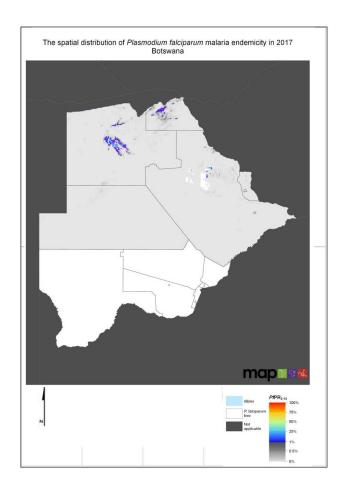
Botswana ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2020



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
RS financing 2020 (% of at-risk population)		100
Public sector RDT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2018 (CPIA Cluster D)		
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation ar	nd Impac	t
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		1
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)		
Operational LLIN/IRS coverage (% of at risk population)		77
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	ITDs	
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)		
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		83
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		38
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		100
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		20
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		86
DPT3 coverage 2018 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		95

The annual reported number of confirmed malaria cases in 2018 was 585 with 9 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 of COVID-19. 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 including malaria.

WHO underlines the critical importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat malaria during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is of vital importance to ensure the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services including distribution of insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying. Any intervention must consider the importance of both lowering malaria-related mortality and ensuring the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

For Botswana, it will be of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2020 goes ahead as planned, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and that the insecticides needed for the campaign are ordered on time. Without IRS and LLINs, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths.

Progress

Botswana has successfully mobilised sufficient financing for IRS, malaria diagnosis and treatment in 2020. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance management and monitoring plan. WHO has identified Botswana as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2020. Botswana has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 585 with 9 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Malaria outbreaks were reported during previous malaria seasons.
- Achieving and maintaining IRS coverage above 80%.
- Need to further strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Vector Control	Ensure the IRS programme is fully implemented before the beginning of the malaria season	Q4 2019		Spraying was delayed due to long delays in the procurement of insecticide. UNICEF supported emergency procurement. The country completed the spraying before the beginning of the second malaria peak in February. LLINs are also being distributed in target districts
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and deaths between 2015 and 2018	Q4 2020		Delays in vector control implementation contributed to the increase in cases and deaths. Additional domestic resources are required to enhance the effectiveness of the supply chain and in particular for the procurement of vector control products (insecticides). Reported cases decreased from 585 in 2018 to 272 in 2019

Botswana has responded positively to the recommended action addressing the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea. The country has also responded on the reporting of insecticide resistance data to WHO.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
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

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Botswana has achieved good coverage in tracer RMNCAH interventions, including deliveries by skilled birth attendants, DPT3 and ART coverage in the total population. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Botswana is illustrated using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. No preventive chemotherapy coverage data have been reported by Botswana to WHO in 2018.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Submit the Soil Transmitted Helminths and Schistosomiasis Preventive Chemotherapy data to WHO and work to reach WHO targets.	Q1 2020		Botswana did not organise Preventive Chemotherapy for Soil Transmitted Helminths and Schistosomiasis in 2018 due to financial constraints. Preventive Chemotherapy rolled out in December 2018 in some districts, with the remaining ones completed in January 2019. Data has been submitted to WHO

The country has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of exclusive breastfeeding and ARTs in children, and the lack of data for postnatal care and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

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Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	
RMNCAH¹: Impact	Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2020	



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO