

# ***Financial sustainability for HPV vaccination***

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**EPI, Malawi**

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**New Vaccine Introduction Officer**

# BACKGROUND and CONTEXT

Malawi, often referred to as “**The Warm Heart of Africa,**” is in southern Africa.

**Projected Population: 20,734,262 (2018 NSO)**

**Area:** 118,484 km<sup>2</sup>, of which a significant portion is covered by water

Malawi is divided into **three regions and 29 districts.**

Malawi has over the past year been dealing with a Fourfold Health Emergencies **COVID-19, Polio, Cholera Outbreak and Recurrent Floods** with internal displacement of persons



51%  
population

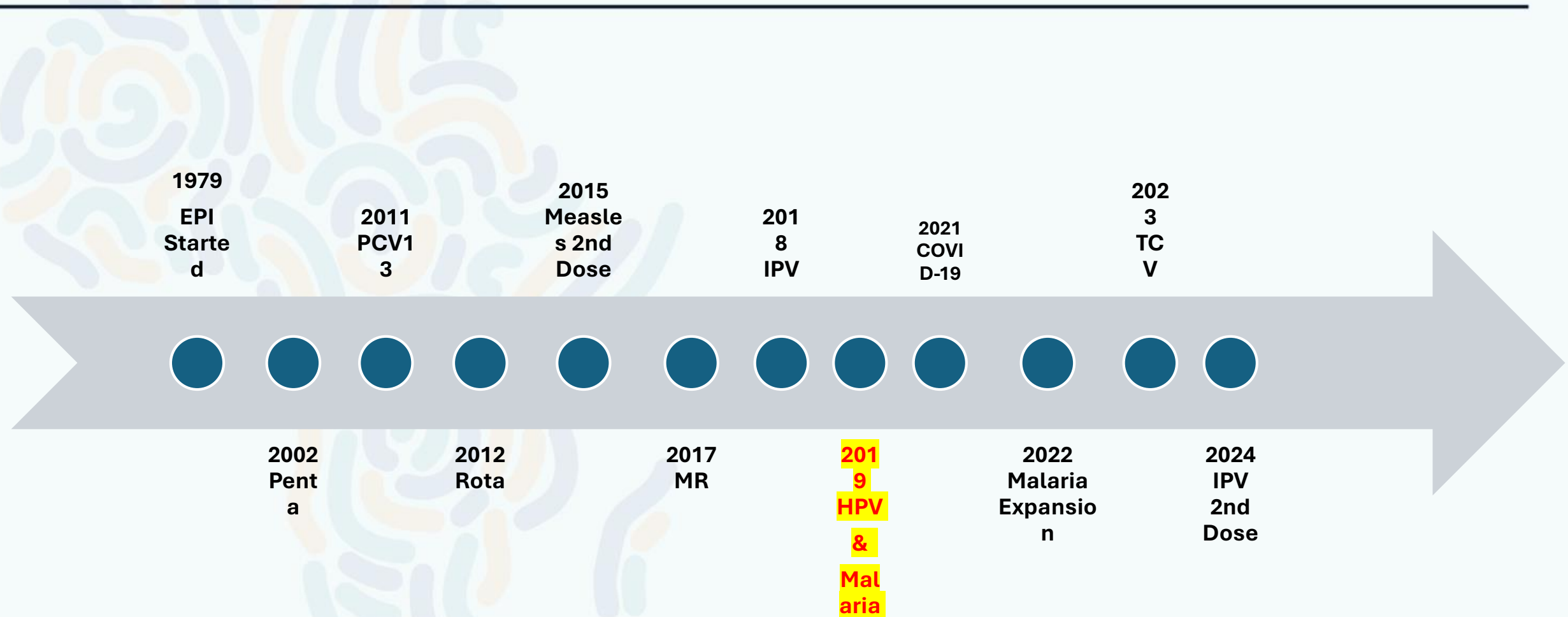


48% population

**Under 5 Population :**  
3,110,139



# Malawi New Vaccines Introduction Timeline



# Cervical Cancer Situation in Malawi

- The number one leading cause of cancer deaths in women aged 15-49 in Malawi.
- Adopted the WHO recommendations for elimination of cervical cancer (incl. 90-70-90 targets) in 2021

## Burden of Cervical Cancer in Malawi (Globocan

| Indicator                                             | Status       |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Women at risk                                         | 6.03 million |
| HIV Prevalence (Reproductive age)                     | 10.8%        |
| Age standardized incidence (per 100,000 women per yr) | 67.9         |
| Age standardized mortality (per 100,000 women per yr) | 51.5         |
| Annual number of cases                                | 4,145        |
| Annual number of deaths                               | 2,905        |
| Screening coverage                                    | 40%          |

# HPV Vaccination in Malawi

- Malawi piloted the HPV vaccine in 2 districts, Zomba and Rumphi (2013-2015), targeting standard 4 girls.
- Introduced HPV vaccination as a two-dose schedule in Jan 2019, targeting 9-year-old girls. Two rounds of HPV campaigns were conducted in 2019 and 2020
  - 2019 – 83%
  - 2020- 72%
- HPV vaccination was routinised in 2021

2013-  
2015

- Campaign based Demonstration.

