

# Act to End NTDs | East

## FY21 Q2 Monthly Updates

### January 1, 2021–March 31, 2021

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).

January 2021

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- None

Highlights:

- The data for 26 EUs surveyed in the Kasai, Kasai Central, Kwilu and Kwango provinces in December were uploaded to Tropical Data for preliminary analysis and cleaning.
- The Act | East DRC M&E specialist conducted a day-long, detailed refresher training for the graders, data recorders, and supervisors prior to dispatching the teams to Kwilu and Kwango provinces to complete mapping in the two remaining EUs. The training focused on correct procedures conducting the eye examinations and recording data and the COVID-19 SOPs.
- The survey team departed Kinshasa on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to complete trachoma baseline surveys in the two remaining EUs in Kwilu and Kwango provinces.
- The RTI DRC team provided technical, logistical, and financial support to the Haut-Katanga Provincial NTD Coordination Service and Pweto HZ team to conduct MDA in Pweto from January 26<sup>th</sup>–February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Upcoming activities:

- Data analysis and reporting for the 28 EUs that completed trachoma baseline mapping surveys.
- Conduct reverse logistics and finalize data collection for the MDA in Pweto HZ by February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Present on Act | East’s progress in DRC during the upcoming DRC partners’ quarterly call.
- Final reporting and program close-out procedures to conclude DRC office activities by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

January 2021

ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- Revised FY21 Targets: Removed LF MDA in 1 district, trachoma MDA in 22 districts, and TIS/TSS in 9 districts of Tigray region due to continued insecurity in the region and budgetary implications of the newly imposed per diem rates from the government of Ethiopia.
- Trachoma MDA started in January 2021 in West Hararghe and East Shewa zones of Oromia region, with support from Act | East through FHF. A total of 11 woredas will be treated.

Highlights:

- Act | East continues to work on COVID restart packages for pre-TAS/TAS and TIS/TSS.
- With support from Act | East headquarters, the Act | East Ethiopia MERLA manager and partner focal points began a self-paced online training in DHIS2.
- Gambella FAA package was countersigned by the RHB and preparatory activities for trachoma MDA are underway.
- Act | East Ethiopia team, in collaboration with the MOH, are finalizing FY21 Pre-TAS and TAS protocols.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor continued to coordinate the distribution of Zithromax, TEO, TT kits, and FTS. He also supported an NTD medicines supply chain management training organized by EPSA and MOH.

Upcoming activities:

- Trachoma MDA in LFTW supported zones of Oromia.
- Trachoma MDA in RTI supported zones of Gambella.

**January 2021**

**HAITI**

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 11.7 million (2020 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 140 communes
<b>RTI &amp; IMA HQ Teams:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (140), STH (140)

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

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

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

- None

**Highlights:**

- IMA Act | East continued with data collection for LF TAS1 in Cabaret evaluation unit. Data collection has been completed for all but two enumeration areas.
- Act | East supported the Haiti Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program (HNTDCP) leadership to organize a media sensitization campaign for World NTD Day. This included publication of an article on the LF program’s progress and a pre-recorded message that was broadcasted in early February to continue with the awareness campaign.
- Act | East submitted a restart request to USAID to implement MDA activities in Milot, the pre-MDA census in 10 communes, and conduct the GESI assessment in Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord.
- The RTI, IMA, and WI-HER Act | East team finalized the protocol and tools for the GESI assessment for submission to the RTI and local Haiti IRBs.
- IMA Act | East participated in USAID’s NTD Program Sustainability Review Meeting held on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming activities:**

- Finish data collection for TAS1 in two remaining enumeration areas in Cabaret. The survey team will restart data collection on February 18<sup>th</sup>, following Carnival and assuming that the security situation remains calm.
- Translate the GESI protocol and tools into French/Creole and submit to the Haiti bioethical committee for approval.
- Launch the MDA social mobilization campaign in February, including the development, production, and dissemination of the health messages (radio and TV spots).
- Sign the FAA agreement with the North Departmental MSPP in preparation for MDA trainings.
- Organize training of community leaders (CLs) and community promoters (CPs) for the upcoming MDA in Milot commune.
- Conduct the pre-MDA census in targeted communes of Gonaïves and Port-de-Paix.

January 2021

INDONESIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (5 completed) TAS2: 14, Apr to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, May 2021
<b>HSS</b>	TBD

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

- Updated number of completed Pre-TAS.

Highlights:

- Act | East together with the MOH implemented two Pre-TASs January: Ketapang District from January 11 to 15 and in Manokwari Selatan District from January 25 to 29, 2021. Results are pending.
- Act | East helped finalize a blog post, titled “Setting a sustainable course to fight NTDs in Indonesia”, that was published by USAID on January 27, 2021 as part of World NTD Day celebrations.
- Act | East shared social media materials with USAID Indonesia and the Subdit to promote World NTD Day. USAID Indonesia adapted these messages for their social media channels.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East together with the MOH are planning to implement a Pre-TAS in Bangka District beginning on February 2 and a Pre-TAS in OKUT District beginning on February 15.
- Act | East Indonesia staff share implementation experiences at the COVID-19 Best Practices panel in mid-February.

January 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

Highlights:

- The Act | East team is developing a plan for a DSA failure investigation for Chinde district, based on the recent prevalence results (6.5% in FY18, 5.7% in FY19, and now 9.5% in FY21). The investigation will consist of review of sub-district level data and a trip to the district to review and discuss other potential factors in-depth with the district health team.
- The COP discussed plans for the HMIS and the Trachoma Dossier elimination workshops with the MOH NTD Coordinator.
- The Act | East COP and the monitoring and evaluation officer supported the MISAU team to complete the TEMF that is due in March.
- 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:

- Ongoing discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.
- Ongoing discussions for the Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop.
- Development of a Phase 2 restart package for remaining TIS (16 Districts)/TSS (2 Districts).



January 2021

NEPAL

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts Dec 2020 to March 2021	13 districts Feb/March 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 <b>(complete)</b> Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 <b>(complete)</b> 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	
<b>MERLA</b>	N/A		
<b>HSS</b>	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study (R4D) GESI Gap Analysis		

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

- Completed TAS1 and re-Pre-TAS in December- January.

Highlights:

- VBDRTC completed field work for TAS1 in 1 district (Kanchanpur) and re-Pre-TAS in 7 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung and Bardiya) with careful adherence with COVID-19 protocols and without issue.
  - Preliminary TAS1 results shows that Kanchanpur successfully passed this stop-MDA survey, with only one positive among 1581 samples.
  - Preliminary re-Pre-TAS results show that 1 district (Dhankuta) successfully passed this survey and 5 districts (Jhapa, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat and Baglung) did not pass. In all districts, data collection included questions to understand if previous positives (those tested and treated in a previous survey) were contributing to repeated pre-TAS failures. In Bardiya district, this seemed to be true. Act | East and EDCD will consult with WHO SEARO RPRG for a final determination on this survey. If Bardiya is also determined to have passed re-Pre-TAS, Dhankuta and Bardiya will be eligible for TAS1 (Stop MDA) after 2021 LF MDA.
- Provincial LF MDA Planning meetings were completed for 4 districts (Bardiya, Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) of Lumbini province in January. Health Directorate of Lumbini Province conducted these meetings with technical and logistic support of Act | East.
- MOHP/DoHS/EDCD confirmed that LF MDA will begin with a kickoff on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Upcoming activities:

- Continued Pre LF MDA planning meetings in Jan-Feb 2021.
- LF MDA in March-April 2021.

January 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	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
<b>DSAs</b>	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
<b>MERLA</b>	N/A				
<b>HSS</b>	N/A				

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

- None

Highlights:

- Across the USAID supported states in Nigeria, LF pre-TAS activities are progressing. In Cross River State a re-pre-TAS planning meeting was held on January 6, with training and field activities scheduled for the week of February 22-25. Trainings for LF pre-TAS in Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo States were carried out from January 11-24. LF pre-TAS have been completed in Abia, Ebonyi, and Imo States and field activities are underway in Anambra and Enugu States.
- Planning meeting for LF TAS was held in Cross River State on January 6-7, with participants from FMOH, SMOH and SMOE. Field activities will be scheduled when FTS availability is confirmed.
- On January 27, Act | East participated in the Health Partners' Forum meeting of the Cross River State Ministry of Health and provided updates on activities conducted with USAID support in the state.
- Supervision of collation and retrieval of 2020 treatment data is ongoing across the nine USAID-supported states.
- The NTD Community in Nigeria celebrated the Second World NTD Day. Cross River's SMOH, through support from Act | East, held an essay writing competition about NTDs among secondary school students.

Upcoming activities:

- MDA reporting and reverse logistics in Cross River State.
- Cross River State NTD Program Review meeting.
- Conduct 1 re-Pre-TAS in Cross River State.
- Onchocerciasis MDA in Yala LGA of Cross River State.

January 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21**

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

<b>HSS</b>	Financing assessment; Data systems assessment
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None

Highlights:

- The Administrative Order/guidelines for the implementation of Ivermectin, Diethylcarbamazine and Albendazole (IDA) for Mass Drug Administration (MDA) was signed and approved by the Secretary of Health as the first issued Administrative Order of the year 2021. IDA will be piloted in three municipalities in the Province of Sultan Kudarat in July 2021.
- The Province of Aklan has completed and passed a community-based TAS1 with no recorded FTS positive results among those tested. Passing TAS1, and thereby stopping MDA in Aklan, is significant because it makes the Visayas island cluster the first in the Philippines to be declared “LF Free”.
- The Province of Zamboanga Del Norte conducted MDA in January 2021.
- The DOH and regional officials in SOCCSKSARGEN (which includes Sultan Kudarat province) met for a virtual planning meeting where it was agreed that Sultan Kudarat would undergo a pre-TAS in April 2021. Act | East will support a planning meeting for provincial officials. The meeting will also include a half-day WHO-led technical and quality assurance training for medical technologists working in the sentinel and spot check sites. FTS kits for the survey and training will be donated by WHO. If the province passes, TAS1 will be scheduled in July.
- DOH determined that Sultan Kudarat will administer a round of MDA using the recently approved IDA in the three hotspot municipalities, Kalamansig, Lebak and Palimbang, in July 2021. Act | East will support planning meetings with each district ahead of this MDA.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual World NTD Day was marked with a small ceremony at the Department of Health in the Plaza Carmencita focused on solidarity, unity and continuity in the fight against NTDs, even in the context of a global COVID-19 pandemic. Participants at this outdoor event observed COVID precautions. Participants included [Redacted], Chief, Infectious Diseases for Elimination Division together program staff from the DOH NTD program, partners from the World Health Organization and RTI International implementing USAID’s Act To End NTDs East Project in the Philippines.

Upcoming activities:

- Joint signing of an MOU between the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Health (DOH) to mark the partnership in development and roll out of the NTD pre-service curricula modules.
- Logistic preparations for April and June LF planning meetings in Sultan Kudarat.

January 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts
	Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	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
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed  Viet Nam TSS-: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
<b>HSS</b>	N/A	

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

- None

Highlights:

- BGD:
  - The FAA package and re-start package for the Direct Inspection Protocol survey of health facilities were approved. Act | East is working closely with grantee CIPRB to kick off the survey activities in February 2021.
  - Act | East supported inclusion of LF and STH messaging in a folk music and truck rally NTD awareness activity. The rally took place alongside meetings organized by ASCEND and the MOHFW to mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual World NTD Day.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM:
  - The TSS survey in Lung Ho did not reach some clusters due to heavy rain. WHO, VNEH, Tropical Data, and Act | East partners (RTI and FHF) discussed options to finalize the survey. WHO and TD have recommended that VNEH re-survey four clusters. VNEH is considering the safest way forward for this remote commune.

Upcoming activities:

- Bangladesh DIP preparations and kick off in February.

January 2021

TANZANIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, April 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	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, April 2021; 1 district, August 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1: 4 EUs, January 2021 TAS2: 3 EUs, February 2021; 9 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 12 EUs, January 2021; 13 EUs, February 2021, 3 EUs August 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
<b>MERLA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV)</li> <li>Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform</li> </ul>				
<b>HSS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan</li> <li>Review and launch the NTD Master Plan</li> <li>Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning</li> <li>Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy</li> <li>Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs</li> <li>Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records</li> <li>Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings.</li> </ul>				

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

- TAS2 in 3 EUs and TAS3 in 13 EUs will be done in February 2021 to use the FTS that are due to expire on February 5th and February 25th. These surveys were originally planned in May and August 2021. Trachoma MDA has been postponed from February to April 2021 to allow enough time for the Zithromax shipment to arrive and clear customs.

Highlights:

- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP held a refresher training for LF TAS surveyors in Dar es Salaam from January 15-16<sup>th</sup>, including training on the COVID precaution measures and SOPs. Following the training, data collection was completed for TAS3 in 12 EUs and TAS1 in 4 EUs from January 17–30<sup>th</sup>.

- IMA Act | East finalized the FAA agreements with 46 total LGAs for the OV and SCH/STH MDAs scheduled in February (STH– 41 districts, SCH– 8 districts, OV– 9 districts) and sent the agreements to the respective districts and regions for signature by February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP coordinated with the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to transport PZQ, ALB and IVM to the districts in preparation for MDA. IMA is also coordinating transport of all supplies needed for MDA including dose poles.
- TZNTDCP received Zithromax shipping documents from ITI in order to obtain the import permit. The Tanzania Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) approved the import permit for Zithromax tabs and the TZNTDCP is currently processing a waiver for the import fee. Per request from TMDA, TZNTDCP is also working to provide a letter confirming that the POS will be used before its October 2021 expiration date.
- IMA and TZNTDCP, together with colleagues from RTI and R4D, participated in a virtual meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss integration of the NTDCP into the SWAp platform and review the health financing activities planned in FY21. Act | East and the NTDCP also prioritized five key meetings for Q2 and submitted those to USAID for restart approval.

#### Upcoming activities:

- In collaboration with WI-HER, IMA and TZNTDCP will integrate GESI into the upcoming MDA trainings in Pangani DC in preparation for school-based MDA in late February.
- Finalize data analysis and compile the report on the results from the key informant interviews (KIIs) that were conducted in December 2020 as part of trachoma and LF DSA failure investigations.
- Conduct TAS3 in an additional 13 EUs, and TAS2 in 3 EUs by the end of February.
- Transport all supplies needed for SCH, STH and OV MDAs to the districts by the third week of February. MDA will commence the last week of February or first week of March.
- TZNTDCP will process the waiver for the Zithromax tabs import fee and the letter confirming that POS will be used for MDA before October 2021.

January 2021

UGANDA

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	1 district, April 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	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
<b>MERLA</b>	CES and DQA in 1 district (Moroto)				
<b>HSS</b>	First meeting of SCH/STH expert committee Launch NTD program sustainability plan				

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

- None

**Highlights:**

- TAS resumed in the 5 EUs of Abim, Katakwi, Madi-Okollo, Amuria and Agago. These surveys began in December 2020 but were suspended during the holidays and Presidential elections.
- The Act | East Uganda team worked closely with the Ministry of Health, USAID Mission, and in-country partners to prepare for the launch of Uganda’s NTD sustainability plan and World NTD Day celebration on February 4<sup>th</sup> in Kampala.
- The NTD sustainability plan was officially approved by senior leadership of the Ministry of Health and signed off on by the Director General of Health Services and the Hon. Minister of Health prior to the launch event.
- The Act | East Uganda team prepared and submitted a restart package to USAID outlining the COVID risk mitigation measures and SOPs that will be followed when implementing TIS and TSS.
- The Carter Center Act | East team prepared a submitted a restart package to USAID for OV MDA in 9 districts. Pre-MDA trainings are planned to start in March 2021.
- Act | East Uganda team continued to follow up with the NTDCP and National Medical Store to review the Zithromax® inventory data following MDA in September. Act | East has requested that the NTDCP officially inform ITI of the medicine shortage problem that occurred during MDA.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TAS3 in in 6 EUs (Alebtong, Erute North, Erute South, Amolatar, Dokolo, Moroto) and TAS1 in Terego EU in February.
- Conduct TSS in Amudat, Karenga and Kaabong EUs from March 7-19<sup>th</sup>, including the pre-visit to the districts from February 21-28<sup>th</sup> (pending restart approval).
- Finalize data cleaning and analysis for the CES in Moroto.
- Workshop to incorporate GESI into MoH-NTDCP training Manuals from February 10-11<sup>th</sup>.
- Organize the quarterly trachoma dossier and review meeting planned for March 2-5<sup>th</sup>.
- Hold the NTD National Technical Advisory Committee meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Plan the first meeting of SCH/STH expert committee.



February 2021

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- None

Highlights:

- The results for 26 EUs in the Kasai, Kasai Central, Kwilu and Kwango provinces that were surveyed in December were approved by the PNLMTN and posted by Tropical Data. Results will be included in the March 2021 trachoma DSA tracker.
- It was determined that one data recorder for the survey team that departed Kinshasa on 23 January to complete the baseline surveys in the 2 remaining EUs in Kwilu and Kwango mistakenly recorded the majority of examined household members in 7 clusters as absent. Thus, these clusters could not be analyzed. Unfortunately, MOH was unable to issue the necessary mission orders in time to complete the resurvey work before close-out of Act | East in DRC by the end of March.
- The Haut-Katanga Provincial NTD Coordination Service and Pweto HZ team, with support of Act | East team, completed the fifth and final trachoma MDA round in Pweto in February.
- The DRC Act | East COP presented on progress in trachoma mapping during the DRC partners' coalition quarterly call on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct final program close-out procedures to conclude the DRC office activities and program financial reporting.
- Compile the Act | East final report for DRC and complete the FY21 SAR1 workbooks.

February 2021

ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	<p>0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Dec 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-April/May 2021</li> <li>Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Feb 2021</li> <li></li> </ul>	<p>0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)-April/May 2021</li> <li>Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- May 2021</li> </ul>	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	<p>0/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gambella (0/6 districts)-<b>March 2021</b></li> <li>Oromia-FHF- <b>11/87 districts</b> (Feb/March 2021)</li> <li>Oromia-LFTW (0/24 districts)- Feb 2021</li> </ul>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	<p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/2 districts)-<b>May/June 2021</b></li> <li>Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- <b>June 2021</b></li> </ul> <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- <b>May/June 2021</b></li> <li>Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- June 2021</li> </ul> <p>TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/4 districts)-<b>May 2021</b></li> </ul> <p>TAS3: 0</p>				<p><b>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/2 districts) – Mar 2021</li> <li>Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-Mar 2021</li> <li>Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; <b>0/45 districts-May 2021</b>; 0/35 districts- April/May/June-2021</li> <li>Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- June 2021</li> </ul> <p><b>TSS: 0/59 districts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)-April 2021</li> <li>Gambella (0/4 districts)- April 2021</li> <li>Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts-June 2021</li> <li></li> </ul>

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

- Revised FY21 Targets: Removed LF MDA in 1 district, trachoma MDA in 22 districts, and TIS/TSS in 9 districts of Tigray region due to continued insecurity in the region and budgetary implications of the newly imposed per diem rates from the government of Ethiopia.
- Trachoma MDA in Gambella region, using available TEO, is postponed from February to March due to overlap with TT surgery trainings.

- With support from Act | East through FHF, a total of 11 woredas in West Hararghe and East Shewa zones of Oromia region have completed trachoma MDA using available TEO and trachoma MDA is ongoing in two woredas of West Arsi zone.
- No DSA started as of this month, so targeted dates are updated for all DSAs. TAS package is under review by USAID and TIS/TSS package is under development and is targeted for May/June.

#### Highlights:

- In FY20, Act | East successfully procured TEO locally to support its trachoma activities and planned to do so again in FY21. Due to the COVID pandemic, the unknown status of ongoing trachoma activities caused a delay in the TEO supply chain within country. In order to address this, Act | East has placed an international order for TEO which will take six months. In the interim, the program is working with the EPSA to identify other sources of TEO which may be made available sooner. For now, 62 districts targeted for MDA and 151 districts targeted for TIS/TSS are on hold while the TEO situation is sorted.
- LFTW completed MDA Trainings (Integrated MDA) at different level in all targeted Oromia zones.
- LFTW has finalized PPE procurement and distribution to all targeted Oromia zones. The ORHB, through LFTW, has completed MDA trainings at every tier within its targeted areas. MDA is ongoing as there is enough TEO for these specific areas.
- Trachoma MDA is ongoing in FHF-supported districts in Oromia as there is enough TEO for these specific areas.
- Pre-MDA activities for trachoma MDA in Gambella region are completed.
- Preparatory activities for TAS in Benesangul Gumuz and Oromia region are underway.
- Act | East Ethiopia team, in collaboration with the FMOH, finalized FY21 Pre-TAS and TAS protocols.
- The Act | East ESPA supply chain mentor continued to coordinate the distribution of Zithromax, TEO, TT kits, and FTS.

#### Upcoming activities:

- Trachoma MDA using available TEO in LFTW supported zones in W.Shoa, East Wollega and Horuguduru.
- Trachoma MDA in RTI supported zones of Gambella.
- Preparatory activities for upcoming DSAs.
- Prepare and submit the FY21 SAR1.

February 2021

HAITI

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 11.7 million (2020 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 140 communes
<b>RTI &amp; IMA HQ Teams:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (140), STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH
<b>MDA</b>	1 commune (Milot), April 2021	1 commune (Milot), April 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), Dec 2020-Feb 2021 TAS2: 5 EUs, July and August 2021 TAS3: 10 EUs, August 2021	N/A
<b>MERLA</b>	The HNTDC is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. GESI assessment in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (April 2021) Pre-MDA census planned (February–June 2021) Microplanning (May–June 2021)	
<b>HSS</b>	N/A	

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

- The GESI assessment originally planned in February 2021 will take place in April 2021 to allow sufficient time for translating the protocol and tools into French and Creole and obtaining approvals from the local Haiti and RTI IRBs. In addition, the pre-MDA census is expected to be completed in June 2021 instead of May 2021 to accommodate for the additional trainings and time needed to abide by the COVID SOPs.

Highlights:

- TAS1 was completed in the two remaining enumeration areas in Cabaret EU. Results will be shared when final.
- IMA Act | East convened local leaders, local government officials, and MSPP staff at the departmental and communal levels for a strategic planning meeting in Milot. The meeting allowed participants to develop a detailed plan for upcoming MDA activities (e.g., determining the location of MDA posts) and aimed to ensure the full support and commitment of the key stakeholders during implementation.
- A planning meeting was held with staff of the North Department Health Directorate, including the Director, to discuss the upcoming MDA and pre-MDA census activities. This meeting was particularly important to discuss the plan to implement both door-to-door MDA and fixed point MDA at posts and schools. The team also planned for the upcoming pre-MDA census in 5 communes of the North Department and shared results from the TAS1 in Dondon.
- IMA Act | East signed the FAA agreement with the North Department Directorate of the MSPP, which covers MDA training activities in Milot.
- In collaboration with the MSPP health promotion authorities, two audio and one video health messages were developed to announce dates for the planned MDA in Milot and to mobilize community participation. These will be broadcast on local radio and TV stations starting in early March and leading up to the MDA planned for the last week of April. The audio spots will also be broadcast using sound trucks right before the MDA to ensure the messages reach everyone targeted for treatment.

- Act | East finalized the GESI assessment protocol and is translating the protocol and tools into French and Creole for submission to the Haiti Ethics Committee.

**Upcoming activities:**

- Finalize translation of the GESI protocol and tools into French/Creole and submit for approval to the Haiti Ethics Committee.
- Launch the pre-MDA census activities in 5 communes in the North Department: Cap Haitian, Quartier Morin, Plaine du Nord, Acul-du-Nord, and Limonade.
- Prepare and submit the technical reports for the TAS1 completed in Dondon and Cabaret.
- Complete the recruitment process for short-term technical assistance consultants to support the pre-MDA census and MDA.
- Carry out social mobilization activities for the upcoming MDA in Milot.
- Support the national NTDCP to prepare the Joint Application Package (JAP) for submission to PAHO-WHO by March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Prepare the FY21 Semi-Annual Report (SAR1) for review.

February 2021

INDONESIA

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (8 completed) TAS2: 14, Jul to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, Aug 2021
<b>HSS</b>	TBD

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

- Updated number of completed Pre-TAS and adjusted the schedule for FY21 TAS to align with the beginning of the next school year in Indonesia.

Highlights:

- Act | East together with the MOH implemented three Pre-TASs in February: in Bangka District from February 1-5, in OKUT District from February 22-26, and in Kubu Raya District also from February 22-26, 2021. Results for all three are pending.
- Act | East presented during a session of the Act | East COVID-19 Best Practice Series on February 16, 2021 and shared our experience of managing COVID-19 positive cases resulting from the implementation of a Pre-TAS.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East together with the MOH are planning to implement Pre-TASs in Kota Batam District beginning on March 4, in Sanggau District and in Bintan District both beginning on March 15, and in Halmahera Tengah District beginning on March 22, 2021.
- Prepare the FY21 Semi-Annual Report (SAR1) for review.

February 2021  
MOZAMBIQUE

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

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

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East participated in the JAP package review (EPIRF Tete and JRF) in collaboration with the MISAU and ASCEND representatives.
- Act | East participated in the review of the annual 2020 NTD MISAU report and indicators. Other participants included MISAU and ASCEND representatives.
- The Act | East COP and the M&E Officer reviewed the TEMF (Trachoma Elimination Monitoring Form) together with MISAU which was then submitted to WHO on February 19, 2021.
- Act | East finalized plans for the HMIS workshop with the MOH NTD Coordinator. The workshop is currently planned for the last week of March 2021, pending approval of the Phase 2 restart package. An agenda, modules, and training methodology are in development.
- The Act | East and MISAU are finalizing the DSA investigation protocol which will occur in Chinde district (Zambezia province). This investigation will help explain the reasons for the failure of TIS in the districts and discuss approaches to improve MDA coverage.
- Act | East COP attended an ASCEND-supported DQA debriefing regarding the districts of Zambezia. The DQA took place more than a year after the LF MDA. Specific findings included: i) Lack of source documents at community and health zone level for verification; ii) Lack of data quality control at community and health zone level; iii) Lack of written procedures to deal with late, incomplete and inaccurate reports. Act | East will use these findings to improve its own MDA activities.
- 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:

- Ongoing discussions for the proposed HMIS workshop.
- Ongoing discussions for the Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop.
- Development of a Phase 2 restart package for remaining TIS (16 Districts)/TSS (2 Districts).
- Submission of FY21 SAR1.

February 2021

NEPAL

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts Dec, 2020 to March, 2021	13 districts Feb/March, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) TAS2 : 6 districts, April-May, 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, <b>July-Sep, 2021</b> TAS3 : 13 districts, <b>July-Sep, 2021</b>	SS/SC: None	
<b>HSS</b>	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study GESI Assessment – Planned for April/May 2021		

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

- Removed *TAS1: 9 districts* and *Re-Pre-TAS: 3 districts* originally planned for August/September 2021. MDA has been rescheduled for April 2021, so these districts will not be ready for pre-TAS or TAS1 before the end of FY21.
- Dates for TAS2 and TAS3 revised to accommodate the delayed MDA.

Highlights:

- Seven events of provincial LF MDA Planning meetings completed for 12 districts (Jhapa, Dhankuta, Morang, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung, Bardiya, Banke, Dang, Kapilvastu and Kailali) of five provinces (Province no 1, Province no 2, Gandaki Province, Lumbini province and Sudurpacchim Province). The Health Directorate of these provinces conducted these meetings with technical support from EDCD and technical and logistic support from Act | East Nepal.
- MOHP/DoHS/EDCD postponed LF MDA from a March start date to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 in order to focus on the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination campaign.
- Protocols and tools for a GESI assessment planned for Banke, Dang and Kapilbastu districts in April/May 2021 were finalized and approved.

Upcoming activities:

- Finalize and submit IRB proposal and restart package for upcoming GESI assessment.
- LF MDA activities in March-April 2021, including planning and supervision support to EDCD.
- TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot) in April-May 2021.



February 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	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
<b>DSAs</b>	Pre-TAS : 77 (TCC 76, RTI 1), Jan-Feb 2021 <b>(48/77 completed)</b> , 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: <b>5 (RTI)</b> <b>June 2021</b>
<b>MERLA</b>	N/A				
<b>HSS</b>	N/A				

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

- Pre-TAS completed in 48 LGAs in Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi and Imo States.
- Updated FY21 TSS target to 5, to include additional 4 LGAs in Ebonyi State. The date was also changed to reflect the National Trachoma timeline.

Highlights:

- Pre-TAS conducted in 48 LGAs in Anambra, Ebonyi and Imo States are currently undergoing the data validation process with FMOH, SMOH and TCC. Results of the Pre-TAS will be entered into the TAS tracker.
- Re-Pre-TAS in CRS was targeted for late February, but that was not upheld by FMOH. CRS SMOH awaits a new date for this activity, now planned for March.
- Retrieval of 2020 MDA treatment data, collation, verification, reporting and reverse logistics of medicine has started across the nine USAID-supported states.
- On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the CRS Commissioner of Health presented Awards of Excellence to the three best students from 22 students that participated in the Secondary School Essay Competition held to mark the celebration of the second World NTD day.

Upcoming activities:

- Cross River State NTD Program Review meeting
- Conduct of one re-Pre-TAS in Yala LGA of Cross River States.
- Onchocerciasis MDA in Yala LGA of Cross River State
- FMOH Zonal Review Meetings
- JAP preparation meeting

February 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

<b>HSS</b>	Financing assessment; Data systems assessment
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None

Highlights:

- The DOH is implementing a re-structuring in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NTD program, which sits under the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau will be impacted as disease program managers are reassigned to provide functional support. [Redacted], the NTD program director, will be reassigned as well, but will continue to champion LF elimination in her new role.
- An Administrative Order establishing guidelines for integrated elimination hubs for Malaria and Lymphatic Filariasis at the sub-national level was issued by the Department of Health. The policy ensures accessibility to quality health products and services at all levels of care. It also lays the framework for sustainability and accountability in areas co-endemic with Malaria and Filaria.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East will coordinate with DOH, regional and provincial health officials to plan for a series of two LF planning meetings in Sultan Kudarat in April and June. Planning will include logistic and COVID precaution planning.
- An MOU between the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Health (DOH) will be signed to mark the partnership in developing and rolling out the pre-service curricula modules in higher education institutions for doctors, nurses, medical technologists, pharmacists, and physical therapists.

February 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts
	Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	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
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed  Viet Nam TSS-: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
<b>HSS</b>	None	

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

- None

Highlights:

- BGD:
  - Act | East and FAA recipient CIPRB finalized survey tools for the DIP survey.
  - Act | East received a non human subjects research designation for the survey from RTI IRB.
- LAO:
  - No updates.
- VNM:
  - Following a discussion with TD, WHO and Act | East, VNEH have made no further decisions on completing the TSS in Lung Ho commune.

Upcoming activities:

- Bangladesh DIP survey tool testing, training and survey launch will take place in March.

February 2021

TANZANIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 56.1 million (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 185 districts
<b>RTI &amp; IMA HQ Teams:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, June 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts, August 2021	<u>Round 1:</u> 9 districts, <b>March 2021</b> <u>Round 2:</u> 28 districts, August 2021	8 districts, <b>March 2021</b>	41 districts, <b>March 2021</b>	4 districts, April 2021; 1 district, August 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1: 4 EUs, January 2021 TAS2: 3 EUs, February 2021; 9 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 12 EUs, January 2021; 13 EUs, February 2021, 3 EUs August 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021	Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), April/May 2021 Ent survey: 3 districts (2 foci), April/May 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
<b>MERLA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV)</li> <li>Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform</li> </ul>				
<b>HSS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan</li> <li>Review and launch the NTD Master Plan</li> <li>Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning</li> <li>Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy</li> <li>Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs</li> <li>Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records</li> <li>Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings.</li> </ul>				

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

- OV and SCH/STH MDAs previously scheduled for February 2021 are now planned for March 2021.

Highlights:

- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP held a one-day training for TAS surveyors in Mbeya on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2021, including training on COVID-19 prevention measures and SOPs. Following the training, second phase data collection was completed for TAS3 in 13 EUs and TAS2 in 3 EUs from February 7–20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Data analysis is ongoing.
- Act | East prepared a restart package, including an updated supervision checklist and training materials integrating COVID safety protocols, for the upcoming TIS/TSS planned in April in 10 EUs.

- IMA Act | East continued preparations for SCH and STH MDA in 41 district councils and OV MDA in 9 district councils planned in March and for trachoma MDA planned in 4 district councils in April.
- The FAA agreements with 46 total LGAs for the OV and SCH/STH MDAs scheduled in March (STH – 41 district councils, SCH – 8 districts, OV – 9 districts) were signed by districts and regions.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP worked with the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to deliver Praziquantel, Ivermectin, and Albendazole tablets to half of the district councils where MDA is planned. MSD complete drug transport in the remaining districts in March in advance of MDA.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP worked with the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to obtain an import permit for Zithromax tablets.
- IMA Act | East and TZNTDCP, along with WI-HER, facilitated a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) pilot MDA training in the Pangani district of Tanga region. During this training, facilitators introduced GESI concepts to regional, district, and facility levels with inclusion of CDDs. The team built capacity with staff at all levels to create a GESI implementation team in the Tanga region.
- IMA’s Act | East Grants Officer presented on challenges and opportunities of the FAA process using the Tanzania experience at an Act | East webinar organized by RTI on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming activities:

- Work with MSD to deliver medicines in 100% of the districts planning PZQ+ALB MDA and IVM MDA.
- IMA Act | East will conduct supportive supervision for PZQ+ALB MDA in 41 district councils and IVM MDA in 9 district councils. Supervision will be conducted remotely from the regional level only, or remotely from the district level health office in poor performing districts.
- Finalize data analysis and compile the report on the results from the key informant interviews (KIIs) that were conducted in December 2020 as part of trachoma and LF DSA failure investigations.
- Conduct data analysis and compile the report for TAS1 in 4 EUs, TAS2 in 3 EUs and TAS3 in 25 EUs.
- Continue with preparations for TIS and TSS among 10 EUs.
- Facilitate OV rapid diagnostic test (RDT) lab analysis with Tanga National Lab for 3,000 dry blood spots (DBS), scheduled to start in March.
- Prepare protocols for the planned OV entomological and epidemiological surveys in coordination with NTDCP.
- Prepare the annual Joint Application Package (JAP), which consists of the Joint Request for Selected Medicines (JRSM), the Epidemiological Data Report Form (EDRF), to send to WHO and the Trachoma Elimination and Monitoring Form (TEMF) for ITI.
- Prepare the survey protocol for the coverage evaluation survey in the 4 district councils that will conduct trachoma MDA in April 2021.
- Begin the recruitment process for an advocacy consultant who will develop an advocacy strategy in line with the NTD Sustainability Plan.
- Prepare the FY21 Semi-Annual Report (SAR1) for review.

February 2021

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	1 district, August 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	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, March and June 2021
<b>MERLA</b>	CES in Moroto (completed November 2020) DQA in Moroto (planned May 2021)				
<b>HSS</b>	SCH/STH expert committee Launch NTD program sustainability plan				

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

- TSS in 3 EUs was moved from February to March 2020 to allow the MOH and Act | East teams sufficient time to prepare for the survey and assemble the loupe-face shields in line with the approved COVID SOPs.

Highlights:

- Act | East supported the MOH LF program team to train an additional 27 TAS team members in preparation for the remaining LF surveys planned in FY21.
- LF TAS was completed in 8 EUs in February 2021: Terego (TAS1), Agago (TAS2), Erute North, Erute South, Alebtong, Dokolo, Amolatar, and Moroto EUs (TAS3).
- Following restart approval from USAID, Act | East supported the MOH trachoma program team to conduct a pre-planning visit to the three districts where TSS is planned in March (Kaabong, Karenga and Amudat) to review the survey schedule, protocol, and COVID SOPs with district officials.
- Act | East held a workshop with the MOH NTDCP from February 10 – 11<sup>th</sup> to incorporate GESI concepts into the NTD training Manuals. The workshop report is currently being finalized.
- Act | East in collaboration with the MOH NTDCP finalized the terms of reference for a consultant who will support the development of an advocacy strategy for Uganda’s NTD sustainability plan. Recruitment will begin in early March.

Upcoming activities:

- Conduct TAS3 in 6 EUs (Arua, Gulu, Omoro, Kitgum, Pader, Amuru) in March.
- Conduct TSS in Amudat, Karenga, and Kaabong EUs from March 7-19<sup>th</sup>.
- Finalize data cleaning and analysis for the CES in Moroto.

- Recruit the advocacy strategy consultant in coordination with NTDCP.
- Hold the NTD National Technical Advisory Committee meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Obtain sign-off from the Minister on the TOR for the SCH/STH Expert Committee and organize the first meeting.
- The Carter Center through Act | East will support selection and training of CDDs for upcoming OV MDA in 9 districts observing the MOH COVID-19 SOPs.
- Prepare and submit the FY21 SAR1.

March 2021

DRC

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East collected the final data for 26 trachoma baseline surveys, one TIS for Kilwa health zone (HZ), and the last of five rounds of trachoma MDA in Pweto HZ. All activity data were reported officially by the DRC PNLMTN.
- The Act | East DRC office closed its final operations and terminated its local contracts on 31 March 2021.
- RTI is finalizing its close-out requirements for the Act | East project in DRC. Financial accounts are under review for closing and basic mapping materials (loupes, hand-held devices, power banks, desktop & laptop computers) have been transferred to the DRC PNLMTN.



March 2021

ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Dec 2020-Sep 2021) • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Feb 2021	0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)-April/May 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- May 2021	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	0/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • Gambella (0/6 districts)- March 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (13/87 districts)- Feb/March 2021) • Oromia-LFTW (19/24 districts)- Feb 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021) • BG (0/2 districts)- May/June 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- June 2021 TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- May/June 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- June 2021 TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021) • BG (0/4 districts)-May 2021 TAS3: 0				<b>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</b> • BG (0/2 districts) – Mar 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-Mar 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; 0/45 districts-May 2021; 0/35 districts- April/May/June-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- June 2021 TSS: 0/59 districts • 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

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

- FHF completed trachoma MDA in two woredas (districts) of West Arsi Zone, Oromia region. During MDA, all mitigation measures of COVID-19 and SAEs were in place and no SAEs occurred.
- LFTW completed trachoma MDA in the eight woredas of West Shewa and 11 woredas of Horogudru Wollega zones of Oromia region.

Highlights:

- With support from Act | East, Beneshangul Gumuz RHB has revised and resubmitted a FAA package for upcoming MDA.
- Act | East submitted a LF TAS-1 survey protocol to the BG and Oromia RHB research and ethical committees for review and approval.
- Act | East provided technical support to the Gambella RHB NTD team in relation to the COVID-19 safety protocols and the necessary supervision checklists to be used at the time of MDAs.
- Trachoma MDA is ongoing in Gambella region with plans to complete drug distribution in April 2021.
- Act | East participated in a half-day NTDs indicator revision workshop organized by FMOH's Policy and Planning Department. The workshop was designed to foster a greater understanding of NTD milestones across the FMOH, and it allowed Act | East and other partners to provide feedback on pre-identified indicators.
- Act | East participated in the FMOH mid-term review meeting where progress on FY21 activities and the effects of COVID-19 on the NTD program were the main topics.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***

- Trachoma MDA in RTI supported zones of Gambella
- Trachoma MDA in LFTW supported zones in Oromia
- Onchocerciasis MDA in LFTW supported woredas of the western Oromia zone
- Preparatory activities for upcoming Pre-TAS/TAS in Beneshangul Gumuz and Oromia region
- Enhanced MDA safety workshop in April 2021.

**Other upcoming activities:**

- Prepare and submit the FY21 SAR1.
- Preparatory activities for R4D's and FHF's Health care financing and costing workshop.
- Preparatory activities for WI-HER supported GESI training at the Oromia regional review and planning meeting.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/et>

National: [hñ.ñ-19 – ñλ hñ.ñ-19 \(ephi.gov.et\)](http://hñ.ñ-19 – ñλ hñ.ñ-19 (ephi.gov.et))

March 2021

HAITI

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 11.7 million (2020 est.)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 140 communes
<b>RTI &amp; IMA HQ Teams:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (140), STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH
<b>MDA</b>	1 commune (Milot), <b>April-May 2021</b>	1 commune (Milot), <b>April-May 2021</b>
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	<p>TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), Dec 2020-Feb 2021            TAS2 in school 5 EUs: <b>May 2021</b>            TAS3 in school 6 EUs: <b>May-June 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 EUs in North</li> <li>• 1 EU in Northwest</li> <li>• 2 EUs in Northeast</li> <li>• 1 EU in Nippes</li> </ul> <p><b>TAS3 in community 4 EUs in August 2021:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1EU in North</li> <li>• 1EU in Northwest</li> <li>• 1EU in Northeast</li> <li>• 1EU in Nippes</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>MERLA</b>	<p>The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database.            GESI assessment in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (<b>April-May 2021</b>)            Pre-MDA census planned (March–June 2021)            Microplanning (May–June 2021)</p>	
<b>HSS</b>	N/A	

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

- MDA in Milot commune is planned for April 30 - May 4. It will consist of 5 days of MDA activities though fixed post distributions.
- The GESI assessment originally planned for February 2021 will kick off in April 2021 with the pre-site visit. Documentation including the GESI assessment protocol, the questionnaires, and the consent form have been shared with the National Program Coordinator to initiate the process of obtaining approval from the Haitian Ethics Committee; approval is expected by April 15, 2021.

Highlights:

- Finalized translation of the GESI protocol and assessment tools into French/Creole. These were submitted to the Haitian Ethics Committee for approval.
- Completed the training of enumerators for the pre-MDA census activities in 5 communes in the North Department: Cap Haitian, Quartier Morin, Plaine du Nord, Acul-du-Nord, and Limonade.
- Commencement of pre-MDA census field activities in the North region were delayed due to potential budget shifts currently under discussion between RTI and IMA.
- Submitted the technical report for the TAS1 completed in Dondon and Cabaret.
- Submitted the first draft of the semi-annual report (SAR).
- Attended the HNTDCP monthly meeting on March 26, 2021, with all implementing partners (IPs) including the participation of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) representative. This meeting was particularly important to share information and to discuss the project plans and

timelines to better coordinate and harmonize our interventions. The agenda for the upcoming partner’s meeting planned for April 14-15, 2021 was also discussed, as well as the introduction of IDA that the national program is expecting to implement during the next fiscal year.

**Upcoming activities:**

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

**Activities already approved for restart**

- **Pre-MDA census in 6 communes** (North Department: Cap Haitian, Quartier Morin, Plaine du Nord, Acul-du-Nord, Limonade and Artibonite: Gonaives).
  - This activity is a house-to-house census to collect population data for MDA and future surveys. Surveyors will meet with household members to collect information about the number of people in the household as well as collect GPS points for key areas around the commune (churches, markets, etc).
- **GESI Assessment pre-site visit in the North and Artibonite departments.**
  - The purpose of this visit is to meet with departmental and communal-level MSPP staff to explain the objective of the study and also to identify the key stakeholders for focus group discussions (FGD) and key informant interviews (KII) in Acul-du-Nord and Gonaives.
- **MDA in Milot commune.**
  - The MDA will include fixed post and school-based distribution of DEC+ALB to adults and children in Milot commune.

**Activities with restart approval packages in development**

- **TAS2 and TAS3 in 15 districts**
  - TAS2 and TAS3 are community-based surveys to test 6- and 7-year-olds for LF using a blood-based rapid antigen test, the FTS. Specific targeted districts include:
    - TAS2: Fonds Verettes, Grand Goave, Petit Goave, Cornillon, Thomazeau, Ganthier, Kenscoff
    - TAS3: Anse a Foleur, Baie de Henne, Bassin Bleu, Bombardopolis, Chansolme, Jean Rabel, Mole St. Nicholas, St. Louis du Nord, Plaisance, Anse a Veau, Arnaud, Fonds de Negres, Grand Boucan, L’Asile, Miragoane, Paillant, Petit Trou de Nippes, Petit Riviere de Nippe, Plaisance de Sud, Bas Limbe, Borgne, Pilate, Port Margot, Capotille, Carice, Ferrier, Fort Liberte, Les Perches, Monbin Crochu, Mont Organise, Ouanaminthe, Sainte Suzanne, Terrier Rouge, Trou du Nord, Vallieres

**Other upcoming activities:**

- Attend the first annual Haiti NTD Partners Meeting scheduled for April 14-15, 2021. The meeting will be virtual and include participation by implementing partners, donors, WHO, and pharma organizations.
- Develop and submit the TAS2 and TAS3 activity protocols.
- Prepare and submit the TAS eligibility form to the RPRG to obtain the approval to implement the next TAS2 and TAS3 activities.
- Import FTS to Haiti through the USAID Mission once Abbott completes the pending order.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/amro/country/ht>

National: [Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population – Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population \(mspp.gouv.ht\)](http://Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population – Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (mspp.gouv.ht))

March 2021

INDONESIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Pre-TAS: 22, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (12 completed) TAS2: 14, Apr to Sep 2021 TAS3: 1, May 2021
<b>HSS</b>	TBD

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

- Updated number of completed Pre-TAS.

Highlights:

- Act | East together with the MOH implemented four Pre-TASs in March, listed below. Results for all four surveys are pending.
  - Kota Batam District from March 4-10
  - Sanggau District from March 15-10
  - Bintan District also from March 15-19
  - Halmahera Tengah District from March 22-26.
- Finalized data and prepared the FY21 Semi-Annual Report (SAR1) for submission to USAID.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

*Activities already approved for restart*

- Pre-TAS:** Beginning April 5th, 2021, Act | East together with the MOH are planning to implement Pre-TAS in the listed districts. These surveys will be community-based, targeting children and adults 5- 60 years old.
  - Katingan District
  - Seruyan District
  - Sumba Tengah District

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/searo/country/id>

National: [Beranda](#) | [Covid19.go.id](#)

March 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East and MISAU completed a DSA investigation in Chinde district (Zambezia province), which failed the trachoma impact survey for the third time. The main findings were: i) there was a lack of human resources (supervisor, CDD and health workers) during the MDA; ii) the environment in Chinde includes remote island and rough roads which impacts access; iii) lack of motorbikes, boats and cars; iv) MDA training at the district level was inadequate; and v) MDA supervision was unsystematic, especially during social mobilization. The overall recommendation is that these findings are elaborated in the next FAA budget to ensure that the necessary human resource, travel, and supervisory support are included.
- Act | East hosted an NTD partner coordination meeting that included the WHO country office and ASCEND. The following points were discussed:
  - ASCEND will provide financial support for an external consultant to write the NTD 2021-2025 master plan. The scope of work was shared, and a technical committee will work very closely with the consultant during the process.
  - All partners shared their planned activities for 2021. NGOs noted that they have been asked to pay custom fees for WHO-donated NTD drugs. The WHO NTD focal point is working with the MISAU focal point to find a solution.
- Act | East supported a virtual meeting of the trachoma committee on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The committee discussed: i) the latest surveys results; ii) the TT trichiasis surgeries data; iii) the possibility of collaboration with other NGOs such as Water AID at the community level; and iv) MDAs planned for August 2021.
- Act | East M&E Officer provided technical support to MISAU and ASCEND staff to use WHO methodology to update SCH prevalence at the sub-district level.
- Plans are underway for the HMIS workshop currently planned for the third week of April 2021. An agenda, modules, and training methodology are still in development.
- The Act | East COP and the M&E officer continue to support MISAU in evaluation of the 2017-2020 strategic plan and ESPEN SCH data analysis.

- The Act | East COP held regular informal and formal meeting with the MISAU NTD coordinator to discuss activities performance and planning.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***

- Conduct TIS (16 Districts)/TSS (2 Districts)

**Other upcoming activities:**

- Ongoing preparation for the proposed HMIS workshop.
- Ongoing discussion on the steering committee
- FAAs preparation with Zambezia and Nampula province management team
- Ongoing discussions for the Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop.
- Submission of FY21 SAR1

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/mz>

National: <https://www.misau.gov.mz/index.php/covid-19-boletins-diarios>

March 2021

NEPAL

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA Support Activities</b>	13 districts Dec, 2020 to March, 2021	13 districts Feb/March, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	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
<b>HSS</b>	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study GESI Gap Analysis: May 2021		

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

- None

Highlights:

- LF MDA dates were postponed from March to April 2<sup>nd</sup> to accommodate roll out of the COVID vaccine in Nepal.
- A journalist interaction event took place in Kathmandu ahead of the LF MDA scheduled for April. MoHP/DoHS Director General, EDCCD Director and EDCCD/NTD VBD Section Chief facilitated the meeting with technical and logistical support from Act | East. Forty journalists representing national news media interacted with MoHP/DoHS/EDCCD officials, who responded to queries regarding the planning, preparations and scheduling of the LF MDA. The meeting was organized by EDCCD in a large DoHS meeting space that allowed space for physical distancing. Masks and hand sanitizer were available and required for all participants.
- A health professional interaction event also took place ahead of LF MDA, also facilitated by EDCCD Director and EDCCD/NTD VBD Section Chief with logistical support from Act | East. Thirty health professionals responsible for supervision and monitoring of LF MDA attended this event, which provided a refresher on LF MDA supervision topics and allowed health professionals to interact with senior EDCCD and NTD VBD staff. This meeting took place in a large private meetings space that allowed for physical distancing and COVID-19 risk mitigation measures.
- Act | East continued to finalize tools and protocols for the upcoming GESI assessment, scheduled to take place after the MDA.



Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***

- **LF MDA:** Act | East will provide technical supervision for LF MDA April 2021. Members of the Act | East team will travel to 11 districts (Jhapa, Morang, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung, Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali) during the MDA.
- **TAS2:** Act | East will support school- based TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot) through VBDRTC in April-May 2021. Act | East staff will travel to provide technical supervision for the survey which targets children age 6 and 7.
- **GESI Assessment:** Act | East will support a GESI assessment in three districts (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) through local consultants managed by WI-HER. The consultants will travel in April to observe MDA, return to Kathmandu to adjust and finalize assessment tools and train researchers, and then return to the districts for the assessment in May.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/searo/country/np>

National: <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>

March 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>MDA</b>	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
<b>DSAs</b>	Pre-TAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan- Feb 2021 (40/40 completed)  TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), April-May 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5 (RTI) June 2021
<b>MERLA</b>	N/A				
<b>HSS</b>	N/A				

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

- Planned pre-TAS decline from 77 to 40 following postponement of 37 pre-TAS to FY22 due to delays in OV surveys.
- TAS1 originally planned for Q2 but now postponed for Q3 due to FTS delays

Highlights:

- Pre-TAS conducted in 40 LGAs in Anambra, Ebonyi, Imo and Cross River States are currently undergoing the data validation process. Results of the Pre-TAS will be entered into the TAS tracker.
- Re-Pre-TAS was conducted in Yala LGA of Cross River State and the data validation process is currently underway. Final results will be entered into the TAS tracker.
- Act | East Nigeria COP participated as a member in the National Trachoma Task Force meeting on March 25, 2021. Recommendations from the last meeting were reviewed for implementation and key issues were discussed. Highpoints of the meeting were:
  - Clearance of TT Backlog in all of TCC –supported States, among others;
  - Review of the TF Baseline data for Edo and Ebonyi and the need for confirmation of the status of re-mapping;
  - Trachoma Dossier Development meeting tentatively being scheduled for April 2021;
  - Training for Graders and Recorders for all the TIS/TSS to be conducted during 2021 Calendar year; and
  - Participation at the upcoming MDA Safety Workshop and its implication for the National Trachoma Program.
- MDA planning meetings were conducted in three states- Abia, Ebonyi and Imo. Community mobilization and TOT are underway.
- Supervision of urban treatment in schools, markets, and churches is ongoing in Enugu State.
- Act | East supported SMOH for a meeting in Enugu to harmonize and ratify 2020 treatment data of the supported states.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***

- Cross River State NTD Program Review meeting.
- Onchocerciasis/LF MDA in Yala LGA of Cross River State.
- FMOH Zonal Review Meetings
- JAP Preparation Meeting

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/ng>

National: [NCDC Coronavirus COVID-19 Microsite](#)

March 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21**

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

**TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21**

<b>MERLA</b>	Data systems assessment TBD
<b>HSS</b>	Financing assessment Q3/4

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East coordinated virtual meetings with DOH, regional and provincial health officials to plan for a series of two LF planning meetings in Sultan Kudarat in April and June. In addition to logistics planning, the group reviewed existing social mobilization and communications materials for MDA and agreed on edits and additions to include on IDA. Three municipalities in Sultan Kudarat will pilot IDA in the upcoming July MDA.
- Act | East representatives participated in a small in-person event marking the hand over of the NTD Pre-Service Curricula modules from the DOH to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The handover was formalized by both parties signing an MOU of cooperation. CHED will be responsible for rolling out the curriculum in health educational settings for doctors, nurses, medical technologists, pharmacists, and physical therapists beginning in the upcoming academic year.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

**Activities already approved for restart**

- **Planning meetings:** Act | East will coordinate and host a hybrid consultation and preparatory meeting on Pre TAS in the 8 municipalities and one city not participating in IDA MDA in Sultan Kudarat, April 7th. The meeting will review historical data, and include capacity building and quality assurance training for medical technologists who will conduct the Pre-TAS. The meeting will be facilitated by the national LF program, along with the Provincial Health Office of Sultan Kudarat. The training will be facilitated by WHO Country Office.
  - No participants will travel from the national capital.
  - Municipality officials will gather in central locations in each municipality to facilitate internet and tele-connectivity in rural areas.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/wpro/country/ph>

National: <https://doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker>

March 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> RTI International	<b>Total population:</b>
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	Bangladesh: 171,121,613 pop; 64 districts
<b>RTI HQ Team:</b> [Redacted]	Lao PDR: 7,011,210 pop; 17 districts
	Viet Nam: 94,992,449 pop; 63 provinces
	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b>
	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
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	Bangladesh: 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR: 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed  Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
<b>HSS</b>	None	

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

- None

Highlights:

- **BGD**
  - CIPRB recruited and hired research officers to implement the DIP survey.
  - DIP survey tools and training materials, including electronica data collection materials developed by Act | East, were shared, tested, and edited ahead of a planned training at the end of March 2021.
  - The in-person training and survey launch planned for March was delayed because of an increase in COVID cases in Bangladesh. CIPRB is considering a move to a hybrid training while also keeping a close eye on the COVID case increased across the country.
- **LAO**
  - No updates
- **VNM**
  - VNEH has agreed to complete the Lung Ho TSS survey by re-visiting the two clusters initially missed due to poor weather and road conditions. Act | East is working with FHF to support the completion of data collection.
  - FHF has worked with VNEH to plan two dossier development workshops, currently targeted for May and June 2021.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming Bangladesh activities requiring COVID protocols:

*Activities already approved for restart*

- **DIP survey team training and survey implementation:** CIPRB will work with the MOHFW and Act | East to finalize all survey logistics and tools to allow for on the ground activities to start as soon as national lockdown and travel restrictions are lifted.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/searo/country/bd>

National: [করোনা ভাইরাস ইনফো ২০১৯ - Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Information Bangladesh | corona.gov.bd](#)

**Upcoming Vietnam activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities with restart approval packages in development***

- **(Viet Nam) Dossier development workshops:** FHF and VNEH are planning the first of two dossier development workshops for early May 2021 in Hanoi. This workshop will bring together representatives from national and provincial health offices with VNEH and FHF and will result in an updated dossier that can be translated into Vietnamese. The second workshop will review the Vietnamese dossier in preparation for MOH submission. Act | East, WHO and ITI experts will participate in the first workshop virtually.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/wpro/country/vn>

National: [BAN CHỈ ĐẠO QUỐC GIA PHÒNG CHỐNG DỊCH BỆNH COVID 19 \(vnpt.vn\)](#)

**Upcoming Lao PDR activities requiring COVID protocols:**

- No planned activities

March 2021

TANZANIA

<b>Act   East Partner:</b> IMA World Health	<b>Total population:</b> 56.1 million (2020)
<b>COP:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Districts:</b> 185 districts
<b>RTI &amp; IMA HQ Teams:</b> [Redacted]	<b>Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts):</b> LF (120), TRA (71), OV (28), SCH (185), STH (185)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, June 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	5 districts, August 2021	<u>Round 1:</u> 9 districts, March 2021 <u>Round 2:</u> 28 districts, August 2021	8 districts, March 2021	41 districts, March 2021	4 districts, April 2021; 1 district, August 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	TAS1: 4 EUs, January 2021 TAS2: 3 EUs, February 2021; 9 EUs, August 2021 TAS3: 12 EUs, January 2021; 13 EUs, February 2021, 3 EUs August 2021 iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021	Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), <b>Postponed to FY22</b> Ento survey: 3 districts (2 foci), <b>Postponed to FY22</b> 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
<b>MERLA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV)</li> <li>Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform</li> </ul>				
<b>HSS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan</li> <li>Review and launch the NTD Master Plan</li> <li>Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning</li> <li>Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy</li> <li>Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs</li> <li>Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records</li> <li>Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings.</li> </ul>				

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

- OV Epidemiological and Entomological surveys in 3 districts (2 foci) previously planned for April/May 2021 will not occur in FY21. Abbott has put production for OV16 ELISA kits on hold so kits cannot be procured or brought into country. Additionally, when kits are available, CDC will need to train Tanga lab staff in the ELISA procedures. This training cannot be done virtually, and it is not expected that CDC staff will be able to travel to Tanzania prior to the end of FY21.

Highlights:

- IMA and TZNTDCP conducted school-based STH+SCH and community-based OV MDA. By the end of March 2021, 36/41 districts completed STH+SCH MDA and 5/9 districts completed OV MDA. School-based MDA will resume once schools reopen following the Easter holiday (from 12 April) and community-based OV MDA is ongoing.
- IMA and TZNTDCP conducted remote supervision for STH+SCH and OV MDA. The supervision took place at the regional level, with COVID-19 preventive measures observed.
- Through a local consultant, IMA and TZNTDCP continued with data analysis and report-writing for trachoma key informant interviews (KIIs) held in Kongwa DC and Chamwino DC, and LF KIIs held in Mafia DC, Mtwara MC, Lindi DC and Kilwa DC. The first draft of the report will be shared in April.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed data analysis and report-writing for TAS1 in 4 EUs, TAS2 in 3 EUs and TAS3 in 25 EUs. All reports will be shared by early April.
- IMA finalized the Semi-Annual Report (SAR) 1 and shared with RTI.
- IMA and TZNTDCP started trachoma coverage evaluation survey (CES) preparation. The survey is planned to occur in 4 districts (Chamwino, Kongwa, Ngorongoro and Kiteto). The protocol and restart package will be shared in April 2021.
- IMA submitted FAAs to RTI for Zithromax MDA districts. MDA is planned to occur in late April 2021, once Zithromax is cleared through customs (ongoing).
- IMA and TZNTDCP began preparing the WHO Joint Application Package (JAP).
- IMA and TZNTDCP are working with Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), as well as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA) to clear 3,987,000 Praziquantel tabs, 2,148,000 Zithromax tabs and 46,416 Zithromax POS from the port of entry. After clearance, the drugs will be delivered to the districts to complete school MDA and conduct Trachoma community MDA.
- IMA's work with the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to obtain an import permit for Filariasis Test Strips (FTS) is ongoing.
- IMA and TZNTDCP delivered MDA supplies (dose poles, PZQ tapes, flyers, registers, brochures, posters, banners, training manuals and summary data forms) to 93 districts planned for MDA.
- IMA and TZNTDCP received approval for the workshop to review the NTD Strategic Master Plan and align it to HSSP V and the NTD 2030 roadmap in March 2021. This activity will also align the sustainability plan to the NTD Strategic Master Plan. Currently, the activity is in the preparatory phase and is expected to start in April once a consultant has been hired to lead the workshop.
- IMA and TZNTDCP are preparing for the development of a targeted advocacy strategy and health financing activities. The advocacy consultant interviews and signing of the agreement will be conducted within the next 2 weeks. R4D is also hiring a consultant to carry out health financing activities along the same timeline. These activities (advocacy strategy and health financing activities) will commence in April.
- Discussions about the GESI pilot evaluation and finalization of GESI package are ongoing.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***



- IMA and TZNTDCP will finalize STH+SCH MDA in the remaining 5 districts and will follow up on reports for districts that have completed STH+SCH and OV MDA.

**Other upcoming activities:**

- IMA and TZNTDCP will continue with preparation of the Trachoma CES (protocol and restart package).
- IMA and TZNTDCP will finalize the Joint Application Package (JAP) and will submit it to WHO.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will prepare and submit abstracts for ASTMH.
- IMA will continue with preparations for Zithromax MDA among 4 district councils.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/tz>

March 2021

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
<b>Mapping</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>MDA</b>	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	1 district, August 2021
<b>DSAs (#EUs)</b>	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, March and June 2021
<b>MERLA</b>	CES in Moroto (completed November 2020) DQA in Moroto (planned May 2021)				
<b>HSS</b>	SCH/STH expert committee Launch NTD program sustainability plan				

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

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East provided financial and technical support for the Trachoma quarterly review meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. This meeting was immediately preceded by two days of dossier review and update meetings, which reviewed progress towards Uganda’s trachoma elimination goals and updated the trachoma dossier. The trachoma program team shared program progress to date on each of the components of the SAFE strategy. The latest dossier draft will be shared once finalized. In attendance were the Assistant Commissioner, Health Services, responsible for Vector Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases (VBNTD) Division; the trachoma program team; other program managers from the NTD program; staff from Health Promotion division; representatives from the Ministry of Water and Environment; and, partners, including Act | East, ASCEND, Sightsavers, Lions, and Water Aid.
- Act | East provided technical, financial, and logistical support to the MOH Trachoma program to carry out TSS in Amudat, Kaabong, and Kalenga districts. Both Kaabong and Karenga passed TSS with prevalence below 5% but Amudat failed with a prevalence between 5-9.9%, as previously shared with USAID Washington. Per WHO guidance, Amudat will carry out one round of MDA before re-surveying.
- Act | East provided technical, financial, and logistical support to the MOH LF program to conduct TAS in 6 EUs. Four of the EUs were targeted for TAS 1 (Arua, Gulu, Omoro, and Kitgum-Lamwo) and two for TAS 2 (Pader and Amuru-Nwoya). Arua and Omoro are complete while the remaining four will be completed on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Act | East prepared and submitted the draft FY21 SAR narrative and disease and program workbooks to RTI HQ for review.
- Act | East, with support from the HQ HSS team, and in consultation with the MOH/NTD team, developed the ToR for the Uganda NTD advocacy strategy development consultancy.
- Act | East participated in the initial meetings in preparation for the review of the Uganda NTD master plan – 2017-2022. A draft concept note was developed to guide the process. The WHO Uganda is providing strategic and technical guidance on this process.
- Act | East reviewed the GESI content developed for inclusion into the MoH-NTD training manuals. This is ready for submission to MoH for approval.

Upcoming activities:

**Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:**

***Activities already approved for restart***

- NTD National Technical Advisory Committee meeting
- MoH/NTD Secretariat meeting
- Photography during upcoming TAS/TSS/TIS activities
- Pre-visit to Nebbi and Buliisa in preparation for the upcoming TIS
- TIS in Nebbi and Buliisa in the last week of April
- Community-based oncho MDA in Adjumani, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Moyo, Nwoya, Omoro, and Pader in April
- DQA in Moroto, Buliisa and Nebbi in May
- First SCH/STH Expert Committee meeting

***Activities with restart approval packages under review***

- **Conduct integrated GESI training** in Moroto on May 26-27. The Act | East program team in collaboration with Ministry of Health will conduct a 2-day GESI training of 15 district staff involved in community health and development activities. These will include selected Health Inspectors/Assistants, In-charges of health facilities, members of DHT, and community development officers. This training will be targeting behavior change before MDA hence the need to have it conducted some months before the MDA. It will have follow-up activities that will be done by behavior change agents selected from the affected communities and these will be monitored and mentored by WI-HER staff in Karamoja region. The meeting will be held in Moroto in a hotel following the MOH COVID-19 SOPs.
- **Training on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data** in Kampala and at two district locations in late May and early June. These will be 3 one-day trainings targeting selected MOH-NTDCP, and district local government staff on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data to develop an investment case for the NTD program in Uganda. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, each session will have a maximum of 20 participants. This training will enable the MOH and district local governments to manage financial data and produce compelling reports on NTDs for different audiences that address financing and critical socio-cultural issues.
- **Conduct a detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records** in Kampala in April through June 2021. RTI and R4D, through short term consultancy, will provide technical support to MOH to collect and examine the detailed financial and programmatic records of major donor funded NTDs initiatives in Uganda and identify ways of integrating this financial data into the Integrated Financial

Management System. Where the consultant needs to convene a meeting with specific stakeholders, Act | East will ensure that the participants follow all COVID-19 SOPs.

**Other upcoming activities:**

- Finalize data cleaning and analysis of the Coverage Evaluation Survey carried out in Moroto.
- Work with MOH to ensure Zithromax Application for Amudat is submitted to ITI.
- Recruit consultant and start the development of the NTD Advocacy strategy.
- Submit and follow up on the approval of the GESI content addendum by MoH.

**COVID-19 data monitoring sources:**

WHO: <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/ug>

National: [Home - COVID-19 | Ministry of Health](#)