

discussion. More than 75 participants attended the meeting, including director generals from each state ministry of health and SSGWEP senior program officers, the WHO representative in South Sudan Dr. Fabian Ndenzako, and UNICEF resident representative Ms. Hamida Laseko. Participants from The Carter Center included GWEP Director Adam Weiss, Sarah Yerian, Giovanna Steel, and others.

The SSGWEP has provisionally reported 3 Guinea worm infections in 2023: 2 human cases in Tonj East County of Warrap State and 1 infection in a genet in Lafon County of Eastern Equatoria State. All three infections were uncontained, and their sources of infection are unknown. South Sudan reported 6 GW infections in 2022 (5 humans, 1 dog) and 4 GW infections in 2021 (4 humans).

Figure 3:

On December 3rd, SSGWEP Director MAKOY Samuel Yibi participated as a panelist at the Last Mile Forum in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The panel was entitled: Building Climate Resilient Health Systems, and Mr. Makoy discussed adaptations to climate in the SSGWEP (Figure #3).

MALI: 1 HUMAN CASE, 48 ANIMAL INFECTIONS

Mali has reported a confirmed Guinea worm case (uncontained) in a 9-year-old Bozo boy from the village of Gomitogo in Djenne district of Mopti Region, whose worm emerged on August 27, 2023. (The CDC laboratory confirmed this GW infection in December). The presumed source of his infection is local, but unknown, since the boy had no history of travel to an endemic area during his period of infection, and the most

Worm Eradication Program (MGWEP) who visited the child and his family at a seasonal fishing camp in

IN BRIEF

next round of live baboon trapping is scheduled for March 2024. Giovanna Steel, MA, and Drs. Obi Eneanya and Lexi Sack conducted a supervisory visit to Ethiopia in early December to help finalize plans for trapping and studying baboons and assess the status of program interventions. Ethiopia reported

human GW cases in Chad may be due to greater environmental contamination by fish waste containing fish guts, and the risk of human exposure to contaminated aquatic animals such as undercooked fish. Reducing the number of infected dogs should reduce the amount of GW larvae in the environment available to infect human and animal hosts in Chad, which reported over half (34/66) of all human cases worldwide in 2020-2023.

Figure 4:

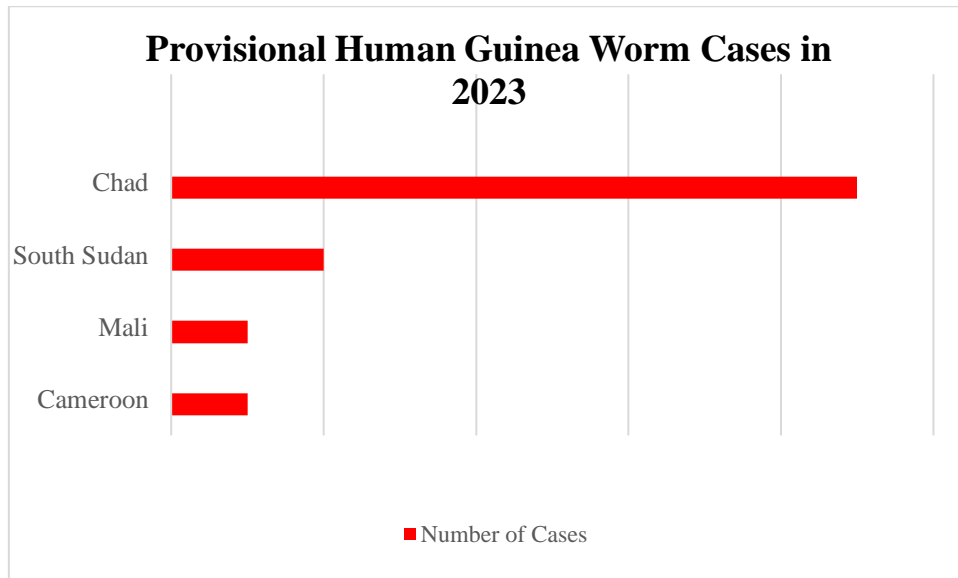


Figure 5:

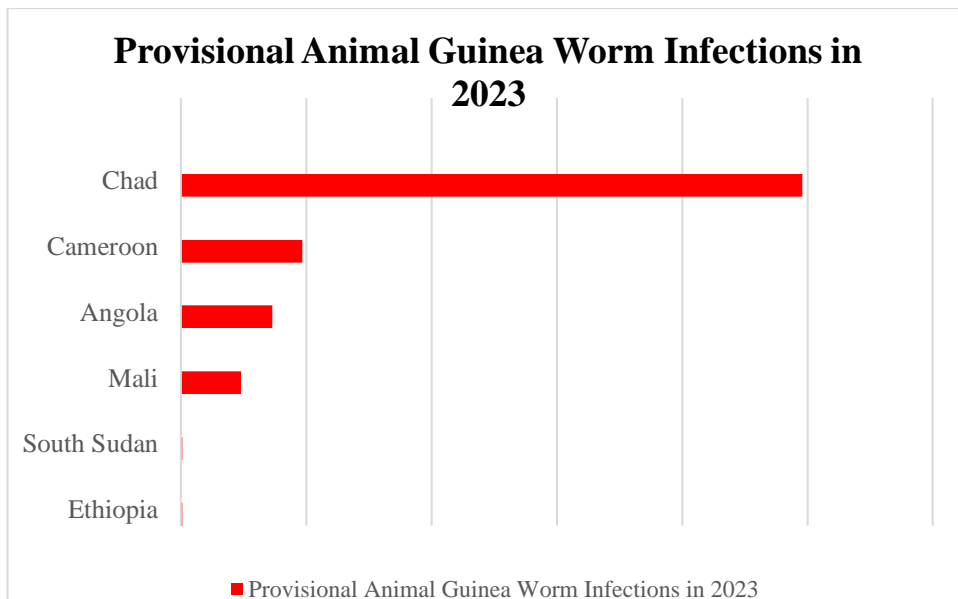


Table 1

Number of Laboratory-Confirmed Human Cases of Guinea Worm Disease, and Number Reported Contained by Month during 2023*

(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2022)

COUNTRIES
WITH
TRANSMISSION

Note to contributors: