



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**PRESS STATEMENT ON THE NATIONAL MOSQUITO  
NET DISTRIBUTION CAMPAIGN 2025/26**

**9<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**

**9<sup>th</sup> April, 2026** – The Ministry of Health would like to update the public on the ongoing National Mosquito Net Distribution Campaign. This campaign is part of the Uganda Malaria Elimination Strategic Plan and contributes to our broader goal of achieving a malaria-free Uganda, in line with Uganda Vision 2040 and our national development agenda. The Malaria elimination strategy reaffirms our commitment to protecting all Ugandans from Malaria.

Malaria remains one of the leading public health challenges in our country. However, it is both preventable and treatable.

Despite the progress we have made, Malaria continues to place a heavy burden on our population. According to the 2024 World Malaria Report, Uganda contributes 4.7% of global malaria cases, ranking third worldwide, and 2.7% of global malaria deaths, ranking ninth. In 2025 we registered 11,782,577 malaria cases and 2,342 malaria deaths (55% were among children below 5 years). In addition, findings from the 2024 Malaria Indicator Survey show that Malaria prevalence has increased to 12.5%, up from 9.2% in 2018/2019. This increase is attributed to several factors including laxity of communities in adherence to malaria prevention and treatment guidelines, climate variation, and biological threats that undermine the performance of malaria prevention and control tools.

It is against this background that the Ministry of Health is accelerating efforts to eliminate malaria by 2030. The Ministry of Health through its Malaria Elimination Strategy 2025-2026 seeks to address gaps in malaria prevention and control strategies. The Strategy is focused on reducing malaria deaths to zero, to ensure this the MOH will intensify capacity building at all levels including the community for effective malaria response, ensure universal access to core services, and deploy specific interventions tailored to context to save lives.

Key interventions include Health promotion and disease prevention (social behavior change, Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs), and Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS), Malaria Chemoprevention), Curative services (malaria diagnosis, treatment, and malaria in pregnancy) including at the community level, Surveillance, monitoring, evaluation, operations research, and Epidemic prediction, preparedness, and response.

Among the most effective prevention measures is the consistent use of Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated Nets (LLINs). When used properly, mosquito nets break Malaria transmission by 50%, reduce morbidity and mortality by 25% and can reduce childhood mortality by up to 25%. Mosquito nets provide a protective barrier, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children under five, pregnant women, people with sickle cell and communities in high-risk areas.

These efforts build on the significant gains Uganda has made over the years in expanding access to mosquito nets.

- In 2010, government distributed 7.2 million nets achieving a coverage of 64%
- In 2020, 28 million nets were distributed achieving 98% coverage,
- In 2023 28.5 million nets achieving a coverage of 98%

Under the 2026 campaign, 25.8 million mosquito nets will be distributed across 130 districts, in line with the World Health Organization guideline of one net for every two people. However Districts fully covered by Indoor Residual Spraying will not be included in this distribution, they will continue to receive nets through Antenatal clinics for pregnant women and immunization clinics for children under 5 years of age.

This nationwide effort is valued at approximately USD 100 million (UGX 365 billion), with USD 90 million allocated for procurement, shipment, warehousing and transportation and USD 10 million for operational costs. The campaign is funded by the Government of Uganda, the Global Fund, and the United States Government.

To enhance efficiency, the campaign is being implemented in five waves:

- **Wave One (January 2026):**

3.4 million nets distributed across 20 districts, protecting approximately 6.5 million Ugandans. The districts were; *Amolator, Alebtong, Apac,*

*Budaka, Bugweri, Buyende, Dokolo, Iganga, Jinja, Jinja City, Kaliro, Kamuli, Kole, Kwanja, Lira, Lira City, Mbale, Mbale City, Otuke and Oyam.*

- **Wave Two (April 2026):**

A total of 4.8 million nets will be distributed across 32 districts, targeting over 8.1 million Ugandans. The districts are Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Gulu City, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Omoro, Pader, Mayuge, Amuria, Bukedea, Kaberamaido, Kalaki, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Kumi, Ngora, Serere, Soroti, Soroti City, Bududa, Bukwo, Bulambuli, Busia, Kapchorwa, Kween, Luuka, Manafa, Namayingo, Namisindwa and Sironko.

- **Wave Three (May 2026)**

The delivery of nets for wave three has commenced and distribution is scheduled to start in next month in May.

### **Wave four (July 2026)**

The nets for this wave have already been procured and are under clearance by the National Drug Authority and Uganda Bureau of Standards to meet the distribution timelines of June and July. This wave will cover districts in Kigezi, Tooro and the central.

### **Wave Five (September 2026)**

This wave will be implemented under the urbanisation strategy to cover Kampala and Wakiso due to the unique living patterns and mobility of the population.

In addition to distribution, the Ministry is implementing Social Behavior Change and community engagement activities to create awareness on malaria prevention (including proper net use). Local governments, civil society organizations, partners, and Community Health Workers will conduct household visits, demonstrations, dispelling myths and rumors and follow-ups to ensure correct and consistent use of mosquito nets.

### **Call to Action for the Public:**

The Ministry of Health urges the public to:

1. **Register:** *Ensure that all household members are registered by the local leaders and VHTs for the distribution exercise.*
2. **Use Nets Properly:** *Consistent use of the net protects an individual from the mosquito bites. We get malaria as a result of the infected mosquito bites. These nets must not be used for fishing, fencing, or gardening.*
3. **Hang Immediately:** *Residents are encouraged to hang the nets in the shade for 24 hours before setting them up for use.*
4. **Test and Treat:** *Seek care within 24 hours of fever onset, and adhere to treatment provided by the professional medical healthcare provider.*
5. **Environmental Management:** *Clear all breeding sites including stagnant water, bushes, empty tyres, broken pots etc around our households.*

I urge all citizens to take ownership of their own health by ensuring that every household member sleeps under a mosquito net every night.

## **APPRECIATION**

The Ministry of Health appreciates all donors, local governments, cities, Development partners, implementing partners, CSOs, CBOs, the private sector and Academia for the continued investment in the fight against Malaria.

**For God and My Country**

**For Honorable Minister for Health**