

Act to End NTDs | East

FY21 Q1 Monthly Updates

October 1, 2020–December 31, 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).

October 2020

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|
| Mapping | Trachoma baseline mapping: 28 EUs, October-December 2020 |
| MDA | 1 HZ (Pweto) November 2020 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), October 2020 TSS: 0 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities. The 31 EUs planned for trachoma baseline mapping has been reduced to 28 EUs due to increased costs for adhering to COVID-19 risk mitigation procedures.

Highlights:

- The national NTD program conducted a trachoma impact survey (TIS) in Kilwa health zone from 12-13 October piloting implementation of the COVID-19 risk mitigation standard operating procedures (SOPs). This included special emphasis on the use of plastic face shields adapted to attach to ophthalmic loupes.
- In a sub-sample of households, supervisors observed compliance with COVID-19 SOPs according to supervision checklists and household heads were interviewed on acceptability of the preventive measures. A focus group discussion was done with survey graders to obtain feedback on the face shield/eye loupe adaptation. Overall, results showed that the DRC COVID-19 risk mitigation measures for trachoma surveys were feasible and provided additional protection for both survey teams and communities. These results were presented to USAID and Act | West on 26th October.
- With Act | East technical and financial support, the national NTD program prepared 3 trachoma baseline survey teams on 29 & 31 October to conduct baseline surveys in 28 EUs in Kwilu, Kwango, Kasai and Kasai Central provinces.
- The data from the trachoma impact survey conducted in Kilwa health zone in October is being cleaned and analyzed. Results are expected to be finalized in late November.

Upcoming activities:

- Baseline prevalence surveys to be conducted through the months of November and December.
- Final round of trachoma MDA to be conducted in Pweto health zone in mid-November.

October 2020

ETHIOPIA

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| Act East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW) | Total population: 107,191,789 (2021) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 867 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (73), TRA (703), OV (196), SCH (421), STH (545) |
| | Refugee camps total population: 451,422 (2021) |
| | Total camps: 12 |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|---------------|--------------------|--|
| MDA | <p>0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Dec 2020, • Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)- Feb 2021 | <p>0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- April/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- December 2020 | 0/0 districts | 0/2 April/May 2021 | <p>0/139 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (0/6 districts)- Dec/Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF- 0/87 districts (Dec 2020) • Oromia-LFTW (0/24 districts)- Dec 2020 • Tigray-LFTW (0/22 districts)- Dec 2020 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | <p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts)- Jan 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- Jan 2021 <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- Mar 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- Mar 2021 <p>TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/4 districts)-Jan 2021 <p>TAS3: 0</p> | | | | <p>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts) – Feb 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts;0/45 districts- Jan/Feb 2021; 0/35 districts-April/May/June-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- March/April 2021 • Tigray-LFTW (0/8 districts)- March/April 2021 <p>TSS: 0/73 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)-Feb 2021 • Gambella (0/4 districts)- Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) Jan/March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts-March/April 2021 • Tigray-LFTW-(0/1 district)- March/April 2021 |

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| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- All Act | East partners continued to update and verify village lists and demographic data needed to finalize DSA protocols.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor supported the Ministry in completing the stock on-hand portions of the Joint Application Package (JAP) and supported the distribution of TT kits, TEO, and FTS throughout the country.
- The Act | East program manager participated in the 7th Ethiopia Onchocerciasis Elimination Committee meeting conducted virtually from October 27-29, 2020. Outcomes from the meeting will be shared in the next monthly update as Act | East awaits the official action points from the FMOH.
- Act | East Ethiopia developed a restart request package for MDA, which was submitted to USAID in early November. Act | East is currently working on another restart package for pre-TAS and TAS, to be submitted to USAID in November. A third restart package is in development for extensive TIS and TSS plans, which will be informed by DRC’s experience restarting trachoma survey work.

Upcoming activities:

- FHF will continue to collect logistic inventory reports from the remaining zones.
- All Act | East partners to begin preparatory activities for the upcoming MDAs and DSAs once restart has been approved.

October 2020

HAITI

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|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 140 communes |
| RTI & IMA Teams: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (140), STH (140) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| MDA | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), November 2020 TAS2: 5 EUs, July and August 2021 TAS3: 10 EUs, August 2021 | N/A |

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| MERLA | The HNTDC is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the database. GESI assessment in Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities. The TAS1 in Cabaret will be implemented in November 2020 pending USAID approval and arrival of the FTS shipment.

Highlights:

- IMA Act | East team obtained the MSPP approval letter to import FTS in the country. The FTS are scheduled to ship the week of November 16th.
- Act | East prepared and submitted an activity restart request to USAID for TAS1 in Cabaret EU. The requested was approved pending a letter of support from the MSPP.
- IMA Act | East team updated the FY20 SAR2 workbooks and BELF.
- Pre-TAS in Milot planned for FY21 is postponed to FY22 (October 2021), due to MDA being delayed to April 2021.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TAS1 in Cabaret EU and Dondon EU. (TAS1 in Dondon is carried over from FY20, and therefore is not represented in the above FY21 activity table.)
- Prepare and finalize the GESI assessment protocol in collaboration with WI-HER.
- Coordinate with The Carter Center to observe the IDA campaign in Leogane and Gressier.

October 2020

INDONESIA

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|--|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 271,052,476 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 514 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF |
|--------------------|---|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (2 completed) TAS2: 14, Apr to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, May 2021 |
| HSS | Domestic resource mobilization case study (R4D), Q1 |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- With encouragement from 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 implementation of the three Pre-TAS was postponed until October and November 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed in Jakarta. Protocols for these surveys, including COVID-19 risk mitigation measures, were approved by all stakeholders. Two surveys were successfully implemented, in Bangka Selatan from October 12 to 17 and in OKU from October 19 to 24. Results of both surveys are pending while the night blood samples are analyzed at the Regional Environmental Laboratory in Palembang.
- The Subdit has completed the collection of all existing LF mapping data and has inputted the comprehensive data within the LF Elimination Dossier template. The database is currently being reviewed by Act | East technical specialists.
- R4D and Act | East have drafted a Terms of Reference and Letter of Request to the MOH to seek their approval to implement the proposed case study on domestic resource mobilization (DRM). The request will be submitted in early November.

Upcoming activities:

- Implement the third approved Pre-TAS in Pangkajene dan Kepulauan District from November 16 to 24, 2020.
- Act | East together with the MOH will also finalize plans for additional Pre-TASs to be implemented between December 2020 and February 2021 and will submit second phase restart package to USAID.
- Further discussions with the R4D consultant and the MOH concerning the DRM case study will be organized as soon as official approval has been received from the Director General at the MOH.

October 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|
| MDA | 5 districts; TBD |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 21 EUs (17 districts); Q1, Q3 TSS: 7 EUs (6 districts); Q1, Q3 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- In the continuing efforts to provide global scientific leadership from the experiences of the Mozambique program, the Act | East COP will be presenting at COR-NTD on “Adapting Malaria Tools for NTDs” as part of the session “Integrating NTDs with Other public Health Programs. In preparation, the COP participated in a session on October 27th with global NTD and malaria experts to brainstorm tools that can be adapted for NTD treatment, surveillance and HSS.
- The Act | East team continued to work on an activity restart package for 1 TIS and 5 TSS in Zambézia province in December. The team will use this opportunity to pilot COVID-19 risk mitigation SOPs and apply lessons learnt to the remaining surveys to be conducted in Q3. The restart package will be submitted to USAID in November.
- MISAU, in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Saúde (INS) is planning to conduct TAS in Tete (2 EUs) and Niassa (2 EUs) provinces, with ASCEND support. The WHO is organizing a virtual training/orientation from November 11-13 and has invited the Act | East COP and Data Management Officer to participate.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to provide general technical assistance to MISAU. In October, this included: i) a refresher training on the Integrated NTD Database; ii) Review of WHO guidelines on conducting MDA during COVID-19.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to support MISAU in evaluation of the 2017-2020 strategic plan, ESPEN SCH data analysis, and development of NTD Newsletter.
- The Act | East team continue to facilitate communication between the Tropical Data team and the NTD coordinator for development of an article on the impact of the SAFE strategy on trachoma prevalence in Mozambique.

Upcoming activities:

- Preparation of the upcoming TIS and TSS in Zambezia province.
- Ongoing discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.

October 2020

NEPAL

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|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 29,803,732 (2021) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 77 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH | Trachoma |
|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| MDA Support Activities | 13 districts Dec 2020 to March 2021 | 13 districts Feb/March 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021) | Eliminated: May 2018 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 TAS2 : 6 districts, April/May 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, April-June 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, April-June 2021 TAS1 : 9 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 Re Pre TAS : 3 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 | SS/SC: None | |

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| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study (R4D) GESI Gap Analysis (WI-HER) |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- Act | East FY21 Nepal Country Workplan was approved by USAID Washington on October 28th.
- Act | East’s FAA package for TAS2 in 6 districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot) was approved on October 16th. This survey is not yet scheduled.
- Act | East reviewed proposals to begin TAS1 in one district (Kanchanpur) and re-Pre-TAS in 7 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya) submitted by Vector Borne Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC). TAS1 proposal was submitted to USAID for review in late October and the re-pre-TAS package will follow in November.
- Act | East Nepal had a virtual meeting with USAID Nepal on October 15th for updates and introduction with new activity manager Radhika Shrestha.
- Act | East Nepal staff engaged in ongoing virtual discussions with stakeholders including EDCD, VBDRTC and ASCEND on immediate and long-term implications of COVID-19 on NTD program activities. Discussions also focused on 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.
- A meeting of Nepal’s NTD Technical Working Group is scheduled for November 2020.

October 2020

NIGERIA

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|---|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center | Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts (LGAs): 774 |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143). |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|-------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| MDA | 80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov-June 2021 | 105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021 | 44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | 118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | N/A |
| DSAs | Pre-TAS : 77 (TCC 76, RTI 1), Dec 2020, Mar-May 2021 TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), Dec 2020, Mar – May 2021 | Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | TIS: 0 TSS: 1 (RTI) April 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- Starting in the last week of October, Nigeria experienced #EndSARS protests against police brutality. In some locales, protests became violent resulting in vandalism of government property in Cross River State. The CRS Central Medical Store was looted; all program commodities were taken resulting in a loss of all medicine stock on hand for the upcoming MDA. Other USAID-supported states in the Act | East program were not similarly impacted. The RTI COP has travelled to CRS to assess the situation, meet with State MOH staff, and consider alternative approaches to shipment of allocated medicines for the upcoming November/December 2020 MDA.
- The second batch of Ivermectin tablets for 2020 treatment have arrived in Lagos and is awaiting clearance.
- FTS have yet to arrive (initially expected Nov 3) in country. Shipment delays were caused by lack of flights to Nigeria as well as an error in the Import Duty Exemption Certificate (IDEC). Currently, the FMOH expects the shipment to arrive in early December.
- TCC and RTI pre-TAS and TAS restart packages are under review by USAID.
- Act | East Nigeria staff participated in the National NTDs snapshot update meeting organized by the FMOH. An updated snapshot has been circulated to partners.
- Act | East Nigeria staff participated in the FMOH-organized NTDs reporting tools finalization meeting and have circulated a draft to partners for a final round of review before is it finalized for production.
- Act | East Nigeria abstract titled; *Post-MDA reverse logistics of NTD medicine: experiences and lessons-learned in Cross River State, Nigeria*, developed in collaboration with Cross River Ministry of

Health was accepted as a Late-Breaker Abstract Poster by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and will be presented at the society's 69th Annual meeting.

- Staff of RTI and TCC had a successful virtual MDA restart coordination meeting, where agreement was reached on strategies for harmonizing training and supervision of MDAs in line with national guidelines in COVID-19 context.
- State Ministries of Health of the 8 Act | East-supported states resubmitted requisition for medicines for the restart of MDA.

Upcoming activities:

Depending on COVID-19 pandemic challenges and security situation in view of national protests.

- Conduct MDA in CRS, including pre-MDA drug logistics, cascade training, supervision, reverse logistics, and mop-up.
- Support CRS NTD Program review meeting

October 2020

PHILIPPINES

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 124,607,518 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 82 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (46), SCH (28), STH (81) |

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

| | LF | SCH | STH |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Baseline | 46 provinces | 28 provinces | 81 provinces |
| MDA | 3/46 provinces | 28/28 provinces | 82/82 provinces |
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 2 TAS1: 13 TAS2 : 1 TAS3 : 1 | | |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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|--------------|---|
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | Financing assessment; Data systems assessment |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- A set of guidelines for implementation of Routine Delivery of LF services during the COVID-19 were issued as a Department Memorandum for the pandemic. These guidelines incorporated guidance from the resource documents developed by USAID, Act | East and Act | West.
- Act | East participated in a virtual meeting of experts to discuss the situation in Oriental Mindoro. This meeting was convened by the National Filariasis Elimination Program (NFEP) and brought together experts from WHO, The Task Force on Global Health and Field NTD Coordinators from the Department of Health Regional Office IVB (MIMAROPA) to discuss the Case of The Province of Oriental Mindoro. The discussion included:
 - A pause and reflect discussion to gather more information testing issues faced by the province. This included discussion about the testing methodology used to follow up positive cases in the province, a discussion about the distinct indigenous population that makes up a majority of positive cases in the province, and planning for use of IDA.
 - Recommendations from the expert group included:
 - Re-testing the clusters of positives (mostly indigenous populations)
 - Cross-referencing malaria research done in these same or similar populations undertaken with WHO CO.
 - Considering further investigation of the indigenous population in Oriental Mindoro and impact of their migration to Occidental Mindoro, which is currently in post-validation surveillance.
- Act | East facilitated the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Health on the integration of NTDs in the pre-practice curricula which is expected to be signed in a high-level ceremony by both principals of the agencies in December 2020.

Upcoming activities:

- Review of draft report on domestic resource mobilization based on analysis and interviews undertaken by R4D.

October 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

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|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: |
| COP: [Redacted] | Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts |
| | Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces |
| | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): |
| | Bangladesh: LF (19), STH (64) |
| | Lao PDR: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17) |
| | Viet Nam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0 | Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune |

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|------------|-----|
| HSS | N/A |
|------------|-----|

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

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 November 2020.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM:
 - TSS and TIS surveys have been delayed to FY21 due to the rainy season. As of the end of October, VNEH had not rescheduled the survey or refresher training dates.

Upcoming activities:

- Re-starting planning, training and domestic travel for trachoma surveys in Viet Nam once dates are suggested by VNEH.
- Preparations for DIP survey implementation in Bangladesh, targeted to begin in December.

October 2020

TANZANIA

| | |
|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 56.1 million (2020) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 185 |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Mapping | N/A | Exclusion mapping: 7 districts | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MDA | 5 districts, August 2021 | <u>Round 1:</u> 28 districts, August 2021 <u>Round 2:</u> 9 districts, February 2021 | 8 districts, February 2021 | 41 districts February 2021 | 4 districts February 2021; 1 district August 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 4 EUs, November 2020-January 2021 TAS2: 12 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 33 EUs, November 2020-January 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), February 2021 Ent survey: 3 districts (2 foci), February 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | N/A | N/A | TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021 and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021 and July 2021 |

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| MERLA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform |
| HSS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch of the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities. Per guidance from USAID, TIS in 3 EUs and TSS in 7 EUs originally planned for November 2020 will be postponed to April 2021.

Highlights:

- The Tanzania FY21 work plan package was resubmitted to USAID on November 3, 2020 in response to USAID feedback.
- TZNTDCP and IMA Act | East finalized preparations for trachoma key informant interviews (KIIs) in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC and LF KIIs in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC and Kilwa DC. These KIIs are part of the DSA failure investigations originally planned in FY20.

- The Tanzania Act | East team finalized the TAS1 and TAS2/3 protocols in preparation for the surveys planned from November – January 2021. The team also prepared a restart package for these TAS activities, including updating the TAS supervision checklist and training materials to incorporate COVID-19 risk mitigation measures.
- TZNTDCP cleared 22,639,500 Ivermectin tabs donated by WHO/MDP from the port of entry with support from the Act | East-funded Senior Program Pharmacist (secondment).
- The Act | East Senior Program Pharmacist also supported TZNTDCP to coordinate submission of the medicines inventory report to WHO.
- The Tanzania Act | East team and TZNTDCP organized a five-day virtual training for Tanga lab technicians on dried blood spot (DBS) elution using OV16 RDT. The training was conducted from October 19 – 23rd and facilitated by the CDC. In preparation for the training, IMA and TZNTDCP cleared DBS shipped from the CDC and delivered them to Tanga lab.

MERLA:

- TZNTDCP and IMA Act | East are finalizing the follow-up and quality checks of summary data forms from district councils that conducted ALB/ALB+PZQ and IVM MDA in 2020.
- TZNTDCP and IMA Act | East updated the workbooks for FY20 SAR2.
- TZNTDCP and IMA continued updating NTD MIS in 39 Act | East district councils trained on NTD MIS. 18 have completed data cleaning in NTD MIS.

HSS:

- Following the September 2020 Sustainability Plan review meeting in Morogoro, the WI-HER GESI consultant compiled relevant inputs and circulated them to the meeting participants for review. The document was shared with the NTDCP PM on 20th October 2020. Once the upcoming Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP) 5 and Master Plan review meetings occur, the consultant will refine the document in alignment with those plans.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct trachoma KIIs in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC and LF KIIs in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC and Kilwa DC.
- Organize TAS training and implement LF TAS3 in 28 EUs and LF TAS1 in 4 EUs from November 2020 – January 2021.
- The Senior Program Pharmacist (IMA and TZNTDCP) will coordinate with Medical Store Department (MSD) for transportation of Mectizan and Albendazole to the districts for community MDA.
- Hold the Zonal Planning and Review Meeting and Training of Trainers for 134 district councils from 19 regions in December 2020.
- Four IMA staff will give four oral and poster presentations during the ASTMH and Tanzania Health Summit conferences in November. The topics that will be presented are:
 - *Efforts towards strengthening the integration of Supply Chain of Neglected Tropical Disease medicines into the electronic Logistics Management Information System in Tanzania*, by Frank Komakoma.
 - *Strategies towards meeting the LF elimination goal in Tanzania*, by Denis Kailembo.
 - *TIS and TSS failures in Tanzania: what do recent investigations reveal?* By Gerald Robi.
 - *Comparing post-MDA coverage survey data for Trachoma, Onchocerciasis and Lymphatic Filariasis with reported data among 14 district councils in Tanzania*, by Veronica Kabona.

- Conduct OV16 RDT analysis of 3,000 DBS samples (pending budget negotiations and USAID approval).
- Review of the NTD master plan and alignment with the sustainability plan and HSSP 5.
- Pilot GESI training roll-out in one district.
- Integrate GESI training into the zonal training of trainers in December 2020.

October 2020

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| MDA | N/A | 9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021 | N/A | N/A | 1 district, April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 31 EUs | N/A | N/A | N/A | TIS: 2 EUs TSS: 5 EUs |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | CES and DQA in 1 district (Moroto) |
| HSS | Planning 1 st meeting of SCH/STH expert committee meeting Planning Launch NTD program sustainability plan |

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

- Table has been updated with FY21 activities.

Highlights:

- Prepared and submitted a restart package to USAID for the following activities: LF TAS, coverage evaluation survey (CES) and data quality assessment (DQA) in Moroto, SCH/STH Expert Committee meeting, and a meeting to launch the Uganda NTD program sustainability plan.
- Finalized MDA data compilation for the three districts that conducted trachoma MDA in September 2020 (Moroto, Nebbi, and Buliisa). Preliminary treatment data show poor coverage in Nebbi district (61.5% program coverage). The low coverage was mainly due to an inadequate quantity of Zithromax that was shipped based on previous population estimates. The MOH team with support from Act | East is conducting a drug audit and retrieving all medicine balances from Moroto and Buliisa to support MDA mop-up in Nebbi district.
- Worked with the Ministry of Health to prepare for the launch the NTD program sustainability plan. Preparatory activities included printing copies of the sustainability plan for signature by MOH senior leadership, preparing the invitation letters, drafting a press release, and liaising with the USAID Mission and DC teams on engagement of VIPs.
- Organized a virtual meeting with the USAID Uganda Mission on November 4th to present NTD program achievements and lessons learned implementing NTD activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Carter Center completed oncho MDA in two communities of Amuru district, treating an additional 1315 people and increasing the district coverage from 89.4% to 90.0%. Oncho treatment began in July and was completed by the end of August, but mop-up continued in communities where coverage was low.

- Following USAID approval for the second round of oncho MDA, ivermectin was delivered to the 12 districts implementing MDA in November.
- In preparation for TAS, Act | East and the NTDCP updated the TAS training materials and supervision checklist to include COVID-19 prevention measures. The Act | East team also worked with the LF program to review COVID-19 data in the districts planned for TAS and scheduled TAS activities in districts with low COVID-19 reported cases for Q1.

Upcoming activities:

- Train survey teams and implement TAS in 7 EUs (3 TAS 1, 1 TAS 2, and 3 TAS 3)
- Organize trachoma MDA mop-up in Nebbi district
- Conduct the CES in Moroto district
- Launch the NTD program sustainability plan on November 19th (date TBC)
- Hold the first meeting of SCH/STH expert committee
- Conduct the second round OV MDA
- Act | East Uganda MERLA Specialist will present an accepted 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”*

November 2020

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|---|
| Mapping | Trachoma baseline mapping: 28 EUs, November-December 2020 |
| MDA | 1 HZ (Pweto), January 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), October 2020 TSS: 0 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- MDA in Pweto health zone (HZ) has been postponed from November 2020 to January 2021. The delay is due late arrival of Zithromax® and to overstretched provincial staff attempting to fulfill the 2020 work plan objectives.

Highlights:

- Results from the trachoma impact survey (TIS) in Kilwa HZ indicate that the TF prevalence among children ages 1-9 years was 2.4%, a reduction from 13.7% in 2016.
- The DRC Act | East COP presented the PNLMTN TIS pilot survey experience for implementing its COVID-19 prevention SOPs and loupe-face shield to the annual TSIW meeting on November 20th. Key feedback reflected the need for surveyors to use PPE consistently, hygiene practices and providing increased COVID training for community leaders to help them take a more active role in community education during and after the surveys.

Upcoming activities:

- Trachoma baseline prevalence surveys in 28 EUs are expected to conclude in the Kwango, Kwilu, Kasai and Kasai Central provinces before the end of December.
- Final round of trachoma MDA for Pweto HZ to be conducted in early January 2021.

November 2020

ETHIOPIA

| | |
|---|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW) | Total population: 107,191,789 (2021) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 867 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (73), TRA (697), OV (222), SCH (421), STH (545) |
| | Refugee camps total population: 451,422 (2021) |
| | Total camps: 12 |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|---------------|--------------------|--|
| MDA | <p>0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Dec 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Dec 2020 • Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)- Feb 2021 | <p>0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- April/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- December 2020 | 0/0 districts | 0/2 April/May 2021 | <p>0/139 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (0/6 districts)- Dec/Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF- 0/87 districts (Dec 2020) • Oromia-LFTW (0/24 districts)- Dec 2020 • Tigray-LFTW (0/22 districts)- Feb 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | <p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts)- Jan 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- Jan 2021 <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- Mar 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- Mar 2021 <p>TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/4 districts)-Jan 2021 <p>TAS3: 0</p> | | | | <p>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts) – Feb 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts;0/45 districts- Jan/Feb 2021; 0/35 districts-April/May/June-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- March/April 2021 • Tigray-LFTW (0/8 districts)- March/April 2021 <p>TSS: 0/73 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)-Feb 2021 • Gambella (0/4 districts)- Jan 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) Jan/March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts-March/April 2021 • Tigray-LFTW-(0/1 district)- March/April 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | Virtual meetings with RTI HQ and Ethiopia and USAID DC to discuss proposed HSS activities in the WP and next steps. |

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

- None.

Highlights:

- The Act | East Program Manager and ESPA supply chain mentor participated in the virtual NTD Supply Chain Technical Working Group meeting and completed forecasts for FY21 TEO and FTS requirements.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor supported the distribution of Zithromax to 131 woredas of SNNPR and Somali regions.
- USAID approved the Act | East Ethiopia restart package for MDA, which includes all Act | East supported MDA for FY21. However, due to insecurity in Tigray and BG, MDA in those regions is postponed. Act | East is currently working on restart packages for pre-TAS and TAS and TIS and TSS. The plan is to begin trachoma surveys in January and LF surveys in February.
- Act | East Ethiopia consortium partners discussed PPE standardization moving forward, including type and quantity of each item to be used during training, meetings, MDA, and surveys.
- The Act | East COP led a NTD Country Directors virtual meeting with FHF, LFTW, TCC, CBM and Orbis to discuss the current situation in Ethiopia as it relates to COVID-19 and insecurity.

Upcoming activities:

- The Act | East Ethiopia program team will work with the RHB mentors to complete the quantification and procurement process for MDA tools, supplies and equipment (PPEs, dose poles, registers and training manuals) for the upcoming MDA.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor will continue supporting PC MDA drugs distribution based on first expire first out (FEFO) approach for the upcoming MDAs.
- Act | East will support MDA in Oromia and Gambella regions.

November 2020

HAITI

| | |
|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 140 communes |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (140), STH (140) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| MDA | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), December 2020 TAS2: 5 EUs, July and August 2021 TAS3: 10 EUs, August 2021 | N/A |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | The HNTDC is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the database. GESI assessment in Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- The date of TAS1 in Cabaret has been updated from November to December 2020.

Highlights:

- IMA Haiti Act | East attended and presented four abstracts at the 2020 ASTMH virtual annual conference.
- IMA Act | Act facilitated customs clearance for the FTS shipment.
- Following approval from USAID and the MSPP, IMA Act | East supported training of TAS surveyors from November 29 – 30th. Nine teams of two people, including three field supervisors, completed the training. The training covered standard operating procedures for diagnostic tests, review of the survey questionnaire, and review and role play of COVID-19 mitigation measures.
- TAS1 in Cabaret and Dondon EUs will begin in early December. IMA received four vials of positive control from PAHO (DC) to test the FTS prior to usage in the field.
- Approval from the bioethical committee for the operational research (OR) in Milot commune was extended from March to September 2021. This OR study is funded by the Task Force for Global Health and DFID to examine the effectiveness of traditional post-based drug distribution compared to a door-to-door delivery method.
- IMA Act | East attended the HNTDCP monthly partners meeting on November 11th with partners including The Carter Center and PAHO.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TAS1 in Cabaret and Dondon EUs. (TAS1 in Dondon is carried over from FY20, and therefore is not represented in the above FY21 activity table.)
- Coordinate with The Carter Center to observe the IDA campaign in Leogane in December, if they receive the Ivermectin in time.
- Finalize the GESI assessment protocol and questionnaire in coordination with WI-HER and submit the protocol for Haiti IRB approval.

- Prepare activity restart packages in collaboration with the MSPP for planned Q2 activities, including the GESI assessment, pre-MDA census, and MDA in Milot.

November 2020

INDONESIA

| | |
|--|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 271,052,476 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 514 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF |
|--------------------|---|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (3 completed) TAS2: 14, Apr to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, May 2021 |
| HSS | TBD |

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

- Indonesia will no longer be included in a set of case studies on Domestic Resource Mobilization planned for release by Act | East in 2020. (See additional information in bullet below.) Act | East will continue to discuss opportunities to highlight HSS successes in FY21.

Highlights:

- Two Pre-TAS surveys were implemented in late October- Bangka Selatan from October 12 to 17 and in OKU from October 19 to 24. In November, results of both surveys were analyzed at the Regional Environmental Laboratory in Palembang, and both surveys passed.
- Act | East implemented a third Pre-TAS in Pangkajene dan Kepulauan District from November 16 to 27, 2020. Results are pending analysis by the Regional Environmental Laboratory in Makassar.
- The R4D Terms of Reference and Letter of Request to the MOH to seek their approval to implement the proposed Case Study on Domestic Finance Mobilization was submitted to the MOH on November 17, 2020. On November 19, 2020, the MOH responded that they were not able to commit to any new activities while the COVID-19 pandemic response continues. The Act | East Indonesia team will discuss possible alternative activities that might fill HSS objectives without requiring any additional involvement of the MOH.
- Act | East together with the MOH finalized plans for an additional four Pre-TASs to be implemented in December 2020 and January 2021 and submitted a Phase 2 restart request to USAID in late November. This request was approved by USAID on November 25, 2020.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East together with the MOH are planning to implement Pre-TAS in Bangka District and in OKUT District beginning on December 14, 2020.

November 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|
| MDA | 5 districts; TBD |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 21 EUs (17 districts); Q1, Q3 TSS: 7 EUs (6 districts); Q1, Q3 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- None

Highlights:

- The Act | East COP presented at COR-NTD on “Adapting Malaria Tools for NTDs” as part of the session “Integrating NTDs with Other public Health Programs” on November 13.
- Act | East team assisted the national NTD coordinator in her presentation on “Trachoma elimination challenges: Investigating reasons for recrudescence of trachoma in four districts of Mozambique” during the ASTMH on November 17. This abstract was also presented by the Act | East COP at the TSIW on November 20.
- The activity restart package for 1 TIS and 5 TSS in Zambézia province, included in the FY21 workplan, was approved. During the month of November, Act | East finalized preparations for the surveys, to begin the first week of December.
- At the request of the national NTD coordinator, Act | East COP participated in review of the TAS training modules and, attended a virtual TAS training led by ESPEN with the Act | East Data Management officer. MISAU plans conduct a TAS in Niassa and Tete provinces in December 2020.
- The Act | East COP is supporting ESPEN and the NTD Supply Chain Forum to review feedback from countries on the SOPs for First Expiry/ First Out (FEFO). The deadline to submit the revision is December 7, 2020.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to provide general technical assistance to MISAU. In November, this included: i) revision of the TAS training modules; ii) finalization of materials for conducting trachoma survey MDA during COVID-19.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to support MISAU in evaluation of the 2017-2020 strategic plan and ESPEN SCH data analysis.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TIS and TSS in Zambezia province.
- Ongoing discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.

November 2020

NEPAL

| | |
|--|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 30,201,100 (2020) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 77 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (63), Trachoma (20), STH (77) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH | Trachoma |
|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| MDA Support Activities | 13 districts Dec, 2020 to March, 2021 | 13 districts Feb/March, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021) | Eliminated: May 2018 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 TAS2 : 6 districts, April/May 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, April-June 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, April-June 2021 TAS1 : 9 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 Re Pre TAS : 3 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 | SS/SC: None | N/A |

| | |
|------------|--|
| HSS | Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study GESI Gap Analysis |
|------------|--|

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act| East Nepal submitted FAA proposals for TAS1 in one district (Kanchanpur) and Re Pre TAS in 7 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya), to be implemented by Vector Born Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC). These were submitted to USAID for review and approval along with an activity restart request and a USAID Nepal Risk Mitigation Plan for operating in a COVID-19 context.
- Act| East Nepal participated in the 16th NTD Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting on 6 & 7 November 2020 and were joined by USAID Nepal. Act| East Nepal Chief of Party presented the FY21 Work Plan in the meeting. Major recommendations of TWG meeting are as follows:

| Issues | Decisions |
|--|---|
| National Trachoma Program (NTP) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Validation Surveillance Guidelines approval. • Post Validation surveillance implementation plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOHP will endorse by Nov 2020. • MoHP/NNJS/WHO/ASCEND/RTI (Same Working group) will prepare by 15th Dec 2020. |
| Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination (LFE) Program | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDA Therapy • All field work related to LFE programs (Mapping, TAS, MDA, MMDP etc.) • TAS1 in Kanchanpur • Confirmatory mapping | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoHP decided to pilot in Kapilvastu at the same time as LF MDA 2021. • All activities will be carried out based on risk assessment and mitigation action for COVID-19. • TAS1 in Kanchanpur will be community based. • Will be carried out in Taplejung, Sankhuwasabha, Rasuwa and Dolakha. |
| STH | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of STH data | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desk review of STH program by WHO and FWD will be completed by Nov 2020. |
| Kala-azar | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of VL endemicity doubtful districts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of 8 out of 46 districts from where cases are reported by 2020. |
| NTD programs | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of National NTD Roadmap | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National NTD Roadmap 2021-30 will be developed by June 2021 based on Global NTD Roadmap 2021-30 with WHO support led by MoHP in collaboration with NTD partners. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for National steering committee for NTD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current TWG will be converted into National Steering Committee for NTDs with diverse representation from other ministries and partners. • Functional NTD TWG will be reconstituted |

- Act| East Nepal staff engaged in ongoing virtual discussions with stakeholders including EDCCD, VBDRTC and ASCEND to re-prioritize activities planned for FY21 and consider immediate and long-term implication of COVID-19 on NTD program activities.

Upcoming activities:

- TAS 1 in Kanchanpur and Re Pre TAS in 7 districts, planned to begin in December 2020.
- Pre LF MDA planning meetings hosted by provincial governments in Dec 2020-Jan2021.

November 2020

NIGERIA

| | |
|---|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center | Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 774 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|-------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| MDA | 80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov-June 2021 | 105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021 | 44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | 118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | N/A |
| DSAs | Pre-TAS : 77 (TCC 76, RTI 1), Dec 2020, Mar-May 2021 TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), Dec 2020, Mar – May 2021 | Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | TIS: 0 TSS: 1 (RTI) April 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- None

Highlights:

- Supervision of training and MDA in the context of COVID-19 is on-going across all Act | East supported states in Nigeria. Supervision checklists and photos documenting compliance with COVID precautions are being collected and synthesized.
- Cross River SMOH and all The Carter Center-supported States have collected allocated NTD medicines from FCMS at Oshodi, Lagos.
- Act | East Nigeria in collaboration with the CRS SMOH conducted focus group discussions with community members to gather information on perceptions of COVID-19. Findings from these sessions were used to tailor jingles and other messaging in preparation for MDA.
- The second batch of Ivermectin tablets for 2020 treatment has cleared customs.
- In support of the FMOH, Act | East Nigeria staff participated in the National Schistosomiasis Sub-District Data Analysis Workshop in preparation for ward-level reporting in 2021. FMOH will reclassify wards, based on the WHO decision protocol, after reviewing the initial, harmonized ward-level data.
- A Poster Presentation abstract- *Post-MDA reverse logistics of NTD medicine: experiences and lessons-learned in Cross River State, Nigeria*-was developed by Act | East Nigeria in collaboration with Cross River Ministry of Health and presented at the 69th Annual meeting of ASTMH.
- FMOH conducted a Supply Chain Management Roundtable meeting that reviewed the challenges and bottlenecks for obtaining IDEC and role of inter-sectoral players for speedy delivery of commodities in-country for the NTD program. FMOH requested an orientation to fine-tune the functions and roles of the multi-sectoral partnerships for the national commodity sourcing process and usage of the newly introduced IDEC electronic platform.

- Honorable Minister of Health visited CRS to inspect health facilities following the #EndSARS protests. No clear commitments for repairs or replacements have been pronounced.

Upcoming activities:

Depending on COVID-19 pandemic challenges and security situation.

- Conduct MDA trainings for Front Line Health Facility (FLHF) and CDD-levels, MDA Launch, and implementation in CRS.
- CRS Pre-TAS and TAS planning meeting with FMOH.
- Conduct CRS NTD Program review meeting.
- Pre-TAS in The Carter Center states. Note that FTS has not yet been received due to shipping delays caused by an error in the IDEC.

November 2020

PHILIPPINES

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 124,607,518 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 82 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (47), SCH (29), STH (82) |

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

| | LF | SCH | STH |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|
| Baseline | 46 provinces | 28 provinces | 81 provinces |
| MDA | 3/46 provinces | 28/28 provinces | 82 provinces |
| DSAs (#EUs) | PreTAS : 2 ; TAS1: 13 TAS2 : 1 ; TAS3 : 1 | N/A | N/A |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | |
|------------|---|
| HSS | Financing assessment; Data systems assessment |
|------------|---|

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

- None

Highlights:

- A set of guidelines for implementation of an Integrated Filaria and Malaria Elimination Hub is being developed for use in co-endemic areas.
 - Topics to be covered in the guidelines include mapping, needs assessments, trainings, logistics support, human resource development, and interventions, including surveillance.
- A follow up meeting with the Department of Health Regional IVB Director for MIMAROPA (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan) was held to discuss action items that emerged from the October 30th Experts Group meeting on Oriental Mindoro.
 - The DOH, Provincial Health Office and involved municipalities in Oriental Mindoro are preparing logistics and coordination to re-test with FTS and provide selective treatment to the 100 people who tested positive in the 2019 sentinel and spot check survey. All 100 of these people belong to the migratory indigenous group in Oriental Mindoro. This follow up testing is based on recommendations from the global expert group.
 - Regional, provincial, and municipal officials agreed to ensure close supervision and monitoring of this activity.
 - Early discussions on how IDA treatment might be introduced in Oriental Mindoro, depending on the outcome of the upcoming re-testing.
- Act | East facilitated the drafting of a Manual for Training of Trainers for the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Health on the integration of NTDs in the pre-practice curricula.

Upcoming activities:

- Review draft report on domestic resource mobilization based on R4D analysis and interviews.
- Participate in the DOH end of year review and planning meetings for NTDs December 17th-18th.
- Preparations for the 2nd World NTD Day in January.

November 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: |
| COP: [Redacted] | Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts |
| | Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces |
| | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): |
| | Bangladesh: LF (19), STH (64) |
| | Lao PDR: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17) |
| | Viet Nam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0 | Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van) (completed) Viet Nam TSS-: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho) (completed) |
| HSS | None | |

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

- Completed trachoma surveys noted in Viet Nam.

Highlights:

- BGD: A FAA package for the Direct Inspection Protocol (DIP) survey was submitted for USAID review and approval. An activity restart package and SOPs for operating in a COVID-19 context are in development with CIPRB, the NGO that will implement the DIP survey, and the Bangladesh MOHFW.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM:
 - VNEH scheduled TSS and TIS surveys for November 21- December 1st. The surveys took place despite continued rain and impassable roads. Two of the originally selected clusters for TSS survey in Lung Ho commune could not be visited because of the extreme weather and dangerous road conditions. Alternates were selected and both surveys were completed on December 1st. VNEH and Act | East partner Fred Hollows Foundation coordinated closely with Tropical Data on training and data collection for these surveys.

Upcoming activities:

- Preparations for DIP survey implementation in Bangladesh, targeted to begin in January.

November 2020

TANZANIA

| | |
|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 56.1 million (2020) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 185 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Mapping | N/A | Exclusion mapping: 7 districts April 2021 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MDA | 5 districts, August 2021 | <u>Round 1:</u> 9 districts, February 2021 <u>Round 2:</u> 28 districts, August 2021 | 8 districts, February 2021 | 41 districts February 2021 | 4 districts February 2021; 1 district August 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 4 EUs, January 2021 TAS2: 12 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 12 EUs, January 2021 , 16 EUs, May 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), February 2021 Ent survey: 3 districts (2 foci), February 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | N/A | N/A | TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021 and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021 and July 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform |
| HSS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. |

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

TAS1 in 4 EUs and TAS3 in 12 EUs has been rescheduled from November 2020 to January 2021, post holidays. Due to the global FTS shortage, TAS3 in 16 EUs has been postponed from January to May 2021, with the remaining 5 EUs to be carried out with TAS in August.

Highlights:

- NTDCP and IMA completed trachoma key informant interviews (KIIs) with district NTD staff and community members in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC and LF KIIs in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC and Kilwa DC. Data from these KIIs will be analyzed to complete the FY20 DSA failure investigation in these councils. The activity started with an orientation meeting in Morogoro from November 13–

14th, with interviews carried out from November 15–27th, 2020. IMA Act | East is transcribing and translating the interviews for data analysis and a final report will be submitted in January 2021.

- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP completed preparations for the zonal planning and review meetings and training of trainers’ (TOT) sessions for 134 district councils and 19 regions, planned for December 2020. The TOT sessions will integrate GESI training components with technical support from WI-HER.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP coordinated with the Medical Store Department (MSD) to begin the process of transporting ALB, PZQ, and IVM to the districts for SCH/STH and oncho MDAs scheduled for February. This activity will be finalized in early January 2021.
- Four IMA staff gave oral and poster presentations during the ASTMH and Tanzania Health Summit conferences in November 2020. Topics presented were:
 - *Efforts towards strengthening the integration of Supply Chain of Neglected Tropical Disease medicines into the electronic Logistics Management Information System in Tanzania*, by Frank Komakoma.
 - *Strategies towards meeting the LF elimination goal in Tanzania*, by Denis Kailembo.
 - *TIS and TSS failures in Tanzania: what do recent investigations reveal?* By Gerald Robi.
 - *Comparing post-MDA coverage survey data for Trachoma, Onchocerciasis and Lymphatic Filariasis with reported data among 14 district councils in Tanzania*, by Veronica Kabona.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct the Zonal Planning, Review and TOT meetings among 134 district councils from 19 regions, in which all districts and regions participating in MDA activities will discuss and agree upon their activity plans for the year and sign the FAAs. The national TOT orientation meeting will be held in Dar es Salaam from December 4–5th, 2020 followed by subsequent meetings in the four zones of Mwanza, Arusha, Morogoro and Mbeya from December 6–22nd, 2020.
- Following USAID’s approval to restart TAS activities, Act | East will support the TZNTDCP to conduct TAS1 in 4 EUs and TAS3 in 12 EUs in January 2021. The TAS are planned to start the week of January 11th, when primary schools will re-open after the holidays.
- Coordinate with the MSD to finalize distribution of ALB, PZQ and IVM tablets to the districts by January 2021 in preparation for the MDAs planned in February.
- Complete translation, data analysis, and final report writing for the LF and trachoma KIIs.
- Conduct OV16 RDT analysis of 3,000 DBS samples (pending budget negotiations and USAID approval).
- Review of the NTD master plan and alignment with the sustainability plan and Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP) V.

November 2020

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Mapping | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MDA | N/A | 9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021 | N/A | N/A | 1 district, April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 14 EUs | N/A | N/A | N/A | TIS: 2 EUs TSS: 5 EUs |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | CES and DQA in 1 district (Moroto) |
| HSS | Planning 1 st meeting of SCH/STH expert committee meeting Planning Launch NTD program sustainability plan |

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

- The number of EUs planned for TAS3 was reduced from 31 to 14 EUs to accommodate budget increases due to COVID-19 SOPs (i.e., shifting from a school to community-based protocol and adding materials and extra field days for data collection and supervision).

Highlights:

- Act | East supported training for LF TAS surveyors in Kampala from November 25-26th. The training covered all aspects of the community-based TAS protocol and COVID-19 SOPs. A pre-visit to the districts will be carried out during the first week of December to prepare for the TAS with the district teams.
- Act | East and the national NTDCP trained data collectors for the coverage evaluation survey (CES) in Moroto from November 30th – December 2nd. As part of the training, the survey team carried out a field pre-test in Mukono district to familiarize themselves with the questionnaire, sampling processes, and data entry and to practice the COVID-19 SOPs. Data collection is planned to start the week of December 7th in Moroto.
- Oncho MDA was conducted in 12 districts with support from The Carter Center (9 districts with Act | East support). MDA data validation is ongoing.
- The sustainability plan launch was postponed in order to allow enough time for MOH senior management to review and sign off on the plan. Act | East is working with the MOH to confirm a new launch date of January 30th, 2021 and is planning to amplify the event in the context of World NTD Day.

- Act | East supported the MOH to complete a drug audit and retrieve all medicine balances following trachoma MDA in three districts. Following the audit, the Act | East Uganda team is conducting an in-depth review of Zithromax® inventory data with the MOH and National Medical Store to confirm why the quantity of Zithromax® was not sufficient to achieve >80% MDA coverage in Nebbi district.
- The Uganda Act | East team held a meeting with the ASCEND Country Lead to discuss effective coordination and collaboration in our support to the NTD program in Uganda.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TAS in 6 EUs (2 TAS1, 1 TAS2 and 3 TAS3 EUs) from December 7–22nd.
- Carry out field data collection for the CES in Moroto from December 7–12th.
- Plan for the launch of the NTD sustainability plan and World NTD Day in January 2021.
- Hold the first SCH/STH expert committee meeting in February 2021.
- Hold an NTD Partners meeting to harmonize activities and avoid duplication.

December 2020

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|
| Mapping | Trachoma baseline mapping: 28 EUs, November- January 2021 |
| MDA | 1 HZ (Pweto), January 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 1 HZ (Kilwa), October 2020 TSS: 0 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Trachoma baseline mapping will now be completed in January 2021 once the remaining 2 evaluation units (EUs) are surveyed.

Highlights:

- To date, results from trachoma baseline surveys in 12 EUs have been finalized; all of them have a TF prevalence of <5%, indicating no need for treatment. Results from the remaining EUs are still being cleaned and analyzed.
- Three PNLMTN trachoma survey teams completed trachoma baseline surveys in 26 EUs in the Kasai, Kasai Central, Kwilu and Kwango provinces between 30 October and 24 December. The survey teams adhered to the approved COVID prevention protocols.

Upcoming activities:

- Carry out trachoma baseline surveys in 2 EUs in the Kwango and Kwilu provinces in January 2021.
- Conduct the final round of trachoma MDA for Pweto health zone before the end of January 2021.

December 2020

ETHIOPIA

| | |
|---|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW) | Total population: 107,191,789 (2021) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 867 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (73), TRA (697), OV (222), SCH (421), STH (545) |
| | Refugee camps total population: 451,422 (2021) |
| | Total camps: 12 |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|---|--|---------------|--------------------|---|
| MDA | <p>0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Dec 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Jan 2021 • Tigray-LFTW (0/1 district)- Feb 2021 | <p>0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- Jan 2021 | 0/0 districts | 0/2 April/May 2021 | <p>0/139 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (0/6 districts)- Jan/Feb 2021 • Oromia-FHF- 0/87 districts (Jan 2021) • Oromia-LFTW (0/24 districts)- Feb 2021 • Tigray-LFTW (0/22 districts)- April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | <p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts)- April/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- Mar 2021 <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- Feb/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- Mar 2021 <p>TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/4 districts)-April 2021 <p>TAS3: 0</p> | | | | <p>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts) – Mar 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-Mar 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts;0/45 districts- Jan/Feb 2021; 0/35 districts-April/May/June-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- June 2021 • Tigray-LFTW (0/8 districts)- August 2021 <p>TSS: 0/73 districts + 0/2 Refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)-April 2021 • Gambella (0/4 districts)- April 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts)-June 2021 • Tigray-LFTW-(0/1 district)- August 2021 |

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

- Timeline for MDA and DSAs updated to reflect current estimates.

Highlights:

- The Act | East Ethiopia Chief of Party resigned in December, with a last day of January 4, 2021. The Act | East Ethiopia Implementation Manager will serve as Acting COP during the recruitment process.
- Insecurity continues throughout most of the USAID-supported implementation areas. All partners are working with their organizational security liaisons to remain updated on the situation and plan activities accordingly.
- Act | East resubmitted a FAA package to USAID for upcoming MDA in Gambella, reflecting the federal government's newly established per diem (DSA) rates.
- Act | East continues to work on COVID restart packages for pre-TAS/TAS and TIS/TSS.
- Preparatory activities for trachoma MDA in Gambella region are underway.
- The Act | East Implementation Manager virtually attended the third meeting of the NTD National Program Managers in the WHO Africa Region.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor coordinated the distribution of Zithromax, TEO, TT kits, and FTS across areas supported by the national NTD program.
- OV MDA, with funding from the MOH/ORHB, is ongoing in 67 districts of LFTW areas in Western Oromia.

Upcoming activities:

- The Act | East Ethiopia program team will work with the RHB mentors to complete remaining preparatory activities for the upcoming MDA in Gambella and Oromia regions.

December 2020

HAITI

| | |
|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 140 communes |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (140), STH (140) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| MDA | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 | 1 commune (Milot), April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), December 2020 TAS2: 5 EUs, July and August 2021 TAS3: 10 EUs, August 2021 | N/A |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | The HNTDC is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. GESI assessment in Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord (February 2021) Pre-MDA census planned (February–May 2021) Microplanning (May–June 2021) |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- None

Highlights:

- TAS1 in Dondon has been completed and data are being cleaned and analyzed. The target sample size was not met, though this was expected given that survey sample builder inputs for the community-based surveys were from 2003 census data. The actual sample size was close to the sample size found during school-based surveys. Act | East and the NTD-SC are working to recalculate the critical cut-off to account for the actual sample size, as has been done in other countries such as Guyana and American Samoa.
- Data collection for TAS1 in Cabaret is ongoing, with 20 clusters surveyed in December 2020. The remaining 6 clusters will be surveyed from January 13 – 18th.
- IMA Act | East worked with MSPP to plan an event to celebrate World NTD Day, which is scheduled for January 30th (pending restart approval).
- IMA Act | East planned to observe the Carter Center-supported IDA campaign in Leogane and Gressier. However, MSPP was unable to obtain ivermectin and therefore IMA did not observe the DA campaign.

Upcoming activities:

- Finalize data collection for TAS1 in Cabaret from January 13 – 18th.
- Support the MSPP to organize a celebration of World NTD Day on January 30th.
- Finalize and submit activity restart packages in collaboration with the MSPP for planned Q2 activities including the GESI assessment, pre-MDA census, and MDA activities in Milot.
- Submit GESI protocol to RTI and Haiti IRBs.

December 2020

INDONESIA

| | |
|--|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 271,052,476 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 514 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF |
|--------------------|---|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (3 completed) TAS2: 14, Apr to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, May 2021 |
| HSS | TBD |

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East together with the MOH originally planned to implement two Pre-TASs during the month of December 2020, but due the strict adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols following an exposure to a COVID positive case, these plans were postponed until January 2021.
- The Act | East technical team shared our experience in implementing COVID-19 safety protocols during Pre-TASs, with an emphasis on strategies for better crowd control, during a COVID-19 Best Practices session on December 2, 2020.
- USAID Indonesia and the MOH signed a new Grant Implementation Agreement for the period 2020 to 2025 on December 28, 2020, which includes Act | East support for the national LF elimination program. This agreement is now the legal basis for all USAID collaboration with the MOH in Indonesia.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East together with the MOH are planning to implement two Pre-TASs in Ketapang District and in Manukwari Selatan District in January 2021.

December 2020

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|
| MDA | 5 districts; TBD |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TIS: 20 EUs (16 districts) planned Q3 ; 1 EU (1 district) completed in Q1 TSS: 2 EUs (2 districts) planned Q3 ; 5 EUS (4 districts) completed in Q1 |
| MERLA | N/A |
| HSS | N/A |

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

- Completed TIS (1 district) and TSS (4 districts) in Zambezia province.

Highlights:

- Completed TSS in 5 EUs/4 districts) of Zambezia province. All EUs reported TF prevalence below 5%.
- Completed TIS in Chinde district of Zambezia province. TF prevalence is 9.48%, compared to 5.38% during TIS2 in FY19 and 6.5% during TIS1 in FY18. The Act | East team is determining whether it will be feasible to conduct re-MDA in FY21.
- Trachoma survey teams followed COVID-19 guidelines during the training and data collection. All graders and recorders consistently wore masks. Graders washed their gloves with alcohol between each participant. Social distancing was enforced. Sensitization on COVID-19 was systematic in the field.
- The Act | East COP participated in the review of *Practical approaches to implementing WHO guidance for neglected tropical disease programs in the context of COVID-19: Trachoma Surveys*
- The Act | East COP participated in an interview conducted by an external consultant of ASCEND. The topics were focused on ASCEND program quality, performance, and coherence; ASCEND's contribution to strengthening Mozambican health systems; ASCEND contribution to learning and adaptive management.
- The Act | East COP reviewed and consolidated feedback from countries on ESPEN supply chain SOP for First Expiry, First Out (FEFO) management methodology. It was submitted to the NTD Supply Chain Forum team for final review.
- The Act | East COP and the Data Management Officer continue to support MISAU in evaluation of the 2017-2020 strategic plan and ESPEN SCH data analysis.

Upcoming activities:

- Support for World NTD Day.
- Ongoing discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.

December 2020

NEPAL

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 30,201,100 (2020) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 77 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | STH | Trachoma |
|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| MDA Support Activities | 13 districts Dec, 2020 to March, 2021 | 13 districts Feb/March, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021) | Eliminated: May 2018 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 TAS2 : 6 districts, April/May 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, April-June 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, April-June 2021 TAS1 : 9 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 Re Pre TAS : 3 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 | SS/SC: None | N/A |

| | |
|------------|--|
| HSS | Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study GESI Gap Analysis |
|------------|--|

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

- None

Highlights:

- MOHP, USAID Washington, USAID Nepal, and NHRC (Nepal Health Research Council) came to an agreement that LF TAS and Pre-TAS no longer require local ethical approval.
- Act | East executed a FAA with Vector Born Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC) for TAS1 in one district (Kanchanpur) and Re-Pre-TAS in 7 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya).
- VBDRTC completed TAS1 district level orientation in Kanchanpur and Re Pre TAS district level orientation in Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya, following the approved COVID-19 risk mitigation guidelines. These orientations are chaired by District Coordination Committee Chair and participated by all important district level officials including Chief District Officer (CDO), District Public Health Officer, Security officials and journalist.
- Act | East HQ, Act | East Nepal, and WI-HER worked to finalize the protocol and questionnaire for the GESI gap analysis before submission to RTI IRB and NHRC for ethical review.

Upcoming activities:

- Enumerator training and data collection for TAS 1 in Kanchanpur and Re Pre TAS in 7 districts, planned to begin in Jan 2021.
- LF MDA provincial planning meetings in Jan-Feb 2021.
- LF MDA in March 2021.

December 2020

NIGERIA

| | |
|---|--|
| Act East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center | Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts (LGAs): 774 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| MDA | 80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov 2020-June 2021 | 105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021 | 44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | 118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021 | N/A |
| DSAs | Pre-TAS : 77 (TCC 76, RTI 1), Jan-Feb 2021, Mar- May 2021 TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), Feb-May 2021 | Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | SS/SC: 0 | TIS: 0 TSS: 1 (RTI) April 2021 |
| MERLA | N/A | | | | |
| HSS | N/A | | | | |

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

- Timing of LF DSAs has been updated.

Highlights:

- Drug quantities received by Act | East supported states for the December 2020 MDA were approximately 80% of the requested amount. Act | East is currently following up with FMOH to understand the discrepancy in allocation and to prevent future occurrences.
- CDDs/Teachers/Health staff training, supervision of training, and MDA in the context of COVID-19 was completed in all Act | East supported states except for the LGAs that are scheduled for Pre-TAS and TAS 1. Treatment data collection and collation are ongoing.
- Act | East Nigeria staff supported the FMOH in the update of the National Database with the WHO-approved 2019 treatment records.
- Act | East staff participated in the 2015-2020 National Strategic Plan Review meeting. Participants raised the need for a National MMDP Framework to standardize approaches to MMDP based on LF program maturity. FMOH is seeking support for a National Program Review meeting to kick off development of the 2021-2025 Master Plan.
- The Enugu Zonal office of TCC received Filarial Test Strips from FMOH for all planned Pre-TAS on December 17, 2020.

Upcoming activities:

Depending on COVID-19 pandemic challenges and security situation.

- MDA reporting and reverse logistics in Cross River State.
- Cross River State NTD Program Review meeting.
- Cross River State Pre-TAS and TAS-1 planning meeting with FMOH.
- Conduct 40 Pre-TAS in Abia, Cross River, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu and Imo States.

December 2020

PHILIPPINES

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: 124,607,518 |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 82 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (47), SCH (29), STH (82) |

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

| | LF | SCH | STH |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Baseline | 46 provinces | 28 provinces | 81 provinces |
| MDA | 3/46 provinces | 28/28 provinces | 82 provinces |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 5 TAS2: 2 TAS3: 3 | | |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | |
|------------|---|
| HSS | Financing assessment; Data systems assessment |
|------------|---|

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

- Updated number of planned DSAs based on DOH annual planning meeting.

Highlights:

- Results 4 Development presented a draft report on domestic resource mobilization to Act | East. The report will inform the development of case studies on domestic resource mobilization for NTDs in selected Asian and Latin American countries.
- The modules for the Training of Master Trainers for the Integration of NTDs in the pre-service curricula was approved and finalized by the Commission on Higher Education and the Department of Health. Next steps for the pre-service curricula include signing a formal MOU between CHED and the DOH.
- An NTD Program Year End Meeting was conducted by the Department of Health with following issues addressed:
 - The NTD program moved forward despite the COVID 19 disruption in 2020. This meeting reviewed highlights from the past year, including schisto and STH MDAs (coverage details not yet available from the provinces) and LF MDA in Zamboanga Del Norte and Sultan Kudarat, and TAS 1 in Aklan.
 - The DOH acknowledged that increased funding and attention will be focused on preparing for COVID vaccine roll out in 2021, anticipated to begin in May or June.
 - Act | East staff presented our annual workplan for FY21, covering support to strategic planning, and sustainability and health systems strengthening activities.
 - 2021 NTD Programs proceed as planned with caution following strict COVID 19 protocols and guidelines.

LF:

- The DOH is preparing for piloting use of IDA in three high prevalence municipalities in Sultan Kudarat in July.
- MDA will take place in the second half of the year in Zamboanga Del Norte.
- Pre-TAS is planned for rest of Sultan Kudarat, Zamboanga De Norte, Davao Occidental in July.
- TAS1: Zamboanga Del Norte, Sultan Kudarat, Davao Occidental, Iligan City, planned for the second half of the year.
- TAS2: Davao Del Sur, Davao City, Isabela City, planned for the second half of the year.
- TAS3: Sulu, Sarangani, Misamis Oriental, Capiz, planned for the second half of the year.

STH:

- The program will conduct regular community-based deworming in January and July.

Schistosomiasis:

- The program will conduct community-based schistosomiasis MDA in the endemic areas.
- The program will scale up baseline profiling of low, medium, and high-endemic barangays (villages).
- Pilot evaluation research of antigen based rapid diagnostic tests in selected areas.

Upcoming activities:

- Preparations for the 2nd World NTD Day in January.

December 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

| | |
|--|---|
| Act East Partner: RTI International | Total population: |
| COP: [Redacted] | Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts |
| | Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces |
| | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): |
| | Bangladesh: LF (19), STH (64) |
| | Lao PDR: LF (1), SCH (1), STH (17) |
| | Viet Nam: LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|--|
| DSAs (#EUs) | Bangladesh: 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR: 0 | Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van) (completed) Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho) (partially completed) |
| HSS | None | |

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

- Lung Ho surveys considered incomplete by Tropical Data (TD), updated.

Highlights:

- BGD: A FAA package and activity restart package for the Direct Inspection Protocol (DIP) survey was submitted for USAID review and approval. USAID feedback will be incorporated into a re-submission in January.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM:
 - The TSS survey in Lung Ho did not reach some clusters due to heavy rain. TD is considering this survey incomplete and suggests that missed clusters be re-assessed in Q2 (Jan – March). RTI and FHF will coordinate with TD and VNEH on this issue.

Upcoming activities:

- Preparations for DIP survey implementation in Bangladesh, targeted to begin in February.

December 2020

TANZANIA

| | |
|---|---|
| Act East Partner: IMA World Health | Total population: 56.1 million (2020) |
| COP: [Redacted] | Districts: 185 districts |
| RTI HQ Team: [Redacted] | Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185) |

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Mapping | N/A | Exclusion mapping: 7 districts April 2021 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MDA | 5 districts, August 2021 | <u>Round 1:</u> 9 districts, February 2021 <u>Round 2:</u> 28 districts, August 2021 | 8 districts, February 2021 | 41 districts February 2021 | 4 districts February 2021; 1 district August 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | TAS1: 4 EUs, January 2021 TAS2: 12 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 12 EUs, January 2021, 16 EUs, May 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), April 2021 Ent survey: 3 districts (2 foci), April 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021 | N/A | N/A | TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021 and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021 and July 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform |
| HSS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. <p>(Activities are pending USAID Covid-specific approval)</p> |

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

- OV epidemiological and entomological surveys in 3 districts (2 foci) are now planned for April 2021 rather than February 2021.

Highlights:

- TZNTDCP and IMA Act | East translated findings from the LF and trachoma key informant interviews (KIIs) conducted in November 2020 as part of the DSA failure investigations. A consultant is supporting the data analysis and report writing, which is expected in January 2021.
- TZNTDCP and IMA Act | East finalized preparations for LF TAS3 in 12 EUs and TAS1 in 4 EUs. Data collection has been planned for the week of January 11th, when primary schools will re-open.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed the zonal planning and review meetings and training of trainers’ (TOT) sessions for 134 district councils from 19 regions. The national TOT session took place from December 4–5th, followed by the zonal planning and review meetings which were held from December 6 – 22nd in four zones (Mbeya, Morogoro, Arusha and Mwanza).
- IMA Act | East facilitated gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) trainings in four centers (Mbeya, Morogoro, Arusha and Mwanza), each of which had one additional day added to the zonal planning meetings for the GESI training. A total of 144 councils from 19 regions attended the four trainings, comprising 4 NTD team members. Each council identified the GESI related issues that impact MDA coverage and developed action plans to address those issues, applying WI-HER’s iDARE methodology.
- Through coordination with Medical Stores Department (MSD), IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP continued to transport ALB, PZQ, and IVM to the districts for the SCH/STH and oncho MDAs scheduled for February. Drug transportation will be completed in January 2021.
- The USAID Mission in Tanzania released updated guidance on conducting field activities and in-person meetings during COVID-19 on November 25, 2020. Act | East is coordinating with USAID Washington to align the previously approved restart request with this new guidance.

Upcoming activities:

- Organize training for TAS surveyors from January 10–11th and complete data collection for TAS3 in 12 EUs and TAS1 in 4 EUs from January 12–28th. This activity must be completed before FTS expire at the end of January 2021.
- Act | East and the TZNTDCP will continue to coordinate with ITI to facilitate timely delivery of the Zithromax shipment for trachoma MDA in February.
- Coordinate with the MSD to finalize transport of ALB, PZQ and IVM tablets to the districts in preparation for the MDAs planned in February.
- IMA will continue the procurement process for the printing of IEC materials and other supplies for the February MDA.
- Organize and carry-out the GESI pilot in Pangani district (pending re-approval from USAID).

December 2020

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

| | LF | OV | SCH | STH | Trachoma |
|--------------------|--|---|-----|-----|--|
| Mapping | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MDA | N/A | 9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021 | N/A | N/A | 1 district, April 2021 |
| DSAs (#EUs) | Pre-TAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 14 EUs | N/A | N/A | N/A | TIS: 2 EUs, April 2021 TSS: 5 EUs, February and June 2021 |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MERLA | CES and DQA in 1 district (Moroto) |
| HSS | Planning 1 st meeting of SCH/STH expert committee meeting Planning Launch NTD program sustainability plan |

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

- None

Highlights:

- The Act | East Uganda team supported the NTDCP to complete TAS1 in Maracha EU and begin data collection for TAS3 in Abim and Katakwi EUs for TAS3 following the COVID SOPs. Data collection for TAS3 in Abim and Katakwi EUs will resume the week of January 18th, following the holidays and Presidential elections on January 14th.
- The coverage evaluation survey (CES) was completed in Moroto district and data analysis is underway.
- The Carter Center supported NTDCP to compile and validate MDA data from all 12 OV endemic districts (9 districts supported by Act | East).
- Act | East Uganda team is supporting the NTDCP and National Medical Store to review the Zithromax[®] inventory data following MDA in September. Act | East has requested that the NTDCP inform ITI of the medicine shortage problem that occurred during MDA.

Upcoming activities:

- Complete TAS3 in Abim and Katakwi EUs in January 2021.
- Conduct TAS1 in Terego and Madi-Okollo EUs, TAS2 in Agago EU, and TAS3 in Amuria EU from January – February 2021.

- Finalize data cleaning and analysis for the CES in Moroto.
- Launch the NTD Sustainability Plan on February 4th and support the NTDCP with communications materials for World NTD Day on January 30th.
- Hold the first meeting of SCH/STH expert committee in February 2021.
- Conduct the pre-visit for TSS in Amudat, Karenga and Kaabong EUs.
- Hold an NTD Secretariat meeting in February 2021.
- Organize the quarterly trachoma dossier and review meeting in February 2021.