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Photo: Veerle Lejon, IRD



STROgHAT

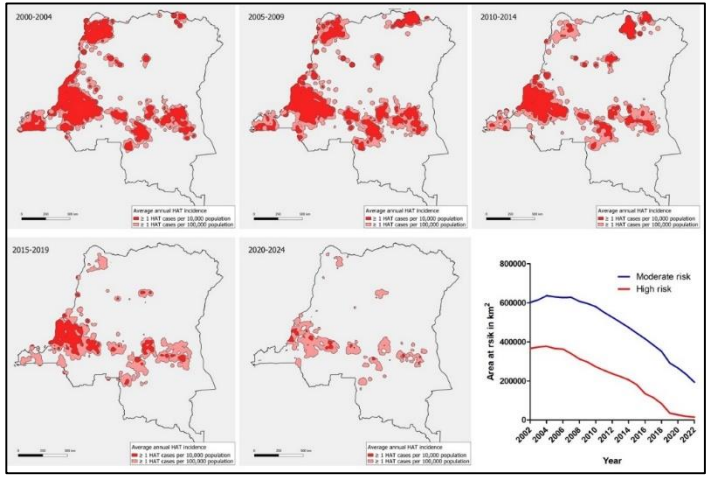
Stop transmission of gambiense human African trypanosomiasis in an endemic focus in the Democratic Republic of Congo: STROGHAT study implementation results at month 12.

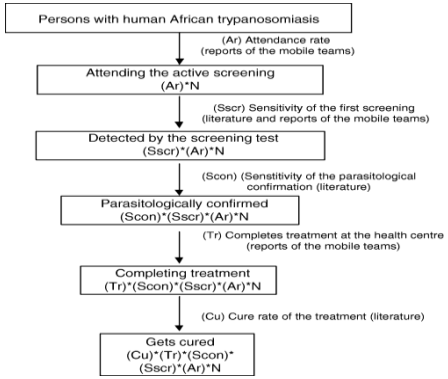
E. Nicco, V. Lejon, E. Mwamba Miaka, D. Mumba, N-R Kuispond-Swar, A. Mpanya, C. Kambo, D. Ngolo, W. Mutombo, S. Hugonnet, S. Rembry, CA. Seghers, R. Inocencio da Luz, N. Van Reet, E. Hasker

Funded by the European Union

Study rationale

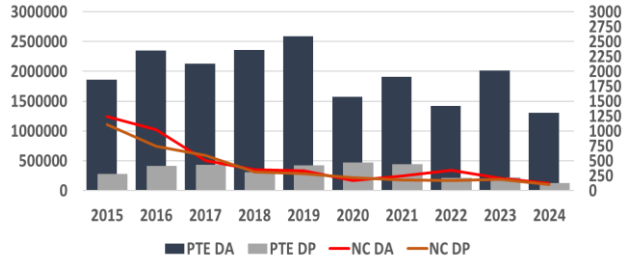
STRgHAT

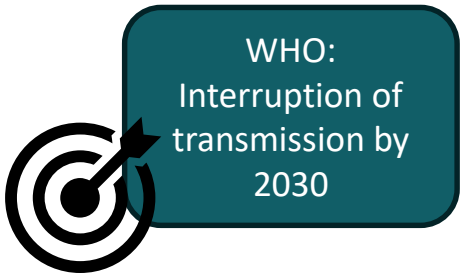




Robays J, et al. Trop Med Int Health. 2004;9(5):542-50.

Strategic adaptations necessary





Clinical Trial › Lancet Infect Dis. 2023 Apr;23(4):463-470. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00660-0. Epub 2022 Nov 29.

