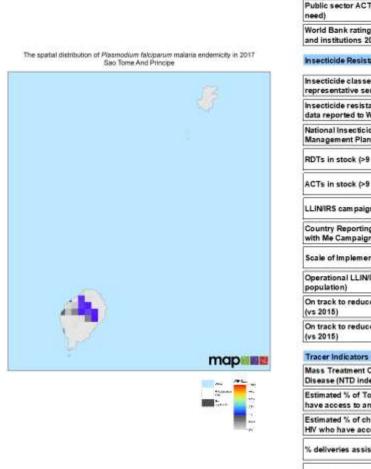
# São Tomé and Príncipe ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2020



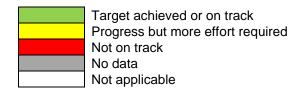
## **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



Commodities Financed and Financial Control	
LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)	• •
Public sector RDT financing 2020 projection (% of need)	▼ 53
Public sector ACT financing 2020 projection (% of need)	100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)	3.1
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a	nd Impact
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)	
LLINIRS campaign on track	
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign	
Scale of Implementation of ICCM (2017)	
Operational LLINIRS 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	NTDs
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)	89
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	
Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	93
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)	87
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	72
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	- 21
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	95

In São Tomé and Príncipe, the annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 2,940 with zero deaths.

## Key



# São Tomé and Príncipe ALMA Quarterly Report, Quarter Three, 2020



#### 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 lifesaving 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, as well as chemoprevention for pregnant women (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy). 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 São Tomé and Príncipe, it is of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign goes 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. The country is commended on rolling out the IRS campaign as planned. Without this IRS, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths.

#### **Progress**

São Tomé and Príncipe secured sufficient resources to finance the ACTs, and LLINs/IRS required for 2020 and has achieved 100% operational coverage of vector control. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO, and has recently completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. The country has decreased the estimated malaria mortality rate by more than 40% since 2010. São Tomé and Príncipe has significantly 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 2018 was 2,940 with zero deaths.

#### **Key Challenges**

- Malaria upsurges observed.
- 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
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		STP reports there have been some reductions in malaria interventions including active case detection due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The country has also faced RDT stock outs but a stock delivery is expected in mid-July. The IRS is planned for Q4 2020. Targeted IRS is ongoing in some zones with increases in cases

The country has responded positively to the recommended action addressing iCCM scale-up.

## RMNCAH and NTDs

#### **Progress**

São Tomé and Príncipe has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH interventions DPT3 vaccination coverage, skilled birth attendants and exclusive breastfeeding and postnatal care.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Sao Tomé and Principé is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive Chemotherapy coverage in Sao Tomé is very good for schistosomiasis (98%), soil-transmitted helminths (89%) and for lymphatic filariasis (81%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Sao Tomé in 2018 is 89, which represents a large increase compared with the 2017 index value (0).

**Previous Key Recommended Actions** 

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : 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 there have been interruptions to routine immunization and there are verified stockouts of BCG and yellow fever vaccines. The surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases has also had disruptions, as surveillance focal points are dedicating much of their time to COVID-19. The country has adopted a framework to guide the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

São Tomé and Príncipe has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing the lack of data for ARTs, and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

