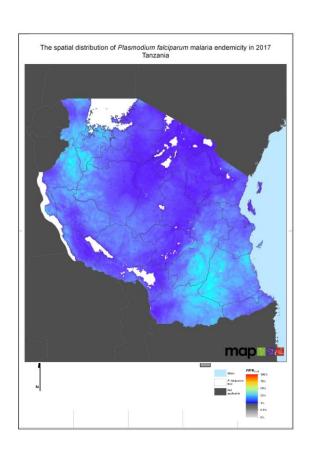
# United Republic of Tanzania ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2021



# **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



| etrics  |     |             |
|---|-----|-------------|
| Commodities Financed  |     |             |
| LLIN financing 2021 projection (% of need)  |     | 100         |
| Public sector RDT financing 2021 projection (% of need)   |     | 100         |
| Public sector ACT financing 2021 projection (% of need)   | ķ.  | 100         |
| Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation a   | nd  | Impact      |
| 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<br>Management Plan   |     |             |
| RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)   |     |             |
| 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)   |     | 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 |
| Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical<br>Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)                            | v   | 3           |
| Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)          |     | 82          |
| Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020) |     | 54          |
| % deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant  |     | 64          |
| Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)  |     | 34          |
| Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)   |     | 59          |
| Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)   | v   | 1           |
| DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)  |     | 86          |
| % Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19  |     | 2           |
|   | _   |             |

Malaria is endemic in all parts of the United Republic of Tanzania, with seasonal peaks. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 6,015,706 with 2,569 deaths.

### Key



# **United Republic of Tanzania ALMA Quarterly Report, Quarter Four, 2021**



# 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 the United Republic of Tanzania, it was of vital importance that the distribution of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2021 went ahead as planned, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. The country is congratulated for prioritising both the LLIN and IRS campaigns. Without sustaining LLIN coverage, Indoor Residual Spraying, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there could be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. 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 27.5% increase in malaria cases, and a 132.7% increase in malaria deaths in the United Republic of Tanzania. 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 2% of their population by the end of 2021.

# Malaria

#### **Progress**

The United Republic of Tanzania secured sufficient resources to sustain universal coverage of LLINs, ACTs, and RDTs in 2021, and the country has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach, and the launch of the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, the country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet shared to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country is working on the concept note for the End Malaria Council and Fund.

#### Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 6,015,706 with 2,569 deaths.

#### **Key Challenges**

- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda on the island of Zanzibar as the burden continues to drop.
- 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                        |          | Tanzania continues to have sufficient stocks of ACTs and RDTs for case management. Revision of SBC malaria-tailored messages will be completed at the end of December 2021 to reflect and incorporate current developments in COVID prevention and vaccination. This is done in partnership with other implementing partners. The use of such messages will mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. To enhance community and private sector malaria management (diagnosis and treatment), the NMCP has completed training and re-certification of community health workers except for laboratory personnel from private health facilities in the hard-to-reach high burden councils. Plans are underway to complete their re-training and re-certification in Q1 2022 |

The United Republic of Tanzania has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing iCCM and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

## **RMNCAH and NTDs**

#### **Progress**

The United Republic of Tanzania has also made progress on tracer RMNCAH interventions including vitamin A, DPT3, and exclusive breastfeeding, and has recently increased coverage of ARTs in both the total population and children. The country has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the Tanzania Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard, and with the development of the multi-sectoral nutrition scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in the United Republic of Tanzania is measured 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 was 47% for schistosomiasis, 38% for soil transmitted helminths, 28% for onchocerciasis, and 0% for both lymphatic filariasis and trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for United Republic of Tanzania in 2020 is 3 which represent a very substantial decrease compared to the 2019 index value (41).

The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the recent development of the NTD scorecard.

**Previous Key Recommended Actions** 

| Objective                       | Action Item  | Suggested  | Progress | Comments - key   |
|---------------------------------|--|------------|----------|--|
|                                 |  | completion |          | activities/accomplishments   |
|                                 |  | timeframe  |          | since last quarterly report  |
| RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> :<br>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 continues to report on COVID-19 cases and there are no reports of stock outs of RMNCAH commodities unlike in wave 1 of COVID-19 when stock outs of oxytocin supply were reported. There are also no reports of services being adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as RMNCAH interventions are being implemented using COVID-19 sensitive national guidelines. The objective is to continue to sustain service delivery during the pandemic |
| 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 | Q4 2022    |          | The country completed the 2021 MDAs and all the medicines about to expire were successfully used before the expiry dates. The country reached MDA WHO targets (Soil Transmitted Helminths: 84%; Schistosomiasis (91%) and Onchocerciasis (83%). The country has developed their NTD scorecard for accountability and action  |

The United Republic of Tanzania has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of postnatal care and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

**New Key Recommended Action** 

| Objective                | Action Item                               | Suggested completion timeframe |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Optimise quality of care | Address the falling coverage of vitamin A | Q4 2022                        |



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