

Act to End NTDs | East

FY21 Q4 Monthly Updates

July 1, 2021–September 30, 2021

Cooperative Agreement No. 7200AA18CA00040

Prepared for
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Act to End NTDs | East Program Overview

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

July 2021

ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)

COP: Biruck Kebede

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Dano Gunderson, Elizabeth Plunkett, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 107,191,789 (2021)

Districts (LGAs): 867

Endemic diseases: 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)-August 2021 • Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- July 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)-August 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (51/67 districts)-July-August 2021 	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	<p>110/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (6/6 districts)-April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (80/87 districts)-July 2021-August 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (24/24 districts)- June 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	DQA protocol (RTI)- preparatory activities underway to undertake in August 2021 CES protocol (FHF)- preparatory activities finalized
HSS	NTD sustainability plan- completed with full dissemination underway 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- completed in Gambella and ongoing in Oromia region

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

- FHF conducted trachoma MDA in 37 out of the remaining 44 districts in this reporting period. FHF will complete pending MDAs in August 2021 (including one recently re-enrolled district, Mencho, from Jimma zone) using their own funding. FHF has finalized LF MDA in one woreda in this same reporting period. All treated districts reported having achieved the required therapeutic coverage for both LF and trachoma MDAs.
- LFTW treated 51 OV districts of the planned 67 in this reporting period. MDA will be conducted in the remaining 16 districts in August 2021 since the national shortage of IVM has now been resolved.
- Updated completed HSS activities in the table.

Highlights:

- Oromia regional stakeholders meeting was held at Adama town in July 2021. The meeting focused how to best sustain major achievements in NTDs elimination in the region and how to strengthen inter-sectoral collaborations. RHB key officials and representatives from regional parliament including regional NTDs key stakeholders attended the meeting.
- RTI Supply Chain Mentor coordinated EPSA’s annual inventories, which lasted for 10 days, at the seven main warehouses during the reporting period and facilitated receipt and distribution of IVM to targeted districts of three regions that are supported by LFW, RTI and the TCC.
- Two districts of OV MDA, Hawa Gelan from Kelem Wollega and Guliso from West Wollega, failed to achieve the minimum therapeutic coverage. The long-standing security challenges in the areas made some of the targeted kebeles inaccessible, which resulted in reported low coverage. Low coverage during trachoma MDA was reported in one district, Haro Limu of East Wollega zone, for the same reasons mentioned above. Discussion is underway with the zonal NTD team on how the pending MDAs will resume in those inaccessible kebeles for both OV and trachoma.
- The national IVM shortage is now resolved, and partners are ready to conduct OV MDAs planned for the year.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Review Meetings:** Act I East partners (RTI and FHF) will undertake regional/zonal level post-MDA review meetings in areas where MDAs are finalized in August-September 2021. A national NTD annual review meeting will also be supported in September.
- **Trachoma MDA:** FHF will finalize trachoma MDA in the remaining seven districts including one recently re-enrolled district, Mencho, from Jimma zone with their own funding in August 2021.
- **OV/LF MDA:** RTI and LFTW will undertake/finalize both OV/LF MDAs in BG and Oromia regions in August 2021.

- **Multi-sectoral Workshop:** Act | East in collaboration with MOH will facilitate a Multi-sectoral Collaboration and Coordination Workshop in Addis Ababa in August 2021.
- **Rapid GESI Assessment:** FHF will undertake a rapid GESI assessment in three districts of Oromia region in August 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 will continue doing enhanced supportive supervision to ensure quality of planned MDA in the remaining districts in August 2021.
- Act | East partners will continue to provide the needed technical support to RHBs and districts to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in August-September 2021.
- Act | East will continue to facilitate greater awareness about NTDs and GESI-related factors during MDA through radio messaging in August 2021.
- RTI Supply Chain Mentor has planned to conduct annual inventory analysis and implement re-distribution activities based on the findings from the analysis in August 2021.
- RTI Supply Chain Mentor will finalize the draft terms of reference in preparation for the proposed MDA safety TWG establishment in August 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

July 2021

HAITI

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

COP: Paul Emile Dalexis

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Upendo Mwingira, Taylor Williamson

Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.)

Districts: 140 communes

Endemic diseases: 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 1 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1EU in West TAS3 in community 8 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in North • 2 EUs in Northwest • 3 EUs in Northeast 	N/A

MERLA	The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. To MSPP GESI assessment integration training in Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord (April-July 2021) Pre-MDA census is planned in 9 communes : Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin, Gonaïves, 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)
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Security update: Following the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on July 7, 2021, the security situation remains volatile in some regions of the metropolitan Port-au-Prince area. This includes Croix-des-Bouquets, so all planned activities in the commune are postponed until FY22. In addition, the Martissant area is a security red-zone, and as ground travel to the southern peninsula is funneled through this area, IMA, in consultation with MSPP and RTI, has canceled TAS2 in Fonds-Verettes, Grand Goave/Petit Goave, and TAS3 in two EUs in the Nippes department. These activities will be pushed to FY22.

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

- As noted above, IMA has canceled TAS2 in Fonds-Verettes, Grande Goave/Petit Goave, and TAS3 in Nippes department.
- Due to delays in implementing the GESI assessment and the time required to clean and analyze data, the GESI integration training to integrate assessment results into NTD programming in the two targeted communes, Gonaïves and Acul-du-Nord, is cancelled for FY21. This training will be implemented in FY22.

Highlights:

- IMA and RTI participated in an IDA planning workshop on July 21, 2021. The main objective of the workshop was to discuss the operational issues related to introducing IDA treatment in Haiti.

- IMA launched pre-MDA census activities in Gonaives in July. Training of enumerators and supervisors will be completed on August 3rd. The field activities will kick off on August 5th with 93 field enumerators and 16 supervisors who will be mobilized to complete the field census activities by August 27th.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-MDA census in three (3) communes starting in August.** 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.
 - **Northwest—Port-de-Paix:** 83 surveyors and 14 supervisors will be mobilized to complete the field activities within 18 days.
 - **West—Arcahaie, Cabaret:** 73 surveyors and 13 supervisors will be mobilized to complete the field census activities within 18 days.
- **TAS2 and TAS3:** These are community-based surveys to test 6–7-year-old children for LF using a blood-based rapid antigen test, the FTS. Specific targeted districts include those listed below. (Note that Act | East is in coordinating with the MSPP on security issues and will adapt plans based on security recommendations)
 - **TAS2:** To be conducted in September as a community-based survey in the commune of Kenscoff.
 - **TAS3 :** To be conducted in September as community-based surveys in the communes of Anse a Foleur, Baie de Henne, Bassin Bleu, Bombardopolis, Chansolme, Jean Rabel, Mole St. Nicolas, St. Louis du Nord, Plaisance, Borgne, Port Margot, Capotille, Carice, Ferrier, Fort Liberte, Les Perches, Monbin Crochu, Mont Organise, Ouanaminthe, Vallieres, Bas Limbé, Pilate, Sainte Suzanne, Terrier Rouge, Trou Du Nord.
- **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 and implementation of IDA/DA in FY22.

Other upcoming activities:

- Launch field census activities in the remaining communes: Gonaives, Port-de-Paix, Arcahaie and Cabaret.
- Start with the planning and preparation of the community-based TAS activities including the planning meeting, the finalization of the revised protocol and the procurement of TAS supplies and materials.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [Haiti covid-19 updates](#)

MSPP: [SurveillancedelaCOVID-19,Haiti,2020-2021](#)

July 2021
INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Jim Johnson

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren,
Alex Jones, Sinan Hatik

Total population : 271,052,476

Districts: 514

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)

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: None

Highlights:

- **All activities** planned for July 2021 were postponed due to national COVID restrictions issued by the GOI for the period July 3 to August 2, 2021.
- **Act | East Indonesia Senior M&E Specialist** participated in a panel discussion during a WHO webinar on “A framework for monitoring and evaluating progress on the road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021-2030” on July 21, 2021.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- If COVID-related travel and gathering restrictions are lifted in early August and upon agreement by national and local officials and USAID Indonesia, Pre-TAS surveys may resume in August. The exact schedule will depend on the COVID situation in Pre-TAS locations, but tentative plans are in place for Purwakarta beginning on August 18, and Nagan Raya, Bengkayang, and Sekadau beginning on August 23.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

July 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dr Mawo Fall

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Keerthana Hirudayakanth, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 29,222, 485 (2020)

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: 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 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: None

Highlights:

- Act | East COP presented at the USAID Deep Dive Discussion held on July 12, highlighting: i) some of the major challenges encountered in implementing trachoma related activities (lack of coordination of activities, lack of evidence that all sites are being treated); ii) activities proposed for FY22 (MDA in 08 districts, TIS in 06 SISMA districts at provincial level); iii) and operational research ideas including collaboration with other organizations to reach Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Cabo Delgado.
- Act | East COP met virtually with the USAID mission NTD team representative (Dr Zindonga Peirerra) on July 29 to discuss current FY21 and projected FY22 activities and explore possible programmatic synergies with other USAID Mission projects. The meeting was also an opportunity to discuss the security situation in Cabo Delgado as well as the related issue of refugees/IDPs.
- Act | East continued to work with MISAU and provincial staff to organize the upcoming trachoma MDA in 06 districts (03 in Zambezia province and 03 in Nampula province) via the FAA mechanism.
- Zithromax for trachoma MDA arrived in country on July 19. CMAM (*Central de Medicamentos e Artigos Médicos* (Center for Drugs and Medical Supplies)) paid for the importation fees. This was an important demonstration of government ownership as CMAM’s refusal to pay the importation fees in the past has led to programmatic delays.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma Dossier elimination workshop:** Act | East will organize a workshop in August 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 16-23, 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

July 2021

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dharpal Prasad Raman

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren,
Alex Jones, Sinan Hatik

Total population: 30,201,100

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts:
LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA	12 districts Dec 2020 to Apr 2021 (complete)	12 districts Mar/Apr 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, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sep 2021	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: Q3/Q4 GESI Gap Analysis: Jul-Aug 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 TAS related field-based activities are on hold.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal team coordinated virtual meetings with both EDCD and VBDRTC to discuss current COVID situation and possible FY21 implementation of TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur-rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot).
- VBDRTC submitted proposal for TAS 2 in 10 districts for FY22 implementation (Bhojpur, Udayapur, Dailekh, Accham, Bajura, Bhajhang, Doti, Dadeldhura, Baitadi and Darchula).

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- 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.

- Act | East will support a **GESI assessment in three districts** (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu) through local consultants managed by WI-HER and RTI, field-based activities are planned for August 2021. This activity was originally planned for May but has been delayed 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.mohp.gov.np/>

July 2021

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

COP: Benjamin Nwobi

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.)

Districts (LGAs): 774

Endemic diseases: 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 (#EUs)	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan-Feb 2021 (40/40 completed) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), September 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 table above since last month:

- All TAS 1 will take place in September to align with the start of the school year.

Highlights:

- Act | East supported the FMOH to conduct South-south and South-east zonal review meetings between July 5-10. Recommendations from the zonal review meetings include:
 - FMOH should finalize and disseminate SCH/STH implementation guidelines to relevant stakeholders in line with the new SCH ward-level implementation.
 - The zonal office of the FMOH is responsible to ensure that virtual quarterly review meetings are initiated by the end of September in order to address existing coordination gaps and improve accountability and reporting on donated medicine usage.
 - States, supported by partner(s), should expand treatments to include special centers (IDP camps, correctional facilities, schools of children with special needs, geriatric homes, etc.) during NTDs interventions.
- Act | East participated in an LF addendum meeting in person held in Abuja aimed at developing an addendum on National Guidelines for Lymphatic Filariases Assessment. Recommendations from the meeting include:
 - The FMOH with the support of WHO should develop a protocol for joint LF-STH assessments and submit to the LF Technical Working Group (TWG) and partners by 30th September 2021.
 - The FMOH should hold technical meetings with NTD stakeholders to address the pathway to developing guidance for school-based, community-based, or joint conduct of LF TAS in Nigeria by 15th October 2021.

- Act | East supported an Advocacy and Strategy planning visit to Edo and Ebonyi state to prepare for the upcoming Trachoma Surveillance Surveys with the goal of securing support from the State Coordinators to mobilize the communities ahead of the assessments. The National Trachoma Program Coordinator and the National NTD Coordinator joined the Act | East COP for these advocacy visits.
- Act | East supported supervised SCH and STH treatment in Plateau and Nasarawa states. LF/Oncho MDA supervision is ongoing in Delta and Edo States.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma Surveillance Surveys:** TSS Graders training/field survey in Edo and Ebonyi scheduled for August 1-20, 2021
- **State Level JAP Preparation Training:** JAP training for the 8 State NTD Coordinators and their Data Managers, TCC Data Managers and Directors in Owerri, Imo State in August 2021.
- **LF TAS 1:** LF TAS 1 in 7 LGAs of Anambra, Ebonyi and Imo States scheduled for September 2021.
- **Ward-level Schistosomiasis MDA planning:** FMOH/SMOH meeting in Enugu state scheduled for September 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

July 2021

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Alex Jones

Total population: 124,607,528

Districts/Provinces: 82

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts. LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

Activities supported by Philippines DOH in 2021

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

Activities supported by USAID in FY21

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

- Data systems assessment removed from FY21 HSS activities, due to de-prioritization by the DOH.

Highlights:

- The Philippines hosted the 2nd ASEAN Forum on Lymphatic Filariasis on 14 July 2021. Seven ASEAN Member States and the World Health Organization participated in this virtual event. A draft ASEAN LF workplan for 2022 to 2030, aligned with the 2030 WHO NTD Roadmap was presented. Countries shared progress toward LF elimination targets and adaptations made during the COVID-19 pandemic. Act | East Philippines provided technical support to the national program to develop the country’s presentation.
- The National Filariasis Elimination Program and the DOH Regional Office XII (SOCSKSARGEN) developed and produced IEC materials for the introduction of IVM, DEC and ALB Mass Drug Administration (IDA) with support from Act | East. Flipcharts for barangay health workers who act as community drug distributors were shared this month with municipalities of Kalamansig, Lebak and Palimbang as guided by the Provincial health Office of Sultan Kudarat ahead of IDA planned for November 2021.
- Act | East worked with staff of the Department of Health and the Commission on Higher Education to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework and plan for the integration of NTDs in pre-service curricula for health professionals. This plan will be included in the roll out of the pre-service curricula in the school year 2021-2022.
- Act | East and DOH discussed plans for Act | East support for NTD programming in FY22.

Upcoming activities:

- CHED will finalize the full package of pre-service curricula materials to be implemented in schools, including training materials, monitoring and evaluation framework and a plan for roll out.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

Note: Despite vaccination campaigns underway (8 million people have been fully vaccinated as of early August), metro Manila and other densely populated areas in the Philippines have been placed into an Emergency Community Quarantine with strict travel and daily movement restrictions due to the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant.

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

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

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

July 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

Act | East Partner: RTI (FHF in Vietnam)

Total population: Bangladesh (171,121,13); Lao PDR (7,011,210); Vietnam (94,992,449)

COP:

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PRD (17); Vietnam (63)

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Alex Jones, Sinan Hatik

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64); Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Vietnam 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

Bangladesh

Highlights:

- Bangladesh re-instituted a national lockdown beginning July 1st, with restrictions eased to observe Eid holiday on July 21st. The lockdown remained in place through the end of July. The DIP survey administered by CIPRB continues to be on hold.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- It is anticipated that the national lockdown will be lifted in August. When travel restrictions are lifted CIPRB staff will travel to target districts with low COVID rates to hold district level awareness meetings with district health officials, including officials who oversee health center staff where surveys will take place, and resume DIP surveys.

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](#)

Lao PDR

- Dr. Ramaiah Kapa and Asia Regional Manager Jim Johnson met virtually with Lao PDR WHO Country Office staff Thip Chanthapaseuth to discuss plans to work with DCDC and CPME to finalize data and narrative updates to the draft LF dossier.
 - WHO shared final TAS2 data to be included in the dossier draft and confirmed plans for the TAS3 to take place in October 2021.
 - Dr. Ramaiah shared a DIP implementation manual and encouraged WHO to include health facility assessment visits alongside the TAS3.
 - Act | East LF Focal Point and WHO WPRO LF focal point will discuss post validation plans required to finalize the LF dossier with the MOH. Virtual discussions will continue in September.

Viet Nam

Highlights:

- Act | East and FHF agreed to further delay dossier development meetings to Q2 FY22 due to renewed COVID concerns and in order to better accommodate technical support from global trachoma experts.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

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://BAN_CHI_DAO_QUOC_GIA_PHONG_CHONG_DICH_BENH_COVID_19.vnpt.vn)

July 2021
TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

Total population: 56.1 million (2020)

COP: Edward Kirumbi

Districts: 185

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Wangeci Thuo, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: 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	<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-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: None

Highlights:

- A trachoma and LF dossier meeting was held from July 1-4th, 2021 during which the narrative and data documents were updated.

- IMA and TZNTDCP completed preparation of 43 FAA contracts (33 districts and 10 regions) for August OV and LF MDA. All FAAs have been sent to the LGAs for countersignature.
- Trachoma MDA was completed in four districts (Kiteto DC, Kongwa DC, Chamwino DC and Ngorongoro DC). Currently the districts are collecting all data and reporting.
- TSS began in three EUs on July 22nd with a training for graders and recorders; field work is currently ongoing.
- Community sensitization started on July 27th in 9 districts of the Tanga and Morogoro regions that receive twice-annual OV MDA. This activity will continue through early August.
- Advocacy meetings for new district leaders began on July 27th and will be completed in early August. These meetings are being held in 9 districts of the Tanga, Morogoro, and Ruvuma regions.
- Act | East and the TZNTDCP continued preparations for the trachoma coverage evaluation survey (CES) planned in August, including finalizing the protocol.
- Act | East supported the TZNTDCP to prepare for TAS2 and TAS3 in 10 EUs. The activity is expected to start from August 6th. IMA, RTI and TZNTDCP are currently reviewing the iTAS protocol and discussing plans to hold a training of trainers before conducting iTAS in 8 EUs.

HSS Updates July 2021:

- The NTD advocacy strategy is currently under review by the MOHCDGEC, RTI, and IMA after the first draft was completed in early July 2021.
- Under the health financing activity, data collection is ongoing. This involved conducting a detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records. Financial analysis and data collection tools were sent to partners and councils, and the data will be analyzed and finalized in a workshop to be held in August.
- The TZNTDCP is finalizing the Master Plan for submission to the MOHCDGEC management for endorsement.
- 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).
- The GESI MDA training package is with stakeholders for the final review before submission to the MOH for their review and endorsement.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **CES Trachoma in 4 districts** (Kiteto North, Ngorongoro, Chamwino South, Kongwa North) will take place in August 2021. The coverage evaluation surveys will be conducted outdoors, following the NTDCP SOPs, and IMA staff will ensure that medical masks will be provided to all the surveyors and mandatory during training and survey activities, with supervisors enforcing masking. Twenty participants will attend the training and be divided in four subgroups of 5 people each in training rooms. COVID-19 SOPs will be followed at the training and during the survey.
- **TAS2, TAS3, and iTAS in 18 EUs** will take place in August 2021 (Lindi MC, Nachingwea DC, Ruangwa DC, Kilosa DC, Morogoro DC, Morogoro MC, Mvomero DC, Mkinga DC, Tanga City Council, Mpwapwa DC, Liwale DC, Njombe DC, Njombe TC, Bagamoyo DC, Chalinze DC, Mlele DC, Mpanda DC, Mpanda MC, Mpimbwe DC, Nsimbo DC, Kalambo DC).
- **OV and LF MDA in 33 councils from 10 regions** in August 2021. The COVID-19 SOPs will be strictly followed during community-based MDA. Community MDA will involve CDDs going from house-to-house to distribute drugs to minimize gathering.

- **Semi-virtual Annual Joint Planning Meeting (AJPM)** in August 2021 in Dar es Salaam. Due to COVID 19 the meeting will be conducted semi-virtually: 15 TZNTDCP staff members and 15 national NTD stakeholders will occupy six meeting rooms of 5 people maximum, while other national and international stakeholders will attend the meeting virtually. Six meeting rooms will be used during the AJPM, each room will have all the necessary accessories to support an interconnected virtual meeting.
- **Semi-virtual Technical Working Group Meetings** on Trachoma/LF and OV/SCH and STH in August 2021. Three separate TWG meeting for Trachoma, LF/OV, and SCH/STH will be conducted semi-virtually. Each one-day meeting will be held with total of 25 participants. Fifteen TZNTDCP staff members and 5 national NTD stakeholders will sit in meeting rooms with a maximum of 5 people in Dar es Salaam, while 5 other national and international stakeholders will attend the meeting virtually. Four meeting rooms will be used for each TWG with all the necessary accessories to support the virtual meeting.
- **Semi-virtual SCH/STH Technical Expert Advisory Committee (SSTEAC)** in September 2021. This two-day meeting will be conducted semi virtually in Dar es Salaam. Total of 25 SCH and STH experts will participate the meeting. Twenty participants will attend semi-virtual meeting in 4 meeting rooms with a maximum of 5 people, and others will attend virtually.

Semi-virtual Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committee (TOEAC) in September 2021. This two-day meeting will be conducted semi-virtually in Dar es Salaam. A total of 25 SCH and STH experts will participate in the meeting. Twenty participants will attend this semi-virtual meeting in 4 meeting rooms with maximum of 5 people in each, and others will attend virtually.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

July 2021

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

Total population: 41,740,474 (2019)

COP: Benjamin Binagwa

Districts: 134

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Lisa Brooks, Elizabeth Plunkett, Taylor Williamson, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts: LF (64), TRA (51), OV (32), SCH (92), 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 (Completed July) Feedback meeting in Amudat (Completed July)				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee meeting (Completed June) Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan (Completed Feb 2021) Development of GESI package for NTD program (Completed Feb 2021) GESI training in Moroto (Completed in July)				

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: Updated completed MERLA and HSS activities.

Highlights:

- DSA failure investigation for Amudat district:** The national trachoma program team with financial and technical support from Act | East carried out a DSA failure investigation to find out factors triggering persistent trachoma infection in Amudat district. Key informant interviews and focus group discussions involving leaders, implementers, community members and cattle keepers were carried out. Reasons for not receiving or taking treatment included insufficient drugs, lack of CMDs in some communities, lack of information about MDA among mobile communities, physical access issues for some hard-to-reach communities, belief among women and older youth that MDA is for children, scarcity of water that makes it difficult for people to take medicines, and others. Results of the investigation will guide MDA implementation in September 2021.
- Amudat TSS results meeting:** The trachoma program team with Act | East held a one-day feedback meeting with officials from Amudat district to discuss the failed TSS and determine a way forward on trachoma elimination. Concerns raised during the meeting included the porous border between Amudat and Kenya and consequent cross border movements, massive movements of people and

cattle to neighboring districts in search of water and pasture during the dry season, poor hygiene and sanitation practices among the local population, and inadequate medicines for the population during MDA, among others. In order to address some of these concerns the meeting noted the next steps: stronger cross border collaboration with Kenya, follow up and treat the pastoralist in the neighboring districts, and carry out a population-based survey in these districts, working closely with WASH partners and an aggressive social mobilization strategy.

- **MDA Planning:** The trachoma program team and Act | East have held several preparatory meetings involving district DHOs and FPs, Save the Children, and Wi-HER to better plan for the upcoming MDA. Teams are scheduled to travel to the districts mid-August to begin pre-MDA activities.
- **Karamoja stakeholders and cross border meetings:** Plans are underway to hold both meetings virtually and in-person from the 16th to the 19th of August. Participants will include district leadership, influential leaders in the Karamoja region, MoH, and partners supporting SAFE for the stakeholders meeting, and will include the Kenya trachoma team for the cross border meeting.
- **LF TAS:** Teams are currently carrying out TAS in 15 EUs. These include Tororo, West Budama, Apac, Bukedea, Bundibugyo, Kaberamaido, Kole, Kotido, Kumi, Kwanja, Nakapiripirit, Namutumba, Oyam, Serere, and Soroti.
- **Advocacy orientation/preparatory workshop:** The MOH Vector Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases Division (VB&NTDs) with financial and technical support from Act | East conducted a 2-day workshop to support the NTDCP to develop a locally driven and owned NTD Advocacy Strategy for Uganda. The 2-day advocacy orientation workshop was attended by 30 members (12 physical and 18 virtual) who were selected from the NTDCP, DLGs of Moroto, Buliisa, Amudat and Nebbi. The workshop was facilitated by the Samasha Medical Foundation, an advocacy CSO that was selected to lead the process of development of the Uganda NTD Advocacy strategy. The development of the advocacy strategy is ongoing with Samasha Medical Foundation and led by MOH-NTDCP. The first draft is expected by the end of August.
- **GESI training:** To improve MDA access and uptake in Moroto district, the VB&NTDs Division, with technical and financial support from Act | East, organized a 4-day virtual GESI training in July 2021. The training was facilitated MOH, RTI, and WI-HER staff and the purpose was to increase the awareness of GESI issues among health professionals and community development staff. The goal was for participants to incorporate social and behavioral change activities to promote MDA among targeted populations. The participants represented various roles in health and community development departments, ranging from assistants to senior government officers, and were selected based on their involvement in community health and development activities. These participants were targeted because of their active involvement in community health and development activities.
- **Mapping exercise of key actors and decision-making spaces of NTD program:** Through an in-country health financing consultant hired by R4D, Act | East provided technical support to MoH-NTDCP to start on the mapping exercise of key actors and decision-making spaces of NTD program, budget allocation and overall health financing. In July, a consultative kickoff meeting was attended virtually by 25 participants from NTDCP, Save the Children, and World Vision. The consultants for GESI and Advocacy strategy development also participated in this meeting to identify areas for collaboration in the health financing work. Key actor mapping work will continue through August.

- **STH/SCH activities:** Save the Children commenced on the mapping of partners and coordination mechanisms at district and sub-district levels to 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 in August.

TCC

- Round one of OV MDA has been completed with results coming in from 2 communities from Adjumani district that had not treated.
- With other funding, TCC caught a total of 534 crabs in Budongo focus and none was had the immature stages of *S. neavei*.
- With other funding, TCC continued fly catching this month in 3 sites and a total of 454 *S. damnosum* flies were caught, including 15 from Kisoro district and 439 *S.* from Rubanda district. Kisoro and Rubanda districts are part of the Bwindi focus.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **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 August, 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 August, the Secretariat will meet in-person and virtually at a selected hotel 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 August. 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 August 19-20, 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 August – 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 (August-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.
- **Integrated GESI training/behavior change pilot** The MOH with financial and technical support from Act | East will begin the behavior change activity in Moroto in August, starting with rapid, in-depth client interviews to understand the reasons why they missed or refused to take medicines during the previous MDA. This process will also explore influencing factors at individual and community levels that lead to low uptake of medicines during MDA. This exercise will be used to validate, build on, or update issues revealed through the previous GESI analysis. The District Health team will provide support supervision for this activity as part of their role to ensure the district owns the data that will be generated and use it for local level planning. Based on the learning from this activity, scale up will be initiated in more sub-counties in Moroto and 2 other districts in Karamoja region. Staff that will be involved in the exercise will be oriented on COVID-19 SOPs for field work and monitored to ensure they adhere to the guidelines.

Other upcoming activities:

- 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

AUGUST 2021

=ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)

Total population: 107,191,789 (2021)

COP: Biruck Kebede

Districts (LGAs): 867

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Dano Gunderson, Elizabeth Plunkett, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Endemic diseases: 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 (September 2021) • BG (0/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)- September 2021 • Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- July 2021	0/81 districts + 0/5 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021) • BG (0/14 districts) + BG (0/5 camps)- September 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (59/67 districts)- July- September 2021	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	116/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021) • Gambella (6/6 districts)-April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (86/87 districts)- July 2021-August 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (24/24 districts)- June 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 0/3 camps • BG (0/2 districts) • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts) TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts) TAS2: 0/4 districts • BG (0/4 districts)				TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps • BG (0/2 districts) • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps) • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; 0/45 districts; 0/35 districts) • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts) TSS: 0/59 districts • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps) • Gambella (0/4 districts) • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts)
MERLA	Sub-district level MDA and SCT data (partners)- follow up is underway by all partners as part of the FAA deliverables. CES protocol (FHF)- preparatory activities finalized, and the planned field work is still on-hold due to DSA payment related challenges. Gambella Region-DQA protocol (RTI) - preparatory activities are underway to finalize the training and the field work in September 2021.				

HSS	<p>NTD sustainability plan document-finalized and disseminated using the recent National NTDs Annual Review Meeting.</p> <p>National multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination workshop-postponed to FY22 (Q1) following the reshuffling of the cabinet.</p> <p>National workshop to incorporate NTD sustainability Action Plan into Master Plan (Q4)-virtual meeting was held with consultants and agreed to sort out and incorporate key activities from the sustainability plan document in to the third NTDs national master plans</p> <p>Inclusion of NTDs in regional/zonal/woreda integrated plans (Q4)-planned to undertake jointly with an integrated supportive supervision to be held with MoH</p> <p>Rapid GESI Assessment (RTI)-completed in Gambella and data analysis is underway.</p> <p>Rapid GESI Assessment (Oromia)-preparatory activities are underway to initiate the assessment in three districts of Oromia region.</p>
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- FHF has conducted trachoma MDA in six out of the seven remaining districts for the year in this reporting period. Due to insecurity, MDA was delayed in one district, Bule Hora. Efforts are underway to finalize the MDA in September 2021.
- LFTW completed OV MDA in eight districts out of the remaining 16 districts for the reporting period. MDA in the remaining 8 districts (of Horoguduru zone) will be conducted in September 2021 if security situation allows.
- Status updates on all activities in MERLA and HSS rows, including updates on activity timing and delays into FY22.

Highlights:

- A four-day National NTD program annual review meeting was held at Arba Minch town of SNNPR. A one-day field visit of WASH interventions at Geshiyaro project was held by invited participants during the first day. The remaining three days were dedicated to the review of NTDs program performance following presentations by the MOH, RHBs, and in-country NTD implementing partners. The Act | East COP, HSS technical advisor and the SCM TA attended the meeting.
- RTI supported a two-day regional level OV/LF MDA ToT training in BG region. Regional, zonal and woreda level focal points took part in this training. The Act | East SCM TA also supported the distribution of Ivermectin from the national level to 220 woredas.
- The Act | East SCM TA participated in the annual inventory analysis held in Adama. He has also supported the development of draft terms of reference for the proposed MDA safety TWG to be established in September 2021.
- During trachoma MDA, low coverage was reported in two districts of FHF-Oromia supported areas, Nenesbo and Adaba woredas, and teams were able to address this in real-time during the MDA. Higher community resistance in these woredas resulted in underperformance during the first days of the campaign. To address this, political leaders were engaged and MDA dates were extended resulting in these districts achieving sufficient coverage.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Post-MDA Review Meetings:** Act I East partners (RTI and FHF) will undertake regional and zonal level post-MDA review meetings in areas where MDAs was completed in August. Meetings are planned for September 2021.
- **Trachoma MDA:** FHF will finalize trachoma MDA in the remaining one district including the one recently re-enrolled district, Mencho, from Jimma zone with non-Act | East funds in September 2021.
- **OV/LF MDA:** RTI and LFTW will complete remaining OV/LF MDAs in BG and Oromia regions in September 2021.

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East partners will continue to provide the needed technical support to RHBs and districts to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in September 2021.
- Act I East partners will continue to provide the technical support and follow up with the collection and compilation of sub-district level MDA data as part of the FY21 FAA deliverables in September 2021.
- Act | East SCM TA will follow up with the inclusion of MDA safety action points to the national 3rd NTD Master Plan and the approval process of the MDA safety TWG establishment TOR in September 2021.
- Act | East SCM TA will undertake supportive supervision on reverse logistics in September 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

HAITI

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

COP: Paul Emile Dalexis

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Upendo Mwingira, Taylor Williamson

Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.)

Districts: 140 communes

Endemic diseases: 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 1/3 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 EU in West TAS3 in community 6/10 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in North • 1 EUs in Northwest • 2 EUs in Northeast 	N/A
MERLA	The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. To MSPP GESI assessment integration training in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (April-July 2021) Pre-MDA census is planned in 7/9 communes : Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin, Gonaives, Port-de-Paix. (June-September 2021) Cancelled: 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)	

General update: On 14 August, a deadly, shallow earthquake rocked southwestern Haiti. According to the latest data from state government officials (Direction Protection Civile); 2,248 people died, 12,763 wounded and 329 remained missing. According to the World Bank, the economic damage and losses are estimated at \$1.5 billion. Furthermore, the security situation remains volatile in some regions of the metropolitan Port-au-Prince area and the Martissant area is a security red-zone. Fortunately, the northern part of the country where Act | East activities are being implemented has not been affected.

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

- As IMA must complete all FY21 activities by the end of September, and given the security, weather, and COVID-related delays faced over the course of FY21, IMA has revised its final implementation timelines. IMA has, with RTI’s agreement, prioritized pre-MDA census supervision in Port-de-Paix and Gonaives, and as a result will be unable the following activities before September 30, 2021:
 - **TAS**
 - 1 EU in Northwest (Anse-à-Foleur, Baie-de-Henne, Bassin-Bleu, Bombardopolis, Saint-Louis-du-Nord, Jean-Rabel, Môle-Saint-Nicolas)
 - 1 EU in Northeast (Capotille, Vallières, Carice, Ferrier, Fort-Liberté, Perches, Mombin-Crochu, Mont-Organisé).
 - **Pre-MDA census** in Cabaret and Arcahaie.
 - **Micro-planning** meetings in 6 communes.

- Pre-MDA census in communes in the North and Artibonite Departments took longer than expected due to weather conditions and 5 additional days were required to complete the field activities.

Highlights:

- IMA and RTI participated in a second IDA planning workshop on August 12, 2021. The main objective of the workshop was to present and discuss the working group results, including pharmacovigilance/adverse event monitoring and dosing and distribution strategies.
- The pre-MDA census is ongoing in Gonaives and Port-de-Paix communes, with a completion date set for September 9th. Five additional days were allotted for the census in Gonaives due to heavy rains which made travel difficult.
- RTI has hired a COP, Mr. Uder Antoine, who will begin working for Act | East on September 1, 2021. Mr. Antoine is the current COP of the USAID-funded GERE project and he has many years of experience supporting health and governance projects in Haiti.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TAS2 and TAS3:** From September 9-28, 2021, IMA will complete community-based surveys with FTS in 6–7-year-old children. (Act | East is in coordinating with the MSPP on security issues and will adapt plans based on security recommendations)
 - **TAS2:** 1 EU, Kenscoff commune
 - **TAS3:** 6 EUs the communes of (1) Chansolme, (2) Borgne; (3) Port-Margot, Bas-Limbé, Pilate, (4) Plaisance; (5) Ouanaminthe; and (6) Sainte-Suzanne, Terrier-Rouge, Trou-du-Nord
- **Pre-MDA Census:** In FY22 Q1, RTI will continue the pre-MDA census work begun by IMA in FY21. RTI will initiate and conduct a pre-MDA census in Archaie and Cabaret. 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.

Other upcoming activities:

- RTI will support a National LF Pause and Reflect Meeting currently planned for November 2021. This will be a virtual meeting led by the National LF Program with support from Act | East, and include staff from USAID, RTI, WHO Global Program for the Elimination of LF, PAHO, CDC, and The Carter Center.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [Haiti covid-19 updates](#)

MSPP: [SurveillancedelaCOVID-19,Haiti, 2020-2021](#)

AUGUST 2021

INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Jim Johnson

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Alex Jones, Sinan Hatik

Total population : 271,052,476

Districts: 514

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 (22 completed)

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 Nagan Raya, Aceh from August 21 to 28; in Sekadau, West Kalimantan from August 22 to 28; in Purwakarta, West Java from August 23 to 28; and in Bengkayang, West Kalimantan from August 25 to 29, 2021. These surveys were all community-based, targeting children and adults 5-60 years old. Results are pending laboratory analysis of the night blood samples by the relevant Regional Environmental Laboratory.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-TAS** are tentatively planned to be organized in collaboration with the MOH during the month of September, 2021 in the districts of Sintang, West Kalimantan; Flores Timur, NTT; Kutai Barat, East Kalimantan and Bulungan, North Kalimantan.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dr Mawo Fall

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Keerthana Hirudayakanth, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 29,222, 485 (2020)

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: LF (113), OV (5), SCH (159), STH (151), Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	Trachoma
MDA	6 districts completed in 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 to update all NTD data in the integrated database from 2017 to present. Tool completion and updates are presented during technical meetings. Coverage evaluation survey (CES) preparations are underway.

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

- Trachoma MDA completed.
- CES preparations started for one district.

Highlights:

- Act | East provided financial and technical support for trachoma MDA in 6 districts (3 districts in Nampula province and 3 districts in Zambezia province). Preliminary results indicate that all districts reached 80% programmatic coverage.
- MISAU national, provincial, and Act | East supervisors are ensuring that all remaining medicines are collected from the distribution points and returned to the provincial warehouse.
- Preparation for the Chinde CES, including protocol development, timeline, and cluster selection have been finalized. Act | East staff in collaboration with the central MISAU staff held virtual meetings with the provincial and district health management team to discuss the training agenda, segmentation, and household numeration in the communities.
- RTI is working with the MISAU NTD coordinator and the head of the ophthalmology department to prepare for the implementation and evaluation of a smartphone-based screening tool to identify trachomatous trichiasis. Through other RTI funding, this tool will be tested in two districts.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **LF Dossier meeting:** Act | East will organize a meeting with MISAU and other LF stakeholders in Maputo to review data and establish a task force for dossier preparation. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for the week of September 13, 2021.

- **Trachoma Dossier workshop:** Act | East will organize a workshop in September (22-24) 2021 in Maputo province with MISAU and other trachoma stakeholders to jointly review progress, update dossier drafts, harmonize information, and address any challenges.
- **Coverage Evaluation Survey:** Act | East will support training for data collectors and supervision for the Chinde district (Zambezia province) survey, September 09-26, 2021.
- **TT smartphone tool testing:** RTI will support the testing of the tool in two districts (Chemba district, Sofala province and Guro district, Manica province) in October 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dharmal Prasad Raman

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Alex Jones

Total population: 30,201,100

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts: LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA	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, Aug/Sept 2021 TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sept 2021	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: September (and into FY22) GESI Gap Analysis: July- September 2021		

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

- Updated timing of HSS activities, both ongoing.

Highlights:

- GESI consultants managed by WI-HER and RTI completed field work for a GESI assessment in three districts (Banke, Dang and Kapilvastu). Act | East Nepal staff provided technical and logistical support in planning the assessment and provided supervision and monitoring support in all three districts. Analysis of the data collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews will be collated and disseminated in September.
- Act | East Nepal team coordinated virtual meetings with VBDRTC to discuss COVID status and implementation of TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur-rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot) and the possibility of implementing other remaining FY21 activities.
- VBDRTC submitted proposal for TAS 1 in 2 districts (Dhankuta and Bardiya).

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will support **school- based TAS 2 in six districts** (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot) through VBDRTC. This activity was delayed from April-May 2021 due to a rise in COVID cases in the districts.
- **TAS 3 failure investigation in 5 districts** (Sindhuli, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahai, Rautahat) jointly with EDCC and WHO Nepal in September 2021.

- **NTD Steering Committee meeting** is planned for September 2021. The agenda for this meeting will include reaching agreement to institute disease-specific technical working groups. These TWGs may formally meet for the first time later in the year.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

COP: Benjamin Nwobi

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.)

Districts (LGAs): 774

Endemic diseases: 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 (#EUs)	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan-Feb 2021 (40/40 completed) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 2), September 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5/5 complete August 2021

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

- Trachoma surveys completed.

Highlights:

- Act | East supported the FMOH National Trachoma Program to conduct training of graders and recorders in Sokoto State between August 1-7, 2021 in preparation for Trachoma Surveillance Surveys (TSS). The surveys were conducted in Edo and Ebonyi States between August 12 - September 1, 2021.
- Act | East participated in a 2-day meeting organized by the FMOH to develop the 2021 -2025 NTD Master Plan. During the meeting, participants set a timeline for Master Plan development, composed a Terms of Reference, and formed sub-groups to support development of the plan. The monitoring and evaluation sub-group is tasked with the review of the performance of the previous 2015-2020 Master plan.
- Act | East supported the FMOH National LF Program Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting between August 23 -24, 2021. TWG meetings have lapsed over the past several years, with the most recent previous meeting occurring in 2016. One notable recommendation from this meeting: the National LF Program, in accordance with the National LF Assessment Guideline, should proceed with pre-TAS in LGAs that have treated for over 10 years without attaining five effective treatment rounds.
- Act | East supported the National LF program to begin development of the LF dossier. The landmark meeting held between August 25-28 and was led by the National Coordinator, Dr. Nse Akpan. During the meeting, the Act | East COP presented the LF job aid to the National Coordinator, who

remarked that the presentation provided helpful guidance. Act | East anticipates a draft of the LF dossier to be available in September 2021.

- Act | East supported the FMOH team to conduct a ward-level schistosomiasis MDA training between August 4-7. LF/Oncho treatment was completed in 8 LGAs in Enugu State.
- Act | East supported the training of state integrated health team leaders and their data managers on the completion of the Joint Application Package (JAP) in Owerri from August 4-7, 2021.
- Act | East supported the National LF Program to conduct a master training in pre-TAS and TAS for South-East zone states during August 30-September 3, 2021. The limited number of qualified surveyors is often a limiting factor in conducting surveys throughout the country. With this training, 45 trained personnel are now available to be deployed within the South-East zone to conduct LF surveys.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Sensitization meetings** with community leaders in Enugu, Plateau and Nasarawa States to prepare for upcoming activities in September 2021.
- **LF TAS 1:** LF TAS 1 in 2 LGAs in Cross River, in 6 LGAs of Imo, and 1 LGA in Ebonyi States scheduled for September 2021.
- **Data Review:** 2021 state-level data reconciliation and harmonization for 8 TCC-supported states scheduled for September 2021.
- **National Steering Committee:** NTD Secretariat to conduct a three-day meeting in Abuja, tentatively planned for September 26 -29, 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Sinan Hatik

Total population: 124,607,528

Districts/Provinces: 82

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts. LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

Activities supported by Philippines DOH in 2021

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

Activities supported by USAID in FY21

HSS	Financing assessment
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: None

Highlights:

- Act | East reviewed the M&E framework developed by the Department of Health and the Commission on Higher Education to support the integration of NTDs in the pre-service curriculum for medical, nursing, medical technologist, physical therapist and midwifery students. The full package of pre-service curricula materials including the monitoring and evaluation plans developed with support from Act | East will be finalized and rolled out in the school year 2021 – 2022.
- Act | East financing partner R4D is coordinating with the DOH to determine provinces and municipalities for targeted technical support. This work will build on recommendations from the financing case study.
- Act | East and DOH discussed plans for Act | East support for NTD programming in FY22.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East, with CHED and DOH input, will develop a detailed M&E plan for the NTD pre-service curriculum.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

The Philippines is experiencing a COVID-19 case surge. Daily reported cases reached the highest levels since the beginning of the pandemic and persisted through August. Travel and lockdown restrictions were in place through the end of August and community/village level lockdowns and contact tracing will continue into September.

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

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

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

AUGUST 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

Act | East Partner:

TA in Bangladesh, Lao PDR

FHF in Viet Nam

Total population: Bangladesh (171,121,13);
Lao PDR (7,011,210); Vietnam (94,992,449)

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PRD (17);
Vietnam (63)

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren,
Alex Jones, Sinan Hatik

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64);
Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Vietnam 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 (TAS3 supported by WHO)	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

Bangladesh

Highlights:

- Bangladesh lifted its national lockdown on August 11th as COVID rates decreased across the country. CIPRB re-started the DIP survey in districts with lower LF endemicity. Data collection in these health facilities should conclude in mid-September and CIPRB and Act | East will develop a timeline and plan for advocacy meetings with district and local officials, followed by surveys in the high LF endemic districts.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- DIP survey in all remaining districts in September-October 2021.

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](#)

Lao PDR

Highlights:

- WHO CO in Lao shared the current malaria surveillance strategy as a possible platform for integration of LF PVS activities.
- Act | East Regional Manager Jim Johnson will meet virtually with WHO CO, WHO WPRO, Act | East consultant Dr. Ramaiah Kapa in early September to further discuss PVS opportunities to be included in the LF draft dossier.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols: None scheduled

Viet Nam

Highlights:

- COVID rates increased in Viet Nam in August. In-person meetings and activities requiring travel are on hold at this time.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols: None scheduled

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://BAN_CHI_DAO_QUOC_GIA_PHONG_CHONG_DICH_BENH_COVID_19.vnpt.vn)

AUGUST 2021

TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

Total population: 56.1 million (2020)

COP: Edward Kirumbi

Districts: 185

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Wangeci Thuo, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: 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	<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-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, Postponed to FY22.	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:**

- In eight districts, iTAS has been postponed to FY22 due to the timing of primary school closures from September 3-20, 2021. The iTAS will be implemented in FY22 Q1 by RTI.

Highlights:

In the month of August 2021, IMA and the TZNTDCP implemented the following activities:

- TSS was completed in three EUs in July 2021. The team is currently finalizing the data analysis and writing the report.
- The trachoma CES was conducted in the four districts of Kongwa DC North, Chamwino DC South, Ngorongoro DC and Kiteto DC North. Field data collection was completed on August 26, 2021. Data analysis and report writing are ongoing.
- IMA and TZNTDCP conducted follow-up on the summary data forms for four district councils that completed Zithromax MDA in July. Two district councils shared summary data forms (reported coverage above 80%), while the remaining summary data forms are expected to be shared by September 15, 2021.
- TAS2 was completed in five out of seven EUs and TAS3 in three EUs. The team is currently finalizing TAS2 in the remaining two EUs. Data analysis and report writing are ongoing.
- IVM was delivered from the Dar es Salaam region to districts that are conducting Oncho and LF MDA. IMA retained IVM with a longer shelf life at the district level for use in future MDA.
- IVM or IVM+ ALB MDA was implemented in 33 district councils. Actual MDA is ongoing in 26 district councils. The remaining seven district councils are finalizing pre-MDA activities and MDA by September 1, 2021.
- Act | East supported the TZNTDCP to organize virtual Technical Working Groups for SCH+STH, OV, LF and TRA on August 18-24th, 2021. IMA and TZNTDCP also facilitated the virtual 2021 Annual Joint Planning Meeting (AJPM) from August 25-27th.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed responses to queries raised from the first Joint Application Package (JAP) and re-submitted the updated JAP to WHO.

HSS Updates

- The MOHCDGEC, RTI and IMA are leading an ongoing review of the NTD advocacy strategy draft that was completed in early July. The draft is currently with the consultant who is incorporating the feedback.
- Act | East is preparing for the NTD advocacy strategy review meeting which will be held September 13-15, 2021.
- Data collection and analysis for the Health Financing activity is ongoing. The consultant is working to conduct a detailed analysis of financial and programmatic records. The financial analysis data collection tools were sent to partners and councils. The data will be finalized in a workshop to be held September 20-22, 2021.
- IMA and TZNTDCP are preparing for the customized training on how to process, analyze, account for, and package NTD financial data. This training will be held from September 24-25, 2021.
- TZNTDCP are finalizing the Master Plan for submission to the MOHCDGEC management for endorsement.
- Act | East finalized the presentation for the Integration of NTD into Sector Wide Approach Platform (SWAP) activity.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Conduct **SCH/STH technical expert committee and OV expert advisory committee meetings** from September 1-3, 2021. These meetings will be one and two days, respectively, and conducted semi-virtually in Dar es Salaam. For both meetings, a total of 25 experts will participate the meeting. Twenty participants will attend in-person in 4 meeting rooms with a maximum of 5 people, and others will attend virtually.
- **TAS2 and TAS3 in remaining 3 EUs** will take place in August 2021, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol.
- **NTD advocacy strategy review meeting** on September 13-15, 2021. The meeting is planned for 10 participants. To align with the current COVID-19 prevention guidelines, participants will be divided into groups with maximum of 5 people per room, connected virtually.
- **iTAS in 7 EUs** will take place in October-November 2021 (Mpwapwa DC, Liwale DC, Nachingwea DC, Njombe TC, Bagamoyo/Chalinze DC, Mpanda DC, Ruangwa DC).
- **LF CES in 4 districts** will take place in FY22 Q1 (Mtama DC, Kilwa DC, Mtwara-Mikindani MC, Mafia DC). This activity was originally planned for FY21, but could not be completed due to timing constraints, RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these surveys, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol.
- **Trachoma DSA investigations** in 5 districts (Kiteto DC South EU, Longido DC, Simanjiro DC, and Monduli DC, and Mpwapwa DC North EU). This activity will include a desk review of data for all five districts and travel to Mpwapwa DC and Monduli DC to conduct key informant interviews. RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these in FY22 Q1, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol.

Other upcoming activities:

- Finalize data analysis and report for trachoma CES and compile the draft survey report.
- Finalize implementation of IVM/ + ALB in all 33 councils and follow up on summary data forms for Zithromax MDA for two district councils and IVM/ + ALB MDA in 33 district councils.
- Prepare reports for the TWG, AJPM, expert meetings, trachoma CES, TAS2 and TAS3.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

AUGUST 2021

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

Total population: 41,740,474 (2019)

COP: Benjamin Binagwa

Districts: 134

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Lisa Brooks, Elizabeth Plunkett, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts:
LF (64), TRA (51), OV (32), SCH (92), 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	5 districts, Sept 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	PreTAS: 0 TAS1: 7 EUs, completed (Jan, Mar 2021) TAS2: 3/5 EUs completed (Jan, March 2021) TAS3: 18/24 completed (Aug-Sep 2021, 6 ongoing)	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 (Completed July) Feedback meeting in Amudat (Completed July)				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee meeting (Completed June) Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan (Completed Feb 2021) Development of GESI package for NTD program (Completed Feb 2021) GESI training in Moroto (Completed in July) Selection and orientation of advocacy subcommittee (Completed in August)				

Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: Updated completed HSS activities.

Highlights:

- Karamoja stakeholders’ meeting:** This meeting, held on August 17-18th in Mbale, convened district representatives and other stakeholders from all districts in the Karamoja region. It was a hybrid meeting involving virtual and in person participation. The objectives of the meeting were: 1) to review progress of the trachoma elimination program in the country with specific reference to the Karamoja region; 2) review and discuss trachoma data and information from DSA failure investigations for areas of persistent transmission in the Karamoja region; 3) discuss the role of the different stakeholders in the trachoma elimination effort; 4) orient the stakeholders on advocacy and the importance of advocacy in ensuring sustainability of NTD program activities; and 5) come up with actionable strategies for trachoma elimination in the Karamoja region. At the end of the

meeting, participants agreed on a matrix detailing the different actors involved in trachoma, bottlenecks to elimination, proposed solutions, and the role of each actor in implementing those solutions. A declaration was prepared and signed by some of the leaders present. In this declaration, the leaders committed themselves to the elimination of trachoma in their districts and region by applying their efforts and district resources to this cause.

- **Uganda/Kenya trachoma cross border meeting:** A team of 7 officers from the Kenya government – including the national trachoma focal person and 6 program officers from the bordering Pokot and Turkana sub counties– attended the cross-border meeting held on August 19-20th in Mbale. Also in attendance was the Senior Trachoma Advisor from The Fred Hollows Foundation that supports treatment of trachoma in Kenya, and, from the Uganda side, participants from Amudat and Moroto districts, MOH officials, and RTI Act | East. ITI’s Senior Program Associate attended the meeting virtually. The main outcome was agreement to implement a synchronized MDA to ensure mobile populations are treated on either side of the border. Both teams agreed to start MDA on the 23rd of September to give time to the Kenya team to receive their medicine. A joint micro-plan was drawn that detailed key activities to be carried out jointly prior to, during and after MDA.
- **Cross border MDA planning:** Planning for a synchronized MDA with Kenya targeting the Pokot and Turkana on both the Kenyan and Ugandan sides has been completed. MDA has been scheduled in districts that attract internal movements between endemic and non-endemic districts, especially Kween and Bulamburi where herdsmen move to in search of pasture for their animals. Teams travelled to the districts on the 30th of August to start pre-MDA activities. MDA on both sides of the border will begin on the 23rd of September in all communities on the Uganda and Kenya sides.
- **LF TAS:** TAS was completed in 15 EUs, including: Tororo, West Budama, Apac, Bukedea, Bundibugyo, Kaberamaido, Kole, Kotido, Kumi, Kwania, Nakapiripirit, Namutumba, Oyam, Serere, and Soroti.
- **Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES):** Act | East completed data analysis for the CES out in Moroto and is currently drafting the survey report.
- **Uganda Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committee (UOEEAC) Meeting:** Act | East, through The Carter Center, supported the MOH to organize the 14th session of the UOEEAC virtual meeting. The outcome of the meeting was change of status for the two foci, Nyamugasani & Wadelai, from transmission interruption to elimination in line with the WHO elimination criterion.
- **Advocacy subcommittee orientation meeting:** The MOH Vector Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases Division, with financial and technical support from Act | East, conducted a half-day meeting to orient the advocacy subcommittee and the NTD champions on their scope of work and terms of reference. During this meeting, members were selected to fill the position of chairperson, deputy and secretary for the subcommittee. This group will provide ongoing technical and programmatic support to the consultancy team to develop a NTD Advocacy Strategy that reflects local needs and sustainability considerations for the Uganda NTD program. The strategy is expected to be completed before the end of September 2021.
- **GESI behavior change Pilot:** Following a 4-day virtual GESI training in July 2021 in Moroto district, the GESI behavior change pilot was commenced in Nadunget and St. Pius sub-counties. The purpose of this pilot is to engage communities in these sub-counties and discuss gender issues that negatively impact medicine uptake during MDA. Behavior change root agents and influencers were selected by their respective communities in a participatory exercise led by the district health team

and Act| East. They then used MDA registers to identify those who did not take medicine during the last MDA to inform the behavior change pilot participants. Root cause analyses were conducted in the two sub counties and solutions designed which are now being implemented and tested by the behavior change root agents under the direct supervision of the District Health Team, MOH and Act| East. Based on the learning from this activity, scale-up will be initiated in more sub-counties in Moroto and two other districts of Nabilatuk and Amudat in FY22.

- **Mapping exercise of key actors and decision-making spaces of NTD program:** With support of an in-country health financing consultant hired by R4D, data on mapping key actors and decision-making spaces is still being collected. The data from this exercise will be used to inform the development of the Uganda NTD program Advocacy Strategy and the subsequent advocacy sessions at national and district level. Presentation of the report to the NTD Secretariat and the Advocacy subcommittee is expected in September 2021. The consultant will then conduct a detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records of major donor funded NTD programs and identify ways to include this data into the Integrated Financial Management System. The consultant will reach out to different stakeholders to gather this information that will inform MOH-NTDCP future planning and budgeting and be used for advocating for domestic NTD program financing. This exercise will include travel to Moroto and Buliisa districts to collect sub-national level data on NTD financing.
- **STH/SCH activities:** Save the Children supported mapping of partners and coordination mechanisms at district and sub-district levels to identify areas for multisectoral collaboration in selected districts.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Trachoma MDA** in the districts of Amudat, Moroto, Nabilatuk, Nakapiripirit and Buliisa. Pre-MDA activities will be carried out in September, with an MDA start date of September 23rd to synchronize MDA in bordering districts in Kenyan. MDA supervision and mop-up (if needed), reverse logistics, and data collection and reporting will take place in October (FY22).
- **Oncho MDA:** The plan for delivering second round OV MDA drugs to the 12 districts is underway with support from The Carter Center in conjunction with MOH and NMS. Mobilization plans for October (FY22) MDA are also underway.
- **LF TAS:** Act | East will conduct TAS2 in Tororo and West Budama, and TAS 3 in Moyo/Obongi, Adjumani, Kole, Oyam, Apac and Kwania EUs in September.
- **Mobilize support for increased deworming coverage through critical non-health sector entry points.** Save the Children will initiate a collaboration between the MOH and MOES, MGLSD, MWE, and District offices to increase deworming coverage through an intervention layering approach in August – 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 (August-September, in-person meetings, in Amudat, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit, Wakiso, Yumbe, Terego).
- **Training on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD financial data** will be conducted in September 2021. This will be a one-day, in-person training with participants drawn from MOH, Kampala, Moroto, and Buliisa. The training will target selected MOH-NTDCP and district local government staff to enable them to process, analyze, and package NTD financial data for the

development of an investment case for the NTD program but also keep tracking NTD program funding. Due to national COVID-19 restrictions, the training will have a maximum of 20 participants and COVID-19 SOPs will be followed.

- **Trachoma quarterly review meeting:** This is a two-day meeting attended by no more than 20 participants from MOH, districts, and partner organizations. The purpose of the meeting is to review the SAFE implementation status and to update the trachoma dossier. Act | East will ensure that MoH guidance on attendance of meetings is adhered to with respect to COVID protocols.

Other upcoming activities:

- Review and update of the Country NTD Master plan working closely with WHO and other partners.
- One on one meeting with USAID Uganda to provide updates on project performance and plans for FY22, scheduled for September 7th.
- Prepare and submit the per diem waiver to USAID Uganda for FY22 activities.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: covid19.gou.go.ug

SEPTEMBER 2021

ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW)

Total population: 107,191,789 (2021)

COP: Biruck Kebede

Districts (LGAs): 867

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Dano Gunderson, Elizabeth Plunkett, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Endemic diseases: 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>4/5 districts + 0/2 refugee camps (September 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (3/3 districts) + BG (0/2 camps)- September 2021 • Oromia-FHF (1/1 district)- July 2021 	<p>73/81 districts + 3/5 refugee camps (Jun-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (10/14 districts) + BG (3/5 camps)- September 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (63/67 districts)- July-September 2021 	0/0 districts	0/2 April/May 2021	<p>118/117 districts (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambella (6/6 districts)-April 2021 • Oromia-FHF- (88/87 districts)- July 2021-September 2021 • Oromia-LFTW (24/24 districts)- June 2021
DSAs (#EUs)	<p>Pre-TAS: (0/7 districts) + 2/2 camps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (2/2 refugee camps) • Oromia-LFTW (0/5 districts) <p>TAS1: 0/16 districts + 0/3 camps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/5 districts) + 0/3 camps • Oromia-LFTW (0/11 districts) <p>TAS2: 2/4 districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (2/4 districts) 				<p>TIS: 0/122 districts + 0/7 refugee camps (Oct 2020-Sep 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/2 districts) • Gambella (0/3 districts) + (0/7 camps) • Oromia-FHF (0/80 districts; 0/45 districts; 0/35 districts) • Oromia- LFTW (0/29 districts) <p>TSS: 0/59 districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG (0/9 districts) + (0/2 camps) • Gambella (0/4 districts) • Oromia-FHF (0/28 districts) March 2021, LFTW (0/31 districts)
MERLA	<p>Sub-district level MDA and SCT data (Partners)-follow up is underway by all partners as part of the FAA deliverables.</p> <p>CES (FHF)- pending due to DSA payment related challenges.</p> <p>Gambella Region-DQA (RTI) – finalized in 2 districts of Gambella region and data cleaning and report writing are underway.</p>				

HSS	<p>NTD sustainability plan document- finalized and disseminated and to be endorsed by MOH.</p> <p>National multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination workshop- cancelled.</p> <p>National workshop to incorporate NTD sustainability Action Plan into Master Plan- Key activities from the sustainability plan are incorporated into the 3rd national master plan as part of the master plan development meetings.</p> <p>Inclusion of NTDs in regional/zonal/woreda integrated plans still waiting for appropriate platforms to undertake this activity.</p> <p>Rapid GESI Assessment (Gambella)-completed; data analysis is being conducted.</p> <p>Rapid GESI Assessment (Oromia)-completed in three districts; data analysis is being conducted.</p>
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- RTI completed LF MDA in 3 districts, OV MDA in 10 districts and 3 refugee camps. Kamashi zone MDAs (LF: 2 camps; OV: 4 districts, 2 camps) were not conducted due to ongoing insecurity.
- LFTW completed OV MDA in 4 districts. There is a hope to finalize the remaining MDA in 4 districts of Horoguduru zone in October 2021 if the security situation is resolved.
- FHF has completed trachoma MDA in the remaining district, Bule Hora. In addition, MDA was completed in Mencho district, the lately re-enrolled district of Jimma zone using their own budget.
- LF pre-TAS completed in 2 refugee camps of BG; LF TAS2 completed in 2 districts of BG.
- Status updates indicated for all MERLA and HSS activities.

Highlights:

- LFTW team attended regional level WASH-NTD program review meeting held at Adama town. Different NTD actors, zonal health departments and selected districts attended the meeting and experiences, and lessons were shared from invited implementing partners, regions and research institutions.
- Act | East partners attended a one-day Oromia regional level NTD technical working group (TWG) meeting held in Adama town in the presence of key NTDs stakeholders and implementing partners. Discussions included strategies to ensure program ownership, sustainability, and development of multi-year regional NTD master plans.
- RTI supported TAS2 and DQA trainings held in BG and Gambella regions.
- RTI SCM TA at EPSA conducted logistics supportive supervision in Gambella region to ensure reverse logistics implementation. The findings will be discussed in an upcoming supply chain TWG or MOH/RHB biannual meeting.
- Act | East partners (RTI and FHF) finalized regional/zonal level post-MDA review meetings in areas where Trachoma MDAs were completed as of this reporting period.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TSS in BG:** RTI will finalize ongoing assessments in 5 woredas and 2 refugee camps of BG region in October 2021.
- **TAS2 in BG:** RTI will finalize the ongoing TAS2 in 2 woredas of BG region in October 2021.
- **OV/LF MDA:** LFTW will finalize OV MDA in Horoguduru zone in October 2021, if the security situation is resolved.

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East partners will continue to provide technical support to RHBs to report MDA coverage via DHIS2 in October 2021.
- Act | East partners will continue to provide technical support on collection and compilation of sub-district level MDA data as part of FY21 FAA deliverables in October 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

HAITI

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

COP: Paul Emile Dalexis

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Upendo Mwingira

Total population: 11.7 million (2020 est.)

Districts: 140 communes

Endemic diseases: 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 1 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1EU in West TAS3 in community 6/10 EUs: September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 EUs in North • 1 EUs in Northwest • 2 EUs in Northeast 	N/A
MERLA	The HNTDCP is working with PAHO to ensure the transfer of the NTD database. To MSPP GESI assessment integration training in Gonaives and Acul-du-Nord (April-July 2021) Pre-MDA census in 7/9 communes: Cap-Haitien, Limonade, Plaine du Nord, Acul du Nord, Quartier Morin, Gonaives, Port-de-Paix (June-September 2021)	

Security update: Haiti continues to grapple with insecurity including an overwhelming increase of kidnappings. There has recently been a chronic fuel shortage which has paralyzed transportation and commercial activities. Despite this complicated situation, the IMA World Health team was able to complete pre-MDA census and TAS activities during this reporting period.

Summary and explanation of changes made to the table above since last month: None

Highlights:

- Pre-MDA census activities were completed in two remaining communes (Gonaives and Port-de-Paix) by mid-September.
- Community-based TAS was completed in 7 EUs, including TAS 2 in 1 EU (Kenscoff), and TAS3 in 6 Eus (Chansolme; Borgne; Port-Margot, Bas-Limbé, Pilate; Plaisance; Ouanaminthe; and Sainte-Suzanne, Terrier-Rouge, Trou-du-Nord. A total of 58 teams of 2 people each and 16 supervisors were mobilized to complete the field work within 3 weeks (from September 9-29). Data cleaning is still on-going.
 - The field team noted irregularities in some FTS packages such as multiple tests in one FTS strip and some invalid tests, which will be captured in the next TAS tracker update.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID-19 protocols:

- RTI will conduct the pre-MDA census in Cabaret and Arcahaie in November 2021. 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.

Other upcoming activities:

- IMA to prepare and submit the pre-MDA census data report and final TAS reports.
- IMA to transfer materials, equipment, and remaining FTS and drugs to the RTI office.
- RTI to recruit a consultant to support development of the revised social mobilization and communications strategy for FY22 MDA.
- RTI to begin preparing for the national LF Pause and Reflect meeting in December 2021. This will be a virtual meeting led by the National LF Program with support from Act | East, and include staff from USAID, RTI, WHO Global Program for the Elimination of LF, PAHO, CDC, and The Carter Center.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: [Haiti covid-19 updates](#)

MSPP: [SurveillancedelaCOVID-19, Haiti, 2020-2021](#)

SEPTEMBER 2021

INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Jim Johnson

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Sinan Hatik

Total population : 271,052,476

Districts: 514

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 (25/34 completed)

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 Sintang, West Kalimantan from September 6 to 12; Flores Timur, NTT from September 14 to 22; and in Kutai Barat, East Kalimantan from September 16 to 25. These surveys were all community-based, targeting children and adults 5-60 years old. Results are pending laboratory analysis of the night blood samples by the relevant Regional Environmental Laboratory.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Pre-TAS** are tentatively planned to be organized in collaboration with the MOH during the month of October 2021 in the districts of Barito Timur, Central Kalimantan; Nabire, Papua and Bulungan, North Kalimantan.
- A **TAS** is also tentatively planned to be organized in collaboration with the MOH in Lebak, Baten during mid-October.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dr Mawo Fall

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Keerthana Hirudayakanth, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 29,222, 485 (2020)

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: LF (113), OV (5), SCH (159), STH (151), Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	Trachoma
MDA	6 districts completed in 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 to update all NTD data in the integrated database from 2017 to present. Tool completion and updates are presented during technical meetings. Coverage evaluation survey (CES) data collection complete.

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

- CES data collection is complete, analysis is underway.

Highlights:

- Act | East COP met virtually with a Nampula-based USAID colleague to discuss ongoing insecurity in Cabo Delgado. Internally displaced persons are in the south of Cabo Delgado and some districts in Nampula. To fully assess the situation, Act | East will organize a trip to Pemba in Cabo Delgado to meet with local authorities, provincial health management team, and other implementing partners that work in the region in FY22.
- The Chinde CES was conducted between September 13-27 in collaboration with MISAU staff, provincial and district management teams; results are being analyzed.
- RTI has trained 6 photographers, in collaboration with the MISAU NTD coordinator and the head of the ophthalmology department, for the upcoming implementation and evaluation of a smartphone-based screening tool to identify trachomatous trichiasis. Through other RTI funding, this tool will be tested in two districts (Chemba/Sofala province and Guro/Manica province).
- Act | East convened dossier workshops for trachoma and LF:
 - Trachoma: Participants included MISAU, the Department of Water and Sanitation and other implementing partners. The results from recent TIS/TSS and MDA have been added to the narrative and excel sheet.
 - LF: Conducted a LF elimination dossier introductory meeting with the participation of MISAU and other LF stakeholders. The narrative template and excel sheets were presented and a task group has started to compile and update the LF data into the integrated NTD database.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TT smartphone tool testing:** RTI will support the testing of the tool in two districts (Chemba district, Sofala province and Guro district, Manica province) in October 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: Dharmal Prasad Raman

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Sinan Hatik

Total population: 30,201,100

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts: LF (63), Trachoma (20) & STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY21

	LF	STH	Trachoma
MDA	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 : 1/1 district, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) Re Pre-TAS: 7/7 districts, Dec 2020-Jan 2021 (complete) TAS2 : 6 districts, August/Sept 2021, (ongoing) TAS2 : 12 districts, Aug/Sep 2021 (delayed into FY22) TAS3 : 13 districts, Aug/Sept 2021 (delayed into FY22)	SS/SC: None	
HSS	Domestic Resource Mobilization Case Study: September (and into FY22) GESI Gap Analysis: July-August 2021 (complete, results pending)		

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

- Updated survey dates based on COVID related delays.

Highlights:

- LF Task Force recommended to begin 2022 LF MDA on February 12, 2022.
- TAS 3 failure assessment in 5 districts (Sindhuli, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahai, Rautahat) was completed jointly with EDCD and WHO Nepal. This activity was initially planned for April-May 2021 but was delayed due to a rise in COVID cases in target districts. A report from this assessment has not yet been finalized.
- VBDRTC submitted a FAA proposal for Re Pre TAS in 5 districts (Morang, Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke and Kailai).
- VBDRTC completed district level orientation of school-based TAS 2 in six districts (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot). Data collection for these TAS will take place in October 2021.
- Act | East Nepal team coordinated discussion with EDCD to discuss plans for social mobilization and MDA support activities, including technical support to targeted municipalities, school awareness activities, and GESI behavior change activities.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TAS 2 in six districts** (Terhathum, Sunsari, Lalitpur Rural, Myagdi, Surkhet and Jajarkot) school-based data collection in Nov-Dec 2021.
- **TAS 2 in 10 districts** (Bhojpur, Udayapur, Dailekh, Accham, Bajura, Bhajhang, Doti, Dadeldhura, Baitadi and Darchula) in Nov-Dec 2021.
- **TAS 1 in two districts** (Bardiya and Dhankuta) in Nov-Dec 2021.
- **Re Pre TAS in five districts** (Morang, Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke and Kailai) in Dec 2021-Jan 2022.
- **NTD Steering Committee meeting**- postponed from September 2021 and to be rescheduled after Dashain holidays in October.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

COP: Benjamin Nwobi

RTI HQ Team: Scott McPherson, Sabrina Eyob, Danielle Epps, Molly Brady, Wangeci Thuo

Total population: 202.7 million (2021 est.)

Districts (LGAs): 774

Endemic diseases: 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 (#EUs)	PreTAS : 40 (TCC 39, RTI 1), Jan-Feb 2021 (40/40 complete) TAS1 : 9 (TCC 7, RTI 1/2 complete), September 2021	Epi survey: 0 Ent survey: 0	SS/SC: 0	SS/SC: 0	TIS: 0 TSS: 5/5 complete August 2021

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

- TAS1 completed in one EU.

Highlights:

- Act | East supported the National LF Program and Cross River State (CRS) NTD Program to conduct training of LF survey teams (September 20 -22) in Calabar and conduct TAS 1 in in Calabar South LGA during Sept 23-29, 2021.
- On September 16, Act | East held an inception meeting to inform stakeholders on the scope, activities, and timeline for conducting a health financial landscape and fund flow analysis in CRS. This effort is to determine the suitability of the FAA mechanism in CRS.
- Act |East supported the National NTDs supply chain management (SCM) unit to conduct supply chain management monitoring, supervisory, and supportive visit, and a supply chain assessment in one state per zone (Cross Rivers - SS, Enugu - SE, Ondo - SW, Adamawa - NE, Borno - NE), and the Federal Central Medical Store in Oshodi. Zone specific SCM gaps such as medicine diversion, medicine losses, poor and late LMIS reporting were addressed for improved services.
- Act |East supported the FMOH to conduct the NTD National Steering Committee meeting during September 26-30, 2021. The two-day meeting was preceded by meetings of the respective sub-committees which reviewed the thematic areas of the NTD Program: program technical updates, research priorities, elimination, and verification efforts since 2019, and resource mobilization. FMOH is expected to share outcomes from the meeting in the coming weeks.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Strategic Planning Meeting:** The CRS and Enugu State NTD programs propose to conduct their annual NTD meetings with stakeholders in October 2021.
- **LF TAS 1:** LF TAS 1 in 6 LGAs of Imo, and 1 LGA in Ebonyi States tentatively scheduled for November 2021.
- **Pre-MDA activities:** Advocacy in Enugu State, State level training, training of CDD and Community Supervisors in 7 LGAs in Ebonyi and CRS, in October 2021.
- **LF assessment feedback to stakeholders:** An in-person feedback session is planned with the Ebonyi SMOH and LGAs that failed pre-TAS to share results in October 2021.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Alex Jones

Total population: 124,607,528

Districts/Provinces: 82

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts. LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

Activities supported by Philippines DOH in 2021

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

Activities Supported by USAID in FY21

HSS	Financing assessment (completed)
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Financing assessment was completed as part of the Philippines domestic resource mobilization case study.

Highlights:

- Act | East continued to coordinate with the Department of Health, and the Commission on Higher Education to review the drafted framework and M&E plan for the integration of NTDs in the Pre-service Curricula for medical professions. The full package of pre-service curricula materials that includes the monitoring and evaluation plan will be finalized and rolled out in the school year 2021 – 2022.
- Act | East and DOH continued a dialogue on providing technical support to a province on health financing for NTD programming in the context of Philippines’ transition to a universal health care system. R4D’s local consultant and the DOH have consulted on selecting a specific province for targeted technical support.

Upcoming activities: None

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

The lockdown focused on the Manila Region and other highly populated provinces instituted in August was extended through September, as the COVID-19 case surge continues.

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

SOUTHEAST ASIA (BANGLADESH, LAO PDR, VIET NAM)

Act | East Partner: RTI, FHF in Vietnam

Total population: Bangladesh (171,121,13); Lao PDR (7,011,210); Vietnam (94,992,449)

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PRD (17); Vietnam (63)

RTI HQ Team: Alexis Serna, Nandini Pillai, Nancy Warren, Sinan Hatik

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64); Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Vietnam 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 (TAS3 supported by WHO)	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

Bangladesh

Highlights:

- Bangladesh completed its DIP survey in low LF endemic districts and implemented a refresher training for enumerators involved in the high LF endemic districts. This training included a pause and reflect session from data collection in the first set of districts and additional training on conducting advocacy meetings with district officials, which is a key difference between high and low endemic district survey plans.
- The national program confirmed dates for the final TAS3 in Rangpur district, planned for November 10th- December 15th.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- DIP survey will be completed in all remaining districts in October-December 2021.

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](#)



Act | East Country Updates for USAID

Q4 (July – September 2021)

Lao PDR

Highlights:

- Act | East Regional Manager Jim Johnson and Act | East LF Senior Advisor, Molly Brady, met virtually with WHO CO, WHO WPRO and Act | East consultant Dr. Ramaiah Kapa to further discuss PVS opportunities to be included in the LF draft dossier. The current draft plan will be updated and included in the draft dossier. In October, this draft dossier will be reviewed by WHO WPRO.
- COVID rates continued to be high in Laos. WHO confirmed that the TAS3 in Attapeu district will not take place as planned in October.

Viet Nam

Highlights:

- COVID rates continued to restrict in-person meetings, and all activities requiring travel remain on hold, including the completion of the Lung Ho survey and planning for trachoma dossier workshops.

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://BAN_CHI_DAO_QUOC_GIA_PHONG_CHONG_DICH_BENH_COVID_19.vnpt.vn)

SEPTEMBER 2021

TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: IMA World Health

Total population: 56.1 million (2020)

COP: Edward Kirumbi

Districts: 185

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Amy Veinoglou, Erin Gullikson, Erica Shoemaker, Wangeci Thuo, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: 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	<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-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, postponed to FY22	Epi survey: 3 districts (2 foci), Postponed to FY22. Ento survey: 3 districts (2 foci), Postponed to FY22. iTAS: 8 districts, Postponed to FY22.	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 and TZNTDCP held virtual SCH/STH Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and OV Expert Committee (OEC) meetings from September 1-3, 2021. This was the first meeting of the SCH/STH TAC in Tanzania, during which members adopted the terms of reference of the committee and

presented updates on SCH and STH. The next meeting is planned for February 2022, when the goal will be to develop country specific goals and targets for SCH/STH. During the OEC meeting, updates on activities done from 2018 were presented. Members adopted the OV flag, reviewed the progress in all foci, and recommended actions for each foci. Final recommendations from the meeting included a prioritized list of dried blood spot samples to be analyzed in FY22.

- IMA and TZNTDCP completed IVM/IVM + ALB community MDA in all 33 councils and completed review of 20 out of 33 council MDA summary data forms. MDA results will be shared soon.
- IMA and TZNTDCP completed TAS3 in the final planned EU for FY21, Njombe DC EU, on September 24th. The report for TAS2/3 in 11 total EUs is now being compiled.
- Data cleaning was completed for the trachoma coverage evaluation survey (CES) that was carried out in August 2021 in 4 district councils. The CES report will be shared in October 2021.
- Act | East supported TZNTDCP to conduct reverse logistics for the LF and OV MDAs. IVM and ALB tablets with short shelf life were collected from 28 district councils and delivered to 3 Municipal Councils of Dar es Salaam region (Ilala MC, Kinondoni MC and Temeke MC) where the national program will conduct MDA with ARISE funding in October 2021.
- Act | East supported the TZNTDCP to organize an NTD advocacy strategy review meeting. R4D supported development of the advocacy strategy by feeding in financial information from the detailed analysis on financial and programmatic records. The consultant is finalizing the advocacy strategy and a draft has been shared with USAID.
- The NTD Master Plan was submitted to the Director of Preventive Services for review and signature.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols (to be implemented by RTI in FY22):

- **iTAS in 7 EUs** will take place in October-November 2021 (Mpwapwa DC, Liwale DC, Nachingwea DC, Njombe TC, Bagamoyo/Chalinze DC, Mpanda DC, Ruangwa DC). This activity was originally planned for FY21 but could not be completed due to timing constraints. RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these surveys, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol including: providing medical masks and hand sanitizers for all surveyors and supervisors; ensuring social distancing during the survey training by securing a large venue that allows participants to be 2 meters apart (split into two rooms of 23 people each); requiring surveyors to self-report any COVID-19 symptoms daily; and maintaining 2 meters' social distancing with participants except when administering the FTS test.
- **LF and OV CES in 8 districts** will take place in FY22 Q1 (Mtama DC, Kilwa DC, Mtwara-Mikindani MC, Mafia DC for LF and Ulanga DC, Ifakara TC, Malinyi DC, and Kilombero DC in Mahenge focus for OV). This activity was originally planned for FY21 but could not be completed due to timing constraints. RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these surveys, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol, including providing medical masks and hand sanitizers for all surveyors and supervisors; ensuring social distancing during the survey training by securing a large venue that allows participants to be 2 meters apart; requiring surveyors to self-report any COVID-19 symptoms daily; and maintaining 2 meters' social distancing with interviewees.
- **Trachoma DSA investigations in 5 districts** (Kiteto DC South EU, Longido DC, Simanjiro DC, and Monduli DC, and Mpwapwa DC North EU). This activity will include a desk review of data for all five districts and travel to Mpwapwa DC and Monduli DC to conduct key informant interviews. RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these in FY22 Q1, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol.

- **Trachoma Surveillance Surveys (TSS) in two districts** (Songwe DC and Kalambo DC). This activity will include a training for surveyors (both recorders and graders) and a field component of travel to each district to conduct surveys in 30 clusters (hamlets). Surveys include examining the eyes of children and adults for active trachoma and trichomatous trichiasis. RTI will support the NTDCP to complete these surveys, following COVID-19 SOPs as outlined in the protocol including: providing medical masks and hand sanitizers for all surveyors and supervisors; ensuring social distancing during the survey training by securing a large venue that allows participants to be 2 meters apart; requiring surveyors to self-report any COVID-19 symptoms daily; and maintaining 2 meters' social distancing with participants except when actively surveying the participants.

Other upcoming activities:

- Finalize trachoma CES and TAS2/3 reports.
- Follow up and review the MDA summary data forms from 13 remaining councils, and ensure receipt of the final FY21 FAA milestone deliverables from the remaining councils and regions.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

Total population: 41,740,474 (2019)

COP: Benjamin Binagwa

Districts: 134

RTI HQ Team: Katie Crowley, Mike French, Amy Veinoglou, Lisa Brooks, Elizabeth Plunkett, Molina Helena, Upendo Mwingira

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts: LF (64), TRA (51), OV (32), SCH (92), 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	4 districts, Oct 2021 1 district completed Sept 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 (Completed July) Feedback meeting in Amudat (Completed July) MDA feedback meeting in Buliisa (Completed Sept)				
HSS	SCH/STH expert committee meeting (Completed June) Launch of NTDCP program sustainability plan (Completed Feb 2021) Development of GESI package for NTD program (Completed Feb 2021) GESI training in Moroto (Completed in July) Selection and orientation of advocacy subcommittee (Completed in August)				

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

- Buliisa district completed trachoma MDA and the MDA feedback meeting. The remaining 4 districts in the Karamoja region will conduct synchronized trachoma MDA with Kenya starting on Oct 21.

Highlights:

- **LF TAS activities:** LF TAS was completed in the remaining EUs planned for FY21. Act | East supported the national LF program to complete TAS in 8 EUs (TAS2 in Tororo and West Budama EUs, and TAS3 in Kwania, Apac, Oyam, Kole, Adjumani and Moyo EUs). Data analysis and report writing is ongoing.
- **Pre-MDA and MDA activities.** Act | East supported the MOH and District Health Teams to carry out pre-MDA activities in five districts of Moroto, Nabilatuk, Amudat, Buliisa and Nakapiripirit. Pre-MDA activities included microplanning, training of supervisors at district, sub county and parish levels, as well as training of VHTs/CMDs. Other activities included updating the community registers and transportation of medicines, IEC materials and other logistics to the five districts. MDA was completed in Buliisa district and preliminary data indicates a coverage rate of 95%. The other 4 districts in the Karamoja region will commence drug distribution on October 21st in parallel with the bordering districts in Kenya.

- **Development of the Uganda NTD program Advocacy Strategy:** Act | East supported the advocacy subcommittee to prepare a draft advocacy strategy for the national NTD program that links to Uganda’s NTD sustainability plan. The draft strategy is now under review by the MOH and partners including the WHO and a final version will be circulated by end of October 2021.
- **GESI Behavior Change Pilot:** Following the two months of GESI behavior change activities in Nadunget and Lotisan subcounties in Moroto district, the communities in these sub-counties identified and discussed gender issues that negatively impact medicine uptake during MDA. Preliminary results from these discussions showed strong willingness by the communities to take MDA in the targeted villages. However, there are still rumors about the medicines and low risk perception of trachoma. Behavior change root agents, influencers and cohorts were selected by the district to participate in the upcoming MDA as sub county supervisors, parish supervisors and CMDs based on their capacity.
- **Mapping of key actors and decision-making spaces of NTD program and detailed assessment of financial and programmatic records:** Through a local consultancy, R4D reached out to different stakeholders at national level and in the districts of Moroto, Buliisa, Nabilatuk and Nebbi to gather information about planning and financing of NTD program activities. A draft report on the above activities has been submitted to R4D and is being reviewed before presentation to the MOH. The draft report highlights the key actors and decision-making spaces, national level funders and their financial commitments, and estimation of financial resource trend and gaps.
- **Transportation of Ivermectin for Oncho MDA.** Medicines were transported to 9 districts (Moyo, Adjumani, Nwoya, Omoro, Kitgum, Pader, Gulu, Nwoya, and Amuru) in preparation for October MDA. Social Mobilization for the oncho October MDA in the 9 districts is underway.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Joint MDA Launch with Kenya.** The launch of the joint Trachoma Cross border MDA with Kenya is planned for 21st October 2021. Thereafter, MDA will continue on both sides of the border with Uganda focusing on Moroto, Amudat, Nakapiripirit, and Nabilatuk.
- **Trachoma MDA:** Trachoma MDA and post-MDA activities in the districts of Moroto, Nabilatuk, Nakapiripirit and Amudat in October 2021.
- **OV MDA:** OV MDA is planned in 9 districts in October 2021. Activities include social mobilization, trainings of sub country supervisors and CMDs, medicine distribution, supervision and data collection and reporting.
- **Trainings on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data:** The financing consultant will conduct this training in Q1 FY22. This will be one central training in Kampala targeting selected MoH-NTDCP and district local government staff. The training will focus on processing, analyzing, and packaging NTD data to develop an investment case for the NTD program. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the training will have a maximum of 20 participants.

Other upcoming activities:

- Submit a per diem waiver request to USAID Uganda for FY22 activities.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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