Malaria transmission in Chad is intense in the south of the country. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 1,175,041 with 1,948 deaths.
Malaria

Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is putting an incredible strain on health systems across Africa. Health systems are required to maintain routine health services for other illnesses even as they handle the additional burden. In order to prevent widespread morbidity and mortality, it is of vital importance that we work to sustain the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent health including malaria.

WHO underlines the critical importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat malaria during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is of vital importance to ensure the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services including distribution of insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying, as well as chemoprevention for pregnant women and young children (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy and seasonal malaria chemoprevention). Any intervention must consider the importance of both lowering malaria-related mortality and ensuring the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

For Chad, it will be of vital importance to ensure that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2020 goes ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Without this campaign, coupled with the need to also complete the seasonal malaria chemoprevention campaigns and sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns are suspended and there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 21.5% increase in malaria cases, and a 39.5% increase in malaria deaths in Chad. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

The Global Fund

The Global Fund has announced that Chad will receive €117.4 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 Chad'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 Chad this is calculated at €61.3 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Chad 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

Chad has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve operational universal coverage of the targeted at risk population. The country has significantly 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 1,175,041 with 1,948 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Weak health information system.
Insufficient resources to fully implement the national strategic plan.
Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

### 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>Vector Control</td>
<td>Report on the status of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO</td>
<td>Q3 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chad has developed an Insecticide Resistance Management Plan as part of their National Malaria Strategic Plan. While the country has planned to monitor insecticide resistance from a total of 7 sentinel sites country-wide, due to lack of financial resources, the NMCP has only been able to collect data from 2 sites in 2018 and only 1 site in 2019. To address this problem, the country plans to include funds to monitor insecticide resistance country-wide from the GF. Data generated to date have been shared with WHO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address funding</td>
<td>Ensure the GF malaria funding application is submitted by Q3 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>Q3 2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chad has responded positively to the recommended actions for the development of the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan.

### New Key Recommended Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>Ensure that malaria services including case management and vector control are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic</td>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RMNCAH and NTDs**

**Progress**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Chad is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Chad is very good for lymphatic filariasis (75%) and onchocerciasis (72%), below WHO targets for schistosomiasis (71%), soil transmitted helminths (60%) and trachoma (51%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Chad in 2018 is 65, which represents a decrease compared with the 2017 index value (71).
Previous Key Recommended Actions
Chad has responded positively to the recommended actions for skilled birth attendants, exclusive breastfeeding, ART coverage in children, with a 3% increase reported over the last year, and vitamin A, and postnatal care coverage and continues to track progress as these actions are 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>RMNCAH¹: Impact</td>
<td>Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic</td>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO