Malaria is endemic throughout Benin. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 3,163,648 with 2,956 deaths.
Malaria
Global Fund Update
The Global Fund has announced that Benin will receive US$102.7 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2024-2026. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Benin’s disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and the importance of sustaining life-saving essential services. For Benin this is calculated at US$56.5 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Benin is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation, as well as from domestic resources, to accelerate progress.

Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard Benin has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. The country successfully raised resources for the financing of the required number of ACTs, RDTs and LLINs in 2022 and has good stocks of essential malaria commodities. Benin has scaled up implementation of iCCM. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Benin has successfully launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Benin has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Scorecard, but this is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 3,163,648 with 2,956 deaths.

Key Challenges
- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control effectiveness.
- 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.
RMNCAH
Progress
Benin has made good progress in the tracer RMNCAH intervention, vitamin A coverage.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Benin is measured by using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for Lymphatic Filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and Trachoma. Lymphatic Filariasis and trachoma are currently under surveillance. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Benin is 48% for schistosomiasis, 59% for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis, 68% for onchocerciasis and 100% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Benin in 2021 is 72 and shows a small decrease compared to 2020 index value (77).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMNCAH¹: Impact</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>No progress reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>The country conducted NTD prevention and control interventions whilst respecting COVID-19 preventive measures. In Q4 2022, the country worked on NTD surveillance. Benin has submitted the trachoma elimination dossier and is waiting for WHO feedback. The country carried out the MDA for onchocerciasis. Other routine activities were conducted as planned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO
Benin has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**New Key Recommended Action**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Work to increase the preventive chemotherapy coverage for schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis to reach WHO targets.</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key**
- Action achieved
- Some progress
- No progress
- Deliverable not yet due