

10. FIVE-YEAR TARGETS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

THE box below prepared after consultations with the national programme managers of endemic countries gives the most critical targets to be achieved during each of the five years.

By the end of 2003

- Mapping of LF distribution will be completed in, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- Implementation of community and home-based care for the prevention and alleviation of disability of LF will be initiated in all endemic countries in a scaling up manner.
- Social mobilization to effect the desired behavioural level will be implemented in the endemic countries for MDA and morbidity control.
- Coverage of 48 million people under DEC plus albendazole will be undertaken in the Region.
- Feasibility of introducing DEC fortified salt in the endemic countries will be explored (India and Indonesia).
- Applications from the last remaining endemic countries for cost-free supplies of albendazole will be initiated (Timor-Leste)
- Surgical treatment facilities for hydroceles will be strengthened in major hospitals in endemic areas (India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand)
- It will be ensured that all countries in the region including Timor-Leste incorporate their elimination goal in the national health policy.

By the end of 2004

- Regional meeting of national programme managers will be held to review progress.
- MDA will commence in Timor-Leste.
- Coverage of 121 million people under DEC plus albendazole will be undertaken in the Region.
- Mapping of LF distribution will be completed in three of the remaining countries (Bangladesh, Myanmar and Timor-Leste).
- COMBI strategy will be adopted in three more endemic countries (Indonesia, Myanmar and Timor-Leste).
- Training for morbidity control will be in place in all endemic countries up to the level of peripheral health worker.
- Feasibility of introducing DEC fortified salt in Bangladesh, Nepal and Maldives will be explored.
- Surgical treatment facilities for hydroceles will be established and strengthened in major hospitals in endemic areas (Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal).

By the end of 2005

- Coverage of 225 million people under DEC plus albendazole will be undertaken in the Region.
- Mapping of LF distribution will be completed in all remaining countries (India, Indonesia and Nepal).
- Implementation of vector control measures as appropriate in urban and rural endemic areas will be encouraged.
- Surgical treatment facilities for hydroceles established and strengthened in major hospitals in endemic areas (Indonesia and Timor-Leste).
- Feasibility of introducing DEC fortified salt in the endemic countries will be explored in two more countries (Bangladesh and Nepal).

By the end of 2006

- Regional meeting of National Programme Managers will be held to review the progress.
- Regional review of revised strategy and implementation will be conducted and a plan for 2008–2012 will be formulated at the Programme Managers Meeting.
- IEC and where appropriate, the COMBI plan to effect the desired behavioural change for compliance with MDA and prevention and alleviation of disability caused by LF, will be implemented in all endemic areas at country the level.
- Coverage of 275 million people under DEC plus albendazole will be undertaken in the Region.
- Verification of elimination status in Sri Lanka and Thailand will be carried out.
- Morbidity control activities with hydrocelectomy offered to at least 25% of the cases in all endemic areas in the countries through the existing health care delivery system including other health care providers, will be conducted.
- Independent evaluation of MDA coverage will be conducted in all countries.

By the end of 2007

- Implementation of IEC and social mobilization with COMBI package in all endemic areas at country level.
- Implementation of community and home-based care for the prevention and alleviation of disability of LF will be scaled up to cover all endemic areas in all endemic countries.
- Verification of the elimination status in Myanmar will be carried out.
- Coverage of over 300 million people under single dose DEC plus albendazole will be undertaken in the Region.