

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



USAID/RTI Support

Since 2006

133,576,898

NTD Treatments Provided

38,488,449

People Treated

Over \$1 Billion dollars
worth of drugs have
been leveraged toward
treating NTDs

Global Health Council Hosts NTD Control Program for a Roundtable Discussion



Dr. Ambrose Onapa, RTI-Uganda Program Manager, discusses current approaches toward mass distribution of medicine in Uganda at a GHC Roundtable event

The USAID-funded Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Control Program, implemented by RTI International was featured on Wednesday, August 19, 2009, at a Global Health Council Roundtable. The event coincided with RTI's NTD Grantee Partner



Pam Wuichet discusses advocacy strategies for country partners

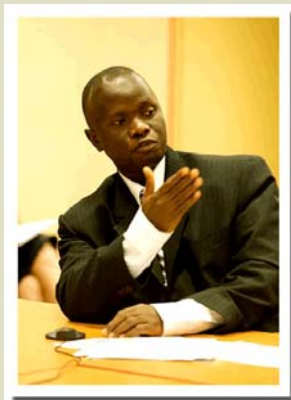
Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program meeting participants share their experience [here](#)



Representatives from 10 countries attended the NTD Grantee Partner Meeting in Washington, D.C

Meeting (August 17-21), and highlighted the ongoing successes of this USAID-funded program. Program Managers from three countries discussed successes and challenges of treating at-risk populations with essential drugs for elimination and control of onchocerciasis (river blindness), lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis), schistosomiasis (snail fever), trachoma (blinding eye disease), and intestinal worms.

Following brief program overviews by Eric Ottesen, RTI's NTD Technical Director, and Mary Linehan, Operations Director, Mary Linehan, Program Managers from three countries spoke about their ongoing successes and the challenges of working in this innovative field. [Abdel Direny](#) of [IMA World Health/Haiti](#) described Haiti's NTD program, successfully leveraging funding USAID and The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to scale up nationally to eliminate LF. [Mustapha Sonnie](#) of [Helen Keller International/Sierra Leone](#) described the challenges and achievements of the national program, which has successfully achieved national scale treatment for all four endemic diseases in post-conflict Sierra Leone.



Mustapha Sonnie, HKI-Sierra Leone Program Manager, speaks on post-conflict medicine distribution

View Individual Country Reports

[Haiti](#)

[Sierra Leone](#)

[Uganda](#)

NTD Control Program

Grantee Partners:
[Health and Development](#)

[International:](#) Togo

[Helen Keller International:](#)
Cameroon, Mali, Sierra Leone

[IMA World Health:](#) Haiti

[Schistosomiasis Control Initiative, Imperial College](#)



Don Bundy from World Bank comments on information presented by RTI

[Ambrose Onapa, RTI/Uganda](#), presented Uganda's novel approaches to integrating mass drug administration with international maternal and child health care activities and scaling up treatment in a complex environment in which all five diseases are endemic, but not always overlapping.

The USAID NTD Control Program works in 12 countries to control and eliminate neglected tropical diseases. For more information, visit our [website](#)

RTI International Holds the First NTD Control Program Grantee Partners' Meeting

[London:](#)

Burkina Faso, Niger

[Malaria Consortium:](#) South

Sudan

[World Vision:](#) Ghana

[NTD Home Page](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Meeting participants listen intently to the presentations

The USAID-funded NTD Control Program held its grantee meeting August 17-21 in Washington, D.C., bringing together 19 representatives from 10 countries. These groups, as grantees of RTI International, support the Ministries of Health in their countries to establish programs targeting the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) as part of WHO's strategy for 'preventive chemotherapy' through Mass Drug Administration (MDA). The NTD Control Program is a key part of the United States Government's NTD Initiative to control NTDs through integrated mass drug administration. The week-long conference hosted country program representatives from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Haiti, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone, Southern Sudan, Togo and Uganda to share the program experience and lessons learned in their efforts to provide national scale treatment for five NTDs, onchocerciasis (river blindness), lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis),

schistosomiasis (snail fever), trachoma (blinding eye disease), and intestinal worms.

The NTD Grantee Partners Meeting began with a welcome address by Aaron Williams, recently confirmed Director for the United States Peace Corps and former Vice President of RTI, followed by presentations from Eric Ottesen, NTD Technical Director, and Mary Linehan, NTD Operations Director, highlighting Program successes and commending grant partners and their Ministry of Health colleagues on the excellent ongoing efforts.

[Achievements to date](#), viewable on the [NTD website](#), featured the enormous progress that has been made in the Program's first three years. Since the Program's inception in 2006, the it has made tremendous progress toward achieving USAID's goals of treating 40 million people with 160 million treatments.

Currently operating in 12 countries, the Program has supported national programs to distribute over \$1 billion worth of donated drugs from the Mectizan Donation Program, International Trachoma Initiative, and GlaxoSmithKline. Over 38 million people have been provided nearly 134 million treatments.

Christy Hanson, USAID Senior Public Health Advisor, and Angela Weaver, USAID Infectious Disease Advisor, also presented a [brief description](#) of

USAID's commitment to NTDs.

Other topics covered during the week's sessions included USAID Rules and Regulations, Monitoring Strategies for Grant Budgeting, Country-Level Program Advocacy, Application and Management Methods for Drug Donations, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Program Best Practices. Country presentations displayed site-specific information on programs to be used as models for ongoing and recently-admitted country groups; some of these presentations were also featured at a well-attended NTD Roundtable session hosted by the Global Health Council at their Washington, D.C. office on August 19.

The week closed with an evening reception which included special guest Barbara Kennedy, RTI VP and Director of the Center for International Health, and an evaluation of meeting topics and Program goals. The highly successful meeting served to strengthen Program partnerships among the RTI grantees and to their even greater commitment to global control and elimination of NTDs.

Our mailing address is:
RTI International
805 15th Street, NW, Ste 601
Washington, D.C., District of Columbia 20005-2207
Copyright (C) 2009 RTI International All rights reserved.

This Newsletter was developed by RTI International for the U.S. Agency for International Development under Cooperative Agreement No. GHS-A-00-06-00006-00. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development or the U.S. Government. ©2007 RTI International. All rights, except those in favor of the United States Government, are reserved. RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

[Forward](#) this email to a friend
[Update your profile](#)