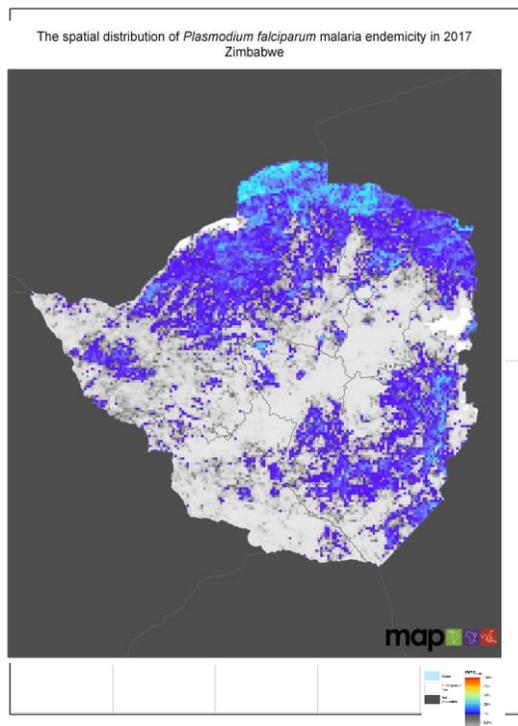


# Zimbabwe ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022

## Scorecard for Accountability and Action



### Metrics

Commodities Financed		
IRS financing 2022 (% of at-risk population)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	100
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	100
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	100

Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	

Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Drug Resistance Monitoring Conducted (2018-2020) and data reported to WHO	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010	<div style="width: 25%;"></div>	4
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
LLIN/IRS campaign on track	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
IRS Operational Coverage (%)	<div style="width: 89%;"></div>	89
On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	

Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health, NTDs and Covid 19		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)	<div style="width: 25%;"></div>	2
Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	<div style="width: 72%;"></div>	72
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	<div style="width: 29%;"></div>	29
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	<div style="width: 86%;"></div>	86
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	<div style="width: 24%;"></div>	24

Malaria transmission is seasonal in Zimbabwe with about 60% of the population at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 447,381 and 400 deaths.

### Key

<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	Target achieved or on track
<div style="width: 75%;"></div>	Progress but more effort required
<div style="width: 50%;"></div>	Not on track
<div style="width: 25%;"></div>	No data
<div style="width: 0%;"></div>	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 of COVID-19. 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 Zimbabwe, it was of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign planned for the fourth quarter of 2021 went ahead and that the insecticides for the campaign are ordered on time, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO. The country is congratulated for ensuring that the IRS campaign rolled out as planned. Without this IRS, coupled with the ongoing long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) distributions and the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there could have been an increase in malaria cases and deaths. 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 be a 23.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 111.4% increase in malaria deaths in Zimbabwe. 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 congratulated for doing this.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines, but were able to cover 24% 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**

Zimbabwe secured the resources required for ACTs, RDTs, LLINs and IRS in 2022 and has achieved high coverage of vector control. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO, and has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Zimbabwe has sufficient stocks of ACTs and RDTs.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Zimbabwe has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Scorecard, but this is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub. Zimbabwe is exploring whether to establish an End Malaria Council.

### Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 447,381 and 400 deaths.

### Key Challenges

- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- 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		Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the country continues to report no stock outs of ACTs and RDTs. The country used insecticide quantities left from last spraying season for the 2021/2022 IRS campaign. Insecticide from the GF consignment was received late at the beginning of this year with the IRS campaign completed this quarter, with high reported coverage
Vector Control	Ensure the IRS commodities are procured in time for the 2021 IRS campaigns	Q3 2022		The country used insecticide quantities left from last spraying season for the 2021/2022 IRS campaign. Insecticide from the GF consignment was received late at the beginning of this year but the campaign was completed before the end of Q1 2022

The country has responded to the recommended action to ensure that the recent cyclone does not impact negatively on the malaria situation and successfully mobilized emergency funds to cover the costs of additional malaria commodities and operations and has not experienced any major upsurge.

### New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and the data are reported to WHO	Q1 2023

## RMNCAH and NTDs

### Progress

Zimbabwe has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Zimbabwe is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2020,

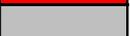
preventive chemotherapy coverage was 44% for trachoma, 16% schistosomiasis, and 0% for both soil-transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Zimbabwe in 2020 is 2 which represent an increase compared with the 2019 index value (0).

### Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : 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		The country is working to sustain delivery of essential RMNCAH interventions. This includes increasing the availability of PPE to health care workers. Information is being disseminated on the availability of RMNCAH and nutrition services to the public through electronic (including social media) and print media. Health workers have been trained on IPC in the context of COVID-19 and guidelines on providing essential RMNCAH&N services in the context of COVID 19 have been developed and are being implemented
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. Work to mobilize funds and stakeholders to quickly distribute 5.6 million of Praziquantel expiring in 2022 and other huge stock of Diethylcarbamazine (DEC) and Albendazole tablets currently available in the country. Engage with WHO/ESPEN and partners to address any potential funding gaps	Q4 2022		The country is conducting NTD prevention and control interventions whilst using COVID-19 prevention measures. In Q1 2022, in addition to NTD routine activities, the country has been preparing for MDA for Schistosomiasis (SCH) and Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH) starting on 3rd April 2022 in 40 districts, where 2,546,177 children aged between 5 to 15 years are targeted for SCH and 129,375 children aged from 12-59 months are targeted for STH in 6 districts. The country will be supported by Higherlife foundation, and the plan is to use all the praziquantel before the expiry date of 30 April 2022.
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		Deliverable not yet due

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

## Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due