The entire population of Togo is at high risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 1,381,410 and 905 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, Adolescent and Child 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 Togo, 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 sustain essential health services including malaria case management and deliver seasonal malaria chemoprevention, there could 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 38% increase in malaria cases, and a 327% increase in malaria deaths in Togo. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

Progress
Togo has secured sufficient resources to fund the LLINs, RDTs and ACTs required in 2019. The country has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. Togo has finalised the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has reported the results of insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Togo 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 1,381,410 and 905 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.
<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>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>
<td>Green</td>
<td>The country submitted the GF malaria application in Q2</td>
</tr>
<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>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Togo have continued case management and malaria prevention activities. The country has worked to address shortages of ACTs. Overall, visits to health centers have decreased. Preparations for the SMC and LLIN campaigns continues with modified LLIN and SMC campaigns planned in Q3 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Togo has responded positively to the recommended action on monitoring national insecticide resistance and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

**RMNCAH and NTDs**

**Progress**

Togo achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention exclusive breastfeeding and DPT3 vaccination, and has recently increased vitamin A coverage.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Togo is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, trachoma, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Togo is very good for lymphatic filariasis (100%), schistosomiasis (100%), trachoma (100%), onchocerciasis (84%) and soil transmitted helminths (84%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Togo in 2018 is 93, which represents a substantial increase compared with 2017 (84).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Clarify the trachoma situation and initiate treatments or constitute an elimination dossier</td>
<td>Q4 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>The MoH, with the support of NTD TWG, improved the trachoma elimination dossier and WHO experts reviewed and approved the submission of that dossier. The final trachoma elimination dossier has been submitted to WHO for its submission to external evaluators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMNCAH(^1): Impact</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Togo has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of ARTs in children, with a 6% increase in coverage recently observed, and skilled birth attendants 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