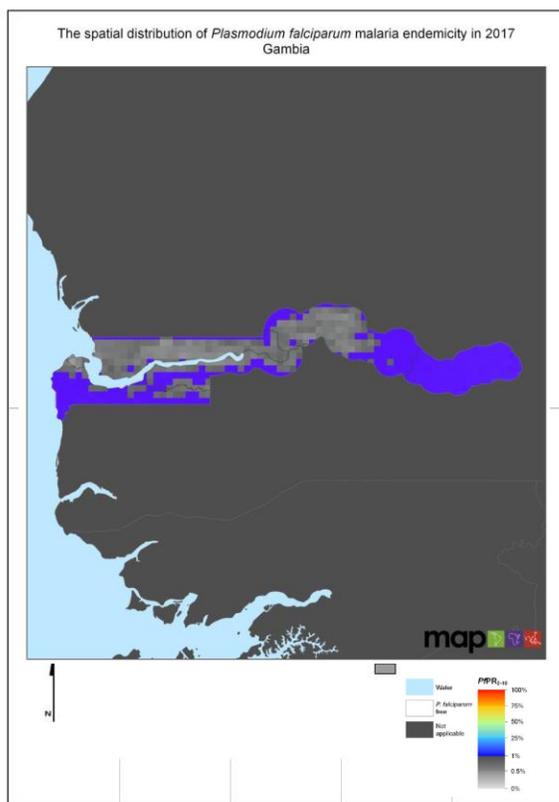


### Scorecard for Accountability and Action



The entire population of The Gambia is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense for most of the year. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 88,654 with 60 deaths.

#### Metrics

| Commodities Financed and Financial Control  |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
| LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)  | 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)                      | 3.0 |  |
| Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact  |     |  |
| Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010        | 3   |  |
| Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO                                      |     |  |
| National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan  |     |  |
| RDTs in stock (>9 months stock)   |     |  |
| ACTs in stock (>9 months stock)   |     |  |
| LLIN/IRS campaign on track  |     |  |
| Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign  |     |  |
| Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)  |     |  |
| Operational LLIN/IRS coverage (% of at risk population)   | 100 |  |
| 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 (2019)          | 29  |  |
| Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019) | 28  |  |
| % deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant  | 57  |  |
| Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)  | 76  |  |
| Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)   | 47  |  |
| Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)   | 30  |  |
| DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)  | 88  |  |

#### 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. 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 and 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 The Gambia, it will be of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign planned for 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 campaign, coupled with the need to also continue to deliver seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC), and to 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 there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 31.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 148.2 increase in malaria deaths in the Gambia. 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 The Gambia will receive US\$43.2 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 The Gambia'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 The Gambia this is calculated at US\$22 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. The Gambia 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**

The Gambia has secured resources to finance the malaria commodities required for 2020. The country has procured sufficient LLINs and carried out IRS to sustain 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. The Gambia has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard. The country has recently submitted the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO. The Gambia has decreased the estimated malaria incidence by more than 40% since 2015.

## Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 88,654 with 60 deaths.

## Key Challenges

- The country has funding gaps preventing the further scale up of IRS.
- 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  |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|----------|--|
| Address funding | 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 | Q3 2020                        |          | Deliverable not yet due but the country is finalising the Malaria National Strategic Plan  |
| 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                        |          | The country has sufficient stocks of ACTs, but will require an accelerated delivery of RDTs to avoid stock out, and has borrowed commodities from Senegal to address immediate gaps. The SMC campaign is already rolling out, and the IRS campaign planning is going ahead |

## RMNCAH and NTDs

### Progress

The country has achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH interventions postnatal care and DPT3 vaccination. The Gambia has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in The Gambia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths, and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Gambia is high for trachoma (100%) and not reported for schistosomiasis (0%) and for soil transmitted helminths (0%).

## Previous Key Recommended Actions

| Objective                    | Action Item  | Suggested completion timeframe | Progress | Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------|---|
| RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : Impact | Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. Address any stock-outs of essential RMNCAH commodities | Q4 2020                        |          | Deliverable not yet due   |

<sup>1</sup> RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

The Gambia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing the low coverage of ARTs and vitamin A, with increases in coverage recently achieved in both interventions, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**Key**

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