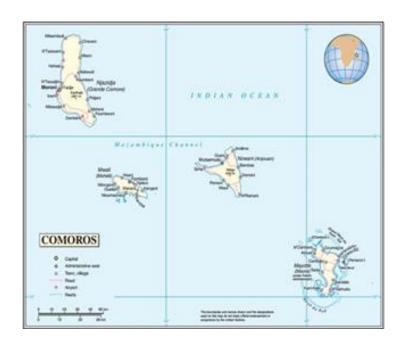
Comoros ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2024



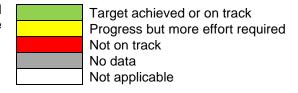
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics LLIN financing (2024-2026) projection (% of need) Public sector ACTs and RTDs financing (2024-2026) projection (% of need) % of National Malaria Strategic Plan Financed (2024-Policy Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Zero Malaria Starts With Me Launched End Malaria Council and Fund Launched Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact Drug efficacy studies conducted since 2019 and data Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010 Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO RDTs in stock (>6 months stock) ACTs in stock (>6 months stock) LLIN/IRS campaign on track % of vector control in the last year with next generation materials On track to reduce malaria incidence by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015) On track to reduce malaria mortality by at least 75% by 2025 (vs 2015) Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health and NTDs Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2022) % of Neglected Tropical Disease MDAs Achieving WHO Targets Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2022) Vitamin A Coverage 2022 (2 doses) DPT3 coverage 2022 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)

Most of the population of Comoros is at risk of malaria. Transmission is perennial on the Island of Grand Comore and unstable throughout the zones of Anjouan and Mohéli. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2022 was 20,681 and 0 deaths.

Key



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Malaria

Africa is at the centre of a perfect storm that threatens to disrupt malaria services and undo decades of progress. We must act urgently to both prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of the ongoing global financial crisis, increasing biological threats, climate change, and humanitarian crises. These threats represent the most serious emergency facing malaria in 20 years and will lead to malaria upsurges and epidemics if not addressed. AU Member States face a \$1.5 billion gap just to sustain existing, yet inadequate, levels of malaria-related services between now and 2026. To get back on track and eliminate malaria, we will need to mobilise another \$5.2 billion dollars annually to fully finance our national malaria plans. Climate change presents a significant threat to the progress that we have made. Africa is disproportionately exposed to the risks of climate change and by the 2030s, 150 million additional people will be at risk of malaria because of warmer temperatures and increased rainfall. Climate disasters displace millions and destroy roads and health facilities, reducing access to health services. There is urgency to decarbonise and reduce our carbon footprint. We must implement integrated and multisectoral solutions, and adapt our health systems to the threats of both climate change and pandemics. We must also take action to confront the threats of insecticide and drug resistance, reduced efficacy of rapid diagnostic tests, and the Anopheles stephensi mosquito which spreads malaria in both urban and rural areas. The good news is that the malaria toolkit continues to expand. WHO has approved the use of dual-insecticide mosquito nets that are 43% more effective than traditional mosquito nets and will address the impact of insecticide-resistance. New medicines for treating malaria and two malaria vaccines for children have also been approved with an increasing number of countries deploying these new tools. The scaling up of these interventions will help us achieve our goal of eliminating malaria. This will require integrated approaches with malaria as a pathfinder for pandemic preparedness, climate change and health, Primary Health Care and Universal Health Coverage. We must work to sustain and increase domestic resource commitments including through multisectoral End Malaria and NTD councils and Funds, which have raised over US\$50 million

Progress

The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. The country has good stocks of ACTs, RDTs and ITNs. WHO has identified Comoros as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2025.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, the country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard, however this scorecard is not yet publicly shared on 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 2022 was 20,681 and 0 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insufficient human resources and a limited number of partners to implement malaria control activities.
- · Gaps in funding to allow larger scale IRS.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and mortality since 2015, which means that the country is not on track to achieve the 2025 target of a 75% reduction in malaria incidence and deaths	Q4 2024		The country faced an increase of malaria cases due to heavy rains and flooding linked to the impact of climate change. Measures were implemented including emergency ITN distribution in 2 districts, mass diagnosis and treatment, and targeted IRS in some areas. The NMCP will continue to strengthen the surveillance for monitoring malaria cases trends and level of tests and drugs. Comoros secured EUR 928,951 in Global Fund portfolio optimization resources to fill essential gaps in coverage in A1 2024. This included funds to fill a gap of 201,973 mosquito nets to reach 100% coverage in Grand Comores

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing insecticide resistance and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child Health

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Comoros has also responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing lack of data on ART coverage in children and vitamin A coverage and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

Neglected Tropical Diseases

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Comoros is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Comoros is zero (0%) for both soil transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Comoros in 2022 is 0, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2021 index value (18). The country did not reach any WHO MDA coverage target in 2022.

Previous Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Optimise quality of care	Work to increase the coverage of the targeted preventive chemotherapy NTDs and reach WHO targets.	Q3 2024		In both 2022 and 2023, the country conducted pretransmission and transmission assessments for lymphatic filariasis on the endemic islands and the results confirmed low prevalence of less than 1%, leading the country to stop Mass Drug Administration (MDAs) for Lymphatic Filariasis. The country is now conducting surveillance activities and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis are managed under routine case management. The country is also working on LF elimination dossier.

