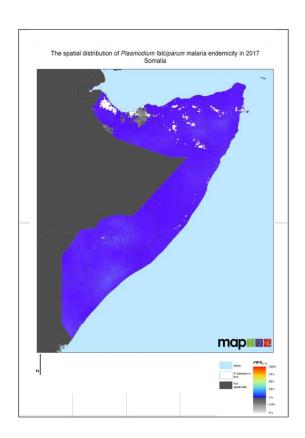
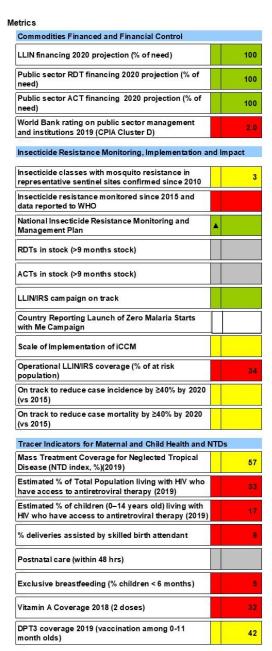
## Somalia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four 2020



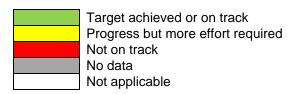
#### **Scorecard for Accountability and Action**





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 2019 was 65,375 and 20 deaths.

#### Key



# Somalia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 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, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

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 in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Nigeria is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Nigeria is high for schistosomiasis (99%) and for onchocerciasis (80%), good for soil transmitted helminths (76%), for trachoma (67%) and for lymphatic filariasis (62%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Nigeria in 2019 is 76, which represents a substantial increase compared with the 2018 index value (60).

#### **Progress**

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

#### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 65,375 and 20 deaths.

#### **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, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.

**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 stockouts 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 is on track for completion by the end of January 2021. Net distribution was delayed due to late delivery of LLINs but was completed in December
Vector control	Work to accelerate the LLIN campaign	Q1 2021		The LLIN campaign was completed

## **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 in Somalia is high for schistosomiasis (100 %) and below WHO targets for soil transmitted helminths (32%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index in 2019 is 57, which represents a decrease compared with the 2018 index value (65).

**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 building capacity 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. Data available on the delivery of health care in the context of COVID-19 through health facilities showed that there continues to be an enhanced uptake of essential health services including at outpatient clinics, ANC SBA and PNC. High coverage of EPI has been observed

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

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.

**New Key Recommended Action** 

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
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 2021

