



## Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Kit Procurement in the Democratic Republic of Congo



# 33,370

**Procured** pharmaceutical commodities equivalent to 33,370 PEP Kits.



# 17,839

**PEP** kits assembled by a pre-positioned, trained team and distributed to survivors of SGBV in 16 provinces.



# 15,324

**SGBV** survivors treated during the 12 month period.



## Internally Displaced Persons

**Estimated** 10 to 15 percent of recipients were internally placed persons.

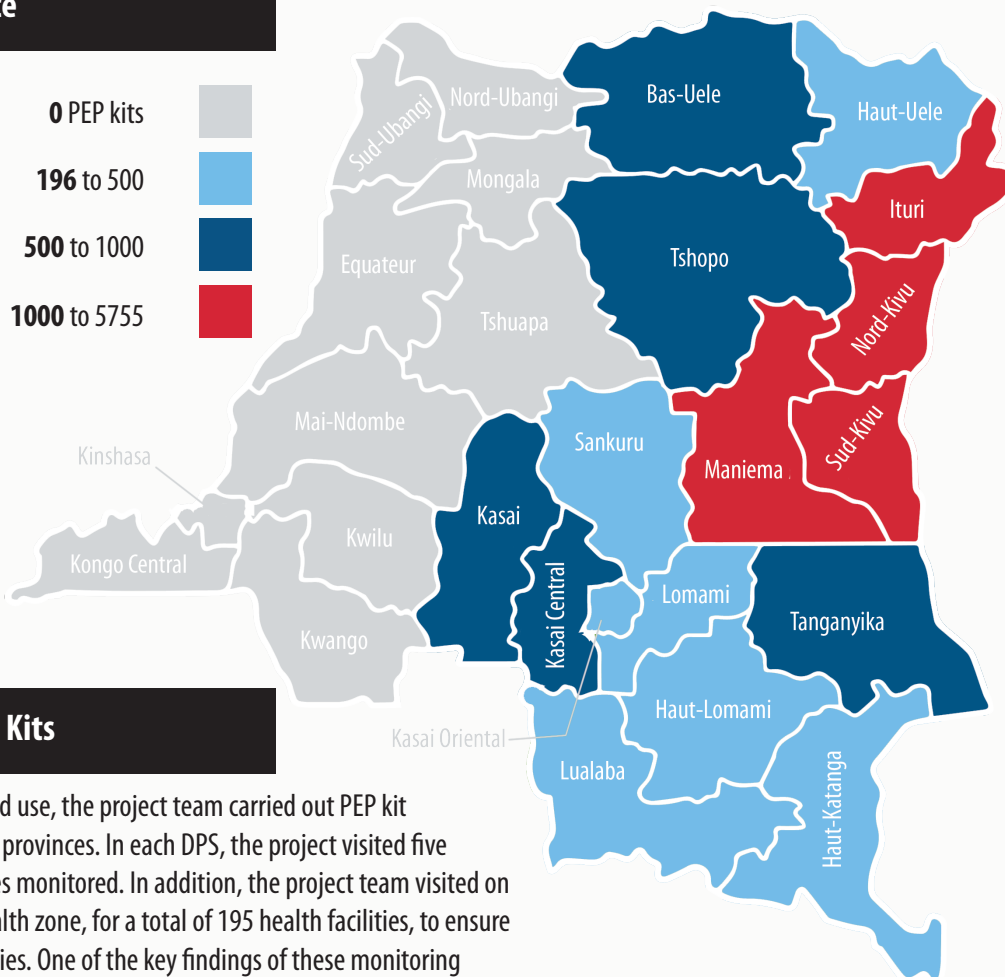
Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) remains a significant and endemic problem in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) which has been exacerbated by the ongoing conflict in the central and eastern regions of the country. Post-exposure prophylaxis kits, also known as PEP kits, reduce a survivor's risk of contracting HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Access to these critical treatments has been uneven and challenging. According to DHIS2 data collected at health centers, nearly 25 percent of health facilities in the country failed to provide PEP kits to some SGBV survivors from 2017 through the first quarter of 2018. This was true even when eligible cases presented for services.

The Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Kits Procurement Project, funded by the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, or OFDA, and implemented by IMA World Health, aimed to improve the supply chain for PEP kits in 16 provinces that all experienced a high prevalence of SGBV. A baseline assessment revealed that approximately 90 percent of health facilities across these 16 targeted provinces experienced a PEP kit stock-out during the period of January to June 2018.

From July 2018 to October 2019 IMA facilitated access through the distribution and supply of 17,839 PEP kits in all 16 targeted provinces. The remaining 15,331 kits that were not supplied to health facilities due to procurement delays will be transferred to the new OFDA-funded PEP kit project, upon OFDA's approval, and distributed to facilities by IMA, along with kits from the follow-up OFDA award.

## PEP Kit Distribution per Province

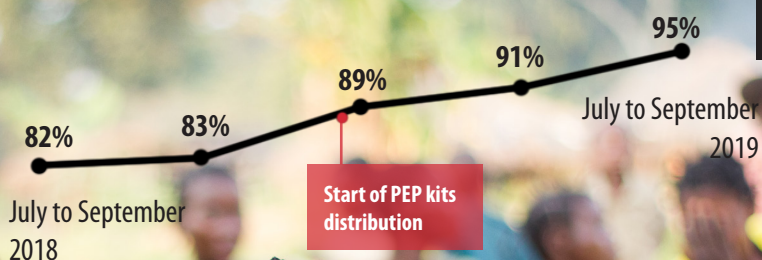
The project distributed 17,839 PEP kits to health zones and health facilities in 16 targeted provinces through partners, via the DPS of these provinces, per the pre-established distribution plan. This represents 53.5 percent of the total target of 33,370 PEP kits planned for distribution. To avoid creating a parallel pharmaceutical supply chain system in the country, IMA's distribution strategy relied upon existing distribution channels and prioritized provinces with the highest prevalence of SGBV, particularly eastern provinces.



## Monitoring and Tracking of PEP Kits

To ensure proper PEP kit management and use, the project team carried out PEP kit monitoring visits in 13 of the 16 targeted provinces. In each DPS, the project visited five health zones, for a total of 65 health zones monitored. In addition, the project team visited on average three health facilities in each health zone, for a total of 195 health facilities, to ensure PEP kits have reached end user beneficiaries. One of the key findings of these monitoring visits was the confirmed availability of the distributed PEP kits in health zones. In addition to field monitoring visits, the project monitoring and evaluation team continuously monitored PEP kit distribution through review of distribution tools, such as delivery notes, waybills, etc.

## Rape Survivors Treated with PEP Kits



15,324 individuals were treated over the course of the project, representing 113 percent of the target. Though the data suggests that the project went beyond the target, it should be noted that pharmaceutical commodities used for these treatments were not necessarily provided by the project alone. It is against DRC national protocol to disaggregate patient data by which specific partner provided the medication or treatment, so data on patients treated by IMA-supplied PEP kits are not available.

The graph to the left illustrates the upward trend in the number of rape survivors treated over the course of the project. The red point indicates the beginning of the project's PEP kit distribution to health zones and health facilities. The percentage of survivors of SGBV presenting to health facilities within 72 hours who received treatment has increased by approximately eight percent. The number of survivors receiving treatment reached 95 percent at the end of the project.