

Act to End NTDs | East

FY21 Q3 Monthly Updates

April 1, 2021–June 30, 2021

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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).

April 2021

ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021) • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-Jun-Jul 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Jul-Sep 2021 •	0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021) • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- June-July 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- Jul-Sep 2021	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	42/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • Gambella (6/6 districts)- April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (17/87 districts)- Feb/March, Jul-Sep 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (19/24 districts)- Feb, May 2021 •
DSAs (#EUs)	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				TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • 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 •
MERLA	DQA protocol- under development, assessment is planned for Q4 in two districts. CES protocol- under review, survey is planned for Q3 in three districts of Oromia region.				
HSS	NTD sustainability plan- under revision by MoH, director and NTD implementing partners. National multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination workshop (Q3). National workshop to incorporate NTD sustainability Action Plan into Master Plan (Q3). Inclusion of NTDs in regional/zonal/woreda integrated plans (Q4). Health Financing Analytics (Q3).				

Rapid GESI Assessment (Q4).

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

- LF MDA has been delayed in six districts (5 BG, and 1 Oromia) and two camps (BG) due to late procurement of Albendazole. The MDA is now planned for Q3-4.
- OV MDA in BG region has been delayed in 14 districts due to delay of the Ivermectin shipment. Oromia MDA has also been delayed to account for potential election disruptions. MDA is now planned in both regions for Q3-4.
- Trachoma MDA complete in 42 districts (14 FHF-Oromia, 19 LFTW-Oromia, and 6 Gambella) out of the planned 117 for the year.
- Trachoma MDA is delayed in 75 districts (70 FHF-Oromia, and 5 LFTW-Oromia) due to TEO shortage and regional insecurity. These MDAs are now planned for Q3-4.

Highlights:

- MDA Safety workshop was conducted in April 2021 with MOH, RHBs, Ethiopian Pharmaceuticals Supplies Agency (EPSA) and implementing partners in attendance. The participants reviewed the draft WHO MDA safety module and developed action points to improve the MDA safety in the country.
- The first Ethiopia Trachoma Advisory Group (ETAG) meeting was held in April where ETAG members (global & national trachoma experts) and partners deliberated on a national trachoma data synthesis work, which was conducted by the NTTF sub-committee prior to ETAG. The discussions gave rise to a list of recommendations currently under finalization as of the writing of this report targeting program strengthening and novel treatment approaches aimed at achieving elimination timelines.
- Trachoma and other PC NTDs drug quantification workshop was held on April 2021 to review TEMF and other PC NTD drug requests. Act | East supported Oromia, Tigray, Gambella and BG regions in reviewing the data prior to final submission to the Ministry.
- Delays to drug and diagnostic arrival and distribution:
 - TEO procurement- 472, 000 tubes of TEOs were procured from EPSA for FY21 Act | East trachoma MDA.
 - Ivermectin shipments arrived late in country, delaying both OV and LF MDAs.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma MDA:** Act | East will undertake trachoma MDA in the remaining 5 LFTW-Oromia districts in May 2021.
- **Health Financing Workshop:** Act | East will organize a workshop in Oromia to strengthen budgeting capacity of the Oromia NTD program team in financing and costing in May 2021.
- **GESI Training:** Act | East will conduct a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) training in Oromia in May 2021.
- **Oromia Regional Review Meeting:** Act | East will participate in the Oromia Regional and Planning Meeting in May 2021.

- **Multisectoral Workshop:** Act | East in collaboration with MOH will facilitate a Multisectoral Collaboration and Coordination Workshop in Addis Ababa in mid-June 2021.
- **Rapid GESI Assessment:** Act | East will undertake a rapid GESI assessment in Gambella region in mid-June 2021.
- **Sustainability Plan Workshop:** Act | East will organize a national workshop to facilitate the inclusion of prioritized activity plan from the sustainability documents into the national Master Plan in Addis Ababa in June 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East will attend the virtual LF Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting to continue discussion on upcoming activities and LF dossier preparations in May 2021.
- Act | East supply chain TA will coordinate a virtual NTD Medicines Supply Chain Management TWG meeting.
- Act | East will continue to provide the needed technical support to Gambella RHB and districts to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in May-June 2021.
- Act | East will finalize and disseminate NTD sustainability document in June 2021.
- Act | East will facilitate the enhancement of awareness about NTDs and GESI-related factors during MDA through radio messaging in June to July 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: [ኮቪድ-19 – ስለ ኮቪድ-19 \(ephi.gov.et\)](http://ephi.gov.et)

April 2021

HAITI

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

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

- Pre-MDA field activities that were planned for April-June 2021 are now postponed to September 2021, so TAS can be prioritized in Q3.
- As a result of the census delays, and relying on updated data from the census, the micro-planning activities are now delayed until after the census activities in September 2021.

Highlights:

- WI-HER, with IMA World Health support, carried out the GESI assessment pre-site visits in the two targeted communes between April 27-29, 2021. During the pre-site visits, the WI-HER consultant met with MSPP communal representatives. They discussed the upcoming assessment including the identification of key stakeholders for focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) in Acul-du-Nord and Gonaïves. All translated documents for the assessment, including the protocol and the questionnaires, have been submitted to the national bioethical committee and are currently under review. Approval is expected within 2 weeks, around May 19, 2021.
- Milot MDA:
 - Completed the TFGH-funded door-to-door MDA in Milot from April 16-26, 2021. MDA data collection complete; data cleaning is ongoing.

- Launched the Act | East-funded post-based MDA in Milot. MDA started on April 29 and will be completed on May 4, 2021.
- A two-day Partners Meeting was conducted via Zoom between April 14-15, 2021 to discuss the status of the current program and planning for the remainder of 2021, including a discussion of planned IDA MDA supported by the Carter Center in Leogane and Gressier.
- Submitted the protocol for the upcoming TAS2 and TAS3, which is under review with RTI and by the PAHO RPRG.
- FTS for the upcoming TAS2 and TAS3 are in the process of being shipped to Haiti and are expected to arrive in the second half of May.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-MDA census in 6 communes in June through September** (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).
- **TAS2 and TAS3:** TAS2 and TAS3 are school- and 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 those listed below. (Note that Act | East is in coordination with the MSPP about the security situation and will adapt plans based on security concerns)
 - TAS2 (to be completed in May-June as school-based surveys): Fonds Verettes, Grand Goave, Petit Goave, Cornillon, Thomazeau, Ganthier, Kenscoff
 - TAS3 (to be completed in May-June as school-based surveys): Anse a Veau, Arnaud, Fonds des Negres, Grand Boucan, L'Asile, Paillant, Petit Trou De Nippes, Petit Riviere Nippe, Plaisance De Sud, Bas Limbe, Pilate, Sainte Suzanne, Terrier Rouge, Trou Du Nord,
 - TAS3 (to be completed in June-August as community-based surveys): Anse a Foleur, Baie de Henne, Bassin Bleu, Bombardopolis, Chansolme, Jean Rabel, Mole St. Nicholas, St. Louis du Nord, Plaisance, Borgne, Port Margo, Capotille, Carice, Ferrier, Fort Liberte, Les Perches, Monbin Crochu, Mont Organise, Ouanaminthe, Vallieres
- **GESI assessment:** The GESI assessment that began in April includes both community-based focus-group discussions and key informant interviews in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord. This work will continue into May.

Other upcoming activities:

- Complete the post distribution MDA activities in Milot (Completion date: May 4th) including data cleaning.
- Finalize the list of schools for the upcoming TAS2 and TAS3 activities.
- Pilot the new mobile payment system (MonCash powered by Digicel) to pay the allowances of the community leaders (CLs) and community promoters (CPs).

- Complete the customs clearance of the imported FTS to Haiti through the USAID Mission.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.mspp.gouv.ht/documentation/>

April 2021
INDONESIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 34, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (14 completed)
HSS	TBD

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

- Due to recent quality issues with Brugia Rapid tests and WHO’s recommendation to stop the implementation of all Brugia TAS until further notice, the MOH together with Act | East Indonesia has decided to focus the balance of FY21 funding on implementing an additional 12 Pre-TAS in place of the previously planned 15 TAS (14 TAS2 and 1 TAS3).

Highlights:

- Act | East together with the MOH implemented two Pre-TAS in April, listed below. Results for both surveys are pending. A Pre-TAS previously planned for Sumba Tengah District in April was postponed because of a severe cyclone which strongly impacted on the local infrastructure.
 - Katingan District, from April 5 to 11, 2021
 - Seruyan District, from April 5 to 11, 2021

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **LF Diagnostic Training** for 20 participants from district health centers and the MOH will be organized at the Public Health Laboratory, University of Indonesia from May 19 to 21, 2021 in Jakarta. LF experts from the University will facilitate the training using a standard methodology developed previously with USAID assistance. Official COVID-19 protocols from both Act | East and the MOH will be followed throughout the training, including testing before and after. All participants will also have been fully vaccinated prior to the training.
- **Pre-TAS** will be organized in collaboration with the MOH in the districts of Purwakarta, West Java from May 24 to 29, and in Kuningan, West Java from May 31 to June 5. These surveys will be community-based, targeting children and adults 5-60 years old.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

April 2021
MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	Trachoma
MDA	6 districts August 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 20 EUs (16 districts) planned Q3; 1 EU (1 district) completed in Q1 TSS: 2 EUs (2 districts) planned Q3; 5 EUS (4 districts) completed in Q1
MERLA	The Act East data officer is regularly working with MISAU and ASCEND project to update all NTD data in the integrated database from 2017 to present. Tool completion and updates are presented during technical meetings.

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

- Increased number of districts targeted for MDA from 5 to 6, following TIS outcomes above threshold in Chinde district. Investigation results will be used to inform re-MDA.

Highlights:

- A HMIS training session took place from April 21-23 in Maputo province, attended by central level NTD staff, ASCEND, and Act | East. Participants were trained by facilitators from the Department of Health Information (DIS) who manage the HMIS. Indicators were discussed and selected and next steps were outlined. MISAU is considering asking for support to train the provincial level in FY22.
- The MISAU NTD Focal Point submitted the EPIRF in February 2021 and the JRF in May 2021 to WHO AFRO and the TEMF in February 2021 to ITI. Act | East provided technical assistance to MISAU by reviewing the data and providing feedback prior to each submission.
- According to the ITI timeline, AZT is expected to arrive in country at the beginning of July 2021.
- The Trachoma survey team is in the field as of mid-April and has completed TIS in 4 districts.
- The Act | East COP and Finance Manager travelled with the NTD coordinator on April 12-17 to both Zambezia and Nampula provinces to provide refresher training on FAAs and work with provincial staff on developing the MDA budget and FAA package.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop:** Act | East will organize the workshop in July 2021 in Maputo province with MISAU and other trachoma stakeholders to jointly review progress, update the dossier drafts, harmonize information, and address any challenges.
- Supervision of TIS/TSS:** The Act | East COP and NTD coordinator will travel to Tete and Nampula Provinces to supervise surveys and reinforce COVID-19 sensitization in June 2021.

- **MISAU CY22 Work Plan Meeting:** Act | East will attend the CY22 MISAU work planning meeting, including participation from the WHO. This meeting will occur at the MISAU in early June and will help inform Act | East FY22 work planning.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.misau.gov.mz/>

April 2021

NEPAL

Act East Partner: RTI International	Total population: 30,201,100 (2021)
COP: [Redacted]	Districts: 77 districts
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]	Endemic diseases (# ever endemic districts): LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA Support Activities	12 districts Dec, 2020 to April, 2021 (complete)	12 districts March/April, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) Re-PreTAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) TAS2 : 6 districts, April/May 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sept 2021	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: Q3/Q4 GESI Assessment: May 2021		

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

- LF MDA activities were conducted in 12 districts. FY21 plan for MDA support initially targeted 13 districts but 1 district (Kanchanpur) passed TAS1 and stopped MDA in early 2021.
- Removed TAS1 in 2 districts. These surveys were delayed to in Oct-Nov 2021 (FY22) because of MDA delay. Only two districts passed re-PreTAS in early 2021, from 9 districts targeted for TAS1 in FY21.
- Removed re-PreTAS in 5 districts. These surveys were delayed to in Oct-Nov 2021 (FY22) because of MDA delay.

Highlights:

- Act | East provided technical and programmatic supervisory support for LF MDA April 2nd - 10th across 11 districts. The MDA took place on a delayed schedule due to the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Nepal. The team noted that in some districts, local government ownership and elected leaders' engagement continued to be low and should be a focus of MDA preparations in future years.
- Local consultants supporting a GESI assessment in Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu traveled to the three target districts in early April to observe MDA. These observations were used to adjust and finalize assessment tools, in preparation to implement the GESI assessment in May 2021.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will support school-based TAS2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot) through VBDRTC. This activity was initially planned for April-May 2021, but the timeline is uncertain due to rise in COVID cases, localized lockdowns, travel restrictions and school

closures. When cases reduce and travel is determined to be safe again, Act | East staff will travel to provide supportive supervision for the survey which targets children in grades 1 and 2.

- Act | East will support a GESI assessment in three districts (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) through local consultants managed by WI-HER and RTI. This activity was originally planned for May but is currently on hold due to a rise in COVID cases in the three target districts as well as in Kathmandu where the consultants are based.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.mohip.gov.np/>

April 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov 2020-June 2021	105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021	44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	N/A
DSAs	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan- Feb 2021 (40/40 completed) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), May-June 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5 (RTI) July 2021
MERLA	N/A				
HSS	N/A				

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

- Timing of TAS1 updated to account for estimated arrival of FTS.
- Timing of TSS updated from June to July.

Highlights:

- Of the 40 pre-TAS conducted in FY21 Q2, three had survey outcomes above threshold. Outcome investigations are ongoing, and results will be used to inform re-MDA.
- The Cross River State Annual Review meeting was held April 7-9, 2021 in Ogoja. Recommendations included:
 - (i) Local Government Areas (LGA) should include Social Mobilization Officer in the LGA NTD Team to strengthen community engagement,
 - (ii) Parents Teachers Associations (PTA) and School-Based Management Committees (SBMC) should be consulted before conducting school-based activities,
- MDA activities ongoing in Abia, Edo, Enugu, and Imo States. Activities conducted include advocacy visits to stakeholders in the 6 South Eastern States, training of local health integrated team (LHIT) and health facility staff in Ebonyi (6 LGAs), Imo (27 LGAs) and Abia (17 LGAs) States, LLIN distribution.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Debriefing Meeting:** Act | East will host a debriefing meeting on the Yala re-PreTAS failure investigation with LGA and SMOH stakeholders in May in Cross Rivers.

- **MDA:** Act | East will support supervision for LF re-MDA in Yala LGA, CRS State and MDA in Abia, Edo, Enugu and Imo States in late May to June.
- **NOEC Meeting:** On May 18th and 19th, Act | East is supporting the National Oncho Elimination Committee Meeting in Abuja via the Carter Center. This meeting will be a mix of in person attendance as well as virtual attendance from ESPEN, Carter Center, RTI, and USAID.
- **MDA Safety Training:** Act | East, in partnership with FMOH, will host a four-day workshop scheduled from June 1st- 4th targeting 30 participants from the FMOH NTD team, the national pharmaco-vigilance department and implementing partners.
- **JAP Preparation Meeting:** Act | East will attend the Joint Application Package preparation meeting with FMOH and partners, tentatively scheduled for June.
- **Strategic Planning Meetings:** Act | East will attend Strategic Planning meetings in USAID-supported States in Q3-4.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

April 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

- None

Highlights:

- The National Filariasis Elimination Program convened a hybrid meeting with the DOH Region Office 12 together with eight municipalities (Lambayong, President Quirino, Columbio, Isulan, Lutayan, Esperanza, Bagumbayan and Senator Ninoy Aquino) and Tacurong City in the Province of Sultan Kudarat. The meeting was to operationalize the PreTAS in the designated sentinel and spot check sites (Esperanza, Bagumbayan and Senator Ninoy Aquino) as part of the planned spilt of the Province of Sultan Kudarat as an Evaluation Unit. Municipality health officials, medical technologists and barangay health workers gathered in a central place in municipalities to ensure internet connectivity, while regional and national level officials, WHO and Act | East staff joined the meeting virtually. In addition to reviewing sub-national level data, WHO facilitated a training on PreTAS to ensure medical technologists responsible for the surveys are confident in the use of diagnostics.
- A Department Order was issued re-organizing the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau. Act | East will continue to support the NTD program, which is now located within an Infectious Disease Division comprising 11 disease programs, including TB, HIV, and malaria.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- The second in series of two meetings with municipalities in Sultan Kudarat is scheduled for June 15-17th. These meetings will focus on the three municipalities (Kalamansig, Lebak, Palembang) implementing IDA MDA. The MDA dates have been pushed back to October 2021 (FY22) based on national controversy around Ivermectin use for COVID.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [WHO Philippines | World Health Organization](#)

National: [COVID tracker Philippines](#)

[COVID-19 Case Tracker | Department of Health website \(doh.gov.ph\)](#)

April 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	Trachoma
DSAs (#EUs)	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed Viet Nam TSS-: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
HSS	Learning activity on dossier development models: Q4	

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

- Timeline for a learning activity on dossier development models is delayed until Q4 since the analysis requires the completion of STTA trips for dossier development. These trips are on indefinite hold due to international travel restrictions.

Highlights:

- BGD:
 - CIPRB virtually trained DIP survey research staff on LF program and LF morbidity management and disability prevention programs in Bangladesh. When the national lockdown is lifted, the training will be completed in-person, with the remaining sessions focusing on the DIP survey and electronic data capture tools for the survey.
- LAO: No updates.
- VNM: No updates

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming Bangladesh activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Survey team training:** CIPRB research staff will complete training on DIP survey and electronic data capture tools at CIPRB offices in Dhaka when COVID restrictions are lifted, and the groups can safely meet. Training dates are unable to be rescheduled at this time.
- **DIP survey:** When travel restrictions are lifted, CIPRB staff will travel to target districts to hold district level awareness meetings with district health officials, including officials who oversee health center staff where surveys will take place. The nationwide survey will last 6-8 weeks. Data collection will begin in Rangpur.

Upcoming Vietnam activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Lung Ho commune TSS:** VNEH teams will complete data collection in two villages originally missed because of heavy rain and poor road conditions. Exact dates for the survey completion have yet to be determined, although early June is targeted.
- **Dossier development workshop:** The first of two dossier development working meetings is targeted for June, after the completion of the Lung Ho TSS. This event will gather around 40 people in Hanoi including national MOH officials, staff of VNEH, FHF, and regional officials in trachoma endemic provinces. Global experts from Act | East, WHO, USAID and ITI will join virtually.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

Bangladesh:

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

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

Vietnam:

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

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

April 2021

TANZANIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, June 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
MDA	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
DSAs (#EUs)	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	iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021	N/A	N/A	TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021, and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021, and July 2021
MERLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform 				
HSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning. Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy. Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs. Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. 				

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

- None

Highlights:

- IMA prepared FAA contracts for trachoma MDA in May and sent to 4 councils (Kongwa, Chamwino, Kiteto and Ngorongoro) and 2 regions (Dodoma, Arusha region and Manyara). As of the end of April, IMA has received signed contracts from 2 districts and 2 regions.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed supportive supervision in 41 districts which conducted PZQ/ALB school MDA and 9 districts which conducted IVM MDA.

- IMA conducted follow-up of MDA deliverables coverage data (summary data form) from 41 districts which conducted PZQ/ALB school MDA and 9 districts which conducted IVM. 21 districts have submitted complete deliverables and are ready for milestone 3 payments in early May 2021.
- NIMR Tanga lab completed the OV16 RDT analysis, and the report will be shared with RTI in May.
- Working with Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), as well WHO and the Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA), IMA and TZNTDCP completed clearance of 3,987,000 Praziquantel tabs from the port of entry. Currently, they are finalizing the clearance of 2,148,000 Zithromax tabs and 46,416 Zithromax POS. After clearance, the drugs will be delivered to the districts to complete school MDA and conduct trachoma community MDA.
- IMA continues working with the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to obtain an import permit for Filariasis Test Strips (FTS). The import permit is expected in May.
- HSS activities:
 - Master plan review and alignment to HSSP V and NTD 2030 roadmap: All preparations for the activity are complete and the activity will start in May.
 - Integration of NTD into Sector Wide Approach Platform (SWAP): The details of this activity are still under discussion with NTDCP. The timing for this activity will be determined once the discussions conclude.
 - Health Financing activities: R4D is in the process of finalizing the hiring of the consultant who will lead this activity. The activities will commence in May.
 - GESI pilot evaluation review and finalization of GESI materials: The activity will happen in May after submission of a restart approval request.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- In May 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct pre-MDA activities district strategic and planning meetings, training of trainers, training of FLHWs, training of CDDs, and registration and community sensitization) and Zithromax MDA and supportive supervision in 4 TRA districts: Kongwa, Chamwino, Ngorongoro and Kiteto (Under FAAs).
- In May / June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct refresher training for trachoma graders and recorders who will then conduct the Trachoma Impact Surveys in 3 EUs and Trachoma Surveillance Surveys in 7 EUs.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct supportive supervision during TIS in 3 EUs and TSS in 7 EUs in May / June 2021.
- HSS activities (small group meetings):
 - IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the review of Master Plan and alignment with NTD 2030 Roadmap and HSSP V in May 2021.
 - IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the integration of NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) in May 2021.
 - IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the development of a targeted NTD advocacy strategy (Develop SMART objectives, budget and workplan) in May 2021.
 - GESI Pilot review and finalization of GESI materials and tools will be conducted in June.

