

THE CHALLENGE:

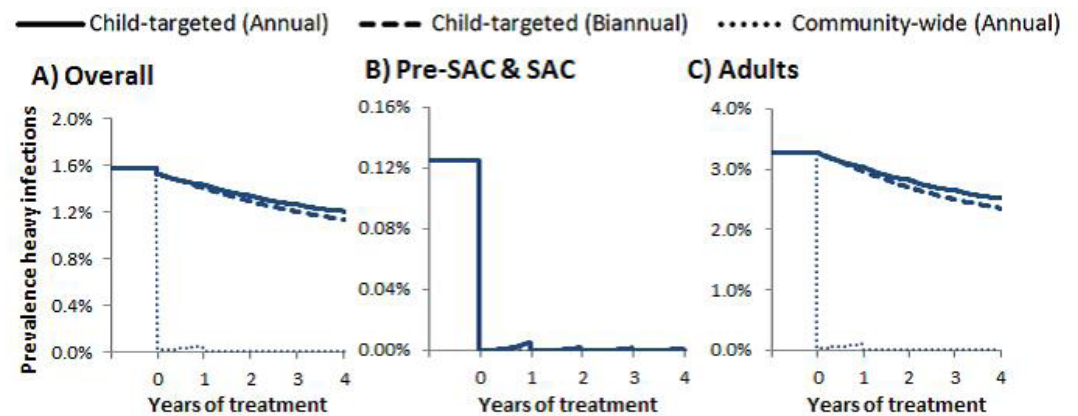
Building on OGH’s expertise in scientific analysis, project management, and knowledge of regional and national networks in Ethiopia, OGH consultants were enlisted by the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation to support development of an effective intervention to understand the feasibility of interrupting the transmission of parasitic worms (soil transmitted helminths and schistosomiasis) at scale in Ethiopia.

THE APPROACH:

Using data from mathematical models together with on the ground knowledge gathered during field assessments, interviews with national and local government personnel, local NGOs, academic partners and local businesses, an intervention was designed that was both scientifically robust and feasible to implement within the current limitations of the Ethiopian context. The identified programme provided an optimised treatment regime that deworms both children and adults twice a year through community and school based mass drug administration. In addition to delivery of deworming tablets, a series of interventions, including promoting the accessibility of water points, supporting households to invest in latrines, health education and community sensitization to ensure uptake of hygienic practices. This emphasis on coverage and use of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities will support transmission break over the long term.

THE IMPACT:

Alongside the successful intervention design, OGH in partnership with an international consortium of global health stakeholders from Ethiopia, the UK and the USA, led on the development and submission of an ultimately successful \$21 million costed-proposal for an initial 5 year project to the CIFF Funding Board.



The calculated effects of three different regimes of mass drug coverage targeted at school aged children only on heavy worm burdens of hookworm (the dominant soil transmitted infection in S Ethiopia). Mean prevalence of heavy worm burdens across A) whole host population, B) pre-School Aged Children and School Aged Children, and C) adult age groups. These calculations help focus minds on the need to treat adults as well as children