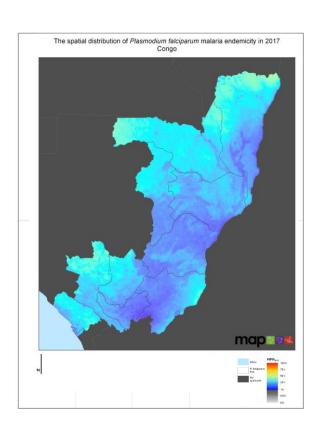
Congo ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2022



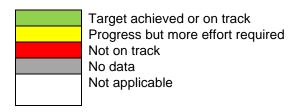
Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)		10
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	Ī	
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		
Insecticide resistance monitored since 2015 and data reported to WHO		
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)	•	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, NTDs ar	d C	ovid 19
Scale of Implementation of iCCM		
Mass Treatment Coverage for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD index, %)(2020)		3
Estimated % of children (0–14 years old) living with HIV who have access to antiretroviral therapy (2021)		1
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		
DPT3 coverage 2021 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		7
		1

The entire population of the Republic of the Congo is at high risk of malaria and transmission is intense all year round. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 103,692 with 99 deaths.

Key



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Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted routine health services considerably, and the economic impacts continue to hamper health systems recovery. It is vitally important that we focus on recovering lost ground in delivering essential life-saving interventions during this difficult time, sustaining progress towards the SDG targets for Malaria, Neglected Tropical Diseases and Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent health.

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 complete this process. Early procurement of essential health commodities is also highly recommended whilst long delivery times persist.

The country has been affected by the continent-wide restriction of access to COVID-19 vaccines and had only been able to cover 12% of their population by October 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

Congo secured sufficient resources to cover the required needs for ACTs, RDTs and LLINs required in 2022. The country has scaled up iCCM coverage. The country has recently reported the results of insecticide resistance monitoring to WHO and has carried out drug resistance testing since 2018 and has reported the results to WHO.

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

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 103,692 with 99 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Low coverage of essential interventions due to lack of external and domestic resources.
- 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		Congo is implementing the ITN mass campaign distribution, although this has faced some delays. Key malaria interventions such as the diagnosis and the treatment were implemented as planned
Policy	Work to incorporate activities targeting refugees and or IDPs in the Malaria Strategic Plan	Q1 2023		Deliverable not yet due

Congo has responded to the recommended actions addressing financing of anti-malarial commodities and continues to track progress as this action is implemented. The country is working on a multisectoral investment plan.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

The country has enhanced the 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 Congo is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Congo in 2020 was low for onchocerciasis (30%), lymphatic filariasis (33%), soil transmitted helminths (41%) and for schistosomiasis (33%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Congo in 2020 is 34 and this represents a substantial increase compared with the 2019 index value (12).

The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD scorecard.

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		Congo reports that services continued during the COVID-19 pandemic, but there were reductions in coverage for ANC, and disruptions to routine and campaign vaccination and Vitamin A distribution. Service coverage is now returning to normal
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 whilst using COVID-19 preventive measures. In Q3 2022, the country organized MDA for Lymphatic Filariasis. The country has been also working on the onchocerciasis and yaws reports for the conducted last quarter. Other activities include the mapping of Onchocerciasis elimination and the ongoing research on Loiasis morbidity and mortality in Lekoumou department.

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



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO