Intestinal parasitic worms (soil-transmitted helminths) are spread through soil, contaminated by human faeces.

Worm infections interfere with children’s nutritional uptake and can result in malnourishment, anaemia, and stunted growth.

Periodic treatment of at-risk populations reduces the intensity of infection. No individual diagnosis is needed.

**Treatment with what?**
Free deworming medicines such as albendazole or mebendazole

**Who should be treated?**
Preschool, school-age children and women of reproductive age

**Why treat everyone?**
To reduce ill health (malnutrition, anaemia, impaired growth); To prevent others from acquiring severe infection

**Where can treatment be sought?**
Schools and community health centres

**Global target:** To reach 75% of children in need of treatment by 2020