

#EndTrachoma in the WHO Western Pacific 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.



3.8 million people are known to be at risk of trachoma in 8 countries 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 (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR).



903,579 doses of antibiotics have been distributed to clear infection and reduce transmission since 2011.



Collaboration between endemic countries, implementing partners, donors and WHO is supporting activities in Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru and Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Key priorities:



Facial cleanliness and environmental improvements, including behaviour change interventions, are needed to reduce transmission and sustain progress.



Research conducted in Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu is improving understanding about the epidemiology of unique presentations of trachoma in the region.



Mapping 62,495 people live in areas where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.

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