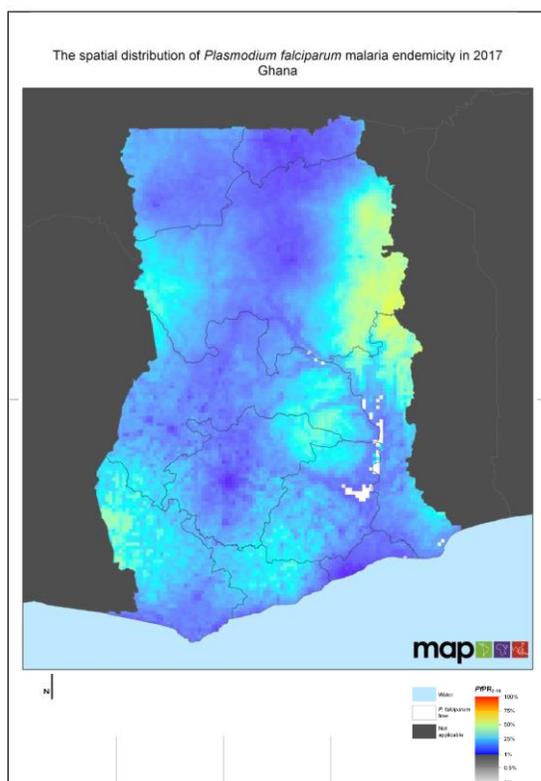


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



The entire population of Ghana is at risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,703,687 with 336 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 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)	3.6	
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010	4	
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		
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, %)(2019)	73	
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	45	
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	26	
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	78	
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)	84	
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	52	
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	45	
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	97	

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, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Ghana, it was of vital importance to ensure that the planning for the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2021 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 continue to deliver seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC), and to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there would be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. Ghana is congratulated for completing the first three rounds of SMC. 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 19.5% increase in malaria cases, and a 129.4% increase in malaria deaths in Ghana. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2021 as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our continent. This may include the implementation of any necessary catch-up activities and ensuring timely planning to account for potential delays in procurement and delivery. Any intervention must ensure the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

Progress

Ghana has secured sufficient resources for the essential anti-malarial commodities required to sustain coverage in 2020 and has distributed sufficient numbers of LLINs and carried out IRS sufficient to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Ghana has scaled up coverage of iCCM. Ghana has further increased its already high rating in terms of public sector management systems (CPIA cluster D). The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Ghana has also launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign. Ghana has decreased the estimated malaria incidence and mortality rates by more than 40% since 2015.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,703,687 with 336 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control effectiveness.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Previous Key Recommended Action

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		The country has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs. The IRS campaigns have taken place as scheduled and the SMC campaign rolled out in Q3 2020, with four rounds completed by the end of 2020

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

The country has achieved high coverage of tracer RMNCAH interventions, in particular exclusive breastfeeding, DPT3 and postnatal care. Ghana has also recently increased coverage of skilled birth attendants and vitamin A. The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard, including with the introduction of community level scorecards.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Ghana is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Ghana has achieved high for trachoma (100%), schistosomiasis (91%), onchocerciasis (86%) and lymphatic filariasis (73%); and, lower coverage for soil-transmitted helminths (47%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Ghana in 2019 is 73, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2018 index value (42).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH ¹ : 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		COVID fears have increased among clients and frontline health staff leading to non-patronization of RMNCAH services, including ANC, PNC, and EPI. Most staff providing RMNCAH services have been re-assigned to support COVID-19 responses team especially at the primary care level. To mitigate for COVID-19 and to ensure the continuity of services, Ghana adopted COVID-19 protocols and guidelines for providing RMNCAH-N services. The guidelines establish special arrangements for COVID-19 prevention and service delivery in the context of COVID-19 and key messages for service providers and clients. The guidelines aim to enhance client trust in the capacity of the health system and ensure appropriate care-seeking behaviour

Ghana has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of ARTs in the general population and in children, with recent increases

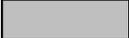
¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

reported, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	Ensure that NTD interventions including Mass Drug Administration, vector control and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes prioritising key necessary catch up activities	Q4 2021

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due