## Somalia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three 2020



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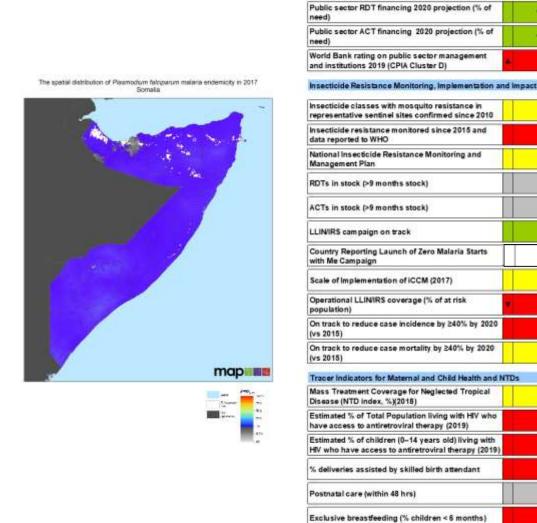
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### **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**

Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control

LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)

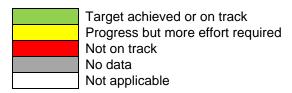


Malaria transmission ranges from unstable and epidemic in Puntland and Somaliland to moderate in central Somalia to high in the south. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 31,030 and 31 deaths.

#### Key

Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)

DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11



# Somalia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2020



## 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 lifesaving 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 Somalia, it was of vital importance to ensure that the rolling universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2020 went ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. The country is congratulated for rolling out the campaign in quarter 3. Without this campaign, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there could be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. 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 an 8.6% increase in malaria cases, and a 25.2% increase in malaria deaths in Somalia. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

#### **Progress**

Somalia has secured sufficient resources to cover the procurement and distribution of the LLINs, ACTs and RDTs required in 2020.

#### **Key Challenges**

- A weak health system and relatively few partners limit scale up of core malaria interventions.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

#### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 31,030 with 31 deaths.

**Previous Key Recommended Action** 

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 2020		Somalia reports that there is no significant change in health services utilization (including for malaria). To address antimalarial stock outs caused by delayed delivery, WHO/EMRO has provided a small emergency stock to the MOH and a 3 months' buffer stock has been requested by MOH through the Global Fund. IRS was completed in the three zones as planned. Three additional districts affected by floods are being sprayed. Net distribution has been delayed due to late delivery of LLINs

**New Key Recommended Action** 

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Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe		
Vector control	Work to accelerate the LLIN campaign	Q1 2021		

## **RMNCAH and NTDs**

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Somalia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage data for schistosomiasis is reported at 100% and for soil transmitted helminths at 42% giving a 2018 index value of 65% which represents an increase compared to 2017.

**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 2020		The MoH, with support from partners, is working to ensure continuity of essential health (RMNCH) services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes capacity building of health professionals and frontline health workers, provision of PPE to health team members in static health facilities and ensuring provision of medical supplies. DHIS2 data are monitored monthly. Efforts have been made to sustain essential life-saving health care services, including skilled birth attendants, malaria prevention and measles vaccination.

Somalia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage and lack of data for a number of key interventions including skilled birth

attendants, exclusive breastfeeding and postnatal care and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO