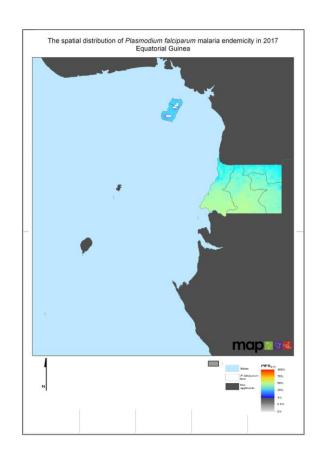
Equatorial Guinea ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2021



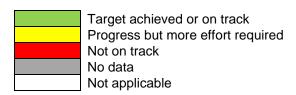
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



etrics		
Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)		27
Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		10
Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)		21
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a	nd	mpact
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		2
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		4.
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)	8	.
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 population)		4
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 1
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		38
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		28
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		68
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		7
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		4
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		5
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19		18
	_	

The entire population of Equatorial Guinea is at high risk of malaria and the transmission is intense all year round. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 83,396 and 15 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 lifesaving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Equatorial Guinea, the country is encouraged to sustain the delivery of essential health services including malaria case management, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Without this, it is estimated by WHO that there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. Under the worst-case scenario, in which there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 3.8% increase in malaria cases, and a 30.8% increase in malaria deaths in Equatorial Guinea. This scenario would represent a complete 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 18% of their population by the end of 2021.

Malaria

Progress

Equatorial Guinea has made progress with malaria control on Bioko Island and is working to extend this success to the mainland. The country has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has reported the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO. The country has procured adequate stocks of RDTs and ACT procurement is underway.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 83,396 and 15 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
Address funding	Ensure that sufficient domestic resources are committed to malaria control	Q4 2014		The country is working to mobilise resources to address funding gaps
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 reports that there are sufficient supplies of ACTs and RDTs to sustain case management during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reductions in the number of patients in Malabo hospital were reported. IRS and ITN campaigns were implemented in targeted areas
Address vector control coverage	Address falling vector control coverage	Q4 2021		The country has implemented targeted IRS and LLIN campaigns in 2021

Equatorial Guinea has responded positively to the previous recommended actions addressing low coverage of iCCM and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and mortality between 2015 and 2020, which means that the country did not achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2022

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Equatorial Guinea is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Equatorial Guinea was zero for all the preventive chemotherapy targeted diseases in 2020. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Equatorial Guinea in 2020 is zero, which represents no change compared with the 2019 index value (0).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH ¹ : Optimise quality of care	a) Investigate and address the reasons for the decreasing coverage of postnatal care	Q4 2015		The country reports that it does not systematically collect postnatal care data
	b) Investigate and address the reasons for the lack of reported data on vitamin A coverage	Q2 2019		The country carried out the 2 vitamin A campaigns in 2020. Whilst the first campaign was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, higher coverage was obtained in the second campaign of the year
RMNCAH ¹ : 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		The country reports there have been no interruptions in delivery of health services. Equatorial Guinea has adapted its workplans to the context of COVID-19, having developed a manual for providing safe care for pregnancy, childbirth and how to keep health workers safe. The country reports it is maintaining services for family planning, ANC, and vaccines, among other interventions
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		No progress reported

Equatorial Guinea has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing lack of data on vitamin A and low coverage of exclusive breastfeeding, ARTs and DPT3. The country continues to track progress as these actions are implemented, and the country has recently increased ART coverage in children.



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO