

deworm the world

Increasing access to education by supporting school-based deworming programs, Deworm the World is reaching over 20 million children across the globe.



Over 400 million school-age children worldwide are infected with parasitic worms (soil-transmitted helminths or schistosomes).

- Worms harm children's health, nutrition and cognitive development, and thus can limit their educational access and achievement.
- The World Health Organization has set the goal of deworming 75% of school-age children at risk of infection by 2015, yet recent estimates indicate less than 15% of children are receiving regular treatment.

School-based deworming: a simple, safe and cost-effective solution

- Deworming can reduce school absenteeism by 25%.
- Children persistently infected with worms are 13% less likely to be literate and earn 43% less as adults.
- For less than \$0.50 per child per year, mass school-based deworming is simple, safe, and easy to deliver, and is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve attendance and overall schooling.
- School-based deworming is now recognized as a significant contributor to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and Education For All.

Deworm the World expands school-based deworming across the globe

Deworm the World (DtW) was launched by a group of Young Global Leaders at the 2007 World Economic Forum in response to the overwhelming evidence in support of school-based deworming. We work directly with governments and development partners to expand school-based deworming programs through:

- **Advocating for large scale school-based deworming programs:** we disseminate the strong evidence for deworming, focusing on the educational benefits for children.
- **Providing in-depth technical assistance and strategic support to governments:** we provide on the ground technical, operational, and financial support, from planning through to monitoring and evaluation, for the development of systematic and sustainable government-led programs.
- **Coordinating action in additional countries:** we facilitate the distribution of donated medication and provision of technical advice to programs in need. We also bring together the results of epidemiological surveys and research studies to improve program quality and efficiency.

Our recent achievements include:

- **Reaching 20 million children across 27 countries:** Through our 2008 Clinton Global Initiative mega-commitment partnership, DtW coordinates action across implementing partners to deliver deworming drugs, donated by Feed the Children, and technical assistance to country programs.
- **Kenya National School-based Deworming Program:** DtW is supporting government action, whereby over 3.6 million children were dewormed in 2009 at a cost of \$0.36 per child. The government is expanding the program to include additional at-risk schools.
- **Andhra Pradesh School-based Deworming Program:** DtW is supporting government action, and over 2 million children were dewormed in the 2009 pilot at a cost of \$0.18 per child. The Indian state government is expanding the program to include all at-risk areas.
- **Continued scale-up of deworming through World Food Programme (WFP) school-feeding programs:** Working with DtW, WFP is increasing coverage to treat an additional 2 million children in 12 more countries.
- **Adoption of deworming by the Fast Track Initiative (FTI):** Ministries of Education are now advised to include school-based deworming in national education sector plans for at-risk areas of the country. DtW is providing technical assistance to FTI in countries where worms are a problem.

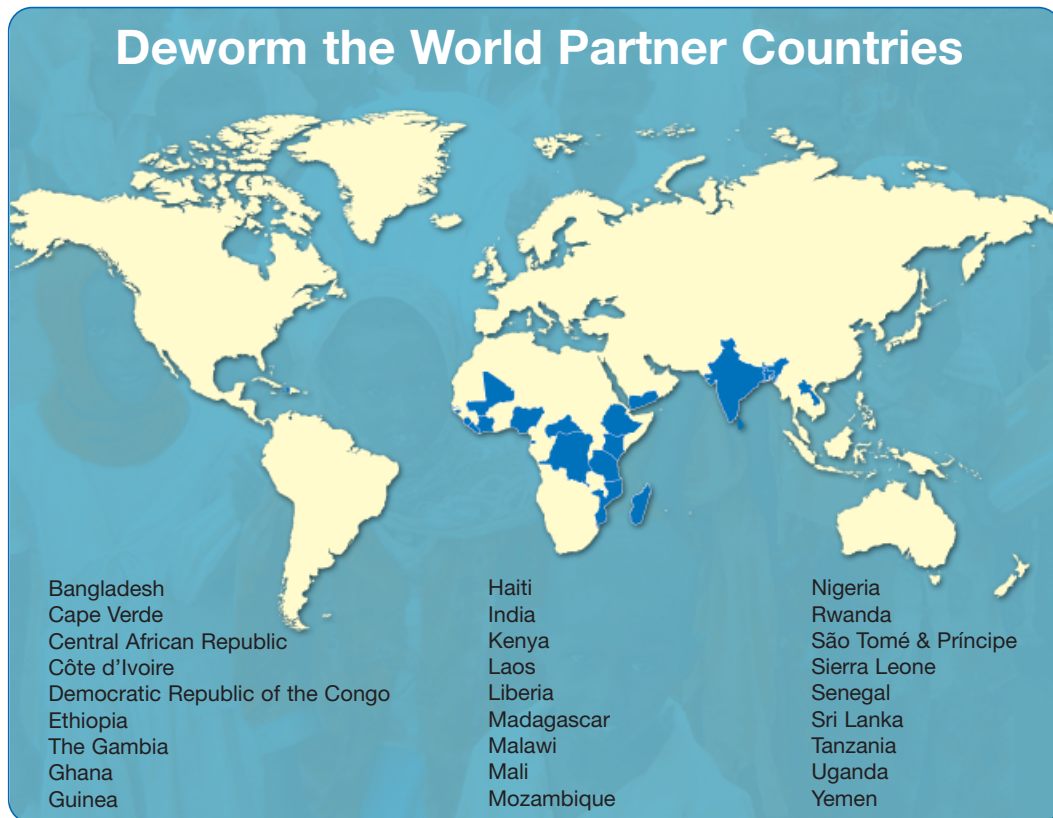


Get involved and support global deworming efforts

Recognizing the importance of deworming and its impact on education, increasingly Ministries of Education are calling for school-based deworming programs in their countries. DtW seeks to extend our support to these additional countries requesting our assistance, while continuing to reach the same children in need through the programs we are already supporting.

With additional funding, we can meet the growing demand to support the design, strengthening, and scaling up of sustainable, school-based deworming programs.

If there are any “best buys” for the education sector, then deworming is surely one.



Deworm the World partners with the following organizations:

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, American Institutes for Research, Asian Center of International Parasite Control, Center of Evaluation for Global Action, Children Without Worms, Eastern and Southern Africa Centre of International Parasite Control, Feed The Children, Forum of Young Global Leaders, Foundation for Community Development, Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases, Harvard University, Innovations for Poverty Action, Kenya Medical Research Institute, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Partnership for Child Development, Right to Play, Save the Children, Schistosomiasis Control Initiative, SKS Microfinance, United Nations World Food Programme, West African Centre for International Parasite Control, World Bank, World Health Organization.

To find out how you can take action to advance global deworming efforts, visit www.dewormtheworld.org or email contact@dewormtheworld.org.