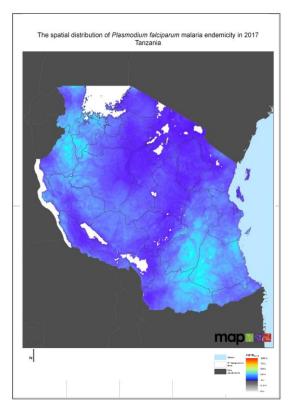
United Republic of Tanzania ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2020



Scorecard for Accountability and Action

Metrics



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	100
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4	87
ITE)s
ATE)s 41
ATE	
JTE ▼	41
VTE	41 75
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	41 75 66 64
	41 75 66 64 34

Malaria is endemic in all parts of the United Republic of Tanzania, with seasonal peaks. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,385,853 with 1,171 deaths.

Key



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 the United Republic of Tanzania, it was of vital importance that the distribution of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2020 went ahead as planned, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. The country is congratulated for prioritising both the LLIN and IRS campaigns. Without sustaining LLIN coverage, Indoor Residual Spraying, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there could be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns are suspended and there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 27.5% increase in malaria cases, and a 132.7% increase in malaria deaths in the United Republic of Tanzania. 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

The United Republic of Tanzania secured sufficient resources to sustain universal coverage of LLINs, ACTs, and RDTs in 2020, and the country has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. The United Republic of Tanzania has a high rating in terms of public sector management systems (CPIA cluster D). The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach, and the launch of the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 6,385,853 with 1,171 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda on the island of Zanzibar as the burden continues to drop.
- 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.

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		Tanzania has sufficient stocks of ACTs and RDTs, although there were some delays in delivery. The IRS and LLIN campaigns were delayed but were largely completed by the end of 2020

The United Republic of Tanzania has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing iCCM and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

The United Republic of Tanzania has also made progress on tracer RMNCAH interventions including vitamin A, DPT3, and exclusive breastfeeding, and has recently increased coverage of ARTs in both the total population and children. The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the Tanzania Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard, and with the development of the multi-sectoral nutrition scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in the United Republic of Tanzania is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in United Republic of Tanzania is good for onchocerciasis (83%), below WHO targets for schistosomiasis (65%), for soil transmitted helminths (36%), lymphatic filariasis (15%) and trachoma (41%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for United Republic of Tanzania in 2019 is 41, which represents a decrease compared with the 2018 index value (71).

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Work to increase preventive chemotherapy coverage of Soil Transmitted Helminths and trachoma to reach the same coverage as in 2017	Q2 2020		The country achieved 36% coverage of Soil Transmitted Helminths and 41% coverage of trachoma in 2019
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

Previous Key Recommended Actions

The United Republic of Tanzania has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of postnatal care and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	Work to increase preventive chemotherapy for soil transmitted helminths, schistosomiasis, trachoma, lymphatic filariasis and reach WHO targets. 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

Key

Action achieved
Some progress
No progress
Deliverable not yet due