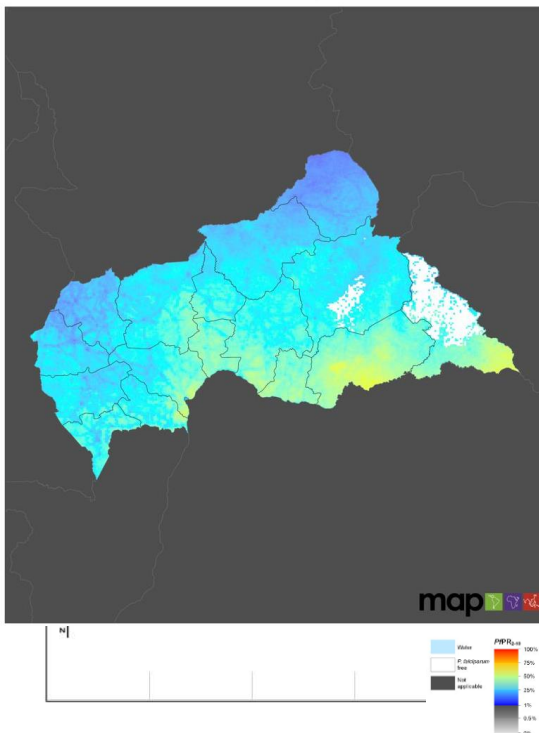


### Scorecard for Accountability and Action

The spatial distribution of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria endemicity in 2017  
Central African Republic



There is intense malaria transmission all year round in the Central African Republic and the entire population of the country is at high risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,980,804 with 1,779 deaths.

#### Metrics

Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		100
Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC		
Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic Plan		
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign		
Resistance Monitoring, Implementation and Impact		
Drug Resistance Monitoring Conducted (2018-2020) and data reported to WHO		
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		
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)	▼	
ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)	▲	
LLIN/IRS campaign on track		
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, NTDs and Covid 19		
Scale of Implementation of iCCM		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		0
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		61
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		42
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	▲	19

#### Key

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

## **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, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Central African Republic, it was of vital importance to ensure that the rolling long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) distribution campaigns due in 2021 were completed on schedule. The country is congratulated for successfully completing the LLIN campaign. Under the worst-case scenario, in which all ITN campaigns were suspended and there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO had estimated that there could have been an 11.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 41.9% increase in malaria deaths in Central Africa Republic. This scenario would have represented a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades. WHO estimates that there were an additional 47,000 malaria deaths globally in 2020 due to service disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to an estimated 7.5% increase in deaths.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2022 as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our continent. This may include the implementation of any necessary catch-up activities and ensuring timely planning to account for potential delays in procurement and delivery. Any intervention must ensure the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

Given the difficulties in securing essential health commodities in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is of vital importance that countries sign, ratify and deposit the African Medicines Agency (AMA) instrument with the AUC in order to improve access to quality, safe and efficacious medical products in Africa. The country is encouraged to do this.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 19% of their population by April 2022. The country, working with partners, should invest in education and behaviour change communication to increase the uptake of COVID vaccines and therapeutics.

## **Malaria Progress**

Central African Republic has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. Central African Republic has recently submitted insecticide resistance monitoring data to WHO. The ACTs, RDTs and LLINs needed for 2022 are fully financed, and the country reports good stocks of ACTs. and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The national strategic plan includes activities targeting IDPs.

## Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 1,980,804 with 1,779 deaths.

## Key Challenges

- Limited access to some at-risk populations is hampering coverage of malaria control interventions.
- Limited resources to further scale-up 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 Actions

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 2022		The country reports that routine malaria interventions have been implemented during the pandemic. Community case management has been intensified. The country is planning for the targeted ITN mass distribution campaigns. Diagnosis and case management are on-going at health facilities and community levels. The country has sufficient stocks of ACTs and RDTs with deliveries in March 2022

Central African Republic has responded positively to the recommended action on development and implementation of a national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and reporting on the status of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO.

## New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Policy	Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC	Q1 2023
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted and the data are reported to WHO	Q1 2023

## RMNCAH and NTDs





Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Central African Republic 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 Central African Republic is zero for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths, onchocerciasis and lymphatic filariasis and is low for trachoma (16%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Central African Republic in 2020 is 0 and this represents substantial increase compared with the 2019 index value.

## Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : 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 2022		The country reports that there have not been major interruptions in health services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The MOH has sustained EPI services. Some activities have been decentralised to community health worker level
NTDs	Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions including MDAs, vector control and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes conducting stock reconciliation following a national and subnational physical inventory count tracking of leftover stocks at district level and retrieving all expired drugs after MDA for incineration and accountability	Q4 2022		By respecting COVID-19 preventive measures, and despite security issues, the country is conducting key NTD intervention

Central African Republic has responded positively to the recommended action on reporting NTD data to WHO. The country has also responded to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of ARTs in children, with a resulting increase of 4%; and lack of data for vitamin A and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

### Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

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