

# An overview of active research on Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention

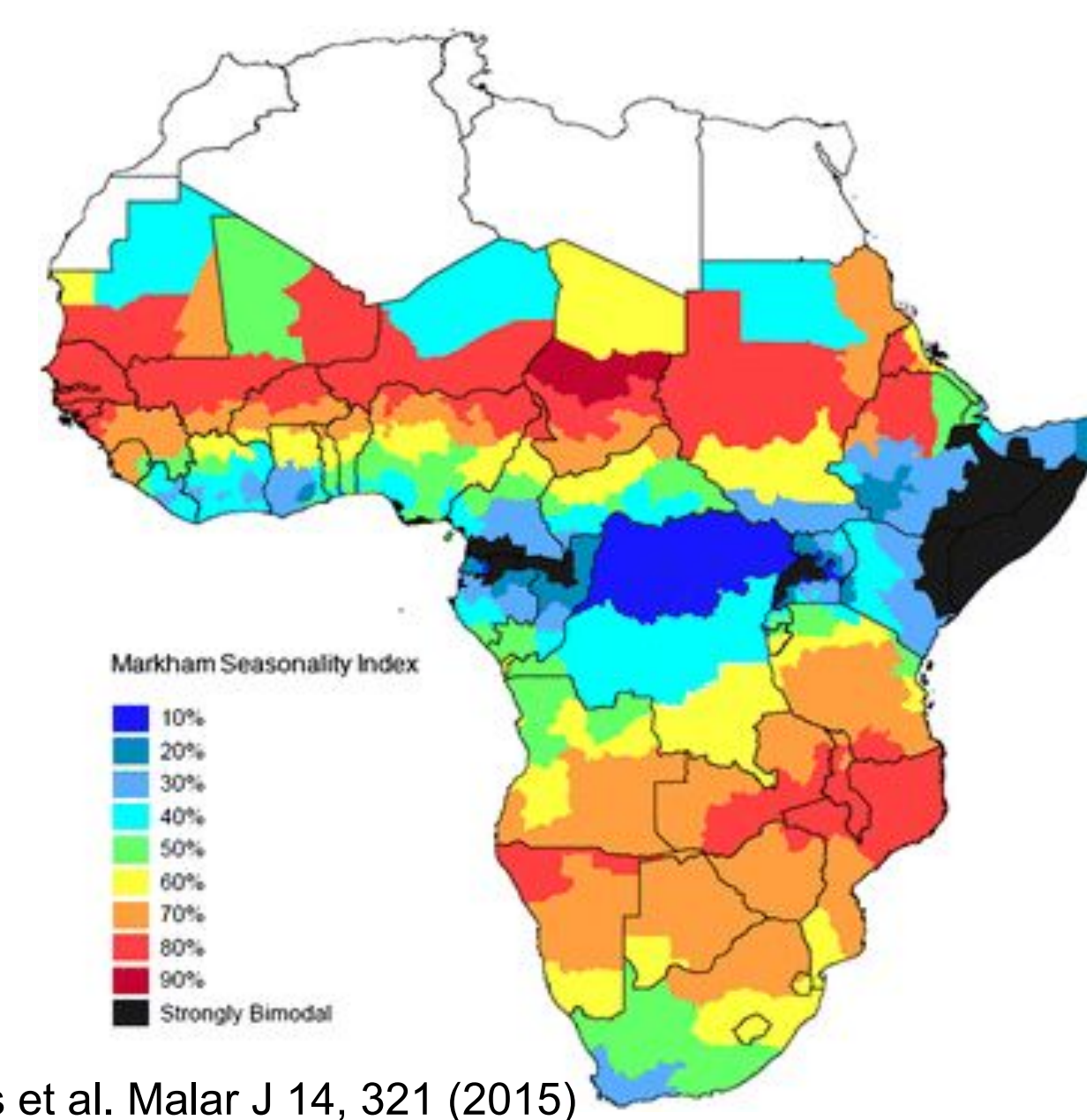
Sandesh Bhandari, on behalf of MESA, hosted by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)  
[sandesh.bhandari@lsglobal.org](mailto:sandesh.bhandari@lsglobal.org)



