End Trachoma in the WHO Africa Region: The time is now.

Sources: Weekly Epidemiological Record (published 14 July 2023); GET2020 database (as of April 2023)

Six countries have been validated by WHO for eliminating trachoma as a public health problem (Benin, Ghana, The Gambia, Malawi, Mali, Togo).

22 countries are known to require interventions for trachoma and 99.6 million are at risk in the region.

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

1.6 million surgeries have been performed to treat trachomatous trichiasis since 2011.

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

#1 is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.

Trachoma:

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:

Key priorities:

Mapping 11.5 million people live in areas where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.

Research is needed to better understand persistent and recrudescent trachoma and develop tailored end game strategies.

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