Post-Mass Drug Administration Coverage Evaluation Survey for Schistosomiasis, Soil-Transmitted Helminths and Snakebite Envenoming in the Lake and Coast regions of Kenya

Background

Kenya is currently implementing the second phase of the Accelerate Resilient Innovative Sustainable Elimination (ARISE II) of NTDs. The ARISE II focuses on Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH) and Schistosomiasis (SCH) treatment. The STH/SCH program is being implemented in the Lake region counties (Kisumu, Siaya, Homabay, Migori, and Busia) and the Coast region counties (Mombasa, Kwale, Tana River, Lamu, and Taita Taveta). The program is envisaged to support and realize the Kenya National Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Master Plan 2023-2027 objectives, which directly reflect the commitment of the Government of Kenya (GoK) to achieve the global and national goals of prevention, control, and elimination of four Preventive Chemotherapy (PC) NTDs endemic in the targeted Counties. In line with this, mass drug administration (MDA) is being implemented by the Ministry of Health (MoH) - Vector-Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases Unit (VBNTDU), while working closely with County Governments and in partnership with the African Institute for Health and Development (AIHD) and with financial support from the END Fund under the ARISE II project.

Preventive chemotherapy (PC) is one of the primary intervention strategies aimed at the control and elimination of five NTDs, namely – Lymphatic Filariasis, Onchocerciasis, Schistosomiasis, Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis, and Trachoma. PC is distributed through mass drug administration (MDA) and school-based treatments to treat at-risk populations at appropriate regular intervals. The Ministry of Health-Vector Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases Unit (MoH-VBNTDU) conducted an MDA for STH and SCH in 94 wards in the Lake Region counties of Kisumu, Migori, Homabay, Siaya, Busia, and 50 wards in Mombasa, Kwale, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Kilifi, and Lamu Counties in November 2025. To monitor the success of the intervention, a coverage evaluation survey is scheduled to validate the results of MDA.

Objectives of the Coverage Evaluation Survey

The main objective of the survey is to provide precise estimates of PC coverage while overcoming many of the biases and errors that can underreport or overreport treatment coverage. Specifically, the survey will seek to:

1. Assess and validate the treatment coverages of MDA (PZQ&MBZ) for all the target populations and Snakebite Envenoming in the areas targeted for MDA in the six (6) Coastal Counties (Mombasa, Kwale, Tana River, Lamu, Kilifi, and Taita Taveta) & five (5) Lake Region Counties (Kisumu, Busia, Siaya, Homabay, and Migori).
2. Identify the reasons for MDA non-compliance among the target populations; and
3. Explore the levels of awareness about MDA, hence ascertain the effectiveness of social mobilization and communication strategies.

The study outcomes will generate evidence-based recommendations to evaluate the performance of the November 2025 STH/SCH MDA, refine and strengthen the delivery of STH and SCH interventions, and inform future NTD program planning in these counties, including social mobilization and communication strategies for STH and SCH control. To achieve this, the study will conduct a quantitative coverage evaluation survey amongst the target communities/wards across the 11 counties.

Ministry of Health
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Position: Research Assistant

Under the leadership of MoH, AIHD is seeking to engage short-term Research Assistants (RA) in the 11 counties of both the Lake and Coast regions.

Position Description: The purpose of this position is to serve as a temporary research assistant (RA)/enumerator for the study in the eleven counties (Busia, Homa Bay, Kilifi, Kisumu, Kwale, Lamu, Migori, Mombasa, Siaya, Taita Taveta and Tana River). The overall duty of the RA/enumerator is to collect data at the household level under the supervision of MOH/AIHD supervisors. Specifically, s/he will be required to perform the following services:

- Attend the 2-day training on the data collection tool.
- Conduct field data collection and management activities, including obtaining consent and ensuring confidentiality.
- Participate in a daily debrief meeting
- Submit quality data to the ona.io server
- Secure storage of all collected data according to outlined procedures
- Meet deadlines by completing assigned interviews in a timely manner.
- Familiarize themselves with research ethics.
- Report to the immediate supervisor as required and communicate any challenges encountered.
- Maintain confidentiality of data gathered.
- Execute any other duties assigned by the supervisor.

Requirements:

The candidature for this position is expected to have the following qualifications:

- At least a first degree in Social Sciences from a recognized university.
- Fluent in English, Swahili, and the local language.
- Must have a functional smartphone for data collection purposes.
- Vast experience in data collection, especially quantitative - experience in electronic data collection using ODK/Kobo Toolbox is important.
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to follow study-specific procedures and guidelines reliably; and
- Good verbal and written communication skills.

How to apply: Interested candidates are invited to submit their application letter and CV with contacts of three referees via email to info@aihdint.org and mmaghanga@aihdint.org not later **than Saturday, 7th February 2026, 1200hrs** EAT. **Be sure to include the county you are applying for in the subject line of the email.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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