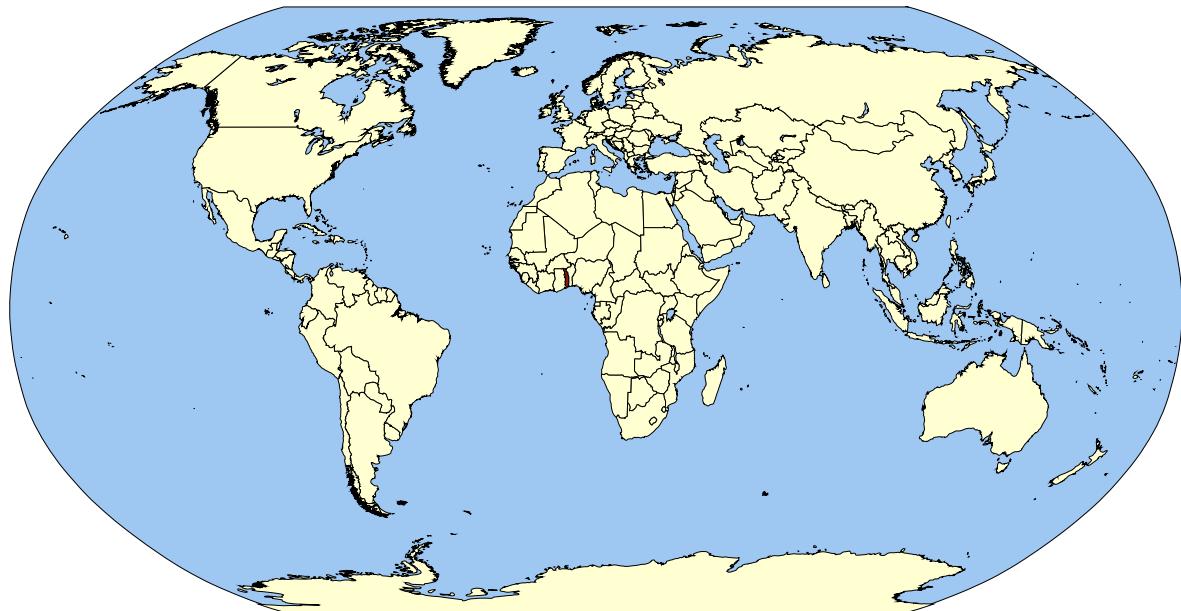


Togo



The History of Schistosomiasis in Togo

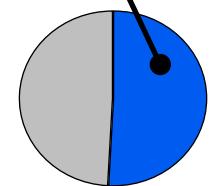
Togo, or the République Togolaise, was part of the “slave coast” in Western Africa; the nation achieved independence from France in 1960 and has been an autonomous democratic nation since [1]. Schistosomiasis is endemic throughout Togo, but it is highly concentrated towards the Southern coast. *Schistosoma haematobium* increases in prevalence from North to South; this gradient is possible because of the two climates of Togo: savannah in the north and tropical in the south [2]. *S. mansoni* is distributed throughout the country [3]. Prior to the construction of the Nangbeto dam at the top of the Mono River in 1984, a malacological study was performed in what would be the Retenue de Nangbeto. Here, four snail intermediate host species were discovered: *Bulinus forskalii*, *Bu. globosus*, *Bu. truncatus*, and *Biomphalaria pfeifferi* [2].

Schistosomiasis in Togo [4]

> 2 million people treated in 2014

51% of the population requires preventative chemotherapy for schistosomiasis

3.8 million people required treatment for schistosomiasis in 2014



Overview of Togo [1]

- » Population in 2015: 7,552,318
- » Official Language: French
- » Capital: Lome
- » Presidential Republic
- » Percentage of Population with Access to Improved Drinking Water in 2015: 63.1%
- » Percentage of Population with Access to Improved Sanitation in 2015: 11.6%

Control of Schistosomiasis in Togo

Some recent progress has been made in schistosomiasis control in Togo. The WHO preventative chemotherapy database reported in 2010 that 1.7 million people required treatment for schistosomiasis annually and about 44% of those who needed treatment actually received praziquantel [4]. This effort was scaled up in 2013, when preventative chemotherapy reached 92% of the population in need [4]. Schistosomiasis nationwide prevalence in Togo has been in moderate decline, with 26.7% in 2003 dropping to 23.9% in 2010. The most recent meta-analysis indicates the average prevalence in 2012 of 16.5% overall, with a confidence interval of 15-18% in Togo [5].

References

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In 2013, preventative chemotherapy reached 92% of the population in need in Togo [4].