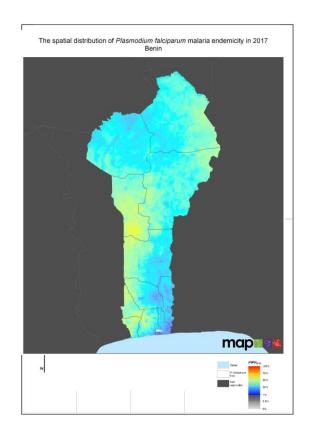
Benin ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2021



Scorecard for Accountability and Action

Metrics



Commodities Financed 100 LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need) Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of 100 Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of 100 Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and 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 (>6 months stock) ACTs in stock (>6 months stock) 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 100 population) On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2020 On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2020 (vs 2015) Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health, NTDs and Covid 19 Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical 77 Disease (NTD index, %)(2020) Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who 70 have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020) Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with 24 HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020) % deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant 78 66 Postnatal care (within 48 hrs) Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months) Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses) DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 72 % Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19

Malaria is endemic throughout Benin. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 2,632,324 with 2,336 deaths.

Key



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Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19Pandemic

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 Benin, it was of vital importance that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) went ahead as scheduled in 2020, and the SMC campaigns in 2021, and the country is congratulated for this achievement. Under the worst-case scenario, in which the LLIN campaign was suspended and with a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimated that this would result in a 33.4% increase in malaria cases, and a 98.3% increase in malaria deaths in Benin. This scenario would represent a reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

WHO estimates that there were an additional 47,000 malaria deaths globally in 2020 due to service disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to an estimated 7.5% increase in deaths.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2022 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.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 11% of their population by the end of 2021.

Progress

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 2021 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.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, 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 2020 was 2,632,324 with 2,336 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.

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 2022		The country continues to implement malaria interventions whilst using COVID-19 sensitive programming. The IRS campaign was completed as planned. The diagnosis and treatment of cases continues through health facilities (private and public) and community health care providers. The continuous distribution of LLINs through health facilities is ongoing. The SMC campaign was fully implemented in the two northern departments as planned. ACT and RDT stocks are under procurement

RMNCAH

Progress

Benin has made good progress on the tracer RMNCAH intervention of skilled birth attendants.

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. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage in Benin was 59% for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis, 69% for schistosomiasis, 82% for onchocerciasis, 83% for lymphatic filariasis and 100% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Benin in 2020 is 77 and shows a big increase compared to 2019 index value (20).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH¹: Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q1 2021		The country carried out vitamin A distribution in 2020 but coverage was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
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 2022		Progress not reported

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	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 2022		Benin is conducting NTD control and elimination interventions whilst respecting COVID-19 preventive measures. Routine activities are being conducted as planned. In Q4 2021, the country organized MDA for onchocerciasis and the report is being elaborated

