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USAID ENVISION PROJECT

ENGAGEMENT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

USAID’s Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) project targets five specific diseases which cause significant morbidity and mortality, and which disproportionately affect poor and marginalized populations: Lymphatic Filariasis (elephantiasis), Trachoma, Onchocerciasis, Schistosomiasis, and Soil-Transmitted Helminths.

NTDs can cause severe disfigurement and disabilities, including blindness and developmental disabilities. They are especially dangerous because they can impair intellectual development in children, reduce school enrollment, and prevent infected individuals from being able to work or care for their families.

PROJECT’S APPROACH

For the past several years, the U.S. government has contributed approximately \$1.3 million per year to help the government of Mali plan, implement, and evaluate mass drug administration campaigns, which distribute preventative medications in homes and schools to the populations most vulnerable to NTDs.

The project provides technical and financial assistance to strengthen NTD programming at the country level and support the government of Mali to achieve their NTD control and elimination goals. Three NTDs are now targeted for elimination (prevalence of heavy infection <1%): Lymphatic Filariasis (2020), Trachoma (2018) and Onchocerciasis (2025). Schistosomiasis and Soil-Transmitted Helminths are targeted for control (prevalence of heavy infection < 5%).

ENVISION PROJECT GOALS

BUDGET: \$1.3 million/year

TARGET AREAS: All endemic health districts in Mali

PROJECT CYCLE: Sept 2011 – Sept 2016 with extension to Sept 2019

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Over 120 million NTD treatments provided in Mali
- Trachoma: all once-endemic health districts have reached the elimination threshold
- Lymphatic Filariasis: 49 health districts have reached the elimination threshold
- Schistosomiasis: 12 health districts have reached control criteria & 16 have reached elimination criteria
- Soil-Transmitted Helminths: 43 health districts have reached the elimination threshold, and three have reached the control threshold