The entire population of the Republic of the Congo is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense all year round. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 324,615 with 131 deaths.
Malaria
The Global Fund
The Global Fund has announced that Congo will receive €54.5 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2021-2023. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Congo’s disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and previous disbursements. For Congo this is calculated at €31.3 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Congo is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation, as well as from domestic resources, to accelerate progress.

Progress
Congo has secured sufficient resources to cover the required needs for most of the LLINs and ACTs required in 2019. Congo has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population in the forthcoming campaign. The country has scaled up iCCM coverage. The majority of patients are able to access ACTs and RDTs through the health insurance scheme. The country has recently reported the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO. Congo has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Scorecard.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 324,615 with 131 deaths.

Key Challenge
- Low coverage of essential interventions due to lack of external and domestic resources.

Previous Key Recommended Actions
Congo has responded to the recommended actions addressing financing of anti-malarial commodities and the need to investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence between 2010 and 2017 and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented. The country is working on a multisectoral investment plan.

New Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence between 2015 and 2018</td>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address funding</td>
<td>Ensure the GF malaria funding application is submitted by Q2 2020 and ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control at a level that is sufficient to sustain the gains made in recent years</td>
<td>Q2 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RMNCAH and NTDs
Progress
Congo has made good progress in tracer RMNCAH interventions including skilled birth attendants and vitamin A. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.
Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Congo is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage data for Congo were submitted to WHO but the index value is not yet calculated as data validation is under process.

The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD scorecard.

**Previous Key Recommended Actions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Carry out mapping for elimination of Onchocerciasis</td>
<td>Q3 2019</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>In October 2019, Congo attended an ESPEN organized workshop on onchocerciasis elimination mapping. The country has since prepared its onchocerciasis elimination mapping plan and budget and is starting the mapping of Lymphatic filariasis. Congo has completed the Preventive Chemotherapy for Onchocerciasis and Lymphatic Filariasis with support from ESPEN and Sight Savers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMNCAH(^1):</td>
<td>Investigate and address the reasons for the low coverage of vitamin A</td>
<td>Q2 2020</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congo has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of ARTs, and coverage has recently increased, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**Key**

- Green: Action achieved
- Yellow: Some progress
- Red: No progress
- Grey: Deliverable not yet due

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1 RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO