Malaria transmission is more intense in the south of Mali. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 3,379,651 with 1,698 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, Newborn, 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. The country is encouraged to do 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 6% 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

Mali has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Mali has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. There are sufficient resources to procure the ACTs, RDTs and ITNs needed in 2022 and have good levels of stocks. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact Approach. The country has also launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Mali has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard, although this scorecard is not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 3,379,651 with 1,698 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 Action

<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</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>The country implemented malaria activities and interventions as planned. ACTs and RDTs are available at central and decentralized levels following recent procurements. Planning is also on-going for the 2022 SMC campaign and the first round is planned for end July 2022. The IRS campaign was implemented in 3 districts with an overall coverage of 97%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RMNCAH and NTDs

**Progress**

The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard and has published it on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Mali is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and trachoma. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for lymphatic filariasis and trachoma, 97% for schistosomiasis and 79% for onchocerciasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Mali in 2020 is 95, which represents a high increase compared with the 2019 index value of 17.
### Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</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 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>The country reports good availability of RMNCAH commodities (92% in 2021 with a target set to attain 100% availability for 2022) The number of cases of COVID-19 has fallen sharply in 2022. Vaccination is continuing in all centres across the country. RMNCAH service availability and uptake is forecasted to continue to increase in 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>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 prioritising key necessary catch up activities</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>The country is conducting NTD control and preventive measures by respecting COVID-19 measures. In Q2 2022, in addition to NTD routine activities, the country organized integrated MDA for Schistosomiasis and Onchocerciasis. Transmission Assessment 3 (TAS3) and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention for Lymphatic Filariasis are under preparation too. The country also recruited consultants to work with the MoH team on the elimination dossiers of Human African Trypanosomiasis, Trachoma, Guinea worm and Lymphatic Filariasis. The country adopted a new strategy of active participation of the communities in the MDAs by engaging them in the distribution of MDA drugs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td>Address the falling coverage of vitamin A</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of ARTs, with small increases in coverage reported.

**Key**

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

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1 RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO