



Operation Eyesight Fast Facts 2024

Operation Eyesight is an international development organization that has worked alongside communities, governments and organizations for more than 60 years to prevent blindness and restore sight. Our vision is the elimination of avoidable vision loss. Founded in Calgary, Canada in 1963, we have grown to become a global community that spans four continents.

Vision loss impacts 1.1 billion people globally, and 90 per cent is preventable or treatable, often with a pair of prescription eyeglasses or cataract surgery. People living in low- and middle-income countries are less likely to receive treatment. We believe everyone has the right to affordable, quality eye health care services – regardless of where they live or their ability to pay.

Operation Eyesight Universal Fast Facts

- Founded in Calgary: 1963 – turned 60 in 2023.
- Works in South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka) and Africa (Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Kenya, Malawi and Zambia)
- Has 65+ staff in four continents (North America, Europe, Africa and Asia)
- Has over 4,600 frontline workers (community health workers & volunteers) who conduct door-to-door eye screenings and refer to vision centres and hospitals
- Works to address the root, underlying causes of avoidable vision loss
- Contributes to six United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: 1: No poverty 3: Good health and well-being 4: Quality education 5: Gender equality 6: Clean water and sanitation; 17: Partnerships for the goals
- Complies with the five recommendations of the WHO's (World Health Organization) World report on vision: make eye care an integral part of universal health coverage; implement integrated people-centred eye care (IPEC) in health systems; promote high-quality research; monitor trends and evaluate progress; and raise awareness and engage and empower people and communities
- Has 74 active partner hospitals (at end of 2023)
- Operation Eyesight is a registered charitable organization in Canada, Ghana, India, Kenya, the United States, the United Kingdom and Zambia.

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In 2023, Operation Eyesight and our Partners:

- Screened 2,453,654 people for eye conditions through hospitals, vision centres and outreach camps
- Screened 240,571 students through school eye health programs
- Dispensed 275,800 pairs of eyeglasses
- Performed 232,767 eye surgeries
- Established or upgraded 22 new vision centres, primary eye clinics or hospitals.
- Drilled or rehabilitated 25 water boreholes
- Declared 95 villages or communities as avoidable blindness-free (to a total of 1,372 by end of 2023)

Goal by end of 2028: Declare 2,900 villages avoidable blindness-free.