Malaria is present throughout Burkina Faso, with transmission most intense in the southern part of the country. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 11,567,698 with 3,983 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 11% of their population by October 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

Burkina Faso has scaled up coverage of iCCM and has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. The country has financing for sufficient stocks of LLINs, ACTs and RDTs for 2022 and has good stocks of these commodities. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting refugees. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through participation in the High Burden High Impact approach and has also launched Zero Malaria Starts with Me!.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Burkina Faso has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Scorecard and this has been updated regularly and is shared on the ALMA scorecard hub. The country is in process of launching its End Malaria Council and Fund.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 11,567,698 with 3,983 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control effectiveness.
- 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>The country conducted the digitalized mass campaign ITN distribution using PBO and IG2 nets. The SMC campaign was also digitalised and was implemented as planned. The IRS was also digitalized in 2 districts. Diagnostic and treatment with first line drugs were implemented at health facility level. The country is in process of establishing a data repository. There are also ongoing discussions on the establishment of the EMC/EMF</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

### RMNCAH and NTDs

**Progress**

Burkina Faso has also made good progress in tracer RMNCAH interventions, including DPT3 and vitamin A. Burkina Faso has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Burkina Faso is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and trachoma. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage in Burkina Faso was high for trachoma (100%), schistosomiasis (100%), onchocerciasis (70%), and for lymphatic filariasis (78%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Burkina Faso in 2020 is 89 which is slightly higher than the index in 2019 (86).

## Previous Key Recommended Actions

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<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>The Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso has trained field workers on COVID-19, and has set up triage posts in all university, regional and district hospitals. PPE has been provided to health staff including masks, gloves, gowns, and hydroalcoholic gels. Technical guidelines for maintaining the provision of services and care for RMNCAH in the context of COVID-19 have been prepared and their implementation is being monitored. The COVID-19 vaccination campaign is ongoing</td>
<td></td>
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¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO
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<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>[Green]</td>
<td>The country is conducting NTD prevention and control interventions whilst continuing to respect COVID-19 safety measures. In Q3 2022 the country started MDA for Lymphatic Filariasis and Onchocerciasis and is working to conduct MDA for Schistosomiasis in targeted areas. The country is working to mobilize funds for Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Burkina Faso has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**Key**

- [Green] Action achieved
- [Yellow] Some progress
- [Red] No progress
- [Gray] Deliverable not yet due