Malaria transmission is most intense in the south whilst the desert areas in the north are malaria-free. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 3358 058 with 3,576 deaths.
Malaria
Global Fund Update
The Global Fund has announced that Niger will receive €124.2 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 Niger’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 Niger this is calculated at €97.4 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Niger 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
Niger has mobilised the required financing to procure and distribute LLINs, ACTs and RDTs required for 2019. The country has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted population. Niger has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has recently reported the results of insecticide resistance testing to WHO. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Niger has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 3,358,058 with 3,576 deaths.

Key Challenge
- Insufficient resources to achieve high coverage of essential malaria interventions.

Previous Key Recommended Action
Niger has responded positively to the recommended action addressing resource mobilisation and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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
The country has achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention vitamin A. The country has enhanced 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 Niger is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Niger is high for schistosomiasis (100%); good for soil
transmitted helminths (76%) and for lymphatic filariasis (74%) and low for trachoma (18%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Niger in 2018 is 56.

**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 to identify if there are some areas where elimination has occurred</td>
<td>Q3 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>The country is carrying out a document review and situation analysis in order to identify where the mapping will be conducted. The training of the laboratory technicians on the survey protocol by WHO was completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMNCAH¹:</td>
<td>Investigate and address the reasons for the low coverage of vitamin A</td>
<td>Q2 2020</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Niger has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of skilled birth attendants, postnatal care and exclusive breastfeeding, and ARTs coverage in children (with recent increases in coverage reported), and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**Key**

- **Action achieved**
- **Some progress**
- **No progress**
- **Deliverable not yet due**

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO