

# Act to End NTDs | East

## FY20 Q4 Monthly Updates

### July 1, 2020–September 30, 2020

Cooperative Agreement No. 7200AA18CA00040

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## **Act to End NTDs | East Program Overview**

The U.S. Agency for International Development Act to End Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) | East Program supports national NTD programs in reaching World Health Organization goals for NTD control and elimination through proven, cost-effective public health interventions. The Act to End NTDs | East (Act | East) Program also provides critical support to countries on their journey to self-reliance, helping them create sustainable programming for NTD control within robust and resilient health systems. The Act | East Program is being implemented by RTI International with a consortium of partners, led by RTI International and including includes The Carter Center; Fred Hollows Foundation; IMA World Health; Light for the World; Results for Development (R4D); Save the Children; Sightsavers; and Women Influencing Health, Education, and Rule of Law (WI-HER).

July 2020

DRC

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 85,281,024 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 519 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	Trachoma rapid assessments (TRA): 52 HZ, January – March 2020 Trachoma baseline mapping: 38 EUs, January – <b>December 2020</b>
<b>MDA</b>	1 HZ (Pweto) Aug 2020
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), <b>Sept 2020</b> TSS: 0
<b>MERLA</b>	Coverage survey in Pweto HZ, Oct 2019
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated mapping and TIS timeframe.

Highlights:

- The PNLMTN, with RTI Act | East DRC country team support, developed and adopted COVID-19 transmission prevention standard operating procedures (SOPs) for conducting MDA activities that conforms to WHO guidelines for NTD activities during COVID-19, identified necessary precautions to reduce the risk of COVID infection, and outlined community communications. The SOPs were incorporated into DRC’s request to USAID to restart field activities.
- The PNLMTN completed the update and revision of the trachoma baseline survey protocol for conducting surveys in 16 EUs in FY20 Q4. Evaluation units to be surveyed in Phase II will be selected based on the results of the Phase I surveys.
- The RTI Act | East DRC country team initiated preliminary analysis of the costing elements of the trachoma baseline mapping and rapid assessments for 2018 – 2020. The analysis will confirm the primary cost drivers of surveys in DRC relative to geographic and logistic variables and assess the cost benefits of Trachoma Rapid Assessments. The results are intended to inform other potential partners for planning future surveys in DRC.

Upcoming Activities:

- Support the PNLMTN to conduct a virtual 2019 annual review meeting, date TBD
- Conduct trachoma MDA in Pweto HZ, August – September 2020
- Conduct trachoma baseline surveys in 16 EUs, August – December 2020
- Conduct TIS in Kilwa HZ, September 2020

July 2020

ETHIOPIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)	<b>Total population:</b> 105,066,076 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 867 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (73), TRA (703), OV (196), SCH (421), STH (545)
	<b>Refugee camps total population:</b> 422,749 (2020)
	<b>Total camps:</b> 12

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	11/12 districts + 4/4 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (5/5 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (4/4 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- Dec 2019, Oromia-LFTW (5/5 districts)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)-<b>Sept 2020</b></li> </ul>	81/81 districts + 5/5 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (14/14 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (5/5 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (67/67 districts)- Jan 2020</li> </ul>	53 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	100 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	59/116 districts (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (2/2 districts)- Dec 2019</li> <li>• Gambella (9/9 districts)- January 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (48/63 districts)- Feb and <b>Sept 2020</b>, LFTW (0/24 districts)- <b>Sept 2020</b></li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/18 districts)- <b>Sept 2020</b></li> </ul>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: (9/9 districts) (Oct 2019-Sept 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (3/3 districts)-Dec 2019</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (6/6 districts)-Nov 2019</li> </ul> TAS1: 0/9 districts (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/3 districts)- November 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (0/6 districts)-Nov 2020</li> </ul> TAS2: 0 TAS3: 0				<b>TIS: 62/103 districts + 7 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/2 districts)- November 2020</li> <li>• Gambella (0/3 districts)- December 2020, Gambella (0/7 camps)-August 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (51/78 districts)</li> <li>• Oromia- LFTW (0/5 districts)- FY21</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (11/12 districts)-April 2020</li> </ul> <b>TSS: 3/14 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/7 districts)- Nov 2020, BG (0/2 camps)-Aug 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (3/7 districts) <b>Sept 2020</b></li> </ul>

<b>MERLA</b>	RTI MERLA team working on MERLA round table discussion.
<b>HSS</b>	The consultant finalized and submitted the first draft of the National Sustainability plan during this reporting period. Act   East provided inputs and the development of the second draft is underway.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- All MDA and DSA plans remain on hold in all targeted regions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but activities are tentatively targeted for restart in August-September 2020.

Highlights (June and July 2020):

- Act | East partners, in collaboration with the FMOH and RHBs, began virtual assessments to resume field level activities. LFTW has received a request from the FMOH to conduct OV Round 2 MDA in August 2020. This activity would not be conducted using USAID funds but will provide a valuable opportunity to observe the effectiveness of COVID-19 mitigation measures and adapt the as needed.
- LFTW worked with HMIS technical officers at the Regional Health Bureau of Oromia and Tigray to conduct data entry into the new DHIS 2 system.
- Act | East partners commented on the FMOH's draft COVID-19 and NTDs SOPs, drawing from Act | East and WHO guidance.
- Act | East's Ethiopia MERLA and Program Manager attended the virtual National Trachoma Task Force meeting organized by the FMOH. All in-country trachoma program implementing partners attended the meeting. Discussion points included 1) FY21 impact survey eligibility for districts that missed their last round of, 2) bi-annual Zithromax treatment in highly endemic districts and 3) FMOH updates to drafted COVID-19 MDA SOPs. In addition, participants discussed the need for national COVID-19 SOPs specifically for trachoma surveys. Act | East participants made clear the fact that budget support for additional rounds of MDA within a single fiscal year was unlikely.
- Act | East partners continued to participate in virtual TIS/TSS publication workshops with the FMOH, RHBs and Tropical Data. These publications will include the results of Act | East-supported surveys. RTI will share the draft publications with USAID for review in September 2020.
- Act | East Ethiopia Program Officer attended an FMOH-led virtual LF technical working group. Representatives from The Carter Center and ASCEND attended the meeting and made a presentation on major activities accomplished during the Ethiopian FY20 fiscal year. Presenters shared challenges related to DSA failures including an extensive presentation by Act | East on the Pre-TAS/TAS failure investigations conducted in Beneshangul-Gumuz.
- Act | East's supply chain manager mentor stationed at the PFSA supported the FMOH to distribute Ivermectin to five regional supply chain hubs in preparation for planned OV MDA in August 2020. Act | East funding will not be used for these MDAs.

Upcoming Activities:

- Act | East partners will finalize restart packages for RTI HQ review in USAID's approval to restart activities will determine what else can be accomplished in the remainder of FY21 Q4.

July 2020

HAITI

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 10,788,440 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 140 communes
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (140), STH (140)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	STH
<b>MDA</b>	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Community-based TAS 1: 1 EU (Dondon North), August- <b>September 2020</b>	N/A

<b>MERLA</b>	Discussions will continue with Haiti NTD Control Program leadership and other MSPP entities to integrate NTD Database into national Health Information Management System (HMIS).	
<b>HSS</b>	N/A	

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey timeframe

Highlights:

- 10,464,000 tablets of DEC arrived at the PROMESS warehouse.
- IMA finalized the Act | East Haiti FY21 work plan package in coordination with RTI and MSPP.
- IMA finalized and submitted the protocol for community-based TAS1 in Dondon EU.
- IMA submitted a restart package requesting approval to conduct community-based TAS1 in Dondon in August – September 2020 with appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation strategies. The package was reviewed by RTI. IMA is also working with the MSPP to develop Haiti-specific SOPs for TAS based on WHO’s NTD COVID-19 guidance.

Upcoming Activities:

- Resubmission of the restart package that includes training slides on the process of TAS with COVID risk reduction precautions, SOP with signed/stamped approval from MSPP.
- Procurement of Milot MDA remaining materials (cups and t-shirts), pending approval.
- Preparation for community-based TAS 1 in Dondon.
- Close out of the Northwest FAA agreement.

July 2020  
 INDONESIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 255.5 million (2019 projection)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 514 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 15, May-Sep 2020 (0 completed, 12 moved to FY21) TAS1: 3, Jan 2020 (3 completed) TAS2: 6, Feb – Apr 2020 (4 completed, 2 moved to FY21)
<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	No activities planned for FY20.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Added completion status of surveys

Highlights:

- The Act | East Indonesia team conducted virtual work planning with the Subdit and submitted and revised a draft FY21 work plan package, for submission to USAID in August.
- Act | East Technical Specialist contributed to the development of standardized SOPs for MDA, surveys, communication, and training in the context of the COVID-19 through the Act | East working group.

Upcoming activities:

- The Subdit is tentatively planning to begin implementing Act | East-supported DSAs in September 2020, beginning with pre-TAS surveys. An activity restart request package will be submitted to USAID Washington in August 2020.
- The Subdit had planned to implement LF MDA in 74 districts in October 2020; currently, 62 of those districts are expected to be able to implement, due to the state of COVID-19 in their areas.

July 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,222, 485 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 161 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases</b> (# ever endemic districts): LF (113), OV (5), SCH (159), STH (151), Trachoma (65)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts; <b>Nov</b> 2020
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	<b>TIS:</b> 21EUs (17 districts); <b>FY21</b> <b>TIS:</b> 6 EUS (10 districts of Cabo Delgado)- <b>TBD</b> <b>TSS:</b> 9 EUs (10 districts); Oct-Nov 2019 (completed) <b>TSS:</b> 1 EU (2 districts of Cabo Delgado); <b>TBD</b>
<b>MERLA</b>	DSA Failure Investigation report completed; 4 districts, Feb-Mar 2020
<b>HSS</b>	In Q3, Act   East met with ASCEND to discuss the results of their HSS assessment and identify gaps and areas for collaboration in FY21.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Due to the impact of COVID19 on program activities, MDA and TIS planned for FY20 will not occur until FY21.
- In addition, due to continued insecurity in Cabo Delgado province, TIS and TSS originally planned for FY20 are not currently included in the FY21 work plan and an addendum will be submitted as soon as the security situation improves.

Highlights:

- Act | East staff continue to work from home and MISAU has put a hold on TIS activities that were initially planned to start in March.
- In response to ESPEN’s request for review of draft Supply Chain SOPs, MISAU delegated each of the SOPs to various groups of NTD stakeholders for review and comment, including the National NTD Program, Central Medical Stores, ASCEND, Act | East, and WHO. The deadline for submission to ESPEN is September 20, 2020.
- RTI officially communicated to the MISAU that Act | East will cover the importation fees for the 2020 Zithromax shipment only. This agreement facilitated a quick turn around with MISAU leadership and the MOU between ITI and MISAU is in the process of being signed.
- The Act | East data officer continues to support MISAU to update the Integrated NTD Database. All trachoma surveys and MDA data have been entered into the database. The data officer is still updating the data for the other NTDs and is collaborating with the MISAU and ASCEND representatives.
- The Act | East COP and data officer assisted MISAU in the collation and review of SCH data. The National NTD Coordinator submitted the data to ESPEN in July. It will be used as part of a new ESPEN strategy to encourage the rational use of Praziquantel by defining the areas that require treatment at a sub-district level.



- WHO/ESPEN has asked the NTD program to provide them with a budget for SCH surveys that are due after several years of consecutive treatment; these budgets have been submitted and are being reviewed by ESPEN.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to provide general technical assistance to MISAU. The Act | East COP and National NTD Coordinator agreed to organize weekly NTD courses for MISAU staff and NTD partners via Zoom. Topics covered during the month of July included: Roles and responsibilities of health technicians and community volunteers during MDA; NTD indicators; and supply chain SOPs, include Act | East, WHO, ASCEND, central level MISAU, and provincial NTD focal points.
- Malaria and measles programs have restarted their activities. After conducting a risk assessment, MISAU and ASCEND are planning a LF/SCH MDA in August in 5 districts (3 in Sofala province, 1 in Inhambane and 1 in Nampula).

Upcoming activities:

- Trachoma impact surveys and MDA will be planned once a restart timeline is agreed upon between MISAU and Act | East.

July 2020

NEPAL

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,010,724 (2019) (77 districts)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 77 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts (complete) Dec, 2019 to March, 2020	13 districts Feb/March, 2020 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2019)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Re Pre-TAS: 4 districts, Nov/Dec 2019 (complete) Re Pre-TAS : 9 districts, <i>postponed to FY21</i> TAS1: 4 districts, <i>postponed to FY21</i> TAS2: 5 EU (6 districts), <i>postponed to FY21</i>	SS/SC: None	

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	HSS activities moved to FY21 WP.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey schedule based on COVID-19 activity delays.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal team engaged in virtual discussion and FY21 work planning with EDCD on immediate and long-term impact of COVID-19 on program activities and on reprioritizing activities for the remainder of FY20 and into FY21.
- Act | East Nepal COP participated in the virtual RPRG meeting of WHO South-East Asia Regional Office from 13-16 July 2020.
- Act | East Nepal team completed an FY21 work plan package, for submission to USAID in August and finalized the FAA package for TAS2 by VBDRTC in 6 districts.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East Nepal has started preparing an activity restart request for Q1 FY21 surveys that are tentatively planned to begin in November 2020.

July 2020

NIGERIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 192.9 million (2019 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts (LGAs):</b> 774
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143).

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	93 districts (90 TCC, 3 RTI) April-September	93 districts (78 TCC, 15 RTI) April-September	44 districts (TCC) April-September	118 districts (TCC) April-September	
<b>DSAs</b>	Pre-TAS: 41 (TCC 40, RTI 1), <b>Aug-Sep 2020</b>  TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), <b>Aug-Sep 2020</b>	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey timing.

Highlights:

- The FMOH submitted the 2021 JAP package to WHO. Act | East supported and participated in a virtual JAP Meeting in June to complete and validate the package.
- Act | East has received FMOH letters of approval for all nine states to re-start NTD activities that were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. RTI and TCC restart packages are under review with RTI HQ.
- Albendazole, Praziquantel, and one shipment of Ivermectin were cleared from customs and are at the FMOH Central Medical Store in Lagos. An additional shipment of Ivermectin is expected. FTS have not yet been received.

Upcoming activities (30-60 days): *Pending activity restart approvals*

- Conduct pre-MDA activities: Procurement of supplies and shipment of allocated NTD medicines from Federal Central Medical Stores in Oshodi, Lagos.
- Cascaded re-training for MDA activities in Cross River State.
- MDA and reverse logistics post-FY20 MDA.
- Cross River NTD Program Review Meeting

July 2020

PHILIPPINES

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 103 million (2015)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 82 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (46), SCH (28), STH (81)

**TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY20**

	LF	SCH	STH
<b>Baseline</b>	46 provinces	28 provinces	81 provinces
<b>MDA</b>	3/46 provinces	28/28 provinces	81/82 provinces
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 1; TAS1: 1		

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

<b>MERLA</b>	None
<b>HSS</b>	None

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Surveys (implemented by Government of Philippines, with no USAID funding) removed due to COVID-19 procurement disruptions.

Highlights:

- The Integrated Helminth Control Program has initiated a community-based individual approach to STH MDA aligned with the existing policy, with strict adherence to infection control and social distancing protocols. The program is exploring a selective school-based MDA in coordination with the Department of Education this August.
- Neglected Tropical Diseases Laboratory Network and Response: virtual meetings were conducted with RITM on their prospects for the rest of the year 2020 and 2021, in the light of the COVID-19 situation. The following were discussed in the meet:
  - RITM continues to function as the National Reference laboratory for NTDs, where referrals for confirmatory testing and issues on quality assurance procedures from peripheral laboratories are still accepted. The need for a telepathology / digital microscopy system was highlighted to facilitate this function, relevant to the COVID-19 situation and future needs.
  - The Basic Module for NTDs of Public Health Importance in the Philippines were finalized by RITM. A conversion into a digital / eLearning version is in the process plan for 2020. Face to face mentoring and training remain a fundamental requisite for the training, which is projected to happen with the ease of travel restrictions in 2021.

Upcoming activities:

- CHED Pre- Service Curricula module: The DOH will convene a virtual meeting with DOH disease program managers and CHED officials to discuss the next steps to institutionalize NTD in the Pre-Practice Curricula of identified health science schools and universities.

July 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 166,757,730 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Lao PDR: 6,798,820 pop; 17 districts
	Viet Nam: 93,176,066 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	Bangladesh: LF (18), STH (64)
	Lao PDR: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17)
	Viet Nam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (23)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	Trachoma
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB, <b>postponed to FY21</b> ) Lao PDR : 0 (TAS2 supported by WHO, completed & passed)	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts, <b>postponed to FY21</b> Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune, <b>postponed to FY21</b>
<b>HSS</b>	Desk-based rapid assessments complete	

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- LF survey in Bangladesh and trachoma surveys in Viet Nam postponed into FY21.

Highlights:

- **BGD:** No updates; all Act | East activities on hold due to COVID-19. LF DIP survey plan and revised implementation timeline will be revisited in August 2020.
- **LAO:** No remaining FY20 Act | East activities.
- **VNM:** TSS and TIS surveys originally scheduled for February and April were rescheduled for July 2020, pending approval of the FAA package and an activity restart package submitted by Act | East Viet Nam implementing partner Fred Hollows Foundation. These packages were reviewed and approved, and clinical grader trainings for the survey began in late July. However, emerging COVID-19 cases and the onset of rainy season let to a Viet Nam government decision to further postpone the surveys.

Upcoming activities:

- Submission to USAID of FAA for Bangladesh DIP Survey by RTI in September 2020, ahead of implementation early in FY21.
- Reception and review of detailed training materials for Viet Nam TSS and TIS, which will complete the activity request package for these surveys.

July 2020

TANZANIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 58.5 million (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 185
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts September 2020 (Phase 2 restart)	9 districts completed March/April 2020  28 districts September 2020 (Phase 2 restart)	14 districts completed March 2020  21 districts August 2020 (Phase 1 restart)	14 districts completed March 2020  27 districts August 2020 (Phase 1 restart)  6 districts September 2020 (Phase 2 restart)	6 districts Rescheduled to FY21 (February 2021)
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 8 IUs, March 2020 (completed)  TAS3: 15 EUs - February 2020 (Completed)  TAS1: 3 EUs September 2020 (Phase 2 restart)  TAS2: 3 EUs rescheduled to FY21  TAS3: 15 EUs - February 2020 36 EUs rescheduled to FY21	Elimination mapping: 15 districts, Rescheduled to FY21			TIS: 2 EUs, November 2019 (Completed) TSS: 13 EUs, November 2019 (Completed)  TIS: 3 EUs Rescheduled to FY21 TSS: 7 EUs Rescheduled to FY21

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

Dates have been updated according to the restart package submission process, which will be submitted to USAID in two phases of priority: school-based SCH/STH MDA in Phase 1 and community-based LF/OV MDA and TAS1 in Phase 2. Trachoma MDA and other remaining DSAs originally planned in FY20 have been moved to FY21. In addition, after follow-up with the districts, all 9 districts (up from 8 in June) have now submitted reports for the OV MDA implemented earlier in the fiscal year.

Highlights:

- This month, IMA Act | East worked closely with TZ NTDCP to prepare the Act | East Tanzania FY21 work plan package following the virtual work planning meeting that was held from June 29 – July 1.
- IMA also worked closely with NTDCP and RTI colleagues on compiling Tanzania-specific SOPs for implementing NTD activities in the context of COVID-19 and preparing the activity re-start package for submission to USAID.

MERLA:

- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP M&E team continued to follow up with the 14 districts that conducted ALB+PZQ MDA and the 9 districts that conducted IVM MDA from February to April 2020, to obtain their MDA coverage reports. All the councils except Muheza DC submitted their hard copies of coverage reports. Currently Act | East and TZNTDCP are working on data quality checks of the summary data forms and following up on updating the NTD MIS.
- The IMA Act | East M&E team continued to update the trachoma survey tracker and trachoma dossier narrative and data templates to include recent survey data. These activities will continue through August 2020.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP continue preparations for:
  - Key informant interviews (KII) in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC, to finalize the trachoma DSA failure investigation report.
  - TAS1 in 3 EUs in September 2020, pending USAID Phase 2 approval.

HSS:

- Tanzania’s NTD Sustainability Plan was reviewed and validated by the MOHCDGEC technical team composed of selected individuals from the DPP, DPS, M&E offices, NTDCP, PORALG, and MOF. This activity was done from July 16 – 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.
- Due to the COVID-19 situation and political implications in Tanzania, TZNTDCP has concerns regarding endorsement of the sustainability plan. TZNTDCP is planning for the following activities while waiting for USAID approval.
  - *Sustainability review meeting* – this is aimed at validating the sustainability plan to key stakeholders who were involved in the writing workshop and other key stakeholders.
  - *Sustainability advocacy in the RMO/DMO meeting* - this is an opportunity to advocate the sustainability plan to Regional Medical Officers (RMOs) and District Medical Officers (DMOs) to initiate ownership and integration of NTD interventions in the wider health care delivery system.
  - *GESI training*: University of Dar es Salaam was contacted, and their department of Sociology and Anthropology appointed a gender expert to work with IMA World Health. IMA, WI-HER, and the gender expert are reviewing materials in preparation for the GESI training. Revised materials will be submitted to the Permanent Secretary’s office for approval prior to setting dates for the training.

Upcoming activities:

- Finalize the Act | East Tanzania FY21 work plan for submission to USAID.
- Complete and submit Phase 1 and Phase 2 activity restart packages.
- TZNTDCP will review the WHO NTDs Supply Chain Management Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to improve the country NTD supply chain management SOP.

- IMA and TZNTDCP will continue to follow-up for exemption and waivers to enable smooth clearance of 22,639,500 Ivermectin tabs from Mectizan Donation Program (MDP). The consignment has not yet shipped.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will facilitate transport and delivery of 13,375 FTS (535 kits) and OV16 buffer solution to Tanga Lab for OV-16 lab analysis.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will continue with data quality checks of summary data form district council reports that conducted ALB/ALB+PZQ and IVM MDA from February to April 2020.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will continue with preparation for: KII in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC, Trachoma DSA failure investigation report, and TAS 1 in 3 EUs, pending approval to restart activities.



July 2020

UGANDA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 41,740,474 (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 134
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (64), TRA (57), OV (41), SCH (90), STH (134)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	4 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	6 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	12 districts, Oct 2019, <b>August 2020</b>	N/A	N/A	3 districts, August 2020
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 9: 3 completed Nov. 2019, <i>6 postponed to FY21</i> TAS2: 5, <i>postponed to FY21</i> TAS3: 35, <i>postponed to FY21</i>	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 4	N/A	N/A	TIS: 0 TSS: 2 EUs, <i>postponed to FY21</i>

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- TSS in 2 evaluation units has been postponed to FY21. Preparations are ongoing to restart OV and trachoma MDA in August 2020, pending USAID approval.

Highlights:

The Uganda Act | East team worked on the following activities in July 2020:

- Completed and submitted the matrix for pre-approval of allowances to Government of Uganda officials to USAID Washington and the USAID mission in Uganda.
- The team has put in place the required safeguards for safely reopening the office in a COVID-19 context and the RTI office in Kampala has officially been re-opened, following review and approval of the office reopening plan by RTI's leadership.
- Drafted, reviewed, and finalized the Act | East Uganda FY21 work plan package for submission to USAID.
- Reviewed IEC materials to include COVID-19 related messages in preparation for MDA.
- Act | East, through The Carter Center, submitted an activity restart request for OV MDA and fly catching to RTI and USAID.
- Act | East RTI submitted an activity restart request for trachoma MDA to USAID.
- Contributed to the development of standardized SOPs for MDA, surveys, communication, and training in the context of the COVID-19 through the Act | East working group.

HSS:

- The Uganda national NTD sustainability plan was finalized and shared with USAID.

- The Act | East Uganda HSS Advisor worked with the MOH to finalize activities for the FY21 work plan.

Upcoming activities:

- MDA pre-visits to Moroto, Nebbi and Buliisa to assess district preparedness and plan for MDA re-start.
- Conduct field pre-tests of the revised IEC materials.
- MDA in the districts of Moroto, Nebbi and Buliisa.
- Finalize protocols for the FY21 Q1 LF TAS and trachoma TSS.
- Seek approval of the Director General of Health Services for the national NTD sustainability plan.

August 2020

DRC

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 85,281,024 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 519 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> Trachoma (65)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	Trachoma rapid assessments (TRA): 52 HZ, January – March 2020 Trachoma baseline mapping: 38 EUs, January – December 2020
<b>MDA</b>	1 HZ (Pweto) <b>September 2020</b>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), September 2020 TSS: 0
<b>MERLA</b>	Coverage survey in Pweto HZ, Oct 2019
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated TIS timeframe.

Highlights:

- The Act | East DRC country team supported the PNLMTN to develop COVID-19 transmission prevention SOPs for conducting MDA and trachoma baseline and impact surveys. The MDA SOPs were developed in collaboration with ASCEND West and other partners supporting MDA in DRC.
- The Act | East DRC team, in collaboration with the PNLMTN, developed a comprehensive plan to restart field activities based on practices intended to minimize the risk of introducing and transmitting COVID-19 in the health zones and communities where survey and MDA activities are planned. Following discussion with USAID-Washington and the DRC Mission, approval was granted in September 2020 to conduct MDA in Pweto HZ.

Upcoming Activities:

- Conduct trachoma MDA in Pweto HZ, September – October
- Conduct TIS in Kilwa HZ, September – October (pending USAID restart approval)
- Conduct trachoma baseline surveys in 16 EUs, October (pending USAID restart approval)

August 2020

ETHIOPIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)	<b>Total population:</b> 105,066,076 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 867 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (73), TRA (703), OV (196), SCH (421), STH (545)
	<b>Refugee camps total population:</b> 422,749 (2020)
	<b>Total camps:</b> 12

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	11/12 districts + 4/4 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (5/5 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (4/4 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- Dec 2019, Oromia-LFTW (5/5 districts)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)- <b>Nov 2020</b></li> </ul>	81/81 districts + 5/5 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (14/14 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (5/5 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (67/67 districts)- Jan 2020</li> </ul>	53 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	100 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	59/116 districts (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (2/2 districts)- Dec 2019</li> <li>• Gambella (9/9 districts)- January 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (48/63 districts)- Feb and <b>Nov 2020</b>, LFTW (0/24 districts)- <b>Nov 2020</b></li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/18 districts)- <b>Nov 2020</b></li> </ul>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: (9/9 districts) (Oct 2019-Sept 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (3/3 districts)-Dec 2019</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (6/6 districts)-Nov 2019</li> <li>TAS1: (0/9 districts)- <b>FY21</b></li> <li>• BG (0/3 districts)- <b>FY21</b></li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (0/6 districts)- <b>FY21</b></li> <li>TAS2: 0</li> <li>TAS3: 0</li> </ul>				<b>TIS: 62/103 districts + 7 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/2 districts)- November 2020</li> <li>• Gambella (0/3 districts)- <b>FY21</b>, Gambella (0/7 camps)-<b>FY21</b></li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (51/78 districts)</li> <li>• Oromia- LFTW (0/5 districts)- <b>FY21</b></li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (11/12 districts)-April 2020</li> <li><b>TSS: 3/14 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)</b></li> <li>• BG (0/7 districts)- <b>FY21</b>, BG (0/2 camps)-<b>FY21</b></li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (3/7 districts) <b>FY21</b></li> </ul>

<b>MERLA</b>	
<b>HSS</b>	The consultant finalized and submitted the second draft of the National Sustainability Action plan. It will be submitted to USAID for review in September.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated timing for MDAs and DSAs, as plans remain on hold in all targeted regions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. MDA is tentatively targeted for restart in November 2020, while the timeline for resumption of DSAs is still under discussion.

Highlights:

- Act | East partners, in collaboration with the FMOH and RHBs, began virtual assessments to resume field level activities. All partners are working on restart packages for MDAs and DSAs for LF and trachoma, which will be submitted to USAID in September.
- Act | East partners commented on the FMOH's draft COVID-19 and NTDs SOPs, drawing from Act | East and WHO guidance.
- The Ethiopia Act | East FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID.
- Act | East partners continued to participate in virtual TIS/TSS publication workshops with the FMOH, RHBs and Tropical Data. These publications will include the results of Act | East-supported surveys. RTI will share the draft publications with USAID for review in September.
- FHF provided remote technical support for a physical drug inventory in five zones of Oromia region.
- Act | East's supply chain manager mentor at the PFSA participated in drug inventory analysis. This process confirmed the national stock of all NTD drugs to inform quantification for upcoming MDA. The Act | East supply chain mentor also supported the distribution of ALB and MEB to 331 woredas for upcoming STH MDA and monitored the previously distributed IVM to be used in the upcoming OV MDA.

Upcoming Activities:

- Act | East partners will finalize restart packages for RTI HQ review. Submission to USAID is expected in September.
- Act | East will continue participating in the virtual TIS/TSS publication workshop.

August 2020

HAITI

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 10,788,440 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 10,788,440 (2018 [est.])
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases</b> (# ever endemic districts): LF (140), STH (140)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	STH
<b>MDA</b>	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Community-based TAS 1: 1 EU (Dondon North), September 2020	N/A

<b>MERLA</b>	Discussions will continue with Haiti NTD Control Program leadership and other MSPP entities to integrate NTD Database into national Health Information Management System (HMIS).	
<b>HSS</b>	N/A	

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey timeframe.

Highlights:

- Haiti’s FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- The MSPP submitted the Joint Reporting Form (JRF) and Epidemiological Data Reporting Form (EPIRF) to PAHO.
- Procurement of Milot MDA materials (cups and t-shirts) and materials for TAS in Dondon EU is ongoing and expected to be completed in early September. The MDA materials will be stored at the IMA warehouse in preparation for MDA in Milot commune in FY21.
- The Northwest FAA agreement has been terminated based on the cancellation of the Port-de-Paix MDA. The terminated FAA agreement will be shared with the MSPP departmental director for signature in September.
- Act | East submitted an activity restart package to USAID to conduct community based TAS in Dondon EU in September. This included adapting TAS training slides with COVID-19 risk mitigation precautions as well as development of standard operating procedures.
- IMA Act | East supported the MSPP to respond to feedback from the RPRG on Haiti’s TAS approval request for TAS in Dondon and Cabaret. Responses were shared with the HNTDCP focal point, who in turn submitted to PAHO for review and approval. HNTDCP received feedback from PAHO in early September, approving TAS in all of Dondon and part of Cabaret.

Upcoming Activities:

- Follow up with PAHO to provide any additional information on the TAS approval request form submitted to the RPRG.
- Complete the procurement process for the Milot MDA and Dondon TAS materials.
- Implement the TAS in Dondon, pending USAID approval of the activity restart package.

August 2020  
INDONESIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 255.5 million (2019 projection)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 514 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 15, May-Sep 2020 (0 completed) TAS1: 3, Jan 2020 (3 completed) TAS2: 6, Feb - Apr; Jul 2020 (4 completed)
<b>HSS</b>	No activites planned for FY20.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None

Highlights:

- Beginning on March 9, 2020, the Ministry of Health requested that the implementation of all planned Act | East activities be postponed until further notice in line with the official COVID-19 response by the Government of Indonesia.
- The Subdit has continued to solicit missing historical data from districts to enter into the comprehensive data base managed by the Subdit as well as support the development of a draft dossier. The Subdit communicates with Act | East staff as updates are made.
- [Redacted] from Save the Children organized virtual discussions on August 5, 2020 with the Act | East Asia Manager and the STH Team from the MOH to introduce their upcoming activity to review and consolidate available tools and resources to assess and strengthen mainstreamed deworming programming in several countries, including Indonesia.
- Following extensive dialogue with the Subdit, the Act | East Indonesia workplan and budget for FY21 were submitted to USAID for review on August 13th, 2020. Questions and comments from USAID were received on August 27th.
- Act | East Indonesia completed drafting COVID-19 protocols for Pre-TAS and submitted them to the Subdit and to Act | East (RTI and USAID) for review. These protocols draw on the Act | East LF survey resource document developed by a working group of Act | East staff, including members of the Indonesia team.
- With support of the MOH and the USAID mission, Act | East Indonesia submitted a request to USAID/W on August 28, 2020 to restart implementation of LF activities, beginning with three proposed Pre-TAS in September 2020. (Approved in early September.)

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East was tentatively planning to begin implementing DSAs beginning with three Pre-TAS in September 2020. COVID-19 case load in Jakarta will prevent travel from the city to low prevalence districts, so the pre-TAS are currently on hold.

August 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,222,485 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Health districts (HDs):</b> 161
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (113), OV (5), SCH (159), STH (151), Trachoma (65)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts; TBD
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	<b>TIS:</b> 21EUs (17 districts); FY21 <b>TIS:</b> 6 EUS (10 districts of Cabo Delgado); TBD <b>TSS:</b> 9 EUs (10 districts); Oct-Nov 2019 (completed) <b>TSS:</b> 1 EU (2 districts of Cabo Delgado); TBD
<b>MERLA</b>	DSA Failure Investigation report completed; 4 districts, Feb-Mar 2020
<b>HSS</b>	In Q3, Act   East met with ASCEND to discuss the results of their HSS assessment and identify gaps and areas for collaboration in FY21.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Due to the impact of COVID-19 on program activities, MDA and TIS planned for FY20 will not occur until FY21.
- Considering the long pre-shipment inspection process in Mozambique, Zithromax will not arrive in time for a FY21 Q1 MDA. A new timeline for MDA in FY21 is under discussion with MISAU.

Highlights:

- The Mozambique Act | East FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID.
- The Act | East COP and Data Management officer are supporting MISAU in the review of ESPEN’s Supply Chain SOPs. The deadline for submission to ESPEN is September 20, 2020.
- Act | East is working with MISAU to develop an activity restart package for trachoma MDA and surveys. MISAU has requested resumption of NTD activities and discussions are underway to determine the optimal period for MDA and TIS given new protocols to mitigate COVID-19 exposure. Following a risk assessment carried out by ASCEND in nine provinces, LF MDA occurred in five districts during the last week of August. While the districts targeted do not overlap with the districts planned for trachoma MDA, Act | East will discuss successes and challenges from the LF MDA with MISAU and ASCEND to determine best practices to be included in the restart package for trachoma.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to provide general technical assistance to MISAU. The Act | East COP and National NTD Coordinator agreed to organize weekly NTD courses for MISAU staff and NTD partners via Zoom. During the month of August modified roles and responsibilities of health technicians and community volunteers during MDA, considering COVID-19, was the primary topic covered in these sessions.

Upcoming activities:

- Continue support to MISAU in reviewing ESPEN Supply Chain SOPs.



- As part of its comprehensive technical mentoring to MISAU, Act | East will work together with the National NTD team to conduct a re-analysis of SCH data to determine areas requiring treatment based on new WHO recommendations.
- Participate in the review of progress towards objectives in NTD master plan covering the period 2017-2020.
- Continue to support MISAU in updating the trachoma dossier files.

August 2020

NEPAL

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,010,724 (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 77 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (63), Trachoma (20), STH (77)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts (complete) Dec, 2019 to March, 2020	13 districts Feb/March, 2020 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2019)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Re Pre-TAS: 4 districts, Nov/Dec 2019 (complete) Re Pre-TAS 9 districts : <b>November 2020</b> TAS1 4 districts : <b>November 2020</b> TAS2 5 EU (6 districts) : <b>January 2021</b>	SS/SC: None	

<b>HSS</b>	Moved to FY21
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey schedule based on COVID-19 activity delays.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal submitted a workplan for FY21 to USAID on August 12<sup>th</sup>, and feedback from USAID was received on August 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Act | East Nepal finalized a draft FAA package with VBDRTC to undertake TAS2 in 6 districts. These surveys were originally planned for March/April, but the COVID-19 outbreak put activities on hold. Act | East is also working with VBDRTC to prepare FAA packages for TAS1 in one district and Re-Pre-TAS in 7 districts. These surveys were originally planned for August 2020 but will now take place in early FY21.
- Act | East Nepal developed a draft activity restart package covering three sets of LF surveys. These were based on virtual discussions about the immediate and long-term implications of COVID-19 on scheduled program activities and programmatic prioritization. Act | East will continue to monitor the COVID caseloads, travel restrictions and school re-opening in Kathmandu and districts targeted for LF surveys to determine if it is safe to resume community and/or school-based surveys.
- Act | East Nepal COP worked with Act | East HSS focal points in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda to present country experiences of GESI work with regards to NTDs at a workshop at the NNN conference, coordinated by Act | East consortium partner WI-HER. This included reviewing and updating desk review materials that will be used to plan the GESI analysis planned for early FY21.

Upcoming activities:

- Submission of FAA package for TAS2 in 6 districts.
- Submission of FAA packages for TAS1 and Re-pre-TAS following approval of TAS2 package.
- Official submission of activity re-start package for three sets of LF surveys.
- Development of a re-start package for FY21 GESI assessment.

August 2020

NIGERIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 192.9 million (2019 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 774 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases</b> (# ever endemic districts): LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	93 districts (90 TCC, 3 RTI) October 2020	93 districts (78 TCC, 15 RTI) October 2020	44 districts (TCC) October 2020	118 districts (TCC) October 2020	
<b>DSAs</b>	Pre-TAS: 41 (TCC 40, RTI 1), Oct 2020 TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), FY21	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Due to the impact of COVID-19 on program activities, MDA and TIS planned for FY20 will not occur until FY21.

Highlights:

- RTI and the FMOH co-facilitated a virtual meeting to review the draft Nigeria F21 Act | East work plan. This meeting included review of FY20 activities that are delayed to FY21 due to COVID-19, as well as new activities that will be proposed for FY21.
- The Nigeria Act | East FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID.
- RTI and TCC restart packages for MDA for all diseases are under review with RTI HQ and will be submitted to USAID in September.
- The final batch of IVM and FTS are expected to arrive at the Federal Central Medical Stores in September. Cross River State Ministry of Health received allocation letters from the FMOH and drugs will be collected from FCMS as soon as approval of restart of Act | East activities is obtained.

Upcoming activities (30-60 days): *Pending activity restart approvals*

- Conduct pre-MDA activities: Procurement of supplies, production and airing of radio mobilization messaging, and shipment of allocated NTD medicines from Federal Central Medical Stores in Oshodi, Lagos.
- Cascaded re-training for MDA activities in Cross River State.
- MDA and reverse logistics post-FY20 MDA.
- Cross River NTD Program Review Meeting.

August 2020

PHILIPPINES

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 103 million (2015)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 82 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (46), SCH (28), STH (81)

**TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY20**

	LF	SCH	STH
<b>Baseline</b>	46 provinces	28 provinces	81 provinces
<b>MDA</b>	3/46 provinces	28/28 provinces	81/82 provinces
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 2		

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Government of Philippines implemented pre-TAS in two provinces (Aklan passed, Zamboanga del Norte pending) in August 2020.

Highlights:

- Act | East finalized and submitted an FY21 work plan in close coordination with the DOH.
- Act | East participated in the development of a triple drug therapy (IDA) policy for LF MDA for the National Filariasis Elimination Program. Once approved, this policy will guide IDA use in one or two districts in FY21.
- Act | East staff supported the development of interim guidelines to protect against COVID-19 spread while resuming LF MDA and surveys in LF endemic province. Recommendations developed by Act | East were referenced during this process.
- Act | East continues to coordinate with the DOH and CHED to determine next steps to implement the NTD pre-service curricula in health professional educational institutions.

Upcoming activities:

- The DOH is working with the NTD Taskforce to develop a community-based TAS protocol for an upcoming TAS1 in Aklan.
- Act | East staff will meet with CHED commissioner to discuss how to manage a virtual stakeholder consultation to finalize the pre-service curricula modules, with input from regional and national academics, technical experts and government officials.

August 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 166,757,730 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Laos: 6,798,820 pop; 17 districts
	Vietnam: 93,176,066 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	Bangladesh: LF (18), STH (64)
	Laos: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17)
	Vietnam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (23)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	Trachoma
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB, Q4 FY20) Lao PDR : 0 (TAS2 supported by WHO, completed & passed)	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts, <b>Oct/Nov 2020</b> Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune, <b>Oct/Nov 2020</b>
<b>HSS</b>	Desk-based rapid assessments complete	

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Viet Nam survey activities (including refresher local grader training and travel) are expected to resume in October or November, although no timeline has been set by VNEH.

Highlights:

- BGD: CIPRB, the organization selected to implement the DIP Survey, is in the process of developing a re-start package to undertake the DIP survey in early FY21. This package will be submitted to USAID for review and approval, as will the FAA package for the surveys.
- LAO: No updates; the single planned FY20 activity, a visit for Asia Regional Manager [Redacted] to Laos to meeting with CPME and DCDC, has been moved to FY21 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.
- VNM:
  - TSS and TIS surveys have been delayed to FY21 due to the rainy season (which typically runs from mid-July through September). Survey activities will restart with a local refresher grader and recorder training in Ha Giang, following on the training that took place in July in Hanoi at VNEH, and a field training that outlines new COVID-19 protocols.
  - Act | East is closely monitoring new COVID-19 cases in Vietnam to ensure that survey activities can begin when rainy season ends. The outbreak that occurred in Da Nang (where FHF’s office is located), has been controlled. FHF’s Viet Nam office remained closed at the end of August.

Upcoming activities:

- Re-starting planning, training, and domestic travel for Viet Nam trachoma surveys.

August 2020

TANZANIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 58.5 million (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 185 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>	9 districts completed March/April 2020  28 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>	14 districts completed March 2020  21 districts <i>September 2020</i>	14 districts completed March 2020  27 districts <i>September 2020</i>	6 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21 (February 2021)</i>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 8 IUs, March 2020 (completed) TAS3: 15 EUs - February 2020 (Completed)  <b>Phase two:</b> TAS1: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TAS2: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TAS3: 36 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>	Elimination mapping: 15 districts, <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>			TIS: 2 EUs, November 2019 (Completed) TSS: 13 EUs, November 2019 (Completed)  TIS: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TSS: 7 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>

<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan.
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- The SCH/STH MDA originally scheduled for August will take place in September following approval from USAID to restart MDA. TAS1 in 3 EUs and LF/OV MDA have all been postponed to FY21 given the limited time left to complete these activities in FY20 and pending submission of the Phase 2 restart package.

Highlights:

- The Tanzania FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID on August 14, 2020.
- IMA Act | East worked closely with NTDCP and RTI colleagues to finalize the “Phase 1” activity restart package for submission to USAID. Phase 1 activities include SCH/STH MDA, OV lab work, health systems strengthening (HSS) meetings and GESI training, and key informant interviews to complete the DSA failure investigations for trachoma and LF. Following consultation with the USAID mission in Tanzania, SCH/STH MDA and OV lab work have been approved to restart.
- IMA Act | East also prepared and submitted the Phase 2 activity restart package to RTI. Phase 2 includes LF, OV and trachoma MDA, TAS, OV surveys, and trachoma surveys, and has been postponed from FY20 to FY21. IMA is working with the NTDCP to adapt training materials and supervision checklists for Phase 2 activities.

- Act | East organized a call with CDC, NTDCP, and lab technicians from the Tanga laboratory to plan for a virtual training by CDC on conducting the planned OV-16 RDT analysis. Following this virtual training, approximately 3,000 dried blood spot samples will be analyzed in the lab.
- IMA Act | East and NTDCP continued to follow-up on the exemptions and waivers to facilitate the clearance of 22,639,500 Ivermectin tablets donated by WHO/Mectizan Donation Program (MDP). The consignment has not yet shipped.

MERLA:

- IMA Act | East and NTDCP continued conducting data quality checks of the summary data reports from the district councils that conducted ALB, ALB+PZQ, and IVM MDA in February-March 2020.
- IMA Act | East continued to prepare for key informant interviews for the trachoma DSA failure investigation in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC, and for the LF investigation in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC, and Kilwa DC.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP continued to revise the trachoma survey tracker, previous trachoma survey reports, trachoma dossier narrative, and data templates.

HSS:

- The MOHCDGEC technical team submitted Tanzania’s NTD Sustainability and Action Plan to the NTDCP Program Manager for review and engagement of NTDCP technical staff to address gaps highlighted by the consultant.
- IMA, WI-HER, and a GESI consultant from the University of Dar es Salaam Sociology Department reviewed GESI training materials, which are now ready for submission to the Permanent Secretary’s Office for approval to plan for the GESI training of trainers.
- TZNTDCP is planning for the following Phase 1 HSS activities, pending USAID approval:
  - *Sustainability review meeting* – this is aimed at validating the sustainability plan to key stakeholders who were involved in the writing workshop and other key stakeholders.
  - *Sustainability advocacy in the RMO/DMO meeting* - this is an opportunity to advocate the sustainability plan to Regional Medical Officers (RMOs) and District Medical Officers (DMOs) to initiate ownership and integration of NTD interventions in the wider health care delivery system.
  - *GESI training*: Training dates are pending approval from the Permanent Secretary’s office.

Upcoming activities:

- IMA and TZNTDCP will continue with the following activities:
  - Finalizing the Phase 2 activity restart package.
  - Completing data quality checks of the district council summary data report forms.
  - Finalize preparation for the key informant interviews.
  - Ensure smooth clearance of the Ivermectin shipment.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will facilitate transport and delivery of 13,375 strips (535 kits) and OV16 buffer solution to Tanga Lab for the OV16 lab analysis, and organize the virtual training led by CDC colleagues in September.

August 2020

UGANDA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 41,740,474 (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 134 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (64), TRA (57), OV (41), SCH (90), STH (134)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	4 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	6 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	10 districts, Oct 2019, August-September 2020	N/A	N/A	3 districts, <i>September 2020</i>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 9: 3 completed Nov. 2019, 6 postponed to FY21 TAS2: 5, postponed to FY21 TAS3: 35, postponed to FY21	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 4	N/A	N/A	TIS: 0 TSS: 2 EUs, postponed to FY21

<b>MERLA</b>	
<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated timing of trachoma MDA to September 2020 following USAID approval to restart activities.

Highlights:

The Uganda Act | East team worked on the following activities in August 2020:

- Uganda’s FY21 work plan package was submitted to USAID on August 14, 2020.
- The restart packages for trachoma MDA and OV MDA and fly collection activities were reviewed and approved by USAID.
- The waiver for allowances to Government of Uganda officials was also approved by the USAID Mission to enable activities to restart.
- Act | East, through The Carter Center, supported the MOH to conduct OV MDA in 10 districts (Kasese, Moyo, Adjumani, Lamwo, Amuru, Nwoya, Omoro, Gulu, Pader, and Kitgum) following approval from USAID to restart MDA activities. Five of these districts are in the final stages of data verifications and mop-up is ongoing, while the other five districts have completed mop-up and are compiling the treatment data.
- Following USAID approval, The Carter Center Act | East supported fly collection in Lamwo, Kitgum, and Pader districts in the Madi Mid North focus. A total of 350 *S. damnosum* flies were collected (170 from Pader, 47 from Lamwo, and 133 from Kitgum).
- Completed the development of resource documents for MDA, surveys, communication, and training during the COVID-19 pandemic with the Act| East team and Ministry of Health.



- The trachoma program team carried out MDA pre-visits in the districts of Moroto, Nebbi, and Buliisa to assess district preparedness and plan for MDA.
- Act | East and the MOH met to discuss preparations for MDA in the three districts, including planning the logistics and transport required following the COVID-19 SOPs.
- Act | East, through a consultant, supported the MOH health promotion unit to pre-test the revised IEC materials in Moroto, Nebbi, and Buliisa districts. Final products have been agreed upon with MOH.
- Trachoma advocacy briefs were finalized and printed to be shared with district officials in Moroto, Nebbi, and Buliisa districts. The briefs will be used to garner support and momentum for the SAFE strategy in these districts where TF has persisted ahead of the upcoming MDA campaign.
- Act | East and the MOH LF focal point finalized the TAS reports for surveys conducted in early FY20 and submitted a draft protocol for the TAS planned in FY21.
- RTI and WI-HER Act | East teams prepared for a virtual session at the NNN conference titled: “Mainstreaming GESI into Health System Strengthening for NTDs: Case Studies in Nepal, Tanzania and Uganda”.
- The Carter Center Act | East supported the MOH to convene the 13th meeting of the Uganda Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committee from August 4–6, 2020 to review progress toward OV elimination in the country. The session was held virtually. Final recommendations are yet to be shared.

HSS:

- Act | East shared and discussed the Uganda national NTD sustainability plan with USAID.

Upcoming activities:

- Finalize mop-up and data collection for OV MDA in 10 districts.
- Transport drugs and logistics to the districts for trachoma MDA.
- Organize trachoma MDA training of trainers and cascade trainings.
- Conduct trachoma MDA activities in the districts of Moroto, Buliisa, and Nebbi.
- Hold a virtual orientation session with the MOH on health financing and domestic resource mobilization organized by R4D.
- Finalize LF TAS protocols.
- Draft a restart package for FY21 Q1 activities, including TAS, trachoma surveys, and a trachoma coverage evaluation survey.

September 2020

DRC

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 85,281,024 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 519 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> Trachoma (65)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	Trachoma rapid assessments (TRA): 52 HZ, January – March 2020 Trachoma baseline mapping: 31 EUs, January – December 2020
<b>MDA</b>	1 HZ (Pweto) November 2020
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), October 2020 TSS: 0
<b>MERLA</b>	Coverage survey in Pweto HZ, Oct 2019
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated timeframe for TIS and MDA.

Highlights:

- The PNLMTN COVID transmission prevention SOPs for conducting trachoma MDA and surveys in DRC were approved by USAID in mid-September. The TIS in Kilwa health zone (HZ) will be implemented as a pilot survey for evaluating the COVID SOPs for trachoma prevalence mapping.
- The Act | East DRC team worked closely with the Act | East Trachoma Focal Point to fabricate a model face shield adapted to the eye examiner loupes to provide a close contact barrier to COVID transmission during eye examinations. Act | East DRC is currently assembling the face shield loupes in preparation for the TIS in Kilwa HZ.
- The Act | East team supported the PNLMTN to develop and finalize training modules and a supervisor checklist factoring in the COVID SOPs. The team also developed an electronic supervisor checklist and debriefing tool to monitor adherence to the COVID SOPs and assess acceptability of the face shields among surveyors.
- Act | East DRC team supported the PNLMTN to update the trachoma baseline survey protocol from 16 EUs to 31 total EUs for mapping. The amended protocol has been sent to Tropical Data for review and approval. The PNLMTN commit to ensuring enough supervisors and surveyors to finalize this activity.
- The PNLMTN supported 17 COVID-affected provincial health services to prepare risk assessment and mitigation plans for COVID response in their respective provinces. The mitigation plans were adopted as the standardized SOPs for the provinces. Though this activity was not funded by Act | East, the information was instrumental in completing the restart package.

Upcoming Activities:

- Virtual trachoma survey supervisors training, organized by Tropical Data – October
- Conduct TIS in Kilwa HZ – October
- Conduct trachoma MDA in Pweto HZ – mid-November
- Conduct trachoma baseline surveys in 31 EUs – October-December

September 2020

ETHIOPIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)	<b>Total population:</b> 105,066,076 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 867 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (73), TRA (703), OV (196), SCH (421), STH (545)
	<b>Refugee camps total population:</b> 422,749 (2020)
	<b>Total camps:</b> 12

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	11/12 districts + 4/4 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (5/5 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (4/4 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- Dec 2019, Oromia-LFTW (5/5 districts)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)- Nov 2020</li> </ul>	81/81 districts + 5/5 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (14/14 districts)- Dec 2019, BG (5/5 camps)-Jan 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (67/67 districts)- Jan 2020</li> </ul>	53 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	100 districts Oct 2019/ Apr 2020	59/116 districts (Oct 2019-Sep 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (2/2 districts)- Dec 2019</li> <li>• Gambella (9/9 districts)- January 2020</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (48/63 districts)- Feb and Nov 2020), LFTW (0/24 districts)- Nov 2020</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (0/18 districts)- Nov 2020</li> </ul>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: (9/9 districts) (Oct 2019-Sept 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (3/3 districts)-Dec 2019</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (6/6 districts)-Nov 2019</li> </ul> TAS1: (0/9 districts)- FY21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/3 districts)- FY21</li> <li>• Oromia-LFTW (0/6 districts)- FY21</li> </ul> TAS2: 0 TAS3: 0				<b>TIS: 62/103 districts + 7 refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sep 2020)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/2 districts)- November 2020</li> <li>• Gambella (0/3 districts)- FY21, Gambella (0/7 camps)-FY21</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (51/78 districts)</li> <li>• Oromia- LFTW (0/5 districts)- FY21</li> <li>• Tigray-LFTW (11/12 districts)-April 2020</li> </ul> <b>TSS: 3/14 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BG (0/7 districts)- FY21, BG (0/2 camps)-FY21</li> <li>• Oromia-FHF (3/7 districts) FY21</li> </ul>

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- Act | East partners, in collaboration with the FMOH and RHBs, continued virtual assessments to resume field level activities. All partners are working on restart packages for MDA for OV/LF/Trachoma and DSAs for LF and trachoma, which will be submitted to USAID in October.
- Act | East partners contributed to the development of the National Trachoma Task Force’s TIS SOPs in the context of COVID-19. Act | East partners continued to participate in virtual TIS/TSS publication workshops with the FMOH, RHBs and Tropical Data. The first draft of the report should be finalized by the end of October.
- FHF provided remote technical support for a physical drug inventory in five zones of Oromia region, and the report was submitted to ITI in September.
- The Act | East RTI Program Officer attended a one-day WASH NTDs coordination high-level advocacy workshop, held in Addis Ababa on September 25, 2020. Workshop aims included:
  - Reviewing the World Health Organization (WHO) NTDs 2030 Road Map cross-cutting approaches
  - Checking on the status of the national WASH-NTDs coordination status
  - Reviewing the lessons learned from WASH-NTDs coordination pilot implementation by NALA foundation
  - Discussing and reflecting on what makes an initiative more effective as the anticipated WASH-NTDs coordination approaches

Upcoming Activities:

- Act | East partners will draft FAA packages for FY21 work plan activities.
- Act | East partners will continue participating in the virtual TIS/TSS publication workshops.
- Act | East partners will support drug logistics for upcoming MDA based on approval of FY21 work plan and restart requests.
- Act | East partners will continue taking part virtually in preparation of ongoing pre-MDA activities in collaboration with MoH and the RHBs.
- Act | East partners will continue to engage in TIS protocol/SOP development in collaboration with MoH and RHBs. Act | East will also share the draft guidance with the USAID trachoma focal person for collaborative inputs recognizing that TIS/TSS restart is still considered a high risk NTD activity.

September 2020

HAITI

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 10,788,440 (2018 [est.])
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 140 communes
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (140), STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	STH
<b>MDA</b>	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled	MDA in 7 communes: Cancelled
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Community-based TAS 1: 1 EU (Dondon North), <i>November 2020</i>	N/A

<b>MERLA</b>	Discussions will continue with Haiti NTD Control Program leadership and other MSPP entities to integrate NTD Database into national Health Information Management System (HMIS).
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated survey timeframe.

Highlights:

- The Haiti Act | East team procured materials for the TAS1 in Dondon and MDA in Milot planned in FY21. RTI also followed up with Abbott about the new FTS order for TAS1 in Dondon, following expiration of the FTS kits in country.
- Four abstracts were accepted at ASTMH, including two oral and two poster presentations.
- Act | East obtained approval from USAID to restart TAS1 in Dondon EU.
- Act | East supported the MSPP to obtain RPRG approval for TAS in Cabaret and Dondon EUs.
- Haiti’s FY21 work plan was approved by USAID.
- [Redacted] joined IMA as the Haiti Country Director.

Upcoming Activities:

- Continue preparing for the TAS1 in Dondon.
- Finalize the process to obtain authorization to import the FTS for the upcoming TAS Dondon.
- Prepare and submit a restart request to USAID for microplanning and GESI assessment activities, planned in FY21 Q1.
- Attend and present the four accepted abstracts in the virtual ASTMH conference.

September 2020

INDONESIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 255.5 million (2019 projection)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 514 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 15, May-Sep 2020 (0 completed) TAS1: 3, Jan 2020 (3 completed) TAS2: 6, Feb - Apr; Jul 2020 (4 completed)
<b>HSS</b>	No activities planned for FY20.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- Save the Children organized more virtual discussions with the Act | East Asia Manager and the STH Team from the MOH to introduce their upcoming activity to review and consolidate available tools and resources to assess and strengthen mainstreamed deworming programming in Indonesia.
- The Act | East Indonesia workplan for FY2021 was approved on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- With strong encouragement from both the MOH and the USAID mission, Act | East Indonesia submitted a request to USAID/W on August 28, 2020 to restart implementation of LF activities, beginning with three proposed Pre-TAS in September 2020. Approval was granted, but due to reimposed COVID-19 restrictions in Jakarta, implementation of the three Pre-TAS has been postponed until October 2020. Protocols for these surveys, including COVID-19 safety measures, have been approved by both the MOH and Act | East Headquarters.
- R4D organized a virtual meeting with the Act | East Indonesia team on September 22, 2020 to discuss preparations for a case study on domestic financing focusing on the NTD program in Indonesia. A further orientation meeting was held in Jakarta on September 29, 2020 with Eko Arisyanto, the financial consultant hired by R4D to implement the case study.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East is planning to begin implementing DSAs beginning with Pre-TAS in October 2020 in the districts of Bangka Selatan and OKU.
- Further discussions with the R4D consultant and the MOH will be organized in early October 2020 to finalize plans and determine next steps for the domestic financing case study.

September 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,222, 485 (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 161 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (113), OV (5), SCH (159), STH (151), Trachoma (65)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts; TBD
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	<b>TIS:</b> 21EUs (17 districts); FY21 <b>TIS:</b> 6 EUS (10 districts of Cabo Delgado); TBD <b>TSS:</b> 9 EUs (10 districts); Oct-Nov 2019 (completed) <b>TSS:</b> 1 EU (2 districts of Cabo Delgado); TBD
<b>MERLA</b>	DSA Failure Investigation report completed; 4 districts, Feb-Mar 2020
<b>HSS</b>	In Q3, Act   East met with ASCEND to discuss the results of their HSS assessment and identify gaps and areas for collaboration in FY21.

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- The Act | East COP and Data Management officer are supporting MISAU (the NTD Program and Central Medical Stores) in the review of ESPEN’s Supply Chain SOPs. The deadline for submission to ESPEN was extended to October 30, 2020. At the request of ESPEN, the Act | East Mozambique COP is responsible for following up on the status of review with all Portuguese speaking countries.
- Act | East is working with MISAU to develop an activity restart package for trachoma MDA and surveys. MISAU has requested resumption of NTD activities and discussions are underway to determine the optimal period for MDA and TIS given new protocols to mitigate COVID-19 exposure. It is important to note that, given the requirement between USAID and ITI that a restart package be approved before drugs are shipped and the long drug importation approval process within Mozambique, MDA will not take place until April or May.
- Following a risk assessment carried out by ASCEND in nine provinces, LF/SCH MDA occurred in five districts during the last week of August. The Act | East COP participated in the LF/SCH MDA review, in which it was noted that all districts achieved sufficient coverage and did not encounter any significant obstacles in conducting MDA in-line with COVID-19 guidelines.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to provide general technical assistance to MISAU. In September, this included a presentation of the WHO decision tree for SCH treatment and completion of the ESPEN SCH analysis tool to determine areas requiring treatment, and additional support for updating the Integrated NTD Database.
- The Act | East team is facilitating communication between the Tropical Data team and the NTD coordinator for development of an article of the impact of the SAFE strategy on trachoma prevalence in Mozambique.

- Act | East supported the NTD coordinator to develop a presentation for ASTMH: *Trachoma elimination challenges: investigating reasons for recrudescence of trachoma in four districts of Mozambique.*

Upcoming activities:

- Continue to develop MDA and TIS restart packages with MISAU.
- Initiate discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.



September 2020

NEPAL

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 29,010,724 (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 77 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts (complete) Dec, 2019 to March, 2020	13 districts Feb/March, 2020 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2019)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Re Pre-TAS: 4 districts, Nov/Dec 2019 (complete) Re Pre-TAS : 7 districts, December 2020 TAS1: 1 districts, December 2020 TAS2: 5 EU (6 districts), January 2021	SS/SC: None	

<b>MERLA</b>	
<b>HSS</b>	Moved to FY21

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Corrected number of districts expected to undertake Re-pre-TAS and TAS1, now scheduled for FY21.

Highlights:

- Act| East Nepal team participated in NNN 2020. Act| East Nepal COP presented Nepal GESI analysis findings from the GESI desk review developed by Act | East consortium partner WI-HER.
- Act| East Nepal requested a proposal from Vector Born Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC) to conduct TAS 1 in Kanchanpur and Re Pre TAS in 7 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya). FAA packages for these surveys are under development.
- Act| East Nepal staff engaged in ongoing virtual discussions with stakeholders including EDCD, VBDRTC and ASCEND on immediate and long-term implication of COVID-19 on NTD program activities. The team also spent time re-prioritizing activities planned for FY21.

Upcoming activities:

- TAS 1 in Kanchanpur and Re Pre TAS in 7 districts planned to begin in December 2020. FAA packages and restart packages for these surveys will be submitted in October 2020.

September 2020

NIGERIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 192.9 million (2019 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 774 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143).

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	93 districts (90 TCC, 3 RTI) October 2020	93 districts (78 TCC, 15 RTI) October 2020	44 districts (TCC) October 2020	118 districts (TCC) October 2020	
<b>DSAs</b>	Pre-TAS: 41 (TCC 40, RTI 1), Oct 2020 TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), FY21	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0

<b>MERLA</b>	N/A
<b>HSS</b>	N/A

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- TCC supported an LF pre-TAS and TAS planning meeting with non-USAID funding. Participants included TCC Act East staff, FMOH staff, and State NTD coordinators and data managers. The FMOH has requested that Act East begin implementing USAID-supported LF DSAs in November.
- The second batch of Ivermectin tablets for 2020 treatment round has not yet arrived in-country. Praziquantel, albendazole and mebendazole tablets have all been received and are in the Federal Medical Store in Oshodi, Lagos, Nigeria. Some PZQ are due to expire at the end of November.
- RTI and TCC restart packages for MDA for all diseases are under review with RTI HQ and will be submitted to USAID in October.

Upcoming activities (30-60 days): *Pending activity restart approvals*

- Conduct pre-MDA activities: Procurement of supplies, production and airing of radio mobilization messaging, and shipment of allocated NTD medicines from Federal Central Medical Stores in Oshodi, Lagos.
- Cascaded re-training for MDA activities in Cross River State.
- MDA and reverse logistics post-FY20 MDA.
- Cross River NTD Program Review Meeting.
- LF pre-TAS and TAS

September 2020

PHILIPPINES

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b> 103 million (2015)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 82 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (46), SCH (28), STH (81)

**TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY20**

	LF	SCH	STH
<b>Baseline</b>	46 provinces	28 provinces	81 provinces
<b>MDA</b>	3/46 provinces	28/28 provinces	81/82 provinces
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	For in FY20 MDA (2) Pre-TAS: 1 TAS1: 1		

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20**

<b>MERLA</b>	None in FY20
<b>HSS</b>	None in FY20

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- Act | East participated in the virtual annual National Filariasis Elimination Program (NFEP) Implementation Review with the Department of Health and Regional Program Coordinators. The following were discussed in the meeting:
  - Program Status as of 2019:
    - 3/46 Endemic Provinces continuing MDA
    - 6/46 completed TAS1
    - 6/46 completed TAS2
    - 31/46 completed TAS3
  - Shared the program plan of action in 2020 and 2021 with particular focus on Aklan, Basilan and Sultan Kudarat provinces.
  - Act | East facilitated a consultation on the draft guidelines for implementation of LF activities during COVID-19 which will be issued as a Department Memorandum for the Routine Delivery of LF services during the COVID 19 pandemic. These guidelines incorporated guidance from the resource documents developed by Act | East and Act | West.
  - Official introduction to Triple Drug Preventive Chemotherapy for LF following the Administrative Order allowing use of IVM for LF MDA. The DOH plans to pilot IDA in three municipalities with persistent infection in Sultan Kudarat (Kalamansig, Lebak, Palimbang) in April 2021.

- Commission on Higher Education (CHED) formally approved and adopted the Objective-Based Education (OBE) and Competency-Based Education (CBE) modules of the pre-service curricula for the integration of NTDs in the pre-practice curricula of schools of Medicine, Nursing, Medical Technology, Midwifery and Physical Therapy.
  - Given the COVID-19 restrictions limiting in person instruction, the CHED Commissioner decided to forego a formal pilot for the pre-service curricula modules to be implemented in schools' curricula in all universities and colleges offering these courses nationwide.
  - A team of three DOH staff and one Act | East staff will develop and implement a virtual training for teachers expected incorporate these teaching modules into courses. Following the training of trainers, the Department of Health and the Commission on Higher Education will sign a memorandum of understanding that will institutionalize NTD in the Pre-Practice Curricula of identified health science schools and universities.
- Act | Est consortium partner R4D has engaged a local consultant to develop a case study on domestic resource mobilization for NTDs in the Philippines. The consultant met with the team to finalize the questionnaire and interviews

Upcoming activities:

- The DOH is preparing to conduct TAS1 for the province of Aklan and TAS 2 in Basilan in the last quarter of 2020. This will be a community-based TAS. TFGH is supporting the DOH in operationalizing community-based sampling methodology.

September 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 166,757,730 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Laos: 6,798,820 pop; 17 districts
	Vietnam: 93,176,066 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	Bangladesh: LF (18), STH (64)
	Laos: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17)
	Vietnam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (23)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	Trachoma
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh: 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB, Q4 FY20) Laos: 0 (TAS2 supported by WHO, completed & passed)	Vietnam TIS: 2 districts, Oct/Nov 2020 Vietnam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune, Oct/Nov 2020

<b>HSS</b>	Desk-based rapid assessments complete
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None.

Highlights:

- BGD: A FAA package and re-start plan for the DIP surveys are under development and will be shared for USAID review and approval in October 2020.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM:
  - TSS and TIS surveys have been delayed to FY21 due to the rainy season (which typically runs from mid-July through September). As of the end of September, VNEH (Viet Nam National Eye Hospital) had not rescheduled the survey or refresher training dates.
  - Due to the delay in the survey schedule, dossier meetings originally planned for December 2020 and March 2021 will be shifted to March and June 2021.

Upcoming activities:

- Re-starting planning, training and domestic travel for trachoma surveys in Vietnam in October/November.
- Preparations for DIP survey implementation, targeted to begin in early December.

September 2020

TANZANIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 58.5 million (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 185 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>	9 districts completed March/April 2020  28 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>	14 districts completed March 2020  21 districts <b>Completed September 2020</b>	14 districts completed March 2020  27 districts <b>Completed September 2020</b>	6 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21 (February 2021)</i>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 8 IUs, March 2020 (completed) TAS3: 15 EUs - February 2020 (Completed)  TAS1: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TAS2: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TAS3: 36 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21 (Reduced to 33 EUs in FY21)</i>	Elimination mapping: 15 districts <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>			TIS: 2 EUs, November 2019 (Completed) TSS: 13 EUs, November 2019 (Completed)  TIS: 3 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i> TSS: 7 EUs <i>Rescheduled to FY21</i>

<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan.
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

School-based SCH/STH MDA was completed in 27 district councils and four regions in September 2020. The number of TAS3 EUs was reduced in FY21 to prioritize the TAS1 EUs that were not completed in FY20 and are now planned in FY21.

Highlights:

- The Tanzania FY21 work plan package was resubmitted to USAID on October 2, 2020.
- IMA Act | East and the NTDCP, in collaboration with Medical Stores Department, coordinated the delivery of additional PZQ and ALB tablets to the 27 districts that conducted school-based MDA.
- IMA Act | East and NTDCP completed the SCH/STH MDA in 27 district councils (4 regions), while adhering to the COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs). IMA team supervised MDA from the regional and district levels, following up with staff in the field daily by phone.
- Act | East organized a series of meetings with CDC, NTDCP, and lab technicians from the Tanga laboratory to plan for a virtual training by CDC on conducting the planned OV-16 RDT analysis. RTI

and CDC have shipped quality control panels to Tanzania in preparation for the training, which is now scheduled for October.

- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP are following up on the exemption and waivers to enable smooth clearance of 22,639,500 Ivermectin tablets (now at port of entry) donated by WHO/Mectizan Donation Program (MDP).

#### MERLA:

- Following the SCH/STH MDA, IMA Act | East is following up on the MDA coverage summary data forms and running data quality checks of summary MDA data from the 27 district councils.
- The NTDCP continued updating NTD MIS, among the 39 councils (out of 41 supported by Act | East) that have been trained on NTD MIS and conducted MDA. Of these, 7 have completed data cleaning in NTD MIS.

#### HSS:

- The NTDCP Sustainability Plan Review meeting was held from September 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> in Morogoro. The Plan was reviewed by 26 stakeholders, including people from the MOHCDGEC –DPP office, Ministry of Education, NTDCP, and partners including Hellen Keller International, Sightsavers, ASCEND, and World Vision. WHO and USAID did not attend, but they received a copy of the plan for review. The meeting adhered to COVID-19 prevention measures provided by MOHCDGEC and approved by USAID.
- In collaboration with WIHER, a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) consultant from the University of Dar es Salaam, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and IMA Act | East held a GESI Training of Trainers in Morogoro from September 23 – 25<sup>th</sup>. The training included two participants from the MOHCDGEC, one regional NTD coordinator, and the Act | East HSS Advisor. The training was conducted using both virtual and in person methods. Participants made a plan for rolling out a GESI training in Pangani for the upcoming MDA. The training adhered to COVID-19 prevention measures that were provided by MOHCDGEC and approved by USAID.

#### Upcoming activities:

- Finalize collection of MDA summary forms and data quality checks for the 27 district councils that completed SCH/STH MDA.
- Continue preparing for the trachoma key informant interviews (KIIs) in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC and LF KIIs in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC and Kilwa DC. This activity is planned for November 2020 following elections in October and has been approved by USAID to restart.
- Submit a restart package to USAID for upcoming FY21 Q1 activities, including: LF TAS, TIS, and community MDA for trachoma, LF, and OV.
- Prepare for TAS3 in 33 EUs and TAS1 in 4 EUs, planned for November-December 2020.
- IMA and TZNTCP will complete clearance of Ivermectin tablets donated by WHO/MDP.
- Ensure smooth clearance of the quality control panels shipped by CDC and RTI, and transport them to the Tanga lab in preparation for the virtual CDC lab training.
- Following the virtual OV lab training, approximately 3,000 dried blood spot (DBS) samples collected in 2019 will be analyzed using OV-16 RDT.

September 2020

UGANDA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI, The Carter Center	<b>Total population:</b> 41,740,474 (2019)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 134 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (64), TRA (57), OV (41), SCH (90), STH (134)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY20

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	4 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	6 refugee camps in 4 districts, completed
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	10 districts, Oct 2019, August-September 2020	N/A	N/A	3 districts, <b>completed September 2020</b>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 9: 3 completed Nov. 2019, 6 postponed to FY21 TAS2: 5, postponed to FY21 TAS3: 35, postponed to FY21	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 4	N/A	N/A	TIS: 0 TSS: 2 EUs, postponed to FY21

<b>MERLA</b>	
<b>HSS</b>	Finalize NTD sustainability plan

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Trachoma MDA was completed in three districts in September 2020.

Highlights:

The Uganda Act | East team worked on the following activities in September 2020:

- A virtual meeting was held with USAID to discuss USAID’s comments on the FY21 Uganda work plan and budget. The comments were addressed based on the discussion, and the revised work plan was re-submitted to USAID on September 22, 2020.
- Trachoma MDA was completed in Nebbi, Buliisa and Moroto districts. Prior to beginning the drug distribution, Act | East and the NTDCP implemented pre-MDA activities, including trainings of district trainers, health workers, sub-county and parish supervisors, and VHTs, and community mobilization and sensitization. Data compilation is ongoing. Data received and analyzed so far indicates that there may be need for mop-up in some communities that did not achieve the expected treatment coverage.
- Act | East Uganda team is compiling lessons learned from the MDA and implementation of the COVID SOPs to share with USAID.
- Act | East, through The Carter Center, continued to collect treatment data from the OV MDA conducted in August 2020. Data was submitted for Omoro, Gulu, Pader and Nwoya districts, all registering a program coverage of over 95%. Partial treatment data has been submitted for Amuru district. An update will be made as soon as data from the remaining communities is submitted and this will mark the end of the first round of OV MDA.



- Act | East Uganda prepared and submitted a draft poster presentation for ASTMH titled *“Trachoma transmission pathways: a qualitative study on the factors related to increased active trachoma in Moroto, Nebbi and Buliisa districts of Uganda”*

HSS:

- The Uganda NTD Sustainability Plan 2020-2025 was finalized, and the final plan is now ready for printing and dissemination.
- Act | East Uganda HSS Advisor made a presentation on *“Mainstreaming GESI into Health System Strengthening for NTDs: Case Study of Uganda”* at the NNN Conference.
- Act | East supported the MOH to prepare for a COR-NTD panel presentation titled *“Things Fall Together – Perspectives on Mainstreaming NTD Functions and Services within the Health System”* scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Worked with the HQ HSS team to prepare for the COR-NTD conference, including a panelist’s rehearsal.

Other key programmatic learnings that require programmatic adaptation:

Key learnings from the OV MDA:

- COVID-19 prevention messages were being passed on to communities through radio talks shows, mobile public address systems, VHTs, posters, and local political leaders.
- Perception of the risk of contracting and spreading COVID was generally low in rural communities despite sensitization by various stakeholders. Rural communities perceived COVID as *“a disease of town dwellers”*.
- Implementation of MDA took longer than the set two weeks, largely due to an unforeseen increase in the rural populations as some people relocated from urban areas during the pandemic or relocated for agricultural activities. This was evident in Kitgum, Omoro, Amuru and Nwoya. Additional IVM had to be sent to these districts since the community registers had not been updated to reflect these population shifts. In addition, the learning curve on *“treating without touching”* meant that drug distribution took longer overall.
- Treatment of households by their kindship persons was important. CDDs provided drugs to the head of household, who in turn distributed to other household members per the CDDs’ instructions, to maintain social distancing.
  - Supervision of central team and TCC coordinators was essential to achieving good coverage and the supervision checklist for COVID SOPs was very useful.

Key learnings from the trachoma MDA:

- The pre-visit carried out by the national program team with district leaders increased the overall involvement of the district teams during MDA. This pre-visit had not been done before.
- The national program team and RTI staff were heavily involved in supportive supervision at the district and community level using the COVID SOP supervision checklist. This ensured that the MDA activities were well managed.
- Having clear SOPs for implementation of MDA during COVID-19 pandemic was very critical in keeping all teams and beneficiaries safe.
- The teams were able to treat hard-to-reach populations like the kraals thanks to increased involvement of the district teams in MDA planning and preparation.
- Provision of masks and other protective materials during MDA helped to reassure those involved in implementation and beneficiaries of the safety of the exercise.

- The time given for data collection was not sufficient given the COVID-19 SOPs that had to be followed. This will need to be revisited in subsequent MDA activities if the situation remains the same.

Upcoming activities:

- Prepare and submit a restart package for USAID review and approval to implement FY21 Q1 activities.
- Launch the NTD Sustainability Plan – October 2020
- Conduct MDA mop-up in Nebbi, Moroto and Buliisa in communities that did not reach the coverage target – October 2020
- Implement the coverage evaluation survey in Moroto district – November 2020
- Organize TAS training and carry out TAS1 and TAS2/3 surveys – October-December 2020
- Convene a SCH/STH Expert Committee Meeting – November 2020