END IN AFRICA

Burkina Faso

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Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) affect all 63 of Burkina Faso’s health districts (HDs), with an estimated 16 million people at risk of contracting one or more diseases. NTDs are debilitating and disproportionately affect the poor and vulnerable, particularly women and children.

While lack of awareness, unsafe health practices, and limited access to safe water and sanitation continue to present challenges, Burkina Faso’s NTD control program has made good progress toward reducing disease risks for the country’s citizens, particularly for lymphatic filariasis (LF), onchocerciasis (Oncho) and trachoma. Nevertheless, these NTDs as well as schistosomiasis (SCH) and soil transmitted helminthiasis (STH) continue to threaten the population’s health. USAID’s END in Africa project and its partners are committed to supporting Burkina Faso’s efforts toward NTD elimination and control.
Achievements

★ Completed mapping for all five NTDs and scaled up mass drug administration (MDA) to the national level.

★ Over half of the country’s 63 health districts (HDs) have stopped MDA for lymphatic filariasis (LF) after transmission assessment surveys (TAS) found no further need for treatment in 33 HDs.

★ 83% of HDs with trachoma (25 of 30 HDs) have stopped district-level MDA for trachoma because less than 10% of children ages 1-9 currently have the disease in those HDs.

★ 90% of HDs with onchocerciasis (57 of 63 HDs) have stopped MDA for onchocerciasis.
Current activities in Burkina Faso

**Mass Drug Administration**
- Conduct one annual round of community-based MDA for trachoma in 5 HDs.
- Provide annual community-based MDA in the 30 HDs that still need LF treatments.¹
- Provide community-based MDA for SCH in 26 HDs; 19 will receive one round of treatment and 7 will receive two treatment rounds per year.²
- Conduct two rounds of community-based MDA per year for Oncho in 4 HDs.³
- Treat 37 HDs for STH (via the MDAs for LF or SCH).⁴

**Disease Assessments and Monitoring**
- Support the National Program for the Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (PNEFL) in conducting night blood surveys (pre-transmission assessment surveys or pre-TAS) in 11 HDs and transmission assessment surveys (TAS) in 4 HDs.
- Support post-MDA LF surveillance surveys and post-MDA TAS in 13 HDs.
- Conduct trachoma drug treatment impact surveys in 4 HDs; and sub-district level surveys in 4 additional HDs.
- Conduct Oncho treatment coverage surveys and community self-monitoring activities in 4 HDs.⁵

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¹ Four HDs will receive a second round of MDA for LF in FY2015 with funding from the Liverpool Centre for Neglected Tropical Diseases (CNTD).
² Schistosomiasis affects all 63 HDs. These are divided into three groups, according to infection level: 37 HDs have infection levels < 10% of the population and are treated once every two years, with FY2015 being a non-treatment year; 19 HDs have infection levels between 10% and 50% and are treated annually; and 7 HDs have infection levels > 50% of the population and are treated twice per year.
³ Two additional HDs in the Cascades region will also receive MDA with funding from Sightsavers.
⁴ Funding for these treatments will come from USAID (37 HDs) and CNTD (for a second annual treatment in 4 HDs).
⁵ Oncho treatment coverage surveys and community self-monitoring will also be conducted in 2 additional HDs with funding from Sightsavers.
Training and Capacity Building

- Train trainers, supervisors, nurses, community health workers and community drug distributors (CDDs) involved in implementing MDA for NTDs at the national, regional, district and peripheral health center levels.
- Train NTD drug managers and pharmacists in implementing standard operating procedures for supply chain management.
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation capacity by training staff in the NTD program (NTDP) in data quality assessments.

NTD Program Support

- Implement information, education, and communication (IEC) strategies, community meetings and media campaigns to inform communities about NTDs and improve participation in MDA activities.
- Help the NTDP make projections and apply for NTD drugs.
- Conduct regular planning meetings to support implementation of the country work plan and budget.
- Strengthen program coordination and support the development of and partnerships between the NTDP and NTD partners through meetings, workshops, annual reviews and distribution of reports.
- Supervise and monitor MDA at all levels.
- Revise and improve data collection tools.
- Support publication production and FY2015 work planning activities.
END in Africa

Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and managed by FHI360, the END in Africa project aims to reduce the prevalence of five neglected tropical diseases—trachoma, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthes—in Burkina Faso and four other West African countries (Ghana, Niger, Sierra Leone and Togo).

As END in Africa project lead, FHI360 provides overall program administration support to Ghana’s NTDP, while subgrantees Helen Keller International (HKI) and Health and Development International (HDI) support project operations in Burkina Faso (HKI), Niger (HKI), Sierra Leone (HKI) and Togo (HDI). Other END in Africa partners include John Snow Inc., Deloitte Consulting LLP and Liverpool Associates in Tropical Health, which provide respective support in supply chain management, financial performance, and monitoring and evaluation activities.

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Other NTD Partners in Burkina Faso
Funding is provided mainly by USAID through FHI 360 and HKI. However, the Liverpool Centre for Neglected Tropical Diseases (CNTD), Sightsavers and other partners provide some funding for MDAs in certain districts of Burkina Faso.