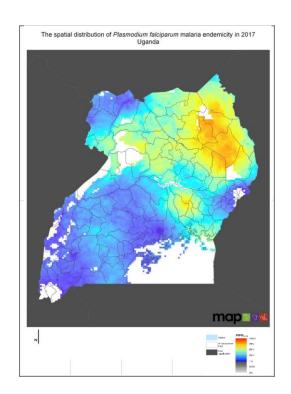
Uganda ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2022



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)		5
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		10
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		10
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	6	0
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		
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)	₩	
LLIN/IRS campaign on track		
Operational LLIN/IRS coverage (% of at risk population)		10
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)		6
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2020)		6
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		
DPT3 coverage 2020 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		8
		1

Malaria transmission occurs all year round in most parts of Uganda. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 15,342,561 with 4,252 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, Child and Adolescent health, Neglected Tropical Diseases and malaria.

For Uganda, we commend the Ministry of Health, in the decision to go ahead with the Indoor Residual Spraying, in accordance with the guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. This decision, allied with sustained malaria case management through the health system 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 53.1% increase in malaria cases, and a 235.1% increase in malaria deaths in Uganda. 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 congratulated on completing 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 16% 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

Uganda has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve operational universal coverage of vector control in the targeted at risk population. The country has secured sufficient finances to fund the ACTs, RDTs required in 2021. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. Uganda has also completed drug resistance monitoring since 2018 and has reported the data to WHO. Uganda has completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Uganda has decreased the estimated malaria incidence and malaria mortality rate by more than 40% since 2010. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Uganda has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the Malaria Control Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. Uganda has launched the Mass Action Against Malaria campaign and the End Malaria Fund.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 15,342,561 with 4,252 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		Malaria services continue to be provided in adherence to COVID-19 presentation protocols. An increase in malaria cases in the eastern Uganda was detected in Q4 2021. The MOH is undertaking an investigation to identify contributory factors including a possible impact of COVID-19
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 increase in reported incidence and mortality over the period 2015-2020 is attributed by the county to an increase of 13% in health facility reporting. Additionally, the percentage of malaria cases that were confirmed increased from 39% in 2015 to 92% in 2018. The 2018 Uganda Malaria Indicator Survey (UMIS) showed a marked reduction in malaria parasitaemia of 9.1%, from 19% reported in 2015 in children under five years of age. The country has completed a sub-national stratification to better target interventions for maximum impact. Uganda has also completed the LLIN universal coverage campaign in 2020

The country has responded positively to the recommended action on removal of tariffs on private sector RDTs to enhance affordability in the private sector.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Uganda has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the ongoing development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Uganda 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 100% for lymphatic filariasis, 85% for onchocerciasis, 62% for soil transmitted helminths, 57% for trachoma and 47% for schistosomiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Uganda in 2020 was 68, which represents a high increase when compared to 2019 index value (18).

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
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		RMNCAH services have been sustained in adherence to COVID-19 prevention protocols. A review of data has shown a reduction in childhood vaccination during 2021. In response, the MOH is considering catch-up vaccination campaigns
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 2022		The country is implementing NTD prevention and control activities whilst using COVID-19 pandemic measures. All routine activities are being conducted and currently, with the support of SCI, the country is in the preparation of MDA for STH and Schistosomiasis to be conducted in April 2022 and all the Praziquantel will be used before the expiry date.

The country has responded positively to the recommended action on the lack of data on vitamin A and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO