

## WORLD NTD DAY & THE 100% COMMITTED CONCEPT NOTE

At the Canadian Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases (CNNTD), we believe that NTDs are a missing piece to improved global health. Today, the reality is that over 1.7 billion people (globally, 1 in 5) live with Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). However, it doesn't have to be this way. Although the scale of NTDs as a public health problem make the solutions seem daunting, we know that by working together we can achieve the WHO 2030 NTD goals and see 100 countries eliminate 1 or more NTDs by 2030. To date, 47 countries have eliminated at least 1 NTD so far, and 600 million people no longer require NTD treatment. For the most part, these diseases are preventable and treatable, so it is within our power to end NTDs. Canadian investment in the prevention, treatment and elimination of NTDs will achieve greater global health equity and more resilient health systems.

The Canadian Government can work collaboratively with Canadian NTD organizations, global stakeholders, and pharmaceutical companies<sup>1</sup> to achieve World Health Organization's Neglected Tropical Disease 2030 Roadmap targets. Within Canada, there are more than a dozen organizations that are working in NTDs, many academic institutions with hundreds of researchers and students as well as allied organizations that collectively share a broad footprint and meaningful impact on NTD prevention and treatment globally.

Please join us in celebrating World NTD Day on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023! We want to recognize the successes in NTD prevention and treatment globally that have been made possible because of commitments and collaboration made by Canadians and within the global health community. Follow us on social media to learn more about the [Kigali Declaration on Neglected Tropical Diseases](#), whose purpose is to mobilize and secure commitments to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG3) targets in health for all and to deliver on the World Health Organization's Neglected Tropical Disease 2030 Roadmap.

### Why Canadian commitment to the treatment and prevention of NTDs matters

The Canadian government endorsed the Kigali Declaration on NTDs in 2022. In 2023 this year, we are asking the Canadian Government to make a financial contribution towards achieving the [WHO NTD Road Map 2030 goals](#). It's time Canada, to Act Now. Act Together. Invest in NTDs.

NTDs affect the health, economic and learning opportunities, dignity and rights of the most vulnerable groups of people – those living in extreme poverty; without access to water & sanitation or access to primary health care in more than 100 of the world's endemic countries. If Canada is serious about poverty alleviation, health systems strengthening and resilience, gender and equity, then NTD prevention and treatment needs to be integrated into its development policy. By signing the Kigali Declaration, Canada will join a vibrant and strong global NTD movement focused on supporting programs and targets led by national governments at a time when this support is needed the most: in the midst of a global pandemic.

### World NTD Day is an opportunity to:

- Call on the Canadian government to invest in neglected Tropical Diseases. Underinvestment in the prevention & treatment of NTDs continues to be a critical challenge to achieving NTD elimination strategies. Please take a look at our [Pre 2023 Budget Consultation Submission](#) and the [WHO Case for Investing in NTDs](#) to learn more.
- Share and amplify the stories and work of Canadian organizations and researchers supporting the prevention, treatment and care of NTDs globally

---

<sup>1</sup> Pharmaceutical companies donate almost all of the medicine used in Mass Drug Administration programs – community-wide NTD prevention and treatment programs that when delivered consistently over several years, contribute to NTD elimination for 5 of the most common NTDs (Schistosomiasis, Soil-Transmitted Helminths, Onchocerciasis, Trachoma & Lymphatic Filariasis)



# Canadian Network *for* NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

- Encourage the Canadian government to support the work of organizations working in Canada and globally on NTDs for a healthier world.
- Be **100% Committed** to ending NTDs globally, shifting focus from awareness raising to action and engagement.

## Timeline:

- Social Media Kit ready for distribution by January 27th, 2023
- Campaign from January 27<sup>th</sup>- Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023
- World NTD Day – Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Target Audience:** The Canadian Public and The Canadian Government

**Participating organizations:** Effect Hope, Hope & Healing, Operation Eye Sight, Orbis, HPV Action Canada, Plan Canada, Nutrition International, NGDI, CAGH, CanWaCH, Results Canada, WaterAid, Public Health Insight, Bruyere Research Institute, Leprosy Relief Canada, Oriole Global Health, The Noma Action Group, The Canadian Network for NTDs

## Ways to Engage:

1. Create your own content within your organization to support the 100% committed campaign
2. Listen into our Twitter Space Conversation in partnership with ONE Canada, MSF Canada, and the Canadian Network for NTDs on January 30<sup>th</sup>
3. Like, share and comment on CNNTD's social media postings on World NTD Day! Please check out our [World NTD Day and International Development Week webpage](#) for more info

## Messaging:

- Achievements reached to eliminate, prevent and treat NTDs are a global health success story, but there is still a lot more work to do to #EndTheNeglect and #BeatNTDs. It's time for Canada to act now, act together, & invest in NTDs.
- Canada can help strengthen health systems and global health equity by committing 100% to ending NTDs
- Previous NTD commitments reached over one billion people with treatment for NTDs each year, five years in a row. The time is NOW for Canada to contribute to continued NTD prevention and treatment by investing in NTDs