Malaria transmission is most intense in the south whilst the desert areas in the north are malaria-free. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 4,659,909 with 4,430 deaths.
Malaria

Global Fund Allocation
The Global Fund announced that Niger will receive US$150.1 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2024-2026. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Niger’s disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and previous disbursements. For Niger this is calculated at US$ 120.7 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Niger is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation, as well as from domestic resources, to accelerate progress. The Global Fund resources are especially important in the current resource constrained environment. The ongoing economic crisis, increased costs of doing business, and the need to introduce newer more expensive commodities to address insecticide and drug resistance mean that countries may experience shortfalls in sustaining their life-saving malaria essential services.

Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The country has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted population. The country has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs. Niger has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has recently reported the results of insecticide resistance testing to WHO. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Niger has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, the country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country is developing a concept note for the End Malaria Council.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 4,659,909 with 4,430 deaths.

Key Challenges
- Insufficient resources to achieve high coverage of essential malaria interventions.

Previous Key Recommended Actions
Observe the table below for the details on each objective and action item, their suggested completion timeframe, progress, and comments regarding key activities/accomplishments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>Work to incorporate activities targeting refugees in the Malaria Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td></td>
<td>The NMCP finalized the MPR and the development of the new MSP which includes the provision of malaria interventions to refugees and populations in areas with insecurity including ITN distribution and SMC. The NMCP has also included this targeting in the funding request in the GC7.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Niger has responded positively to the recommended action addressing resource mobilisation and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

**RMNCAH and NTDs**

**Progress**

Niger has achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention vitamin A. The country has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Niger is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 100% for soil transmitted helminthiasis, 58% for schistosomiasis, 28% for trachoma and 0% for lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Niger in 2021 is 11, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2020 index value of 61.

**Previous Key Recommended Actions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTDs</td>
<td>Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2021 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions including MDAs for trachoma and lymphatic filariasis are implemented. Track leftover stocks at district level to retrieve all expired drugs after MDA for incineration and accountability purposes and ensure the First-Expire-First-Out (FEFO) method is effectively implemented at the national level</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td></td>
<td>No progress reported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key

- Action achieved
- Some progress
- No progress
- Deliverable not yet due