- Develop intervention packages to address identified GESI issues in June (Integrated into Coverage survey).
- IMA and TZNTDCP will engage a consultant and conduct a joint trachoma & LF dossier development meeting and will engage the consultant in June 2021. The local consultant will be engaged to combine and compile the dossier information and update the dossier narrative document.
- In June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct community sensitization in nomadic and cross-border districts of Kiteto, Simanjiro, Longido, and Ngorongoro.
- In June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct an advocacy meeting for 6 districts on trachoma elimination.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct the quarterly Program Review Meetings in June 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate advocacy meetings with new leaders in 9 districts in 3 regions in June 2021.
- In June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will advocacy meetings with high-level leaders and influential people who will eventually sensitize the community on twice yearly OV MDA in 9 districts (in 2 Regions of Tanga and Morogoro).
- In June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct OV exclusion mapping in 7 districts.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct Coverage Evaluation Surveys for 4 trachoma districts (Kongwa, Chamwino, Kiteto and Ngorongoro) in June/July 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- Working with the GPSA to clear Zithromax tabs and Zithromax POS from the port in time for Trachoma Community MDA in May 2021.
- In collaboration with Medical Stores Department (MSD), IMA is working to deliver Praziquantel and Zithromax to districts for school MDA and Trachoma MDA in May 2021.
- Working with Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to obtain an import permit for Filariasis Test Strips (FTS) in May 2021.
- Delivery of MDA supplies (dose poles, PZQ tapes, flyers, registers, brochures, posters, banners, training manuals and summary data forms) to 34 districts planned for August MDA in May 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate and conduct the virtual Annual Joint Review and Planning Meeting (AJPM) in June 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate and conduct Virtual Technical Working Group Meetings for LF+OV, as well as Trachoma and STH+SCH in June 2021
- IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate and conduct the Virtual SCH/STH Expert Committee Meeting and Tanzania Onchocerciasis Expert Advisory Committee (TOEAC) in June 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.moh.go.tz/en/covid-19-info>

April 2021

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	2 districts, September 2021
MDA	PreTAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 14 Eus	N/A	N/A	N/A	TIS: 2 EUs, June 2021 TSS: 5 EUs, March and June 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	2 districts, September 2021
MERLA	CES in Moroto (completed November 2020) DQA in Moroto (planned June 2021) Failed DSA investigation in Amudat (Planned for June 2021)				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan Development of GESI package for NTD program				

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

- TIS in Nebbi and Buliisa EUs were rescheduled from April to June to better prepare for the surveys.
- TSS was completed in Karenga, Kaabong and Amudat in March. Amudat results were above treatment threshold, with TF prevalence between 5-9.9%, and the district will require one additional round of MDA as per WHO guidelines, planned for September 2021. Prior to the MDA, a DSA investigation will be carried out in Amudat.

Highlights:

- The Zithromax application for MDA in Amudat was prepared and submitted to ITI. An approval was granted, and the drug is expected in the country in June.
- TCC provided support to the NTD program to complete CDD training for OV MDA in Gulu, Omoro, and Kitgum, and health education was completed in all the districts.
- TCC supported OV MDA, which began in late April and is expected to be completed in all districts by early June. Regional coordinators conducted supervision for OV MDA in Nwoya, Omoro, Amuru, Gulu, Pader, Kitgum and Lamwo.
- The RTI HQ and Uganda teams completed the evaluation process for a consultancy to develop the Uganda NTD program advocacy strategy and selected an organization. The strategy development will take place May through July 2021.
- WI-HER and RTI completed the GESI NTD MDA training in coordination with the MOH.

- In preparation for the review and update of the Uganda NTD Master plan (2017-2022), a task force led by the Assistant Commissioner of Vector Borne Diseases and comprising NTD program managers and key partners (including Act | East) held a two-day retreat in Jinja in April to finalize the protocol that will guide the review and update process. WHO provided overall technical guidance during the retreat while Act | East provided financial, logistical, and additional technical support. The team agreed on modalities for carrying out the entire exercise including finalization of the protocol, setting timelines, and developing a draft budget for the process. A working committee was put together to finalize all the preparatory work for the review on which the Act | East HSS advisor will represent the project.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TIS:** Act | East and MOH trachoma program staff will carry out a two-day pre-visit to the districts of Nebbi and Buliisa from Monday 10th May 2021 in preparation for the upcoming TIS.
- **SCH/STH Expert Committee inaugural meeting:** The inaugural and first meeting of the committee will be held on the 20th and 21st of May 2021. It is composed of both internal and external experts on Schistosomiasis and other members from the medicine regulatory authority, National Medical stores and representatives from institutions and partners. The meeting will be both virtual and in-person. It will be held at a venue in Kampala with adherence to COVID-19 SOPs. About 32 persons are expected to participate both virtually and physically.
- **Uganda NTD data review and FY22 work planning:** The Act | East team will hold a three-day virtual/in-person hybrid work planning meeting May 25-27, including the following participants: Assistant Commissioner vector borne and NTDs, NTD program managers and senior staff, delegates from districts that will be targeted for MDA and TIS/TSS, USAID mission, WHO and other partners including R4D, WI-HER, TCC, Save the Children, ASCEND, Sightsavers, World Vision and SCI. It will be held at a venue in Jinja for in-person participants.
- **STH/SCH activities:** In order to 1) map potential partners, coordination mechanisms and platforms outside of the health sector which can be leveraged to drive the STH/SCH agenda, 2) map “expanded” STH/SCH stakeholders, 3) operationalize STH/SCH Expert Committee recommendations for multisectoral collaboration and 4) participate in and contribute to supporting the multisectoral NTD control and elimination activities in selected districts, Save the Children, Act | East, and R4D will conduct in-person and virtual meetings in Kampala and Karamoja from May-July. Findings will be presented to the STH/SCH Expert Committee in Kampala in May and, potentially, to the local government in Karamoja in July. Multisectoral activities including advocacy meetings and monitoring visits will take place starting in July in Karamoja.
- **Detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records** will be conducted in Kampala May-July 2021. RTI and R4D, through a 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.

- **Development of an advocacy strategy for NTD programming:** A two-day workshop facilitated by the advocacy consultancy firm will be held with NTD program team and partners in the first week of June to initiate the development of the advocacy strategy for NTD programming. Act | East will provide financial, logistical, and technical support. The meeting will be held in a hotel within Kampala and COVID-19 SOPs will be observed.
- **NTD Secretariat meeting:** The NTD Secretariat meets quarterly with the purpose of providing strategic guidance and oversight for all NTD disease programs. In June, the Secretariat will meet in-person at the Vector Control Division boardroom in Kampala to review program specific progress, discuss the NTD master plan review protocol, set the agenda for the NTD technical Advisory committee meeting and review the scope and TOR of the Schisto/Expert Committee.
- **NTD National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC) meeting:** The deliberations from the NTD secretariat meetings feed into the NTD technical advisory committee meetings. The NTAC will meet in June right after the NTD secretariat meeting in June. The agenda will focus on program specific progress, challenges, and way forward, and a review of the protocol for the Master plan will be done. The meeting will be held in a venue outside Kampala with adherence to COVID-19 SOPs.
- **Integrated GESI training** The Act | East team in collaboration with Ministry of Health will conduct a 2-day GESI training in June, training 15 district staff from Moroto and Amudat districts involved in community health and development activities. Participants will include health inspectors/assistants, members of the DHT and community development officers. The training will be supervised and mentored by WI-HER, Ministry of Health and District staff from the two districts to ensure the content and context of the BCC efforts represent the socio-cultural dynamics of these areas. The training will be held in a hotel in Moroto town following the MOH COVID-19 SOPs.
- **Trainings on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data** will be conducted in June and July 2021. These will be three trainings, one in Kampala and the other two trainings will be carried out in two other district locations. 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. One training will take place in Kampala the other two will occur in two other district locations, still to be determined. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, each session will have a maximum of 20 participants.
- **Mobilize support for increased deworming coverage through critical non-health sector entry points.** Save the Children will work with the MOH to collaborate with MOES, MGLSD, MOWES and District offices to increase deworming coverage through an intervention layering approach in July – September 2021. Act-East will support coordination and linkages for upcoming Child Health Days (October, in-person/virtual), which may include micro-planning meetings with partners and community structures at district level using microplanning tools developed by RTI (July-September, in-person meetings, in Amudat, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit, Wakiso, Yumbe, Terego).

Other upcoming activities:

- Finalize data cleaning and analysis of the Coverage Evaluation Survey carried out in Moroto.
- Desk review for the upcoming DSA investigation failure for Amudat.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

May 2021
ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	<p>0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-Jun-Jul 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Jul-Sep 2021 • 	<p>0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- June-July 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- Jul-Sep 2021 	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	<p>42/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (6/6 districts)-April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (17/87 districts)- June 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (19/24 districts)- June/July 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	<p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts)- July-Sep- 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- July-Sep-2021 <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- July-Sep- 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- July-Sep-2021 <p>TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/4 districts)-July-Sep- 2021 <p>TAS3: 0</p>				<p>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts) –July-Sep 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-July-Sep 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; 0/45 districts-July-Sep 2021; 0/35 districts-July-Sep-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- July-Sep 2021 <p>TSS: 0/59 districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)-July-Sep 2021 • Gambella (0/4 districts)- July-Sep 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts-July-Sep 2021
MERLA	<p>DQA protocol- assessment is planned for Q4 in two districts of Gambella region.</p> <p>CES protocol- under review, survey is planned for Q4 in three districts of Oromia region.</p>				

HSS	<p>Health Financing Analytics-costing for integrated NTDs phase one training completed.</p> <p>NTD sustainability plan- under revision by MoH, director and NTD implementing partners (Q3).</p> <p>National multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination workshop (Q3).</p> <p>National workshop to incorporate NTD sustainability Action Plan into Master Plan (Q4).</p> <p>Inclusion of NTDs in regional/zonal/woreda integrated plans (Q4).</p> <p>Rapid GESI Assessment-needed preparation is underway to undertake the assessment in the next reporting period (Q3).</p>
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated timing of Trachoma MDA in Oromia updated due to delay in national elections.

Highlights:

- Act | East is supporting the delivery of procured TEO to the targeted districts to implement trachoma MDA in June 2021.
- Despite continuing Ivermectin shipment delays, LF/OV MDA continues to be targeted for Q4.
- On May 22, FHF and R4D hosted the first of three workshops titled “Costing for Sustainable Financing for NTDs”. The one-day workshop was held in Oromia region and included financing, resource mobilisation and program staff from the Oromia Health Bureau. Experts from FHF, R4D and RTI trained participants on the basics of planning, budgeting, resourcing, and monitoring and evaluation of financial data. The next two workshops in this series are planned for Q4 and will focus on the use of existing tools such as the TIPAC and OneHealth tool and funding requirements for interventions, approaches and strategies to address NTDs using evidence on costs, cost efficiency and equity.
- FHF and WI-HER collaborated on developing a GESI-integrated supervisors coverage tool (SCT) and tested it in select zones in Oromia. The tool was further refined and updated based on initial learning. On May 23, FHF and WI-HER conducted a 1-day GESI training using the tool as part of a planning meeting with the Oromia Regional Health Bureau. Going forward, the tool will be used in upcoming MDA trainings in Oromia.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TOT and cascading trainings:** FHF will undertake zonal level MDA training of trainers (TOT) including the cascading of woreda level trainings in June 2021.
- **Trachoma MDA:** Act | East will undertake trachoma MDA in the remaining 70 FHF and 5 LFTW-Oromia districts in June 2021.
- **Multisectoral Workshop:** Act | East in collaboration with MOH will facilitate a Multisectoral Collaboration and Coordination Workshop in Addis Ababa in mid-June 2021.
- **Sustainability Plan Workshop:** Act | East will organize a national workshop to facilitate the inclusion of prioritized activity plan from the sustainability documents into the national Master Plan in Addis Ababa in June 2021.
- **Orientation Meeting:** RTI Supply Chain TA will participate in pre-inventory orientation to be held in Adama, Oromia region, from June 5-6, 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- FHF has planned enhanced supportive supervision to ensure quality of planned MDA related activities in June-July 2021.
- Act | East supply chain TA will coordinate a virtual NTD Medicines Supply Chain Management TWG meeting in June 2021.
- Act | East partners will continue to provide technical support to RHBs and districts to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in June 2021.
- Act | East will finalize and disseminate NTD sustainability document in June 2021.
- Act | East will facilitate the enhancement of awareness about NTDs and GESI-related factors during MDA through radio messaging in June and July 2021.
- Partners will continue to follow up on the delivery of TEO to targeted districts and the shipment processes of Ivermectin.
- Partners will continue to work on finalizing FY21 TIS/TSS survey protocol for formal submission to RHBs for review and approval.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: [ኮቪድ-19 – ስለ ኮቪድ-19 \(ephi.gov.et\)](#)

May 2021

HAITI

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH
MDA	1 commune (Milot), April-May 2021	1 commune (Milot), April-May 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), Dec 2020-Feb 2021 TAS2 in community 3 EUs: August-September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in West TAS3 in community 10 EUs: August-September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in North • 3 EUs in Northwest • 3 EUs in Northeast • 2 EUs in Nippes 	N/A
MERLA	The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. GESI assessment in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (April-July 2021) Pre-MDA census planned in 9 communes : Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin, Gonaives, Port-de-Paix, Cabaret and Arcahaie. (June-August 2021) Microplanning (July-Sept 2021)	
HSS	N/A	

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

Haiti has seen a significant increase in gang activity nationwide, and particularly in the West department communes in and around Port-au-Prince. This has caused significant insecurity, particularly kidnapping of local nationals and expats and gang warfare. Due to these concerns, the MSPP has suspended activities in Croix-des-Bouquets and surrounding communes including Ganthier, Cornillon and Thomazeau is being suspended, since it is too dangerous to go to these areas.

As a result of this MSPP decision, IMA will not conduct the pre-MDA census in Croix des Bouquets, nor will it conduct TAS2 in Ganthier, Cornillon and Thomazeau. Pre-MDA census in the remaining 9 communes and TAS2 and 3 in the remaining 10 EUs will take place as planned, beginning in June.

In addition to the ongoing insecurity, Haiti is experiencing a spike in COVID-19 cases. As a result of this, schools will be closing early for the year, on June 11. As FTS will not have cleared customs before schools close, planned school-based TAS surveys will be conducted as community-based TAS.

Highlights:

- Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) Regional Program Review Group (RPRG) approved the TAS Eligibility and Planning Form for 13 Evaluation Units, totaling 26 Implementation Units to implement Transmission Assessment Surveys 2 and 3 (5 TAS2 and 8 TAS3) in FY2021.
- Completed the Act | East-funded distribution-post MDA in Milot (Completion date: May 4th) including data cleaning.

- The national bioethical committee approved the GESI assessment package, including the protocol and the questionnaires.
- Act | East piloted a new allowance distribution system for the MDA in Milot. Using a mobile telecommunications firm and a local bank, Act | East successfully distributed allowances through a mobile payment system to 25 field staff including CLs, CPs, and CDDs.
- IMA is coordinating closely with the USAID Mission to facilitate customs clearance of an FTS shipment that arrived on May 28th, for the upcoming TAS2 and TAS3 surveys.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-MDA census in 9 communes in June through September:** Pre-MDA census activities will begin in 6 communes in June 2021: North Department in Cap Haitien, Quartier Morin, Plaine du Nord, Acul-du-Nord, Limonade and Northwest Department in Port-de-Paix.
 - 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.).
- **TAS2 and TAS3:** Surveys will begin in June 2021 and run through September 2021. Act | East is working in coordination with the MSPP about the security situation and will adapt plans based on safety. These are community-based surveys to test 6- 7-year-olds for LF using a blood-based rapid antigen test, the FTS. Specific targeted districts include those listed below.
 - TAS2: Fonds Verettes, Grand Goave/Petit Goave, Kenscoff
 - TAS3: Anse a Foleur, Baie de Henne, Bassin Bleu, Bombardopolis, Chansolme, Jean Rabel, Mole St. Nicholas, St. Louis du Nord, Plaisance, Borgne, Port Margo, Capotille, Carice, Ferrier, Fort Liberte, Les Perches, Monbin Crochu, Mont Organise, Ouanaminthe, Vallieres, Anse a Veau, Arnaud, Fonds des Negres, Grand Boucan, L'Asile, Paillant, Petit Trou de Nippes, Petite Riviere de Nippes, Plaisance du Sud, Bas Limbé, Pilate, Sainte Suzanne, Terrier Rouge, Trou Du Nord
- **GESI assessment:** A GESI assessment that began in April 2021 is continuing through July 2021. This assessment involved community-based focus-group discussions and key informant interviews in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.mspp.gouv.ht/documentation/>

May 2021
INDONESIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 34, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (14 completed)

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

- None

Highlights:

- **LF Diagnostic Tool Training** for 20 participants from provincial and district health offices was organized by Act | East in collaboration with the MOH at the Public Health Laboratory, University of Indonesia from May 19 to 21, 2021 in Jakarta. LF experts from the university facilitated the training using a standard methodology developed previously with USAID assistance, including supervised laboratory practice. Official COVID-19 protocols from both Act | East and the MOH were followed throughout the training, including testing before and after. All participants were also fully vaccinated prior to the training.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-TAS** will be organized in collaboration with the MOH in the districts listed below. These surveys will be community-based, targeting children and adults 5-60 years old.
 - Kuningan, West Java from May 31 to June 5
 - Sikka, NTT from June 6 to 13
 - Kepulauan Sula, Maluku Utara from June 13 to 22
 - Purwarta, West Java from June 21 to 26
 - Sumba Tengah, NTT from June 21 to 26

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

May 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	Trachoma
MDA	6 districts August 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 11 EUs (9 districts) planned Q3; 10 EUs (8 districts) completed in Q1 and Q3. TSS: 7 EUs (6 districts) completed in Q1 and Q3
MERLA	The Act East data officer is regularly working with MISAU and ASCEND project to update all NTD data in the integrated database from 2017 to present. Tool completion and updates are presented during technical meetings.
HSS	N/A

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

- Updated number of completed surveys.

Highlights:

- A steering committee meeting took place from May 4-6 in Maputo province, attended by central and provincial level NTD staff, WHO, Ministry of Education, WASH, and Act | East. Participants discussed supply chain concerns, new MISAU policies, strategies to improve progress toward program goals, and cross sectoral collaboration opportunities. The Act | East staff presented on the new WHO SCH guidelines and the FAA process.
- The Chinde district TIS outcome investigation identified three major hypotheses: (1) Difficult-to-reach population living in remote island areas might not be adequately covered by MDA; (2) Planning with provincial staff is not sufficient to address the transport and human resource needs, requires working with district staff; (3) Access to water and sanitation is low, MDA alone is not enough to keep prevalence low. Other survey outcome investigations will commence following completion of the remaining surveys, as necessary based on final results.
- Act | East is coordinating with ITI and CMAM (*Central de Medicamentos e Artigos Médicos* (Center for Drugs and Medical Supplies) to ensure AZT arrives in country at the beginning of July 2021.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Supervision of TIS/TSS:** The Act | East COP and NTD coordinator will travel to Tete and Nampula Provinces to supervise surveys and reinforce COVID-19 sensitization in June 2021.
- MISAU CY22 Work Plan Meeting:** Act | East will attend the CY22 MISAU work planning meeting, including participation from WHO. This meeting will occur at the MISAU in early June and will help inform Act | East FY22 work planning.

- **Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop:** Act | East will organize a workshop in July 2021 in Maputo province with MISAU and other trachoma stakeholders to jointly review progress, update dossier drafts, harmonize information, and address any challenges.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.misau.gov.mz/>

May 2021

NEPAL

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA Support Activities	12 districts Dec, 2020 to April, 2021 (complete)	12 districts March/April, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) TAS2 : 6 districts, July/August 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sept 2021	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: Q3/Q4 GESI Gap Analysis: June 2021		

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

- Updated survey dates based on COVID related delays. Dates are tentative, as many districts in Nepal, including Kathmandu, remain under lockdowns to control the ongoing surge in COVID-19 cases. All planned field-based activities are on hold.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal team coordinated virtual meetings with VBDRTC to discuss current situation and possible implementation of TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur-rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot).
- Act | East Nepal team coordinated virtual discussion with EDCD to discuss current situation and possible implementation of FY21 planned activities.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will support **school- based TAS 2 in six districts** (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surketh and Jajarkot) through VBDRTC. This activity was initially planned for April-May 2021, but the timeline is uncertain due to rise in COVID cases, localized lockdowns, travel restrictions and school closures. When COVID cases reduce and travel is determined to be safe again, Act | East staff will travel to provide supportive supervision for the survey which targets children in grades 1 and 2.
- Act | East will support a **GESI assessment in three districts** (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) through local consultants managed by WI-HER and RTI, as soon as field-based activities can safely resume. This activity was originally planned for May but has been on hold due to a rise in COVID cases in the three target districts as well as in Kathmandu where the consultants are based.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.mohip.gov.np/>

May 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov 2020-June 2021	105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021	44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	N/A
DSAs	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan- Feb 2021 (40/40 completed) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), May-June 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5 (RTI) July 2021
MERLA	N/A				
HSS	N/A				

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

- None

Highlights:

- On May 18th and 19th, Act | East supported a virtual National Oncho Elimination Committee (NOEC) Meeting. Virtual attendance included participants from The Carter Center, RTI, USAID, CDC, Mectizan Donation Program as well as FMOH and in-country NGDO Coalition members and academia. The progress made in Oncho elimination program across Nigeria was reviewed:
 - Six States (Anambra, Enugu, Abia, Imo, Ekiti and Yobe) approved to be re-classified as onchocerciasis ‘transmission suspected interrupted’.
 - Three States (Zamfara, Kebbi and Delta) classified ‘OV transmission interrupted’ and should commence post-treatment surveillance.
 - Ondo State approved for reclassification from ‘transmission ongoing’ (red) to ‘on track for elimination’.
- Act | East held a debriefing meeting on the Yala LGA re-pre-TAS failure investigation with SMOH stakeholders on May 21. Some of the actions agreed and implemented to improve on the re-MDA include increase in number of CDDs allocated to wards identified to have low CDD numbers, distribution of insecticide treated nets at the sentinel sites through collaboration with the SMOH, and the use of the Supervisor’s Coverage Tool (SCT) for monitoring MDA coverage.
- Act | East supported LF re-MDA and supervision in Yala LGA, CRS State between May 25th -31st.
- Act | East supported MDA training of health facility staff, CDDs and community supervisors in 6 LGAs of Ebonyi State, 8 LGAs of Imo State and 17 LGAs of Abia State.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **FY22 Work Planning:** Act | East will host an in-person work planning meeting with Cross River State MOH and FMOH in June (CRS June 3rd -4th, FMOH June 18th -19th) and strategic planning meetings in other USAID-supported States in Q3-4.
- **Review of National Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) assessment Guideline:** Act | East will participate in the in-person FMOH Meeting to review LF Assessment Guidelines in Calabar from June 7-8, 2021. This meeting provides opportunity for NGDO Coalition partners, including RTI to provide technical support to the National LF program.
- **LF TAS 1:** Act | East will support LF TAS 1 in 7 LGAs of Ebonyi and Imo States in June.
- **MDA Safety Training:** Act | East, in partnership with FMOH, will host a four-day workshop from June 14-18, targeting 30 participants from the FMOH NTD team, the national pharmaco-vigilance department and implementing partners.
- **JAP Preparation Meeting:** Act | East will attend the in-person Joint Application Package preparation meeting with FMOH and partners, tentatively scheduled for June.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

May 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

	LF	SCH	STH
MDA	3/46 provinces	28/28 provinces	82 provinces
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS 1:5, TAS 2:2 TAS 3:3		

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

- None

Highlights:

- A manuscript on the Philippine Domestic Resource Mobilization for Neglected Tropical Diseases was reviewed and approved by the Department of Health. DOH officials were also included as co-authors. Timely recommendations on NTD sustainability and health systems strengthening are included in the report, as the Department of Health is currently undergoing a restructuring.
- Exploratory meetings were conducted to propose a concept for the next level domestic resource mobilization studies involving experience from provinces at the local level.
- The Sentinel and Spot Check survey covering the medium and low risk municipalities (8+1) in Sultan Kudarat has been completed. The national program is waiting for the official report for this activity.
- Act | East is working with the DOH to document efforts made by the national program to explore post validation surveillance opportunities. Further input from regional and local officials will also be sought in the next month.

Upcoming activities:

- Due to an increase in COVID cases in the province and region, the second in series of two meetings with municipalities in Sultan Kudarat scheduled for June 17th will now take place virtually. This meeting will provide targeted planning support to the three municipalities (Kalamansig, Lebak, Palembang) implementing IDA MDA in October 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [WHO Philippines | World Health Organization](#)

National: [COVID tracker Philippines - Bing](#)

[COVID-19 Case Tracker | Department of Health website \(doh.gov.ph\)](#)

May 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	Trachoma
DSAs (#EUs)	Bangladesh : 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR : 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed Viet Nam TSS-: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
MERLA	Learning activity on dossier development models: moved to FY22	

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

- Postponed learning activity on dossier development into FY22, based on FY21 delays from COVID-19.

Highlights:

- BGD:
 - DIP survey on hold while COVID-19 case rates remained high in Bangladesh and a national lockdown was imposed. Survey is ready to begin as soon as field activities can safely resume.
- LAO:
 - Act | East coordinated with WHO WPRO office to determine timelines for final TAS3 planned in FY21, supported by WHO.
 - Act | East and WHO discussed timeline for further LF Dossier finalization work. These discussions will continue through FY22 planning in June and July.
- VNM:
 - Domestic travel and in-person gatherings are currently restricted because of an increase in COVID-19 cases in May.
 - FHF will support the completion of the Lung Ho commune TSS (follow-up in three clusters) with non-Act East funding, planned for June 2021.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming Bangladesh activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Completion of training of CIPRB research staff on DIP survey and electronic data capture tools. Virtual training was completed in April 2021; in-person training on the survey and EDC tools will occur as soon as COVID allows.

- When travel restrictions are lifted CIPRB staff will travel to target districts to hold district level awareness meetings with district health officials, including officials who oversee health center staff where surveys will take place.

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](http://corona.gov.bd)

Upcoming Vietnam activities requiring COVID protocols:

- The first of two dossier development meetings is currently scheduled for the June 2021. This event will gather 40 people in Hanoi including national MOH officials, staff of VNEH, FHF, and regional officials in trachoma endemic provinces. Global experts from Act | East, WHO, USAID and ITI will join 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 \(vnpt.vn\)](http://vnpt.vn)

May 2021

TANZANIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, June 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
MDA	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, June 2021 ; 1 district, August 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	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), Postponed to FY22. Ento survey: 3 districts (2 foci), Postponed to FY22. iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021	N/A	N/A	TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021, and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021, and July 2021
MERLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform 				
HSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning. Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy. Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs. Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. 				

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

- **Postponed ELISA analysis of OV DBS to FY22:** OV16 ELISA kits are not currently available from Abbott. In addition, CDC planned to conduct in-person training for ELISA and CDC staff are unable to travel. Based on these two issues, this analysis is postponed.
- **Trachoma MDA delayed:** Zithromax clearance was ongoing at the end of May and so trachoma MDA has been delayed to late June. RTI has alerted ITI to longer-than-expected customs clearance times and encouraged discussion with the MOH regarding how to mitigate such delays.

Highlights:

- NIMR Tanga lab completed the OV-DBS analysis, and the report will be shared with RTI in June.

- Through working with Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), as well as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA), IMA and TZNTDCP completed clearance of 3,987,000 Praziquantel tabs from the port of entry. Currently, they are finalizing the clearance of 2,148,000 Zithromax tabs and 46,416 Zithromax POS—expected to be completed in early June. After clearance, the drugs will be delivered to the districts to complete school MDA and conduct Trachoma community MDA.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

In June 2021, IMA and TZNTDCP will:

- Conduct a joint trachoma and LF Dossier Development meeting. A local consultant will be engaged to combine and compile the dossier information and update the dossier narrative document.
- Conduct community sensitization in nomadic and cross-border districts of Kiteto, Simanjiro, Longido, and Ngorongoro.
- Conduct advocacy meetings for 6 districts on Trachoma elimination.
- Coordinate advocacy meetings with new leaders in 9 districts in 3 Regions.
- Conduct refresher training for trachoma graders and recorders conducting the Trachoma Impact Surveys in 3 EUs and Trachoma Surveillance Surveys in 7 EUs.
- Conduct supportive supervision during Trachoma impact surveys in 3 EUs and Trachoma surveillance survey in 7 EUs.
- Conduct pre-MDA activities (District strategic and planning meetings, Training of Trainers, Training of FLHW, training of CDDs, and registration and community sensitization) and actual Zithromax MDA and supportive supervision in 4 TRA districts: Kongwa, Chamwino, Ngorongoro and Kiteto.
- Conduct high-level leader and influential people advocacy meeting with high-level leaders and influential people who will eventually sensitize the community on twice OV MDA in 9 districts (in 2 regions of Tanga and Morogoro).
- Begin Oncho exclusion mapping in 7 districts.
- Deliver MDA supplies (dose poles, PZQ tapes, flyers, registers, brochures, posters, banners, training manuals and summary data forms) to 34 districts planned for August MDA.
- In collaboration with Medical Stores Department (MSD), IMA is working to deliver Praziquantel tabs and Zithromax to districts for school MDA and Trachoma MDA in June 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP will conduct Coverage Evaluation Surveys for 4 Trachoma districts (Kongwa, Chamwino, Kiteto and Ngorongoro) in June/July 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- Working with the Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA) to clear Zithromax tabs and Zithromax POS from the port of Trachoma Community MDA in June 2021.
- Working with Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to obtain an import permit for Filariasis Test Strips (FTS) in June 2021.
- HSS activities:
 - IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the review of Master Plan and alignment with NTD 2030 Roadmap and HSSP V in June 2021.
 - IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the integration of NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) in June-July 2021.

- IMA and TZNTDCP will coordinate the development of a targeted NTD advocacy strategy (Develop SMART objectives, budget and workplan) in June-July 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.moh.go.tz/en/covid-19-info>

May 2021

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	N/A	9 districts, November 2020 and April 2021	N/A	N/A	2 districts, September 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	PreTAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 14 Eus	N/A	N/A	N/A	TIS: 3 EUs, July 2021 TSS: 5 EUs, March and July 2021
MERLA	CES in Moroto (completed November 2020) Failed DSA investigation in Amudat (planned for July 2021) TAS planned for the week of 14 th July 2021. Feedback meeting in Amudat planned for 7 th July 2021. Trachoma quarterly review and dossier meeting planned for July 2021				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee meeting (June 2021) Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan (Feb 2021) Development of GESI package for NTD program				

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

- TIS in Nebbi and Buliisa EUs were rescheduled from April to July to better prepare for the surveys. but the pre-visit was done in the two districts 4-7 May 2021.
- TSS results indicate that Amudat is above treatment threshold, with TF prevalence between 5-9.9%, and therefore the district will require one round of MDA as per WHO guidelines, planned for September 2021. Prior to the MDA, a DSA investigation will be carried out in Amudat in July 2021.
- TSS in Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk will happen from 14-28 July 2021.

Highlights:

- Act | East held a virtual/in-person hybrid work planning meeting May 25-27, 2021. Participants included the Assistant Commissioner vector borne and NTDs, program managers and senior staff of the NTD program, delegates from districts that are targeted for MDA and TIS/TSS – Moroto, Amudat, Nebbi and Buliisa; USAID/Uganda mission; USAID/DC; RTI HQ staff, WHO and other partners including R4D, WI-HER, TCC, Save the Children, ASCEND, Sightsavers, World Vision and SCI. Priority activities for FY22 funding presented and discussed.
- Act | East Uganda country team held its annual retreat on 5-6 May to review program performance, determine areas of improvement, particularly around modalities of operation in the context of COVID-19, and prepare for the FY22 annual planning meeting.
- The Act East team and NTDCP brought together consultants assigned to provide technical support to the MOH in the areas of health financing, GESI and development of the NTD advocacy strategy. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure understanding of the TOR for all the teams and identify areas of collaboration during the execution of the different consultancy work. Consultants made presentations of the TORs and their work plans which were discussed by the NTD program team led

by the Ag. Asst. Commissioner, Program Managers and the Act East team. This was an important meeting to ensure effective coordination of the different consultancies.

- RTI, WI-HER, and MOH finalized the plan and budget for the GESI Behavior Change pilot for Moroto. Actual activity will start in July 2021.

TCC

- TCC trained CDDs in 7 districts of Kasese, Adjumani, Moyo, Amuru, Pader, Lamwo, and Nwoya.
- TCC regional coordinators and MOH completed MDA and data validation in 10 targeted districts. Treatment reports have not yet been submitted.
- TCC is completing community meetings in sub-counties where low treatment coverages was noted, in order to decide to make decisions about using mop up to reach higher treatment coverages.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TSS:** With funding and technical support from Act | East, the MOH trachoma program staff will carry out a two-day pre-visit to Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk districts from Tuesday 8th to 12th June 2021 in preparation for the upcoming TSS to be carried out from June 14th to 28th, 2021
- **TIS:** With funding and technical support from Act | East, the MOH trachoma team will carry out TIS in Nebbi and Bulisa districts from 14th to 28th June 2021.
- **STH/SCH activities:** In order to 1) map potential partners, coordination mechanisms and platforms outside of the health sector which can be leveraged to drive the STH/SCH agenda, 2) map “expanded” STH/SCH stakeholders, 3) operationalize STH/SCH Expert Committee recommendations for multisectoral collaboration and 4) participate in and contribute to supporting the multisectoral NTD control and elimination activities in selected districts, Save the Children, Act | East, and R4D will conduct in-person and virtual meetings in Kampala and Karamoja from May-July. Findings will be presented to the STH/SCH Expert Committee in Kampala in June and, potentially, to the local government in Karamoja in July. Multisectoral activities including advocacy meetings and monitoring visits will take place starting in July in Karamoja.
- **Detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records** will be conducted in Kampala June-July 2021. RTI and R4D, through a short-term consultancy, will provide technical support to MOH to collect and examine the detailed financial and programmatic records of major donor funded NTD program 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.
- **Development of an advocacy strategy for NTD programming:** A two-day workshop to be facilitated by the advocacy consultancy firm will be held for the NTD program team and partners in the first week of June to initiate the development of the advocacy strategy for NTD programming. Act | East will provide financial, logistical, and technical support. The meeting will be held in a hotel within Kampala and current COVID-19 SOPs will be observed.
- **NTD Secretariat meeting:** The NTD Secretariat meets quarterly with the purpose of providing strategic guidance and oversight for all NTD disease programs. In June, the Secretariat will meet in-person at the Vector Control Division boardroom in Kampala to review program specific progress, discuss the NTD master plan review protocol, and set the agenda for the NTD technical Advisory committee meeting and review the scope and TOR of the Schisto/Expert Committee.
- **NTD National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC) meeting:** The deliberations from the NTD secretariat meetings feed into the NTD technical advisory committee meetings. The NTAC will meet in June after the NTD secretariat meeting. The agenda will focus on program specific progress, challenges, and way forward, and a review of the protocol for the Master plan will be done. In line

with the current Covid-19 guidelines, determination will be made whether to hold the meeting virtually or in person.

- **Integrated GESI training** The Act | East team in collaboration with Ministry of Health will conduct a 2-day GESI training in June, training 20 district staff from Moroto district involved in community health and development activities. Participants will include health inspectors/assistants, members of the DHT and community development officers. The training will be supervised and mentored by WIHER, Ministry of Health and District staff from the two districts to ensure the content and context of the BCC efforts represent the socio-cultural dynamics of these areas. The training will be held in a hotel in Moroto town following the MOH COVID-19 SOPs.
- **Trainings on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data** will be conducted in June and July 2021. These will be three trainings, one in Kampala and the other two trainings will be carried out in two other district locations. 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. One training will take place in Kampala the other two will occur in two other district locations, still to be determined. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, each session will have a maximum of 20 participants.
- **Mobilize support for increased deworming coverage through critical non-health sector entry points.** Save the Children will initiate a collaborative mechanism between the MOH and MOES, MGLSD, MWE and District offices to increase deworming coverage through an intervention layering approach in July – September 2021. Act-East will support coordination and linkages for upcoming Child Health Days (October, in-person/virtual), which may include micro-planning meetings with partners and community structures at district level using microplanning tools developed by RTI (July-September, in-person meetings, in Amudat, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit, Wakiso, Yumbe, Terego).
- **Karamoja cross border activities:** The Act | East team in collaboration with Ministry of Health will hold Trachoma cross border and stakeholders’ meeting between 27th and 30th July 2021. This will be to mainly discuss and agreed on synchronizing MDA activities across the borders of Uganda, South Sudan, and Kenya. The meeting is expected to bring together civic leaders, cultural leaders, and public officials to discuss performance updates, joint plans and how to leverage the SAFE strategy.
- **DSA failure investigation in Amudat:** A DSA failure investigation will be carried out in Amudat in July 2021 following a resurgence of Trachoma as confirmed by the results of the trachoma surveillance survey (TSS).

Other upcoming activities:

- Finalize data cleaning and analysis of the Coverage Evaluation Survey carried out in Moroto.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

June 2021

ETHIOPIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	0/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021) • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)-Jun-Jul 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/1 district)- Jul-Sep 2021	0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Jul-Sep 2021) • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- July 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/67 districts)- Jul-Sep 2021	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	73/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • Gambella (6/6 districts)-April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (43/87 districts)- June- 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (24/24 districts)- June/July 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sept 2021) • BG (0/2 districts)- July-Sep- 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts)- July-Sep-2021 TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps- July-Sep- 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts)- July-Sep-2021 TAS2: 0/4 districts-(Oct 2020-Sept 2021) • BG (0/4 districts)-July-Sep- 2021 TAS3: 0				TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • BG (0/2 districts) –July-Sep 2021 • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps)-July-Sep 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; 0/45 districts-July-Sep 2021; 0/35 districts-July-Sep-2021 • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts)- July-Sep 2021 TSS: 0/59 districts • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps)- July-Sep 2021 • Gambella (0/4 districts)- July-Sep 2021 • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts-July-Sep 2021
MERLA	DQA protocol- assessment is planned for Q4 in two districts of Gambella region. CES protocol- survey is planned to happen in July 2021 in Oromia region.				
HSS	NTD sustainability plan- review of strategies at non-health sectors is ongoing and will be finalized in the next reporting period (Q4). National multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination workshop (Q4). National workshop to incorporate NTD sustainability Action Plan into Master Plan (Q4). Inclusion of NTDs in regional/zonal/woreda integrated plans (Q4).				

	Rapid GESI Assessment-underway in Gambella region (Q4) and preparatory activities underway for the planned assessment in Oromia region (Q4)
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Trachoma MDA was conducted in a total of 31 districts (26 in FHF and 5 in LFTW) during the reporting period. FHF supported trachoma MDA in the remaining 44 districts is ongoing and will be finalized in July 2021.
- Updated timing of OV MDA due to shortage of IVM.

Highlights:

- Act | East hosted the FY22 annual work planning meeting with participation from FMOH, USAID Ethiopia, implementing partners and other key stakeholders.
- FHF has completed zonal MDA training of trainers (TOT) and district level training in nine zones of Oromia region.
- The Act | East Supply Chain TA facilitated a virtual NTD Supply Chain Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting. Topics discussed included current NTD stock status, issues related to close-to-expiry Zithromax POS, distribution plan preparation enhancement, delay in the shipment of Ivermectin, and MDA Safety and related challenges.
 - The TWG agreed to replace Zithromax tablets with POS in one of the upcoming MDAs to avoid wastage. The TWG agreed to work with WHO to expedite the Ivermectin shipment.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TOT and Cascading Trainings:** FHF will continue to undertake zonal level MDA TOT and the cascading of woreda level training in July 2021.
- **Review Meetings:** Act | East partners (RTI and FHF) will undertake zonal level post-MDA review meetings in areas where MDA is complete in July 2021.
- **Trachoma MDA:** Act | East will undertake trachoma MDA in the remaining 44 FHF supported areas in Oromia region in July 2021.
- **OV/LF MDA:** Act | East will undertake both OV (LFTW & RTI supported), LF (FHF & RTI supported) MDAs in BG and Oromia regions in July 2021.
- **Multisectoral Workshop:** Act | East in collaboration with MOH will facilitate a Multisectoral Collaboration and Coordination Workshop in Addis Ababa in August 2021.
- **Rapid GESI Assessment:** Act | East will undertake a rapid GESI assessment in three districts of Oromia and one district of Gambella region in July 2021.
- **Sustainability Plan Workshop:** Act | East will organize a national workshop to facilitate the inclusion of prioritized activity plan from the sustainability documents into the national Master Plan in Addis Ababa in August 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- FHF has planned to continue enhanced supportive supervision to ensure quality of planned MDA related activities in July 2021.
- Act | East partners will continue to provide the needed technical support to RHBs and districts to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in July-August 2021.
- Act | East will finalize and disseminate NTD sustainability document in August 2021.

- Act | East will continue to facilitate the enhancement of awareness about NTDs and GESI-related factors during MDA through radio messaging in July 2021.
- Partners will continue to follow up on the delivery of TEO and ALB to targeted districts including shipment processes of Ivermectin.
- Partners will continue to work on finalizing FY21 TIS/TSS survey protocol for formal submission to RHBs for review and approval.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: [ኮቪድ-19 – ስለ ኮቪድ-19 \(ephi.gov.et\)](http://ephi.gov.et)

June 2021

HAITI

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH
MDA	1 commune (Milot), April-May 2021	1 commune (Milot), April-May 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS1: 1 EU (Cabaret rural), Dec 2020-Feb 2021 TAS2 in community 3 EUs: August-September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in West TAS3 in community 10 EUs: August-September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in North • 2 EUs in Northwest • 3 EUs in Northeast • 2 EUs in Nippes 	N/A
MERLA	The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. GESI assessment in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (April-July 2021) Pre-MDA census planned in 9 communes : Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin, Gonaives, Port-de-Paix, Cabaret and Arcahaie. (June-August 2021) Micro-planning (July-Sept 2021) in 6 communes: two in West Department (Arcahaie, Cabaret), and four in North Department (Plaine-du-Nord, Limonade, Cap-Haïtien, Quartier-Morin	
HSS	N/A	

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

- Micro-planning activities in 6 communes are now scheduled for Q4. Two additional communes were originally targeted in in the FY21 work plan; however, Croix des Bouquets was cancelled at the direction of MSPP for security reasons and Dondon passed TAS1 and thus no longer requires MDA, so microplanning will not occur there.
- **Security update:** On July 7, 2021, President Jovenel Moise was assassinated, increasing Haiti’s political chaos. All activities are currently on hold until the political situation becomes clearer and it is safe to restart work.

Highlights:

- Following a refresher training of the field enumerators, pre-MDA census field activities were launched on June 14, 2021 in five communes in the north: Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin. The pre-MDA census will take approximately 30 days of work and is expected to be completed mid-July.
- WI-HER consultants completed the GESI assessment (both the community-based focus-group discussions and key informant interviews) in the two targeted communes- Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord- from June 16-30.
- IMA program team attended a working session on Haiti Act | East FY22 Work Planning from June 17-18, 2021.
- FTS arrived in-country, cleared customs, and are now available for the upcoming community-based TAS activities.

- The North Department successfully completed activities in the FAA issued by IMA in April 2021. The FAA was for training of health care workers prior to the MDA.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-MDA census in four (4) communes starting in late July:** 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 services around the commune such as churches and markets.
 - **Artibonite—Gonaïves:** 65 surveyors and 11 supervisors will be trained for 4 days.
 - **Northwest—Port-de-Paix:** 50 surveyors and 9 supervisors will be trained for 9 days.
 - **West—Arcahaie, Cabaret:** 44 surveyors and 8 supervisors will be trained for 4 days.
- **TAS2 and TAS3:** These are community-based surveys to test 6- to 7-year-olds for LF using a blood-based rapid antigen test, the FTS. Specific targeted districts include those listed below. (Note that Act | East is in coordination with the MSPP on the security issues and will adapt plans based on security recommendations)
 - **TAS2:** To be conducted August-September as community-based surveys in the communes of Fonds Verettes, Grand Goave/Petit Goave, and Kenscoff.
 - **TAS3 :** To be conducted August-September as community-based surveys in the communes of Anse a Foleur, Baie de Henne, Bassin Bleu, Bombardpolis, Chansolme, Jean Rabel, Mole St. Nicholas, St. Louis du Nord, Plaisance, Borgne, Port Margo, Capotille, Carice, Ferrier, Fort Liberte, Les Perches, Monbin Crochu, Mont Organise, Ouanaminthe, Vallieres, Anse a Veau, Arnaud, Fonds des Negres, Grand Boucan, L'Asile, Paillant, Petit Trou de Nippes, Petite Riviere de Nippes, Plaisance du Sud, Bas Limbé, Pilate, Sainte Suzanne, Terrier Rouge, Trou Du Nord.
- **GESI integration training:** A GESI assessment that began in April 2021 is continuing through July 2021. The goal of this training is to integrate GESI assessment results into NTD programming in the two targeted communes, Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord. This training will consist of sensitization on key issues and training in specific knowledge, skills, and behaviors that will strengthen program design around NTDs and will improve service delivery practices and monitoring.
- **Microplanning in 6 communes in September:** Two in West Department (Arcahaie, Cabaret), and four in North Department (Plaine-du-Nord, Limonade, Cap-Haïtien, Quartier-Morin). This microplanning exercise will help identify gaps in supervision areas, challenges, and opportunities to increase access and quality of MDAs. Results will possibly inform planning to implement IDA in FY22.

Other upcoming activities:

- Complete the Pre-MDA census field activities in the North.
- Revise the TAS protocol from the school based to community based.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.mspp.gouv.ht/documentation/>

June 2021
INDONESIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 34, Oct 2020 to Sep 2021 (18 completed)
HSS	TBD

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

- Updated number of surveys completed.

Highlights:

- **Pre-TAS** were organized in collaboration with the MOH in the districts of Kuningan, West Java from May 31 to June 5; Sikka, NTT from June 6 to 13; Kep. Sula, Maluku Utara from June 13 to 22; and Sumba Tengah, NTT from June 21 to 26. These surveys were all community-based, targeting children and adults 5-60 years old. Results are pending.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **All activities** planned for July 2021 have been postponed due to national COVID restrictions issued by the GOI for the period July 3 to 20, 2021. If COVID restrictions are lifted in late July and upon agreement by national and local officials and USAID Indonesia, Pre-TAS surveys may resume in August.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

June 2021
MOZAMBIQUE

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	Trachoma
MDA	6 districts planned for August 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 21 EUs (17 districts) completed in Q1 and Q3. TSS: 7 EUs (6 districts) completed in Q1 and Q3
MERLA	The Act East data officer is regularly working with MISAU and ASCEND project to update all NTD data in the integrated database from 2017 to present. Tool completion and updates are presented during technical meetings.
HSS	N/A

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

- Updated number of completed surveys.

Highlights:

- The survey team completed all remaining trachoma surveys. In total, 2 TSS EUs (2 districts) and 8 TIS EUs (7 districts) had survey outcomes above threshold. RTI and MISAU staff will conduct a desk review for all districts that had survey outcomes above threshold and a field visit in two districts identified by the MISAU.
- The Act | East COP facilitated the WHO JAP findings debriefing for francophone countries (June 10). The findings from the questionnaire: (1) MOH NTD staff lack adequate knowledge of Excel software; (2) Limited MOH NTD staff creates a lack of drug managers to support JAP preparation; (3) reporting is not completed fully or in a timely manner.
 - As solutions, participants requested: (1) basic JAP training for NTD MOH staff; (2) coordination between all NTD partners to support JAP preparation; (3) recruitment of a pharmacist at the central level.
- Act | East participated in the Mozambican Eyes Care Coalition (MECC) meeting, hosted by Sightsavers. Participants from RTI, Light for the World (LFTW), Olhos do Mundo and MISAU ophthalmology program staff were present. Partners shared their major 2021 activities:
 - Sightsavers is supporting training of technicians on COVID prevention and is finalizing the results of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded onchocerciasis mapping.
 - Olhos do Mundo is supporting organization of a cataract campaign.
 - LFTW is supporting training for ophthalmologists.
 - RTI shared their FY21 major activities (MDA and surveys).
- Act | East is working closely with MISAU staff to organize the upcoming MDA in 06 districts (03 in Zambezia province and 03 in Nampula province).
- Zithromax is planned to arrive in country July 19. CMAM (*Central de Medicamentos e Artigos Médicos* (Center for Drugs and Medical Supplies)) will pay for the importation fees.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop:** Act | East will organize a workshop in July 2021 in Maputo province with MISAU and other trachoma stakeholders to jointly review progress, update dossier drafts, harmonize information, and address any challenges.
- **Trachoma re-MDA:** Act | East will support training and supervision for trachoma re-MDA in 6 districts, August 9-20, 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.misau.gov.mz/>

June 2021

NEPAL

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA Support Activities	12 districts Dec, 2020 to April, 2021 (complete)	12 districts March/April, 2021 (DEC+ALB in LF MDA 2021)	Eliminated: May 2018
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS1 : 1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) Re Pre-TAS: 7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) TAS2 : 6 districts, July/August 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sept 2021	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: Q3/Q4 GESI Gap Analysis: July/August 2021		

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

- GESI analysis in three districts tentatively re-scheduled for July/August.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal team participated in SEARO virtual RPRG meeting on 14-17 June 2021. In this meeting Nepal LF and STH program updates were presented and RPRG recommendations were sought for next steps in TAS failure districts.
- Act | East Nepal team coordinated virtual meetings with EDCD and with VBDRTC to discuss the impact of the current COVID situation in the region and possible implementation of FY21 planned activities, including TAS2 in six districts and GESI assessment in three districts.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will support a **GESI assessment in three districts** (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) through local consultants managed by WI-HER and RTI, as soon as field-based activities can safely resume. This activity was originally planned for May but has been on hold due to a rise in COVID cases in the three target districts as well as in Kathmandu where the consultants are based. The decision to re-schedule this activity will be made in consultation with the district and municipality health officers and USAID Nepal. The activity may begin in one district (Dang) in July 2021. Assessment teams will closely monitor COVID rates in the targeted districts and will be ready to place the activity back on hold if case rates increase.
- Act | East will support **school-based TAS 2 in six districts** (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot) through VBDRTC. This activity was initially planned for April-May 2021, but the timeline is uncertain due to rise in COVID cases, localized lockdowns, travel restrictions and school closures. When COVID cases reduce and travel is determined to be safe

again, Act | East staff will travel to provide supportive supervision for the survey which targets children in grades 1 and 2.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

June 2021

NIGERIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	80 districts (78 TCC, 2 RTI) Nov 2020-June 2021	105 districts (90 TCC, 15 RTI) April-June 2021	44 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	118 districts (TCC) April-June 2021	N/A
DSAs	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan- Feb 2021 (40/40 completed) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), July-August 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5 (RTI) July-August 2021

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

- Updated date of TAS 1 from May-June to July-August due to the delay in the arrival of FTS in Nigeria.
- Updated date of TSS from July to July-August based on the tentative date approved by the Trachoma Program National Coordinator.

Highlights:

- Act | East held FY22 a work planning meeting with the FMOH from June 18-19 and with CRS SMOH from June 2-4, 2021. A joint FY22 work planning meeting for Act | East Nigeria team (RTI and TCC) was held in Jos Plateau State on June 21 to review and update draft work plan; this was followed by additional virtual meeting on June 28 that included the HQ teams.
- Act | East participated in the in-person FMOH meeting to review LF Assessment Guidelines in Calabar on June 7-8. Some of the changes made to the guidelines include:
 - LGAs (Implementing Units) that have achieved 5 effective rounds of MDA should be eligible for pre-TAS six months after the last MDA when microscopy is the diagnostic test for detection of microfilariae (mf). When FTS is used for circulating filarial antigen (CFA), Pre-TAS can be carried out immediately after MDA.
 - Evaluation Unit (EU) population should not exceed one million people. If an LGA population exceeds 1 million, such an LGA should be divided.
- Act | East in partnership with the FMOH conducted a four-day MDA Safety workshop June 14-18, 2021 with participation from FMOH NTD team, the national pharmaco-vigilance (PV) department of NAFDAC, SMOHs and NGOs. Select workshop outcomes include:
 - Terms of reference developed for the National PV/Safety desk officer
 - Defined roles of key stakeholders (Health Promotion Division FMOH, NAFDAC, DFDS, Ministry of Information) to strengthen collaboration and planning to support PV and improve awareness.
 - Developed draft PV/MDA safety framework for integration into the National Master Plan

- Act | East supported FMOH in the preparation of the Joint Application Package (JAP) in Lagos June 22-25; NGDO staff had more direct involvement in the preparation as they reviewed initial version prepared by the FMOH. The JAP document is being finalized by FMOH.
- Act | East supported a one-day Appraisal Meeting at Ikom on June 28, 2021 that provided opportunity for the new Cross River State NTD Coordinator to share their vision and mandate for NTDs in CRS with all LGA focal persons. FMOH participated and discussed sustainability strategies for SCH/STH program amidst its funding gap as well as introduced the ward-level MDA implementation approach to the state, which is now federally mandated.
- In Act | East supported states in the southeast, MDA supervision was completed in 6 LGAs of Ebonyi, 17 LGAs in Abia State and 8 LGAs in Imo State. LHIT/HFS/CDDs training was completed in Delta and Ebonyi states, MDA data collection and verification is ongoing in LGAs of Ebonyi, Imo (8 LGAs) and Abia (17 LGAs) and SCH trainings focusing on ward level treatment were completed in Delta, Edo, Plateau and Nasarawa States.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Ward-level Schistosomiasis MDA planning:** FMOH/SMOH meeting in Abia, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo states, ongoing from June.
- **Zonal Review Meetings:** Southsouth/Southeast zone meetings from July 5-10, providing opportunity to share PC-NTDs activity outcomes, address inventory concerns and set timeline for next MDA.
- **Trachoma Surveillance Surveys:** TSS graders training/field survey in Edo and Ebonyi scheduled for July 25, 2021.
- **State strategic planning meeting:** Proposed for Abia, Edo, Enugu, Delta, and Imo States respectively scheduled for July and August.
- **LF TAS 1:** LF TAS 1 in 9 LGAs of Cross River, Ebonyi and Imo States tentatively scheduled for August.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

June 2021

PHILIPPINES

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

TABLE: Activities supported by DOH in FY21

	LF	SCH	STH
MDA	3/46 provinces	28/28 provinces	82 provinces
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS 1:5, TAS 2:2 TAS 3:3		

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

HSS	Financing assessment, Data systems assessment
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- None

Highlights:

- Act | East supported a virtual meeting with the DOH Regional Office XII (SOCKSARGEN) and the provincial health office of Sultan Kudarat on June 17th to plan for the roll out of the pilot of IDA MDA at the end of 2021. The meeting brought together Municipal Health Officers, public health nurses, medical technologists, and LF coordinators from the municipalities of Kalamansig, Lebak and Palimbang, the three municipalities targeted for IDA MDA. A total of 30 participants attended the virtual meeting.
- Act | East continued to coordinate with the national program strategic priorities during the transition of the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau. This ongoing coordination will feed into Act | East’s FY22 workplan.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East is working with the DOH and CHED to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework is for the integration of NTDs in pre-service curricula for health professionals.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [WHO Philippines | World Health Organization](#)

National: [COVID tracker Philippines - Bing](#)

[COVID-19 Case Tracker | Department of Health website \(doh.gov.ph\)](#)

June 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	Trachoma
DSAs (#EUs)	Bangladesh: 0 (TAS3 supported by GoB) Lao PDR: 0	Viet Nam TIS: 2 districts (Meo Vac and Dong Van); completed and passed Viet Nam TSS: focal areas of 1 commune (Lung Ho); partially completed
MERLA	Learning activity on dossier development models: moved to FY22	
HSS	None	

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

- None

Highlights:

- **BGD**
 - Bangladesh lifted its national lockdown on June 7. In anticipation of the country’s re-opening, the Filariasis Elimination Programme Director issued a letter of support for the DIP survey, addressed to 34 districts participating in the survey, on June 2. This allowed Act | East grantee CIPRB to coordinate with district health offices to prepare for the DIP survey and complete training for the research teams. The survey team completed surveys in three facilities in areas with low COVID-19 rates before the government announced a renewed, stricter national lockdown to begin July 1. The survey remains on hold during this lockdown.
- **LAO**
 - Act | East coordinated with WHO WPRO office to determine timelines for final TAS3 planned in FY21 and advocated for WHO to support a DIP survey alongside the TAS3.
 - Act | East, WHO and LF consultant [redacted] discussed timelines and required support for completion of the Lao PDR dossier.
- **VNM**
 - None

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming Bangladesh activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **DIP survey-** When travel restrictions are lifted, CIPRB staff will travel to target districts to resume implementation of the survey, including holding district level awareness meetings with health officials and health center staff and the actual facility inspections and interviews.

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 Laos activities:

- Act | East will support LOE for **virtual technical support** for dossier finalization, which will begin in July 2021 and continue through dossier submission in FY22. LF consultant will coordinate with Act | East Asia Regional Manager and LF Focal Point to provide technical support to the national program.

Upcoming Vietnam activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **National Workshop for Data Review and Dossier Development**, the first of two dossier development meetings that Act | East will support in Viet Nam, is tentatively planned for September 2021. This event will gather around 40 people in Hanoi including national MOH officials, staff of VNEH, FHF, and regional officials in trachoma endemic provinces. Global experts from Act | East, WHO, USAID and ITI will join remotely.

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 \(vnpt.vn\)](#)

June 2021

TANZANIA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	Exclusion mapping: 7 districts, 2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
MDA	5 districts, August 2021	Round 1: 9 districts, March 2021 Round 2: 28 districts, August 2021	8 districts, March 2021	41 districts, March 2021	4 districts, June-July 2021; 1 district, August 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	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), Postponed to FY22. Ento survey: 3 districts (2 foci), Postponed to FY22. iTAS: 8 districts, August 2021	N/A	N/A	TIS: 6 EUs, April 2021, and September 2021 TSS: 10 EUs, April 2021, and July 2021
MERLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage evaluation survey in 13 districts (4 LF, 4 trachoma, 5 OV) Define NTD indicators for integration into HMIS on the DHIS2 platform 				
HSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and launch the Tanzania NTD Sustainability Plan Review and launch the NTD Master Plan Integrate NTDCP into the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) for health sector planning. Develop targeted NTD advocacy strategy. Develop a sustainable financing strategy for NTDs. Detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records Integration of GESI into MDA TOT and CDD trainings. 				

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

- Exclusion mapping in 7 districts moved to 2022 as a result of COVID-19 delays and competing priorities in the remaining quarter of FY21.
- Updated timing for ongoing trachoma MDA.

Highlights:

- IMA and TZNTDCP completed the community sensitization for trachoma MDA in nomadic and cross-border districts of Kiteto, Simanjiro, Longido, and Ngorongoro.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed the advocacy meetings for 6 districts on trachoma elimination.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed refresher training for trachoma graders and recorders and completed TIS in 3 EUs and TSS in 7 EUs.

- IMA and TZNTDCP, with collaboration of Medical Store Department (MSD), completed delivery of Zithromax to 4 districts (Kiteto DC, Kongwa DC, Chamwino DC and Ngorongoro DC) in advance of trachoma MDA in June 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP provided supportive supervision during training of front-line health workers (FLHWs) and CDDs in advance of the trachoma MDA.
- IMA and TZNTDCP, through working with Tanzania Medical and Devices Authority as well as Procurement Service Agency (GPSA), completed clearance of two consignments of FTS for use in TAS2 and TAS3 surveys in FY21.
- IMA and TZNTDCP continued with preparation for the Trachoma CES. A protocol was submitted to RTI on 11th June and is being revised based on feedback.
- IMA and TZNTDCP started preparations for iTAS, TAS2, and TAS3. The draft protocol was shared with RTI at the end of June 2021, and the surveys are expected to take place by the end of July 2021, pending restart approval.
- HSS Updates for June 2021:
 - R4D’s health financing consultant conducted a workshop to map key actors and decision-making spaces. The consultant is working with NTD partners to collect the financial data.
 - WI-HER, IMA, and NTDCP completed the GESI pilot review and materials finalization. The final output was a Swahili package that includes a slide deck for GESI training, reviewed and translated tools, and documented approaches for GESI integration.
 - The Master Plan review and alignment to HSSP V and NTD 2030 roadmap is ongoing. The consultant completed a desk review of all documents to use for review and alignment (HSSP V, NTD 2030 roadmap) and a rapid evaluation of the previous master plan.
 - RTI and IMA are continuing preparations to coach the NTDCP in preparation for the upcoming Sector Wide Approach (SWAP) meeting (a joint TWG 9 meeting).

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma MDA in 4 districts** (Kiteto DC, Kongwa DC, Chamwino DC and Ngorongoro DC) will take place the first week of July 2021.
- **Trachoma and LF Dossier Meeting**, with virtual and in-person participation, will take place from July 1-4, 2021 at the national level.
- **Master Plan Alignment Workshop** will take place in-person in July, to continue and complete the HSS work supported by Act | East to align to HSSP V and the NTD 2030 roadmap.
- **Trachoma Surveillance Survey in 3 EUs** (Chemba DC, Mpwapwa DC North and Mpwapwa DC North) in July 2021.
- **Community Sensitization in 9 districts** that receive twice-annual Oncho MDA, in 2 Regions (Tanga & Morogoro) in July 2021.
- **Advocacy Meetings in 9 districts** for new district leaders, in 3 Regions (Manyara, Tangam and Morogoro) in July 2021.
- **Coverage Evaluation Survey Trachoma in 4 districts** (Kiteto North, Ngorongoro, Chamwino South, Kongwa North) in July 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

HSS activities planned for July 2021:

- Conduct detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records.

- Customized training on how to process, analyze, account for, and package NTD data.
- Launch Master Plan and Sustainability and GESI Action Plan.
- Advocacy Strategy Implementation: 1 National-level virtual meeting (1st meeting)

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.moh.go.tz/en/covid-19-info>

June 2021

UGANDA

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

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	N/A	9 districts, Nov 2020 and Apr 2021	N/A	N/A	2 districts, Sep 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	PreTAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs TAS2: 5 EUs TAS3: 14 Eus	N/A	N/A	N/A	TIS: 3 EUs, Completed (Jun 2021) TSS: 5 EUs, Completed (Mar and Jun 2021)
MERLA	CES in Moroto (completed Nov 2020) Failed DSA investigation in Amudat (planned for Jul 2021) Feedback meeting in Amudat (planned for Jul 2021)				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee meeting (Jun 2021) Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan (Feb 2021) Development of GESI package for NTD program				

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

- TIS in Nebbi and Buliisa EUs and TSS in Nabilatuk and Nakapiripirit EUs were completed in June 2021. Buliisa failed TIS and will require one round of MDA. Nabilatuk and Nakapiripirit failed TSS and will require one round and three rounds of MDA respectively.

Highlights:

- TIS and TSS were carried out by the trachoma team with technical and financial support from Act | East. TIS was carried out in Nebbi (split into two EUs, East and West) and Buliisa while TSS was carried out in Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk. The three districts of Buliisa, Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk with require additional round(s) of MDA. The trachoma program team reached out to ITI and received approval for medicines to support these additional MDA rounds in September 2021.
- Preparatory meetings have been held with MoH and Amudat officials to prepare for the DSA failure investigation. Key informant interviews and focus group discussions tools have been prepared.
- MoH-NTDCP, with financial and technical support from Act | East, held the inaugural Schisto/STH expert committee meeting on 1-2 June 2021. [Redacted] from Makerere University, School of Public Health was elected as Chair and [redacted] of Act I East and [redacted] of SCIF as co-chairs. Three major next steps were recommended during the meeting; 1- Reviewing and refining the goals, objectives, and indicators for SCH and STH programming; 2-Refining the country map to indicate endemicity rates by district and sub district levels to facilitate targeted planning, and 3- District Health Officers to mobilize technical support to help health facilities collect and analyze data for use by the program.
- An inaugural meeting for the development of the NTD advocacy strategy was held between the consultant hired by Act | East and MoH-NTDCP. The meeting planned the advocacy training for

NTDCP and district staff that will take place on 8-9 July 2021 and orientation of the advocacy subcommittee that will take place on 14-15 July 2021.

- The health financing consultant held a meeting with the MoH-NTDCP to plan for the session on mapping key decision making spaces for NTD programming. The activity will start on 13 July 2021.

TCC

- OV MDA completed in Kasese (123,467 people treated – 99% coverage), Gulu (131,189 – 96%), Omoro (161,384 – 94%), Amuru (218,622 – 96%), Pader (174,079 – 96%), Kitgum (88,867 – 96%), Lamwo (130,643 – 96%), and Nwoya (149,553 – 96%). MDA data compilation is being finalized in Adjumani district.
- In non-Act | East funded M&E activities, a total of 673 crabs were caught in Nyagak Bondo focus and none was found with immature stages of *S. neavei*.

Upcoming activities:

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Amudat TSS results meeting** - the MoH Trachoma team and Act | East will meet with Amudat officials in the 2nd week of July to discuss the TSS results. This will help the district team understand the implications of a failed TSS and what needs to be done in the upcoming MDA especially how to improve treatment coverage by applying local resources to the exercise.
- **DSA failure investigation in Amudat:** A DSA failure investigation will be carried out in Amudat in July 2021 following a resurgence of Trachoma as confirmed by the results of the TSS.
- **STH/SCH activities:** Save the Children will conduct mapping of partners and coordination mechanisms at district and sub-district levels and support the multisectoral NTD activities in selected districts. Findings will be presented to the partners in Kampala and, potentially, to the local government in Karamoja. Multisectoral activities including advocacy meetings and monitoring visits will take place starting in July in Karamoja.
- **Development of an advocacy strategy for NTD programming:** A two-day virtual and in-person workshop facilitated by the advocacy consultant will be held on 8-9 July 2021 for the NTD program team and partners to initiate the development of the NTD advocacy strategy. Act | East will provide financial and logistical support for the meeting which will be held within Kampala. District participants will join virtually due to the current lockdown.
- **Detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records:** Through a consultant hired by R4D, Act | East will provide technical support to MoH to collect detailed financial and programmatic records of major donor-funded NTD programs and identify ways to include this data into the Integrated Financial Management System. Throughout July, where the consultant needs to convene a meeting with specific stakeholders, Act | East will ensure that COVID-19 SOPs are in place.
- **NTD Secretariat meeting:** The quarterly NTD Secretariat meeting provides strategic guidance and oversight for all NTD programs. In July, the Secretariat will meet in-person at the Vector Control Division in Kampala to review program specific progress, discuss the NTD master plan review protocol, and set the agenda for the NTD technical Advisory committee meeting.
- **NTD National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC) meeting:** The deliberations from the NTD secretariat meetings feed into the NTD technical advisory committee meetings, which will meet in July. It will focus on program specific progress including the DSA failures and challenges, and a review of the Master Plan protocol. In line with the current COVID-19 guidelines, determination will be made whether to hold the meeting virtually or in person.
- **Karamoja cross border activities:** The Act | East team in collaboration with MoH will hold a Trachoma cross border and stakeholders' meeting 27-30 July 2021. This will discuss synchronizing MDA activities across the borders of Uganda, South Sudan, and Kenya. The meeting will bring

together civic leaders, cultural leaders, and public officials to discuss performance updates, joint plans and how to leverage the SAFE strategy.

- **Mobilize support for increased deworming coverage through critical non-health sector entry points.** Save the Children will initiate a collaborative mechanism between the MoH and MOES, MGLSD, MWE, and District offices to increase deworming coverage through an intervention layering approach in July – September 2021. Act | East will support coordination and linkages for upcoming Child Health Days (October, in-person/virtual), to include micro-planning meetings with partners and community structures at district level using microplanning tools developed by Act | East (July-September, in-person meetings, in Amudat, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit, Wakiso, Yumbe, Terego).
- **Advocacy Sessions:** MoH-NTDCP and the Advocacy subcommittee with financial support from Act | East, will conduct 10 advocacy sessions in August and September 2021 at national and district levels focusing on the key result areas that will be identified after the development of the Uganda NTDCP Advocacy Strategy. Relevant COVID-19 SOPs will be observed.
- **Trainings on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data** will be conducted in August 2021. These will be three trainings, in Kampala, Moroto, and Buliisa. These one-day trainings will target selected MoH-NTDCP and district local government staff on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data to develop an investment case for the NTD program. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, each session will have a maximum of 20 participants.

Other upcoming activities:

- **Integrated GESI training/behavior change pilot** The Act | East team and the MoH will conduct a 2-day virtual GESI training in July, training 20 staff from Moroto district involved in community health and development activities. Participants will include health inspectors/assistants, members of the DHT and community development officers. The training will be facilitated by WI-HER, MoH, and the District Health Office, Moroto to ensure the content and context of the BCC efforts represent the socio-cultural dynamics of these areas. The training will be held virtually due to COVID-19.
- Finalize data cleaning and analysis of the Coverage Evaluation Survey carried out in Moroto.
- (TCC) Preparation for the upcoming UOEEAC meeting.
- (TCC) Compilation of OV MDA data in Adjumani district.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: covid19.gou.go.ug