Global Schistosomiasis Alliance Update
Alliance Vision, Mission and Approach

**Vision**
Elimination of schistosomiasis as a public health problem.

**Mission**
To be the leading advocate for schistosomiasis control and elimination.

**Approach**
To strengthen and coordinate a multi-stakeholder platform consisting of public and private sector partners across the globe.
Partners & members

- International & national NGOs
- Implementing organizations
- Ministries of Health
- Academia / Research
- Donors
- Industry
GSA objectives

- Support coordination for efficient uptake of PZQ implementation.
- Facilitate the sharing of technical expertise and tools for schistosomiasis programmes in endemic countries.
- Strengthen advocacy for interventions for sustainable schistosomiasis elimination.
- Identify and address gaps in implementation and operational research.
- Build online and virtual platform to become the go-to-site for schistosomiasis-specific resources.
- Support development and implementation of an Action Plan for schistosomiasis control and elimination.
GSA Themes
The control and elimination of schistosomiasis is the overarching objective that connects these themes
### GSA Schistosomiasis Strategic Action Plan

**GSA meeting in April 2018: Moving Schistosomiasis Out of the Red**

#### Action Plan Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A.</th>
<th>Developing Practical Targets and Frameworks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Scaling Existing Tools</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>Plans and Progress from Donors and Implementers</td>
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<td>D.</td>
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<td>E.</td>
<td>Introducing New Tools and Other Interventions</td>
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<td>F.</td>
<td>Developing a Framework for Transitioning to Elimination</td>
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<td>G.</td>
<td>Mobilization</td>
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[https://www.eliminateschisto.org/](https://www.eliminateschisto.org/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</th>
<th>Specific risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong> Morbidity control and selective elimination</td>
<td>Delivery – achieve full scale-up of treatment coverage among populations requiring intervention</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Funding limitations, availability of drug</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ensure treatment is reaching all populations at risk, particularly preschool and school-age children and women at risk of female genital schistosomiasis</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Funding limitations, availability of drug</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Achieve better donor coordination</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Improve support for supply chain (with a focus on ensuring full utilization of donated drug)</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Funding limitations, implementation</td>
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<td>Improve reporting on distribution, leveraging new tools</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Funding limitations, implementation</td>
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<td>Improve data quality and mapping to support targeting and tracking progress</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Funding limitations</td>
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<td>Improve compliance by strengthening social mobilization, improved Behaviour Change</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Systematic non-compliance</td>
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<td><strong>B</strong> Global elimination</td>
<td>Optimize MDA through operational research and adjustments based on existing research</td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure, implementation challenges</td>
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<td>Introduce micro-targeting of MDA and other interventions at the community level</td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Broader MDA to additional populations and/or increase frequency to reduce transmission</td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Sustain drug efficacy by identifying markers of resistance and establishing monitoring system</td>
<td><img src="image11" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Develop/introduce revised diagnostic (assay and method) for implementation</td>
<td><img src="image12" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Development failure</td>
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<td>Develop/introduce pediatric Praziquantel</td>
<td><img src="image13" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Develop/introduce alternative to Praziquantel or PQZ combination therapy</td>
<td><img src="image14" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Develop/introduce revised diagnostic approach for elimination certification</td>
<td><img src="image15" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Develop/launch safer, cheaper and effective snail control technology</td>
<td><img src="image16" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td>Develop/launch effective vaccine</td>
<td><img src="image17" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong> Sustainability and ownership</td>
<td>Develop/introduce effective WASH &amp; Behaviour Change interventions for schistosomiasis</td>
<td><img src="image18" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Research failure</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Use endemicity data to target WASH investment &amp; WASH data to track progress towards elimination</td>
<td><img src="image19" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Implementation challenges</td>
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<td>Develop multisectoral schistosomiasis action plans including WASH &amp; Behaviour Change</td>
<td><img src="image20" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Revise WHO guidelines to reflect new evidence and tools available</td>
<td><img src="image21" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Develop a coherent governance structure with a coordinating lead actor</td>
<td><img src="image22" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Advocate and raise funds for scale-up of interventions, based on global business plan</td>
<td><img src="image23" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Coordinate with local health system and other sectors to strengthen program ownership, effectiveness</td>
<td><img src="image24" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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<td>Adopt strategy for long-term sustainability, including shifting to greater country ownership</td>
<td><img src="image25" alt="Bar chart" /></td>
<td>Political risk</td>
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GSA contributions

The GSA Action Plan, developed by members, identified what were the needs for schistosomiasis elimination.
GSA Working groups and streams

- Implementation
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Research
- Behaviour Change & Health Education

Urban Schistosomiasis
Diagnostics work stream
Chairs of work groups and streams

- Monitoring and evaluation – Fiona Fleming (SCI) and Louis Albert Tchuem Tchuente (CouNTDown Cameroon)
- Implementation – Mike French (RTI)
- Research – Jutta Reinhard-Rupp (Merck GHI) & Justin Nono Komguep (University of Cape Town)
- Behaviour Change & Health Education – Willemijn Zaadnoordijk (Merck) & Bobbie Person (SCORE consultant)
- Diagnostics – Sarah Nogaro (FIND) & Moses Adriko (Uganda MoH)
- Urban Schistosomiasis – Benjamin Koudou (CSRS/LSTM) supported by Katharina Klohe (GSA)
Monitoring & Evaluation Working Group

Chairs: Fiona Fleming (SCI) and Louis Albert Tchuem Tchuente (CouNTDown Cameroon)

Purpose: Consolidate M&E frameworks and best practices for schistosomiasis.

- Support development of feasible granular mapping and impact assessment surveys.
- Identify appropriate diagnostics and sampling strategy tailored to epidemiological and programmatic setting.
- Promote data sharing with ESPEN and standardization of data by setting and goal.

Other collaborative priorities:

- Identify operational research needs.
- Advocate for research into practical measurable indicators and monitoring for complicated morbidity e.g. for FGS and severe schistosomiasis.

Current Tasks

- Discussions on coordinating between partners, how M&E is done, to standardise principles or framework between partners.
Implementation Working Group

Chair: Mike French (RTI)

Purpose: Advance the agenda of the implementation of schistosomiasis control programs, in line with targets on morbidity control and, where appropriate, elimination.

- Needs of endemic countries
- Identify ways to strengthen the implementation landscape
- Coordinating the work of organizations supporting implementation of schistosomiasis programs

Current Task:

- Aim for action-orientated groups with tangible outputs. Identifying priorities in alignment with the SCH Action Plan and SCH Action Framework
Research Working Group

**Chairs:** Jutta Reinhard-Rupp (Merck GHI) & Justin Nono Komguep (University of Cape Town) & (Poppy Lamberton, University of Glasgow)

Research WG priorities for 2019-2020:

- FGS
- Snail control

Additional potential priorities to develop:

- Morbidity & infection markers
- Drug discovery & resistance
- Zoonotic aspect of schisto
- Implementation research (intervention strategies, e.g. hot spots)
**Behaviour Change & Health Education Working Group**

**Chairs:** Willemijn Zaadnoordijk (Merck) & Bobbie Person (SCORE consultant)

**Purpose:** Convene platform for behavioural change & health education communication tools for schistosomiasis strategies

- Identify schistosomiasis-related effective behaviour change tools that could integrate with PC/ & WASH interventions.
- Advocate for the integration of BCHE into schisto & NTD programmes.
- Collaborate with NNN WASH working group: Work and align with the NNN WASH working group to develop and integrate behavioural/ health education best practices.

**Current tasks:**

- A review of current evidence of BC related to schistosomiasis.
- Discussions are ongoing on developing a schistosomiasis education tool for schools based on the Zanzibar SCORE tool.
Diagnosis Work Stream

Chairs: Sarah Nogaro (FIND) & Moses Adiko (Uganda MoH)

Cross-cutting M&E and Research working groups

- List of commercially available diagnostics.
- Information piece on commercially available diagnostics.
- List of diagnostics “in the pipeline”.
- Concept note of a biorepository of samples that all diagnostics can be tested against to help comparison between diagnostics.
Urban Schistosomiasis Work Stream

Chair: Benjamin Koudou (CSRS/LSTM) supported by Katharina Klohe (GSA)

Cross cutting M&E and Implementation working groups.
- Literature review on urban schisto.
- COR NTD workshop of schisto-trachoma in urban settings, how to map and how to treat.
- Operational research proposal being developed for schisto and LF in urban settings
GSA contributions – M&E

**Action Need**
- Granular Mapping
- Impact Surveys

**Action Taken**
- Formation of GSA M&E WG
- Collaborative meeting with NTD modelling consortium
- Support COR NTD workshop
- Feed into WHO meetings

**Outcome & Next steps**
- WHO Protocol Development Group
- Discussion for standardised M&E principles between GSA partners
- Cross-cutting workstreams - Diagnostics & Urban schisto
GSA contributions – Operational research & implementation of treatment

**Action Need**
- Improve treatment distribution and target treatment based on good quality data
- Reaching high risk adults

**Action Taken**
- Convened collaborative meetings
- Support COR NTD workshops
- Advocated for treatment of high risk adults

**Outcome & Next steps**
- ESPEN have developed data analysis tool for optimization of SCH PZQ distribution at the sub-implementation unit level
- Discussion on community-based MDA, expansion of PZQ donation to adults and how to reach adults
GSA contributions – operational and biomedical research

Action Need
- Research on FGS
- Revised diagnostics (use, access, development)

Action Taken
- Meetings and discussions on morbidity
- Research WG focus

Outcome & Next steps
- COR NTD operational research and next steps for FGS
- FGS longitudinal research needs and network through Research WG
- FIND GSA partner
- Diagnostic work stream crossing Research and M&E
Accelerating Progress for Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Post-2020

- Convened consultation meeting on what are the 2030 goals for schistosomiasis.
- 25th – 26th April 2019, Radisson Blu, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Defined goals, targets, indicators and milestones for schistosomiasis control and elimination post-2020 and schistosomiasis community-led implementation of the Schistosomiasis Action Plan.
Accelerating Progress for Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Post-2020

- To consolidate feedback from experts and stakeholders on the new proposed WHO goals for schistosomiasis.
- To discuss and agree on potential sub-targets and indicators for the new NTD Roadmap.

Outputs:
- Global Schistosomiasis Alliance consultation feedback on the WHO proposed goals for schistosomiasis post-2020
- Statement made to STAG on behalf of the GSA
- GSA session discussion outputs on Access To Treatment, Interventions to sustain control and lead to elimination, Moving Towards interruption of Transmission and Country ownership.

Communications

The GSA works with its partners & members and larger NTD networks on schistosomiasis advocacy and communications using a Community of Practice approach.

- New GSA website with Schisto related news, events, resources and information, and an online GSA Network of Schisto experts and stakeholders.

- Regular Schisto Bulletin news update circulated to subscribers and shared via social media.

- Social media to promote schistosomiasis news, resources and tools from GSA partners and stakeholders.
THREE WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE.

SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER.

REGISTER FOR OUR NETWORK.