Malaria is endemic throughout Benin. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 3,163,648 with 2,956 deaths.
Malaria

Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard Benin has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. The country successfully raised resources for the financing of the required number of ACTs, RDTs and LLINs in 2023 and has good stocks of essential malaria commodities. Benin has scaled up implementation of iCCM. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Benin has successfully launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Benin has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Scorecard, but this is not yet shared on the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub. The country should consider establishing an End Malaria Council and Fund to enhance domestic resource mobilization and multi-sectoral action.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 3,163,648 with 2,956 deaths.

Key Challenge
- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control effectiveness.

Previous Key Recommended Actions
Benin has responded positively to the recommended action addressing the lack of drug resistance testing and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

RMNCAH

Progress
Benin has made good progress in the tracer RMNCAH intervention, vitamin A coverage.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Benin is measured by using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for Lymphatic Filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and Trachoma. Lymphatic Filariasis and trachoma are currently under surveillance. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Benin is 48% for schistosomiasis, 59% for Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis, 68% for onchocerciasis and 100% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Benin in 2021 is 72 and shows a small decrease compared to 2020 index value (77).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

<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>NTDs</td>
<td>Work to increase the preventive chemotherapy coverage for schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis to reach WHO targets.</td>
<td>Q4 2023</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliverable not yet due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benin has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

**New Key Recommended Action**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimise quality of care</td>
<td>Work to accelerate coverage of ARTs in the total population and in children under 14 years of age</td>
<td>Q2 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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