Comoros ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Four, 2022



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Metrics **Commodities Financed** LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need) Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need) 100 Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need) 100 Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the Malaria activities targeting refugees in Malaria Strategic Malaria activities targeting IDPs in Malaria Strategic 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 Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data 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) On track to reduce case incidence by ≥40% by 2021 (vs On track to reduce case mortality by ≥40% by 2021 (vs Tracer Indicators for Maternal and Child Health, NTDs and Covid 19 Scale of Implementation of iCCM Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2021) Estimated % of children (0-14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2021) Vitamin A Coverage 2021 (2 doses) DPT3 coverage 2021 (vaccination among 0-11 month 85 % Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19 48

Most of the population of Comoros is at risk of malaria. Transmission is perennial on the Island of Grand Comore and unstable throughout the zones of Anjouan and Mohéli. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 10,547 and 3 deaths.

Key



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Malaria

Global Fund Update

The Global Fund has announced that Comoros will receive US\$6.4 million for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening as the country allocation for 2024-2026. The Global Fund has determined the total allocation amount based on Comoros's disease burden and income level, as well as several other factors. The malaria component is also allocated a specific proportion of the total, according to a formula developed by the Global Fund that takes into account several factors, including disease burden and the importance of sustaining life-saving essential services. For Comoros this is calculated at US\$4.99 million. The allocations to the individual disease components are not fixed, and can be adjusted according to decisions made at country level. Comoros is urged to ensure that resources are allocated to malaria control from the overall Global Fund country allocation, as well as from domestic resources, to accelerate progress.

Progress

The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, Comoros has adequate financing for the required ACTs and vector control needs in 2022. The country has carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and has reported the results to WHO. WHO has identified Comoros as being a country with the potential to eliminate local transmission of malaria by 2025.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, the country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of a Malaria Elimination Scorecard, however this scorecard is not yet publicly shared on the ALMA Scorecard Hub.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 10,547 and 3 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insufficient human resources and a limited number of partners to implement malaria control activities.
- Gaps in funding to allow larger scale IRS.
- 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 distributed ITNs to targeted groups including orphans and prisoners, and the IRS was implemented in targeted districts. Management of drugs and tests were done at community level through the electronic software with actions on redistribution of commodities to mitigate against stock outs. The country has enough stock of ACT, however RDT stocks are insufficient as the country is implementing the active case detection at entry point and at community level
Monitoring	Ensure that drug resistance monitoring is conducted, and the data are reported to WHO	Q1 2023		Drug resistance testing will be implemented in 2023

The country has responded positively to the recommended actions addressing development of a national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
Impact	Investigate and address the reasons for the increase in estimated malaria incidence and mortality between 2015 and 2021	Q4 2023

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Comoros is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Comoros is low for both soil transmitted helminths (8%) and lymphatic filariasis (39%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Comoros in 2021 is 18, which represents a very substantial decrease compared with the 2020 index value (33).

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	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		COVID-19 led to a reduction in patients seeking care at health facilities in 2020-2021. The Government set up a national commission to coordinate and manage the pandemic and a COVID-19 response plan was established. Health access has since returned back to normal levels
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 respecting COVID-19 measures. In Q4 2022, the country completed the MDA report and submitted data to WHO. The country is working on the new NTD Master plan and on the Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention (MMDP) plan. Other routine activities are being conducted as planned

Comoros has also responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing lack of data on ART coverage in children and vitamin A coverage and continues to track progress as these actions are implemented.

New Key Recommended Action

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe
NTDs	Work to increase the coverage of all the preventive chemotherapy NTDs for both soil transmitted helminths and lymphatic filaria sand reach WHO targets.	Q4 2023



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO