

# NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

are a group of preventable and treatable parasitic, viral, and bacterial diseases that **affect more than one billion people globally.**

Accessible version <https://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/infographics/neglected-tropical-diseases/neglected-disease-day-infographic.html>



## Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) cause devastating health and economic problems

for the world's poorest people, maintaining a cycle of poverty and disease.

NTDs cause disability that hinders school attendance, care of families, and earning wages.

They disrupt productivity and already unstable economies.

Several NTDs can be controlled or eliminated through straightforward community-level interventions such as mass drug administration (MDA) or simple water filtration. MDA efforts leverage \$26 billion in donated drugs.



**Lymphatic Filariasis**  
(Elephantiasis)



**Blinding Trachoma**



**Onchocerciasis**  
(River Blindness)



**Schistosomiasis**  
(Snail Fever)



**Soil-Transmitted Helminths**  
(Hookworm, Roundworm, Whipworm)

## DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS

Scale up of proven interventions has led to:

**649 MILLION** people no longer requiring treatment for lymphatic filariasis (LF)

**1.38 BILLION** people no longer requiring treatment for trachoma

**LESS THAN 30** Guinea worm infections in 2020, down from 3.5 million in the 1980s

In 2021, **42 COUNTRIES** have **ELIMINATED** at least **1 NTD**

# CDC's EFFORTS

CDC's Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria translates science into action.



Researching better **laboratory surveillance tools** and making them ready for use by country programs where these diseases are being eliminated



**Assisting countries** with implementing their programs and using new tools



**Providing global scientific leadership** on NTD elimination through collaborations with World Health Organization (WHO) and others

## SPOTLIGHT ON KEY CDC ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Developed a new blood test to more easily assess trachoma transmission in a community



Strengthening capacity in labs in Africa



Developing lab-based surveillance strategies, including leading efforts to implement integrated surveillance to detect more than 30 parasitic, viral, and bacterial diseases from a single, small blood sample



Providing support to American Samoa and Haiti to eliminate LF



Using data to strengthen disease elimination efforts for LF, river blindness, and schistosomiasis



Serving as WHO Collaborating Centers for Guinea worm disease and blinding trachoma

## WHAT'S NEEDED?

**Continue scale up** of proven interventions in countries

**Expand and strengthen** surveillance for data-driven decision making

**Develop and deploy** new diagnostic tools and approaches

**Assist** countries that have not yet reached elimination

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about CDC's work to prevent, control, and eliminate parasitic diseases, visit [www.cdc.gov/parasites](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites)

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**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention