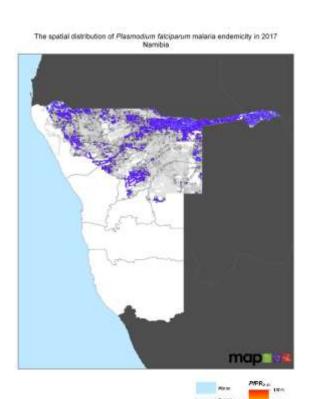
Namibia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2020



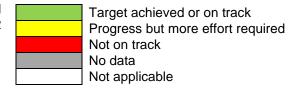
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
IRS financing 2020 (% of at-risk population)	Т	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 Im	pact
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		2
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)		
LLINIRS campaign on track		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)	Ц	
IRS Operational Coverage (%)		43
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	NTDs	Ē.
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)		
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		85
Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)		97
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		88
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		69
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		48
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	Ī	44
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		87
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Malaria transmission is confined to the north-east part of Namibia where malaria is endemic and about 72% of the population of the country is at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 36,451 with 82 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 and malaria.

WHO underlines the critical importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat malaria during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is of vital importance to ensure the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services including distribution of insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying. Any intervention must consider the importance of both lowering malaria-related mortality and ensuring the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

For Namibia, it was of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying campaign planned for the fourth quarter of 2020 went ahead and that the insecticides for the campaign were ordered on time, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO. Without this IRS, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, it was estimated by WHO that there would have been an increase in malaria cases. Under the worst-case scenario, in which there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 23.3% increase in malaria cases, and a 162.4% increase in malaria deaths in Namibia. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

Progress

Namibia secured sufficient funding for the required number of ACTs, RDTs and IRS for 2020. The country has recently reported the insecticide resistance data to WHO. Namibia enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard. The country has also shared the results of the insecticide resistance monitoring with WHO.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 36,451 with 82 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda.
- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- The increase in malaria incidence and mortality rates projected by WHO.
- Gaps in funding for LLINs.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Vector Control	Ensure the IRS programme is fully implemented before the beginning of the malaria season	Q4 2019		Insecticides have been procured and the IRS has commenced in September 2020, well ahead of the 2019 campaign
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		Following the emergency delivery of ACTs, there have been no reports of antimalarial stock outs. Insecticides have been delivered in time for the spray season, which has commenced
Vector Control	Address the declining vector control coverage	Q4 2020		The country with support from partners have worked hard to ensure that the planned IRS campaign has rolled out on time
Vector Control	Ensure the IRS commodities are procured in time for the 2020 IRS campaigns	Q3 2020		DDT stocks are available from previous spraying season and a portion of the Sumishield procurement has been airfreighted by the manufacturer for the timely ongoing IRS campaigns in September. The remaining quantities of Sumishield are expected during the second week of October. With the support of the manufacturer, planned IRS campaigns - unlike in 2019 will go ahead uninterrupted

Namibia has responded positively to the recommended action on addressing the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Namibia has good coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention skilled birth attendants and ART coverage in the total population. The country has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Namibia is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. The country has not reported on their NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage in 2018 to WHO. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD scorecard.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH¹: 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 the delivery of essential RMNCAH services continued to be provided at all the health facilities throughout the COVID-19 affected period. However, EPI services were affected as vaccine stock outs were experienced due to delayed commodity delivery

Namibia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of vitamin A, which has recently increased.



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO