# South Sudan ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Two, 2022



#### **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**



etrics		
Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)		63
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Policy		
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 Plan		
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 LLIM/RS 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
Scale of Implementation of ICCM		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		2
Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2021)		15
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		c
DPT3 coverage 2021 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		49
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	•	11
712		

### Key

Malaria transmission in South Sudan is generally perennial, with moderate to high intensity. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,805,371 and 244 deaths



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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 11% 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**

The country secured the resources needed to achieve universal coverage of RDTs and ACTs in 2022. The country has also distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at risk population. South Sudan has completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan.

#### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,805,371 and 244 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		South Sudan has had no stock outs of ACTs and RDTs. The country has developed an accelerated implementation plan as part of the implementation of the GF grant. Distribution of LLINs is almost completed in Jonglei and is planned in Unity and Central Equatorial states
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023		Deliverable not yet due

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and data reported to WHO	Q1 2023		The last therapeutic efficacy study was done in 2017 for the first line antimalarial ASAQ but was not completed due to both insecurity reasons as well as lack of local capacity. As the security situation has improved, the country in collaboration with other partners (WHO and UNICEF) is planning to do these important studies in 2022. The plan is to report these data to WHO once these studies are completed.

South Sudan has responded positively to the recommended action on insecticide resistance monitoring.

#### **RMNCAH and NTDs**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in South Sudan 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 31% for soil transmitted helminthiasis, 11% for both schistosomiasis and trachoma, and 0% for both onchocerciasis and lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for South Sudan in 2020 is 2, which represents a decrease compared with the 2019 index value (18).

**Previous Key Recommended Actions** 

Previous Key Recommended Actions					
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		South Sudan with support from partners continues to provide integrated primary health and national services in all the ten states of South Sudan. However, the coverage of services is still estimated to be about 46% of the total need. The country is implementing HIV programming, with a strong prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV supported by the GF, and PEPFAR mainly in the 3 Equatorial States of South Sudan, with an improvement in the PMTCT coverage rate of 44% up from 20% in 2017. Antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage remains low. The Country is continuing to roll out the implementation of the National community health strategy, the Boma Health initiative (BHI). In the first and second quarter of 2022, the country is rolling out the safe motherhood and communicable disease surveillance and vital statistic modules of the BHI that will enhance access to services for Children women, and adolescents in remote part of the country. To date, there are over 5193 Boma health workers deployed in 1,196 of the 2,136 bomas in South Sudan. The country continues to address disease outbreaks including the COVID-19 pandemic, and epidemics of cholera, measles and Meningitis A. COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) remain integrated into primary health care and COVID-19 vaccinated with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccinated with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. For meningitis, a total of 79 suspect cases, with 15 deaths (CFR 19%) reported from 5 counties and 124 measles cases in 9 counties were reported. The ministry of health concluded reactive measles vaccination campaign with 98% coverage. A cholera outbreak has also been reported in April and responded to, with 175 cases and no deaths. Response activities include, Water Sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions, Infection prevention and control, case management and vaccination campaigns. To date, 348,214 persons including 62,000 children have been vaccinated with 2 doses of Cholera vaccine	

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
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		Deliverable not yet due
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		National immunization days were phased out due to the polio free status. South Sudan implemented a number of approaches including integrating vitamin A with MUAC screening. Catch up Vitamin A campaigns are being used to increase coverage. In 2021, the 1st semester campaign was conducted in 78 out of 80 counties with a coverage of 93.3%. During the second semester, all 80 counties were reached with VAS, reaching 90.5%

South Sudan has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing low coverage of DPT3 and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

