Eyes of the world seeks to provide quality eye care to visually impaired people living in poverty in the developing world, through their local health services. We also wish to create the conditions necessary for reducing the incidence of eye disease in those countries.

In addition, we aim to raise awareness in our own society about the lack of basic healthcare provision in the areas in which the project is run.

Eyes of the world aspires to a world in which no one suffers from avoidable blindness and to contribute, therefore, to making the right to sight a reality.

**MISSION**

Eyes of the world seeks to provide quality eye care to visually impaired people living in poverty in the developing world, through their local health services. We also wish to create the conditions necessary for reducing the incidence of eye disease in those countries.

In addition, we aim to raise awareness in our own society about the lack of basic healthcare provision in the areas in which the project is run.

**VISION**

Eyes of the world aspires to a world in which no one suffers from avoidable blindness and to contribute, therefore, to making the right to sight a reality.

**PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Principles</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanity</td>
<td>Permanency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-discrimination</td>
<td>Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altruism</td>
<td>Efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transparency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eyes of the world would like to thank all the people who have documented the Foundation’s activities with pictures or information.

Cover photos: © Núria Andreu, Elisenda Pons, Mercedes de la Rosa and Eyes of the world.
A solid international project

In 2001, when we decided in Barcelona to embark on the Eyes of the world project at the Sahara, we couldn’t imagine our social mobilisation ability and the impact our charity would have on the regions where we operate. What started off as a local initiative has now become a great project with delegations in Spain and abroad.

It is noticeable that our capacity to raise awareness and rally support has multiplied, as well as our capacity to involve other charities and companies.

With its continuous and relentless contribution, Eyes of the world has succeeded in giving ophthalmic care to people with visual impairments and no resources, while contributing to the general development of the countries where it operates.

It is also worth stressing that this global development and increased well-being of societies is also a consequence of our work. We cannot understate the consequences of our projects if we want to live in a healthier, fairer, more gender-equal world.

We are proud to have built a solid international project with tangible results, thankful to all of the people who have accompanied us along the way, and greatly motivated to keep advancing towards the eradication of avoidable blindness.

Rafael Ribó, President

---

Leading ophthalmic cooperation

Over half a million vision screenings and more than 22,000 surgical procedures carried out, and over 5,500 professionals trained. These are the figures that the first fifteen years of Eyes of the world have left us with. Eyes of the world is a virtuous circle whereby deep engagement and results feed back into each other and keep our enthusiasm spinning. We can only be optimistic when we see how the seed we timidly but resolutely planted has grown to become a leading project in the field of ophthalmic cooperation.

In these years, we have made significant progress in the training of local professionals and health workers which has led to a decisive increase in the incidence of early detection and prevention as the best anticipation tool. Furthermore, we are successfully cooperating with other organisations to make our projects more autonomous and consistent on the field, and strengthening partnerships with international organisations concerned with eye health.

Moreover, we are constantly seeking ways to engage more volunteers and supporters, to raise awareness of our work, and to gain the recognition that will lead the civil society to push public administrations and private organisations to participate in our project.

Borja Corcóstegui, Vice President
The Eyes of the World Team

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
- Rafael Ribó Massó, President and member of the Executive Committee
- Borja Corcóstegui Guraya, Vice President and member of the Executive Committee
- Núria Ramon Garcia, General Manager and member of the Executive Committee
- Vicenç Capdevila Cardona, Secretary and member of the Executive Committee
- Josep Antoni Pujante Conesa, member, representative of the Generalitat (Government of Catalonia)
- Josep Lluís Alay Rodríguez, member, representative of the Provincial Government of Barcelona
- Pilar Solanes Salsas, member, representative of Barcelona City Council
- Xavier Grau Sabaté, member, representative of Fundación ONCE para América Latina, FOAL
- M. Isabel Nieto Uresandi, member, ophthalmologist
- Andrés Müller-Thyssen Bergareche, member, ophthalmologist
- Maria Teresa Vilalta Ferrer, member, economist

**HEAD OFFICE OPERATIONS TEAM**
- Núria Ramon Garcia, General Manager
- Elisenda Rom Suñol, Chief of Staff and Communications
- Paco Sanz León, Chief of Programmes
- Anun Jiménez Ibáñez, Chief of Administration
- Jordi Iturbe Ferré, Financial Management specialist
- Albert de Renzi Buxó, Buying and Warehousing specialist
- Bibiana Ruberte de la Iglesia, Financial Monitoring Programmes specialist
- Maria Carbojales Moreno, administrative
- Miren Rodríguez Barrenetxea, Programme coordinator for Munduko Begiak

**GROUND OPERATIONS TEAM**
- **The Sahara**
  - Maria Tavera Villén, Programme coordinator for Eyes of the Sahara

- **Mozambique**
  - Alba Sardón Estévez, Programme coordinator for Eyes of Mozambique
  - Eric Lavis, deputy coordinator
  - Helder Amaral, Community Health coordinator
  - Sarifa Ismael, administrator
  - Carlos Ferreira, driver, logistician

- **Bolivia**
  - Patricia Tárrega, Programme coordinator for Eyes of Bolivia
  - Paola Dimattia, Information, education and communications manager, Tarija
  - Edgar Lima, Information, education and communications manager, La Paz
  - Angélica Luna, Pharmacy logistics assistant
  - Mariana Delgado, Information, education and communications specialist, Tarija
  - María Esther Espero, administrator
  - Juan Chambi, information specialist, driver
  - Aurora Mamani, Office assistant, La Paz
  - Nilda Rodas, Office assistant, Tarija

- **Mali**
  - Albert Coulibaly, Programme coordinator for Eyes of Mali
  - Seydou Togo, Programme assistant
  - Hélène Dena, administrator
  - Mamadou Guindo, driver, logistician
  - Amanidiou Agnou, Dagaloum Doumbo, Barthélemy Guindo, Amadou Sana, Abdoulaye Zebré, security guards

**MEDICAL COMMITTEE**
- Borja Corcóstegui Guraya, President
- Rebeca Atienza Molina, Medical supervisor, Eyes of the Sahara
- Ricardo Casaroli Marana, Secretary and medical supervisor, Eyes of Mozambique
- Hernán Gras, Medical supervisor, Eyes of Bolivia
- Andrés Müller-Thyssen Bergareche, Medical supervisor, Eyes of Mali
- M. Isabel Nieto Uresandi, ophthalmologist

**REGIONAL DELEGATES**
- Rosario Martínez Navarro, delegate for the Valencian Community
- Jesús Barragán Bretón, delegate for Andalusia
- Kike Otaegi Arizmendi, delegate for the Basque Country and Navarre
- Alfonso Jordán García, delegate for Madrid
- Lurdana Teixeira Gomes, Office for Portugal
- Hernán Gras, Office for Argentina
- Romain Bordas, Office for France and Switzerland

* Composition at December 31, 2016
Thank you for the first 15 years

Thank you. This is the magical expression. Thank you all for giving us your energy, your work, your financial support, your solidarity.

In 2016, on the fifteenth anniversary of the creation of Eyes of the world, we continued a growth that started in 2015 and we have almost doubled the activities carried out during our best years and increased the number of procedures carried out and people treated. This trend proves that empathy towards those who need to regain their health is possible even in the darkest hours of our society. We have finally understood that there is no “here” and “there”, that, at the end of the day, we are all from this world and we all have the same rights for a dignified life, the right to sight and the right to accessible healthcare among them.

However, good figures do not tell the whole story. Behind the figures there are the stories of men and an increasing number of women and children whose quality of life is significantly improved, and who constantly thank our professionals and volunteers on the field. It is on their behalf that we would like to thank all the individuals and institutions that support us and that we have partnerships with. Together, we contribute to making blindness visible. With the help of local media we spread our educational messages among the local communities. Back home, we use traditional and social media to spread our optimism and call for even more solidarity with actions and results like the ones detailed on this report.

Thank you for continuously being there on 2016 and during these first fifteen years.

Núria Ramon i Garcia, General Manager
# 2001-2016, a Chronicle

## 2001
- **The seed of a great project.**
  - Eyes of the world is born under the guidance of Rafael Ribó and Borja Corcóstegui.
  - Start of the Eyes of the Sahara project with the arrival on site of the first medical and surgical commission.

## 2002
- **Start of the Eyes of the world programme in Mozambique with the setting up of an ophthalmology unit in Inhambane Provincial Hospital.**
- **First Eyes of the world Night—a solidarity and awareness-building dinner—held.**

## 2003
- **Start of the Eyes of Bolivia programme at El Alto and its area of influence.**
- **First fellowship training in Spain awarded within the Eyes of the Sahara programme framework.**

## 2004
- **Start of prevention activities in Bolivia and children’s vision screenings in Mozambique.**
- **Eyes of the world joins the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and VISION 2020: The Right to Sight.**

## 2005
- **Eyes of the world delegation in the Basque Country officially established.**
- **Launching of the Eyes of the world website, one of the main communication and dissemination tools of the Foundation.**

## 2006
- **5 years of growing.**
  - First videoconference training for Bolivian ophthalmologists conducted.
  - Expansion to Portugal. First Eyes of the world Office outside Spain.

## 2007
- **The VISIONS Art Fund is created with lithographies by Antoni Tàpies, sculptures by Andreu Alfaro and photographs by Manel Esclusa.**
- **Eyes of the world registered in the Valencian Community and Seville.**

## 2008
- **Start of the Eyes of Mali programme with the setting up of an ophthalmology unit in Bankass.**
- **First open optics workshop in Inhambane Provincial Hospital.**

## 2009
- **First eye health training course for CAFO (Coordination of Feminine Associations and NGOs) representatives in Mopti.**
- **Consolidation of the eye hygiene and early detection of eye conditions training for Inhambane’s health workers.**

## 2010
- **Research on women’s access to ophthalmic care in Sahrawi camps carried out.**
- **Eyes of the world has 700 volunteers.**
10 years of opening the eyes to the world.

Good track record during the first 10 years of the Foundation: over 110,000 consultations and almost 9,000 medical operations.

2012

Start of the retina and paediatrics training programmes in IOTA, Mali.

The “To see or not to see” exhibition by Manuel Outumuro displays photographs of 50 celebrities against avoidable blindness.

2013

Transfer of the ophthalmic care network of El Alto to the Bolivarian health authorities.

Creation of the Eyes of the world Advisory Board.

2014

Creation of two new points of care in the Inhambane province to make ophthalmology more accessible to rural communities.

Launch of the documentary Gabor which has great social impact.

2015

Start of operations in the ophthalmology operating room of the San Juan de Dios Hospital at Tarija.

As a result of internal reflection and a will to push the Foundation further, the Eyes of the world Strategic Plan 2015-2019 is drawn up.

2016

15 years of fighting against avoidable blindness.

2016 Figures

98,090 people visited (27,642 children)

4,107 surgical procedures carried out

1,395 professionals trained

65,309 people educated in eye care
Eyes of the Sahara

The Foundation initiated its activities with the Eyes of the Sahara programme. What started off as a healthcare intervention has now become a much more comprehensive project—including the training of health personnel and the education in eye care of the local community— that was developed in cooperation with the Public Health Ministry of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

**OPHTHALMIC CARE**

Over 18,000 people of which 8,569 were women were visited in 2016, a significant increase from the previous year. Almost 12,000 (about 67%) consultations were carried out at the ophthalmic care points of the *wilayahs* by personnel from the Department of Ophthalmology of the SADR assisted by Eyes of the world. The Foundation guaranteed continued assistance by providing medicines and medical equipment.

Two medical and surgical commissions were carried out in 2016. Both commissions completed the screenings at the ophthalmic care centres of the *wilayahs* and the surgical procedures at the National Hospital in Rabuni. The first commission was accompanied by a local and included three ophthalmologists, three nurses and an equipment technician. The number of visited people was 401 (174 women and 227 men) and 169 surgical procedures were carried out.

The second commission included an anaesthesiologist as well. The number of visited people was 678 (322 women and 356 men) and 206 surgical procedures were carried out. In September and October, vision screenings of the students at the schools of all *wilayahs* were carried out. Children with eye problems were referred to optometry offices. Of the 4,672 children checked, 1,536 should have gone to an optometrist, but only 912 did.

**AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST ON THE FIELD**

On October 31, ophthalmologist María Sanchidrián arrived in the Sahrawi camps for a 6-month stay. The aim of her visit was to offer continued care to the population of the *wilayahs* and to train local human resources—optometrists, optical assistants, general practitioners, nurses, and health workers—by accompanying them in all ophthalmology consultations at the *wilayah* and Rabuni and Bola hospitals. Moreover, Dr Sanchidrián taught training workshops for general practitioners and nurses working at regional hospitals and the National Hospital in Rabuni.

In November and December 2016, Dr Sanchidrián treated 523 patients (264 women and 259 men) and carried out five surgical interventions at the Hospital of Bola with the surgical equipment donated by Eyes of the world.

Furthermore, Dr Sanchidrián checked all the special needs centres’ patients and updated the reports of all patients with an eye disease.

Both Sahrawi institutions and population have expressed a great interest in the continuance of the project because it reinforces local personnel and allows for a better treatment of eye diseases.

**IMPROVING AND PROVIDING EQUIPMENT**

Over the year, Eyes of the world gave out 3,484 reading glasses, assembled 2,549 pairs of prescription glasses and distributed eye drops for the treatment of glaucoma.

In December, a humanitarian aid convoy containing reading glasses, two slit lamps, a lensmeter, two trial lens sets, and a projector left Spain to improve the equipment at the offices of the Ophthalmology Service.

In addition, the refurbishment of the Al-Aaiun consultation office financed by the Foundation was completed in May.

The quality of ophthalmic care has improved and the team’s motivation increased with the specialised training of specialists.
TRAINING

Dr Sanchidrián has trained 12 general practitioners and 24 nurses during her stay in the camps. Moreover, the 13 ophthalmology technicians of the Ophthalmology Department of the SADR received training from both Dr Sanchidrián and Dr Nagore Arbelaiz during her training commission visit. The training included lectures carried out at Rabuni’s hospital and practical training carried out at the wilayahs. Moreover, one of the members of the commission that visited the Sahara in March was an electromedicine technician who trained the maintenance personnel of the Health Ministry and adjusted the surgical and optical equipment. Two ophthalmology technicians were trained in the maintenance of optical equipment as well. In 2016, 25 school nurses were trained in eye care, more specifically in signs of eye diseases, refractive defects and determining the students’ visual acuity.

Eyes of the world has also cooperated in the refresher training of 21 general practitioners so that they may detect eye diseases and refer them to a specialist.

INFORMING AND EDUCATING

Educating the general population in eye care is one of the activities of Eyes of the world in the Sahara. To this end, lectures on eye care and hygiene, mainly attended by women, are organized quarterly at the dawāïr and workshops on eye hygiene and the prevention of eye diseases and refractive defects are organised monthly at schools – 58 workshops in 2016.

In 2016, four eye health campaigns were carried out. During the Health Week organised by the Public Health Ministry, which coincided with the Sahara Marathon, and the Fi-Sahara, stands were set up in order to inform and educate on the importance of eye hygiene and wearing glasses if necessary. In addition, the Prevention Department staff in cooperation with Eyes of the world visited the wilayahs in October and November to educate the population on good eye care practices.

Appearing in the media is another effective way to inform and educate the population. In 2016, we appeared 19 times on Sahrawi television and 32 on the radio.

In June, we collected data from 224 people for a study on the prevalence of eye disease. The study is a revision of the one carried out in 2010 and its conclusions are expected to be published in 2017.
Eyes of Mozambique

Eyes of the world has been working to increase the access to eye care for people in the Inhambane Province, especially women, since 2002. This is why we create projects to increase the access to eye care in rural areas, train health workers and professionals and educate people in eye care.

SUPPORTING THE INSTITUTIONS

Eyes of Mozambique supports the Provincial Directorate of Health of Inhambane by organising activities within the framework of the National Plan of Ophthalmology, managing the data from the provincial points of care and accompanying the provincial head of ophthalmology. Moreover, Eyes of the world realises consultations in rural areas and participates in health fairs and festivals organising educational activities such as theatrical plays.

Furthermore, the efforts made together with the Mozambique Eye Care Coalition (MECC) have succeeded in establishing better communication and cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Mozambique and evidencing the lack of ophthalmology specialists in the provinces. As a result, the Ministry has expressed the will to find mid-term solutions to improve eye care access.

SURGICAL CARE

In 2016, as part of a surgical care plan, a medical team from the Inhambane Provincial Hospital visited the rural hospitals of Chicuque, Zavala and Vilankulo and performed cataract surgery on 273 people. Prior to this visit, an ophthalmic consultation plan was carried out in the neighbouring districts of Panda, Homoíne, Zavala, Mabote, Govuro, and Inhassoro during which 3,159 people were visited and 269 glasses distributed. In addition to providing support, the Foundation donated the necessary medicines and equipment to carry out these plans.

In order to reduce the waiting list at the Provincial Hospital of Inhambane, Eyes of the world in cooperation with the Provincial Directorate of Health organised two intensive weeks of surgical procedures. 258 people benefitted from this initiative.

In Autumn 2016, Eyes of the world and the Provincial Directorate of Health of Inhambane performed a Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB). The assessment was comprised of a week of training and four of fieldwork during which almost 3,000 people from 14 districts of the province were visited. This methodology allows us to determine the causes and prevalence of avoidable blindness among adults aged 50 years or above in a specific area, so that we may plan and obtain the necessary services and resources to achieve the VISION 2020 objectives. The results of the study will be published in 2017.

OPTICAL CARE

In 2016, visual screenings were performed in nine schools – seven in the Inhambane district, one in the Panda district and one in the Massinga district. During the screenings, 1,004 children with some kind of eye disease were visited. Refractive defects and conjunctivitis were the most diagnosed diseases. This project is carried out with the support of a local ophthalmology technician and in cooperation with the Provincial Directorate of Education.

In November, an optical workshop managed by the women’s association Amodevi, under the supervision of Eyes of the world, opened in the Vilankulo Hospital. This workshop will increase the response capacity to refractive problems in the North of the province. Eyes of the world equipped the workshop with an automatic and a manual optical lens edger, a lensmeter, and an optical lens centring device together with an initial stock of lenses and frames.

Six women from the association received technical training by Carlos Savi, optometrist at Lurio University, and two local optometrists, as well as training in stock, finance, and administrative management by the Foundation.

By opening this optical workshop, Eyes of the world has campaigned once more in favour of gender equality. On the one hand, the workshop contributes to the empowerment of the women from the Amodevi association and, on the other hand, it increases the access women have to eye care and opticians.

TRAINING

Eyes of the world participates in the eye care training of health professionals and workers and teachers. In 2016, training in the use of the optotype to measure vi-
33,658 people visited
(1,004 children)

900 surgical procedures carried out

143 professionals trained

7,617 people educated in eye care

In 2016, 33,658 people, of which 18,541 (55%) were women/girls, were visited, and cataract surgery was performed on 900 people, of which 486 (54%) were women and 414 (46%) were men.

Moreover, 95 people from three women’s associations –Acomuza, Tharihane, and Amodevi from the Zavala, Massinga, and Vilankulo districts, respectively – were trained in eye care through a course in theatre and awareness-building techniques so that they may educate their communities at the points of care in their province.

EDUCATING IN EYE CARE

Eyes of the world promotes the prevention and early detection of eye diseases through several activities. In schools, on top of the visual screenings and the training of teachers, several educational activities including theatrical representations were organised, and notebooks and comics with health tips were distributed. Home visits and educational activities organised by women’s associations were key in raising awareness as well.

In 2016, Eyes of Mozambique participated in five activities prior to the surgical care plan. During the activities, 2,317 people were educated in eye care, 522 people were visited (245 women, 216 men and 61 children) and 199 reading glasses were distributed. Moreover, four health fairs – two in Vilankulo, one in Massinga, and one in Maxixe – in which 5,300 people participated and 216 were visited (112 women and 104 men) were organised.

In 2016, 33,658 people, of which 18,541 (55%) were women/girls, were visited, and cataract surgery was performed on 900 people, of which 486 (54%) were women and 414 (46%) were men.

Moreover, 95 people from three women’s associations –Acomuza, Tharihane, and Amodevi from the Zavala, Massinga, and Vilankulo districts, respectively – were trained in eye care through a course in theatre and awareness-building techniques so that they may educate their communities at the points of care in their province.

EDUCATING IN EYE CARE

Eyes of the world promotes the prevention and early detection of eye diseases through several activities. In schools, on top of the visual screenings and the training of teachers, several educational activities including theatrical representations were organised, and notebooks and comics with health tips were distributed. Home visits and educational activities organised by women’s associations were key in raising awareness as well.

In 2016, Eyes of Mozambique participated in five activities prior to the surgical care plan. During the activities, 2,317 people were educated in eye care, 522 people were visited (245 women, 216 men and 61 children) and 199 reading glasses were distributed. Moreover, four health fairs – two in Vilankulo, one in Massinga, and one in Maxixe – in which 5,300 people participated and 216 were visited (112 women and 104 men) were organised.
Eyes of Bolivia

Eyes of the world started its activities in Bolivia in 2003 and, since then, it has contributed to improve significantly the population’s eye health. Activities were initially focused on the municipality of El Alto and the rural communities of La Paz, then, they were expanded to the Tarija region and, in 2016, the departments of Oruro and Chiquisaca were included into the area of activity.

EYE CARE POLICIES

Eyes of the world coordinates its activities with the Department of Eye Care of the Ministry of Health, participates actively in the National Committee for Eye Health, and supports the National Ophthalmology Institute (INO, in Spanish) in training and ophthalmic care. In order to align its activities with the needs of the population, the Foundation meets regularly with the local agents and authorities to coordinate and follow up on activities. A further aim of these meetings is to show Bolivian health authorities the importance of investing in avoidable blindness prevention programmes.

In 2016, Eyes of Bolivia started its activities in Oruro by virtue of an agreement with the autonomic government and the Departmental Health Service of Oruro. This agreement establishes the intervention of the Foundation in the area for a period of three years in order to reinforce the quality of ophthalmic care and benefit people of scarce means suffering from eye diseases.

DECENTRALISING EYE CARE AND PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS

In order to increase access to ophthalmic care and educational activities in secondary Bolivarian rural areas, resident doctors of the INO visit rural areas accompanied by Eyes of the world personnel. In 2016, 701 people were visited over seven visits to the departments of Oruro—Challapata (two visits), Oruro, Caracollo and Corque— and Chuquisaca—San Lucas and Montegudo. Moreover, Eyes of the world participated on the cataract surgery of 17 patients identified during the visits.

Six of the INO resident doctors that visited rural areas organised training activities on primary care, three carried out ophthalmology consultations in Mapiri, Escoma, and Irupana, and one participated in the health fair at Challapata organised on World Sight Day.

SPECIALISED TRAINING

As a result of our cooperation with the INO, the second edition of the four-week training course Diploma in Cataract Surgery performed with the SICS technique (Small Incision Cataract Surgery) was organised. The course was imparted by doctors Rainald Duerksen, Christian Díaz, Alfredo Stone, Miguel Scalamogna, Luis Alberto Pereira, and Carlos Moser. The 13 resident doctors and an ophthalmologist of the INO took the training and, as part of the course, performed 53 surgeries at La Paz and 67 at Tarija. At the same time, several community eye care training courses for health personnel of the Departmental Health Services and the Ministry of Health were organised.

In August, the National Committee for Eye Health recognised the contribution made by Eyes of the world to the prevention and action plans against avoidable blindness in Bolivia. Patricia Tárraga, programme coordinator for Eyes of Bolivia, received the award from Dr Moya, director of the INO.

During the INO visits to the rural areas, a total of 414 primary care professionals—105 in La Paz, 110 in Tarija, and 199 in other municipalities—were trained to diagnose, treat and, if necessary, refer patients to a specialist. While training primary care professionals in La Paz and Tarija, 1,643 people were visited in addition to the 701 visited during the visits to rural areas.
PREVENTION AND GOOD EYE CARE PRACTICES

Educating the population and prevention are essential to reduce the incidence of eye diseases. This is why, in 2016, 19,229 students from 78 schools were educated in the importance of eye care and 721 teachers were trained in visual acuity testing. Moreover, 3,018 people (1,543 women and 1,475 men) attended the organised lectures on eye care.

On World Sight Day, Eyes of the world organised popular walks and a health fair in the cities of La Paz and Tarija, participated in a health fair in Challapata, and organised graffiti contests and a race in Caracollo.

In 2016, 131,000 people received information about eye care through the local media—radio, television, and printed press. The National Committee for Eye Health and Eyes of the world distributed pamphlets and posters in hospitals and health centres. Furthermore, 10 micro programmes of the comic characters Ojitron and Supernayara were radio broadcasted and the third episode of the adventures of these superheroes was edited.

DONATING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Eyes of the world donated a mobile optical unit managed by the INO to the Government of the Department of La Paz that, in 2016, treated refractive defects in the communities of Mapiri, Guaqui, Chua Cocani, Copacabana, Escoma, and Carabuco, among others.

The Foundation provided medicines, reading lenses and sunglasses to the patients who were visited during the ophthalmology consultations that the INO carried out in rural communities and during the basic ophthalmology training courses in the departments of La Paz, Tarija, Oruro, and Chuquisaca.

Installing a surgical video camera system and donating medicines and medical supplies during the Diploma in Cataract Surgery training course allowed the observation of surgery in the auditorium of the INO. In addition, the eye care capacity and autonomy of the INO during rural visits has been reinforced with the donation of mobile equipment, namely, a tonometer and a portable steriliser.

In 2016, over 4,100 people were visited in the Tarija consultation.
Eyes of Mali

Through the Eyes of Mali programme, Eyes of the world contributes to fighting against eye diseases and avoidable blindness in the region of Mopti. Trying to reach the largest number of people possible –especially the most vulnerable– Eyes of the world carries out early detection and educational activities, while supporting local ophthalmic care authorities and training specialists.

**OPHTHALMIC CARE**

In 2016, 39,482 people were treated and 42,119 were visited during trichiasis detection campaigns. Trichiasis is an endemic disease in Mali that requires active continued control.

18,586 people were visited and 793 glasses were given during regular consultations carried out by ophthalmology medical assistants in the Sominé Dolo Hospital in Mopti, health centres of the area, and cataract detection campaigns.

Furthermore, eight ophthalmology technicians and medical assistants visited 59 schools and academies in Douentza and Mopti in order to visit 20,896 children (10,533 boys and 10,363 girls). Thanks to these vision screenings and the Foundation’s donation of 162 prescription glasses to the most disadvantaged, 97% of children with refractive defects wear glasses with the appropriate optical correction.

**SURGICAL ACTIVITIES**

In 2016, the Reference Health Centre (CSRef, in French) in Bankass and the Sominé Dolo Hospital ophthalmologists had reduced availability due to personal reasons; therefore, surgery activities were less frequent than usual. In spite of this exceptional situation, cataract surgery was performed on 1,397 people and a further 199 procedures were performed to treat other diseases –mainly trichiasis– during the seven Eyes of Mali medical and surgical commissions that visited the CSRef in Bankass, Djenné, Bandiagara, and Koro and the two advanced surgery campaigns organised by the National Eye Health Plan.

The specialised training Dr Saye, an IOTA ophthalmologist, received at the European School for Advanced Studies in Ophthalmology (ESASO) in Switzerland, sponsored by Eyes of the world, must be mentioned as well. This training –which included several conferences, lectures, and practical lessons on medical and surgical pathologies of the retina by renowned professors from the USA, Poland, Germany, Egypt, and Italy– has allowed Dr Saye to join the Retina Unit at the IOTA and treat patients suffering from diseases in the back of the eye.

**TRAINING**

In 2016, an optical workshop technician from the CSRef in Bankass was trained at the African Institute of Tropical Ophthalmology (AITO). Furthermore, six ophthalmology medical assistants working at the Sominé Dolo Hospital, CSRef in Bankass, Koro, Bandiagara, and Ténenkou, and the Caritas Centre at Sévaré, respectively, received training in the use and maintenance of equipment.

**DONATING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

In 2016, Eyes of the world donated equipment and surgical supplies to the Sominé Dolo Hospital and the CSRefs in Djenné, and Bankass –which received a microscope to share with other

Eyes of Mali contributes to increase the economical and geographical access to cataract surgery among the people in Mopti by enabling the transport of equipment to remote areas and contributing financially to the care of the most vulnerable.
health centres in the area. The optical workshop of the CSRef in Bankass (finished and opened in 2017) received optical equipment and supplies such as reading lenses, frames, a Shin optometry projector, an audiometer, a lensmeter, and etcetera. The CSRef in Koro received a pupillometer.

Furthermore, an IOTA biotechnician carried out two maintenance and training in equipment repairs expeditions to the CSRef in Bankass, Koro, Bandiagara, and Ténenkou and to the ophthalmology centre in Mopti Hospital and Caritas in Sévaré.

Eyes of Mali contributes to increase the economical and geographical access to cataract surgery among the people in Mopti by enabling the transport of equipment to remote areas and contributing financially to the care of the most vulnerable.

**PREVENTION AND GOOD EYE CARE PRACTICES**

After the results of the 2011 study Genre and Eye Health in the Dogon Country showed inequality of access to eye care for women and girls in the area, Eyes of the world has organised and coordinated several activities to educate in prevention and eye care in Koro, Bandiagara, and Bankass. Women from the CAFO (Coordination of Feminine Associations and NGOs) were in charge of training. In 2016, 71 women members of CAFO from these three districts carried out educational activities in 36 health areas. 33,125 people (14,849 women, 7,877 men, and 10,399 children) from over 300 villages attended these activities.

Local media, particularly radio stations, have been key in the dissemination of messages to raise awareness and prevent eye diseases to over 1.5 million people.

These actions are in line with the Foundation’s main objectives and efforts to reduce avoidable blindness while defending gender equality.

**Eyes of the world has successfully integrated primary eye care to the basic care package of Community Health Centres (CSRef) in the districts of Bankass, Bandiagara, and Koro.**
Significant initiatives

The Strategic Plan 2015-2019 is the tool Eyes of the world uses to adjust its operations to the current context and the needs of each area. These are the 2016 most significant initiatives aligned with the strategic axis guiding the Foundation’s efforts to reduce avoidable blindness.

Improving the quality of ophthalmic care

Dr Saye, an IOTA ophthalmologist, received specialised training at the European School for Advanced Studies in Ophthalmology (ESASO) sponsored by the Foundation. This training is part of the Eyes of Mali initiative aimed at the creation of a Retina Unit in the IOTA. This is why, in 2014, Dr Guindo, Head of the Retina Unit, was awarded the Eyes of the world fellowship to receive training in vitreoretinal surgery. Furthermore, the Foundation has equipped the unit so that patients suffering from a retina detachment may receive proper vitrectomies and endo-ocular treatments.

Making eye care more accessible

For the first time in the history of Eyes of the Sahara, an ophthalmologist has been constantly present in the field for six months. Dr María Sanchidrián evaluates very positively her experience. “Implementing the project has completed the training of ophthalmology personnel. The knowledge transfer has particularly improved the use of equipment and the decision-making process. This way we have contributed to the institutional reinforcement of the Ophthalmology Department. The main issues local professionals will continue facing are the complexity of eye diseases in the camps and the scarce resources they have to treat patients.”

Working to ensure the sustainability of the public eye care services

In 2016, Eyes of the world and the Provincial Directorate of Health of Inhambane, Mozambique, carried out a Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB). This study allows us to determine the causes and prevalence of avoidable blindness among adults aged 50 years or above and identify possible obstacles to access eye care. Thanks to the RAAB, Eyes of the world will be able to check existing information on the situation of avoidable blindness in the province, draw a map of current needs, and define the Foundation’s mid-term strategy in Inhambane. The results of the study will be published in 2017.

Improving the training of local staff

In 2016, the second edition of the training course Diploma in Cataract Surgery performed with the SICS technique (Small Incision Cataract Surgery) was organised and sponsored by Eyes of the world, the Faculty of Medicine, and the Bolivarian National Institute of Ophthalmology. The WHO recommends the SICS technique for cataract surgery performed in countries in development, where the phacoemulsification technique is more limited and less accessible. The SICS is a sutureless surgery showing less complications, faster sight recovery, and less astigmatism risk than extracapsular surgery, and it allows a large number of procedures at a low cost.
Our finances

INCOME

PUBLIC
- Foundation patrons and institutions: 600,576 €
- Cooperation Grants: 128,200 €
- Provision of materials and equipment in kind: 125,970 €

PRIVATE
- Companies and organisations: 797,704 €
- Supporters: 462,159 €
- Art fund: 75,000 €
- Pending to apply as per agreement funds: 75,000 €

TOTAL INCOME: 1,388,280 €

EXPENSES

ACTION PROGRAMMES
- Cooperation development: 1,106,780 €
- Eyes of the Sahara: 991,900 €
- Eyes of Mozambique: 267,925 €
- Eyes of Bolivia: 252,175 €
- Provision of materials and equipment in kind: 205,596 €

FUNDRAISING
- Pending to apply as per agreement funds: 11,190 €

ADMINISTRATION
- Raising awareness: 114,880 €

TOTAL EXPENSES: 1,422,519 €

Any profit is transferred to the account for retained earnings.
Making our Work Visible

Celebrating the Foundation’s 15th anniversary

On July 21, we celebrated the 15th anniversary of Eyes of the world. The event was held at the National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC, in Catalan) in Barcelona and all the supporters, partners, and volunteers who attended invited by Eyes of the world enjoyed a guided tour of the Romanesque Art section including an explanation of cultural aspects influencing the art. After the visit, we all toasted to the many successes of the Foundation, especially those achieved within the Eyes of the Sahara programme, the programme that started it all in 2001.

The Foundation’s Art Fund keeps growing

The Eyes of the world Art Fund, VISIONS, exhibits 80 art pieces by artists from different disciplines and aims at disseminating the work of the Foundation and fund raising. In 2016, VISIONS received donations by Lita Cabellut, Josep Guinovart, Marina Núñez, Francesc Arumí, Miquel Mont, Rafael Navarro, Marta Cárdenas, Alfons Borrell, Jacint Todó, Clara Vergés, Valérie Honnart, and Daniel Carrascal. Upon making the donation, Lita Cabellut commented “you can only imagine how important the ability and privilege of seeing and perceiving is for an artist. It is the window to the inmost corners of the soul for us.”

The VISIONS project is aligned with the Eyes of the world strategy to approach people and organisations linked to its main identity –the right to sight and the value of images.

