At a Glance

Testing Integrated WASH Implementation Models for Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Prevention Program

As part of CARE's ongoing water, sanitation and hygiene work in the South Gondar Zone of the Amhara region in Ethiopia, I-WASHNTDS aims to improve WASH access and behaviors. CARE and partners focus deliberately on NTD prevention, and work with WASH and NTD stakeholders to ensure a holistic approach to disease prevention and control. This approach includes increased access to WASH, mass drug administration and increased knowledge. At the community level, CARE aims to increase coordination between local government, religious leaders, community members, and health and research institutions working in WASH and NTD prevention and control.

Project

GOAL
To investigate barriers to and successes in WASH-NTD collaboration, and establish models of collaboration at the local and national levels.

ACTIVITIES
- Enhance access to sanitation and hygiene through private-sector marketing, “model homes” and increased WASH facilities at schools, including addressing menstrual hygiene management for schoolgirls.
- Facilitate improved hygiene and sanitation behaviors that reduce the risk of soil-transmitted helminths (STH), schistosomiasis and trachoma infection through knowledge meetings with teachers, students, parents and community leaders.
- Increase government capacity to comprehensively address the control and prevention of NTDs.
- Disseminate learning that can inform government and WASH-NTD stakeholders at local, national and global levels.

Women’s Empowerment

Female teachers are trained on menstruation education and making sanitary pads. All schools have a private place for girls to rest or change and obtain sanitary napkins. Women and mothers in the community are included and encouraged to participate in all activities.

Country Information

In Ethiopia, approximately 75 million people are at risk of infection with at least one of the NTDs. In particular, 32 million children in Ethiopia between the ages of 1 and 15 are at risk of infection with STH, compromising their health and nutritional status, physical growth, cognitive development and educational opportunities.