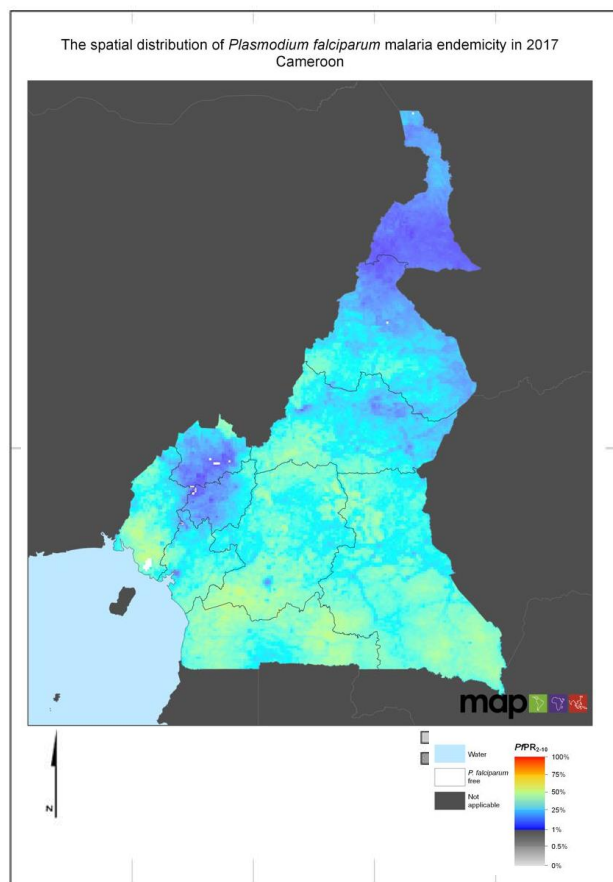


Cameroon ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2020



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Malaria transmission occurs year-round in Cameroon and is most intense in the south of the country. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 2,471,514 with 3,256 deaths.

Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)		46
Public sector RDT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2020 projection (% of need)		100
World Bank rating on public sector management and institutions 2018 (CPIA Cluster D)		3.0
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Insecticide classes with mosquito resistance in representative sentinel sites confirmed since 2010		4
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)		
Operational LLIN/IRS 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 and NTDs		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)		50
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		52
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		24
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		65
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		65
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		28
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	▲	47
DPT3 coverage 2018 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		79

Key

	Target achieved or on track
	Progress but more effort required
	Not on track
	No data
	Not applicable

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 life-saving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent health including 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 and young children (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy and seasonal malaria chemoprevention). 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 Cameroun, it will be of vital importance to ensure that the delivery of seasonal malaria chemoprevention planned for 2020 as well as the completion of the long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) universal coverage campaign in the remaining three regions go ahead as planned in 2020, including with the fast tracking of procurement and contracting of implementation partners, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Without this campaign, coupled with the need to sustain essential health services including malaria case management, there will 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 a 13.4% increase in malaria cases, and a 74.6% increase in malaria deaths in Cameroun. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

The Global Fund

The Global Fund has announced that Cameroun will receive €250 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2021-2023. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Cameroon'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 Cameroun this is calculated at €101.2 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Cameroun 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.

Progress

Cameroon secured most of the resources to cover the costs of the ACTs and RDTs needed in 2020. Cameroon has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Cameroun has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control

Scorecard. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 2,471,514 with 3,256 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insecticide resistance.
- Delays in the completion of the universal coverage campaign.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health including malaria.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Vector Control	Work to ensure the LLIN universal coverage campaign is completed	Q2 2020		The Government of Cameroun has committed to meet the co-financing requirements for the procurement of the LLINs. It is necessary to accelerate the procurement process
Address funding	Ensure the GF malaria funding application is submitted by Q2 2020 and ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control at a level that is sufficient to sustain the gains made in recent years	Q2 2020		Deliverable not yet due

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
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

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Cameroun 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 Cameroun is high for trachoma (100%); and below WHO targets for onchocerciasis (64%), lymphatic filariasis (58%), soil transmitted helminths (34%) and schistosomiasis (25%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Cameroun in 2018 is 50 and this shows a substantial decrease compared with the 2017 index value (83).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH ¹ : Optimise quality of care	Investigate and address the reasons for the reported decrease in Vitamin A coverage in 2016	Q2 2019		The country reports that the low coverage in 2016 was due to only 6 regions out of 10 having resources for vitamin A. High coverage was observed in 2019
NTDs	Work to increase the preventive chemotherapy for Lymphatic Filariasis, Onchocerciasis, Soil Transmitted Helminths and Schistosomiasis to reach WHO targets	Q2 2020		The country is clarifying the data submitted to WHO, noting that coverage was higher than what was included in the Preventive Coverage index

The country has responded positively to previous recommended action on accelerating coverage of ARTs in the total population and in children under 14 years of age, with a 2% increase reported in the last year.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
RMNCAH ¹ : Impact	Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2020

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO