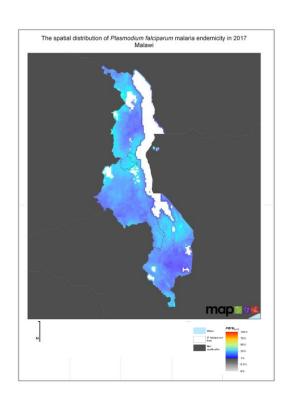
Malawi ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2022



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics **Commodities Financed** LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need) 100 Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of 100 Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of 100 need) 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 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 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 100 On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2020 On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2020 Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health, NTDs and Covid 19 Scale of Implementation of iCCM Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical 76 Disease (NTD index, %)(2020) Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with 74 HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2021) Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses) DPT3 coverage 2021 (vaccination among 0-11 93 month olds) % Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19

Malaria is endemic in all parts of Malawi. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 7,169,642 with 2,517 deaths.

Key



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Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted routine health services considerably, and the economic impacts continue to hamper health systems recovery. It is vitally important that we focus on recovering lost ground in delivering essential life-saving interventions during this difficult time, sustaining progress towards the SDG targets for Malaria, Neglected Tropical Diseases and Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent health.

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. Early procurement of essential health commodities is also highly recommended whilst long delivery times persist.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 8% of their population by July 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

Malawi secured sufficient resources to finance the ACTs, RDTs and ITNs required for 2022. Sufficient LLINs have been procured to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. Malawi has scaled up iCCM. Malawi has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. The country has also developed an insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Malawi has recently launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Malawi has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard and is planning to post the scorecard to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The NTD scorecard has already been posted to the Scorecard Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 7,169,642 with 2,517 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, 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		Since 2017, Malawi has had no major stock outs of ACTs and RDTs. Nonetheless, the minor stock out rates of between 0.3 – 0.7% reported by the country have been caused by facility administrative issues and not the absence of commodities in the supply chain system. Implementation of the testing and treatment of all COVID suspects for malaria has continued and ensured that all malaria patients are not missed out. Implementation of IRS campaigns is planned for September and October 2022 and preparations are well underway despite COVID-related logistical supply chain challenges.
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023		Deliverable not yet due
Policy	Work to incorporate activities targeting refugees in the Malaria Strategic Plan	Q1 2023		Deliverable not yet due
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and data reported to WHO	Q1 2023		The country conducts drug resistance monitoring which they use in decision making and reporting to some of their partners. The country have requested for the templates on reporting to WHO for them to report their data

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

High coverage has been obtained for the tracer RMNCAH intervention DPT3 coverage. Malawi has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Malawi 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 100% for both lymphatic filariasis and trachoma, 84% for onchocerciasis, 79% for schistosomiasis and 39% for soil-transmitted helminthiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Malawi in 2020 is 76, which represents a decrease compared with the 2019 index value (90).

The country is commended for reducing Trachoma prevalence to less than 5%, and beginning the trachoma elimination dossier. Malawi has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development and launch of the NTD Scorecard.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

	key Recommended			
Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH¹: 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		Planned essential RMNCAH services were smoothly implemented. This included capacity building of skilled birth attendants in Basic Emergency and New-born Care (BEmONC) skills, an assessment of MNCH commodity availability and identification of challenges in the coordination between the Safe motherhood coordinators and the pharmacists. A national family planning review meeting was held. With support from WHO, Reproductive Health Services Delivery Guidelines and Obstetric protocols were validated
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		Malawi is conducting NTD control and prevention activitieswhilst respecting COVID-19 safety measures. In Q2 2022, in addition to routine activities, the country delivered the Ivermectin to the districts in need and onchocerciasis surveillance activities including collection of samples of adult blackflies for the transmission assessment in Thyolo and Neno districts are being conducted. Lymphatic Filariasis surveillance activities and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention activities are being conducted too
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		In 2021, Malawi transitioned from delivery of vitamin A via campaigns to routine service delivery integrating with EPI. Vitamin A coverage is high among younger children 6-11months and lower among the older children 12-59months. As vitamin A is delivered through EPI services, there were reports of reduced immunisation clinic attendance by child caregivers due to fear of COVID-19 exposure. Strategies to increase and sustain coverage in the population include delivery through community early childhood development centres, mother care groups, religious centres and use of community health registers. Training of all clinicians and nurses in the delivery of vitamin A in EPI services is ongoing but additional resources are needed

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¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

