

# Nigeria Centre for Disease Control

Protecting the health of Nigerians

## ASLM SPECIAL COVID-19 EHCO SESSION #52

Taking stock at two years of increasing community access to COVID-19 testing services using antigen rapid diagnostic tests: The Nigeria and South Africa experiences

15<sup>th</sup> March 2022

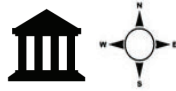
Catherine Okoi  
COVID-19 Laboratory Manager

# Overview of Nigeria



## Form of Government

Federal Republic with **36** states and an FCT



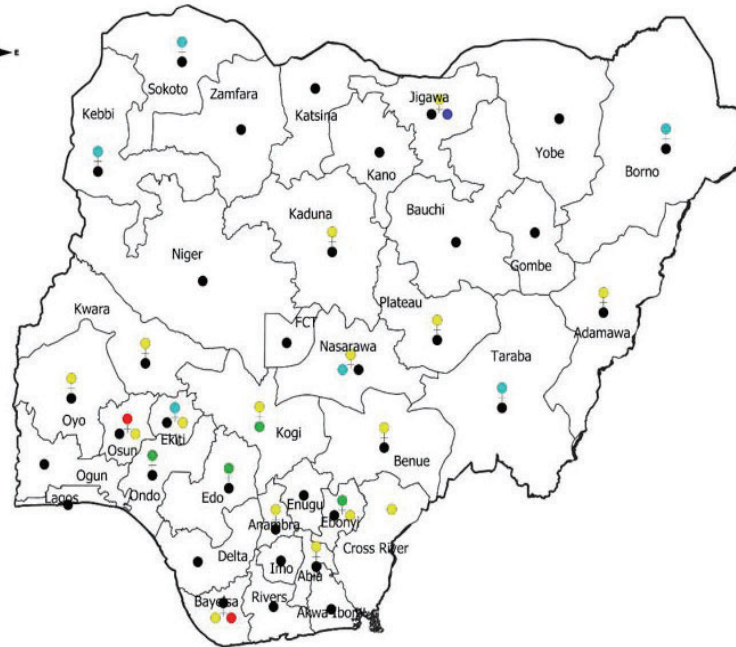
## Population

Over **200 million**  
(1<sup>st</sup> in Africa)



## Life Expectancy

**54** (as at 2017)



## Investment

Budget allocation **less than 5%**



## Preparedness

JEE Score  
(**46%** as at  
2019) to  
prevent, detect  
and respond



## Recent Outbreaks Managed

COVID-19, Lassa fever,  
Ebola, meningitis, yellow  
fever, measles, cholera,  
Influenza and monkeypox



# About the NCDC

# Nigeria Centre for Disease Control

Nigeria's Public Health Institute

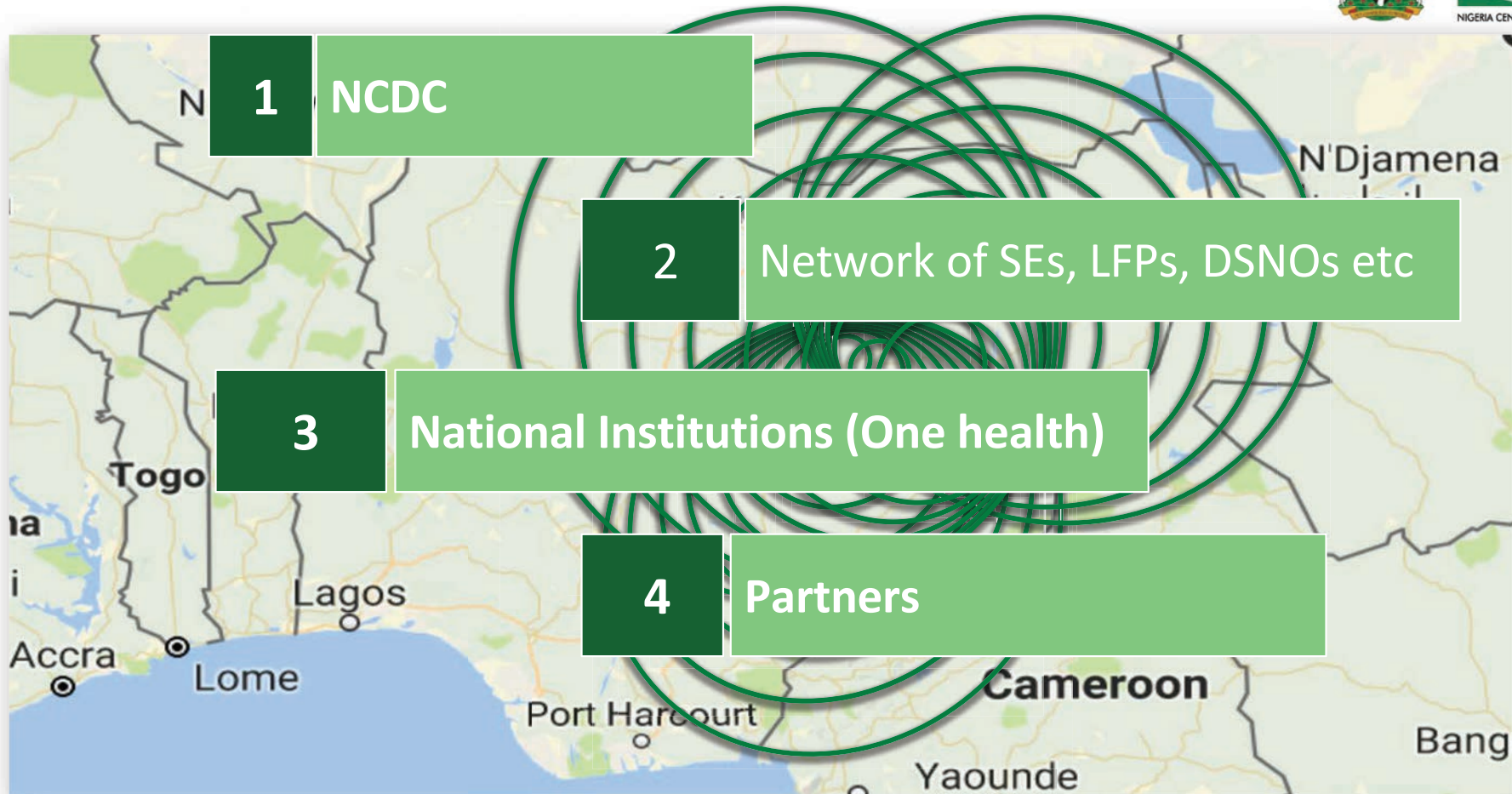
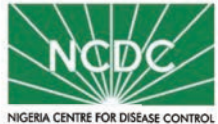
## Mandate

- Detect, investigate, prevent and control spread of communicable diseases
- Coordinate surveillance systems to collect, analyse and interpret data on communicable diseases to guide action
- Support States in responding to small outbreaks, and lead response to large disease outbreaks
- Develop and maintain a network of public health laboratories
- Conduct, collate, synthesise and disseminate public health research to inform policy
- Coordinate the compliance with international health regulations

**Website** <https://www.ncdc.gov.ng>



# How we work



# COVID-19: A Pandemic



**Index Case**                December 2019 – Wuhan, Hubei Province, China

**Pandemic Declared**    11 March 2020

**Countries Affected**     226 including territories

**Confirmed Cases**        ~ 447 million worldwide

**Case Fatality Rate**      1.3% (~ 6 million worldwide)

**Update as of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**



# Situational Snapshot in Nigeria as of 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022



**254,945**  
CASES

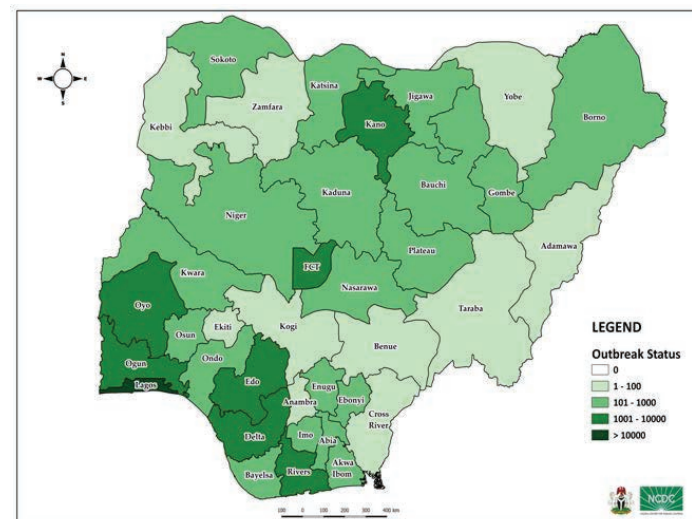
**37**  
STATES + FCT

**4,589,725**  
TESTS

**2,468**  
ACTIVE CASES

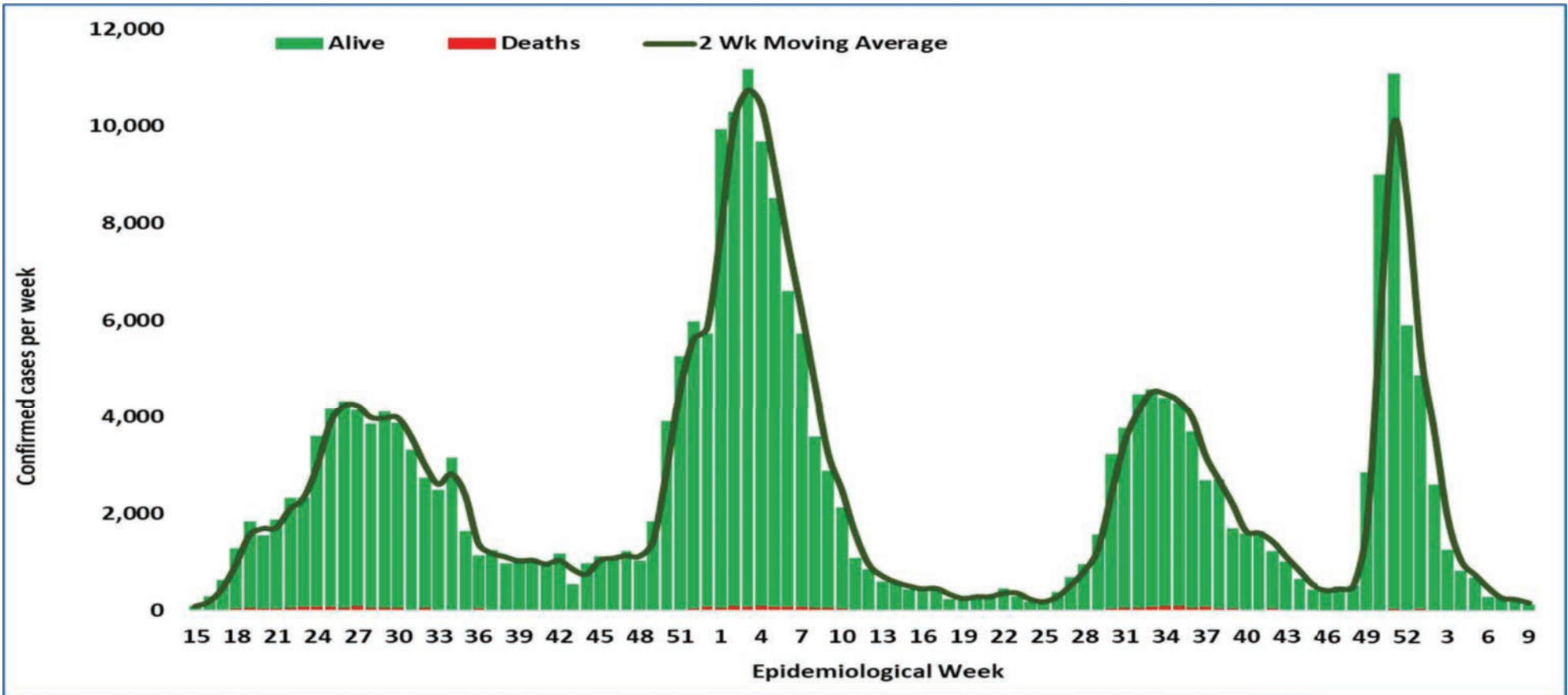
**249,335**  
DISCHARGED

**3,142**  
DEATHS



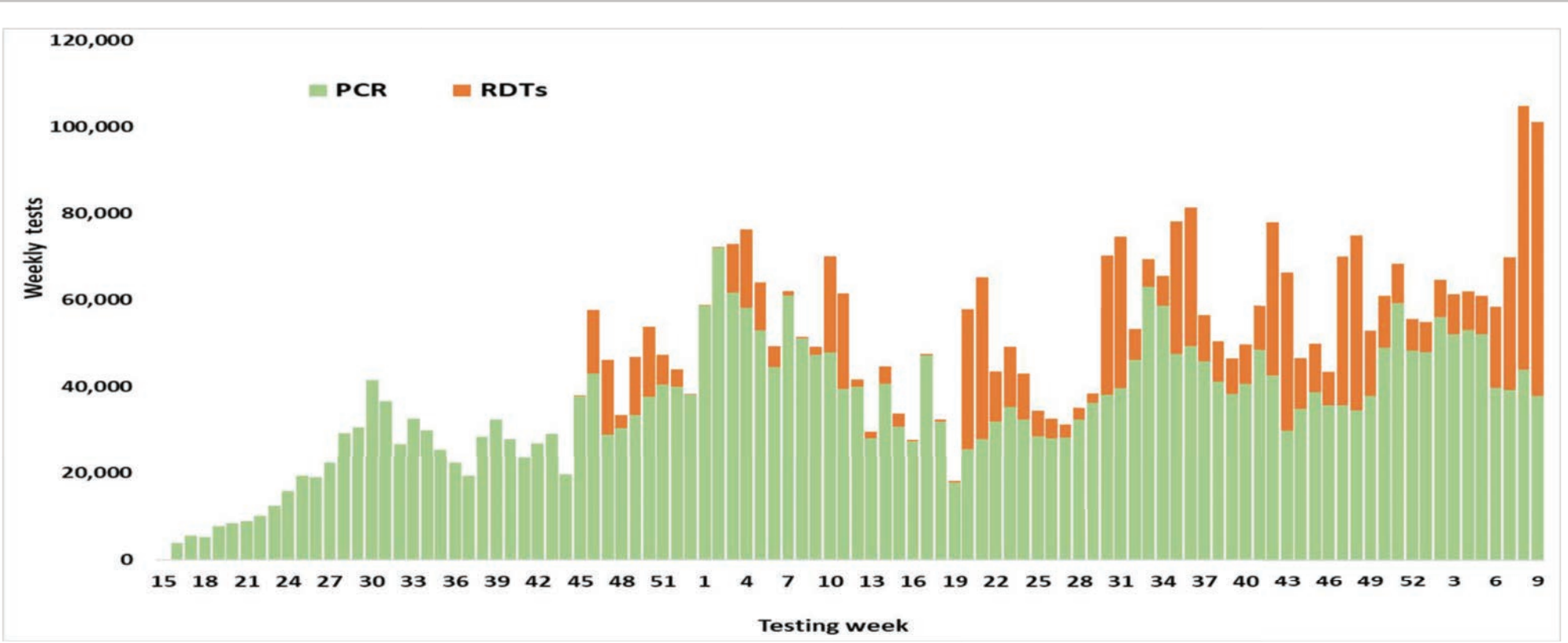
**CFR: 1.2%**

# National Epicurve (Epi Week 09, 2022)





# Trend in Testing (as of Epi Week 09, 2022)



Cumulative as of 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (PCR: 3,563,425 and RDT: 956,480)

# Ag-RDT Tests (Cumulative Figure) as of Epi Week 09, 2022





# Overview of Ag-RDT Implementation

# Introduction



## GUIDANCE FOR THE USE OF APPROVED COVID-19 Ag-RDTs IN NIGERIA

- In September 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced the EMERGENCY USE AUTHORIZATION of two Ag-RDTs for COVID-19 testing
- Thereafter, application and field performance assessment of approved Ag-RDTs was conducted within the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) camps
- Development of guidance document on use of Ag-RDTs
- Piloted use of Ag-RDT in 5 health facilities (HFs) in FCT
  - ✓ Surveillance data review, analysis and interpretation guided selection of HFs
- Ongoing Ag-RDT scale up



## Scope of Work



- To scale up visual Ag-RDTs for SARS-CoV-2 to all (36 + 1) states in Nigeria for use in healthcare settings, among contacts of PCR confirmed case, congregate and in semi-closed and closed settings
- To provide healthcare professionals with opportunities to screen suspected COVID-19 cases early and make results available for effective implementation of treatment and control measures within the health facility and in the community

## Target Settings



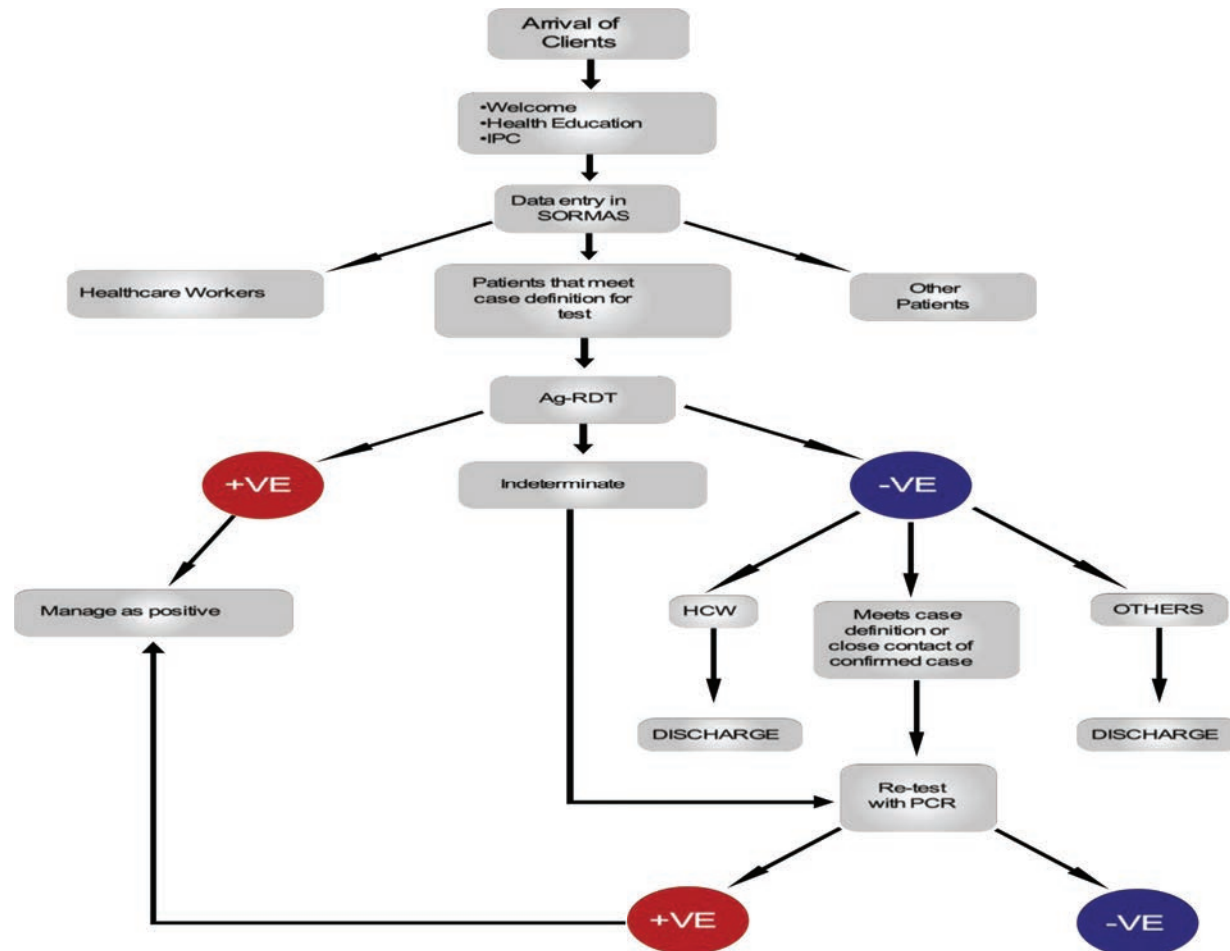
- Schools with accommodation facilities
- Office/workplace
- Health facilities
  - ✓ Health care workers exposed to confirmed COVID-19 case
  - ✓ Patients with symptoms of COVID-19
  - ✓ Contacts of a confirmed case
  - ✓ Non-symptomatic patients before elective surgery and/or emergencies
  - ✓ Periodic testing of health care workers
- Prisons and other similar congregate settings such as IDP camps, land borders etc

# Ag-RDT Operational Strategy



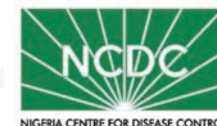
- State engagement for seamless adoption and ownership
  - ✓ Responsibilities of stakeholders (NCDC, State, Health facility, partners etc)
- Capacity building
- Distribution plan, deployment and stock management
  - ✓ Real time tracking of deployed Ag-RDTs and laboratory consumables
- Data Management
  - ✓ Devices, insurance cover, power bank, sim card, data bundles
  - ✓ Role of SSOs and data officers (supportive supervision, regular meetings etc)
- Demand creation
  - ✓ Advocacy to States
  - ✓ Linking test to care
  - ✓ Peculiarities of States

# National Algorithm for COVID-19 testing





## Capacity Building: Regional ToTs



S/N	Geopolitical zone	Location	Supporting Partner	Training dates in 2021
1	North-Central	FCT	CHAI	27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> May
2	North-East	Yola	ASLM	8 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> June
3	North-West	Kano	ASLM	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> June
4	South-West	Lagos	WHO	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> July
5	South-South	Rivers	WHO	27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> July
6	South-East	Enugu	CDC/IHVN	22 <sup>nd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> September

## Stepdown Trainings by Geopolitical Zones

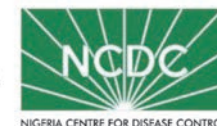


TOT by Zones	Step Down Training (States)	Supporting Partner
North Central	Benue	ACDC
	FCT	WHO
	Niger	WHO
	Plateau	CHAI
	Nasarawa	CHAI
	Kwara	WHO/BMGF
North-East	Gombe	NCDC
	Taraba	WHO
South-West	Osun	ACDC
	Ogun	CHAI
	Ondo	WHO/BMGF
	Oyo	WHO
	Ekiti	WHO/BMGF

TOT by Zones	Step Down Training (States)	Supporting Partner
South-South	Bayelsa	ACDC
	Rivers	CHAI/WHO
	Edo	WHO/BMGF
	Akwa Ibom	BMGF
South-East	Imo	WHO
	Abia	CHAI/BMGF
	Enugu	US-CDC/IHVN
North-West	Kaduna	CHAI
	Sokoto	CHAI/BMGF
	Katsina	CHAI
	Kebbi	BMGF

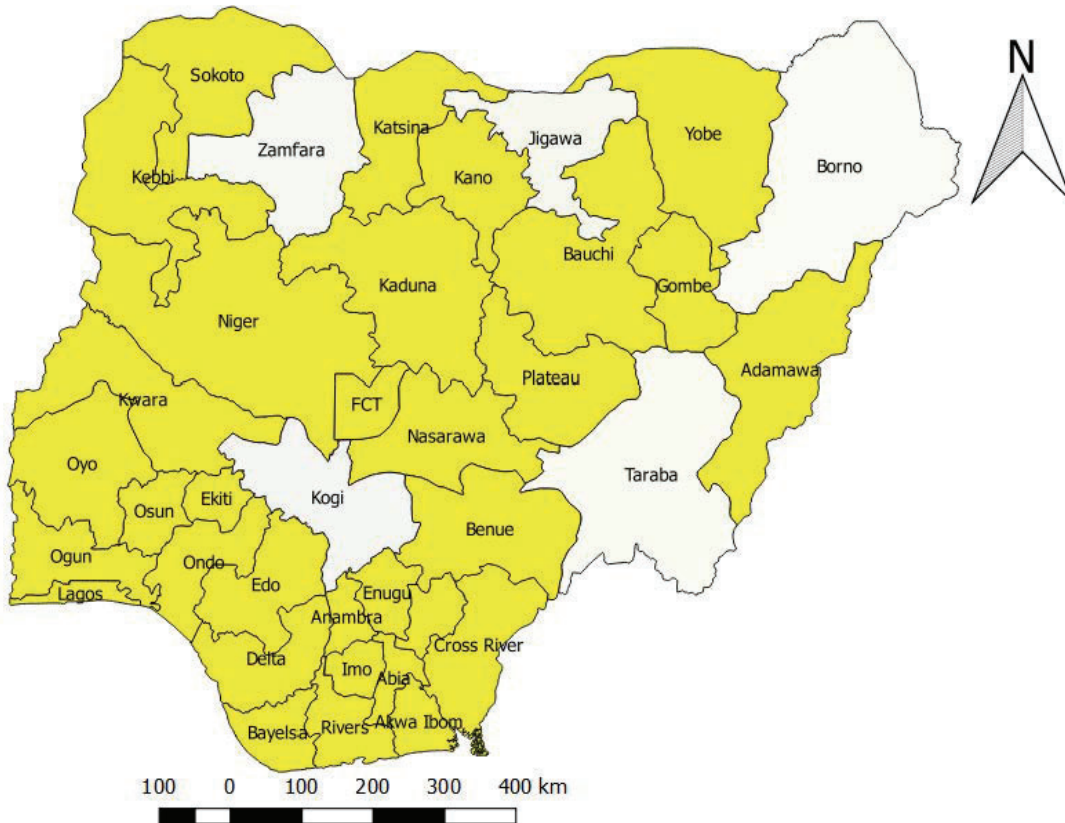
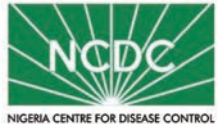
Stepdown trainings conducted in **23 States and FCT**

## Summary of Healthcare Workers Trained as of February 24, 2022



Categories of individuals trained	Numbers trained		
	Certified	Not certified	Total Trained
<b>End Users / Testers</b>	771	303	1,074
<b>Trainers</b>	107	23	130
<b>Trainer of Trainers (ToTs)</b>	124	22	146
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1002 (74.2%)</b>	<b>348 (25.8%)</b>	<b>1,350 (100%)</b>

## Ag-based RDT Activated States as of 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022



- Number of COVID-19 Ag-RDT activated sites = **31 States + FCT**
- Number of COVID-19 Ag-RDTs performed (NYSC, HFs and others): **1,013,447**
- Number of positives: **16,906**
- **Positivity rate: 1.7%**

## Implementation challenges

- Low uptake due to
  - ✓ Poor risk perception of community members
  - ✓ Commitment of State actors – Governor etc
  - ✓ Commitment of frontline workers – request for incentives
- **Sub-optimal data capturing resulting in data gap in many States**
- Logistics
  - ✓ Non-submission of utilization report by States resulting in delay approval of additional Ag-RDT kits deployment
  - ✓ Sequencing of positive Ag-RDT test
- Coordination of partners supporting Ag-RDT in country

## Thoughts on the Journey Ahead



- Strengthening coordination of Ag-RDT scale up
- Quality Assurance
- Sequencing of positive Ag-RDT samples
- Data management
  - ✓ Real time data capturing – continuous engagement with State teams
- Demand creation
- Linkage between diagnostics and vaccination strategies



## Conclusion

- All Stakeholders have roles to play to ensure a successful roll-out
  - ✓ Internal stakeholders
  - ✓ External stakeholders
- Need to strengthen partners' coordination
  - ✓ CHAI, US-CDC, IHVN, WHO and ASLM
- Real time data capturing cannot be overemphasized
- Review of Ag-RDT training modules

There will be a next outbreak, what matters is how we respond to it



### *States Must Standardize Coronavirus Data, Former C.D.C. Director Says*

Dr. Thomas Frieden proposed uniform reporting guidelines for states. Experts said the C.D.C. should have done it months ago.





## Contact

- **Website:** <http://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng>
- **Website:** <https://www.ncdc.gov.ng>
- **NCDC Toll-Free Number:** 6232
- **SMS:** 08099555577
- **WhatsApp:** 07087110839
- **Twitter/Facebook/Instagram:** @NCDCgov
- **Email:** [info@ncdc.gov.ng](mailto:info@ncdc.gov.ng)





TONY BLAIR  
INSTITUTE  
FOR GLOBAL  
CHANGE



World Health  
Organization



中国疾病预防控制中心  
CHINESE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



AFRICA CDC  
Centres for Disease Control and Prevention  
Safeguarding Africa's Health



KOICA  
Korea International  
Cooperation Agency

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
BALTIMORE

Thank You

THE  
WORLD  
BANK



ORGANISATION OUEST AFRICAINE DE LA SANTE

Department  
for International  
Development



AFENET  
African Field Epidemiology Network  
A healthier Africa

REDISSE  
Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement  
Project

eHealth  
AFRICA

JICA

CLINTON  
HEALTH ACCESS  
INITIATIVE

Gavi  
The Vaccine Alliance