



THE **END** FUND

Deworming Programs Improve Lives and Economies

THE CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF INTESTINAL WORMS ON PEOPLE AND LIVELIHOODS

More than 1.7 billion people worldwide, including more than 1 billion children, are in need of treatment for intestinal worms worldwide. Parasitic worms, like soil-transmitted helminths and blood flukes, live in the intestines and produce thousands of eggs a day. These cause a variety of physical conditions, such as anemia, malnutrition, and painful swelling of the abdomen. Furthermore, the consequences to a person's life are significant, making it less likely a child goes to school and robbing them of nutrition which stunts growth and cognition. Ultimately, intestinal worms make it harder for a person to lead a full and productive life.



The benefits of deworming are extensive and treatment and prevention are available and inexpensive. Medication is generously donated by the pharmaceutical industry, making the cost of getting treatment to those who need it only **50 cents USD per person annually**. Every dollar invested in NTD control and elimination yields, on average, \$25 USD worth of economic benefit. It costs more to ignore NTDs than it does to treat them.

THE LONG-TERM ROI OF DEWORMING TREATMENTS

Intestinal worms have a ripple effect throughout the lives of people and their communities. Ending these debilitating diseases can improve individuals' productivity and prosperity, and create the socio-economic benefits of having a healthier workforce on national levels.



Children are 25% more likely to attend school, leading to improved quality of life outcomes



Adults experience a 13% increase in earnings if they were dewormed as children



People have an increased likelihood of pursuing additional education and career paths that offer growth and higher incomes



Consumer spending increased by 14% for people who received at least two years of treatments



Deworming programs in Kenya showed a 37% annualized rate of return

THE END FUND'S DEWORMING STRATEGY

The END Fund is the leading collaborative philanthropic fund solely dedicated to controlling and eliminating the five most common NTDs, including intestinal worms.. By engaging a community of activist-philanthropists and taking a systems approach, the END Fund is working in collaboration with governments, NGOs, pharmaceutical, and academic partners to facilitate mass drug administration and end intestinal worms in our lifetime. Over one billion treatments have been administered since our founding in 2012 and GiveWell rated the END Fund a Top Charity for its deworming efforts six years in a row.

We know this works. For example, in Rwanda treatment programs have been embedded across the health system in the span of only ten years because of private sector investment and the END Fund's ongoing support in building technical and operational capacity. Today, the rate of worm infections has dropped to nearly zero in some areas, and the government of Rwanda has committed to taking over full funding of its school-based deworming program.

We can and will eliminate these parasites in our lifetime. Help us make that a reality.

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Sources:

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