


Embedding NTD Services in Primary Health Care for Sustainability

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Introduction



PC-NTDs: SCH, STH, LF and Trachoma

Two counties: Kilifi and Siaya identified to pilot integration

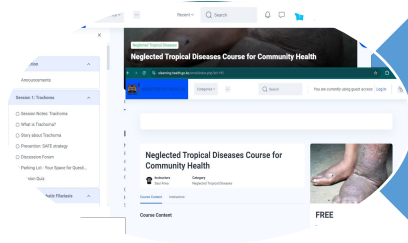
Shift from donor-dependent in alignment with Kenya NTD Master Plan 2023–2027

- Service Delivery
- Health Management Information System (HMIS)
- Human resource for health (HRH)
- Community Engagement
- NTDs Financing

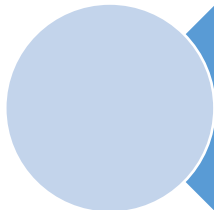
Human resource for Health



Training of Community Health Promoters (CHPs), Community Health Assistants (CHAs), and health facility based workers on NTD identification, treatment, referral, and reporting

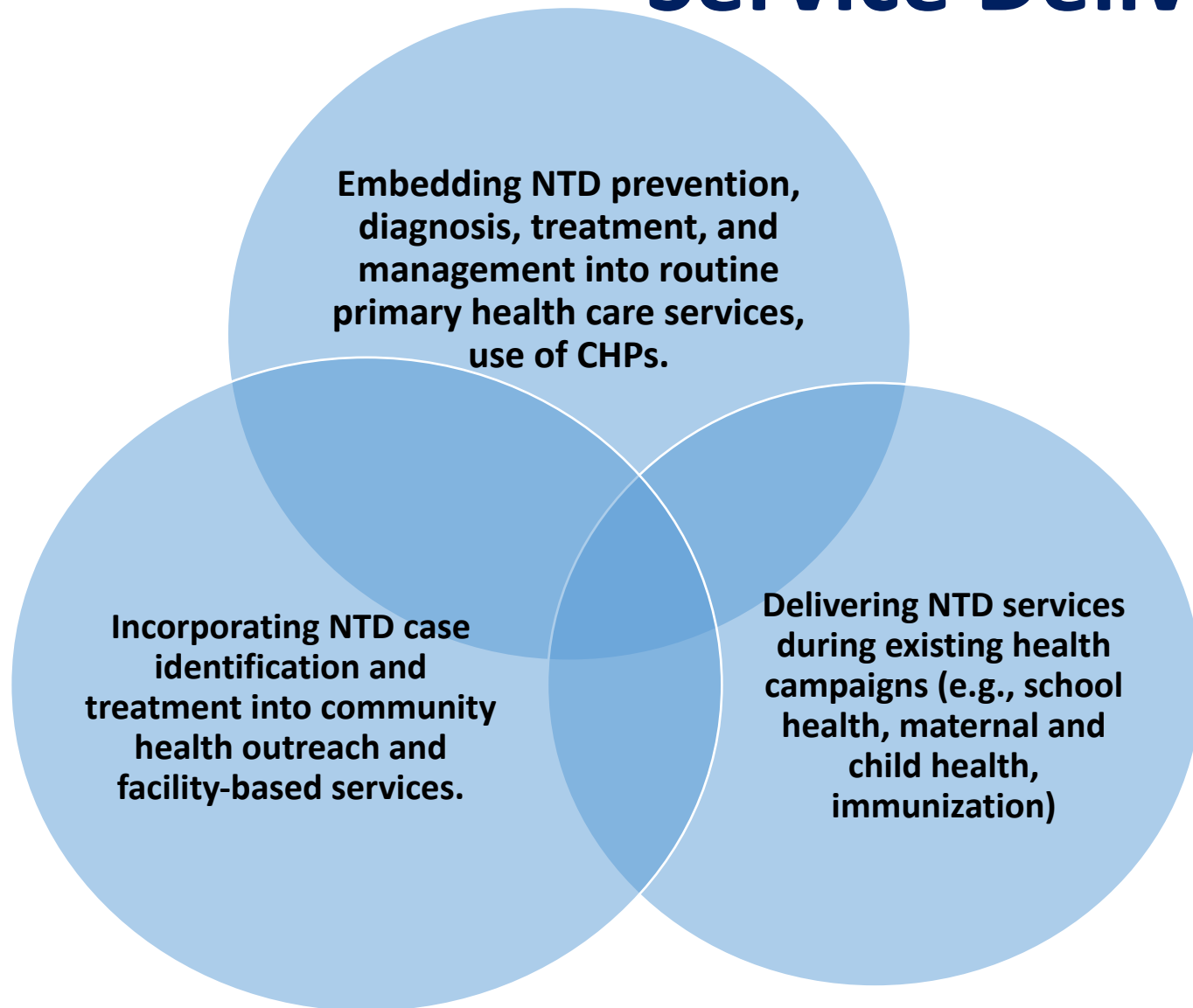


Incorporation of NTD modules into national pre-service and in-service training curricula



Supportive supervision and capacity building through continuous medical education (CME) and on-the-job training.

Service Delivery



- Integration of closely related disease interventions: SCH, STH and LF
- Cost savings and advantages:
 - a) albendazole/mebendazole
 - b) Advocacy, social mobilization and community sensitization
 - c) Pooled logistics

Health Management Information System (HMIS)

Integration of NTD indicators into national reporting systems such as the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) and Electronic Medical Records (EMR).

Use of electronic Community Health Information System (eCHIS) for community-level data collection and case tracking

Routine data analysis and feedback to inform planning and decision-making

Community Engagement



Integration of NTD messages into broader health promotion, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and behavior change communication strategies

Use of existing community structures and CHPs to identify and follow up NTD cases.

Community sensitization as part of broader health campaigns and outreach programs.

Challenges

Challenge	Impact on Integration	Envisaged Remedial Actions
Government bureaucratic lengthy processes through involvement in procurement	Lack of laboratory material affecting routine facility-based diagnosis and treatment of NTDs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with government agencies to expedite procurement and reduce bureaucratic delays. • Forecasting and early planning for required diagnostics for 2025 calendar year.
In country Shortages of Deworming Drugs	Inconsistent deworming efforts, likely to affect treatment coverage and timelines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early quantification and procurement planning for drugs required
Treatment decisions are made based on WHO donation program	Likely to affect SCH elimination goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement to cover low prevalence settings not benefiting from WHO donations
Weak coordination of integration at county level	Likely to affect integration of NTDs into routine health services (within the primary healthcare level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to reallocate funds to support coordination of primary care networks to ensure integration of NTDs



Concluding recommendations

Recommendation	Reason
Operationalize a national NTD/deworming policy framework	Integration efforts require a strong policy anchor. A national deworming policy will define objectives (control vs. elimination), roles, and coordination mandates.
Institutionalize coordinated medicine procurement at national and county levels	Routine, non-campaign procurement of NTD drugs (e.g., albendazole, praziquantel) should be budgeted and streamlined for continuity of services.
Clarify and coordinate stakeholder roles across the deworming value chain	From community actors to national policymakers, clearly defined roles improve accountability and streamline operations during routine and outreach interventions.
Leverage existing primary care structures such as PCN and sub-county platforms	Embedding NTD tasks within PCNs and sub-county review forums avoids duplication, reduces cost, and improves sustainability through existing PHC systems.
Establish regular (monthly) review meetings at IU/sub-county level	Continuous engagement fosters local ownership, data use for planning, and proactive problem-solving in integrated NTD implementation.

