The entire population of Togo is at high risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 2,406,091 and 1,275 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, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Togo, 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 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 (SMC), there could be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. The country is congratulated for completing this campaign and carrying out the necessary SMC. Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns were suspended and with a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could have been 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.

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
Togo has secured sufficient resources to fund the LLINs, RDTs and ACTs required in 2021. 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.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Togo has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 2,406,091 and 1,275 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, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.
### Previous Key Recommended Actions

<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>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></td>
<td>Malaria control activities continue in Togo while respecting COVID-19 preventive measures. Malaria case management at health facilities and at community level is ongoing. Thanks to awareness-raising and counselling, attendance at health facilities has improved. All commodities are available and there are no stock outs. The Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention campaign is on track and ongoing, with three rounds already completed, with the support of partners including the Global Fund, UNICEF and Malaria Consortium</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 high for lymphatic filariasis (100%), trachoma (100%), soil transmitted helminths (99%), onchocerciasis (83%) and low for schistosomiasis (34%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Togo in 2019 is 77, which represents a decrease compared with the 2018 index value (93).

### Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMNCAH¹: 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></td>
<td>No progress reported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO
### Objective

**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

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Q4 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>During the first semester of 2021, the country conducted the NTD activities as planned including: Nightly sensitizations with film screenings on cutaneous NTDs and other skin diseases in the communities followed by the medical consultation the next day; Raise awareness among students and teachers of four schools and communities on handwashing system; The second round of MDA which was supposed to be carried out in 2020 was conducted in February 2021; The Country joined the World in the celebration of International NTD Day; Organize mobile consultations focused on cutaneous NTDs and other skin diseases in schools; Carry out a satisfaction survey as part of the impact assessment of the project “Support for the integrated fight against Buruli ulcer, leprosy and yaws”; Training of health care providers at Mango and Tchamba sentinel sites on post-elimination surveillance of Human African Trypanosomiasis; Sensitizations in villages with high onchocerciasis prevalence. The activities continue as planned by respecting COVID-19 preventive measures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key**

- **Action achieved**
- **Some progress**
- **No progress**
- **Deliverable not yet due**

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.