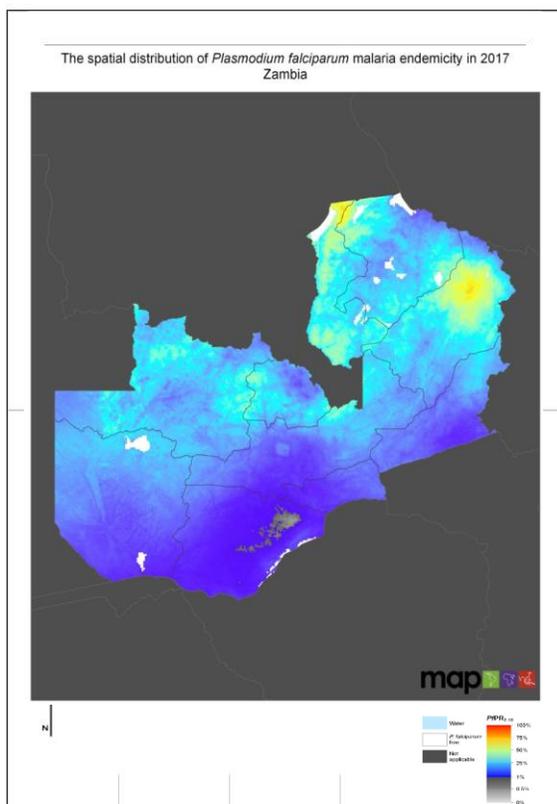


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Malaria is endemic in all parts of Zambia and transmission is seasonal. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,417,487 with 1,339 deaths.

Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control	
LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)	93
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)	3.0
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)	
LLINIRS campaign on track	
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign	
Scale of Implementation of iCCM	
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, %)(2019)	2
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	85
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	76
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	80
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)	70
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	70
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	99
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, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Zambia, it was of vital importance to ensure that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) went ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Without the LLIN campaign, planned indoor residual spraying (IRS) and sustained malaria case management, there could be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. The country is commended for prioritizing malaria with the IRS and LLIN campaigns going ahead. 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 have been a 42% increase in malaria cases, and a 124% increase in malaria deaths in Zambia. 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

Zambia has secured most of the required financing to fund the ACTs, LLINs and IRS required for 2021, including with significant domestic resource commitments. The country has also distributed sufficient LLINs and carried out sufficient IRS to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. Zambia carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and reported the results to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Zambia has scaled up the implementation of iCCM and achieved 100% operational coverage of LLINs. Zambia has launched the Malaria Ends with Me campaign.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Zambia has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard and the sharing of the country scorecards through the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country has also launched the multisectoral high level End Malaria Council and Malaria Fund.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,417,487 with 1,339 deaths.

Key Challenges

- The country has documented mosquito resistance to four insecticide classes.
- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- The country has significant resource gaps.

- 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		The malaria programme implemented the interventions with adherence to the COVID-19 guidelines. As a result, additional financing had to be mobilized to procure appropriate PPE for Spray operators, Community volunteers and CHWs. The Malaria programme completed the Mass net distribution countrywide covering 10 million population (60%) with 93.7% of the registered population being covered. To improve net distribution recording, a reporting tool was developed linked to the DHIS2. The IRS campaign was also completed in Q1 2021 and covered 52% of the population. The Vector control unit has begun preparations for the next IRS campaign and a needs assessment has been conducted. Responsive IRS is being undertaken in selected districts which identified an increase in malaria cases. With support from Rotary Club, an additional USD7m to train and equip nearly 2,000 more CHWs was sourced for Copperbelt, Muchinga and Central Provinces. MDA in targeted districts was completed. There is adequate SP for IPTp in 2021. Generally the country recorded some increases in malaria cases and deaths amidst the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 However, there are indications that there may be reduction in cases and deaths recorded in Q1 2021. Harmonization of workplan with all partners and the stakeholders at national and subnational levels have been completed. For next steps, the programme will distribute LLINs at EPI/ANC and ensure that the commodities especially the medicines in the pipeline are received according to schedule to avoid stockouts

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Zambia has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH interventions of exclusive breastfeeding, vitamin A and DPT3. The country has also increased coverage of ARTs in children. Zambia has enhanced accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Zambia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Zambia is below WHO targets for trachoma (35%) and for soil transmitted helminths (17%); very low for lymphatic filariasis (0%) and for schistosomiasis (0%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Zambia in 2019 is 2, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2018 index value (36).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Work to increase the preventive chemotherapy for soil transmitted helminths, trachoma and for schistosomiasis along with lymphatic filariasis to reach WHO targets	Q4 2020		Zambia conducted MDA targeting STH and SCH in September-October 2020 in four provinces while one more province completing in December 2020. MDA for LF took place in December 2020. Trachoma MDA will be organized in the first quarter of 2021
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		In addition to the Essential Services guidelines in the context of Covid-19 developed earlier, Ministry of Health has developed specific RMNCAH services guidelines including OGS/Gynae Services in the context Covid 19 with support from Zambia Association of Gynecologists (ZAGO). The national level launched in Q1 2021 while provincial level launches are currently going on. Following RMNCAH scorecard orientation, the Adolescent Health Unit shared the scorecard at the Annual consultative meeting in Q1 2021. The team finalizing the development of the Family Planning indicators for the scorecard Review of RMNCAH services have shown a drop in Postnatal care and an increase in maternal mortality. For next steps, the team is requesting special permission to conduct heightened supervision and mentorship and finalize the FP indicators. Further to conduct decentralization of the scorecard to the provinces
NTDs	Prioritise the funding to implement preventive chemotherapy for lymphatic filariasis and schistosomiasis and work to increase preventive chemotherapy for soil transmitted helminths, trachoma and reach WHO targets	Q4 2021		The country managed to mobilize funds to implement MDA for schistosomiasis, Trachoma, Soil helminthiasis and Lymphatic Filariasis. MDA for schistosomiasis in the 49 implementation units was supported by WHO while LF and trachoma are being supported by ASCEND. The upcoming Schistosomiasis MDA will be supported by ASCEND. In 2020, the country managed to organize and increase the MDA coverage for soil transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis, trachoma and lymphatic filariasis to reach WHO targets

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due