

#EndTrachoma in the WHO Region of the Americas: 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.



5.2 million people live in areas that are known to be at risk of trachoma and require interventions.



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

Progress to date:



One country in the region has been validated by WHO for achieving elimination (Mexico 2017).



1.37 million people received antibiotics to clear infection and reduce transmission rates between 2005 and 2019.



6,663 surgeries were performed to treat trichomatous trichiasis (the blinding stage of trachoma) between 2014-2019.



Collaboration between endemic countries, implementing partners, donors & the Pan American Health Organization is supporting interventions in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru.

Key priorities:



Integration

The PAHO Disease Elimination Initiative targets more than 30 diseases, including trachoma, through coordinated multi-sector and multi-stakeholder actions.



Mapping

Additional surveys will complete mapping of trachoma in the region and identify vulnerable populations that require interventions.



Health systems strengthening

Increased capacity is needed to identify and manage trichomatous trichiasis.

Challenges remain:



Not enough funding



Hard-to-reach populations



Inequalities



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