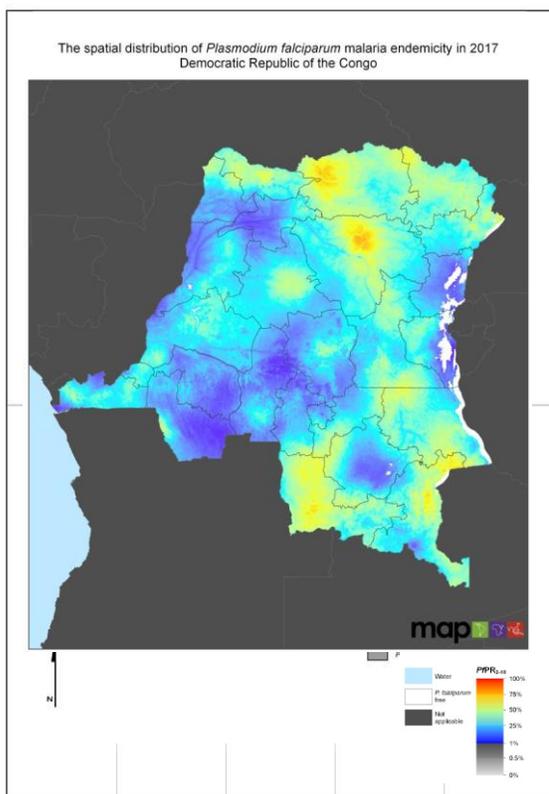


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



The entire population of the Democratic Republic of Congo is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense year round with seasonal variations. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 21,934,127 with 13,072 deaths.

Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control	
LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)	2.5
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)	74
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	53
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	28
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	80
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)	44
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	47
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	78
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	57

Key

<span style="background-color: #90EE90; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>	Target achieved or on track
<span style="background-color: #FFFF00; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>	Progress but more effort required
<span style="background-color: #FF0000; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>	Not on track
<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>	No data
<span style="background-color: #FFFFFF; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>	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, Adolescent and Child health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For the Democratic Republic of Congo, it was of vital importance to ensure that the rolling long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) campaigns scheduled for 2020 were completed. The country is congratulated for successfully rolling out the 2020 campaigns. Under the worst-case scenario, in which the LLIN campaigns are not completed and there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 14.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 98.2% increase in malaria deaths in The Democratic Republic of Congo. 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**

The Democratic Republic of Congo procured sufficient ACTs, RDTs and LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population in 2021. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. The Democratic Republic of Congo has secured the resources required to sustain coverage of LLINs, ACTs and RDTs in 2021. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, the country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control Scorecard. This scorecard is up to date but has not yet been posted on the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub. The Democratic Republic of Congo is planned to announce the creation of the End Malaria Council and Fund in Q2 2021.

### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 21,934,127 with 13,072 deaths.

### **Key Challenges**

- Resource gaps to fully implement the national strategic plan.
- 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 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		At the beginning of the pandemic, there was a low level of health service utilisation. The NMCP noted that patients with severe malaria, especially in large urban centres, were delaying consulting health facilities. The country experienced stock outs of anti-malaria commodities from July 2020, but since February 2021, there have been adequate stocks. There were some delays in the LLINs distribution due to COVID-19 related delivery delays. The LLIN campaign implementation manual has been revised and adapted with COVID-19 preventive measures in August 2020, however, the procurement of PPE experienced severe delivery delays. The delayed campaigns will be implemented in 2021. The pandemic has also impacted malaria financing, with an increase in the number of training meeting rooms to comply with COVID-19 barrier measures
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence between 2015 and 2019, which means that the country is not on track to achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2021		The country reports that the increase in malaria cases between 2015 and 2019 was partly due to the introduction of free treatment with ACTs, increasing the uptake of health services. The country also found it difficult to ensure that LLINs were replaced on a 3-year cycle. Additionally, the country highlights the problem of insecticide resistance potentially reducing the impact of LLINs, and insecurity in some areas. Sufficient resources have been secured to ensure that all the LLIN campaigns take place on time in 2021. DRC is working to increase coverage of essential malaria interventions and is carrying out sub-national stratification in order to better target interventions for maximum impact. The country is also working on a resource mobilisation strategy, including with the creation of an End Malaria Council and fund to keep malaria high on the development and resource mobilisation agenda

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing CPIA cluster D and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

## RMNCAH and NDTs

### Progress

The Democratic Republic of Congo has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH intervention of skilled birth attendants. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Democratic Republic of the Congo 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 Democratic Republic of the Congo is very good for Soil Transmitted Helminths (86%), onchocerciasis (81%) and lymphatic filariasis (80%), with 68% coverage of schistosomiasis and 67% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2019 is 74, which represents substantial increase compared with the 2018 index value (53).

### 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		A survey was conducted to understand the supply and demand for RMNCAH services, targeting Kinshasa which was most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Data were collected in 103 facilities in Kinshasa. A trend of increasing use of delivery service during the COVID -19 period was observed and the use of childbirth services by teens and young people increased by 29%. ANC-1 decreased including in adolescents and young people, however an increase in coverage of ANC4 was observed. A decrease in PNC was observed. The Ministry of Health produced RMCAH/nutrition guidelines in the context of Covid-19, with the Specialized Programs directly involved. The country organised a briefing by video conference for health staff, and the materials have been disseminated
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	Q4 2021		In 2020, by respecting COVID-19 preventive measures, DRC organized MDA for Lymphatic Filariasis, onchocerciasis and for Trachoma. The country also conducted Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention in the Ituri region. The NTD key interventions continue in 2021 whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines

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

	during the pandemic. This includes prioritising key necessary catch up activities			
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The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing accelerating coverage of ARTs in children and vitamin A (with a recent increase in coverage reported) and continues to track progress as these action are implemented.

**Key**

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due