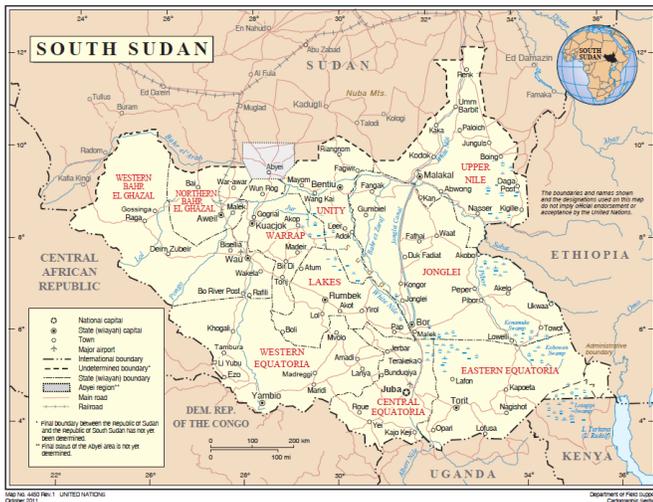


# South Sudan ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2020



## Scorecard for Accountability and Action



### Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)	75	
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)	1.4	
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		
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)		
LLINIRS campaign on track		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)		
Operational LLINIRS 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)	7	
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	18	
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	12	
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	19	
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	45	
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	76	
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	49	

### Key

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

Malaria transmission in South Sudan is generally perennial, with moderate to high intensity. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 4,697,506 and 1,191 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 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 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 (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy). 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 South Sudan, we commend the Ministry of Health, in the decision to go ahead with the universal coverage campaign for LLINs and IRS, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. This decision, allied with sustained malaria case management through the health system will prevent a significant increase in malaria cases and deaths. Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns are suspended and with a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 25.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 30.6% increase in malaria deaths in South Sudan. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

### **Progress**

The country secured most of the resources to achieve universal coverage of RDTs and ACTs in 2020. The country has also distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. South Sudan has recently completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan.

### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 4,697,506 and 1,191 deaths.

### **Key Challenge**

- 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
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		South Sudan has faced a number of challenges in ensuring that malaria services continue while implementing guidelines to protect against COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased malaria intervention costs, stigma around COVID-19 reducing health seeking, health facilities have been reluctant to receive patients with fever for fear of getting the disease. A number of activities (training, supervisory visits) have been postponed and the implementation of activities in general has significantly slowed down; additionally, the MOH and implementing partners have shifted their focus to COVID-19 and have given very little attention to other diseases including malaria. Despite this, the country has managed to distribute LLINs as part of the universal coverage campaign
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. Work to fill the other outstanding gaps	Q2 2020		The country submitted the GF malaria application in Q2

South Sudan has responded positively to the recommended action on insecticide resistance monitoring.

## RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in South Sudan 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 Sudan is low for trachoma (14%). Preventive chemotherapy coverage data for schistosomiasis, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis and soil transmitted helminths were submitted to WHO but are currently being validated.

## 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		National guidelines to ensure continuity of RMNCAH services at health facilities and community level have been developed and disseminated. Covid-19 interventions including triage and enhancing SBC are being strengthened in all health facilities as well as mobilizing provision of PPE and thermometers. The country is also training health workers on SBC and triage and are being orientated on the national guidelines for COVID response. South Sudan is integrating COVID-19 messaging and surveillance as part of the community health strategy. Risk communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities are being carried in communities. Outreach services have continued with strict guidelines of social distancing during these activities. Some campaigns have been suspended. The airspace has remained open to humanitarians bringing in lifesaving commodities

South Sudan has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing low coverage of skilled birth attendants and DPT3, and the lack of data for postnatal care. The country continues to track progress as these actions are implemented. The country has recently increased coverage of DPT3.

### Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

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