

LACK OF FOOTWEAR IMPACT

Lack of proper footwear can have a negative impact on an individual's health, educational opportunities, community involvement, and economic stability.

More than 1.5 billion people are infected with parasitic diseases transmitted through contaminated soil that could be prevented by wearing proper footwear.¹

There are many diseases contracted and spread due to bare feet and the inability of the poor to obtain shoes. The most prevalent among them are soil-transmitted helminth (STH).² STH is the most prevalent of neglected tropical diseases and is responsible for significant morbidity and, indirectly, mortality in poor developing countries.

Up to 10% of barefoot populations suffer from podoconiosis, one of the world's most neglected tropical diseases.³

Hookworm is an intestinal parasite that is caused by direct contact with soil contaminated with larvae, or by ingestion of the larvae. An estimated 576-740 million people in the world are infected with hookworm.⁴

With the recent increase in cases and severity of Ebola, one widely-circulated article claimed that walking barefoot could contribute to the spread of this deadly disease.⁵

Because of the severity of these diseases and symptoms, individuals may not be able to safely work, go to school, travel to markets, or be involved in their community.

Samaritan's Feet hopes to do all they can do to stop the spread by providing anti-bacterial shoes that will protect feet from contaminated soil.



1. World Health Organization. "Soil-Transmitted Helminth Infections." 2013.
2. World Health Organization. "Soil-Transmitted Helminth Infections." 2013.
3. World Health Organization. "Podoconiosis: Endemic Non-Filarial Elephantiasis." 2009.
4. Global Health - Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria. "Parasites – Hookworm." 2013.
5. Zocalo Public Square. "Here is One Thing We Can Do to Control the Spread of Ebola." 2014.

THE SOLUTION

The World Shoe: A Life Changer

Over a billion people worldwide face diseases, job instability, and even deformity or death due to the lack of proper footwear. The World Shoe aims to eradicate the barefoot epidemic by providing anti-microbial shoes to those in need.

The World Shoe PROTECTS, PREVENTS, and TREATS.

The World Shoe is a better, properly designed shoe that is biodegradable and protects the feet from injury, infections, and diseases. With an active, built-in anti-microbial agent, infections can be treated as it's worn. It's protective and breathable and removes the access point for parasitic activity and gives hope and opportunity to those who wear it.

Shoes bring people around the world dignity. They provide protection and opportunity to those suffering, give individuals the chance to go to school, travel safely, secure work, and be a part of their community.

The World Shoe is the world's first eco-friendly footwear company created to eradicate the spread of foot-borne diseases globally with its innovative built-in antimicrobial and biodegradable solution that can save lives and keep our landfill free of discarded shoes and waste.

The World Shoe is distributed exclusively through Samaritan's Feet, a non-profit with the mission to serve and inspire hope in children by providing shoes as the foundation to a spiritual and healthy life.

To learn more and get involved, go to www.TheWorldShoe.com

