Malaria transmission in Chad is intense in the south of the country. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,890,264 with 2,955 deaths.
Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted routine health services considerably, and the economic impacts continue to hamper health systems recovery. It is vitally important that we focus on recovering lost ground in delivering essential life-saving interventions during this difficult time, sustaining progress towards the SDG targets for Malaria, Neglected Tropical Diseases and Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent health.

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. Early procurement of essential health commodities is also highly recommended whilst long delivery times persist.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 12% of their population by July 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 ACTs, RDTs and LLINs needed for 2022 are fully financed. Chad has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve operational universal coverage of the targeted at-risk population. Chad has also successfully rolled out the LLIN campaign, distributing nets door to door to ensure social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. The country has improved stocks of ACTs and RDTs. Chad has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees.

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

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,890,264 with 2,955 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Weak health information system.
- 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 2022</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>The country is providing malaria health care services as planned through health facilities and at community level. ACTs and RDTs are available at country and health facilities levels. Pregnant women are continuing to benefit from intermittent Preventive treatment (IPT) with SP. The country faced delay in ITN delivery (planned for April and then July 2022) for the routine distribution and some health facilities faced a stock out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>Work to incorporate activities targeting IDPs in the Malaria Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chad has responded positively to the recommended actions for the reporting of insecticide resistance to WHO.

**RMNCAH and NTDs**

**Progress**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Chad 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 Chad was very good for lymphatic filariasis (78%) and for onchocerciasis (68%) but was low for schistosomiasis (15%) and for soil-transmitted helminths (26%) and very low for trachoma (0%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Chad in 2020 is 12 with a very substantial decrease compared with the index value of 2019 (65).
## Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RMNCAH</strong>: 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 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>In Chad, reductions in service utilization related to COVID-19 were observed at the beginning of the pandemic. Currently, service users are accessing RMNCAH services as normal. The country is fundraising for more resources to equip health facilities with resuscitation facilities, drugs and other essential health materials. The failure to reach optimum immunization coverage of the vulnerable in the country has put the health system under renewed strain. There have been 7,424 COVID-19 cases and 193 deaths reported in Chad as of May 2022. UNICEF and WHO continue supporting the mass COVID-19 vaccination campaign which has divided the country into two blocks. The first block targeted ten provinces and took place from 24 March to 2 April 2022, reaching 1.9 million with the first dose, whilst 162,091 are fully vaccinated, including 1,643 health care providers. The second block targeting 13 provinces will take place on 29 June to 8 July 2022. Partners are working with the government to strengthen country capacity on case management in oxygen installation in provincial hospitals in strategic sites and in ensuring that interventions comply with the guidelines established by the health authorities in the field against COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NTDs</strong></td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Progress Reported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Coverage of vitamin A</th>
<th>Q4 2022</th>
<th>Deliverable not yet due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chad has responded positively to the recommended actions for ART coverage in children and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.

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