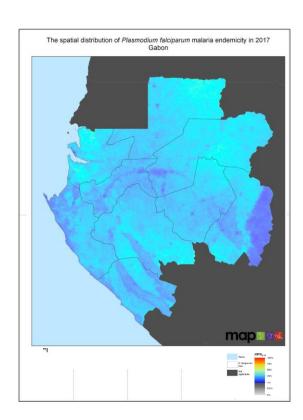
# **Gabon ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022**



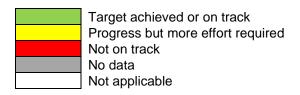
# **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



Commodities Financed	
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)	
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	8
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	69
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	
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)	1
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 and Covid 1
Scale of Implementation of iCCM	
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)	H
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	2
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	6
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	1

The entire population of Gabon is at high risk for malaria. Transmission is intense throughout the year in the northern part of the country and more seasonal in the south. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 127,500 with 224 deaths.

# Key



# **Gabon 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 Gabon, the country is encouraged to sustain the delivery of essential health services including malaria case management, during the COVID-19 pandemic. 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 1.5% increase in malaria cases, and a 117% increase in malaria deaths in Gabon. 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.

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 12% 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**

Gabon has recently submitted the results of insecticide resistance testing to WHO. The country reports that the majority of the population access RDTs and ACTs through the health insurance scheme.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, the country has planned for the launch of the Gabon End Malaria Fund

#### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 127,500 with 224 deaths.

### **Key Challenges**

- Insufficient resources to achieve high coverage of essential malaria interventions.
- 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
Optimise quality of care	Provide data on the scale up iCCM implementation country wide	Q1 2017		The country plans to scale up iCCM with the training of 2,000 CHWs countrywide, however, there is a need to mobilise 2.9 million Euros in order to implement this. The country is hoping that the launch of the End Malaria Fund will contribute to filling some of the identified gaps including for iCCM
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		Malaria activities were implemented as planned in the annual plan. The country has procured Rapid Diagnostic Tests and drugs for case management. ITN are under distribution to Pregnant Women and children through routine health services

Gabon has responded to the recommended actions addressing financing of anti-malarial commodities and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**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 and NTDs**

## **Progress**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Gabon is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 41% for soil-transmitted helminths and 0% for schistosomiasis, lymphatic filariasis, and onchocerciasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Gabon in 2020 is zero, with no change compared with the 2019 index value of 0

**Previous Key Recommended Actions** 

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : Impact	Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2022		No progress reported
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : Optimise quality of care	Investigate and address the reasons for the lack of reported data on vitamin A coverage	Q2 2019		No progress reported
NTDs	Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions including MDAs, vector control and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes prioritizing key necessary catch up activities including mobilizing resources for NTDs including for community based distribution	Q4 2022		The country is conducting NTD routine activities whilst respecting COVID-19 preventive measures. MDA preparations are ongoing but will depend on funds availability. Another round of MDA is planned in August 2022.



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