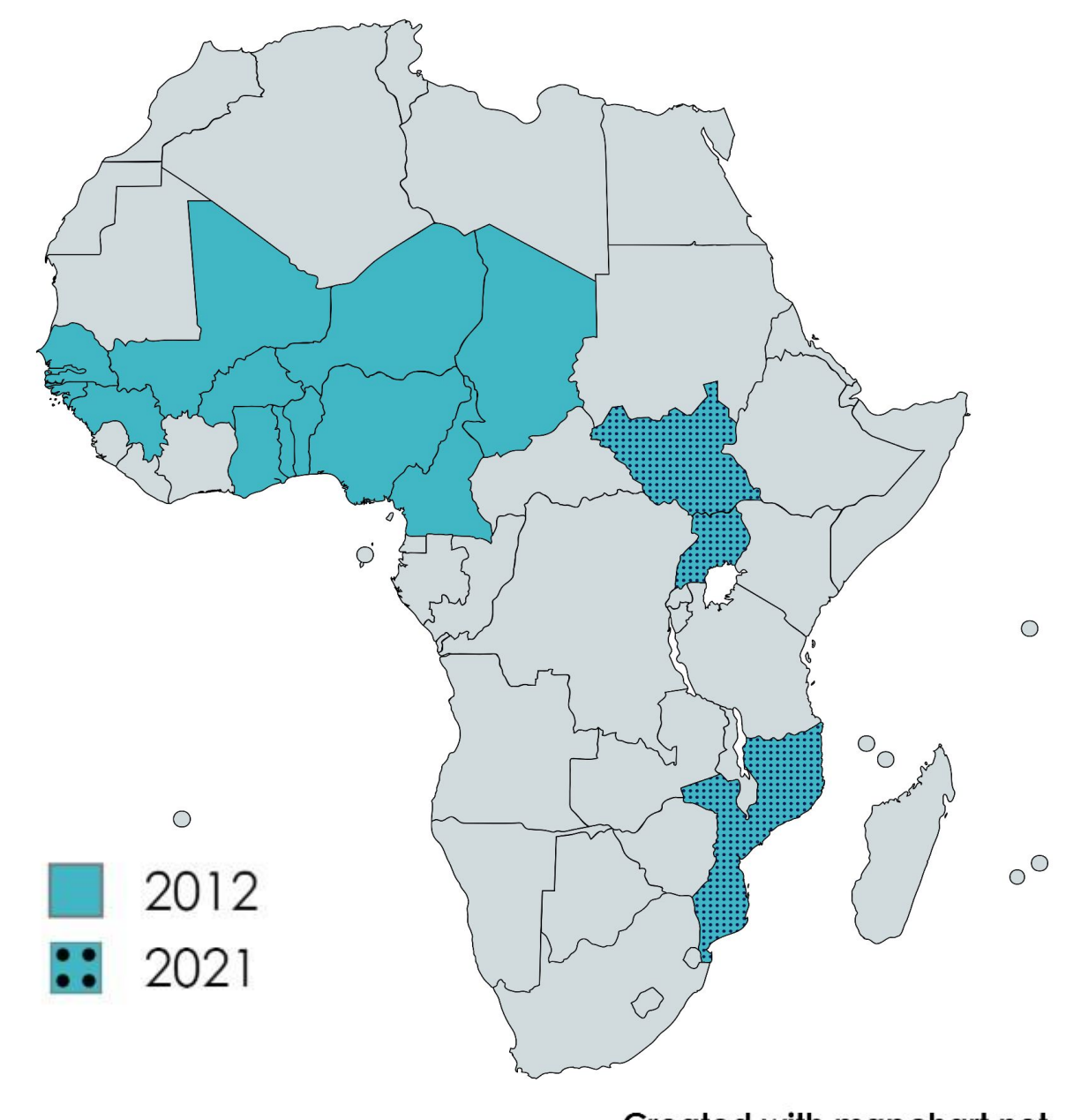
## Background

- Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SMC): Intermittent administration of curative dose of antimalarial medicine during the malaria season to asymptomatic children, regardless of whether the child is infected.
- Implemented in 13 countries in 2012. Mozambique, Uganda & South Sudan have adopted the SMC policy in 2021.
- SMC can now be expanded beyond the Sahel region to other geographies with more flexibility in recognizing age-based risk among children at high risk of severe malaria.
- This review includes insights into SMC investments, geographical scale, ongoing research scope, research areas, and potential knowledge gaps.

## Seasonality in Malaria transmission



## SMC Implementation



## Objectives

- Map out the geographical scale and scope of ongoing SMC research.
- Provide an overview and analysis of SMC related research.
- Outline the investments in SMC research and the institutions involved in them.
- Describe the research areas being explored by the projects.
- Identify knowledge gaps.

## Methodology

Project collection- Screening- Analysis- Report

### Steps

Principal investigators contacted to verify project details and fill information gaps. **2**

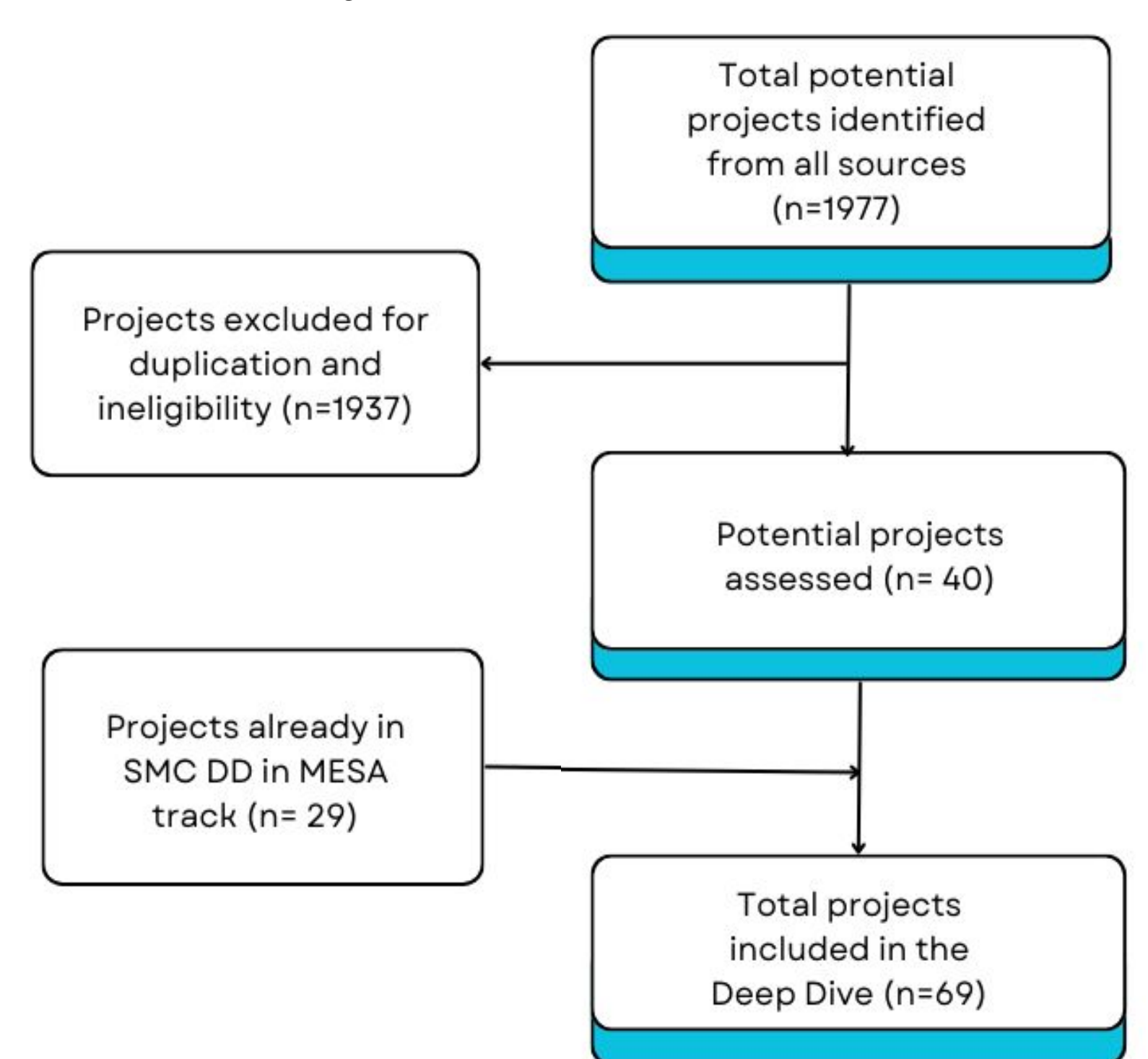
Systematic data collection from multiple sources, curation, and review of active research. **1**

### Inclusion criteria

- Projects related to SMC
- Active ≥ 2012
- In English

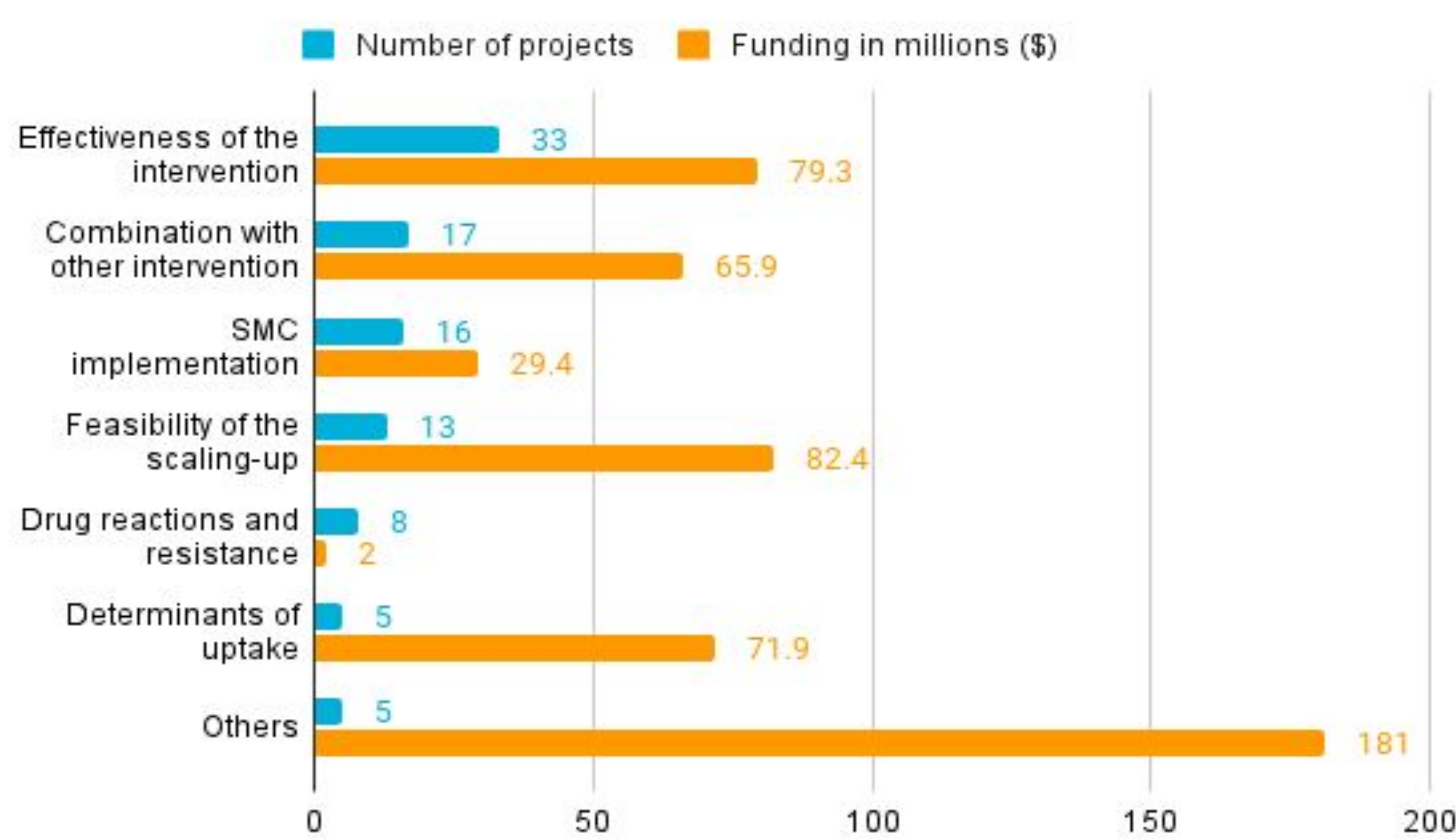
**3** Projects categorised into research areas based on common objectives.

## Project search flowchart

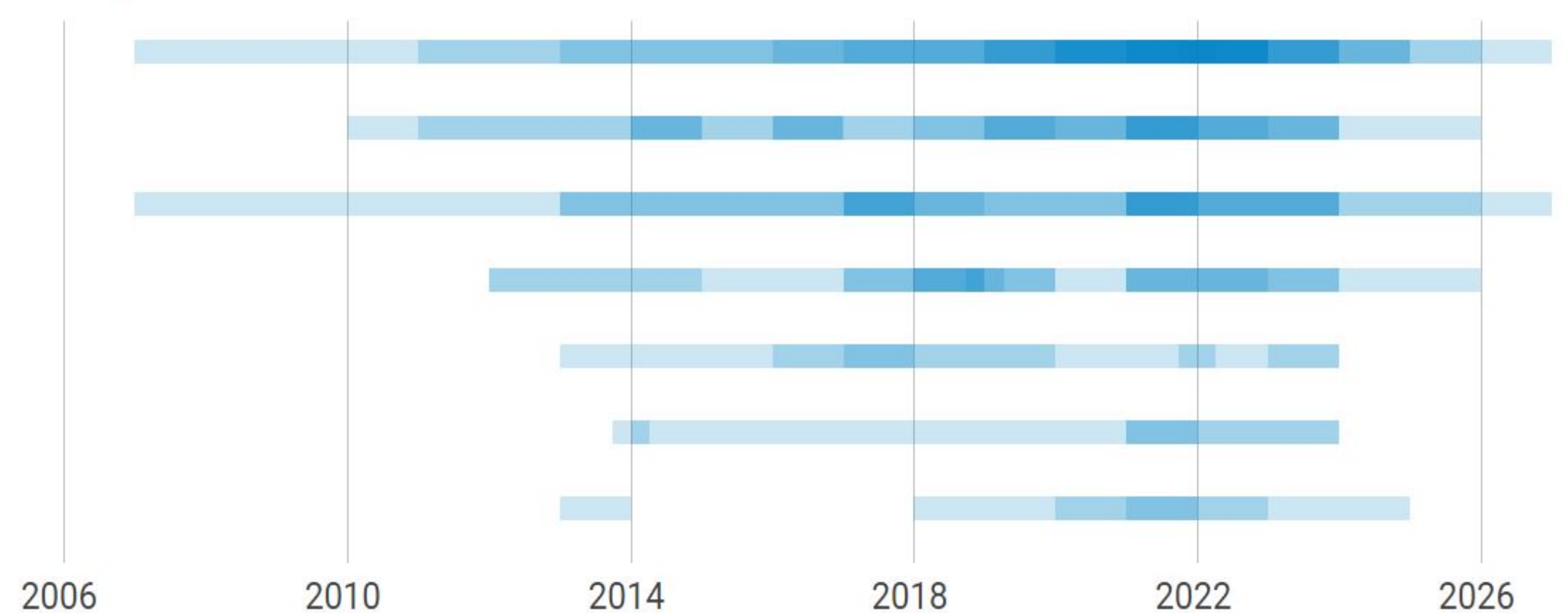


## Results

### Number of projects and funding by research areas

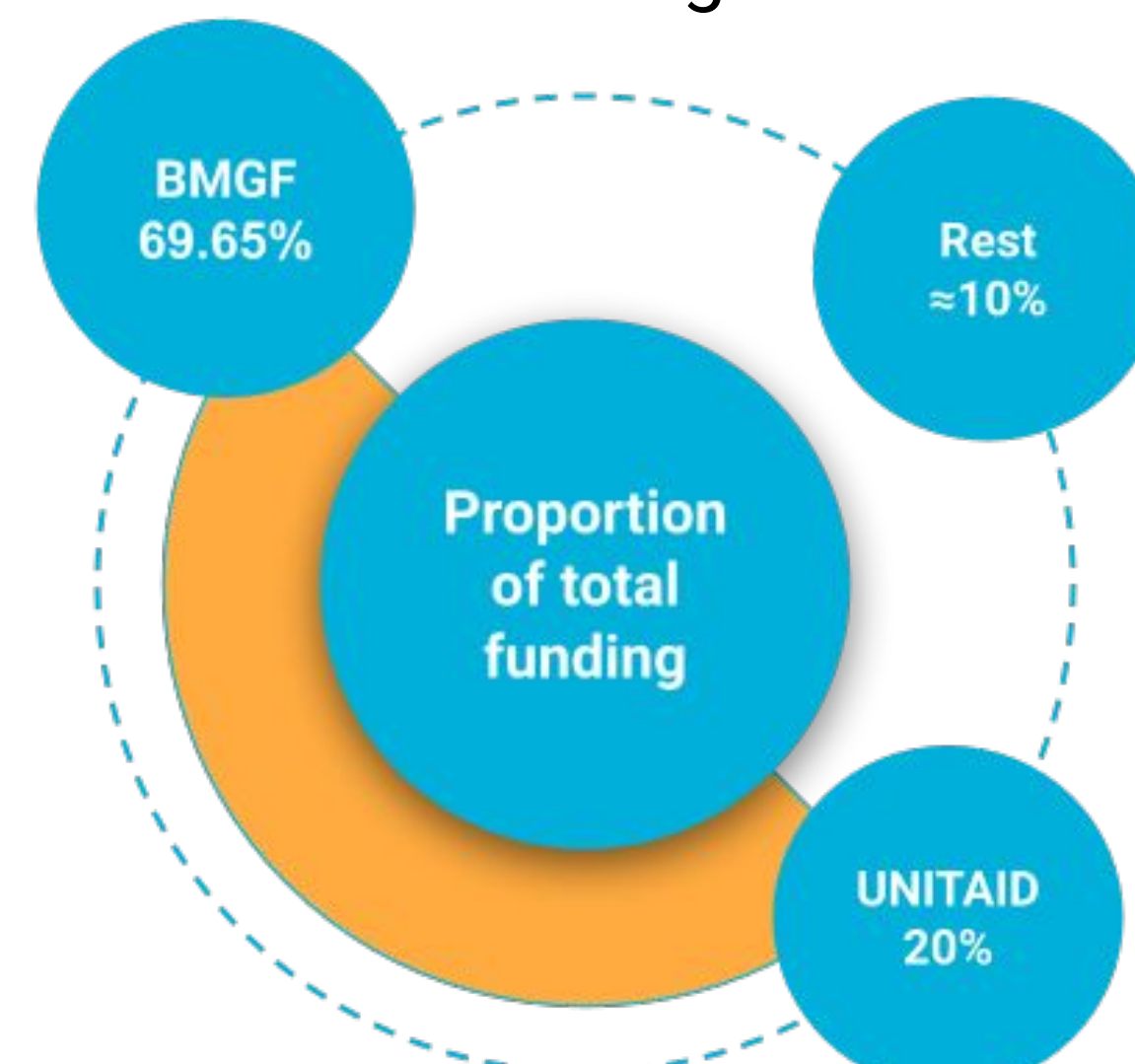


### Project Timeline

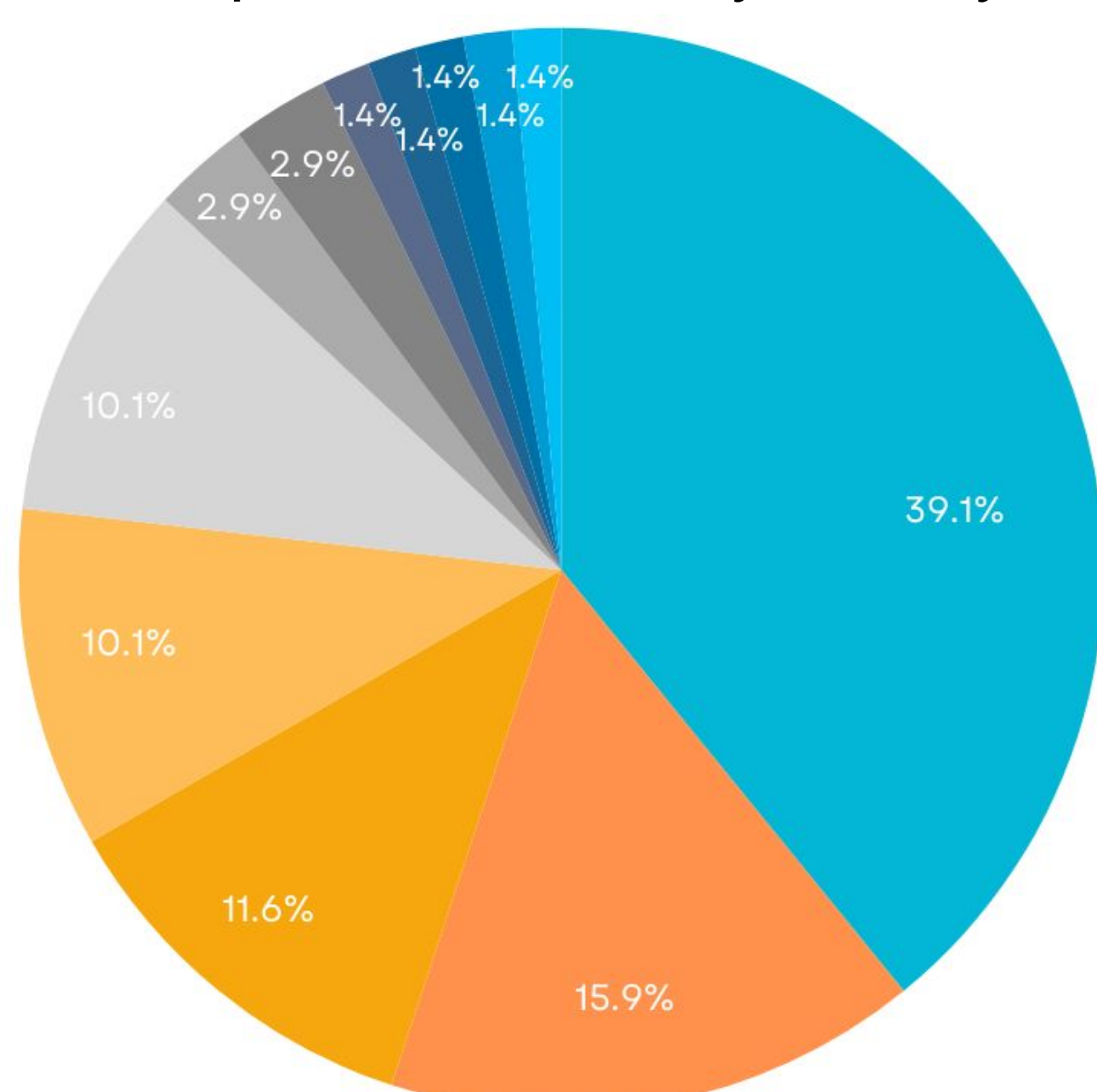


**Total projects: 69**  
**Total funding amount: \$357.9M**  
**Project sites: 36**

### Funding sources



### Principal Institutions by country



United Kingdom	Switzerland
Mali	Uganda
Senegal	Benin
Burkina Faso	The Gambia
USA	Cameroon
Ghana	China

## Conclusion

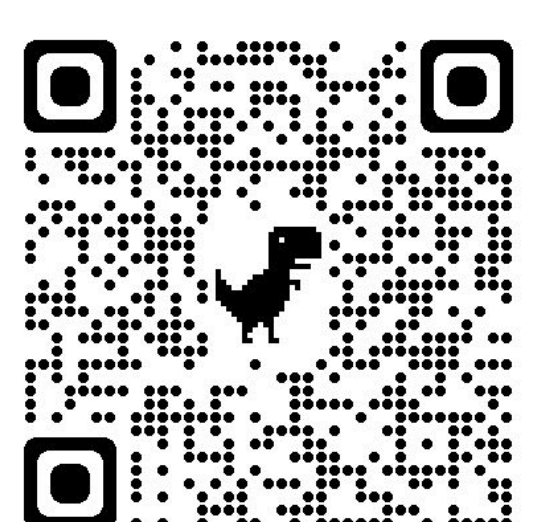
- Expansion of this highly cost effective intervention beyond the Sahel region to Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Lack of research concerning the role of community health workers (CHWs) in the operativeness of the SMC strategy.
- Revamped commitment to scaling up the use of SMC.



## Gaps

- Implementation and scaling-up
- Drug combination safety and resistance
- Delivery modalities and role of community health workers
- Long term sustainability and programmatic considerations
- Community acceptance and uptake

\*This landscape review was done in collaboration with Malaria Consortium



Explore the SMC DD on MESA Track

www.mesamalaria.org  
 MESAmalaria  
 MESA Malaria

MESA is hosted by:

**ISGlobal**

C/ Rosselló 171, 08036 Barcelona, Spain  
 and supported by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Subscribe to MESA Newsletter

