations with up-to-date impacts of ITNs
- Promote local innovative and accessible tools to improve the availability and efficacy of ITNs

Climate change and resource management:

- Address the impact of climate change and resource management (six responses)

Sub-national tailoring and prioritization:

- Stratification and prioritization based on country experiences and their impact on malaria, including campaign implementation strategies (three responses)
- Manage increasingly scarce financial resources
- Focus on net use, including among internally displaced persons
- Implement targeted strategies for different districts (sub-national tailoring) (two responses)
- Distribute ITNs in challenging implementation contexts (e.g. insecurity, natural disasters) and to high-risk populations
- Explore funding opportunities

Planning, data analysis, and decision-making:

- Enhance planning and data analysis to support decision-making (three responses)
- Monitoring, evaluation and learning

Suggestions for improving the meeting:

The evaluation forms reflected a significant amount of gratitude and encouragement, highlighting the participants' appreciation. Several key comments and suggestions have been emphasized:

- Allocate more time for discussion and questions. It is suggested to include breakout sessions in the next event for a more in-depth analysis of the presented topics (eight mentions)
- Improve the quality of French interpretation (four mentions)
- Consider organizing the event in another country in 2025 (two mentions)
- Enhance logistics, specifically the meeting room's air conditioning (two mentions)
- Two-day duration for the meeting is very limited (two mentions)
- Ensure the expenses for participants from national malaria programmes are covered (two mentions)
- Organize a site visit to a mosquito net recycling facility or similar initiative (two mentions)
- Invite other donors involved in the fight against malaria/include more presentations from implementation partners (two mentions)
- The quality of work was praised; however, allowing more time for participants to ask questions would be beneficial
- Improve the timing of presentations
- Incorporate more implementation case studies



ANNEXES

- [2024 Annual Partners' Meeting agenda](#)
- [2024 list of participants](#)



AMP CONTACTS

To join the weekly AMP conference call each Wednesday at 10:00 AM Eastern time (16.00 PM CET) use the following Zoom meeting line:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2367777867?pwd=allhZk9KQmcxMXNaWnRaN1JCUTQ3dz09>

You can find your local number to join the weekly call:

<https://zoom.us/u/acyOjkIj4>

To be added to the AMP mailing list visit:

<https://allianceformalariaprevention.com/weekly-conference-call/signup-for-our-mailing-list/>

To contact AMP or join an AMP working group please e-mail:

allianceformalariaprevention@gmail.com

For further information please go to the AMP website:

<https://allianceformalariaprevention.com>