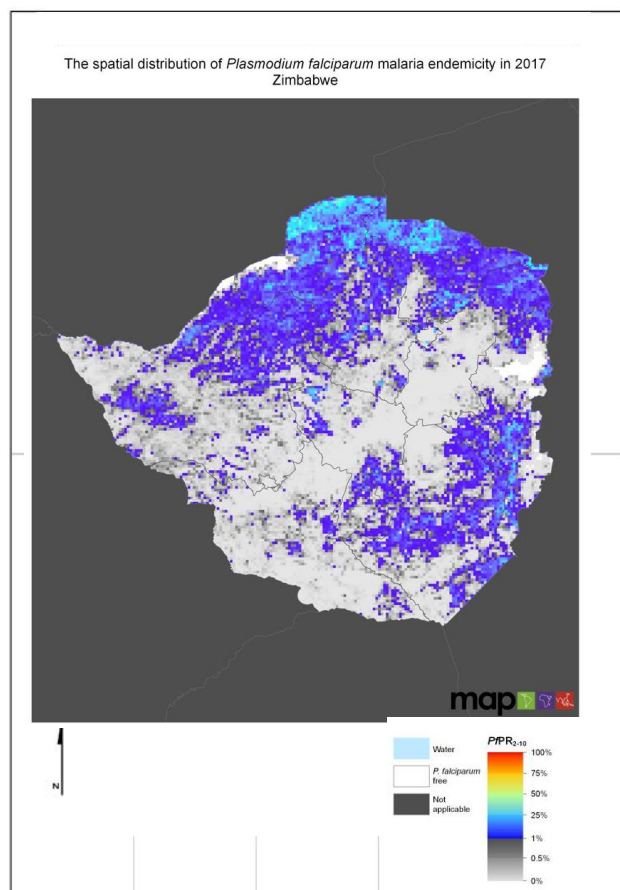


# Zimbabwe ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2020

## Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Malaria transmission is seasonal in Zimbabwe with about 60% of the population at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 184,427 and 192 deaths.

### Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control		
IRS financing 2020 (% of at-risk population)		100
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)		2.8
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)	▲	94
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)		0
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		88
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2018)		76
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant		78
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)		57
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)		47
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)		40
DPT3 coverage 2018 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		89

### 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 of COVID-19. 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 (intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy). 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 Zimbabwe, it will be of vital importance that the indoor residual spraying (IRS) campaign planned for the fourth quarter of 2020 goes ahead and that the insecticides for the campaign are ordered on time, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO. Without this IRS, coupled with the ongoing long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) distributions and 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 23.2% increase in malaria cases, and a 111.4% increase in malaria deaths in Zimbabwe. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

### **Progress**

Zimbabwe has secured the resources required for ACTs, RDTs, LLINs and IRS in 2020 and has achieved high coverage of vector control. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO, and has finalised the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Zimbabwe has significantly enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard. The country has significantly reduced malaria cases and deaths since 2015.

### **Impact**

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 184,427 and 192 deaths.

### **Key Challenges**

- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- 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	Ensure the IRS programme is fully implemented before the beginning of the malaria season	Q4 2019		Zimbabwe secured the necessary insecticides and completed the spraying in January 2020, achieving almost 94% coverage of IRS. It was noted that some districts did achieve lower coverage and a response plan has been prepared to address the underlying reasons for this
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		The country submitted its GF application in Q1

The country has responded to the recommended action to ensure that the recent cyclone does not impact negatively on the malaria situation and successfully mobilized emergency funds to cover the costs of additional malaria commodities and operations and has not experienced any major upsurge.

## New Key Recommended Actions

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
Impact	Work to address the increase in malaria cases observed in Q1 2020	Q2 2020

## RMNCAH and NTDs

### Progress

Zimbabwe achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention skilled birth attendants and ARTs in the total population. Zimbabwe has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Zimbabwe is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. Preventive chemotherapy coverage is low for trachoma (23%) and the country did not implement preventive chemotherapy for schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Zimbabwe in 2018 is 0, which represents a decrease compared with the 2017 index value (12).

### Previous Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
NTDs	Implement preventive chemotherapy ( PC) for schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis and work to increase PC for trachoma to reach WHO target.	Q2 2020		Zimbabwe did not organise Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminths MDA in 2018 and in 2019 as the country was mapping these diseases. Between September 2018 and March 2019, Lymphatic Filariasis mapping was conducted and MDA will subsequently be carried out in 2020. MDA for Trachoma was conducted in 2019 and will also take place in 2020 and the country is working to increase coverage

### New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
RMNCAH <sup>1</sup> : 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

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