

Annual review 2015



Sightsavers

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Our vision:
Sightsavers' vision
is of a world where
no one is blind from
avoidable causes and
where visually impaired
people participate
equally in society.

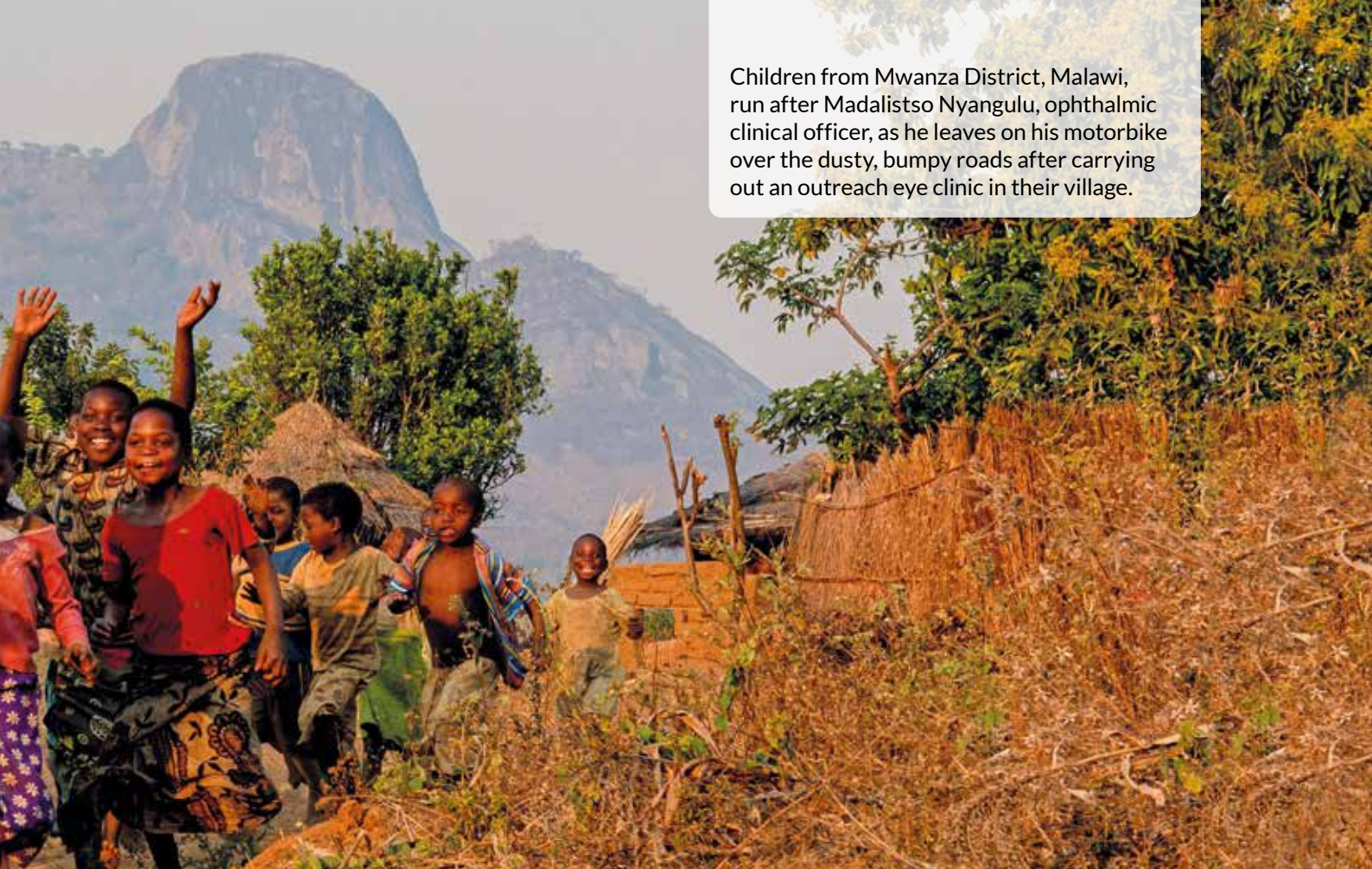


A message from our Chairman and Chief Executive

History was made in 2015, as the Millennium Development Goals were superseded by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN General Assembly. The overall theme of 'leave no one behind', together with supporting text and a requirement for data disaggregation to show progress, all represented a massive step forward for people with disabilities. Working closely with other organisations, Sightsavers has campaigned strongly for disability to be front and centre of the SDG's and these goals will form the bedrock of our work going forward.

Last year saw the climax of the Global Trachoma Mapping Project - the largest infectious disease survey ever undertaken - as the 29th country was mapped and the

Children from Mwanza District, Malawi, run after Madalistso Nyangulu, ophthalmic clinical officer, as he leaves on his motorbike over the dusty, bumpy roads after carrying out an outreach eye clinic in their village.



project finalised, bringing us so much closer to complete elimination of this blinding disease. We had a record year for NTDs, supporting the delivery of over 140 million treatments both through our lead on major coalition grants and independently.

Our Million Miracles campaign's success continued and we were able to fund a significant increase in cataract operations. Some of these were highlighted by Channel 4's Unreported World, which visited Malawi and filmed one of our programmes there. A video of Rose, a 14-year-old girl who saw herself for the first time as a result of a cataract operation, went viral through the Channel 4 website.

There were challenges, though, as Ebola continued to wreak havoc in West Africa, although thankfully the position has improved significantly. We would particularly like to thank Irish Aid for their support through this crisis and for our work in West Africa generally.

Of course, none of the achievements and progress highlighted in this review would be possible without the incredible support of our donors. Many of our donors have consistently and generously supported Sightsavers Ireland over the longer term, through challenging economic times, and we are happy to report that the level of donations received from the general public has increased again in 2015, for the third year in a row. On behalf of the millions whose lives have been transformed by your generous support, we say a big THANK YOU.

Pat Farrell
Chairman



Michael Marren
Chief Executive





2015 saw positive achievements for Sightsavers...



NTDs – the completion of the Global Trachoma Mapping Project

The three-year GTMP – the largest global mapping of infectious disease ever – was completed. It covered 29 countries, involved 2,500 people globally and attracted considerable press interest. The gathered data will now allow us to better target where trachoma treatments are required.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – the world agreed to leave no-one behind

The UN Summit passed an historic agreement that placed the needs of people with disabilities as one of its SDGs. Sightsavers worked tirelessly alongside other agencies to make this happen. We are proud of the role that Ireland played in the SDGs with Ambassador David Donoghue alongside Kenya co-chairing the final phase of the negotiations.



Our rapid response to the Ebola crisis

The impact of Ebola on already weak health systems in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia (some of the Irish Aid supported countries) was devastating. We've had to rebuild our programmes, provide barriers against infection in hospitals and treat survivors for uveitis, a potentially blinding side effect of Ebola.



Raising awareness – unprecedented media profile

Channel 4's Unreported World shadowed an ophthalmic team supported by Sightsavers in Malawi, looking at the difficulties they face performing cataract operations. A video about this went viral on Facebook, receiving 10 million views, while Mail Online – which receives 14 million unique daily hits – covered two stories about our inclusion projects.

Year in numbers



334,000 eye operations performed

(cataract, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, trichiasis and other general eye surgeries) – an increase of almost a quarter on 2014.



142 million

treatments given for neglected tropical diseases, such as trachoma and river blindness.



1,200 health workers

trained in Ebola eye complications.



€21.1 million

raised so far for A Million Miracles – enough to fund almost 600,000 operations.



16,000 people

who are blind, have low vision or other disabilities, received training in daily living skills, mobility and orienteering, vocational training or rights and entitlements training.



220,000 village level volunteers trained

(includes community distribution of treatment, primary eye care, education and inclusion courses).



Fighting blindness

A Million Miracles

Now in its second year, Sightsavers' biggest-ever global fundraising appeal remains on track to raise €36 million to fund one million sight-restoring cataract operations in some of the world's poorest countries. To date, €21.1 million has been raised, which is enough to fund almost 600,000 operations.

After seeing the films of Winesi having his sight restored last year, Channel 4 contacted us and asked to visit Malawi for an episode of Unreported World. A two-person team, including presenter Ade Adepitan, spent two weeks there shadowing a Sightsavers-supported ophthalmic team from the Ministry of Health. They particularly focused on the difficulties patients face in paying for transportation to get to hospital, and followed the story of a 14-year-old girl called Rose. The programme was watched by more than 800,000 people.



Our A Million Miracles campaign is on track to raise €36 million to fund one million sight-restoring cataract operations.



Laurinda preparing for her cataract operation.



Laurinda with one of her seven children, unable to work as she lost her sight four years ago.



Laurinda was overjoyed after her successful sight-restoring operation.



Case study

Name:

Laurinda

Age:

37

Location:

Mozambique



Laurinda's story

One person to benefit from the campaign was Laurinda, a single mother of seven children from Mozambique who lost her sight four years ago. Her life was one of constant struggle – she had to rely on her teenage daughter Aida for everything, from tending to the younger children to earning money to feed the family. She had never even seen her youngest child.

When Laurinda found out from her community leader that there was a chance she might see again, she was stunned – she had no idea such treatment was available and that a simple cataract operation meant a new life was achievable.

The pure joy when Laurinda's bandages came off was infectious. Everyone in the room smiled, and Laurinda clapped her hands and sang. She could see for the first time in four years, and could now prepare food and go to the bathroom without assistance.

It's had a remarkable effect on Aida, too, who now receives help from her mother as she raises her own baby, Antonietta. A weight has been lifted off her shoulders, and she smiles and chats like a normal teenager.

These surgeries would not be possible without Sightsavers' supporters. Not only do they change the lives of the patients, they make a massive difference to that person's loved ones, too.



“What makes me happy now that I'm cured is that I can work and go where I could not before... I can see my children and grandchildren, who I couldn't see in the past.”

Laurinda



Laurinda with her eye surgeon Dr Anselmo Vilanculo after her sight was restored.

Ebola update

Across 2014 and 2015, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia were devastated by Ebola, a highly contagious disease that's transmitted through direct human contact. Previously unknown in the region, this West African epidemic claimed 2,536 lives in Guinea, 4,809 in Liberia and 3,955 in Sierra Leone – these death tolls are believed to be grossly underestimated.

Ebola's rapid spread was due to a number of factors, including weak health systems in the region, a general distrust of the authorities and traditional funeral practices such as embracing deceased relatives.

The impact of Ebola on these already overburdened health systems was catastrophic. As eye health was not a priority during the emergency, we took the decision, with the Ministries of Health, to suspend all planned activity until the middle of last year, when the epidemic began to come under control and we could finally begin to rebuild.

Instead of planned activities, during the crisis we provided hospitals with barriers against infection. We trained health personnel in strict protocols for managing Ebola, developed secure treatment centres and trained up rapid response teams. We also launched extensive public awareness campaigns.

It soon became clear that Ebola survivors had particular problems with an eye disease called uveitis, which if left untreated could lead to blindness. We worked with Partners in Health to screen almost 2,500 survivors in Sierra Leone, where we found that more than half needed immediate treatment. We subsequently trained over 1,200 health workers in specific Ebola-related eye complications.



During West Africa's Ebola crisis, we provided hospitals with barriers against infection, trained health personnel in strict protocols for managing Ebola and developed secure treatment centres.

Ebola is now known to remain resident in up to 25% of survivors – meaning long-term symptoms for the patient such as visual impairment, joint and muscle pain, neurological disorders and debilitating weakness. We will continue to work in affected countries to minimise the further impact of this disease and to provide appropriate services to those affected by Ebola.



Nancy Smart, Sightsavers Country Director, Sierra Leone, winning her award for the work she had done to fight Ebola.

Disability and inclusion

The promotion of equal opportunity for people with disabilities is a core part of Sightsavers' vision.

After more than four years of discussion, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted at the UN General Assembly in 2015. Two of our critical goals – inclusive education and equality – were reflected in the new agenda. This was a massive step forward for people with disabilities.

To celebrate, we hosted Framing Perceptions at the UN building, a photographic exhibition of people with disabilities in Uganda and India that raised the profile of inclusive development. The attendance of President Higgins as Guest of Honour was a particular privilege for Sightsavers and enabled us to move forward and make substantial progress.



In June 2015, we launched our social inclusion strategy, which aligned our programmes with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Our priorities within this

are economic empowerment and political participation for people with disabilities, with gender equality and advocacy mainstreamed across all our programmes.

Examples of our new programmes are our youth economic empowerment project in Uganda, and an inclusive elections initiative in Cameroon to support greater participation of people with disabilities in political processes.

We've been working in India and Tanzania to explore how best to disaggregate data collected within our programmes by disability. This is essential for us to be able to determine whether our programmes are inclusive.

Several of our inclusive education projects ended in 2014 and we have changed our approach – focusing on a smaller number of large, high-quality programmes directed at system change. The biggest is in India, with three major new programmes in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda.



You can find the Sightsavers' social inclusion strategy, and other useful documents from our online document library: www.sightsavers.org/search/





Sylvia had a very tough time after losing her sight, but is now able to earn an income from her knitting through one of our disability and inclusion programmes.



Mbathio in her home and familiar surroundings, before heading off to school.



Case study

Name:
Mbathio

Age:
14

Location:
Senegal



Mbathio's story

Mbathio is one of 18 blind children attending a mainstream school in Dakar, Senegal. Four years ago, the school opened its doors to children with disabilities, giving them an opportunity to live a normal life – just one of three schools in Dakar involved in this pilot project.

A shy, quiet girl, Mbathio excels at maths and uses a Braille board to do her lessons. Before attending school, she simply stayed at home all day. She never thought going to school would be a possibility; now she has career aspirations.



Mbathio reading braille in her classroom.

“The behaviour change in these pupils is extraordinary. Mbathio can now walk independently to school, is confident, and has integrated fully. You simply cannot tell by looking which children are blind.”

Mbathio's teacher

The project also works towards changing community perceptions that blind children are unable to learn. “People who think blind children don't deserve an education are ignorant,” says Mbathio's voluntary itinerant teacher. “We have worked hard to educate the community and remove the stigma attached to blind children being at school!”



Aminata, pictured on the right, with her classmate walking around her school grounds.



Case study

Name:
Aminata

Age:
7

Location:
Senegal



Aminata's story

At her inclusive school in Dakar, Senegal, seven-year-old Aminata is inquisitive and attentive. She hangs onto her teacher's every word, raising her hand to answer questions. When her classmates lift their chalkboards for the teacher to check their work, Aminata does the same with her Braille tablet.



Aminata enjoying a fun lesson at school.

Aminata was born blind, as were her parents and three of her siblings. Before being allowed to attend the inclusive school, she stayed at home while her parents went out begging. She was too young to do chores or to go out by herself. Now, her day has structure and purpose.

Having her work checked the same way as the other children instills in her a sense of confidence and self-worth. "I want to keep going to school," she says. "I like my teacher and I want to teach French when I grow up."

After school, Aminata plays at home with her family, moving comfortably around the familiar environment. "She is much happier now," says her mother. "I want her to learn a lot of things, so when she is older she can get a job and help support her family."

The benefits to Aminata being educated alongside her peers are immeasurable. Being part of the school makes her feel valued, helping her to thrive and develop into a happy, confident child.

"She is much happier now... I want her to learn a lot of things, so when she is older she can get a job and help support her family
Aminata's mother

Map highlights

This snapshot of 2015 shows at a glance some of the incredible achievements we've seen over the last year. Disease elimination targets are being met more efficiently than ever, inclusive education is becoming steadily accepted in many countries, and continued advocacy means that people with disabilities in the developing world are increasingly being given the chance to live normal lives.



Uganda – progress towards elimination of trachoma and river blindness

In several districts, we no longer need to distribute treatment for either disease. Five entire districts have reached the ultimate intervention goal for active trachoma, with cases now below one person in 1,000. Surveillance continues in other districts to confirm the elimination of river blindness.



Ghana – a country on the brink of confirming trachoma elimination

Ghana entered the final stages of its elimination programme by carrying out pre-validation surveys – these confirm whether the 2013 elimination targets for active trachoma have been maintained. They'll also check whether elimination targets for advanced trachoma – which requires surgery – have been reached.



Kenya – the long-term impact of inclusive education

A new education project was prepared for launch in January 2016. It will strengthen the nationwide network of 200 Education Assessment and Resource Centres, which place children with disabilities into education. The project will also work with mainstream schools to pilot approaches to the inclusion of children with disabilities.



Tanzania – long-time advocacy objectives come to fruition

The country's revised constitution included high recognition of people with disabilities, and their fair representation in the Constitutional Assembly. Tactile balloting for a general election was introduced for the first time, while fourteen people with disabilities were appointed to top ministerial positions.



Pakistan – increased healthcare access for women

A staggering 8,654,490 people received eye-health examinations thanks to a programme designed to strengthen health systems. This was achieved, in part, through training 2,077 female health workers in primary eye care, which significantly increased access for women to eye health services.



Bangladesh – free cataract surgeries

Through our Bangladesh District Eye Care Project, Sightsavers provided 68,836 free cataract surgeries for the poor and ultra-poor – that’s around 80% of the total annual surgeries in the districts where we operate.



India – making eye health accessible to everyone

A pilot programme in Bhopal aimed to develop eye-health programmes inclusive to both men and women with disabilities of all ages, and ones particularly responsive to the needs of women. Measures continue to ensure there are strong referral networks and accessible services in the region.



West Africa – Irish Aid making a real impact

During the 2012-2015 reporting period Irish Aid funding has provided much needed support and contributed towards the training of 158 specialist eye health workers and 286,092 primary health care and community NTD workers. This strengthened workforce has supported 81,906 sight saving operations. Irish Aid support has also contributed towards the distribution of almost 123 million treatments to prevent disabling neglected diseases such as blinding trachoma and river blindness.

The Global Trachoma Mapping Project (GTMP)

One of the greatest achievements in 2015 was the completion of the GTMP – the largest infectious-disease mapping project ever undertaken. Its aim was to find out where trachoma – the world’s leading cause of infectious blindness – was most prevalent.

The volume of data collected over the past three years is greater than that gathered over the previous thirty. It allows us to now focus on where treatment is most needed, and to meet the World Health Organisation’s goal of eliminating trachoma by 2020. One of the primary hurdles to elimination had been a lack of information; we now have a clear picture of exactly what needs to be done.

During the three-year project, which received funding from the UK government and involved 24 organisations in a Sightsavers-led coalition, 2.6 million people in 29 countries were screened. One person was examined roughly every 40 seconds, with all data captured on smartphones.

In the developing world, trachoma impairs the vision of around 2.2 million people, 1.2 million of which are irreversibly blind. Common in poor, crowded communities with poor sanitation, it’s an extremely painful infection that’s spread by touch, clothing and flies. In its initial stages, it passes mainly between small children and the women who care for them.



Repeated infections throughout childhood make the eyelashes turn inward, gradually causing blindness in adults. Trachoma is treatable with antibiotics, and also preventable once people understand how it spreads. If not caught in time, the blindness is irreversible.

Based on the data accumulated by the GTMP and other sources, the International Coalition for Trachoma Control has estimated it would cost about US\$1 billion to eliminate blinding trachoma by 2020, of which US\$200-300 million has already been committed. Trachoma-associated blindness has been estimated to cut global productivity by between US\$2.9 billion and US\$5.3 billion a year.



Visit the GTMP website which has interactive features and maps the world’s leading infectious cause of avoidable blindness:
www.globaltrachomamappingproject.com





A team from the Global Trachoma Mapping Project checks a family's eyes to see if they have trachoma, in Sudan.



5:04 PM
Yous Faria LIMAY - S. SOMAR HODDISHOLD v1

What is the main source of the main source of water used by your household for washing faces?
Public tapwater

If you collected water there to bring back to the house, how long does it take to go there, get water, and come back?
More than 1 hour

Where do you and other adults in the household usually defecate?
Private latrine

Observation: Ask to see the

Go Up Done with Survey Form

A team from the Global Trachoma Mapping Project uploading data via a smartphone.

The Global Trachoma Mapping Project (GTMP)



The groundbreaking three year disease-mapping project has shown that **100 million people** are at risk of blindness from trachoma



Using smart phone technology we examined **2.6 million people** in **1,627 districts**



2,160 people were screened everyday



29 countries were mapped in 3 years



1 person was examined every **40 seconds**



Funded by **UK aid** and **USAID** working in collaboration with **63 partners**: ministries of health, not for profits and academics

Our funding partners

We collaborate with many partners, large and small, whose support continues to be invaluable. Here are a few we have worked with in 2015 to make lasting change.



Irish Aid

Irish Aid is the Irish Government's programme for overseas development and is integral to Ireland's foreign policy. In 2012, Sightsavers received a four-year development funding grant from Irish Aid, to support our work in West Africa. The Irish Aid supported programme "Strengthening Sightsavers reach and impact in West Africa" has considerably improved access to quality health and education services for poor and marginalised communities living in Cameroon, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Senegal and Sierra Leone. We have championed a rights-based approach to address the inequalities faced by people living with disabilities in the programme area so that they can participate equally in society. During the 2012-2015 period Irish Aid funding has provided much needed support and contributed towards the training of 158 specialist eye health workers and 286,092 primary health care and community NTD workers. This strengthened workforce has supported 81,906 sight saving operations and has contributed towards the distribution of 123 million treatments to prevent disabling neglected tropical diseases.



Find out more about the Irish Aid programme at www.sightsavers.ie/components/partners/



Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the IZUMI Foundation

Thanks to generous funding between 2013 and 2016 from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the IZUMI Foundation, we are one step closer to eliminating trachoma. This funding complements the funding support we receive from Irish Aid for our programmes in Mali.

Trachoma is an excruciating and potentially blinding eye infection that's common in poor and rural areas with inadequate water supplies. If caught in time, it's treatable with antibiotics or surgery; if left untreated, the blindness that follows is irreversible.

Over three years, with the help of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and IZUMI Foundation, Sightsavers has equipped surgeons with motorbikes so they can treat people in remote areas, and we've supported innovative approaches including providing medical staff with mobile phones to allow them to input crucial data from the field.

The funding has contributed to life-changing surgeries for over 5,000 people in Mali.



Find out more at www.hiltonfoundation.org and www.izumi.org



Case study

Name:
Salimata

Age:
60

Location:
Mali

Funding partner:
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
and IZUMI Foundation



Salimata's story

For over two years, Salimata had been living with the agony of trachoma, which was steadily impairing her sight.

In her remote village, Salimata grew okra for a living. As her sight failed, she knew she'd have to give up her job and stop supporting her family. Thanks to the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation grant, and support from the IZUMI Foundation, mobile surgeons can now deliver treatment to people like Salimata, and allow them to return to work and live a life free of suffering.

While trepidation about surgery is common among local people in these remote communities, word is spreading about its benefits. Salimata understands its value all too well.



“After the operation on my left eye, I can do small jobs like other women my age. Nothing is more precious than sight.”

Salimata

Our funding partners



eBay

In 2015, we started working with eBay for Charity to offer buyers and sellers the chance to donate to Sightsavers.

Making a donation is quick and easy. You can become a sight-saving shopper by making us your favourite charity on eBay, then donating to Sightsavers at the checkout every time you make a purchase. Or, if you're a trader, make us your favourite charity and you'll have the chance to donate every time you sell.

Your donations really do make a difference – we've so far raised around €97,200 in total.

Our partnership with eBay for Charity has been fantastic at raising both awareness and vital funds for Sightsavers. We look forward to continuing this partnership in 2016.



Find out more at www.ebay.co.uk



L'Occitane Foundation

The L'Occitane Foundation has supported Sightsavers' work in Burkina Faso since 2014, funding our programme in the south-west of the country to eliminate river blindness and blinding trachoma.

In 2015, the Foundation helped us treat 44,597 people against river blindness. The funding also provided eyelid surgery to 35 patients with advanced trachoma, and helped to train over 166 health workers and 1,115 community volunteers.

The ultimate aim of this project is to ensure that the 660,000 people living in the region are protected against river blindness and trachoma. We're delighted that the L'Occitane Foundation will be partnering with us again in 2016, and continues to share our mission to eliminate both these diseases in Burkina Faso by 2021.



Find out more at www.fondation.loccitane.com



Make Sightsavers your favourite charity on ebay:
www.ebay.co.uk/egw/ebay-for-charity/charity-profile/?NP_ID=10927





A child in Gyankobaa, Ghana, receiving the sight-saving medication Mectizan®.



Lamia on the children's ward of Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute and Hospital, Bangladesh, following her successful cataract surgery.



Case study

Name:
Zon Mariam

Age:
82

Location:
Burkina Faso

Funding partner:
L'Occitane Foundation



Zon Mariam's Story

82-year-old grandmother Zon Mariam can't remember when the pain started, but for years had been living with a constant ache in her right eye. "I felt like there was sand in my eye, but when I washed it, it was still there," she says. "The pain never stopped."

Her eye condition meant it was often hard for Mariam to cook and help around the house. Following visits by hospital staff to her home, she was stunned to learn there was a cure for her condition, and shortly afterwards was taken in by her children for surgery.

"After a short recovery period, I did not suffer again! I can see better now. Since my eyes were operated on, I go to the bush and collect firewood."



Zon recovering after her sight-restoring surgery.



"After a short recovery period, I did not suffer again! I can see better now."

Zon Mariam

Our funding partners



Virgin Unite

In March 2015, Sightsavers launched a three-year partnership with non-profit foundation Virgin Unite to support eye-health projects in Tanzania and Bangladesh. Richard Branson had heard about the sight-restoring cataract operations of our Million Miracles appeal, and was personally inspired to support a project with such tangible results.

Virgin Unite has been invaluable in supporting the communication of the Million Miracles appeal. Richard Branson penned a blog for the Virgin website in August 2015, in which he wrote: "One of the most remarkable things I've seen through my charity work is the instant life-changing impact of being able to hear for the first time. Being able to see again, or for the first time, would be equally transformative, which is why I'm proud Virgin Unite is supporting Sightsavers to help fund their efforts to restore sight to people by providing one million cataract operations by 2018."

We subsequently posted two guest blogs of our own on the Virgin Unite website. The blogs and appeal have all been promoted on Virgin's social media platforms, allowing us to reach out to tens of thousands of potential new donors.



Find out more at www.virgin.com/unite



Standard Chartered

Seeing is Believing is Standard Chartered's global charitable initiative to tackle avoidable blindness run in partnership with the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). Seeing is Believing has supported Sightsavers' projects in poor and underprivileged communities in Africa and Asia since 2003. In 2015 Seeing is Believing supported our work in Sierra Leone, Uganda, India and Pakistan, and new projects have been confirmed from 2016 in Tanzania, Zambia and Pakistan. We'd like to thank everyone at Seeing is Believing for helping to bring affordable eye-care to some of the poorest communities across the globe.



Find out more at www.sc.com



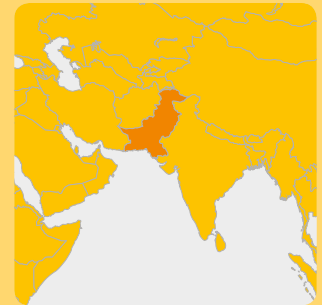
Case study

Name:
Muhammad Ashraf

Age:
42

Location:
Pakistan

Funding partner:
Standard Chartered



Muhammad Ashraf's Story

As an employee of the Pakistan Railway Services, Ashraf's job involves documentation. However, during the last three years, Ashraf had been finding his job difficult due to his deteriorating eye sight. He visited Mayo Hospital (one of Sightsavers' partner hospitals) complaining of blurred vision, after having previously visited the Diabetes clinic where he was given a management and treatment plan by the endocrinologist. Ashraf was then referred to the Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Room, where he was screened for Diabetic Retinopathy using a Non-Mydiatric Fundus Camera.

Ashraf was diagnosed with sight threatening diabetic retinopathy. This is a stage where the effect of uncontrolled diabetes on the retina is severe and needs treatment, otherwise it could lead to blindness.

Ashraf was troubled when told that he had serious eye complications as a result of his diabetic condition, and thought that he would lose his vision forever. He was on the verge of losing his job as a result. However, when the counsellor explained how his diabetic condition was affecting his sight, and how diabetes management and timely treatment can save his sight from further deterioration, Ashraf was hopeful and determined to comply with it.



Counselling through our Diabetic Retinopathy project, funded since April 2014 by Standard Chartered's Seeing is Believing programme, stopped Ashraf, 42, becoming blind. Ashraf is now fully compliant with the management and treatment plan and is better able to manage his condition.



Counselling through the project funded by Standard Chartered stopped Muhammad Ashraf becoming blind.

Finances

Global income



€185m	Gifts in kind
€38m	Grants from governments/NGOs
€30m	Individuals
€13.7m	Legacies

€3m	Trusts
€2.3m	Companies
€0.5m	Other

Figures represented in millions.

Global expenditure



€186m	Mectizan®
€51m	Eye health
€24m	Costs of generating funds

€3.7m	Social inclusion
€3m	Policy and research
€3m	Education




Download the Sightsavers Annual report for more information available in our document library at: www.sightsavers.org/annualreport2015





Last, but
not least,
Thank you!

A group of people, likely in traditional African attire, are dancing in a field. The scene is captured in a warm, golden-yellow light, creating a celebratory and vibrant atmosphere. The dancers are in various poses, some with their arms raised, suggesting a joyful performance. The background shows a line of trees under a bright sky.

2015 was a year of incredible achievements, none of which would have been possible without your support. We'd like to thank the many people around the world who let us share their inspiring, emotional stories; from Laurinda who saw her baby for the first time following cataract surgery to Aminata, who can now attend an inclusive school with her friends.

We also work in partnership with trusts and foundations, government ministries, international institutions, corporate partners and fellow charities, whose help has had an enormous impact on a great number of people.

From individual donors to large corporations, we are grateful for your generosity, which helped us continue our life-changing work throughout the year.

What's next

You've read how your donations have helped us to continue our life-changing work. 2015 has seen some historic changes, from the needs of people with disabilities being placed as one of the UN's sustainable development goals to the completion of our Global Trachoma Mapping Project.

With your support, we are one step closer to a world where:



No one goes blind from a preventable or treatable cause.



Eye care is universally available, whether it's providing a pair of glasses or a surgical treatment.



Blinding trachoma and river blindness are eliminated.



Disabling lymphatic filariasis is eliminated.



No child with disabilities is excluded from school.



People with disabilities have equal access to healthcare, education, employment and social protection.

Throughout 2016, we will continue with our core strategy and work hard to reach our targets. Our Million Miracles campaign remains on course to deliver funding for one million sight-restoring operations by 2018. Our UNITED programme in Northern Nigeria also gathers speed with its target of delivering 124 million NTD treatments by September 2017, protecting 27 million people against diseases such as trachoma and river blindness.

We plan to cement our leadership position on sustainable development goals through strong inclusive programmes, including increasing the number of people with disabilities in our own organisation.

Our Put Us in the Picture campaign will be launched in Ireland and elsewhere. We will move onto the next phase of our Global Trachoma Mapping Project – Tropical Data – which will build on the immense GTMP platform to gather similar data for neglected tropical diseases.



Throughout 2016, we will continue with our core strategy and work hard to reach our targets.



Our mission:

We are an international organisation working with partners in developing countries to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equality of opportunity for people with disabilities.

Find out more about Sightsavers
and join our mission...

www.sightsavers.ie

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Howard Dalzell

Dominic Haslam

Brenda Moriarty

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Michael Marren

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