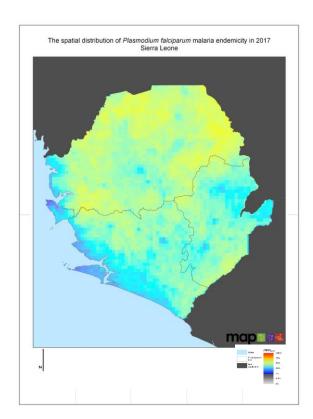
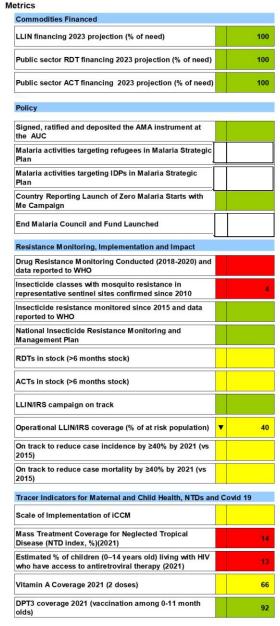
Sierra Leone ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One 2023



Scorecard for Accountability and Action





The entire population of Sierra Leone is at high risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 2,043,818 with 2,107 deaths.

Key



Sierra Leone ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2023



Malaria

Global Fund Allocation

The Global Fund announced that Sierra Leone will receive US\$126.4 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 Sierra Leone'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 Sierra Leone this is calculated at US\$ 73.2 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Sierra Leone 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. In this regard, Sierra Leone secured sufficient resources to achieve universal coverage of LLINs, RDTs and ACTs in 2022, has good levels of commodity stocks and has distributed sufficient LLINs to achieve 100% operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Sierra Leone has launched the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Sierra Leone has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard, although the scorecard has not yet been posted to the ALMA Scorecard 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 2,043,818 with 2,107 deaths.

Key Challenge

Insufficient resources available to fully implement the malaria national strategic plan.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Impact	Work to address low coverage of vector control	Q3 2023

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Sierra Leone has achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention of DPT3. The country enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Sierra Leone is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and soil transmitted helminths. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 78% for onchocerciasis, 74% for lymphatic filariasis, 67% for soil transmitted helminths and 0% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Sierra Leone in 2021 is 14, which represents a substantial decrease compared with the 2020 index value (59).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Work to implement preventive chemotherapy for schistosomiasis and reach WHO targets	Q4 2023		Deliverable not yet due

Sierra Leone has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as this action is implemented, with increases in coverage recently observed.

