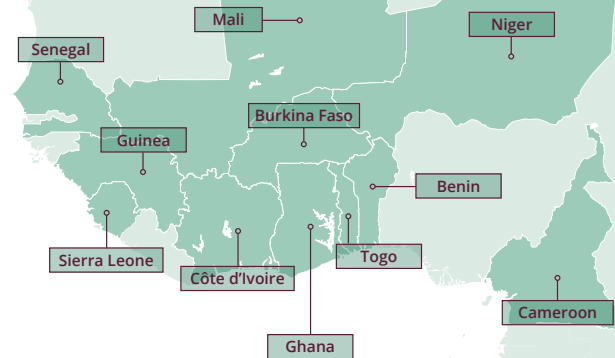


Act to End Neglected Tropical Diseases | West

PROGRAM FACT SHEET

The U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Act to End NTD | West program (Act | West) supports the control and/or elimination of five Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) using preventive chemotherapy through proven, cost-effective public health interventions: trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and soil-transmitted helminthiasis in 11 West African countries. The program also aims to strengthen national NTD program capacity to sustain delivery of NTD services and programs.



PROGRAM GOALS

The FHI 360-led team uses its NTD expertise and implementation experience towards achieving Act | West's program's intermediate and end results for NTD control and/or elimination and health systems strengthening:

Result 1: Elimination of LF, trachoma, and where feasible, onchocerciasis in Africa

IR 1: Increased mass drug administration (MDA) coverage among at-risk populations in endemic countries

Result 2: Sustainable national NTD programs (NTDPs)

IR 2: Strengthened country environment for NTDP implementation and management

Result 3: Robust country capacity to implement and maintain ongoing MDA and disease surveillance for STH, SCH, and in some cases, onchocerciasis

IR 3: Sustained MDA coverage among at-risk populations in endemic countries

PROGRAM STRATEGIES

The FHI 360-led team provides technical assistance consultation and assistance through a variety of activities to support Act | West countries in reaching their NTD goals such as:

- Support project countries to treat communities suffering from lymphatic filariasis (LF) and trachoma, document successes, and verify disease elimination as a public health problem via the World Health Organization (WHO) dossier process.
- Support Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Togo, Benin, Mali, and Senegal in meeting the WHO requirements to verify the elimination of onchocerciasis transmission, including dossier development and submission.
- Support sustainable service delivery in the countries by leveraging domestic and other resources (funding, policy, existing service delivery platforms) for NTDs targeted for control (schistosomiasis/SCH, soil-transmitted helminthiasis/STH, and in some countries, onchocerciasis).
- Support countries in mainstreaming NTD programming into their national health systems.
- Add NTDP interventions into the platforms of related sectors—education; malaria; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); maternal and child health (MCH); and nutrition—to extend program reach.





THE FHI 360-LED ACT TO END NTDS | WEST TEAM

FHI 360 leads Act to End NTDS | West's program and financial management and provides management oversight, with its expertise in NTD capacity building; WASH; malaria; social and behavior change; gender; the collaborating, learning, and adapting process; health systems strengthening (HSS); and monitoring, evaluation and learning. In addition to leading the project, FHI 360 implements Act to End NTDS | West in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal.

Helen Keller International (Helen Keller Int'l) supports NTD capacity building and integration with nutrition, school-based and child health interventions. Helen Keller is the implementing partner in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea, Mali, Niger, and Sierra Leone.

Health and Development International's (HDI) collaboration with Togo's MOH led to Togo becoming the first African country to eliminate LF as a public health problem. HDI is the implementing partner in Togo.

CROSS-CUTTING PARTNERS

Deloitte supports HSS and sustainability activities for Act to End NTDS | West, assisting national health and finance ministries in NTDP planning, costing, supply chain management, innovative financing, and resource mobilization. **World Vision** supports cross-sectoral coordination with WASH, malaria, nutrition, and school-based programming and leverage its WASH programming and private and other funders in Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Senegal. **American Leprosy Missions** assists with assessing the morbidity burden and provide management strategies for dossier development.

Select Progress Highlights Toward IR1 And IR2 Goals

Since the beginning of the Act | West program in 2018, significant progress towards disease elimination and control and NTD program sustainability have been realized. Here are just a few highlights:

LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS (LF)



- **675** districts have stopped mass drug administration (MDA) for LF
- **152,213,500** people no longer at risk for LF

TRACHOMA



- **314** districts have stopped mass drug administration for trachoma
- **84,753,309** people no longer at risk for trachoma

ONCHOCERCIASIS



- **202.41** million treatments given (across the countries) for onchocerciasis since 2018

Notable Country-Specific Progress for Onchocerciasis

- **Senegal** has stopped OV MDA in all endemic districts following the FY23 MDA that occurred in December 2022
- **Togo** has stopped MDA in the maritimes region in FY2023
- **Niger** has submitted a dossier to WHO for the verification of elimination of OV (country wide elimination)

SOIL-TRANSMITTED HELMINTHIASIS (STH)



- **50.84** million of treatments given (across the countries) for STH since 2018
- **2** countries (Burkina Faso, Mali) have stopped MDA for STH

SCHISTOSOMIASIS (SCH)



- **51.20** million treatments given (across the countries) for schistosomiasis since 2018
- **7** countries have conducted schistosomiasis impact assessments since December 2021 (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo.)

Progress Towards Sustainable NTD Services (as of January 2024)

- **9** countries have developed NTD sustainability plans since 2018 (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo)
- **8** country governments have politically validated their NTD sustainability plans (Cote d'Ivoire in 2020, Senegal in 2020, Togo in 2021, Ghana in 2022, Niger in 2022, Mali in 2023, Sierra Leone in 2023, Burkina Faso in 2023)
- **5** countries have conducted a high-level stakeholders engagement for domestic resources mobilization to secure financial support for sustaining NTD program work (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Niger and Mali)
- **4** countries have moved forward to integrate NTD related disabilities (MMDP) into the national health insurance/UHC package of services (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This fact sheet is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the sole responsibility of the Act to End NTDs | West program, led by FHI 360 in partnership with Helen Keller International, Health and Development International, Deloitte, World Vision, and the American Leprosy Missions under Cooperative Agreement No. 7200AA18CA00011 and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.