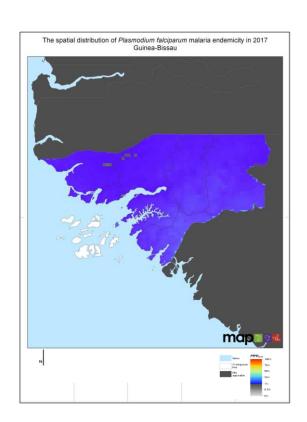
Guinea-Bissau ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One 2022



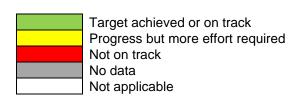
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



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)	e e	100
Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC		<u> </u>
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		C
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
National Insecticide Resistance Monitoring and Management Plan		
RDTs in stock (>6 months stock)		0
ACTs in stock (>6 months stock)	A	
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, NTD	s a	nd Covid 1
Scale of Implementation of iCCM		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		12
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		3.4
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		

The entire population of Guinea-Bissau is at risk of malaria. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 497,916 with 288 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 life-saving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Guinea-Bissau, we commend the Ministry of Health, in the decision to go ahead with the SMC campaigns, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Based on WHO modeling, this decision, allied with sustained malaria case management through the health system and the delivery of seasonal malaria chemoprevention, will prevent a significant 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 94.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 215.7% increase in malaria deaths in Guinea-Bissau. 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 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 17% 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

Guinea-Bissau secured sufficient resources to sustain coverage of LLINs, ACTs, RDTs and LLINs in 2022. The country has scaled up iCCM implementation and has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve operational universal coverage of the at risk population. The country has submitted data to WHO on the insecticide resistance status.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 497,916 with 288 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
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 has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs although a stock out was observed in December 2021. Malaria activities including case management and prevention are being implemented as planned at health facilities and community level although the ongoing strike of health care professionals is impacting case management
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 requested Technical Assistance support from WHO and RBM to carry out an assessment of the malaria burden, past, current and future

New Key Recommended Actions

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

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Guinea-Bissau is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 87% for trachoma, 70% for onchocerciasis, 22% for lymphatic filariasis, 19% for soil-transmitted helminths and 0% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Guinea-Bissau in 2020 is 12, which represents a small increase compared with the 2019 index value of 11.

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	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q1 2021		The country achieved 54% coverage in the first vitamin A campaign of 2020 but the second campaign was impacted by COVID-19
	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		No progress reported
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		The country is conducting NTD prevention and control interventions whilst ensuring COVID-19 safety measures. In quarter 1 2022, a workshop was organized to review and validate the protocols for confirmatory mapping (Pre-Transmission and transmission assessments: pre-AS and TAS). The country also organized a coordination meeting between partners to ensure the NTD activities in country are well oriented and coordinated. A training of MDA supervisors on how to organize MDA during covid-19 pandemic was also conducted. The preparations for MDA planned in Q2 2022 are ongoing and the medicines with risk of expiry will be used before the expiry date.

Guinea Bissau has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended actions addressing low coverage of ARTs in children and continues to track progress as actions are implemented.



 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO