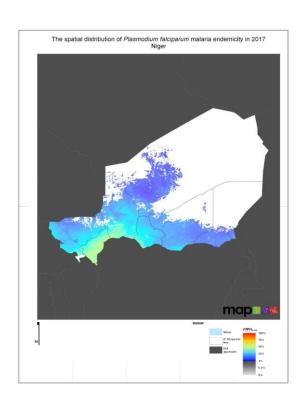
Niger ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter Three, 2022



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



Commodities Financed		
LLIN financing 2022 projection (% of need)		92
Public sector RDT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		78
Public sector ACT financing 2022 projection (% of need)		68
Policy		
Signed, ratified and deposited the AMA instrument at the AUC	(6)	
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		
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)		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, NTDs an	d C	ovid 19
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 (2021)		50
Vitamin A Coverage 2020 (2 doses)		
DPT3 coverage 2021 (vaccination among 0-11 month olds)		82
% Population Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19		

Malaria transmission is most intense in the south whilst the desert areas in the north are malaria-free. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 4,377,938 with 5,849 deaths.

Key



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Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19Pandemic

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 congratulated for doing this. The country is encouraged to do this. 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 7% 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

Niger mobilised the required financing to procure and distribute LLINs, and RDTs required for 2022. The country has procured sufficient LLINs to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted population. The country has adequate stocks of ACTs and RDTs. Niger has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan and has recently reported the results of insecticide resistance testing to WHO. The country is also showing leadership in malaria control through its participation in the High Burden High Impact approach. Niger has launched its Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign.

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 the Malaria Control Scorecard, although the scorecard is not yet posted to the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country is developing a concept note for the End Malaria Council.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2020 was 4,377,938 with 5,849 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Insufficient resources to achieve high coverage of essential malaria interventions.
- 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 implemented the digitalized SMC campaign for more than 4.9 million targeted children. The NMCP is planning to conduct the Malaria Programme Review, NSP development and retrospective assessment in collaboration with the GF, WHO, RBM and ALMA. Diagnosis and treatment were implemented at health facility level. ITN distribution was done through routine services and through the community distribution in 1 pilot district. ACT and RDTs are available at central level.
Policy	Work to incorporate activities targeting refugees in the Malaria Strategic Plan	Q1 2023		The NMCP is in the development process of the new MSP and the situation regarding refugees will be taken into consideration
Address vector control coverage	Work to fill funding gaps for LLINs and ACTs	Q4 2023		The country has secured additional resources for ACTs through the Global Fund

Niger has responded positively to the recommended action addressing resource mobilisation and continues to track progress as this action is implemented.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

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 Niger is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2020, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 78% for lymphatic filariasis, 59% for schistosomiasis, 100% for soil transmitted helminths and 30% for trachoma. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Niger in 2020 is 61, which represents a decrease compared with the 2019 index value of 74.

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		No progress reported
NTDs	Recognising the negative impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 MDA coverage, ensure that NTD interventions are sustained and implemented whilst using Covid-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes prioritizing key necessary catch up activities including the tracking of leftover stocks at district level to retrieve all expired drugs after MDA for incineration and accountability purposes and ensure the First-Expire-First-Out (FEFO) method is effectively implemented at the national level	Q4 2022		The country is conducting NTD prevention and control interventions as planned. In Q3 2022, the country has been working to strengthen onchocerciasis surveillance while addressing the recommendations from the expert committee. A training of 50 parliamentarians of the social affairs and cultural commission on the use of NTD scorecard for advocacy has been also conducted. Different coordination meetings with the Civil Society organizations working on NTD advocacy were organized and other routine activities are being conducted.
Optimise quality of care	Address the falling coverage of vitamin A	Q4 2022		Deliverable not yet due

Key



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO