DHIS 2 manual for the Action Tracker App

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Action-tracker team
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1 About this guide

This guide is meant to assist all users of the action tracker app to plan and implement the application within the existing HIS framework of either Ministry of Health or individual organisations.

This guide is also tailored for the LINKED Action Tracker app that is fully DEPENDENT on the Bottleneck analysis and the Scorecard applications.

While the guide strives to be complete, there may be certain functionalities topics which have been omitted or which have yet to be documented. This section explains some of the conventions which are used throughout the document.

The Action Tracker App is a browser-based application. In many cases, screenshots have been included for enhanced clarity. Shortcuts to various functionalities are displayed such as Data element “>” Data element group. The “>” symbol indicates that you should click Data element and then click Data element group in the user interface.

Different styles of text have been used to highlight important parts of the text or particular types of text, such as source code. Each of the conventions used in the document are explained below.

- **Note**
  
  A note contains additional information which should be considered or a reference to more information which may be helpful.

- **Tip**
  
  A tip can be a useful piece of advice, such as how to perform a particular task more efficiently.

- **Important**
  
  Important information should not be ignored, and usually indicates something which is required by the application.

- **Caution**
  
  Information contained in these sections should be carefully considered, and if not heeded, could result in unexpected results in analysis, performance, or functionality.

- **Warning**
  
  Information contained in these sections, if not heeded, could result in permanent data loss or affect the overall usability of the system.

Program listings usually contain some type of computer code. They will be displayed with a shaded background and a different font.

Commands will be displayed in bold text, and represent a command which would need to be executed on the operating system or database.

Links to external web sites or cross references will be displayed in blue text, and underlined like this.
2 Dashboard and Demo Server

2.1 Chapter 1. Linked Action Tracker Dashboard and Demo server

2.1.1 1.1 Introduction to the Action Tracker App

Action Tracker is part of the bottleneck and scorecard cascade that utilizes DHIS2 analytical features to assess national and sub-national level performance of key priority interventions aimed at improving health service delivery and health outcomes. It is a tool that helps improve effective coverage of priority interventions at sub-national level by tracking actions taken to address the root causes of key bottlenecks in the health interventions.

The Action Tracker App is developed and maintained by the HISP Community (University of Oslo (UiO), HISP-Tanzania and HISP Uganda) in collaboration with UNICEF. The Action Tracker v1.0.0.rc. 0 is available for download on the Dhis app store. It is currently compatible with DHIS2 2.28 and above.

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![Figure 1.1-A: Standard layout of the Action Tracker dashboard](image)

2.1.2 1.2 Advantages of the Action Tracker App

The Action Tracker App helps track the status of key steps taken to address the root causes of key bottlenecks in priority interventions. It is built within DHIS2 along side the BNA, Scorecard and Root Cause analysis Apps allowing systematic analysis, status update and follow up of actions taken to address possible solutions to key bottlenecks in health service delivery.

2.1.3 1.3 Rationale for the Linked Action Tracker App

The Linked Action Tracker enables health managers track progress on implementation of actions for proposed solutions and allows for review and follow up of these actions. Following the design of BNA, Scorecard and Root Cause Analysis Apps in DHIS2, it was paramount to design the Action Tracker within DHIS2 to complete the cascade of Bottle Neck Analysis.

Note: Linked Action Tracker App is dependent on BNA app implementation. All actions to be listed on Action Tracker App must be referencing bottlenecks identified using BNA app. You cannot implement Action Tracker App without a BNA app.

2.1.4 1.4 Accessing the Linked Action Tracker

This user guide is documented using the Linked Action Tracker App which is available on the DHIS2 demo server. The Action Tracker is set up in the DHIS2 Demo server and with linkages to the BNA, Scorecard and Root Cause Analysis Apps. The current demo server can be accessed on:
https://scorecard-dev.dhis2.org/demo/ with the username and password provided on the login page.

Figure 1.4-A: Logging and accessing the Action Tracker demo server

The server is hosted in the cloud and can be accessed on the internet via a browser from anywhere as long as there is availability of internet.

2.1.5 1.5 Browsing the Action Tracker

To browse the action tracker app, access the DHIS2 demo server with the login credentials provided on the page. Once logged in, search for Action Tracker on the Search bar.

Figure 1.5.-A: Click on Search apps or Apps icon to access Apps searching option

Figure 1.5.-B: Searching for the Action Tracker App on apps list or by typing full or part of app name “Action Tracker”
Click on the Action Tracker to load the Action Tracker App and once loaded, the user can select the intervention, period, organization unit or modify legend accordingly;

Figure 1.5.-B: Loaded Action Tracker App

2.1.5.1 Selection of an Intervention

The user needs to select the intervention on which bottleneck analysis and root cause analysis were performed and would now like to track actions to improve that particular intervention.

Click on the intervention tab to display a list of all available interventions.

Figure 1.5.1-A: Intervention tab providing access to intervention selection

1. Click on the intervention for which a bottleneck was identified. This intervention will be selected and displayed to the right.
Click update to save the intervention

Note: Selection of the wrong intervention will not display the Root Cause Analysis data on the linked Action Tracker

2.1.5.2 Legend Configurations

The user can modify the legend based on the number of stages for tracking the action status. Currently the Action Tracker has 5 colour codes which indicate the levels through which the actions are tracked; white indicates “Action not started”, Olive indicates “In Progress”, Pink indicates “Constrained”, Green indicated “Completed”, Red indicates the action was “Discontinued.”

Click on the legend tab to edit the legend

Click on the colour tabs to edit the colours

Edit the legend name
Delete or add a legend

Click update to save the changes made to the legend

Note: Access to configuration of legends depends on user’s access roles
The Action Tracker allows you to make period selections for fixed periods, relative periods and extended relative periods. All period selections types begin with clicking the period tab.

Click on the period tab to display the options

![Figure 1.5.3-A: Click on period to access period selection options](image)

Click on the period type to select the desired type of period; either fixed periods or relative periods

![Figure 1.5.3-B: Click on selected period (default monthly) to access period options](image)

Use the previous year and next year tabs to display the correct years

![Click on Prev Year or Next Year to view periods for different years](image)
Select the desired period. This will appear to the right

Figure 1.5.3-C: Use of Prev Year and Next Year button to navigate through options

Click update to save the selected period

Figure 1.5.4-A: Accessing the Organization unit selection options

2.1.5.4 1.5.4 Organization Unit Selection

The orgunit selection allows you to select the org unit level for which actions will be tracked. This is the same level for which the root cause analysis was done.

Click on the Org unit tab to access organization unit selection options
Select the desired Orgunit level

Figure 1.5.4-B: Selection of the Organization unit

Click on organization unit to select it

Figure 1.5.4-C: Saving organization unit selected for display

Click update button to save period selected

Click update to save the selected Orgunit level

Note: Selection of the wrong organization unit level will not display the Root Cause Analysis data on the Action Tracker

Once the organization unit is selected and saved, data from the root cause analysis table is retrieved and the data entry module activated to allow entry and editing of the action tracker.
Figure 1.5.4-D: Display of information from Root Cause Analysis in the Action Tracker
3 Navigation and browsing

3.1 Chapter 2. Data Entry in Action Tracker

The data entry section allows you to record actions aimed at addressing the root causes of bottlenecks in the different determinants of health coverage. It provides a description of the actions required to address a specific problem, states the period within which this action should be done, responsible person, status of completion, review date and provides for any review notes.

3.1.1 2.1 Data Entry

To access Data entry options click on Data entry tab

To access option for adding new action, right click on the intervention on Add Actions column

3.1.1.1 2.1.1 Action Description

This field (see Figure 2.1-C above) allows you to describe in detail the specific actions that will be taken to arrive at the proposed solution. The action recorded should be clear and specific. Only
one action should be recorded and in case the proposed solution requires more than one, then another action is recorded as indicated in 2.1.B above.

3.1.1.2 2.1.2 Action Period

This field (see Figure 2.1-C above) is for the period over which it is anticipated that the action will be performed.

Once all the fields on Figure 2.1-C above have been filled, click on “update” to save the information in the action tracker.

3.1.1.3 2.1.3 Adding Actions

In cases where the possible solution requires more than one action, additional actions can be added using the add button in the last column to the right.

Click the icon to add more actions to the proposed solution. Once the fields are filled, save to continue.

3.1.2 2.1.4 Edit or Delete a Field

To Edit or Delete an entry, right click on any cell for a given intervention and edit or delete an entry accordingly.
To edit the action, after clicking edit (Figure 2.1.2-A), update the data entry field where you want to make changes then click save (Figure 2.1.2-B)

To delete the action, after clicking delete (Figure 2.1.2-A), click Yes if you are sure you want to delete action or click No if you don't want to delete the action (Figure 2.1.2-C)

### 3.1.3 2.2 Actions Tracking

Actions can be tracked to see progress over time and allow users to change implementation status. To access the action tracking options, click on the Action Tracking tab.

*Figure 2.2-A: Clicking the Action Tracking to access tracking options*

To download list of actions tracked click on the export icon to get options of formats to download.
Figure 2.2-C: Accessing action tracking download options

Select the preferred file format to download and follow steps on your browser for saving downloaded files. Available formats for download include CSV, Excel and PDF.

3.1.4 2.3 Analysis

The Action Tracker app includes options for view graphical presentations of the actions tracked. To access the graphical presentation click on Analysis tab.
4 Maintenance and Support

4.1 Chapter 5: Action Tracker App Maintenance

If the Action Tracker application is taking too long to load, and you’re not on a slow network, make sure you have cleared your browser cache.

Action Tracker Application makes good use of cached files for better offline experience, as a result, when installing higher version, Action Tracker Application may use older version of cached files and thus break down while loading.

4.1.1 5.1 Clearing application cache

Approaches to clear application cache and browser interface vary from browser to browser; for example for Mozilla Firefox the keyboard shortcut is “CTRL+SHIFT+DELETE” while for Google chrome the keyboard shortcut is “CTRL+SHIFT+J”.

Accessing interface for clearing browser cache can be done via the following approaches:

• **Google chrome**: Go to the menu icon on the top right corner, and click it to open, go to more tools menu, and choose “Clear browsing data”. Once the interface is open, Make sure, “Clear the following items from” is set to “The beginning of time”.

• **Mozilla Firefox**: Go to the menu icon on the top right corner, and click it to open, go to ->Library, and go to History, and choose “Clear recent history”. Once the interface is open, Make sure “Time range to clear” is set to “Everything”, and “Details” option is expanded to show all details options. Once on the clear browsing data or recent history, tick “Cache”, “Cookies”, “Hosted app data” or “Offline Website data”. To clear all cached files, cookies and locally stored data by bottleneck.

![Figure 5.1-A: Menu icons in Google chrome and firefox](image)

**Note**: These will also clear all cache information and cookies from other websites you visited in your browser.

![Figure 5.1-B: Google chrome interface for clearing browser cache](image)
Figure 5.1-C: Mozilla firefox interface for clearing browser cache