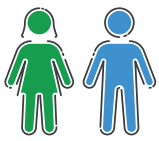




Cameroon

COUNTRY PROFILE



Population

25,8 millions
d'habitants



- Tropical Climate
in the north
- Equatorial
in the south and in the center
- Two alternating dry seasons



Geography

A country in Central Africa

bordered by
Congo basin in the south
Lake Chad in the north
and the Atlantic ocean



The "March to Kigali" Campaign

While NTDs and malaria are entirely preventable and treatable diseases, they continue to be a major obstacle to economic and social development in Africa, affecting the most marginalized populations.

The "March to Kigali" campaign was launched in April 2021, in the context of the build-up to the summit on NTDs and malaria on the eve of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, Rwanda, which provided a unique opportunity to further garner global attention and accelerate action to end these preventable and treatable diseases.

While this summit has been postponed due to COVID-19, the "March to Kigali" campaign seeks to maintain and foster this energy and to develop an integrated approach to advocating for the elimination of both NTDs and malaria.

"March to Kigali" is led by a group of like-minded CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) representing a range of Francophone and Anglophone African nations. It builds on the existing partnerships and platforms of the "No to NTDs" and "Zero Malaria Starts with Me" campaigns and aims to secure commitments from regional, national and sub-national stakeholders to end these epidemics by 2030, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It includes political engagement, private sector engagement, civil society and youth engagement.



Malaria

Malaria is the most common endemic disease in Cameroon

- > Cameroon is one of the fifteen countries most affected by malaria, accounting for 3% of all malaria cases in the world
- > Malaria consumes 40% of annual household income and accounts for 26% of work-related sick leave
- > 3% of deaths from malaria in 2019
- > Third most affected country in Central Africa (12.7% of cases)
- > Number of suspected and confirmed cases (2019): 4,266,648
- > Estimated number of cases (2019): 6,291,256
- > Number of reported deaths (2019): 4,510
- > Estimated number of deaths (2019): 11,233
- > Under-5 mortality rate (2019; per 1,000 viable births): 74.8
- > Number of deaths among children under age 5 (2019): 66,071
- > Percentage of deaths due to malaria in children under 5 (2017): 13.7

SUCCESSSES :

- > Malaria morbidity in Cameroon has decreased from 30.1% in 2014 to 25.9% in 2018 and mortality from 22.9% to 14.9% during the same period
- > The prevalence rate at the national level dropped from 30% in 2013 to 24% in 2014
- > The implementation of free treatment of malaria in children under 5 years of age since February 2011

CHALLENGES :

- > Parasite resistance to antimalarial drugs
- > Lack of effective and sustainable strategies
- > Limited access to health care for certain localities, especially in rural areas
- > Redirection of resources allocated to malaria to the fight against COVID-19
- > Stock-outs of malaria rapid diagnostic tests
- > The COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed the implementation of prevention strategies such as the mass drug distribution campaign



#marchtokigali



NTDs

12 neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) listed in Cameroon out of 17 worldwide.

The most well-known are: schistosomiasis, Buruli ulcer, trachoma, onchocerciasis and leprosy.

According to the World Bank, NTDs reduce annual economic productivity by up to 33 million USD in Cameroon.

SUCCESSSES :

- > Increase in treatment coverage
- > 71% coverage rate for lymphatic filariasis, 75% coverage rate for onchocerciasis, 77% coverage rate for schistosomiasis, 61% for geohelminthiasis, 26% for trachoma
- > 13.6 million people in Cameroon received treatment for neglected tropical diseases in 2016

CHALLENGES :

- > Low allocation of resources dedicated to NTDs
- > Lack of a multisectoral approach to better address NTDs
- > Lack of knowledge of treatment and prevention measures for NTDs in certain localities
- > Misunderstanding of the causes of these diseases (e.g popular beliefs related to witchcraft)



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Access rate:

- > Rate of individual or shared access to water utilities is 26%
- > Access to basic water point in rural areas : 39%
- > Access to basic water point in urban areas : 77%
- > Basic sanitation in rural areas : 18%
- > Basic sanitation in urban areas : 56%