Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
for accelerating and sustaining progress on Neglected Tropical Diseases

Neglected Tropical Diseases affect more than 1 billion of the world’s poorest people in 149 countries.

2.4 billion people lack access to improved sanitation facilities.

663 million people lack access to improved water sources.

946 million people practice open defecation.

WASH is critical in the fight against Neglected Tropical Diseases

NTDs and poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions contribute to a vicious cycle of disease and poverty.

Poverty / Poor access to WASH services
Disability / Medical costs / Stigma and exclusion
Contamination of the environment in communities
Exposure to infection

WASH play a critical role in preventing and caring for NTDs

Prevention
- Sanitation to reduce contamination of the environment
- Safe water supply for consumption, enabling hygiene practices, and reducing contact with surface water
- Water resource and waste management for vector control and contact prevention
- Hygiene practices

Treatment and care
- Water for treatment and care at home and in healthcare facilities
- Accessible WASH services for individuals with physical impairments
- Prevention of stigma-based exclusion from WASH services

A Global Strategy 2015 - 2020

Improve awareness of the co-benefits of joint WASH and NTDs action by sharing experience and evidence from improved delivery.

Use WASH and NTDs monitoring to highlight inequalities, target investment, and track progress.

Strengthen evidence on how to deliver effective WASH interventions for NTD control and elimination and embed findings in guidance and practice.

Plan, deliver and evaluate WASH and NTDs programmes with mutual inputs from WASH, health and NTDs stakeholders at all levels.