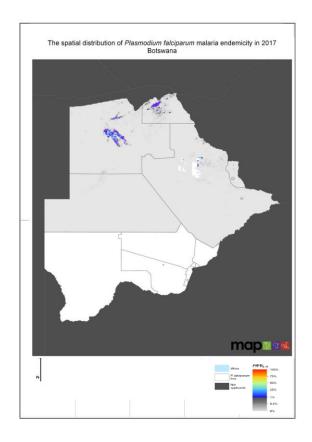
Botswana ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2020



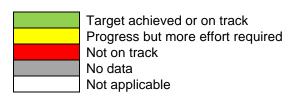
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
IRS financing 2020 (% of at-risk population)		100
Public sector RDT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)		
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a	nd l	mpact
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		1
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		
IRS Operational Coverage (%)		77
On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)		6
On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015)		
Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health and I	NTE)s
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2019)		
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		82
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		100
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		20
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		86
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		95
		17

The annual reported number of confirmed malaria cases in 2019 was 352 with 14 deaths.

Key



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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 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.

WHO underlines the critical importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat malaria during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services including distribution of insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying. For Botswana, it was of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2020 went ahead as planned, and the country is congratulated for rolling out IRS on schedule. Without the planned IRS, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there would have been an increase in malaria cases and deaths.

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

Botswana successfully mobilised sufficient financing for IRS, malaria diagnosis and treatment in 2020. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance management and monitoring plan. Botswana has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs and the IRS campaign is ongoing on schedule. WHO has identified Botswana as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria. Botswana has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 352 with 14 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Malaria outbreaks were reported during previous malaria seasons.
- Achieving and maintaining IRS coverage above 80%.
- Need to further 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 NTDs.

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 2020		The country has sufficient stocks of ACTs and RDTs for case management, and care givers are reportedly adhering to the COVID-19 guidelines. The programme has received its insecticide and relevant PPEs for use and spraying was completed timely. The malaria programme noted that attention and resources were diverted to the COVID-19 response

Botswana has responded positively to the recommended action addressing the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea. The country has also responded on the reporting of insecticide resistance data to WHO.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Botswana has achieved good coverage in tracer RMNCAH interventions, including deliveries by skilled birth attendants, DPT3, vitamin A and ART coverage in the total population. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Botswana is illustrated using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage data for both schistosomiasis and for soil transmitted helminths in Botswana in 2019 were not submitted to WHO.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
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		The country reports that RMNCAH services are being sustained, with Covid-19 sensitive guidelines as prescribed by WHO

The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of exclusive breastfeeding and ARTs in children, and the lack of data for postnatal care and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	As a priority, submit to WHO the data on Preventive Chemotherapy (PC) coverage of Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminths	Q1 2021

