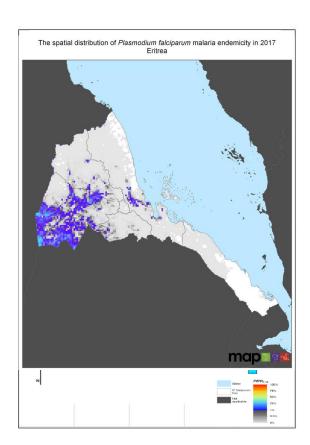
Eritrea ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2020



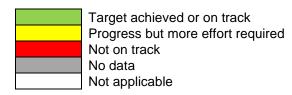
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)		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)		2.5
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a	nd	Impact
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		3
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 I	NTE	Os
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2019)	•	57
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		62
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		37
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		34
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		5
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		69
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		36
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11		95

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 96,500 with 3 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. 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 and malaria.

For Eritrea, it was of vital importance to ensure that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and the Indoor Residual Spraying Campaign scheduled for 2020 went ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Additionally, it is of vital importance that case management of malaria and other diseases is maintained through the health service during this difficult time. Without the LLIN campaign, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, WHO estimate that there could be a 6.9% increase in malaria cases, and a 19.8% increase in malaria deaths in Eritrea. This scenario would represent a complete 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

Eritrea secured sufficient financing to maintain universal coverage of key anti-malarial interventions in 2020. The country has scaled up implementation of iCCM. Eritrea has recently increased coverage of vector control with 100% operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. Eritrea has recently reported the results of the insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Eritrea has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 96,500 with 3 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 NTDs.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Vector control	Work to accelerate the LLIN campaign	Q1 2021		Almost 2 million LLINs were shipped to the country in Q3 2020 for distribution during Q4

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 delivery of LLINs for the mass campaign were delayed but the country was finally able to roll out the campaign in December. Sufficient stocks of ACTs, RDTs, LLINs, Insecticides, larvicides, entomological supplies, laboratory and microscopy reagents were secured until at least Q3 2021

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
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

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Eritrea has achieved good coverage of the tracer RMNCAH interventions of DPT3, and exclusive breastfeeding.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Eritrea is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Eritrea is high for schistosomiasis (93%), lymphatic filariasis (86%) and low for trachoma (23%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Eritrea in 2019 is 57, which represents substantial increase compared with the 2018 index value (8).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Implement preventive chemotherapy for Trachoma	Q4 2020		The county implemented PC for trachoma in 2019, although coverage was low at 23%
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		No progress reported

Eritrea has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of skilled birth attendants, ARTs in children under 14 years of age (with a

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

recent 5% increase in coverage), and postnatal care, as well as lack of data on vitamin A coverage. The country continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	Given the high coverage of Preventive Chemotherapy (PC) for schistosomiasis and lymphatic filariasis, work to increase the preventive chemotherapy coverage for trachoma. Ensure that NTD interventions including Mass Drug Administration, 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

