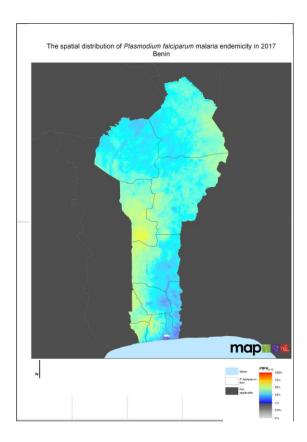
Benin ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2021



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control	
LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)	100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)	3.4

Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact

Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		4
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
RDTs in stock (>9 months stock)		
ACTs in stock (>9 months stock)		
LLIN/IRS campaign on track		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM		
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 and N	ITE)s
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2019)		20
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		65
Estimated % of children (0−14 years old) living with HV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		41
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		78
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		66
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		41
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		0
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		76

Key

Malaria is endemic throughout Benin. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 3,654,790 with 2,589 deaths.



Target achieved or on track Progress but more effort required Not on track No data Not applicable

Malaria

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 Benin, it was of vital importance that the universal coverage campaign for longlasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) went ahead as scheduled in 2020, and the country is congratulated for this achievement. Under the worst-case scenario, in which the LLIN campaign was suspended and with a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimated that this would result in a 33.4% increase in malaria cases, and a 98.3% increase in malaria deaths in Benin. This scenario would represent a reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2021 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.

Progress

Benin has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. The country successfully raised resources for most of the financing of the required number of ACTs, RDTs and LLINs in 2021 and has good stocks of essential malaria commodities. Benin has scaled up implementation of iCCM. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Benin has achieved a high rating in terms of public sector management systems (CPIA cluster D).

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Benin 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 Knowledge Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 3,654,790 with 2,589 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.

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 2020		The country completed the LLIN campaign during the COVID-19 pandemic through a door to door campaign. High coverage was achieved. Case management has been continued, with the country designing an algorithm for the treatment of malaria during the pandemic. The SMC campaigns were implemented, with four rounds completed by the end of Q4 2020. The country has ordered sufficient ACTs and RDTs for 2021
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence between 2015 and 2019, which means that the country is not on track to achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2021		The country reports that one of the reasons for the increase in cases is the increased demand for malaria services, increased population and higher rates of reporting. Benin has also observed increasing temperatures, changes in rainfall and flooding with 23 communes subject to flooding, and at risk of an upsurge in malaria. In response, the country completed the universal coverage campaign in 2020, and has also scaled up SMC and integrated community case management of malaria

Previous Key Recommended Actions

RMNCAH

Progress

Benin has made good progress on tracer RMNCAH interventions, in particular skilled birth attendants, vitamin A and postnatal care coverage, and has recently increased coverage of ARTs in both children and in the total population.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Benin is measured by using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage for trachoma in Benin is zero (0%), low 58% for schistosomiasis, 85% for lymphatic filariasis (85%), 75% for onchocerciasis and 79% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Benin in 2019 is 20 and shows a big decrease compared to 2018 index value (60).

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH ¹ : Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q1 2021		Progress not reported
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		Progress not reported
NTDs	Implement preventive chemotherapy for trachoma including by allocating additional resources for Mass Drug Administration (MDA) and enhanced social mobilisation. Ensure that NTD interventions including MDA, 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	Q4 2021		In 2020, whilst respecting COVID-19 preventive measures, the country managed to organize MDA for Lymphatic Filariasis, for onchocerciasis and to conduct some Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention interventions. Hydrocele and trichiasis surgeries are being conducted using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Key

Action achieved
Some progress
No progress
Deliverable not yet due

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO