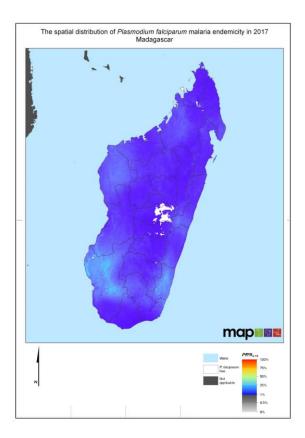
Madagascar ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2020



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics

| | 100 |
|---|--------|
| | 100 |
| | 100 |
| | 2.8 |
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| | 0 |
| | 13 |
| | 9 |
| | 44 |
| | 46 |
| | 42 |
| | 96 |
| | 79 |
| | |

Key

Malaria transmission in Madagascar occurs all year round in the north of the country. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 965,390 with 927 deaths.



Target achieved or on track Progress but more effort required Not on track No data Not applicable

Malaria

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 and malaria.

WHO underlines the critical importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat malaria during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is of vital importance to ensure the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services including distribution of insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying, as well as chemoprevention for pregnant women (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy). Any intervention must consider the importance of both lowering malaria-related mortality and ensuring the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

For Madagascar, it will be of vital importance to ensure that the planning for the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2021 goes ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Without this campaign, coupled with the need to also sustain essential health services including malaria case management, 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 19% increase in malaria cases, and a 80.7% increase in malaria deaths in Madagascar. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

Global Fund Update

The Global Fund has announced that Madagascar will receive US\$88.8 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2021-2023. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Madagascar'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 Madagascar this is calculated at US\$50.4 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Madagascar 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.

Progress

Madagascar has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. The country has finalised the insecticide resistance management and monitoring plan. Madagascar has secured the finances to sustain universal coverage of key anti-malaria interventions in 2020. The country has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of vector control for the targeted at risk population. Madagascar has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 965,390 with 927 deaths.

Key Challenge

 Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

| Previous Ke | y Recommended Action |
|--------------------|----------------------|
|--------------------|----------------------|

| Objective | Action Item | Suggested completion timeframe | Progress | Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Address funding | Ensure the GF malaria funding application is submitted by Q4 2020 and ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control at a level that is sufficient to sustain the gains made in recent years | Q4 2020 | | Deliverable not yet due |
| 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 2020 | | The country has experienced stock outs of some of the essential malaria commodities but has worked to fast track delivery of commodities. Planning for the 2021 campaign is ongoing |
| Impact | Work to address the reported increase in cases | Q4 2020 | | Deliverable not yet due |

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

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

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Madagascar is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Madagascar for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and soil-transmitted helminths was not implemented in 2018. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Madagascar in 2018 is 0 which represents a decrease compared with the 2017 index value (9).

| Objective | ey Recommended / Action Item | Suggested completion timeframe | Progress | Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| RMNCAH ¹ 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 2020 | | The pandemic is currently hitting hard in the capital and all health workers without exception are participating to reinforce the teams in the various treatment and collection centres. A reference document for RMNCAH was developed in June to ensure the continuity of essential services. As with all the interventions, there was a drop in coverage of MCH indicators. For the regions where the maximum number of COVID-19 cases are encountered, the MoH in collaboration with its partners is working to strengthen services. This includes support by UNFPA in setting up buses to transport women for ANC, PNC, and delivery from their homes to the hospital. There are also mobile clinics for Family Planning with support from Marie Stopes Madagascar. Mobile clinics are rolling out offering Reproductive Health and Family Planning packages and information in the Analamanga and Vakinakaratra region |
| NTDs | Implement preventive chemotherapy for Lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths and work hard to reach WHO targets | Q4 2020 | | Madagascar is preparing for integrated preventive chemotherapy for Lymphatic Filariasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminthiasis. The initial plan was to conduct these MDA in March, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, WHO advised the country to postpone the MDA for the time being |

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Madagascar has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of skilled birth attendants, and lack of data for postnatal care. The country has also responded to the recommended action to increase coverage of ARTs, with small increases noted in coverage, but continues to track progress as key actions are implemented.

Key

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

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO