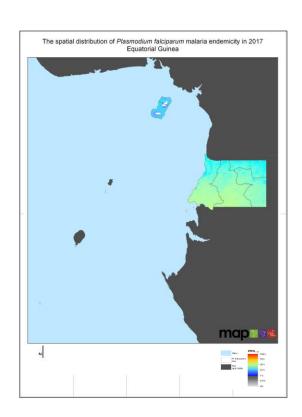
Equatorial Guinea ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022



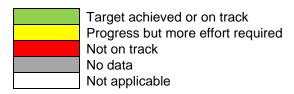
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed	
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)	12
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	10
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)	19
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	2
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)	44
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, NTD	s 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)	28
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)	ā
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	53
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19	18

The entire population of Equatorial Guinea is at high risk of malaria and the transmission is intense all year round. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 83,396 and 15 deaths.

Key



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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, Adolescent and Child health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Equatorial Guinea, the country is encouraged to sustain the delivery of essential health services including malaria case management, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Without this, it is estimated by WHO that there will be an increase in malaria cases and deaths. Under the worst-case scenario, in which there is a 75% reduction in access to effective antimalarial medicines, WHO estimate that there could be a 3.8% increase in malaria cases, and a 30.8% increase in malaria deaths in Equatorial Guinea. This scenario would represent 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 complete this process.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 18% 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

Equatorial Guinea has made progress with malaria control on Bioko Island and is working to extend this success to the mainland. The country has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has reported the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO. The country has procured adequate stocks of RDTs and ACT procurement is underway.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 83,396 and 15 deaths.

Key Challenge

 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
Address funding	Ensure that sufficient domestic resources are committed to malaria control	Q4 2014		The country is working to mobilise resources to address funding gaps
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		During the 2022 first quarter, the country was able to implement diagnosis and treatment services at health facility level. ITNs have been distributed to Pregnant women through ANC services and to children under one year of age through EPI services on the mainland, whilst on Biokko island the country did the mass campaign distribution. IRS has been implemented on Bioko island. The country has low stock of ACTs, RDTs and ITN for the next 6 months as they are at risk of stock outs
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and mortality between 2015 and 2020, which means that the country did not achieve the 2020 target of a 40% reduction in malaria incidence	Q4 2022		The country has distributed ITN to Pregnant women and infants through ANC and EPI respectively on the mainland and carried out a mass ITN distribution and IRS campaigns on Bioko Island

Equatorial Guinea has responded positively to the previous recommended actions addressing low coverage of iCCM and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Equatorial Guinea is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Equatorial Guinea was zero for all the preventive chemotherapy targeted diseases in 2020. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Equatorial Guinea in 2020 is zero, which represents no change compared with the 2019 index value (0).

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 decreasing coverage of postnatal care	Q4 2015		The country does not yet systematically collect postnatal care data
RMNCAH ¹ : 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 there have been no interruptions in delivery of health services. Equatorial Guinea has adapted its workplans to the context of COVID-19, having developed a manual for providing safe care for pregnancy, childbirth and how to keep health workers safe. The country reports it is maintaining services for family planning, ANC, and vaccines, among other interventions
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 prioritizing key necessary catch up activities	Q4 2022		Deliverable not yet due

Equatorial Guinea has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing lack of data on vitamin A and low coverage, ARTs and DPT3. The country continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO