

#EndTrachoma in the WHO Africa Region: The time is now.

Sources: Weekly Epidemiological Record (data as of 15 April 2024)

Trachoma:

#1

is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.



is known to be a public health problem in 22 countries, affecting more than 93 million people.

SDGs

elimination contributes to Sustainable Development Goal target 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:



Six countries

have been validated by WHO for eliminating trachoma as a public health problem (Benin, Ghana, The Gambia, Malawi, Mali, Togo).



Antibiotics

Over 708 million people have received antibiotics to clear infection and reduce transmission since 2011.



Surgery

Over 1.7 million surgeries have been performed to treat trachomatous trichiasis (TT) since 2011.

Key priorities:



Mapping

Three million people live in areas where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.



Research

is needed to better understand persistent and recrudescing trachoma and develop tailored end game strategies.

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

ICTC International Coalition for Trachoma Control

For more information visit www.trachomacoalition.org