Efficacy and safety of acoziborole in patients with human African trypanosomiasis caused by Trypanosoma brucei gambiense: a multicentre, open-label, single-arm, phase 2/3 trial



Victor Kande Betu Kumeso [1], Wilfried Mutombo Kalonji [2], Sandra Rembry [3], Olaf Valverde Mordt [3], Digas Ngolo Tete [2], Adeline Prêtre [3], Sophie Delhomme [3], Médard Ilunga Wa Kyhi [4], Mamadou Camara [5], Julie Catusse [6], Stefan Schneitter [6], Morgane Nusbaumer [6], Erick Mwamba Miaka [7], Hélène Mahenzi Mbembo [8], Joseph Makaya Mayawula [8], Mariame Layba Camara [9], Félix Akwaso Massa [10], Lewis Kaninda Badibabi [11], Augustin Kasongo Bonama [12], Papy Kavunga Lukula [13], Sylvain Mutanda Kalonji [14], Phyll Mariero Philemon [5], Ricardo Mokilifi Nganyonyi [15], Hugues Embana Mankiara [16], André Asuka Akongo Nguba [17], Vincent Kobo Muanza [18], Ernest Mulenge Nasandhel [19], Aimée Fifi Nzeza Bambuwu [20], Bruno Scherrer [21], Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft [3], Antoine Tarral [22]

Study Aim & Objectives

STRgHAT

AIM:

- Evaluate if a **strategy based on systematically treating all gHAT screening tests seropositive** without the need for parasitological confirmation can **interrupt the transmission of *T.b.gambiense***
- To provide **additional safety data on acoziborole**

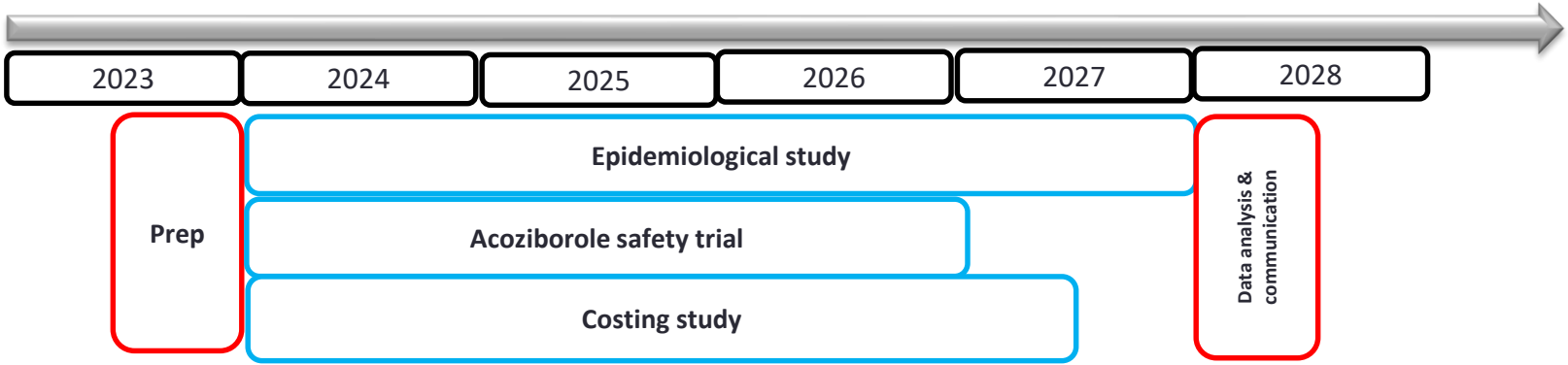


Photo: Veerle Lejon, IRD

OBJECTIVES

- **Epidemiological study:**
  - **Zero prevalence of Tbg infection** after 3 years of expanded treatment with acoziborole.
  - **Costing analysis** of the S&T.
  - Prospective evaluation of the **accuracy** of the screening and diagnostic tests used.
- **Clinical trial:**
  - **Assess the safety of acoziborole in gHAT screening tests seropositive** subjects with a negative parasitological exam.

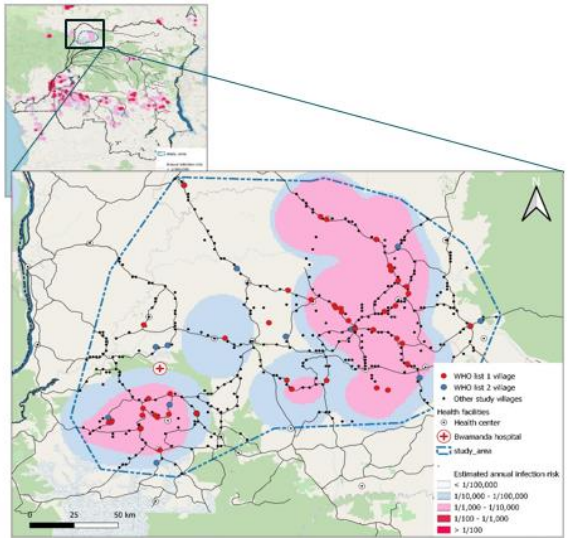
The STROGHAT project



- **Funded by EU** via Horizon Europe and Swiss Government
- **5 partners** (PNLTHA, INRB, IRD, DNDi, ITM)

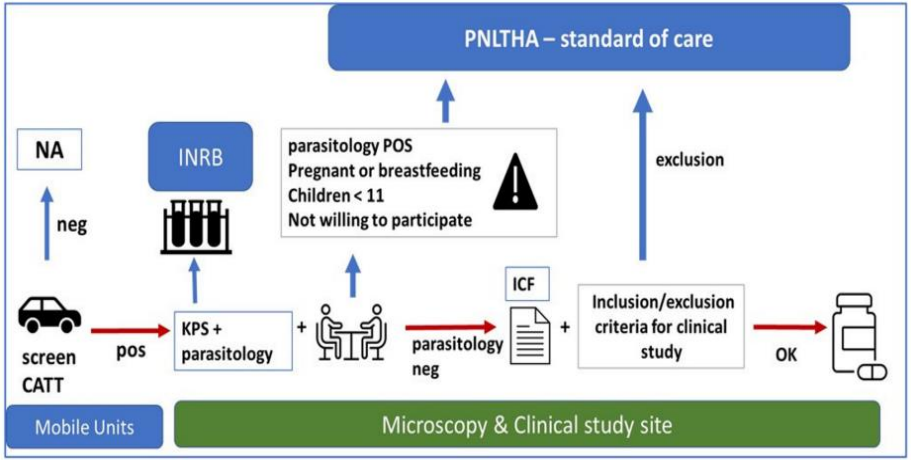
Funded by the European Union
Global Health EDCTP3
Institut de Recherche pour le Développement FRANCE
INRB
DNDi Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative
PROGRAMME NATIONAL DE LUTTE CONTRE LA TRYPANOSOMIASE HUMAINE AFRICAINE PNLTHA-RDC
INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL MEDICINE ANTWERP
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Study methods



- Equateur North region, DRC
- One-arm epidemiological study
- Nested phase IIIb clinical trial
- Screening: 4 mobile teams (CATT/*T.b. gambiense*) and 31 health facilities (HAT Sero *K*-SeT)

- Referral diagnostics for all seropositives: individual follow-up needs and prevalence estimate
- Year 1-3: expanded treatment to all screening tests seropositives
- Year 4: Resume standard procedures + Survey to assess interruption of transmission



Results: High coverage & high reach

- March 2024 to March 2025

	AS	PS	Total
Pop. registered	245,547	7,382	252,929
Screening Tests	245,634	7,371	**253,005**
CATT + / RDT+	516 (**0.21%**)	327 (**4.44%**)	843 (**0.33%**)
HAT Cases	3	4	**7**

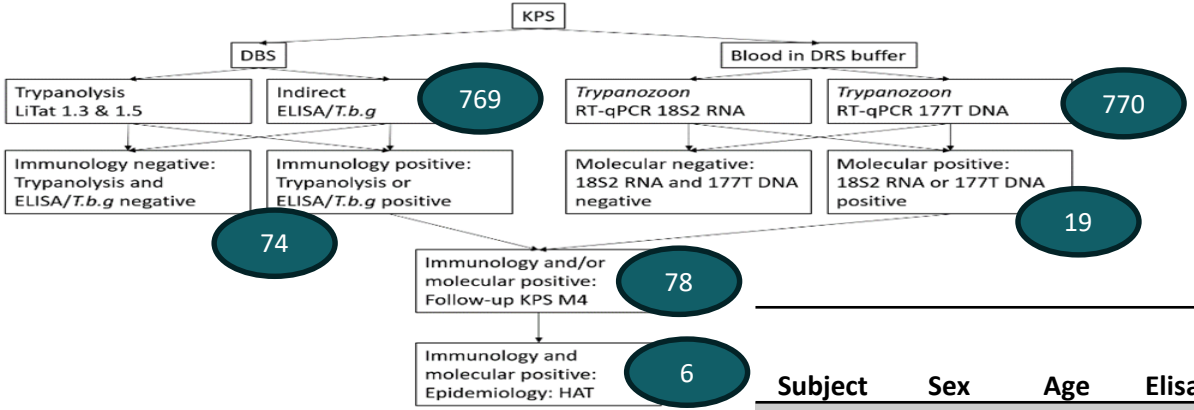
- **Mobile teams reached 100% of planned villages**
- **Mobile teams screened 94.2% of the populations living in the endemic area**

	CATT	RDT	Total
Positive	380 **(0.19%)**	136 **(0.33%)**	516 (0.21%)
Negative	203512 (99.81%)	41606 (99.67%)	245118
Total	203892	41742	245634

- **353 seropositive included in the clinical trial and treated with acoziborole (2 pregnant women)**

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Results: Very low prevalence





- **Prevalence: of 2.77 per 100,000 population screened (95% CI: 0.72-4.82 per 100,000 screened)**

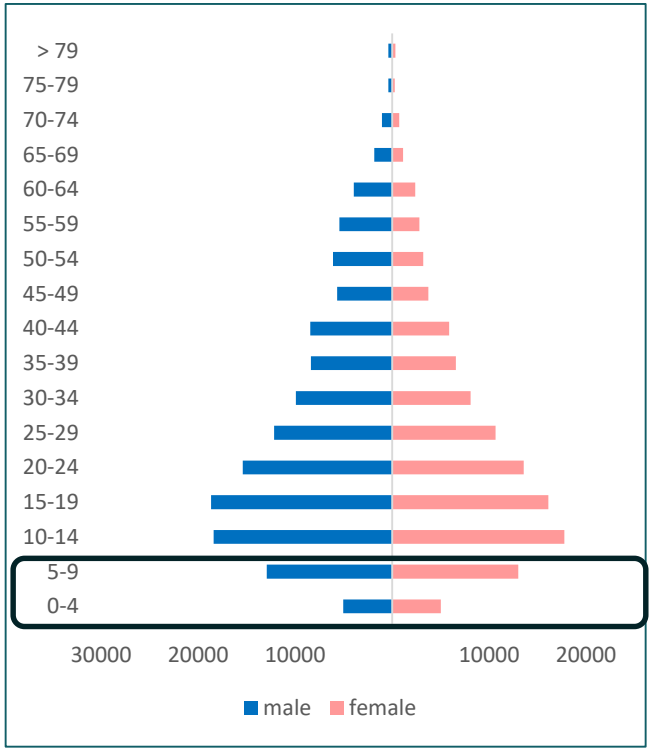
Subject	Sex	Age	Elisa Tbg	TL	RT-qPCR	Parasitology	AS/PS
1	Female	30	POS	POS	POS	POS	PS
2	Female	24	POS	POS	POS	NEG	PS
3	Female	29	POS	POS	POS	NEG	AS
4	Female	45	POS	NEG	POS	NEG	AS
5	Female	64	POS	POS	POS	NEG	AS
6	Female	31	POS	NEG	POS	NEG	PS
7	Female	22	NEG	NEG	NEG	POS	PS

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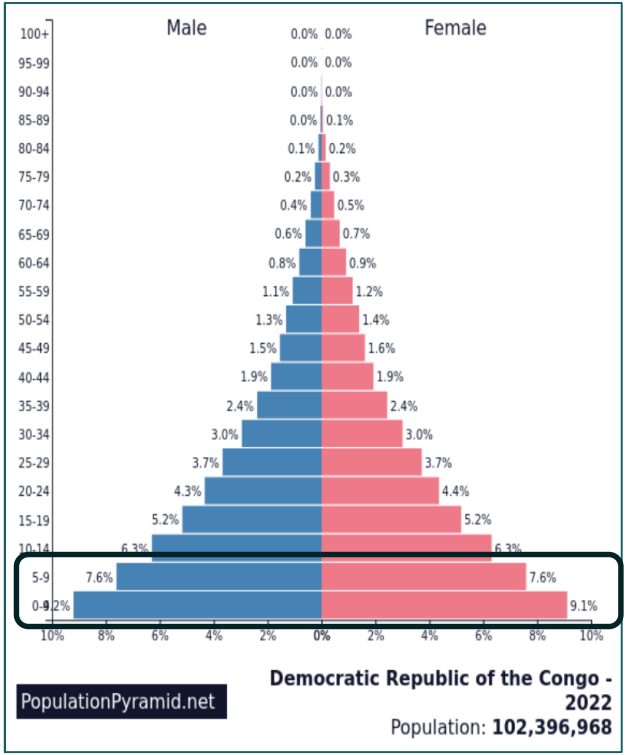
Gaps

STROgHAT

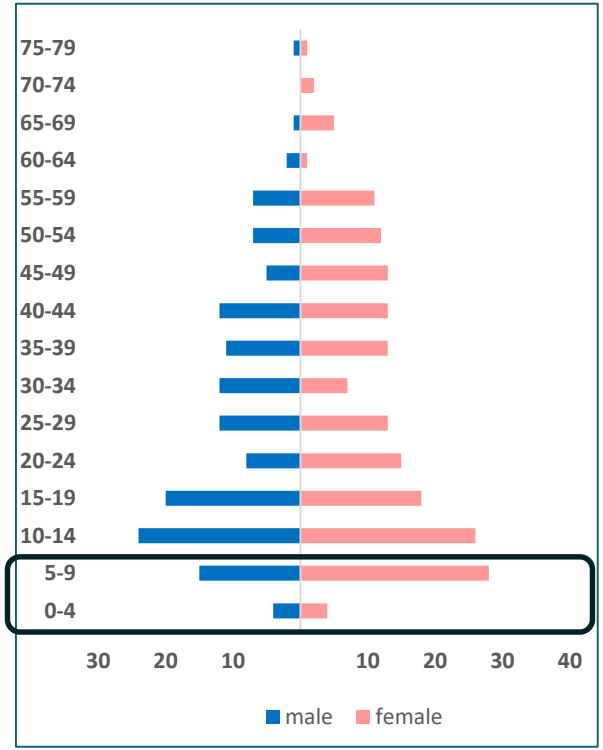
Population screened STROGHAT



Standard DRC, 2022



HAT cases, DRC, 2024



Discussion

- **12 months of implementation**
- High screening coverage and community participation: **feasibility**
- **Gap in children** < 10 years needs attention
- **Low positivity rates:** low prevalence & high specificity of screening tests
- **Very low prevalence:** supports elimination goals, though may challenge future effectiveness assessments

Conclusion

- By improving screening participation, simplifying diagnostic procedures in the field, and increasing treatment coverage, we hope to **interrupt gHAT transmission**
- The STROGHAT study will provide **evidence of the effectiveness, safety and feasibility** of the new strategy to inform gHAT elimination strategies



Photo: Veerle Lejon, IRD

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Thank you!Asante!Merci beaucoup!
Obrigado! Dank u wel! Grazie mille!
STRgHAT
C.D.I. BWAMANDA
COORDINATION PROVINCIALE EQUATEUR NORD
PROJET DE LUTTE CONTRE LE PALUDISME / VIH / TUBERCULOSE
PROGRAMME NATIONAL DE LUTTE CONTRE LA T.H.A.
PNLTHA
Global Health
EDCTP3
Institut National de Recherche Biomédicale
INRB
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