

NO
TO
NEGLECTED
TROPICAL
DISEASES

FOR AN AFRICA FREE OF NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

THE NTD BURDEN

**1.5
BILLION
PEOPLE**

in the world are affected by Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), a group of communicable diseases.



39%

of the global NTD burden occurs in Africa.

47 countries

in the African Region are endemic for at least one NTD.

79%

of African countries are co-endemic for at least 5 of these diseases.



Africa will not reach its Sustainable Development Goals while 620 million people in Africa are affected by NTDs.



600 million people still require treatment.

These dangerous and destructive diseases can be prevented and treated, yet they continue to cause severe disfigurement and other long-term disabilities that create obstacles to education, employment, economic growth and overall development.



Only 0.6% of global healthcare funding goes to controlling NTDs.

PREVENTABLE AND TREATABLE

THE 5 MOST COMMON NTDs



Lymphatic Filariasis (LF)



Onchocerciasis (ONCHO)



Schistosomiasis (SCH)



Soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH)



Trachoma (TRA)

They are all amenable to preventive chemotherapy treatments, they are called the PC-NTDs.

Mass Drug Administration (MDA)

is a strategy consisting of a campaign-style approach to deliver preventive chemotherapy treatments to all eligible people in at-risk communities, usually once or twice per year depending on the specific, targeted NTDs.



Thanks to the pharmaceutical sector's drug donation program, large-scale integrated treatment of people in high-risk areas with **these safe and effective medicines costs less than US \$ 0.50 per patient to administer**, making it one of the best buys in global health.

PREVENTIVE CHEMOTHERAPY (PC)

involves reaching entire at-risk communities annually with safe and effective medicines to treat and prevent NTDs.



To accelerate the elimination of PC-NTDs to protect 600 million people in Africa, the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa created in 2016, the **Expanded Special Project for Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (ESPEN)**.

With country ownership and leadership of their control and elimination programs as a guiding principle, ESPEN contributes to the broader WHO target of universal health coverage, long-term sustainability and strengthening of health systems.

KEY SUCCESS DRIVERS FOR NTD CONTROL AND ELIMINATION

- 1 High-level engagement with government, private sector and civil society leaders.**
- 2 Increased external and domestic resources for sustainable funding.**
- 3 Strengthened capacities of national NTD programs and civil society organizations to implement sustainable strategies.**
- 4 Strong partnerships working in synergy.**

NTD ELIMINATION IS WITHIN OUR REACH



From 2010 to 2016, the number of people at risk for NTDs **fell by 25%**, meaning that **over 400 million people** no longer require NTD treatment.



In 2016, NTD programs reached **1 billion people** with treatment for at least one NTD.



Togo was the first nation in sub-Saharan Africa to be certified, in April 2017, for the successful elimination of lymphatic filariasis as a public health problem.



Ghana eliminated trachoma in June 2018, freeing millions from suffering and blindness. Ghana is the first, in the WHO's African Region to achieve this milestone.

