

# 12 DAYS OF NTDs



SHAHREEN CHOWDHURY, LAURA DEAN, MARTINS IMHANSOLOEVA, RUTH DIXON, CATHERINE KAJANG, MARGO GREENWOOD AND CHRISTIAN OKWANANKE

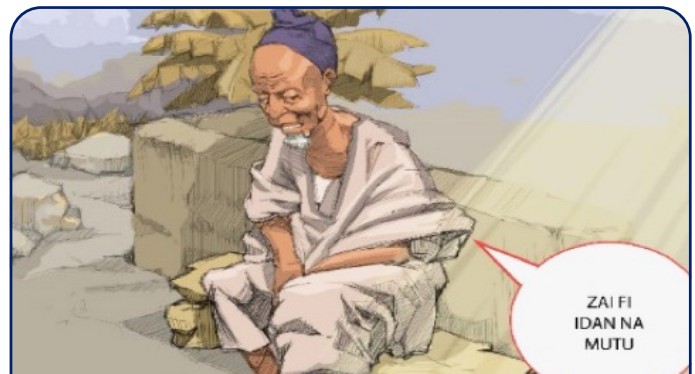
In the run up to World NTD Day, we shared '12 Days of NTDs' from a recent COR-NTD funded project in Nigeria. This project looked at factors affecting healthcare access for people affected by disease and disability, both from a patient and provider perspective. Following participatory thematic data analysis with co-researchers including persons affected and community health workers, core themes were generated from the data. The main themes were illustrated by a local artist, powerfully highlighting factors affecting the care seeking pathway of persons affected by NTDs including stigma, loss of income and the burden on health workers. These images were used to share findings in stakeholder meetings in Abuja where interventions to address these challenges were co-designed. World NTD Day presented the perfect opportunity to share these illustrations to raise awareness of people affected by NTDs.

**COUNTDOWN**  
Calling time on Neglected Tropical Diseases



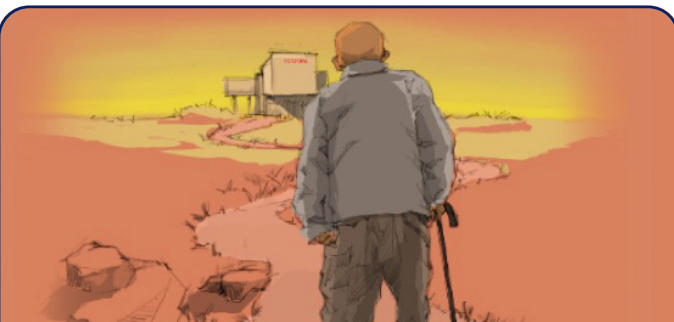
## DAY 2

#Stigma - often people with #NTDs feel ashamed to attend health facilities for fear it will expose their condition, resulting in #discrimination  
#WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityinclusion



## DAY 3

#Psychosocial impact – the #mentalhealthburden of #NTDs is often overlooked, many face #depression & #anxiety, worsened by #stigma & #isolation  
#WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityinclusion



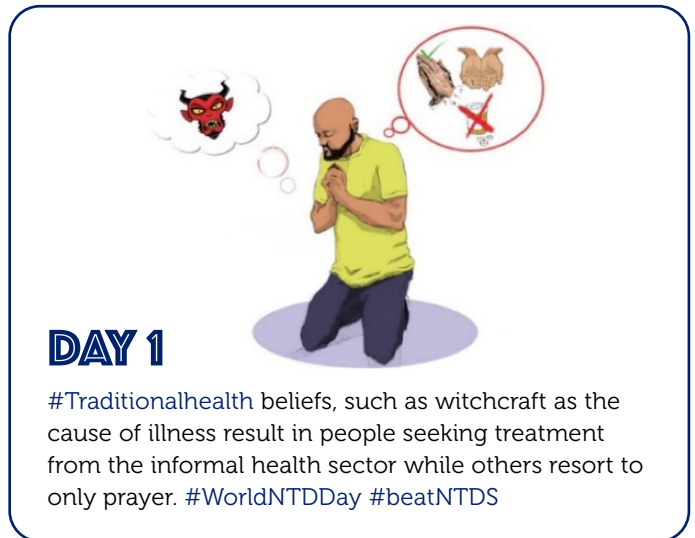
## DAY 4

Long distances & poor roads hinder many with #NTDs from #accessinghealthcare, especially those with #poormobility #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityrights #disabilityinclusion



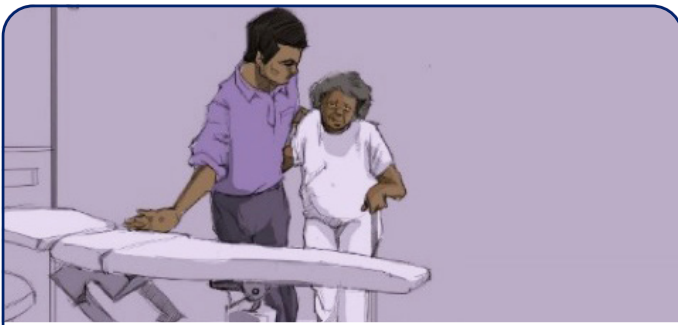
## DAY 5

#NTDs are diseases of #poverty – loss of #livelihoods due to illnesses result in many unable to afford treatment, further deteriorating their conditions.  
#WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityinclusion



## DAY 1

#Traditionalhealth beliefs, such as witchcraft as the cause of illness result in people seeking treatment from the informal health sector while others resort to only prayer. #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS



## DAY 6

#Caregiver support #supportnetworks #socialcapital is #crucial for increasing #access to treatment for people with #NTDs Many rely on someone taking them to healthfacilities, assisting them while undergoing treatment. #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityinclusion



## DAY 7

#Confidence and #trust in the #healthsystem encourages patients with #NTDs to seek and complete treatment - #friendlystaff #accesstomedicines #MMDP #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS



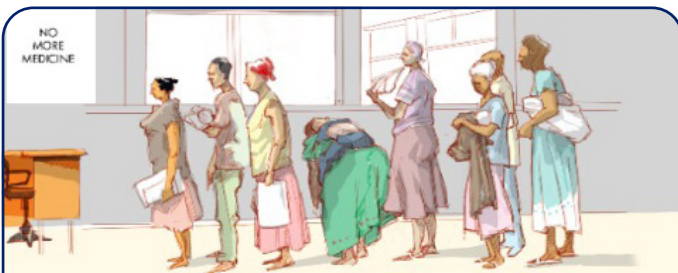
## DAY 8

#Healthinformation and #healthpromotion are essential so #healthworkers & people with #NTDs know what health services are available to them #healthliteracy #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS



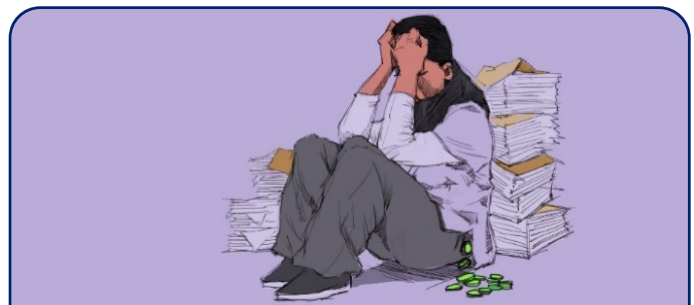
## DAY 9

The #gender of health workers shape how patients #accept healthcare. Many with NTDs prefer to see health workers of the same sex. #Gendersensitive healthcare matters #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS



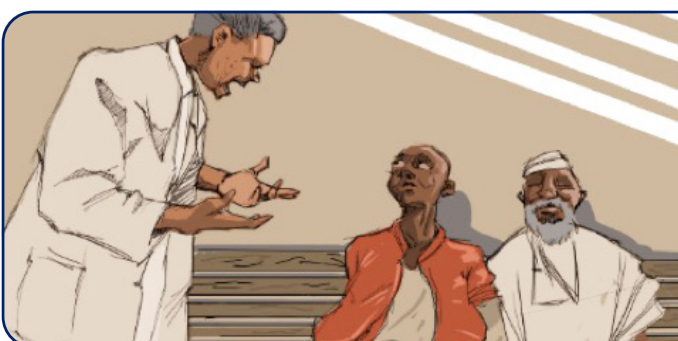
## DAY 10

Ill-equipped facilities, #staffshortages & inadequate #training in #MMDP leads to long waiting times and decreases #accesstohealthcare #beatNTDS #WorldNTDDay



## DAY 11

#Financial and #opportunitycosts of health workers shape #access to healthcare, due to their #availability & #motivation to provide services. #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS



## DAY 12

Health worker #attitude is important in encouraging people with #NTDs to #access care. #Burden and #pressure on health workers should also be considered. #WorldNTDDay #beatNTDS #disabilityinclusion