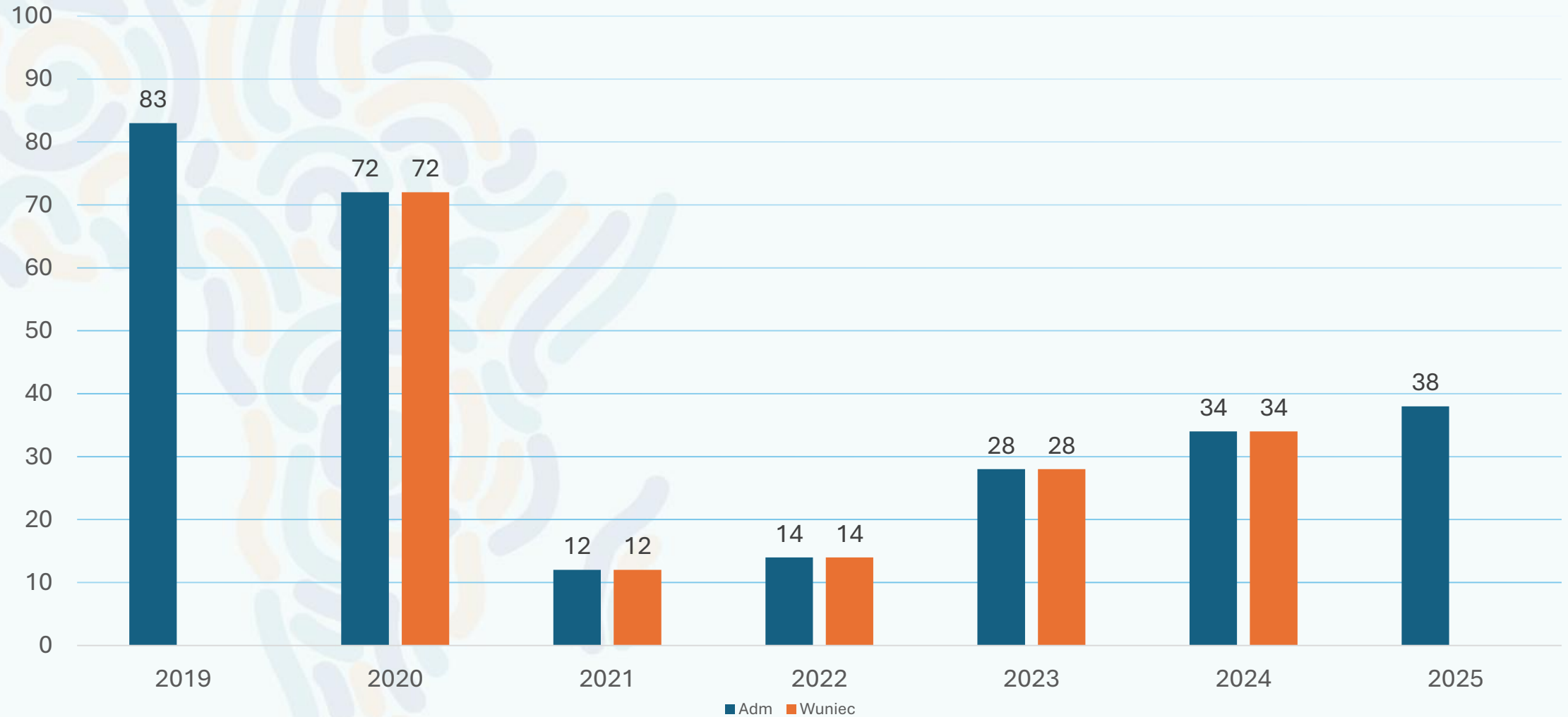
2019  
&  
2020

- Campaign based implementation

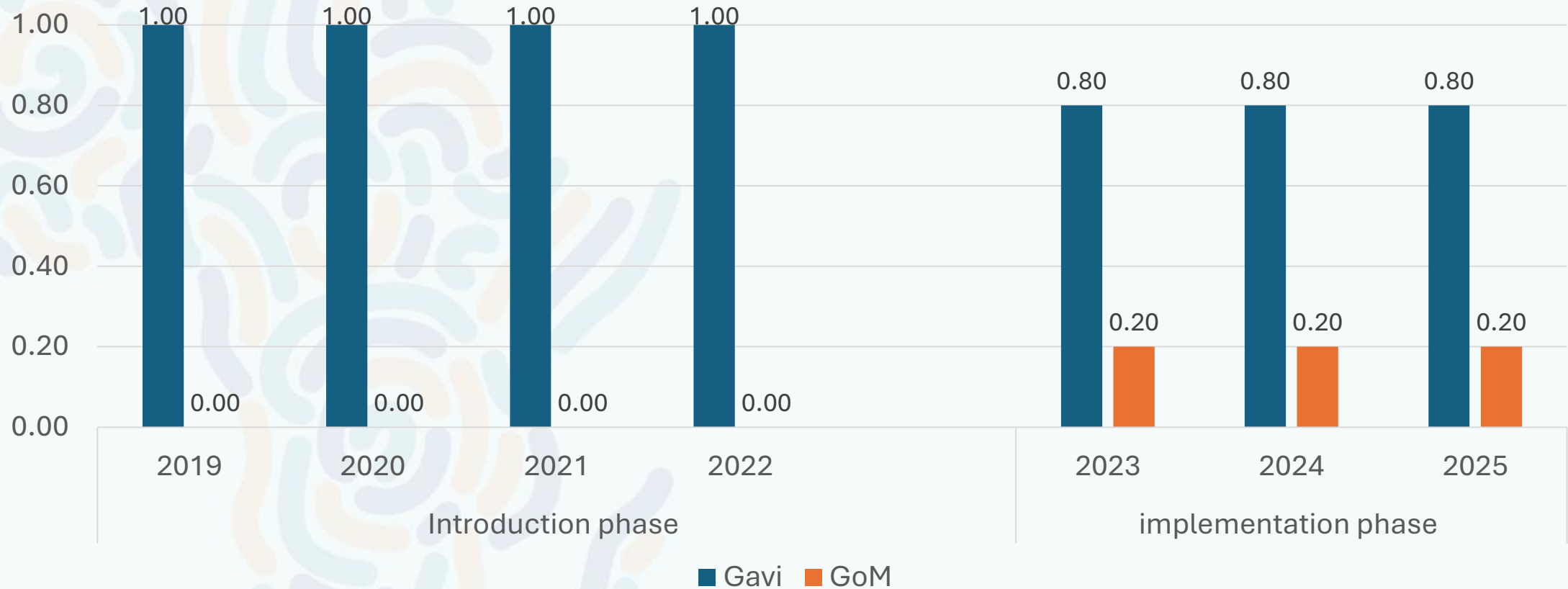
2021

- Routinization as part of National EPI schedule

# HPV Vaccination coverage



# HPV Procurement and source of funding



## Initial Support Phase

- GAVI provides substantial funding support with minimal country contribution requirements. Countries contribute based on GNI per capita, starting as low as \$0.20 per dose for eligible low-income nations.

# HPV funding- Strengths

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- Since the introduction of HPV, the country has ensured funding is available to support procurement of vaccine, **Malawi has successfully met the Gavi Co-financing obligation**
- **Strong partner coordination**; establishment of **Focused Supply Plan Team ( FSPT)**
  - ✓ Secretariat-MoH (Health Sector Joint Fund)
  - ✓ Partners (UNICEF, WHO, MoF)
- The HPV rollout in Malawi involved **Multi-Sectoral collaboration** between the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and technical partners.

# Steps taken toward sustainability

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- **In 2019, the government of Malawi made a commitment** to ensure that funds allocated for vaccine procurement are never diverted, whilst there have been some hiccups with foreign currency in 2025, the country remains committed towards the procurement of vaccines.
- **Engagement with Ministry of Education and Ministry of Gender** to support with other activities to promote uptake
- **Integration** of the HPV into EPI strategic documents
  - ✓ National Immunisation Strategy 2025-2030.
  - ✓ EPI annual work plan
  - ✓ HSS grant

# Funding Barriers

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- In 2025, Malawi has faced critical **foreign currency shortages**, affecting the disbursement of funds from the treasury to UNICEF for the procurement of vaccines.
- Competing priorities- emergencies.

# Lessons learnt

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- Strong **political will** and partner coordination-The President launched the revitalisation of HPV vaccine
- **Integration** seems to provide a bit cheaper approach
- Periodic intensification of routine immunisation (**PIRI**) helps with reaching every eligible child.
- Sit in **NGO within Ministry of Health** which helps with mobilizing resources from different partners.

THANK YOU