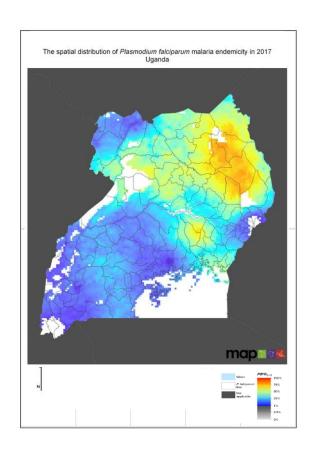
# Uganda ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2021



# **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**

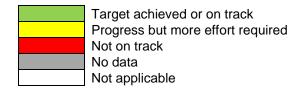
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LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)		6
Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		10
Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		10
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2019 (CPIA Cluster D)		3.
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a	nd	Impact
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		
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)	٧	
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)		10
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 N	ITI	Os
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2019)		1
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	<b>A</b>	9
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		6
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		7
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		5
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		6
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		3
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		8

Malaria transmission occurs all year round in most parts of Uganda. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 16,243,323 with 5,027 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 lifesaving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Uganda, we commend the Ministry of Health, in the decision to go ahead with the universal coverage campaign for LLINs and IRS, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. This decision, allied with sustained malaria case management through the health system will prevent a significant 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 53.1% increase in malaria cases, and a 235.1% increase in malaria deaths in Uganda. 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**

Uganda has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve operational universal coverage of vector control in the targeted at risk population. The country has secured sufficient finances to fund the ACTs, RDTs required in 2021. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Uganda has completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Uganda has decreased the estimated malaria incidence and malaria mortality rate by more than 40% since 2010. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Uganda has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub. Uganda has launched the Mass Action Against Malaria campaign and the End Malaria Fund.

### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 16,243,323 with 5,027 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 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		Malaria services continue to be provided with adherence to COVID-19 prevention protocols. The ongoing COVID-19 upsurge, and restrictions in movement, led to some disruption in malaria programme activities and in some places stock-out of case management commodities and timely health seeking. However efforts to maintain services and activities were put in place and currently service delivery is largely undisrupted
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		The increase in reported incidence over the period 2015-2019 is attributed by the county to an increase of 13% in health facility reporting. Additionally, the percentage of malaria cases that were confirmed increased from 39% in 2015 to 92% in 2018. The 2018 Uganda Malaria Indicator Survey (UMIS) showed a marked reduction in malaria parasitaemia of 9.1%, from 19% reported in 2015 in children under five years of age. The country has completed a sub-national stratification to better target interventions for maximum impact. Uganda has also completed the LLIN universal coverage campaign

The country has responded positively to the recommended action on removal of tariffs on private sector RDTs to enhance affordability in the private sector.

## **RMNCAH and NTDs**

### **Progress**

Uganda has achieved good coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention of exclusive breastfeeding. Uganda has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the ongoing development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Uganda 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 Uganda is good for onchocerciasis (77%), for lymphatic filariasis (78%), low for schistosomiasis (61%), for soil transmitted helminths (45%) and very low for trachoma (0%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Uganda in 2019 is 18, which represents a substantial decrease compared with the 2018 index value (70).

**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		RMNCAH services continue to be provided whilst adhering to COVID-19 prevention protocols. Monitoring of RMNCAH outcomes suggests a significant increase in maternal and neonatal deaths during the ongoing COVID-19 surge (Second wave) with possible causes including delayed healthcare seeking and limited health facility capacity to manage safe obstetric and child care. The country is procuring PPE, COVID-19 diagnostics and oxygen, and enhancing SBC and training
NTDs	Prioritise the funding and other resources for the implementation of preventive chemotherapy for trachoma and work to increase preventive chemotherapy for soil transmitted helminths and schistosomiasis to reach WHO targets.	Q4 2021		The country is now on track for trachoma and two districts (Amudat and Moroto) will have MDA in 2021. The trachoma impact survey is planned in May 2021 in other two districts (Nebbi and Buliisa) as well as a surveillance survey planned in June 2021 in Nakapriprit and Nabilatuk. SCH and STH integrated MDA is conducted on regular basis in 91 targeted districts and different other channels are now used such as integrated health days and ANC

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

The country has responded positively to the recommended action on the low coverage of vitamin A and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

