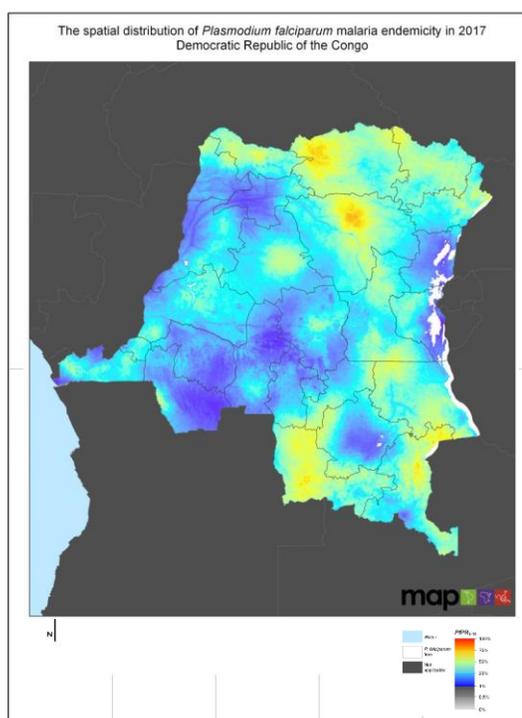


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



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 2020 was 24,959,997 with 18,636 deaths.

Metrics

Commodities Financed	
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	100
Policy	
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC	
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan	
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan	
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign	
Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact	
Drug Resistance Monitoring Conducted (2018-2020) and data reported to WHO	
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 (>6 months stock)	▲
ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)	▲
LLIN/IRS campaign on track	
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, NTDs and Covid 19	
Scale of Implementation of ICCM	
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)	1
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	31
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	60
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	57
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	1

Key

	Target achieved or on track
	Progress but more effort required
	Not on track
	No data
	Not applicable

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 and 2021 were completed. The country is congratulated for rolling out the majority of the 2021 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. WHO estimates that there were an additional 47,000 malaria deaths globally in 2020 due to service disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to an estimated 7.5% increase in deaths.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2022 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.

Given the difficulties in securing essential health commodities in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is of vital importance that countries sign, ratify and deposit the African Medicines Agency (AMA) instrument with the AUC in order to improve access to quality, safe and efficacious medical products in Africa. The country is encouraged to do this.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 1% of their population by April 2022. The country, working with partners, should invest in education and behaviour change communication to increase the uptake of COVID vaccines and therapeutics.

Malaria

Progress

The Democratic Republic of Congo procured sufficient ACTs, RDTs and LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population in 2022. 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 2022. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. The country has also successfully launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

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 Hub. The Democratic Republic of Congo plans to announce the creation of the End Malaria Council and Fund.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 24,959,997 with 18,636 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 2022		Malaria control activities were implemented as planned, although some of the ITN distribution campaigns have spilled over into 2022 due to delayed delivery of commodities. There are sufficient quantities of ACTs and RDTs in country
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and mortality between 2015 and 2020, which means that the country did not achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2022		The country reports that the increase in malaria cases between 2015 and 2020 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 2021-2022. DRC is working to increase coverage of essential malaria interventions and has carried 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

New Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and the data are reported to WHO	Q1 2023

RMNCAH and NDTs

Progress

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. In 2020, Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Democratic Republic of the Congo was very low for trachoma (14%), lymphatic filariasis (9%), Soil transmitted helminths (4%), onchocerciasis (0%) and schistosomiasis (0%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2020 is 1, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2019 index value (74).

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 2022		DRC recorded supply disruptions in Kinshasa, Haut-Katanga, North Kivu and other provinces with difficult access. The main cause was the closure of international and national borders and closure of local businesses, including pharmaceutical depots, for approximately four months. This impacted a number of programmes. The National Malaria Control Programme experienced delays in the supply of mosquito nets leading to the distribution campaign planned for 2020 has been postponed to April 2022. The Expanded Programme of Vaccination was impacted by delayed vaccine delivery, but this is now back to normal. The National HIV/AIDS Control Programme did not experience any shortage of drugs and inputs for PMTCT. National level stocks were at the right level and strategies were developed to avoid drug shortages, including providing patients with 3 to 6 months supply
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.	Q4 2022		The country is conducting key NTD prevention and control interventions by respecting COVID-19 preventive measures. In May 2021, ASCEND which was the key NTD partner in DRC closed but all the targeted MDAs for 2021 were completed and no medicine expired. In 2022, the country received a support from GIVE WELL to distribute the praziquantel with risk of expiry. The MDA is under preparation and will be conducted in May and June

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

	This includes prioritising key necessary catch up activities			2022. All Praziquantel will be used before the expiry date.
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children fell in 2021 due to the shortage of commodities, also linked to the supply issues facing all countries during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response partners including UNICEF have procured sufficient supplies of vitamin A and all the provinces are stocked

The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing accelerating coverage of ARTs in children and vitamin A and continues to track progress as these action are implemented.

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due