#EndTrachoma in the WHO African Region: The time is now.

Sources: GET2020 database as of May 2021; Tropical Data as of June 2021.

Trachoma:

**#1**

is the world’s leading infectious cause of blindness.

115.7 million people are at risk in 26 countries known to require interventions in the region.

SDGs

elimination contributes to Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 calling for an end to neglected tropical diseases.

is being reduced through coordinated actions from partners in the global health and development communities.

Progress to date:

**Two countries** have been validated by WHO for eliminating trachoma as a public health problem (Ghana 2018, The Gambia 2021)

**Antibiotics**

249 million people have received antibiotics to clear infection and reduce transmission since 2011.

**Surgery**

1.4 million surgeries have been performed to treat trachomatous trichiasis (the blinding stage of trachoma) since 2011.

**Collaboration**

across sectors is being coordinated to accelerate and sustain progress towards trachoma elimination.

Key priorities:

**Mapping**

16 million people live in districts where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.

**Barriers to implementation**

101 districts across nine countries have hard to reach populations affecting implementation of the SAFE strategy.

Challenges remain:

Not enough resources

Hard-to-reach populations

Inequity

Environmental threats

Humanitarian crises

The elimination of trachoma will contribute to multiple Sustainable Development Goals:

**Goal 1:** No poverty

**Goal 4:** Quality education

**Goal 5:** Gender equality

**Goal 6:** Clean water and sanitation

**Goal 17:** Partnerships for the goals

For more information visit www.trachomacoalition.org