

### Scorecard for Accountability and Action



#### Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)		
Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		
Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2020 (CPIA Cluster D)		2.4
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		1
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)		
ACTs in stock (>6 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)		68
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		62
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		82
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		49
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		11
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		11
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		87

Most of the population of Comoros is at risk of malaria. Transmission is perennial on the Island of Grand Comore and unstable throughout the zones of Anjouan and Mohéli. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 17,697.

#### 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 Comoros, it was of vital importance to ensure that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2020 went ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. The country is congratulated for successfully completing the LLIN universal coverage campaign in Q3 2020. Without this, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there would have been an increase in malaria cases and deaths.

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**

WHO has identified Comoros as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria. Comoros has adequate stocks of RDTs, and whilst there are less than three months of stocks of ACTs, additional ACTs are under procurement. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. WHO has identified Comoros as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2025.

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 Elimination Scorecard, however this scorecard is not yet publicly shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 17,697.

### **Key Challenges**

- Insufficient human resources and a limited number of partners to implement malaria control activities.
- Gaps in funding to allow larger scale IRS.
- 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		Comoros reports that there were reports of less malaria testing as a result of fewer people going to health facilities during the COVID-19 lock-down, as well as reports of increased ACT use however community health workers are stationed at community level and provided malaria diagnosis. Active case detection was put on hold. Funds have been made available to ensure that malaria interventions can continue safely

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing CPIA cluster D and development of a national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

## RMNCAH and NTDs

### Progress

The country has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH intervention skilled birth attendants and DPT3 coverage.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Comoros is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Comoros is good for both soil transmitted helminths (73%) and lymphatic filariasis (64%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Comoros in 2019 is 68, which represents a substantial increase compared with the 2018 index value (0).

## Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : Optimise quality of care	a) Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q1 2021		No progress reported
	b) 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		Overall, COVID-19 has led to a reduction in patients seeking care at health facilities. The Government has set up a national commission to coordinate and manage the pandemic. In this high-level commission, there are committees responsible for each Island. A COVID-19 response plan is established to serve as a common thread of interventions for COVID-19 prevention and management in the Comoros Union.
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		By respecting COVID-19 preventive measures, Comoros resumed NTD key interventions and organized MDA targeting Lymphatic Filariasis and Soil Transmitted Helminths in November and December 2020. The country also conducted the post MDA coverage survey and other key NTD activities are being conducted including community mobilization, hydrocele and elephantiasis case detection and case management.

Comoros has also responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing exclusive breastfeeding, as well as lack of data on ART coverage in children, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

### Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

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