

## Landscape Analysis of NTD & WASH in Guinea-Bissau

### Terms of Reference

#### Introduction

**Neglected tropical diseases** (NTDs) is a group of communicable diseases that exist in tropical and subtropical conditions in 149 countries. NTDs are rarely captured in routine health statistics but affect more than one billion people and cost developing economies billions of dollars every year. Even carefully estimated DALYs cannot capture its real economic impact. Populations living in poverty, without adequate sanitation and in close contact with infectious vectors and domestic animals and livestock are those worst affected.

For decades, partners including pharmaceutical companies, donors, governments in endemic countries and non-government organisations have contributed with technical knowledge, drugs, research, funding and other resources to treat and prevent Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) among the world's poorest population.

Sightsavers is an international NGO that aims to prevent avoidable blindness and save the sight of some of the world's most vulnerable people. They do this by providing eye operations, training eye care workers and surgeons to provide sight-saving treatment, in addition to distributing medication to protect people from blinding diseases. Sightsavers focusses on blindness related ailments such as cataracts, refractive error, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, as well as Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD)

Sightsavers is working in Guinea-Bissau since 2001 and is focused on accelerating the elimination of diseases such as river blindness, lymphatic filariasis, and trachoma. As well as responding to schistosomiasis.

#### Objective of the consultancy

The aim is to develop a complete landscape analysis of the NTD/WASH needs and existing interventions in Guinea Bissau with close engagement of Ministry of Water and Sanitations, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education (school health and hygiene) within a two-month timeframe.

**Overview:** The landscape analysis is composed of several information gathering activities to guide WASH and NTDs joint planning. This is a first step towards developing a joint program approach to address NTDs at country level, and should be followed by district-focused analyses to understand the partners, resources, and existing WASH, NTDs and other relevant sector activities taking place locally before developing a detailed implementation plan. The national level assessment will analyse health, water and sanitation, education and other policies, plans and systems at all administrative levels necessary for the effective implementation of WASH interventions for NTD care, control and elimination.

**WASH definition for this landscape analysis.** Gathering local knowledge and understanding community needs and preferences are important steps to determine the most suitable type of WASH infrastructure and behaviour change interventions within each setting. In the context of NTDs, WASH activities are defined as:

- Improvement in access to water and sanitation hardware through direct programme investment; or promotion of household/community investment (particularly in latrine construction or maintenance of water points); or advocacy to ensure planned infrastructure is targeted at endemic areas
- Actions focused on behavioural change and the promotion of healthy behaviours and practices around personal and household hygiene relevant to diseases endemic in the location of interest (e.g. facial cleanliness for trachoma, shoe-wearing, handwashing and food safety for STH, etc.)

This includes a deeper look at interventions, partners (including governmental structures), data systems, advocacy effort etc. in each sector, as well as cross-sectors.

Therefore, the aim of this study, is to contribute to a successful landscape analysis by collecting secondary information regarding:

1. Demographic information: population by region, gender ratios, school attendance rates, population mobility, and literacy rates, etc.
2. Disease Information (NTD's): information around MDA's for NTD's, NTD prevalence, and NTD program information.
3. WASH Information: community and district WASH data, institutional WASH data, WASH actors & interventions etc.
4. NTD & WASH Coordination Information: existing WASH/NTD joint coordination structure or entry-points to creating joint planning and implementation.
5. Behaviour Change Initiatives, Tools, and Approaches: information on ongoing or planned Social and Behaviour Change Communication activities related to WASH.
6. Advocacy: level of priority given to NTD's and WASH in national planning discussions, other political or financial initiatives for NTD's and WASH, and any existing NTD and/or WASH advocacy structures.

### **Scope of consultants' work**

Develop a clear timeline for conducting the Landscape Analysis, including a communication plan for keeping all program stakeholders apprised of progress.

- Undertake desk review of existing studies, campaigns, white-papers, WASH, Behaviour Change, and NTD plans (national, sub-national), gap analyses that underpin national WASH and NTD efforts to date.

- Work with relevant members of established county-, region- and/or district-level NTD Task Forces and WASH teams to identify and review all relevant WASH strategies currently in place.
- Meet with representatives of the following entities to discuss their knowledge of, experience with, and any materials they may have in relation to WASH activities undertaken or being undertaken in and around the geographic areas supported by the Program:
  - Implementing Partners.
  - National, Regional and/or District-level NTD Task Force teams.
  - Other national, regional and/or district level formal WASH groups or organizations; and
  - Organisations / Agencies engaging in behaviour change interventions and initiatives.
- These discussions should also gather input from these representatives regarding what works, what doesn't work and why (in both cases) with regards to WASH and behaviour change initiatives.
  - Incorporate Program stakeholder input / feedback into a Landscape Analysis

## Methodology

The detailed methodology for the landscape analysis will be developed by the consultant and approved by Sightsavers. A template will be provided to the consultant guiding the research and structure of the final report.

The study will follow an inductive approach, to explore the level of organization and implementation of WASH and NTD's program in GB and the relationships existing between the different development actors in the country.

Therefore, the first phase of the study will be based on a literature review to identify the possible development actors in Guinea-Bissau, more specifically, partners in NTDs, WASH and the movement aim to achieve the SDGs as well as, to identify actors, even if without direct action on points mentioned above, but which, due to their vision and policy, could do so. To better understand if there are plans or what are the barriers at the country level.

The second part will be an analysis of secondary data from the same development actors existing in the country to answer the above questions. For this consultancy, secondary data analysis has its benefits in financial and geographic aspects because it enables a review of the data from several regions. Nevertheless, demands the existence of data already collected and may not represent the best interests of the researcher and, in a sense, could take a long time, depending on the availability and quality of the existing data.

The study will apply a nonprobability sampling technique to identify all stakeholders. Where existing actor will recruit or refer another actor until all relevant organizations have been exhausted. However, for information on NTDs, the Ministry of Public Health and the Sight Program partners, as Sightsavers, will be the main data sources.

At a minimum the evaluation should draw on.

- Existing data through a desk review of literature
- Interviews, workshops and focus group discussion with stakeholders

Quantitative data will be collected and analysed using the descriptive method to present the WASH *status quo* in Guinea Bissau.

### **Expected outputs/ deliverables**

- Inception report including detailed methodology and schedule of the analysis
- Intermittent report including provisional findings (excluding annexes)
- Final report as per approved outline
- Bi-Weekly check in (skype, Zoom) with WASH/SBCC Implementation Manager or Ascend POU Program Officer
- Oral presentation of the analysis findings to stakeholders

### **Supervision of the consultant**

The consultant will be under direct supervision of the Sightsavers staff: Guinea Bissau Country Director with the support of WASH/SBCC implementation Manager/Ascend POU Programme officers of Ascend and Accelerate project.

### **Qualifications**

- Experience in working on WASH, BCC and NTD programmes
- Experience in research on WASH, BCC, and NTDs
- Competence in a broad range of qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Good writing, presentation and communication skills