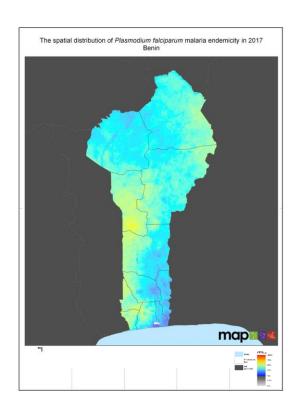
# **Benin ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022**



### **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)	8	100
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC		
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		8
Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Drug Resistance Monitoring Conducted (2018-2020) and data reported to WHO		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		4
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		
Operational LLIN/IRS 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, NTD	s a	nd Covid 19
Scale of Implementation of iCCM		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		77
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		24
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		7
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		72
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	<b>A</b>	20
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Malaria is endemic throughout Benin. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 2,632,324 with 2,336 deaths.

## Key



## Benin ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022



## 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 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.

Given the difficulties in securing essential health commodities in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is of vital importance that countries sign, ratify and deposit the African Medicines Agency (AMA) instrument with the AUC in order to improve access to quality, safe and efficacious medical products in Africa. The country is congratulated for doing this.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 20% of their population by April 2022. The country, working with partners, should invest in education and behaviour change communication to increase the uptake of COVID vaccines and therapeutics.

#### Malaria

#### **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 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.

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 as planned. ITNs are being distributed through routine services and diagnosis and treatment is being carried out at health facility level. The SMC campaign is under preparation. ACTs and RDTs are available at central and decentralised levels

**New Key Recommended Action** 

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and the data are reported to WHO	Q1 2023

### **RMNCAH**

#### **Progress**

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: 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		No progress not reported
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 preparing their MDAs targeting 10 districts endemic for Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis and all Praziquantel will be used in Q2 2022 MDAs, before the expiry dates



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