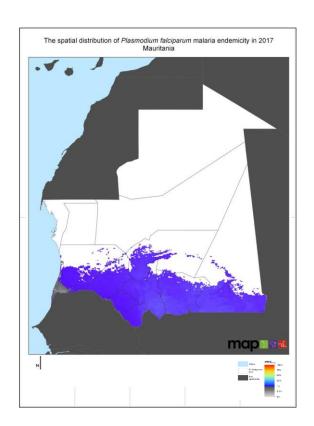
# Mauritania ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022



## **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



Commodities Financed	
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)	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	
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	1
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)	75
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 19
Scale of Implementation of iCCM	
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)	85
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)	2.4
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	0
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	71
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	23

In Mauritania, almost 15% of the population is at high risk and 75% is at low risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 144,709.

## Key



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## 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.

Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns are suspended and there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 27.3% increase in malaria cases, and a 79.4% increase in malaria deaths in Mauritania. 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 encouraged to do this.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 23% 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**

Mauritania is implementing iCCM at scale. The country has secured sufficient resources to fully finance the ACTs, RDTs and LLINs needed in 2022. The country has submitted insecticide resistance data to WHO. Mauritania has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Mauritania has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

#### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 144,709.

#### Key Challenges

- The country has a less than 20% malaria case reporting rate by surveillance systems.
- 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		Diagnosis and treatment has been implemented at health facility and community level. ACTs and RDTs were already distributed at decentralized level and some deliveries at country level are planned for June with the GF support. However, activities at NMCP velel are not yet implemented due to the fact that the NFM3 has not yet been Sign and the Government budget will start to be implemented by April 2022. Also the country has insufficient staff at central level to allow the program to implement activities at the maximum level. The country is planning to implement also the SMC in 12 districts with the GF support and is in need of a national consultant in order to have the activity launched.

**New Key Recommended Action** 

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and data reported to WHO	Q1 2023

### **RMNCAH and NTDs**

#### **Progress**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Mauritania is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis, and trachoma. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for trachoma and 72% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Mauritania in 2020 is 85, which represents a very substantial increase compared with the 2019 index value (75).

**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. Address any stock-outs of essential RMNCAH commodities	Q4 2022		The MoH continues to ensure the continuity of essential RMNCAH services including antenatal and post-natal care, childhood disease case management and the supply of nutrition supplementation products as the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the already critical nutritional situation. The country is rolled out new vaccines including HPV and the COVID-19 vaccines in the second quarter 2021 and has forecasted and purchased the necessary vaccines for routine EPI. There have been no major reductions in vaccination coverage of children. ICCM has rolled-out in nutrition emergency districts. To avoid RUTF stock out, the country has procured 30,000 cartons of RUTF

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		Whilst respecting COVID-19 preventive measures, the country is conducting NTD interventions as planned
Impact	Address the falling DPT3 coverage	Q3 2022		Deliverable not yet due
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		Deliverable not yet due

Mauritania has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of ARTs in children under 14 years of age and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

