

#EndTrachoma in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region: The time is now

Sources: GET2020 database as of 1 May 2020

Trachoma:

#1

is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.

SDGs

elimination directly contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 3.3 calling for an end to NTDs.



10.5 million people are known to be at risk of trachoma in the region.



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

Progress to date:



Three countries in the region have been validated by WHO for achieving elimination (Oman 2012, Morocco 2016, Islamic Republic of Iran 2018).



15 million doses of antibiotics have been distributed since 2011 to clear infection and reduce transmission rates.



WASH

The Islamic Republic of Iran's elimination of trachoma without a national trachoma program demonstrates the effectiveness of F&E interventions.



Collaboration

between endemic countries, implementing partners, WHO and donors through the EMR Trachoma Alliance is supporting interventions in six countries.

Key priorities:



Mapping

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



Barriers to implementation

103 districts across six countries (Egypt, Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen) have hard to reach populations affecting implementation of the SAFE strategy.



Validation dossiers

The regional plan for trachoma elimination includes 13 countries that require support to prepare elimination dossiers.

Challenges remain:



Not enough funding



Hard-to-reach populations



Political instability



Environmental threats



Insecurity

The elimination of trachoma will also contribute to other SDGs:



Goal 1:
No poverty



Goal 4:
Quality education



Goal 5:
Gender equality



Goal 6:
Clean water and sanitation



Goal 17:
Partnerships for the goals

ICTC International Coalition
for Trachoma Control

For more information visit www.trachomacoalition.org