Background

The Republic of Angola is a country in Southern Africa, bordering Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, and Zambia. It has a long coastline and a central plateau. It is a lower-middle income with a GDP per capita of US$ 2,815 (2019). Its population of 36.7 million (2023) is relatively young, with 45% under the age of 15 years.

Key points

- Angola has a high burden of communicable and non-communicable disease (NCDs), with the latter making up 32% of deaths in 2019.
- Angola has improved its child survival rates between 2015 and 2021, however it is not yet meeting the SDG targets for neonatal or under-five mortality rates.
- Angola has made limited progress in achieving the 95-95-95 goals for HIV. It was estimated that only 57% of people living with HIV knew their status in 2021.
- Angola is endemic for 4 of the 5 NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA). In 2021, there were 4.4 million people targeted for MDA, although only 2.7 million were treated.
- Angola has historically achieved suboptimal vaccination coverage rates. However, in 2021, the coverage rates were the lowest recorded for more than 15 years for both the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (45%) and the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (36%). This resulted in 707,721 under-immunised children and 553,309 zero-dose children and there is an urgent need for catch-up vaccination.
Communicable diseases

**Malaria**

Malaria remains a public health problem in Angola, with an estimated 8.8 million cases (incidence rate of 240 cases per 1000 population) in 2021, resulting in 17,836 deaths (case fatality ratio of 0.20%). The country is off track to meet the Global Technical Strategy for malaria targets as the incidence rate per 1,000 population has risen steadily since 2015. There are opportunities to strengthen the malaria programme. Insecticide-treated bednet use in children under five years was only 22% and just 27% of people with fever, for whom care was sought and received a finger/heel prick, used artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT).

**Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS**

The estimated TB incidence in 2019 is 350/100,000 population. Estimates of mortality rates related to TB remain high but have slightly decreased since 2015 to 51 per 100,000 population.

Progress against the 95-95-95 goals is yet to be fully achieved:
- 57% of people living with HIV that know their status.
- 72% of people living with HIV who know their status are on treatment.
- There is limited data on the number of people living with HIV and on treatment who are virally suppressed.

Approximately 128,292 people were receiving antiretroviral treatment in 2021.

**Neglected tropical diseases**

Angola is endemic for four of the five NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA), namely lymphatic filariasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis. There is limited data on trachoma. In 2021, there were 4.4 million people targeted for MDA, although only 2.7 million were treated.

Other notable NTDs that remain endemic are dracunculiasis (Guinea worm), leishmaniasis (cutaneous and visceral), human African trypanosomiasis (gambiense), leprosy and rabies.

Non-communicable diseases

NCDs are a major health problems in Angola. The age-standardised mortality rate across four major NCDs (Cardiovascular Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Cancer and Diabetes) was 755 per 100,000 in males and 552 in females in 2021.

Angola has implemented efforts on the NCD progress indicators related to tobacco control and alcohol availability, but progress has been more limited on indicators related to alcohol taxes and advertising restrictions, salt policies, trans fats policies, marketing to children and physical activity guidelines.

Childhood Immunization

Historically, Angola is one of the countries where immunisation in children has been sub-optimal. The coverage rate for the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine in 2021 was only 45%, the lowest-level it has been since 2001. Similarly, the measles vaccination coverage for the first dose was 36% in 2021, the lowest since 2006.

The low coverage rate, combined with the relatively high population size, resulted in an estimated 707,721 under-immunised children and 553,309 zero-dose children. This suggests an urgent need to implement catch-up vaccination strategies in the country.

Child survival

Based on the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) estimates, the under-5 mortality rate has fallen from 89 to 69 per 1000 live births between 2015 and 2021, it is still above the SDG target of 25 per 1,000 live births. Similarly, neonatal mortality fell from 31 to 27 per 1,000 live births in the same period, although it remains above the SDG target of 12.
HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS

128,292 people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021
33% Treatment success rate for HIV-positive TB cases
56% of children (aged < 5 years) household contacts of bacteriologically-confirmed TB cases on preventive treatment

73% Domestic funding for TB
16% Domestic funding for HIV

INDICATOR 1 - Targets
INDICATOR 2 - CRV Mortality
INDICATOR 3 - Surveys
INDICATOR 4 - NCD policy and Plan
INDICATOR 5A - Tobacco taxes
INDICATOR 5B - Tobacco smoke free/polution
INDICATOR 5C - Tobacco health warning
INDICATOR 5D - Tobacco advertising ban
INDICATOR 6A - Alcohol availability
INDICATOR 6B - Alcohol advertising restriction
INDICATOR 6C - Alcohol taxes
INDICATOR 7A - Salt policies
INDICATOR 7B - Trans fats policies
INDICATOR 7C - Marketing to children
INDICATOR 8 - Physical activity awareness
INDICATOR 9 - NCD guidelines

NCD PROGRESS INDICATORS

● Achieved
● Partially achieved
● Not achieved/Unknown

NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

Endemic NTDS requiring Preventive Chemotherapy (PC)
- Lympthic filariasis
- Schistosomiasis
- Soil-transmitted helminthiasis
- Trachoma (Unknown)
- Onchocerciasis

PC-NTDs treatment in 2021
- 4.4 Million targeted for MDA
- 2.7 Million treated with MDA

OTHER MAJOR NTDS
- Dracunculiasis (Guinea worm)
- Leprosy
- Leishmaniasis (Cutaneous and visceral)
- Human African Trypanosomiasis (gambiense)