

World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day 2025 webinar

Embracing innovation: together for a world free of NTDs

Background

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) continue to affect over one billion people globally, disproportionately impacting the poorest and most vulnerable populations. While significant progress has been made in combating these diseases, persistent challenges remain that demand innovative approaches in response.

Since 2023, the National Institute of Parasitic Diseases (NIPD) at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Tropical Diseases, has taken an active role in celebrating World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day by initiating and hosting online webinars to promote awareness and foster collaboration. On 30 January 2023, with the support of the WHO Global NTD Programme (WHO/NTD), NIPD, in collaboration with six other WHO collaborating centres related to NTDs, spearheaded the establishment of the WHO Collaborating Centres Network on NTDs, which has become an essential platform for facilitating global cooperation and innovation in the fight against NTDs.

On the occasion of World NTD Day 2025, NIPD will host a webinar, supported by WHO/NTD and co-hosted by the WHO Collaborating Centres Network on NTDs.

The webinar aims to highlight the importance of innovation in the fight against NTDs and the collaborative efforts of governments, organizations, researchers and communities in leveraging new technologies, strategies and partnerships to eliminate NTDs and improve the lives of affected populations.

Date and time

Date: 30 January 2025

Time: 16:30–18:00 (Beijing time, GMT+8)

Location: Virtual (Zoom: XXX)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87156073523?pwd=Tob2NupJ31sXcibLFEQIHf3dZa5ml>

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Meeting ID: 871 5607 3523

Passcode: 657878

Theme

Embracing innovation: together for a world free of NTDs

Objectives

1. Share information on community resilience and engagement in fighting NTDs, fostering greater involvement at the grassroots level.
2. Highlight groundbreaking technologies and strategies in NTD diagnostics, treatment, prevention and management.
3. Strengthen multisectoral partnerships and networking to enhance the impact of NTD programmes.

Expected outcomes

1. Enhanced understanding of innovative solutions for NTD control and elimination among stakeholders.
2. Improved multisectoral collaborations to accelerate progress towards global NTD targets.
3. Empowered communities taking active roles in combating NTDs and contributing to sustained elimination efforts.

Agenda

Time (GMT+8)	Activities	Moderator
Opening ceremony		
16:30–16:40	Welcome and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Qun Li, Deputy Director, China CDC• Dr Ibrahima Socé Fall, Director, WHO/NTD	Professor Xiao-Nong Zhou, Chief Scientist, China CDC
Keynote address		
16:40–16:55	The progress of NTD elimination and the role of innovation Dr Anthony Solomon, WHO/NTD	Dr Mohamed Ramadan Habib, Theodor Bilharz Research Institute

16:55–17:10	Innovative solutions in NTD diagnostics Professor Richard Bradbury, Federation University Australia	
17:10–17:25	One Health approach focusing on vector control leading to NTD elimination Professor Hagar Abdelmaksoud, Theodor Bilharz Research Institute	
17:25–17:35	Action plan of WHO CCs Network for NTDs Dr Shan Lv, NIPD, China CDC	
17:35–17:55	Roundtable discussion: Collaboration and innovation for NTD elimination	Professor Xiao-Nong Zhou, Chief Scientist, China CDC
17:55–18:00	Conclusion and way forward	