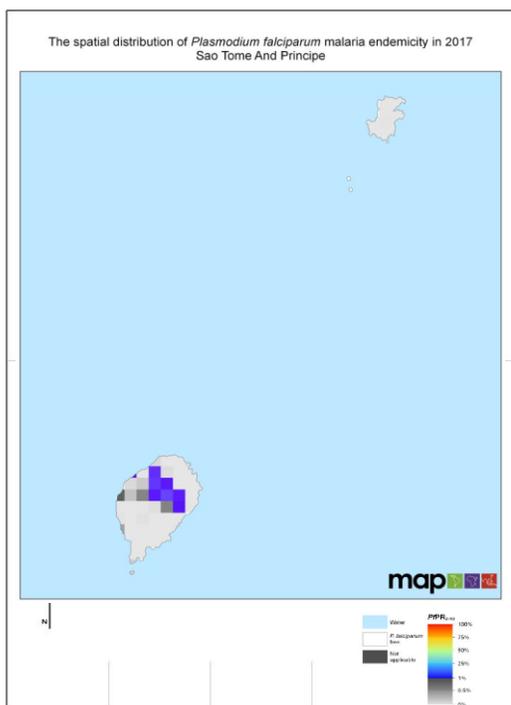


Scorecard for Accountability and Action



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	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)	
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)	8
Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	33
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	▲ 44

In São Tomé and Príncipe, the annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,944 with zero deaths.

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, Child and Adolescent health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For São Tomé and Príncipe, it was of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign went ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO. The country is commended on rolling out the IRS campaign as planned. Without this IRS, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths.

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 but have covered 44% 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

São Tomé and Príncipe secured sufficient resources to finance the ACTs, and LLINs/IRS required for 2022. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has recently completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. The country has decreased the estimated malaria mortality rate by more than 40% since 2010.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, São Tomé and Príncipe has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard, although the scorecard has not yet been posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,944 with zero deaths.

Key Challenges

- Malaria upsurges observed.
- 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		During 2022 Q1, STP reports having be able to implement malaria activities whilst respecting the COVID-19 pandemic guideline. The country has sufficient stocks of both ACTs and RDTs. The 2021 IRS campaign was completed as planned but decreased coverage was noted when compared to 2020 probably due to the resistance of some residents to accept entry of IRS operators into their homes. The ITN mass campaign planning and implementation is ongoing with all the nets distributed being PBO nets

The country has responded positively to the recommended action addressing iCCM scale-up.

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 data reported to WHO	Q1 2023

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

São Tomé and Príncipe has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH interventions DPT3 vaccination coverage, skilled birth attendants and exclusive breastfeeding and postnatal care.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Sao Tomé and Principe is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 72% for lymphatic filariasis, 60% for soil-transmitted helminths and 0% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Sao Tomé and Principe in 2020 is 8, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2019 index value (66).

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 2020		The country reports there have been interruptions to routine immunization and there are verified stockouts of BCG and yellow fever vaccines. The surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases has also had disruptions, as surveillance focal points are dedicating much of their time to COVID-19. The country has adopted a framework to guide the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic
NTDs	Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions including MDAs, vector control and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes prioritizing key necessary catch up activities	Q4 2022		Deliverable not yet due

São Tomé and Príncipe has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing the lack of data for ART coverage s in children and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO