

Webinar

A new Snakebite Information and Data Platform to engage and empower communities

Wednesday 15 September 2021 14:00 – 15:00 CET

A concept note

Snakebite envenoming is a neglected condition that impacts the lives of millions of mainly poor people. It is estimated that 81 000–137 000 deaths occur each year, with around three times as many amputations and permanent disabilities. Agricultural workers and children are most affected; children suffer more severe effects due to their smaller body mass.

To support awareness of the burden caused by snakebite envenoming, the World Health Organization (WHO) advocated for global action for almost a decade until the condition was added to the portfolio of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in 2017 ([WHA71.5](#)).

WHO also listed medically important venomous snakes and the distribution maps for each of these species on its [website](#). Over the years, these maps have provided a valuable resource and played an important role in bringing to the fore one of the world's most neglected conditions.

As part of its [2019–2030 global strategy for the prevention and control of snakebite envenoming](#), and as a result of collaboration between the departments of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases (WHO/NTD) and Data and Analytics (WHO/DDI), a new Snakebite Envenoming Data and Information Platform has been created.

The platform has been developed with a new generation ArcGIS software and comprises advanced tools for the management, analysis and visualization of updated multi-sourced data, providing an interactive and participative user experience.

Future developments will incorporate District Health Information Software data, modelling tools to improve access to treatment and antivenoms, and other enhancements to drive programme implementation and evaluation.

On 15 September 2021, WHO will launch the first set of tools, including updated range maps of all medically important venomous snakes. This will be accessible through the website, along with photos and other relevant information with an integrated antivenom products database.

This new resource sets the foundation for developing specific activities and programmes associated with WHO's strategy for prevention and control of snakebite envenoming and will become a central space for collaboration, data-sharing and access to information on snakes and snakebite for Member States, the scientific community, industry, other stakeholders and the general public.

Webinar goals and audience

The aim of the webinar is to present the new platform to an open and global audience, including webinar attendees, policymakers, programme managers, public health and health care professionals, scientists from diverse disciplines (e.g. ecology, epidemiology) and the general public.

Duration

This webinar will last one hour and will be co-hosted by WHO/NTD and WHO/DDI.

Format

This moderated webinar will follow an established format: in the pause between discussion panels, a selection of short videos and voices from the field will be shown to illustrate the burden of, and opportunities for, addressing this global problem.

Outline

Time	Title	Overview	Speaker
14:00–14:03	Welcome	Opening	
Snakebite video			
Session 1 – The will to resolve a neglected health problem			
14:06–14:10	Introductory remarks		Invitees
Session 2 – Technology and dissemination of information			
14:10–14:16	The new platform		Panellists
14:16–14: 28	Unveiling the new platform	Presentation of new platform	WHO
Video - voices from the field (3 min)			
14:31–14:36	Launch of data platform		WHO
Session 3 – Opportunities to tackle snakebite envenoming			
14:36–14:39	Towards a sub-Saharan Africa Antivenom Stockpile		WHO

14:39–14:43	Opportunities & Impact		The University of Oxford
14:43–14:53	Q&A		Moderator
14:53–14:59	Wrap-up		WHO
14:59–15:00	Closing		Moderator