

Sudan ALMA Quarterly Report

Quarter Two, 2020



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics

Commodities Financed and Financial Control

LLIN financing 2020 projection (% of need)	83
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)	2.1

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	
RDTs in stock (>9 months stock)	
ACTs in stock (>9 months stock)	
LLINIRS campaign on track	
Country Reporting Launch of Zero Malaria Starts with Me Campaign	
Scale of Implementation of iCCM (2017)	
Operational LLINIRS 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 and NTDs

Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2018)	30
Estimated % of Total Population living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	22
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2019)	17
% deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendant	78
Postnatal care (within 48 hrs)	27
Exclusive breastfeeding (% children < 6 months)	55
Vitamin A Coverage 2018 (2 doses)	34
DPT3 coverage 2019 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)	93

Malaria transmission in Sudan is low-to-moderate and occasionally epidemic. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 3,581,302 with 3,129 deaths.

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. 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, Adolescent and Child health and 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 Sudan, it will be of vital importance to ensure that the universal coverage campaign for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) scheduled for 2020 goes ahead, whilst taking into account physical distancing, in accordance with the recent guidance and recommendations from WHO and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. Without the LLIN campaign, planned indoor residual spraying (IRS) and sustained malaria case management, there could 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 18.6% increase in malaria cases, and a 74.1% increase in malaria deaths in Sudan. This scenario would represent a complete reversal in the substantial progress in malaria mortality reductions seen over the last 2 decades.

Progress

Sudan has financed most of the required LLINs, ACTs and RDTs required to sustain high coverage in 2020. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO and has completed the insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. The country has procured sufficient LLINs and carried out IRS to achieve operational vector control coverage of the targeted at risk population. Sudan has also scaled up the implementation of iCCM. The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2018 was 3,581,302 with 3,129 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insecticide resistance threatens vector control.
- Gaps in funding for IRS.
- 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
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		Malaria control services, including testing and treatment have continued despite the COVID-19 pandemic. All health facilities have sufficient stocks of RDTs and ACTs although some delays were initially experienced in their distribution. Distribution of LLINs (door to door) and IRS implementation are planned with the necessary COVID precautions taken into account. All health workers are reported to have sufficient PPEs.
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 the GF malaria application in Q2

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions on addressing the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and malaria mortality rate between 2010 and 2017.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Sudan has achieved high coverage of the tracer RMNCAH indicator skilled birth attendants, exclusive breastfeeding and DPT3. The country 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 Sudan 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 is very good for schistosomiasis (95%) but below WHO targets for trachoma (51%), onchocerciasis (19%), lymphatic filariasis (17%), soil transmitted helminths (15%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Sudan in 2018 is 30, which represents a substantial increase compared with the 2017 index value (12). The country has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the first NTD Scorecard.

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 low coverage of vitamin A	Q2 2020		The country has increased coverage of vitamin A by 14% in 2018 compared to 2017, however overall coverage remains low. The nutrition department is working to fill gaps to further enhance coverage
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 2020		The MCH Directorate developed a Guideline for ensuring the continuity of MCH services during COVID-19 for all states to ensure safe services remain available for all during the Covid-19 pandemic. All MCH departments organized the training for health staff in coordination with the COVID-19 case management committee and UNFPA. Training included Infection Prevention and Control, Visual Triage, and Case management courses for community midwives working at community level and health visitors and health care providers working at PHC's. Advanced training on clinical management was carried out for specialists. Implementation of the supervision of RMNCAH services for all states to ensure safe services has continued

Sudan has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing low coverage of postnatal care and coverage of ARTs and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

Key

	Action achieved
	Some progress
	No progress
	Deliverable not yet due

¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO