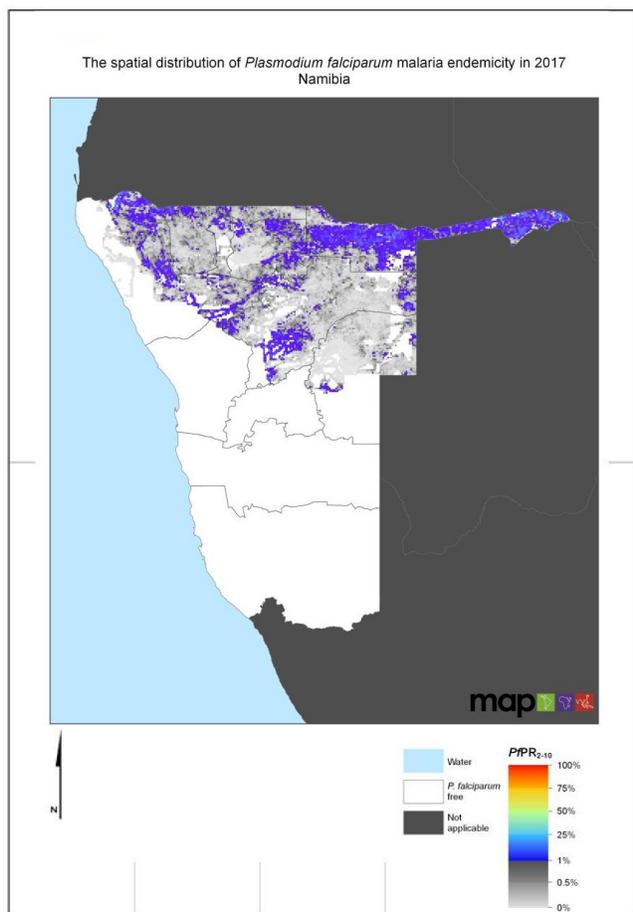


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Malaria transmission is confined to the north-east part of Namibia where malaria is endemic and about 72% of the population of the country is at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 36,451 with 82 deaths.

Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
IRS financing 2020 (% of at-risk population)		100
Public sector RDT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2018 (CPIA Cluster D)		
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		2
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)		
Operational LLIN/IRS coverage (% of at risk population)	▼	43
On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)		
On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)		
Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health and NTDs		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)		
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		92
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		78
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		88
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		69
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		48
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	▲	44
DPT3 coverage 2018 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		89

Key

	Target achieved or on track
	Progress but more effort required
	Not on track
	No data
	Not applicable

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 of COVID-19. 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. 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 Namibia, it will be of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying campaign planned for the fourth quarter of 2020 goes ahead and that the insecticides for the campaign are ordered on time, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO. Without this IRS, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, it is estimated by WHO that there will be an increase in malaria cases. Under the worst-case scenario, in which there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 23.3% increase in malaria cases, and a 162.4% increase in malaria deaths in Namibia. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

Global Fund Update

The Global Fund has announced that Namibia will receive US\$37.4 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 Namibia'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 Namibia this is calculated at US\$3.1 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Namibia is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation at a level that is sufficient to accelerate progress towards elimination.

Progress

Namibia secured sufficient funding for the required number of ACTs, RDTs and IRS for 2020. The country has recently reported the insecticide resistance data to WHO. The country has also achieved high IRS coverage. Namibia enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard. The country has also shared the results of the insecticide resistance monitoring with WHO.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 36,451 with 82 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda.

- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- The increase in malaria incidence and mortality rates projected by WHO.
- Gaps in funding for LLINs.
- 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

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Vector Control	Ensure the IRS programme is fully implemented before the beginning of the malaria season	Q4 2019		Namibia commenced spraying on time but due to the late delivery of the insecticide there was a break in spraying. The insecticide was finally delivered in mid-December and spraying operations resumed. IRS was completed in one region, with the remaining 8 achieving below 50% coverage. A few regions attempted to extend spraying but spraying was suspended in January due to heavy rains and lack of funds for operations. Reactive spraying has been carried out in response to increases in malaria cases
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and deaths between 2015 and 2018	Q4 2020		A number of factors contributed to the increase in cases and deaths including: widespread vector resistance to pyrethroids; late treatment seeking behaviour; insufficient funding as a result of a weak economy; and late procurement of insecticides. Namibia has however, switched to next generation products for IRS, plans to mobilize financial and human resources and the NMCP has already submitted documents for the procurement of insecticides for the next malaria season
Address funding	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	Q2 2020		The country submitted its GF application in Q1

Namibia has responded positively to the recommended action on addressing the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea.

New Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Impact	Ensure that malaria services including case management and vector control are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2020
Vector Control	Address the declining vector control coverage	Q4 2020
Impact	Work to address the reported increases in cases observed in Q1 2020	Q2 2020

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Namibia has good coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention skilled birth attendants and ART coverage in the total population. 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 Namibia is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. The country has not reported on their NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage in 2018 to WHO. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD scorecard.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Submit the Preventive Chemotherapy coverage data for both soil transmitted helminths and for schistosomiasis to WHO	NTDs		Namibia did not organize MDA for Soil Transmitted Helminths and Schistosomiasis in 2018 due to lack of resources but conducted MDA for both in 2019. MDA data have been submitted to WHO for 2019

Namibia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of vitamin A, which has recently increased.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
RMNCAH ¹ : Impact	Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2020

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO