

Act to End NTDs | East

FY23 Q1 Monthly Updates

October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

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 The Carter Center; Fred Hollows Foundation; Light for the World; Results for Development (R4D); Save the Children; Sightsavers; and Women Influencing Health, Education, and Rule of Law (WI-HER).

October 2022

ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW), WI-HER, R4D

Total population: 113,930,631

COP: [Redacted]

Districts: 872

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: LF (85), TRA (700), OV (222), SCH (426), STH (547)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	0/2 districts			Desk review of unmapped districts.
MDA	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	0/85 districts + 0/5 camps • BG (0/17 districts) • BG (0/5 camps) • Oromia-LFTW (0/68 districts)	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	0/70 districts • Gambella (0/8 districts) • Oromia-FHF (0/62 districts)
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs) TAS1: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs)			TIS: 2/81 EUs • BG (0/2 EUs) • Gambella (0/9 EUs) • Oromia-FHF (2/41 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/29 EUs) TSS: 0/37 EUs • BG (0/6 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/31 EUs)

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigations in 50 districts; desk review has started by FHF and RTI. Data Quality Assessment During Supervision (DQA-S) in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Pre-MDA census in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district of Oromia (LFTW). Data Quality Assessment (DQA) in 3 districts of Oromia (FHF).
HSS	GESI Behavior Change activity in 2 woredas. NTD Financial Roadmap Development (RTI, R4D) NTD Financial Assessment in 5 districts (RTI, R4D)

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

- Table has been updated with approved FY23 activities.
- FHF implemented TIS in two EUs in Borena zone.

Highlights:

- RTI attended the Beneshangul-Gumuz regional annual NTDs program review meeting held at Bambasi town from October 11-12, 2022. Regional annual NTD program performance, challenges

faced during implementation and the solutions made in the past fiscal year were major areas of discussion. An action plan was developed for the current fiscal year.

- RTI, FHF and LFTW teams participated in the Oromia regional annual NTDs plan alignment meeting held in Adama town from October 13-14, 2022. The main purpose of the meeting was to make program implementation alignment and coordination among different stakeholders working on the NTD program in the region. The Act | East team shared the annual program implementation plans and timelines with ORHB NTD team.
- RTI and LFTW participated in the 9th National Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committee (EOEEAC) meeting held from October 19-21, 2022, in Addis Ababa. The progress of the national onchocerciasis program toward elimination by 2030 was the major area of discussion. Implementing partners and different stakeholders shared their experiences and challenges related to onchocerciasis program implementation. RTI and LFTW presented the program performance of the Act | East project supported regions of Ethiopia.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- FHF will conduct supportive supervision activities of trachoma MDA campaign at Dhas woreda of Borena zone in November 2022 (non-USAID funded).
- RTI and WI-HER will support the organization of the GESI Behavioral change cohort follow up at Adaba district of Oromia region in collaboration with FHF and ORHB in November 2022.
- RTI will start preparatory activities for regional MDA planning meetings at Beneshangul-Gumuz and Gambella regions in December 2022.
- LFTW will support DHIS2 cascade training at zonal levels in December 2022.
- LFTW will conduct OV MDA in December 2022.
- FHF will conduct trachoma surveys refresher training in November/December 2022.

Other upcoming activities:

- RTI and FHF will review results of DSA Investigations desk reviews in 50 districts in November 2022.
- RTI has planned to work with MOH NTD and Resource & Partnership teams to initiate preparatory activities for NTD Financial Roadmap Development and NTD Financial Assessment in 5 districts in November/December 2022.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/>

October 2022

HAITI

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 11.9 million (2023 est.)

Districts: 140 communes

Endemic diseases: LF (140) STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	STH
MDA	0/7 communes	0/7 communes
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS in 0/2 communes (0/4 EUs) TAS3 in 0/8 EUs	N/A

MERLA	Microplanning in 0/2 communes Refresher microplanning in 0/5 communes Coverage evaluation survey (CES) in 0/2 communes MDA real-time data collection in 0/7 communes Training on WHO NTD Integrated Database
HSS	Funds flow analysis (R4D)

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

- Updated table with FY23 planned activities.

Security Update:

The political situation in Haiti and especially Port au Prince remains chaotic and unpredictable. Acts of violence including kidnappings and killings have increased over the past few weeks. Travel within the country is almost impossible due to scarcity of fuel but also because of the establishment of gangs in various parts of the metropolitan area and some provincial cities. Schools remain closed and hospitals are running at low capacity due to the fuel shortage or simply close their doors. The recent cholera outbreak adds an extra element of pathos, as it is largely spreading through low-income areas controlled by gangs. The Act | East team are mainly working from home and field activities are suspended until the security situation improves.

Highlights:

- Act | East team finalized data cleaning and analysis for the CES completed in Acul du Nord, Milot, and Port-de-Paix in September. Results will be presented virtually to the MSPP for FY23 MDA planning.
- Act | East Haiti’s MERLA Specialist attended the ASTMH conference in Seattle, Washington to share Haiti’s experiences on Electronic Data Collection.
- The in-country GESI consultant shared the report and the lessons learned from the national-level GESI workshop.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- All field activities are currently suspended until the security situation improves.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

MSPP: https://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/Sitrep%20COVID-19_24-07-2021.pdf

October 2022

INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 274,859,094

Districts: 514

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts
 LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 0/4 EUs TAS : 0/4 EUs BIS : 0/11 EUs
MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training

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

Table is updated with FY23 planned activities.

Highlights:

- Following the implementation of Act | East’s first Brugia Impact Survey (BIS) in Bengkayang district in September 2022, the Act | East Indonesia team together with experts from RTI HQ and the Global Task Force have continued to improve the functionality of the Survey Sample Builder (SSB) as well as incorporated lessons learned from the previous survey into final preparations for the next BIS survey to be implemented during November 2022.
- [Redacted] will transition into the role of MERLA focal point for the SPIN portfolio, replacing [Redacted].

Upcoming activities:

- The MOH has requested Act | East Indonesia to support the implementation of a BIS survey in Konawe District during November 2022. Cluster site selections have been completed using the latest SSB and the official protocol has been drafted. Exact dates for implementation are still pending.
- The MOH has requested Act | East Indonesia to support the implementation of a TAS1 in Nabire District to begin on November 27, 2022. Locations of the randomly selected schools have been selected using the regular SSB, and the protocol is currently being reviewed by the MOH.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.go.id/id>

October 2022

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 32,419,747

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: LF (114), OV (5), SCH (161),
STH (153), Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
MDA	1/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 4/9 EUs TSS: 0/15 EUs

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigation in 3 districts LF pre-TAS Outcome Investigation in 34 districts Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Table has been updated with approved FY23 activities.
- Trachoma MDA completed in Memba, Nampula province, delayed from September due to insecurity.
- Four Trachoma Impact Surveys completed in Cabo Delgado province.

Highlights:

- Preliminary review of coverage evaluation survey results from Guro district in September, indicate validation of reported coverage.
- Inhassunge district, Zambezia province had TIS results indicating the need for re-MDA in FY23. Act | East has added the district to planned MDAs in March 2023. The DSA outcome investigation is ongoing.
- The Act | East COP is working with the NTD coordinator and the provincial lab technician to ship the TAURUS study samples, collected during TIS in four districts, to the University of California San Francisco for processing.

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 November 2022.
- **Steering committee meeting:** Act | East will support a 2-day meeting in Maputo in December 2022 for the participants of the 11 provinces and NTD partners, where program performance will be reviewed.

- **NIS regional workshop:** RTI Mozambique will host the NIS regional training workshop in Maputo in late November 2022.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

October 2022

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 29,847,607

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: LF (63) TRA (20) STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
Mapping	4 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 4 districts (VBDRTC), 1 district (Madesh PPL) TAS2: 3 districts (VBDRTC) TAS3: 9 districts (VBDRTC)

MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training
HSS	GESI behavior change activity in Banke district (WI-HER) Dissemination of domestic resource mobilization case study for NTDs (R4D)

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

Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.

Highlights:

- Act | East Nepal worked with FAIRMED Nepal to discuss proposed social mobilization activities targeting FY23 LF MDA and develop a FAA package for submission to USAID in November 2022.
- Act | East Nepal Program Manager [Redacted] presented "Efforts in addressing persistent transmission of LF: Experiences from Nepal" through the virtual platform of the COR-NTD 2022 conference on October 5th.
- Act | East Nepal met with MoHP/EDCD officials and discussed the implementation schedule of Act | East FY23 planned activities and selection of new sites for upcoming Re-Pre-TAS in Jhapa, Parbat, Bara and Baglung districts.
- Setup for the GESI behavior change activity concluded in Ward 3 of Banke district, implemented by WI-HER. The District GESI Team, Root Agents from the health center, and community influencers on the Behavior Change Team were trained and equipped to implement solutions and interventions to increase MDA acceptance and uptake among the selected cohort members and the broader community. WI-HER will visit Ward 3 again before the February 2023 MDA begins for a coaching visit to support the influencers and Root Agents troubleshoot any challenges and refine their action plans ahead of MDA.
- [Redacted] will transition into the role of MERLA focal point for the SPIN portfolio, replacing [Redacted].

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Re-Pre-TAS in 5 districts (Jhapa, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat and Baglung) beginning in mid-November 2022 and into December 2022.
- TAS 3 in 8 districts (Okhaldhunga, Kaski, Argakhachi, Pyuthan, Rolpa, Rukum East, Rukum West, Salyan) in beginning in late November or December 2022.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

October 2022

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 207.8 million

Districts (LGAs): 774

Endemic diseases: LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC)	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC) 0/55 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 0/1 (RTI/TCC) TAS 1 : 0/54 (TCC) TAS 2 : 0/7 (RTI)	Epi/Ento surveys: (RTI 0/15)			TT-only survey : 1/1 (RTI)

HSS	Costing Analysis of NTD Targeted Interventions in Cross River State
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Summary and explanation of **changes** made to table above since last month:

- Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.

Highlights:

RTI

- **LF TAS-2 Planning Meeting:** On October 4-5, Act | East provided the financial and technical support for the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) and CRS State NTD team to conduct a 2-day planning meeting for LF TAS-2 to be implemented in four Evaluation Units (EUs) comprising of seven (7) LGAs (Abi, Akamkpa, Biase, Boki, Ikom, Obubra and Ogoja) of Cross River State. The meeting included the LGA NTD Coordinators of each LGA and representatives of the State Ministry of Health (SMOH), State Ministry of Education (SMOE), State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS) and the FMOH. The outcome was a draft survey protocol; joint plan that includes a sensitization and mobilization strategy for the selected schools; timeline for the entire survey; and field team composition per EU. Implementation of the TAS-2 is contingent on arrival of FTS kits which are expected in-country by end of November 2022.
- **South-South and South-East Zonal Review Meetings:** On October 6-12, Act | East provided the financial support for the FMOH to conduct NTD Review meetings for states under the South-South and South-East zonal offices. All six (6) states in the South-South and five (5) states in the South-East participated in the review meetings held. Participants discussed key NTD program issues and

finalized 2021 treatment reports. Action items from the meeting include: improve MMDP reporting; gather and report IDM data in subsequent review meetings; state programs and partners to facilitate the inauguration of Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) to enhance advocacy and mobilization of domestic resources; each state to collaboratively develop 2023 NTD annual Plan with supporting partners and share with FMOH; state NTD teams to ensure effective reverse logistics and timely submission of medicine inventory, treatment data and technical reports. Both RTI and TCC staff participated in these meetings.

TCC

- LF Pre-TAS and TAS 1 data validation meeting for Imo, Abia, Ebonyi, Delta, Edo and Enugu States was held in Nasarawa State from October 22 – 27, 2022.
- OV/LF MDA was completed in 8 LGAs of Edo State, 8 LGAs of Ebonyi State,
- SCH/STH MDA was completed in 7 LGAs of Plateau State and 5 LGAs of Nasarawa State.
- OV/LF MDA training was complete in 19 LGAs of Imo State, 17 LGAs of Abia State, 4 LGAs of Delta State and 3 LGAs of Enugu State.
- Advocacy visits occurred in 13 LGAs of Enugu State, 17 LGAs of Abia State and 19 LGAs of Imo State.
- Treatment data retrieval occurred in 8 LGAs of Edo State, 10 LGAs of Plateau State, 8 of Ebonyi State and 8 of Nasarawa State.
- LF MDA began in the 4 LGAs of Delta State.
- MDA supervision and monitoring took place in Plateau, Nasarawa, Ebonyi, Edo and Delta States.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

RTI

- Support for NTD National Steering Committee meeting in November
- Support for LF Pre-TAS in Yala LGA of CRS in December
- Act | East FY23 workplan dissemination meetings with CRS State and National NTD Programs in November and December
- An OV survey planning meeting is planned in Cross River State in early January
- A LF Technical Working Group meeting is rescheduled for November in Abuja; however, this is no longer an Act | East supported event.

TCC

- Complete TAS1 in Imos, Ebonyi and Enugi
- Complete OV MDA data retrieval in Imo and Abia
- Complete OV MDA in Enugu and EDC for the same
- Pre-MDA training and starting of MDA in Ebonyi State

Other upcoming activities:

- DQA in 2 LGAs in Edo and 2 LGAs in Delta states
- OV MDA planning meeting for 6 border LGAs with Ondo State.
- Data Review meeting for Edo and Delta States.
- LF TAS-2 field work in 7 LGAs in CRS
- OV surveys in 15 LGAs of CRS

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

October 2022

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

Total population: 114,861,989

Districts: 82

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
HSS	Health financing technical support for LF planning and budgeting at national and provincial level (R4D)

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

Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.

Highlights:

- With technical support from Act | East consultant [Redacted], the DOH completed **TAS1 training** in Zamboanga del Norte province from October 3-5. The province began the survey in late October, upon the arrival of FTS.
- **Year 1 IDA planning** was completed in Oriental Mindoro province, also with technical support from Act | East consultant [Redacted], and the provincial teams are ready to begin focal drug distribution as soon as ivermectin (IVM) arrives. All IVM is currently in the DOH office in Manila awaiting a final certification of product registration, which WHO is facilitating, before being moved to Oriental Mindoro and Sultan Kudarat provinces for Year 1 of IDA.
- The development of a **Philippine Multi-Disease Elimination Plan (MDEP) for 2023-2030** continues to evolve, with external partner support from USAID via Act | East from the LF perspective and Pilipinas Shell and Global Fund from the malaria side. The plan will include up to 15 diseases that are targeted for elimination; the final list of diseases to be included is still being determined. An Act | East supported workshop to support the drafting of the MDEP is now scheduled for January 2023.
- [Redacted], will transition into the role of MERLA focal point for the SPIN portfolio, replacing [Redacted].

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East will begin recruitment for a Program Technical Support Manager in November-December 2022.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: <https://www.who.int/philippines/>

National: <https://www.bing.com/search?q=covid+tracker+philippines&cvid=b368868aa4584b8498713f2be9385525&aqs=edge..69i57j0.3720j0j1&pglt=547&FORM=ANSAB1&PC=DCTS>

<https://doh.gov.ph/covid-19/case-tracker>

October 2022

Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam

Act | East Partner: RTI, FHF in Viet Nam

Total population: Bangladesh (175,599,695); Lao PDR (7,320,249); Viet Nam (96,844,240)

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PDR (17); Viet Nam (63)

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64); Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Viet Nam LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
DSA (#EUs)	Viet Nam TSS: 2 Viet Nam TT-only: 4

MERLA	Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam: Learning activity on dossier development models
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.

Activities updates:

- [Redacted] will transition into the role of MERLA focal point for the SPIN portfolio, replacing [Redacted].

Bangladesh

- The final draft of the LF elimination dossier is still awaiting final signature from the Minister of Health. It will be submitted to WHO SEARO for review and validation after it is signed, expected to happen in November 2022.

Lao PDR

- Act | East and WHO have supported Lao PDR’s CMPE to respond to the Regional Dossier Review Group’s (RDRG) comments within their LF elimination dossier. The dossier should be resubmitted to WHO WPRO and the RDRG in November 2022.

Viet Nam

- FHF Viet Nam worked with VNEH to select dates for upcoming trachoma surveillance surveys in December 2022. The surveys will be supported by Act | East with additional technical assistance from Tropical Data.
- VNEH confirmed that they will be required to submit a project extension request to the MOH to be able to implement four TT-only surveys that will be required for completion of the trachoma elimination dossier. This will push back the anticipated timeline for submission of the final dossier to WHO. FHF Viet Nam and Act | East HQ are working to support VNEH with this administrative process

and to identify key advocacy measures that may help hasten the MOH's approval of the extension request.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TSS:** Act | East will support TSS in Meo Vac and Don Van districts of Ha Giang province starting from December 5, 2022. VNEH will implement the surveys with technical support from FHF Viet Nam and Tropical Data.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

Viet Nam:

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

October 2022

TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 59.4 million (2022)

Districts: 184

Endemic diseases: LF (119), TRA (69), OV (29), SCH (184), STH (184)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	OEM: 0/4 districts	0/41 districts (FY22 carry over)	0/41 districts (FY22 carry over)	0/11 districts (0/10 EUs)
MDA	0/4 districts	Round 1: 0/14 districts Round 2: 0/29 districts	0/41 districts (FY22 carry over)	0/41 districts (FY22 carry-over)	Round 1: 0/2 districts Round 2: 0/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS: 0/5 districts TAS1: 0/13 EUs TAS2: 0/4 EUs TAS3: 0/11 EUs	Pre-stop MDA survey: 1 focus Stop MDA survey: 1 focus	SCH impact assessment: 0/5 districts	N/A	N/A

MERLA	LF DSA outcome investigation in 0/2 districts LF follow-up surveillance survey in 0/2 districts Microplanning for TRA (0/6 districts), OV (0/3 districts), and LF (0/2 districts) TRA CES in 4/6 districts TRA DQA in 0/1 district Improve district capacity in data management using the country specific NTD database
HSS	Strengthen CCHP budget development Develop and pilot training module on NTD planning and budgeting Strengthen TZNTDCP engagement in SWAp Meetings to facilitate bilateral agreement between USAID and Gov of Tanzania Develop NTD financial strategy Support TZNTDCP to attend WATSAN technical committee Share NTD Sustainability Plan priorities with regions and districts Completion of NTD Master Plan M&E Plan

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

- Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.
- Trachoma CES was conducted in 4 districts (Longido DC, Ngorongoro DC, Monduli DC, Simanjiro DC) in October 2022.

Highlights:

- WI-HER and RTI collaborated with NTDCP to conduct a GESI Pause and Reflect (P&R) meeting in Arusha from October 17-19, 2022. The meeting brought together the six councils (Ulanga DC, Mlimba DC, Longido DC, Monduli DC, Simanjiro DC and Kiteto DC) where the GESI behavior change activity was implemented in FY22 to document lessons learned and plan for GESI implementation in FY23. The meeting highlighted the importance of health education in addressing barriers to MDA uptake and involving government and traditional community leaders in MDA. Participants also discussed how to integrate GESI lessons learned into the CDD training package and potential activities for CCHPs.
- Act | East supported the NTDCP to conduct a preparation meeting for the upcoming CCHP Pause and Reflect meeting in November. The preparation meeting was conducted in Singida from October 21-23, 2022. The technical team involved officers from PORALG, Directorate of Policy and Planning (DPP) office of the MOH, R4D, and WI-HER who collaboratively reviewed the meeting agenda, presentations, and documentation tools. During this preparation meeting, NTDCP and PORALG strongly recommended a high-level advocacy following the CCHP P&R meeting. This will be important for more resource mobilization at national and sub-national levels.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will collaborate with NTDCP, DPP office of the MOH, and PORALG to conduct the CCHP P&R meeting from November 15-18 in Dodoma. The meeting will bring together district NTD coordinators and health secretaries from the 15 districts that implemented the CCHP activity in FY22 to gather feedback on the CCHP process, successes, challenges and way forward.
- In collaboration with NTDCP and PORALG, Act | East will organize review and planning meetings for the districts and regions conducting trachoma and OV MDAs in FY23. The activity will be conducted in Morogoro from November 7-10, 2022 and will be followed by the training of trainers for trachoma and OV MDAs on November 11th.
- Act | East will support the NTDCP to conduct SCH and STH MDA in 41 districts in November 2022. This MDA was postponed from FY22 Q4.
- In collaboration with NTDCP, Act | East will conduct an LF disease-specific assessment (DSA) outcome investigation in Pangani DC and Kilwa DC in November.
- Act | East Tanzania MERLA staff will attend the NTD Information System (NIS) training in Mozambique from November 28 – December 3rd.
- Act | East will support NTDCP and the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) Tanga lab to conduct analysis of Dried Blood Spot (DBS) samples collected in FY22 for OV using OV16 rapid diagnostic tests.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

October 2022

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center, WI-HER, R4D, Save the Children
COP: [Redacted]
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 46,205,893 (2022)

Districts: 136

Endemic diseases: LF (66), TRA (41), OV (43), SCH (91), STH (136)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	Trachoma
MDA	N/A	8/11 districts (R1) 0/11 districts (R2)	0/2 districts (Dec 2022) 0/5 districts (June 2023)
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS 2: 0/8 EUs TAS 3: 0/3 EUs	N/A	TSS+: 2 EUs Confirmatory mapping: 2 districts

MERLA	Targeted follow-up investigation in two districts of Nabilatuk and Buliisa Data quality assessment (DQA) in Buliisa district
HSS	High-level meeting on mainstreaming NTD drugs Building domestic resource mobilization capacity workshops National advocacy meeting Finalize and institutionalize GESI MDA training curriculum Finalize integration of GESI into MOH-led social and behavior change packages GESI behavior change activity scale up in two districts.

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

- Table is updated with planned FY23 activities.
- OV MDA was completed in 8 districts by TCC.

Ebola Update:

- On 15 September, an index case of Ebola virus disease (EVD) was identified in Mubende District, Uganda. The Ministry of Health declared an outbreak of Sudan EVD on 20 September. As of 6 November, 135 cases have been confirmed throughout 7 districts. The CoP has weekly update meetings with HQ and HO and is actively monitoring the situation. We are developing SOPs and monitoring closely how the virus evolves within Uganda to be ready to change plans should Ebola be confirmed in our implementing districts.

Highlights:

RTI

- **Cross border Joint MDA Review Meeting.** Act | East supported the RTI team to attend the Joint MDA review meeting in Kisumu, Kenya from 26–27 October. The objective of the meeting was to review progress and document learnings and gains from the previous joint MDA and to disseminate the MDA results. The meeting was attended by Senior MOH officials from both

countries, district officials from border districts, Secretary for Health West Pokot County and partners. Some of the key recommendations were (1) to delay trachoma impact survey in West Pokot for 1 more round of MDA to have a joint impact survey with Uganda to realize intended outcomes; (2) Kenya adopting house to house approach of MDA implementation with VHTs; and (3) improving partner communication and coordination for proper planning and implementation of joint activities.

- **Reverse logistics in Buliisa.** Act | East supported MOH to complete reverse logistics in Buliisa district. The medicine balances were delivered to Hoima Regional Referral Hospital where they will be kept for the next round of MDA.
- **Meeting with MOH team.** Act | East team held a meeting with senior leadership of MOH – NTDCP led by Assistant Commissioner NTDs at Vector Control Division on 20 October 2022 to discuss ways/strategies on how to successfully implement FY23 activities. Some of the key action points were to conduct quarterly review performance meetings with MOH to assess progress of implementation of activities and ensuring that NTD technical advisory committee is well constituted to guide NTD programs.
- **Program Review Meeting.** Act | East conducted an internal review meeting of FY22 activities to discuss the challenges and successes achieved in FY22 on 24 October 2022. Action points/recommendations were made during the meeting to support implementation of FY23 activities. A focus on making sure procurement is being more aligned with the program team was discussed and a tentative timeline was drawn up.
- CoP attended the celebration of Elimination of Sleeping Sickness in Uganda along with the MOH, partners and other high level government officials.
- RTI’s Program Manager and MERLA Manager gave virtual presentations at ASTMH:
 - Experience from Joint Mass Drug Administration for Trachoma targeting migrant populations in Uganda and Kenya – [Redacted]
 - Using qualitative methods to establish factors contributing to trachoma recrudescence and low mass drug administration (MDA) coverage in Amudat district – [Redacted]
 - Improving Trachoma Mass Drug Administration (MDA) in pastoralists and mobile population in Moroto district – Lessons learnt from a Data Quality Assessment (DQA) – [Redacted]

WI-HER

- WI-HER shared Act | East’s GESI behavior change work in Uganda, particularly using assessments to inform actions, at the 2022 COR-NTD Meeting. Following the presentation, the team facilitated a 30-minute breakout session of practical skill-building exercises, where participants were able to learn and apply the root cause analysis process to specific case examples provided.
- Preparations for the GESI behavior change activity for FY23 has been initiated with the engagement of the NTD focal persons in Moroto and Nabilatuk to review the FY22 MDA data to identify potential geographical locations for scaling the activity.

TCC

- MDA has been completed in 8 out of 11 districts - Kitgum, Lira, Oyam, Gulu, Omoro, Pader, Lamwo, and Nwoya. The teams are currently compiling treatment data from the community registers.

Save the Children

- **Broadcasting of radio spot messages on F&E for pastoralist communities.** StC broadcast 66 spot messages (2 times per day) on the F&E component in the Ng’akarimojong language from October

16–27, 2022 on Ateker FM in Moroto district and Heritage FM in Nabilatuk district with the aim of encouraging facial hygiene and environmental improvements in the pastoralist communities of the Karamoja sub region.

- **Community dialogues.** Save the Children conducted 20 community dialogues between October 17 - 21 in Moroto, Amudat, and Nabilatuk. The dialogues were attended by 891 participants and the aim was to create awareness of the importance of facial cleanliness and clean environments as a means to control the spread of trachoma. In Moroto district, health workers from Tapac HC III offered outreach services including Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, and vaccination of children under 4 years in five villages alongside the community dialogues.
- **Budget conferences.** Save the Children participated in the Amudat district and Loroo sub-county budget conferences. The meeting, which was called by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), was an opportunity for implementing partners to share their FY 22/23 budgets and workplans for integration into the district and sub-county annual workplans. StC availed the Memorandum of Understanding and activity reports to CAO’s office which will be reviewed, and feedback given on the implementation of project interventions.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID-19 protocols:

RTI

- **Pre-MDA Activities.** Act | East will support MOH to conduct pre-MDA activities in preparation for December trachoma MDA in Moroto and Nabilatuk. These will be microplanning, training of district trainers, training of subcounty supervisors and health workers, training of parish supervisors and teachers, training of community medicine distributors and registration of communities for MDA. These activities are scheduled from 21 – 30 November 2022.
- **Social mobilization of communities for MDA.** Act | East will also support MOH and districts to conduct social mobilization of communities to improve MDA uptake. This will be done prior to and during MDA. Different approaches involving usage of IEC materials, radio talk shows, messages and jingles, mobile vans and megaphones will be used to educate the communities about the disease, benefits of taking the medicines and timing of the MDA. These activities are scheduled to start from 23 November 2022.

WI-HER

- **Introducing behaviour change activity in Buliisa and Nakapiripirit districts.** Act | East will support WI-HER and MOH introduce the GESI BC activity to key stakeholders in quarter one of FY23 in the two districts to help with buy-in and scheduling of the activity setup tasks, that will be implemented in quarter two of FY23. The meeting is scheduled to take place on 23 November 2022
- **Scaling up GESI Behavior Change Activity in Moroto and Nabilatuk districts.** Act | East will support WI-HER and districts to scale up GESI BC in the two districts ahead of the semi-annual MDA scheduled for December 2022. The activities are scheduled to take place from 31 October to 11 November 2022.

Save The Children

- **Community Dialogues.** In November 2022, 15 community dialogues will be conducted in the pastoral communities to gather challenges to the attainment of clean households and factors leading to the spread of trachoma. The community dialogues will target community members, elders, and opinion leaders in selected villages. Follow up will be done on previous agreed action points.

- **Supporting the functionality of the village sanitation committees**, with the aim of supporting them to understand their roles, schedule monthly meetings, identify barriers to ideal WASH practices, and come up with small, doable actions at the village level.
- **Supporting the functionality of the village sanitation committees**, with the aim of reviewing the progress made in implementation, identifying barriers to ideal WASH practices, and identifying small, doable solutions at the village level.
- **Broadcasting of spot messages.** This activity will continue in the month of November 2022 to sensitize communities on measures to control and eliminate trachoma. Additionally, radio spot messages in Swahili and the Pokot languages will be produced, pre-tested, and aired on Kalya FM, which is the most listened to radio station in Amudat.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.health.go.ug/covid/>

November 2022

ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Light for the World (LFTW), WI-HER, R4D

Total population: 113,930,631

COP: [Redacted]

Districts: 872

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: LF (85), TRA (700), OV (222), SCH (426), STH (547)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	2 districts			Desk review of unmapped districts.
MDA	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	0/85 districts + 0/5 camps • BG (0/17 districts) • BG (0/5 camps) • Oromia-LFTW (0/68 districts)	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	0/70 districts • Gambella (0/8 districts) • Oromia-FHF (0/62 districts)
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs) TAS1: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs)			TIS: 2/81 EUs • BG (0/2 EUs) • Gambella (0/9 EUs) • Oromia-FHF (2/41 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/29 EUs) TSS: 0/37 EUs • BG (0/6 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/31 EUs)

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigations in 50 districts; desk review ongoing by FHF and RTI. Data Quality Assessment During Supervision (DQA-S) in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Pre-MDA census in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district of Oromia (LFTW). Data Quality Assessment (DQA) in 3 districts of Oromia (FHF).
HSS	GESI Behavior Change activity in 2 woredas. Technical support is being provided by Wi-HER consultant to monitor Cohort & Influencer Behavioral Change Teams established in FY22 for MDA uptake enhancement in Adaba Woreda, Oromia Region. NTD Financial Roadmap Development (RTI, R4D) NTD Financial Assessment in 5 districts (RTI, R4D)

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

- Update to GESI Behavior Change activity.

Highlights:

- FHF has conducted Trachoma surveys refresher training for a total of 14 graders and 19 records; RTI MERLA officer supported the training.
- Act | East partners conducted a FY23 workplan activity briefing meeting with the Oromia RHB.
- RTI participated in regional WASH–NTD Technical Working Group workshops held in BG and Gambella regions. The main objective of the TWG meetings was to discuss how to strengthen inter-partner and government sector collaborations for those working on WASH and NTDs.
- Act | East partners provided technical support to the national NTDs program managers training organized by MOH.
- RTI participated in a training titled “The art of simple Communications in English” organized by the USAID mission.
- RTI supported the revision and draft write-up of the NTD Supply Chain Management (SCM) SOP.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- RTI plans to conduct MDA planning meetings in BG and Gambella regions in December 2022.
- RTI has planned to finalize the incorporation of feedback from the SCM TWG on the draft SCM SOP, in collaboration with & under leadership of MOH NTD team, and provide it for final review by the SCM TWG in January 2023.
- FHF plans to conduct a Trachoma MDA campaign at Sebeta Hawas woreda of Finfine Zuria Zone of Oromia region in December/January 2023.
- LFTW plans to conduct district level DHIS2 cascaded training in December 2022.
- LFTW plans to conduct OV MDA in targeted districts in January 2023.
- RTI and R4D plan to conduct NTD financial assessment in 5 districts of Oromia Region in December 2022.
- RTI and R4D plan to conduct an NTD domestic resource mobilization roadmap development workshop in January 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/>

November 2022

HAITI

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 11.9 million (2023 est.)

Districts: 140 communes

Endemic diseases: LF (140) STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	STH
MDA	0/7 communes	0/7 communes
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS in 0/2 communes (0/4 EUs) TAS3 in 0/8 EUs	N/A

MERLA	Microplanning in 0/2 communes Refresher microplanning in 0/5 communes Coverage evaluation survey (CES) in 0/2 communes MDA real-time data collection in 0/7 communes Training on WHO NTD Integrated Database
HSS	Funds flow analysis (R4D)

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

Security Update:

The economic and political situation has remained the same during the month of November. Massacres, kidnappings, and killings continue in the metropolitan area and some provincial cities. We note the availability of fuel in the Port au Prince since the police were able to regain control of the fuel terminals from the gangs. This has led to improved movement and availability of some critical goods and services. A few schools have resumed activities. The RTI office remains closed with Act | East staff working remotely from their homes. All field activities continue to be suspended until the security situation significantly improves.

Highlights:

- The FY23 Haiti work plan was approved by USAID following an amendment to the new MDA enrollers strategy at posts; this new strategy will be piloted in 4 communes during FY23 LF MDA in the North.
- In coordination with MSPP, LF implementing partners organized a virtual follow-up meeting on the LF elimination dossier. During the meeting, participants established the objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the dossier committee and created a plan to collate all LF historical data by the end of January. A data compilation sub-committee comprised of MSPP and partner M&E staff are working to compile the historical data and holding regular working meetings virtually.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- All field activities are currently suspended until the security situation improves.
- Two MERLA staff will travel to Indonesia in January to participate in the regional NTD Information System (NIS) training.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

MSPP: https://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/Sitrep%20COVID-19_24-07-2021.pdf

November 2022

INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 274,859,094

Districts: 514

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts
LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 0/4 EUs TAS : 0/4 EUs BIS : 0/11 EUs

MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: None

Highlights:

- Act | East Indonesia, in collaboration with the MOH, is supporting the implementation of a Brugia Impact Survey (BIS) in Konawe District which began with a two-day on-the-job training with the survey team on November 28-29, 2022. Cluster sites and individual household selections were completed using the latest SSB following the official protocol. Sample collection of night blood began immediately following the training. In the first few days of sample collection the non-response rate was high, but the survey teams hope increase community mobilization to improve survey response rates. The survey will continue through mid-December 2022.
- Act | East Indonesia and the MOH are supporting the implementation of a school-based TAS1 in Nabire District which began with a one-day on-the-job training for the survey team on November 28, with sample collection using FTS at randomly selected schools based on the standard SSB beginning on November 29. Sample collection will continue through mid-December 2022.

Upcoming activities:

- Implementation of the BIS survey in Konawe District will continue through mid-December 2022.
- Implementation of the TAS1 in Nabire District will also continue through mid-December 2022.
- Act | East Indonesia will host the NIS regional training workshop in Jakarta in early January 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.go.id/id>

November 2022

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 32,419,747

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: LF (114), OV (5), SCH (161),
STH (153), Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
MDA	1/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 4/9 EUs TSS: 0/15 EUs

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigation in 3 districts LF pre-TAS Outcome Investigation in 34 districts Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: None.

Highlights:

- Act | East AOR visited Mozambique between November 7-11. He met with the Public Health National Director, NTD program staff, the USAID mission, WHO representatives, and the health management team of Nampula province and Moma district.
- Act | East Mozambique hosted the NTD Information System (NIS) regional training workshop in Maputo between Nov 28- Dec 03, with the participation of Act | East MERLA staff from Nigeria, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, the United States, and the Task Force for Global Health. This new database will replace the current Act | East data capture and reporting system.
- There is ongoing discussion on the Ivermectin drug tax importation fees (MCNET). Mectizan confirmed to the National NTD Program that the unit price of IVM has decreased from \$700 to \$105. The NTD Coordinator has requested an updated invoice to be submitted to the national warehouse, and a tax exemption.
- TAURUS study samples collected during TIS in four districts are being prepared for shipment to the University of California San Francisco. The Act | East Mozambique COP is finalizing shipment documentation with the provincial lab. This activity is funded by RTI’s discretionary Strategic Investment Fund (dSIF).
- Eight photographers and eight graders were trained in Beira district (Sofala province) for three days and started to test the TT smartphone tool in two districts, Chemba district, Sofala province and Guro district, Manica province. This activity is funded by RTI’s dSIF.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **Steering committee meeting:** Act | East will support a 2-day meeting in Maputo in December 2022 for the participants of the 11 provinces and NTD partners, where program performance will be reviewed.
- **World NTD day:** Act | East and other partners will support MISAU in celebration of World NTD Day on January 31, 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

November 2022

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 29,847,607

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: LF (63) TRA (20) STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
Mapping	4 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 4/4 districts (VBDRTC), 1 district (Madesh PPL) TAS2: 3 districts (VBDRTC) TAS3: 9 districts (VBDRTC)
MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training
HSS	GESI behavior change activity in Banke district (WI-HER) Dissemination of domestic resource mobilization case study for NTDs (R4D)

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

- Surveys were completed in four districts (Jhapa, Lamjung, Parbat and Baglung). Results are forthcoming in the December 2022 TAS tracker submission.

Highlights:

- Act | East worked with Vector Born Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC), Madesh provincial lab, and FAIRMED to finalize FAA packages for surveys and social mobilization work.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- TAS 3 in 8 districts (Okhaldhunga, Kaski, Argakhachi, Pyuthan, Rolpa, Rukum East, Rukum West, Salyan) in beginning in mid-December 2022 and into January 2023.
- Re-Pre-TAS in Bara district in late December 2022 to January 2023.
- TAS 2 in 2 districts (Ilam and Panchthar) in January-February 2023.
- TAS 3 in Sindhuli district in January-February 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

November 2022

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 207.8 million

Districts (LGAs): 774

Endemic diseases: LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC)	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC) 0/55 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 0/1 (RTI/TCC) TAS 1 : 0/54 (TCC) TAS 2 : 0/7 (RTI)	Epi/Ento surveys: (RTI 0/15)			TT-only survey : 1/1 (RTI)

HSS	Costing Analysis of NTD Targeted Interventions in Cross River State
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Summary and explanation of **changes** made to table above since last month: None

Highlights:

RTI

- **Courtesy visit to Federal Ministry of Health:** Act | East’s Chief of Party and Program team visited the Federal Ministry of Health’s National NTD Coordinator on November 7, 2022. The team delivered the approved FY23 workplan and discussed tentative timeline for implementation of the upcoming surveys for LF.
- **Courtesy visit to Cross River State Ministry of Health:** Act | East’s Chief of Party and Program team visited the Cross River State Ministry of health on November 16-18, 2022. The team met with the State NTD Coordinator, the Director for Public Health (DPH) and the head of the Cross River Geographic Information Agency. Key highlights from the meeting were:
 - Discussed the FY23 workplan activities
 - The state is currently collecting MMDP cases using WhatsApp but more support is needed to scale this up and provide services. The state is exploring opportunities with UNICEF and the primary health development agency
 - The CRS Geographic Information Agency has the coordinates and files for all villages and communities in CRS. This information will be helpful in validating sites for the upcoming OV surveys

- **National NTD Steering Committee Meeting:** Act | East and Sightsavers jointly supported the Federal Ministry of Health to hold the second annual steering committee meeting for calendar year 2022. The meeting was held in Abuja from November 28- December 2, 2022, with the sub-committees meeting during the first two days and the whole committee meeting on the last three days. Key highlights from the meeting were:
 - Decision to launch the second NTD master Plan during world NTD Day on January 30, 2023. The Committee asked the FMOH to expedite completion of the document
 - Recognition of the lack of progress in conducting SCH/STH surveys and recommendation that FMOH and partners pilot the integration of SCH/STH surveys with LF surveys and if feasible, consider using this approach to scale up
- **Regional Training on USAID’s NTD Information System (NIS) In Mozambique:** Act| East Nigeria Program team and the M&E officer from the Carter Center participated in the five-day NIS Training held in Maputo, Mozambique.

TCC

- **Community/School mobilization** for LF TAS-1 in four states (Enugu, Imo, Abia and Ebonyi States).
- **LF TAS-1** successfully conducted in 4 LGAs (3 EUs) in Ebonyi State, 1 LGA (1 EU) in Enugu State, 5 LGAs (2 EUs) in Imo state, and 4 LGAs (2 EUs) in Abia State in November 2022.
- **Community mobilization and sensitization for MDA** in Ebonyi, Imo and Abia States were conducted.
- **Community level training of CDDs/CS** in Ebonyi, Edo and Delta States carried out.
- **MDA** ongoing in Enugu, Delta, Imo, Abia and Ebonyi States.
- The 6 border LGAs Coordinators in Edo held a meeting with the TCC Country Representative (CR), two TCC Directors, PO and State NTD Coordinator in Benin City to deliberate and strategize on the MDA issues of villages bordering Edo and Ondo State from 9th to 10th November 2022.
- Continued retrieval of training and treatment for OV/LF MDA and SCH/STH MDA data in eight supported States of Edo, Ebonyi, Imo, Abia, Delta, Enugu, Plateau and Nasarawa

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

RTI

- Conduct LF Pre-TAS in Yala LGA of CRS in December
- An OV survey planning meeting will be conducted in Cross River State in early January.

TCC

- Monitoring and Supervision of MDA in Delta, Imo, Abia and Ebonyi States in December.
- Treatment data retrieval in Delta, Imo, Abia and Ebonyi States in December.
- Data collation, verification, entry and reporting in all the eight supported states in December.
- Field work on TAS1 in the remaining EUs of Enugu, Imo and Abia States in December.
- Data collation in the eight supported states in December.

Other upcoming activities:

- Mop-up treatment in all eight supported States subject to availability of medicines in December.
- BCC training and LLIN Distribution in Nkanu East and Enugu State in December.
- Refresher training for LGAs teams in 3 Border LGAs in Edo state in December.
- DQA in 2 LGAs in both Edo and Delta states.

- Data Review meeting for Edo and Delta states.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

November 2022

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

Total population: 114,861,989

Districts: 82

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
HSS	Health financing technical support for LF planning and budgeting at national and provincial level (R4D)

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

Highlights:

- With technical support from Act | East consultant [Redacted] and WHO, IDA was launched in Oriental Mindoro province on Sunday, November 20th and in Sultan Kudarat province on November 23rd, 2022.
- Act | East HQ, with input from USAID, finalized a job description for a Technical Advisor role, to replace the Program Technical Support Manager previously occupied by [Redacted]. This position will fill a technical role within the DOH in support of the LF program and contribute to broader integration efforts in the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau. The position will be advertised until a suitable candidate is found.

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East will open recruitment for a Technical Advisor in December 2022.
- USAID focal point [Redacted] and Project Coordinator [Redacted] will visit Manila in December 2022 to connect with [Redacted], USAID Philippines, and various colleagues in the DOH.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: <https://www.who.int/philippines/>

National: <https://www.bing.com/search?q=covid+tracker+philippines&cvid=b368868aa4584b8498713f2be9385525&aqs=edge..69i57j0.3720j0j1&pglt=547&FORM=ANSAB1&PC=DCTS>

<https://doh.gov.ph/covid-19/case-tracker>

November 2022

Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam

Act | East Partner: RTI, FHF in Viet Nam

Total population: Bangladesh (175,599,695); Lao PDR (7,320,249); Viet Nam (96,844,240)

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PDR (17); Viet Nam (63)

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64); Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Viet Nam LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15).

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
DSA (#EUs)	Viet Nam TSS: 2 Viet Nam TT-only: 4
MERLA	Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam: Learning activity on dossier development models

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

Activities updates:

Bangladesh

- The final draft of the LF elimination dossier is still awaiting final signature from the Minister of Health. It will be submitted to WHO SEARO for review and validation after it is signed, expected to happen in December 2022.

Lao PDR

- Act | East and WHO have supported Lao PDR’s CMPE to respond to the Regional Dossier Review Group’s (RDRG) comments within their LF elimination dossier. The dossier should be resubmitted to WHO WPRO and the RDRG in December 2022.

Viet Nam

- FHF Viet Nam and Act | East HQ continue to work with VNEH on their submission of an extension request to the MOH in order to complete four TT-only surveys that are necessary for the finalization of the country’s trachoma dossier. A funding letter (which is part of the extension request) has been shared with the MOH and VNEH has received comments. Act | East has also facilitated WHO to advocate for this request to specific VNEH and MOH officials.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **TSS:** Act | East will support TSS in Meo Vac and Don Van districts of Ha Giang province starting from December 5, 2022. VNEH will implement the surveys with technical support from FHF Viet Nam and Tropical Data.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

Viet Nam:

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

November 2022

TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 59.4 million (2022)

Districts: 184

Endemic diseases: LF (119), TRA (69), OV (29), SCH (184), STH (184)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	OEM: 0/4 districts	N/A	N/A	0/11 districts (0/10 EUs)
MDA	0/4 districts	Round 1: 0/14 districts Round 2: 0/29 districts	35/35 districts (FY22 carry over)	41/41 districts (FY22 carry-over)	Round 1: 0/2 districts Round 2: 0/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS: 0/5 districts TAS1: 0/13 EUs TAS2: 0/4 EUs TAS3: 0/11 EUs	Pre-stop MDA survey: 1 focus Stop MDA survey: 1 focus	SCH impact assessment: 0/5 districts	N/A	N/A

MERLA	LF DSA outcome investigation in 0/2 districts LF follow-up surveillance survey in 0/2 districts Microplanning for TRA (0/6 districts), OV (0/3 districts), and LF (0/2 districts) TRA CES in 4/6 districts TRA DQA in 0/1 district Improve district capacity in data management using the country specific NTD database
HSS	Strengthen CCHP budget development Develop and pilot training module on NTD planning and budgeting Strengthen TZNTDCP engagement in SWAp Meetings to facilitate bilateral agreement between USAID and Gov of Tanzania Develop NTD financial strategy Support TZNTDCP to attend WATSAN technical committee Share NTD Sustainability Plan priorities with regions and districts Completion of NTD Master Plan M&E Plan

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

- School-based SCH/STH MDA was conducted in 35 districts and STH MDA was conducted in 6 districts in November 2022, as initially planned in the FY22 work plan.

Highlights:

- Act | East supported the NTDCP to conduct regional review and planning meetings for OV and trachoma in Morogoro from November 6-12th, 2022. These involved a series of meetings that included

review of FY22 activities, planning and budgeting for FY23 activities, and training of trainers for trachoma and OV MDAs. Participants included the NTD Coordinators for health, NTD Coordinators for education, pharmacists and accountants from 9 councils and 4 regions endemic for trachoma and 25 councils and 7 regions endemic for OV.

- Following the review and planning meetings, WI-HER supported an additional two-day GESI training in the five councils that will implement the GESI behavior change activity in FY23. In addition, Act | East presented the draft CDD training package addendum and solicited feedback on the addendum from the council and regional NTD teams. An updated version of the CDD training addendum that includes participants' feedback will be shared with national NTDCP for finalization.
- Act | East supported preparation for the CCHP Pause & Reflect meeting which was planned for November 15-18th, but the meeting had to be postponed when key PORALG facilitators could no longer participate due to competing priorities. The meeting will be rescheduled tentatively the third week of January 2023.
- Two Act | East Tanzania MERLA staff attended the NTD Information System (NIS) training in Mozambique from November 28 – December 3rd.
- In collaboration with NTDCP, Act | East conducted training of trachoma graders and recorders for trachoma confirmatory mapping surveys in 11 councils. The training was conducted from November 21-22nd and was preceded by field pre-visit from November 15th. Data collection is ongoing as of November 23rd and should conclude by December 16th.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will complete data collection for the trachoma mapping surveys in 11 districts in Simiyu, Katavi, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Morogoro regions by December 16th.
- Act | East will re-engage PORALG, NTDCP and councils for planning of the CCHP Pause & Reflect meeting planned for January 2023.
- In collaboration with NTDCP, Act | East will conduct an LF DSA outcome investigation in Pangani and Kilwa DCs from December 9 – 22nd.
- Act | East will plan for a trachoma Data Quality Assessment in Kiteto DC in January 2023.
- Act | East Tanzania's management team will travel to Dodoma for high level courtesy meetings with the Director of Health and Nutrition of the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) and the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Health. The aim of the meeting is to strengthen the collaboration with the key government entities for smooth implementation of FY23 activities.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

November 2022

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center, WI-HER, R4D, Save the Children
COP: [Redacted]
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 46,205,893 (2022)

Districts: 136

Endemic diseases: LF (66), TRA (41), OV (43), SCH (91), STH (136)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	Trachoma
MDA	N/A	11/11 districts (R1) 0/11 districts (R2)	0/2 districts (Jan 2023) 0/5 districts (June 2023)
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS 2: 0/8 Eus TAS 3: 0/3 EUs	N/A	TSS+: 2 EUs Confirmatory mapping: 2 districts

MERLA	Targeted follow-up investigation in two districts of Nabilatuk and Buliisa Data quality assessment (DQA) in Buliisa district
HSS	High-level meeting on mainstreaming NTD drugs Building domestic resource mobilization capacity workshops National advocacy meeting Finalize and institutionalize GESI MDA training curriculum Finalize integration of GESI into MOH-led social and behavior change packages GESI behavior change activity scale up in two districts.

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

- TCC completed OV MDA in 3 remaining districts, for a total of 11 districts.

Highlights:

RTI

- **Pause and Reflect Session.** Act | East Uganda team participated in a two-day, internal pause and reflect session about the Karamoja MDA Strategy from 7th – 8th November 2022. It was attended by Save the Children, WI-HER, and RTI and the Ugandan team shared their experiences about activities that have been implemented to improve MDA outcomes among the migratory populations. Through this, some activities were identified to help enhance the treatment strategy in the upcoming MDA and the consequent MDAs.
- **Meeting with Act | East Partners.** RTI Act | East Uganda team held a meeting on 9th November 2022 to plan for the bi-annual MDA in Moroto and Nabilatuk districts. The partners that attended the meeting are WI-HER and Save the Children. One of the key outcomes of the meeting was to have regular review and update meetings to coordinate better as we implement MDA activities.
- **Preparatory Meeting for Confirmatory mapping in Kween and Bulambuli Districts.** Act | East team held a meeting on 23rd November with the Act | East Trachoma Advisor to prepare for

confirmatory mapping scheduled to be held in February 2023 in the two districts of Kween and Bulambuli.

- **Preparatory Meeting for TSS+.** Act | East team held a meeting with senior RTI HQ team to plan and prepare for TSS+ scheduled to take place in July 2023 in the two EUs of Nebbi. Training component for swab collection and capacity of the local laboratories to conduct sample processing and testing were some of the issues discussed during the meeting that was held on 28th November 2022.

WI-HER

- WI-HER held a coordination meeting with Save the Children to agree on areas of coordination in FY23. The coordination will involve overlapping in three villages across Moroto and Nabilatuk districts and information sharing on barriers and influencers of MDA.
- Eight new villages in Moroto and Nabilatuk Districts were selected for scaling up the GESI behavior change activity. The new villages were selected on the basis of having low MDA coverage.
- The GESI behavior change activity started in all new villages following orientation of the root agents on tools and conducting root-cause analysis to inform behavior change team formation and devising of solutions to test.
- Act | East supported Moroto and Nabilatuk district GESI teams to conduct check-in meetings with root agents and behavior change teams in three sub-counties with both old and new villages where the GESI behavior change activity is being scaled up. The purpose was to monitor progress of the new influencers regarding testing of their solutions and to give them a chance to interact with and learn from the old influencers' experiences.
- Worked with the MOH and RTI to introduce the GESI behavior change activity in Buliisa District to a total of 10 district stakeholders. Buliisa's previous MDA data was reviewed and four villages from three sub-counties were selected for implementation of GESI behavior change activity. An action plan on how to proceed with the behavior change activity start-up tasks was agreed upon at the end of the meeting.

TCC

- MDA was completed in 3 remaining districts of Adjumani, Amuru and Moyo with over 90% coverage.
- Training of Health Workers/Sub County Focal Persons has commenced in all districts except one.
- The bi-annual review meeting with the DOCs was held on November 23, 2022. The aim of the meeting was to review the program's progress and plan for the next round of MDA. The MOH, the National Onchocerciasis Program Manager, and the TCC Senior Program Mgr. were in attendance. Drug balances and accountability and community health education were some of the issues that were discussed during the review meeting.

Save the Children

- **Community dialogues:** 10 community dialogue sessions were conducted in November in the districts of Nakapiripirit and Amudat with an attendance of 600 participants. The aim of the dialogues was to create awareness on the importance of facial cleanliness and clean environments as a means to control the spread of trachoma.
- **Supporting the functionality of the Village Sanitation Committees (VSCs):** To date, 120 VSCs were formed in Moroto and Nabilatuk and ongoing meetings are held as part of the routine support to the committees. Program Officers organized and conducted eleven engagement meetings with VSCs of

Moroto and Nabilatuk in November. A total of 98 participants attended these meetings. Meeting participants developed action plans that included follow-up on latrine construction, improving facial hygiene of community members, and setting dates for the next meetings.

- **Attending the Pause and Reflection meeting:** Save the Children participated in the Uganda Act | East Pause and Reflection virtual meeting organized by RTI through in November. The aim of this reflection was to share experiences on progress, what is working, what is not working and come up with innovative ideas of how to move forward. During this meeting synergies were identified to ensure villages that had poor performance in previous MDA are identified especially for Moroto and Nabilatuk districts and gaps bridged for improved performance in the upcoming mass drug administration.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID-19 protocols:

RTI

- **Delivery of MDA medicines to Districts.** Act | East will support MOH to deliver trachoma MDA medicines from NMS to the two districts of Moroto and Nabilatuk being targeted for bi-annual MDA in January 2023.
- **Social mobilization of communities for MDA.** Act | East will also support MOH and districts to conduct social mobilization of communities to improve MDA uptake. This will be done prior to and during MDA.
- **Planning meeting with District Leaders.** Act | East will also support MOH to conduct a virtual meeting with district leaders of Moroto and Nabilatuk to plan for the upcoming MDA in January 2023. The meeting is scheduled to take place in the 3rd week of December 2022.

TCC

- Completion of health worker training on MDA in the remaining district
- Training of Community supervisors and Local Council 1 Leaders on OV MDA
- Fresh community registration

StC

- Act | East will provide support to eleven VSCs (six for Moroto and five for Nabilatuk) to conduct meetings at the village level in December.
- Broadcasting of spot messages will continue in December to sensitize and mobilize communities for the upcoming MDA scheduled for January 2023. A total of 22 spot messages will be broadcast via Ateker FM, the local radio station in Moroto district, which covers the nine districts in the Karamoja sub-region and neighboring districts as well.
- Community dialogues will continue in December and target kraal leaders, natural leaders and household heads in Nabilatuk, Moroto, Amudat and Nakapiripirit districts. These dialogues will target the eleven lowest performing villages from the last MDA that were identified during the trachoma coverage evaluation survey.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.health.go.ug/covid/>

December 2022

ETHIOPIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF),
Light for the World (LFTW), WI-HER, R4D
COP: [Redacted]
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 113,930,631

Districts: 872

Endemic diseases: LF (85), TRA (700), OV
(222), SCH (426), STH (547)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	2 districts			Desk review of unmapped districts.
MDA	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	0/85 districts + 0/5 camps • BG (0/17 districts) • BG (0/5 camps) • Oromia-LFTW (0/68 districts)	0/1 camp • BG (0/1 camp)	1/70 districts • Gambella (0/8 districts) • Oromia-FHF (1/62 districts)
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs) TAS1: 0/5 EUs • BG (0/4 EUs) • Oromia (0/1 EUs)			TIS: 21/81 EUs • BG (0/2 EUs) • Gambella (0/9 EUs) • Oromia-FHF (21/41 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/29 EUs) TSS: 3/40 EUs • BG (0/6 EUs) • Oromia-FHF (3/3 EUs) • Oromia-LFTW (0/31 EUs)

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigations in 50 districts; desk review ongoing by FHF and RTI. Data Quality Assessment During Supervision (DQA-S) in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Pre-MDA census in 2 districts of Gambella (RTI). Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district of Oromia (LFTW). Data Quality Assessment (DQA) in 3 districts of Oromia (FHF).
HSS	GESI Behavior Change activity in 2 woredas: GESI Behavior Change activity set up completed in Sebeta Hawas district of Oromia region. NTD Financial Roadmap Development (RTI, R4D) NTD Financial Assessment in 5 districts (RTI, R4D): Conducted in Jimma and Bale Zones of Oromia region; result analysis and continued assessment targeting ORHB and MOH stakeholders is ongoing.

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

- Trachoma MDA completed in one district and impact surveys in 16 districts Bale (11 TIS) and East Bale (5 TIS) zones of Oromia.
- TSS completed in three districts in Borena (2 EUs) and Guji (1 EU) zones of Oromia.
- Update to HSS activities.

Highlights:

- RTI and R4D conducted the NTD financial assessment in Jimma (3 districts) and Bale (2 districts) zones. The team interviewed stakeholders including, planning heads, finance heads, health office heads, and NTD experts. Continued engagement and data collection with the Oromia RHB and MOH stakeholders is ongoing.
- LFTW conducted DHIS2 and NTD database training for Health Information Technicians and NTD focal persons from West Oromia. An action plan was developed to improve the DHIS2 system utilization.
- Act | East participated in the NTD Supply Chain Management (SCM) technical working group meeting organized by MOH. Main points of discussion during the meeting were NTD SCM SOP revision, Zithromax shipment shortage and the establishment of MDA safety TWG.
- RTI provided technical support to the MOH NTD team in the process of importing historical NTD data from 2020 and 2021 TEMF and JRF forms into the NTD database.
- RTI Regional TA participated in the integrated MDA supervision conducted by MOH in Beneshangul-Gumuz. Population data discrepancy between projected and actual population figures, absence of DHIS2 and vertical reports documentation, information gap between the Ethiopian Pharmaceuticals Supply Service regional hub and program officers were the major findings identified during supervision.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- RTI is participating as committee member for preparations for the upcoming World NTD Day celebration in Jan 2023.
- Mass Drug Administration activities:
 - LFTW plans to conduct the district level DHIS2 cascade training for participants who did not participate in the December session due to security challenges at Kellem and West Wellega zones in January 2023.
 - RTI plans DHIS2 and NTD database training at BG region in January 2023.
 - RTI plans to conduct NTDs MDA planning meetings at BG region in January 2023.
 - RTI plans to conduct MDA TOT, and OV/LF MDA at BG region in January 2023.
 - LFTW plans to conduct OV MDA in February 2023.
 - FHF plans to conduct Trachoma MDA at Sebeta Hawas woreda of Finfine Zuria Zone of Oromia region in February 2023.
 - RTI plans to conduct NTD MDA planning meeting at Gambella region in February/March 2023.
 - RTI plans to conduct trachoma MDA TOT at Gambella region in February/March 2023.
 - RTI plans DHIS2 and NTD database training at Gambella region in February 2023.
- Survey activities:

- RTI plans to conduct LF Pre-TAS training and survey implementation at Kofele district of West Arsi zone in January 2023.
- RTI plans to conduct DSA failure investigation field qualitative data collection activity in 2 districts of Gambella region (Gambella and Gog) in January 2023.
- FHF plans to conduct trachoma surveys in 2 districts of East Bale zone in January 2023.
- LFTW plans to conduct trachoma surveys training in February/March 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.epi.gov.et/>

December 2022

HAITI

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D
COP: [Redacted]
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 11.9 million (2023 est.)
Districts: 140 communes
Endemic diseases: LF (140) STH (140)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	STH
MDA	0/7 communes	0/7 communes
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS in 0/2 communes (0/4 EUs) TAS3 in 0/8 Eus	N/A

MERLA	Microplanning in 0/2 communes Refresher microplanning in 0/5 communes Coverage evaluation survey (CES) in 0/2 communes MDA real-time data collection in 0/7 communes Training on WHO NTD Integrated Database
HSS	Funds flow analysis (R4D)

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

Security Update:

In the month of December 2022, violence and political instability remained widespread in Haiti. The epicenter of this insecurity is in the capital of Port au Prince and the West Department, where gang attacks and kidnappings remain common. Nationwide, there were continued fuel and electricity shortages, a deepening political deadlock, and a persistent cholera outbreak. Unfortunately, the hoped-for external military intervention has not taken place, and the Haitian government is slow to reach a consensus that would put an end to the ongoing crisis. Amidst all these uncertainties and difficulties, schools have kept their doors open.

The RTI office remained closed throughout December with Act | East staff working remotely from their homes. All field activities are currently on hold, but a contingency plan was drafted that would allow the project to begin activities in early February, starting with the planned pre-TAS.

Highlights:

- Act | East staff held a meeting to devise a realistic and feasible plan to carry out activities despite the security situation occurring mostly in the metropolitan region. This contingency plan relies in part on using more local staff and vendors to undertake some tasks and travel by air to the communes to avoid the dangers of the national roads out of Port au Prince.

- RTI initiated discussion with the MSPP on plans for World NTD Day considering the security situation. Two virtual meetings were held in December to discuss various options and the MSPP will share a final TOR and budget for proposed World NTD Day activities in early January.
- The LF elimination dossier data committee (comprised of MSPP and partner M&E staff) held their monthly virtual meeting in December. The committee is compiling historical data and progressing toward their objective of having a complete historical LF dataset by end of January.
- Act | East submitted a report of activities for FY22 to the MSPP and USAID Mission upon request.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Training for pre-TAS in 2 districts (4 EUs) is planned for the last week of January.
- Celebration of World NTD Day will take place on January 30th.
- RTI and WI-HER will support the MSPP to hold a virtual annual partners' meeting and MDA training curriculum workshop in February.
- Two MERLA staff will travel to Indonesia in January to participate in the regional NTD Information System (NIS) training.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

MSPP: https://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/Sitrep%20COVID-19_24-07-2021.pdf

December 2022

INDONESIA

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 274,859,094

Districts: 514

Endemic diseases: # ever endemic districts
LF (236), SCH (2), STH (514)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 0/4 EUs TAS : 1/4 EUs BIS : 1/11 EUs

MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated number of surveys completed during the month of December 2022.

Highlights:

- Act | East Indonesia, with the MOH, supported the implementation of a Brugia Impact Survey (BIS) in Konawe District. Data collection took place from November 30- December 9, 2022, with a passing result. A total of 1091 samples were collected and only one tested positive for Mf.
- Act | East Indonesia and the MOH also supported the implementation of a school-based TAS1 in Nabire District, with sample collection using FTS taking place from November 29-December 8, 2022. This survey also passed, as total of 1591 samples were collected with zero positive Mf results.

Upcoming activities:

- Act | East Indonesia will host the NIS Regional Training Workshop in Jakarta from January 9 – 13, 2023. Two staff from Act | East Indonesia will attend.
- Act | East Indonesia will also host a Mf Microscopy Study Tour for 4 participants from Act | East Nepal from January 16 – 18, including a one-day session at the Laboratory of the Medical Faculty of the University of Indonesia.
- Implementation of the BIS survey in Gunung Mas in collaboration with the MOH is scheduled to begin on January 16, 2023.
- Implementation of the Pre-TAS in Tambrau in collaboration with the MOH is scheduled to begin on January 22, 2023.
- The MOH will organize a special national event to commemorate World NTD Day on January 30, 2023, including a press briefing and a one-day seminar on NTDs. Act | East Indonesia will promote the event through our social media channels and networks.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://covid19.go.id/>

December 2022

MOZAMBIQUE

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 32,419,747

Districts: 161

Endemic diseases: LF (114), OV (5), SCH (161), STH (153), Trachoma (65)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
MDA	1/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	TIS: 4/9 EUs TSS: 0/15 EUs

MERLA	Trachoma DSA Outcome Investigation in 3 districts LF pre-TAS Outcome Investigation in 34 districts Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) in 1 district
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month: None.

Highlights:

- The **Steering committee meeting** in Maputo province was held December 6-7 with the participation of the National Public Health Director, the NTD department staff, representative of the Water and Sanitation department, the 11 provincial NTD focal points, representatives of the medical provincial chiefs and implementing partners MSF, Counterpart International and Sightsavers. The meeting was an opportunity to review program performance, discuss the successes and the challenges, and discuss activities planned during calendar year 2023.
- Act | East Project Director visited Mozambique between December 6-9. She met with the NTD program staff and the USAID mission.
- Act | East COP participated at the Trachoma Expert Committee meeting in Cape Town from December 12-14. He presented on the conflict sensitivity approach for insecure areas, and on the use of SMS during MDA.
- TAURUS study samples collected during TIS in four districts were shipped to the University of California San Francisco who is proceeding with sample processing. This activity is funded by RTI's discretionary Strategic Investment Fund (dSIF).
- Eight photographers and eight graders tested the TT smartphone tool in two districts, Chemba district, Sofala province and Guro district, Manica province with the participation of a representative from the University of North Carolina (UNC). UNC is proceeding with the data analysis. This activity is funded by RTI's dSIF.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- **World NTD day:** Act | East and other partners will support MISAU in celebration of World NTD Day on January 31, 2023.
- Trachoma Dossier elimination meeting in February 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

December 2022

NEPAL

Act | East Partner: RTI

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 29,847,607

Districts: 77

Endemic diseases: LF (63) TRA (20) STH (77)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
Mapping	4 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS: 4/4 districts (VBDRTC), 1/1 district (MPPHL) TAS2: 3 districts (VBDRTC) TAS3: 8/9 districts (VBDRTC)
MERLA	Act East staff NIS database testing and training
HSS	GESI behavior change activity in Banke district (WI-HER) Dissemination of domestic resource mobilization case study for NTDs (R4D)

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

- Surveys were completed in nine districts in December 2022. TAS3 in eight districts (Okheldhunga, Kaski, Argakhachi, Pyuthan, Rolpa, Rukum East, Rukum West, Salyan) and Re-pre-TAS in one district (Bara). Results are forthcoming in the January 2023 TAS tracker submission.

Highlights:

- Madhesh Province Public Health Laboratory (MPPHL) completed field work of Re-Pre-TAS in Bara district. This was the first time Act | East Nepal implemented a FAA with a provincial level government unit in the current federal system. This model differs from working with VBDRTC in a way that, in this model all enumerators (lab technicians and counsellors) are from the government system. This aims to strengthen DSA capacity at provincial and district level for long-term sustainability. Act | East Nepal provided strong technical and some administrative support to MPPHL for this survey and believe that the provincial lab learned enough to be able to implement future DSAs with less support.
- Vector Born Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC) completed field work of TAS 3 in 8 districts (Okheldhunga, Kaski, Argakhachi, Pyuthan, Rolpa, Rukum East, Rukum West and Salyan).

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Two Act | East Nepal staff will attend the NIS Regional Training Workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia from January 9-13. Act | East Indonesia will also host a Mf Microscopy Study Tour for four participants

from Act | East Nepal from January 16-18, including a one-day session at the Laboratory of the Medical Faculty of the University of Indonesia.

- World NTD Day will be celebrated with events at the central and/or provincial level at the end of January. Details are still being decided with the MOHP.
- TAS 2 in Ilam and Panchthar districts in January-February 2023, pending FAA approval.
- TAS 3 in Sindhuli district in January-February 2023, pending FAA approval.
- LF MDA activities in 15 districts (Jhapa, Morang, Dhanusha, Mohattari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bara, Lamjung, Parbat, Baglung, Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke, Kailali and Rasuwa) in January-March 2023, including planning meetings, social mobilization support, MDA supervision, and GESI behavior change activity.
- Videography of LF MDA in one district (still to be selected) in February 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

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

December 2022

NIGERIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center
COP: [Redacted]
RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 207.8 million
Districts (LGAs): 774
Endemic diseases: LF (553), OV (449), SCH (691), STH (415), Trachoma (143)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
MDA	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC)	0/36 districts (RTI/TCC) 0/55 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	0/135 districts (TCC)	
DSAs (#EUs)	Pre-TAS : 1/1 (RTI) TAS 1 : 0/54 (TCC) TAS 2 : 0/7 (RTI)	Epi/Ento surveys: (RTI 0/15)			TT-only survey : 1/1 (RTI)

HSS	Costing Analysis of NTD Targeted Interventions in Cross River State
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Completed Pre-TAS in Yala LGA of CRS

Highlights:

RTI

- Act | East participated and presented at the 15th National Onchocerciasis Elimination Committee (NOEC) Meeting held in Abuja from 7th to 9th December 2022. Key highlights of the meeting include:
 - Act | East to proceed with Onchocerciasis River prospection in CRS and present the outcome to NOEP/NOEC
 - Act| East to complete OV Epidemiological and Entomological Assessment to confirm the change of CRS from Tan (transmission suspected interrupted) to Ash (transmission interrupted). NOEC also confirmed that black fly collection be commenced after completion of entomological survey and be conducted for a period of 12 months.
 - Entomological survey results from Abia, Anambra, Enugu, and Imo confirmed that the four states have successfully interrupted transmission and can be reclassified from **Tan** to **Ash**. The four States are to commence Post Treatment Surveillance (PTS) when LF treatment stops.

- That FMOH prioritize LF assessment in LF-OV co-endemic LGAs that have stopped OV MDA
- That Partners support States to implement MMDP activities.
- Both Cameroon and Benin Republic be invited early to NOEC meetings
- That FMOH to organize cross border meetings for bordering States where OV transmission has been interrupted and present at the next NOEC meeting.
- That CRS consider conducting cross border meetings with Cameroon and states bordering CRS (Akwa Ibom, Benue, Ebonyi and Abia)
- From December 10-19, Act | East provided financial and technical support to FMOH and CRS to conduct Pre-TAS in Yala LGA of CRS. The official FMOH report is pending, and results will be reflected in the TAS tracker. However, it was noted that close interaction between community members in Yala and bordering communities in other states (Benue & Ebonyi) presents a risk for cross-border transmission. The need for collaboration with State and Partners in Ebonyi and Benue for targeted treatment at the border communities was noted.

TCC

- Supervision of MDA was done in the five border LGAs of Edo state from 14th to 21st December 2022.
- Training of FLHWs and CDDs was done in Ika Northeast LGA in Delta, 14th to 23rd December 2022.
- Mop-up treatment was carried out in Nkanu East LGA of Enugu State notably in Amagunze, Amechi Idodo, Eziam, Nomeh, Nara and Nkerefi axes on 15 – 16 December 2022.
- Data verification and entry for the 4 LGAs of Ebonyi State.
- Continued retrieval of training and treatments data in Plateau, Nasarawa and Ebonyi States.
- Monitoring and tracking of immigrants in the border LGAs were carried out in Plateau and Nasarawa States.
- Oncho post elimination surveillance radio jingles were aired in Plateau and Nasarawa States
- Data retrieval in 21 LGA in Imo State and all 17 LGAs of Abia State has been concluded.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

RTI

- OV River Prospection in CRS
- OV Epidemiological Assessment in CRS in February 2023
- LF TAS-2 in CRS by January 2023

TCC

- Treatment data retrieval in Afikpo North, Ebonyi, Ikwo, and Ohaozara LGAs of Ebonyi state continues in January 2023
- Supervision of MDA in Ika Northeast LGA of Delta state in January 2023
- Data collation in the eight supported states in January 2023
- Retrieval of mop-up treatment data in January 2023
- DQA in 2 LGAs each in Edo and Ebonyi states in January 2023

Other upcoming activities:

- Act | East will provide support to FMOH and CRS MOH for World NTD Day activities

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

December 2022

PHILIPPINES

Act | East Partner: RTI

Total population: 114,861,989

Districts: 82

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: LF (47) SCH (29) STH (82)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF
HSS	Health financing technical support for LF planning and budgeting at national and provincial level (R4D)

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

Highlights:

- [Redacted] and [Redacted] traveled to Manila in December 2022 to meet with the DOH and USAID Philippines, alongside Act | East consultant [Redacted]. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss priorities for the national NTD program and how Act | East support will factor into the newly integrated DOH structures.
- Act | East HQ began reviewing applications for the Technical Advisor role that will replace the Program Technical Support Manager previously occupied by [Redacted]. Interviews will begin in January 2023 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Other upcoming activities:

- World NTD Day will be celebrated with events at the central and/or provincial level at the end of January. Details are still being decided with the DOH.
- Act | East will provide technical and logistical support to a Multi-Disease Elimination Plan (MDEP) writeshop the week of February 7th, to take place in Baguio City.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

WHO: <https://www.who.int/philippines/>

National: <https://www.bing.com/search?q=covid+tracker+philippnes&cvid=b368868aa4584b8498713f2be9385525&aqs=edge..69i57j0.3720j0j1&pglt=547&FORM=ANSAB1&PC=DCTS>

<https://doh.gov.ph/covid-19/case-tracker>

December 2022

Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam

Act | East Partner: RTI, FHF in Viet Nam

Total population: Bangladesh (175,599,695); Lao PDR (7,320,249); Viet Nam (96,844,240)

Districts: Bangladesh (64); Lao PDR (17); Viet Nam (63)

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Endemic diseases: Bangladesh LF (19) STH (64); Lao PDR LF (1) STH (1), SCH (17); Viet Nam LF (4), STH (63), TRA (15).

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	Trachoma
DSA (#EUs)	Viet Nam TSS: 2/2 completed Viet Nam TT-only: 0/4

MERLA	Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Viet Nam: Learning activity on dossier development models
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Summary and explanation of changes made to table above since last month:

- Updated completed surveys in Viet Nam.

Activities updates:

Bangladesh

- The final draft of the LF elimination dossier was submitted to WHO Bangladesh and SEARO on December 7, 2022. A Regional Dossier Review Group (RDRG) has been convened and is currently reviewing the dossier.

Lao PDR

- Act | East and WHO have supported Lao PDR’s CMPE to respond to all RDRG comments within their LF elimination dossier. The revised dossier is awaiting CMPE review and final signatures and should be resubmitted to WHO WPRO and the RDRG in January 2023.

Viet Nam

- VNEH, with FHF and Act | East support, completed TSS in Meo Vac and Don Van districts of Ha Giang province starting from December 5, 2022. Data are being finalized with Tropical Data.
- VNEH’s funding letter (which is part of their extension request to the MOH in order to complete four TT-only surveys that are necessary for the finalization of the country’s trachoma dossier) was finalized in mid-December and will be submitted to the MOH in January 2023. FHF Viet Nam, WHO Viet Nam, and WHO Geneva made advocacy efforts to targeted individuals in this month, to highlight the status of the trachoma dossier and importance of approving the Act | East extension request.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- Act | East will contribute to a World NTD Day event in Bangladesh, with specifics details still being determined.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

Viet Nam:

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

December 2022

TANZANIA

Act | East Partner: RTI, WI-HER, R4D

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Total population: 59.4 million (2022)

Districts: 184

Endemic diseases: LF (119), TRA (69), OV (29), SCH (184), STH (184)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	SCH	STH	Trachoma
Mapping	N/A	OEM: 0/4 districts	N/A	N/A	11/11 districts (10/10 EUs)
MDA	0/4 districts	Round 1: 0/14 districts Round 2: 0/29 districts	35/35 districts (FY22 carry over)	41/41 districts (FY22 carry-over)	Round 1: 0/2 districts Round 2: 0/9 districts
DSAs (#EUs)	Re-Pre-TAS: 0/5 districts TAS1: 0/13 EUs TAS2: 0/4 EUs TAS3: 0/11 EUs	Pre-stop MDA survey: 1 focus Stop MDA survey: 1 focus	SCH impact assessment: 0/5 districts	N/A	N/A

MERLA	LF DSA outcome investigation in 2/2 districts LF follow-up surveillance survey in 0/2 districts Microplanning for TRA (0/6 districts), OV (0/3 districts), and LF (0/2 districts) TRA CES in 4/6 districts TRA DQA in 0/1 district Improve district capacity in data management using the country specific NTD database
HSS	Strengthen CCHP budget development Develop and pilot training module on NTD planning and budgeting Strengthen TZNTDCP engagement in SWAp Meetings to facilitate bilateral agreement between USAID and Gov of Tanzania Develop NTD financial strategy Support TZNTDCP to attend WATSAN technical committee Share NTD Sustainability Plan priorities with regions and districts Completion of NTD Master Plan M&E Plan

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

- LF DSA outcome investigation was conducted in Kilwa DC and Pangani DC.
- Trachoma baseline confirmatory mapping was completed in 11 districts (10 EUs).

Highlights:

- In collaboration with NTDCP, Act | East conducted trachoma confirmatory mapping surveys in 11 district councils, representing 10 EUs (Maswa DC, Mlele DC, Mpimbwe DC, Tanganyika/Mpanda DC, Momba DC, Mbozi DC, Mbeya DC, Ludewa DC, Mlimba DC, Ulanga DC, and Malinyi DC). The field data collection was preceded by a two-day training for graders and recorders on November 21–22nd. Fieldwork commenced on November 23rd and was completed on December 16th.
- In collaboration with NTDCP, Act | East conducted LF DSA outcome investigation in Pangani DC and Kilwa DC in December 2022. The activity was conducted among fishing communities and surrounding villages and involved qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. Results will inform adaptations for the next LF MDA planned in August 2023.
- Act | East supported NTDCP to conduct advocacy meetings and community sensitization in Longido DC and Ngorongoro DC for trachoma and Njombe TC for OV from December 11 – 18th. 2022. The community sensitization was conducted at select villages within each district, whereby local authorities highlighted the importance of MDA participation.
- With support from WI-HER, the Tanzania team developed detailed plans for the pre- and post-MDA GESI behavior change activity in Mlimba DC and Ulanga DC ahead of OV MDA in February. This included enhancing the data collection tools and producing a coaching guide. The WI-HER team, in collaboration with RTI and NTDCP, also continued to refine the CDD training curriculum addendum.
- On December 5th and 7th, the Act | East Tanzania leadership team including the HSS Advisor held an advocacy meeting with PORALG where FY23 Act | East activities were presented with a focus on how to strengthen collaboration. The Director of Health and Nutrition Services, PORALG, emphasized the need for high-level advocacy for NTD domestic financing to the level of the Minister of Health, the parliament, and regional commissioners.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID protocols:

- In collaboration with NTDCP and PO-RALG, Act | East will conduct the CCHP Pause and Reflect meeting from January 17 – 20th, followed by a meeting to formulate NTD indicators for integration into PlanRep on January 23-25th. Both meetings will take place in Morogoro.
- Act | East will collaborate with NTDCP to support GESI coaching activities in Mlimba DC and Ulanga DC in Morogoro region ahead of OV MDA.
- Act | East will work with the NTDCP to begin preparations towards development of the schistosomiasis strategy plan.
- Act | East will conduct a trachoma Data Quality Assessment (DQA) in Kiteto DC in January 2023.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

December 2022

UGANDA

Act | East Partner: RTI, The Carter Center, WI-HER, R4D, Total population: 46,205,893 (2022)

Save the Children

COP: [Redacted]

RTI HQ Team: [Redacted]

Districts: 136

Endemic diseases: LF (66), TRA (41), OV (43), SCH (91), STH (136)

TABLE: Activities supported by USAID in FY23

	LF	OV	Trachoma
MDA	N/A	11/11 districts (R1) 0/11 districts (R2)	0/2 districts (Jan 2023) 0/5 districts (June 2023)
DSAs (#EUs)	TAS 2: 0/8 EUs TAS 3: 0/3 EUs	N/A	TSS+: 2 EUs Confirmatory mapping: 2 districts

MERLA	Targeted follow-up investigation in two districts of Nabilatuk and Buliisa Data quality assessment (DQA) in Buliisa district
HSS	High-level meeting on mainstreaming NTD drugs Building domestic resource mobilization capacity workshops National advocacy meeting Finalize and institutionalize GESI MDA training curriculum Finalize integration of GESI into MOH-led social and behavior change packages GESI behavior change activity scale up in two districts.

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

Ebola Update:

- MOH declared Uganda Ebola free on January 11, 2023. Prior to the announcement there were no new Ebola cases in Uganda for 42 days.

Highlights:

RTI

- **Review of the NTD Master Plan (2023 to 2027):** The MOH, with technical and financial support from World Health Organization (WHO), organized a three-day workshop to finalize the NTD Master Plan. Act | East was represented through RTI, WIHER and R4D. There are plans to launch the new Master Plan on World NTD Day at the end of January.
- **Delivery of drugs to the districts:** Medicines were successfully delivered to the districts of Moroto and Nabilatuk for the upcoming trachoma MDA in January.
- **FAA meeting with Amudat district team:** The team from RTI held a meeting with the Administrative and Technical team of Amudat district to explain the FAA package to the district and agree on timelines. Pre-MDA activities (trainings and social mobilisation) will be scheduled to start in the first week of April 2023 upon FAA approval.

- **MDA preparatory meetings:** The Programs and MERLA teams have met with Finance and Procurement to plan for the upcoming MDA. Presentations for training at various levels and for the microplanning meetings were prepared. Tools and other related materials have been prepared and ready to be delivered to the districts. Teams from MoH and RTI that will support the exercise have been identified.

WI-HER

- Held check-in meetings with the trained influencer teams in the 16 new villages selected for the GESI behavior change activity in Moroto and Nabilatuk Districts. WI-HER facilitated the influencers' development of action plans to increase MDA uptake ahead of the upcoming MDA.
- Met with Amudat District leadership and health center in-charge personnel to set up Act | East's continued engagement on behavior change ahead of Amudat's MDA later in the year.
- Continued coordination with StC on the integration of key barriers to MDA uptake into StC's community dialogues in our three overlapping villages

TCC

- **Treatment in refugee settlements:** MDA was carried out in 2 refugee camps; Palorinya in Obongi districts and Palabek in Lamwo district.
- **Entomological assessments:** A total of 4,416 *S.damnosum* flies were caught from Moyo, Nwoya, Amuru, Adjumani, Gulu, Omoro, Pader, Kitgum, Lamwo, and, Kasese districts.
- Training of Health Workers/Sub County Focal Persons and Parish Supervisors is ongoing in the 12 districts.
- **Regional planning meeting:** This was held from 19th-20th December 2023 in Gulu City. The main objective of this meeting was to develop district work plans and budgets for FY 2023/24. Districts specific work plans and budgets were developed and presented. For some districts, new administrative units were created, which will contribute to increased budgets.

Save the Children

- **Community dialogues:** StC conducted 8 community dialogues from 1st to 5th December 2022 in Nabilatuk and Moroto districts. Village Health Teams mobilized these meetings with the aim of increasing awareness on the importance of the F&E components of SAFE strategy to control the spread of trachoma. Communities identified some of the key issues for low uptake of MDA.
- **Supporting the functionality of the Village Sanitation Committees (VSCs):** StC conducted ten review meetings with VSCs of Moroto and Nabilatuk districts from 1st to 22nd December 2022. Committee members were reminded of their roles in their villages, and progress of implementation of activities was discussed. A total of 86 members attended the meetings.
- **Broadcast of radio spot messages:** The program aired 45 radio spot messages from the 8th to 15th December 2022, with messages reaching Moroto, Nabilatuk, and Nakapiripirit districts. This is aimed at increasing awareness through the health promotion messages on facial cleanliness and environmental improvement among targeted communities to influence behavioral change.
- **Community feedback mechanism:** StC-Act | East conducted community feedback sessions on 12th to 16th December 2022 in the districts of Amudat, Nabilatuk and Nakapiripirit. The issues highlighted in all three districts included: inconsistent communication during the MDA period affecting mobilization of the communities and not involving facilitators during follow up of actions. Recommendations were made that will guide the project team to follow up to bridge the gaps for better performance.

- **Coordination with District stakeholders:** The program participated in four coordination meetings with the aim of increasing visibility of the project interventions, advocating for issues identified through the different approaches, gaining ownership from the different leaders of the districts, and ensuring coordination with and leveraging of other projects in intervention areas. The meetings attended included Amudat District Health Sector Review Meeting, Save the Children Eastern Region Managers’ reflection meeting, Leave No One Behind Education Project’s Regional Reflection, and the teachers’ training to advocate for NTD interventions in schools.
- **Finalization of NTD master plan 2023-2027:** StC participated in the development of the NTD Master Plan 2023-2027 from 5th to 7th December 2022. The Health System Strengthening Specialist from the StC country office provided technical support on the overall document, with a focus on trachoma and social behavioral change, and use of data for informed decision-making.
- **Collaboration with WI-HER on GESI:** StC- Act | East engaged the Gender Advisor –WI-HER in a community dialogue in Lokemer kapel on 1st December 2022, where barriers to MDA were discussed.

Upcoming activities requiring COVID-19 protocols:

RTI

- Commemoration of World NTD Day (to be held in Kampala 31st January)
- District Microplanning and targeted microplanning with pastoralist and mobile communities.
- Pre-MDA activities including social mobilization, sensitization of local government and community leaders, training of district trainers, subcounty supervisors/health workers, parish supervisors, CMDs and chairpersons.
- Distribution of medicines and other community logistics
- settlements

TCC

- Training of Community Supervisors and LCI leaders.
- Health education and CDD selection.
- Fresh community registration and/or register update.

StC

- StC-Act | East will provide support to twelve VSCs to conduct meetings at the village level.
- Broadcasting of spot messages will continue in communities for the upcoming MDA scheduled for January 2023.
- Community dialogues continue to be prioritized targeting kraal leaders, natural leaders and household heads in Nabilatuk, Moroto, Amudat and Nakapiripirit districts in January 2023.
- Radio talk shows will be conducted to increase awareness and participation for MDA activities.

COVID-19 data monitoring sources:

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

National: <https://www.health.go.ug/covid/>