#EndTrachoma: The time is now

Sources: GET2020 database as of 1 May 2020; Tropical Data as of 18 June.

Trachoma:

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

is known to be a public health problem in 44 countries affecting 136.9 million people.

elimination contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 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:

57% decrease in the number of people at risk since 2011. 325 million people required treatment then vs. 136.9 million people today.

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

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

Collaboration between endemic countries, implementing partners, WHO and donors is supporting interventions in 38 countries.

Generating evidence:

Global Trachoma Mapping Project mapped trachoma in 29 countries, examining 2.6 million people from 2012-2016, informing all partners where interventions were required.

Tropical Data has supported national programs to conduct more than 1940 surveys across 43 countries since 2016, examining more than 6.1 million people.

Challenges remain:

Not enough funding

Hard-to-reach populations

Political instability

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

Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals

For more information visit www.trachomacoalition.org