#EndTrachoma in the WHO Region of the Americas: 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.**
2. **5.32 million people are at risk in 4 countries known to require interventions in the region.**
3. **elimination contributes to Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 calling for an end to neglected tropical diseases.**
4. **is being reduced through coordinated actions from partners in the global health and development communities.**

**Progress to date:**

- **One country** has been validated by WHO for eliminating trachoma as a public health problem (Mexico 2017).
- **Antibiotics**
  - 1.37 million people received antibiotics to clear infection and reduce transmission between 2005 and 2020.
- **Surgery**
  - 6,693 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**
  - 122,400 people live in districts where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.
- **Health system strengthening**
  - Increased capacity is needed to identify and manage trachomatous trichiasis and integrate health services for other eye health problems and NTDs.

**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](http://www.trachomacoalition.org)