

A map of West Africa with Togo highlighted in red. Other countries in the region are shown in light gray. The Atlantic Ocean is to the west, and the Indian Ocean is to the east. The title 'NTDs in Togo' is written in red text to the left of the map.

# NTDs in Togo

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) affect all 40 districts in Togo, putting **more than 6 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, Togo's NTD Program has achieved important progress against NTDs, especially lymphatic filariasis (LF). However, schistosomiasis (SCH), onchocerciasis (Oncho), and soil-transmitted helminthes (STH) continue to be threats and require continued attention and support from USAID's END in Africa project and other partners.

# END in Africa

Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and managed by FHI 360, the END in Africa project aims to reduce the prevalence of 7 neglected tropical diseases, including trachoma, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis and 3 soil-transmitted helminths (hookworm, roundworm, and whipworm), in Togo and 5 other West African countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire).

As the END in Africa project lead, FHI 360 provides overall program administration support to the NTDPs in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, 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). END in Africa partner Deloitte Consulting LLP provides capacity-building expertise to the NTDPs, particularly in financial management and oversight.

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## **Other NTD Partners in Togo**

The program is also supported by several other external and national partners, such as UNICEF, the Hope Educational Foundation, the African Program for Onchocerciasis Control (APOC, prior to 2016), Sightsavers and the WHO Country Office in Togo.

END IN AFRICA

# Togo




# Achievements

- ★ Following an external assessment of its onchocerciasis program in 2013, Togo has changed its strategic goal from onchocerciasis control to disease elimination and the Ministry of Health has subsequently developed a strategic plan for onchocerciasis elimination.
- ★ Lymphatic filariasis (LF) transmission was effectively interrupted in 2009, with the last MDA for LF occurring in 2009.<sup>1</sup> Togo's goal now is verification of LF elimination by the World Health Organization (WHO), as 2 post-treatment surveillance surveys in 2012 and 2015 showed absence of LF transmission 3 and 6 years after the last MDA, respectively.

**ALL**  
**40**  
*Districts affected  
by NTDs*

**6** **million**  
*At risk for NTDs*



<sup>1</sup>. Prior to the start of USAID support for Togo's NTD program



# Current Activities in Togo

## Mass Drug Administration

- ▶ Support Togo's NTD Program (NTDP) in implementing nationwide integrated, community-based MDA for SCH, Oncho, and STH. The MDA targets 2.4 million people in 29 districts for SCH; 3.1 million people in 32 districts for Oncho; and 2.3 million school-age children in 35 districts for STH.
- ▶ Conduct MDA for STH a second time in 4 districts where at least half of the population is infected.
- ▶ Conduct MDA for Oncho a second time in 15 districts with high infection rates.<sup>1</sup>

## Disease Assessments and Monitoring

- ▶ Conduct epidemiological surveillance for Oncho in 17 districts in 4 of the 5 endemic regions to monitor the impact of MDA.
- ▶ Conduct epidemiological assessment to determine whether MDA for Oncho can be stopped in 7 districts in Maritime region.

## Training and Capacity Building

- ▶ Train more than 10,000 people in drug distribution protocols, community education, supply chain management (SCM), behavior change, serious adverse event reporting and other aspects of MDA.
- ▶ Train field workers for disease-specific assessments and a coverage validation survey.
- ▶ Train central level Ministry of Health (MOH) personnel on using the Tool for Integrated Planning and Costing (TIPAC) for program planning.

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<sup>1</sup> With funding from Togo's Ministry of Health

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- ▶ Build the SCM capacity of MOH personnel.
- ▶ Strengthen the capacity of MOH personnel to capture, interpret, and utilize data to improve program performance.



### **NTD Program Support**

- ▶ Support the NTDP in making projections and applying for NTD drugs.
- ▶ Conduct data quality assessments to inform programmatic decisions.
- ▶ Assist the NTDP with preparatory activities related to drafting its 2016-2020 strategic NTD master plan.
- ▶ Organize and support national work planning, stakeholder, and program review meetings.
- ▶ Support the NTDP in developing an advocacy plan and coordinating social mobilization activities.
- ▶ Support the NTDP in conducting a national epidemiological survey for Oncho.