A night to dream

One of the most important events of the year for the Foundation is the solidarity dinner The Eyes of the world Night. In 2016, it was even more so as we were celebrating our 15th anniversary. The event, chaired by Carles Puigdemont, President of the Generalitat (Government of Catalonia), and attended by around 200 people from the political, medical, and business world was held in the Drassanes of Barcelona. The Night was hosted by Jordi Hurtado and Agnès Marquès and closed with a performance by Lluís Llach and Silvia Bel. The Foundation organises this solidarity dinner to raise awareness on the wanting situation of basic healthcare in countries in development, inform of the progress made during the previous year, and raise funds to continue implementing projects to fight against avoidable blindness. This year we raised almost 130,000 euros.
Eyes of the world return to the Sitges Festival

In 2016, for the second year in a row, Eyes of the world was the beneficiary charity of the 49th Sitges Film Festival.

The Foundation, in cooperation with Gas Natural Fenosa, organised a solidarity event in which attendees were asked to follow Eyes of the world on Instagram and Twitter because Gas Natural Fenosa would finance a cataract surgery in Bolivia for every new @ullsdelmon follower, between October 7 and 16. The initial target was more than met and we gained 639 new followers.

Moreover, eye stickers were distributed during the Festival so that anyone interested could take a picture and share it on social media.

The Foundation’s work was made even more visible when the Eyes of the world advertisement clip was projected in the main auditorium.

Eyes of the world calling for the Right to Sight

On October 13, the World Sight Day was celebrated. Coinciding with this date, the Foundation decided to launch the campaign “I Spy with my Little Eye” and share it on social media, traditional media and cinema circles. The “I Spy with my Little Eye” campaign is based on the child’s play and aimed at raising awareness “I spy with my little eye a problem and I spy with my other little eye a solution.” This way, more and more people will know how, with little resources, we can give sight back to thousands of people: “And you, what do you see?”

Moreover, in the University Hospital of Donostia the exhibition “Ojos de Inhambane/Inhambane begiak” displaying photographs by Elisenda Pons was organised. The photographs show the precarious situation of the people in Inhambane, Mozambique, who lose their sight or suffer from an eye disease and the efforts Eyes of the world is making to change the situation.

Medicine and Solidarity Award

On June 8, the Foundation received the DKV Medicine and Solidarity Award for the Eyes of Bolivia project. DKV Seguros awards those initiatives that focus on medical research, raising awareness, international cooperation, volunteering, and the improvement of the quality of life of vulnerable groups. Dr Borja Corcóstegui reminded the audience at the event in the Llotja de Mar in Barcelona of the great value of training local ophthalmic care professionals and how vital they are to the future of ophthalmic development in the areas.
Gastronomy and Solidarity, the perfect menu

In 2016, the gastronomic organisation Sociedad Klink and the Andilana Group joined the fight against avoidable blindness. Sociedad Klink organised a solidarity lunch in Hondarribia and, during lunch, Dr Nagore Arbelaitz, volunteer ophthalmologist, explained the work Eyes of the world carries out in the field. Moreover, the Andilana Group started the project “12 Tapas, One World” and all profits made during the month of December were given to Eyes of the world.

The exhibition “With Other Eyes” arrives in Madrid

On March 10, the Eyes of the world Foundation and DKV Seguros presented in the Puerta de Hierro Hospital in Majadahonda, Madrid, the travelling exhibition “With Other Eyes,” showing photographs by Elisenda Pons and Manel Esclusa.

The over 30 photographs of the exhibition are part of a large documentary photography project that aims at raising awareness on the problems many eye disease sufferers face in countries in development, as well as making the work that Eyes of the world carries out to prevent and fight against avoidable blindness visible.

The Foundation in social media

In 2016, Eyes of the world continued making its work visible through traditional media, but it also increased its social media presence by gaining 10,500 followers –on Facebook, mainly– and generated almost 10 million responses. Making the Foundation’s work of fighting for the Right to Sight more visible through social media to reach more people has been one of the strongest bets of the Foundation in 2016, and it is in line with the communication objectives established in the Strategic Plan 2015-2019.
15 years of experiences

Valentin had lived in the dark for years when an Eyes of the world medical commission arrived in Inhambane, Mozambique, and diagnosed him with a bilateral congenital cataract. The little Mozambican was rapidly operated on. When they uncovered his eyes, Valentin was quite nervous. He was not terrified, though; he was excited to open his eyes to life for the first time. The following day he was already playing with his siblings.

Valentin, benefited from the Eyes of Mozambique project

“I have travelled a couple of times with Eyes of the world. I travelled with the first commission, in 2001, to the Tindouf camps and, a few years later, I joined the commission to Inhambane.

This experience showed me a very different reality, a life of surviving in countries where not even the most basic needs are covered. This made me reflect upon what is really important in life and how vital teamwork is when resources are scarce and inventive solutions are needed.

I remember a man who came from Maputo dressed in suit and tie. I have no idea how he got there because we were hundreds of kilometres away from the capital. He had had a cataract surgery performed on his right eye but it had not gone well and he could not see. We performed surgery on his left eye and, the following day, when we uncovered it, he looked me in the eye, took my hands and said ‘Obrigado senhora.’ I am deeply moved when I remember these moments.”

Roser Pascual, ophthalmologist and Eyes of the world volunteer

“I deeply appreciate how committed Eyes of the Sahara has been to the improvement of the eye health of the Sahrawi since 2001. I am being completely honest about it—it is a project that has shown continuity, responsibility, and a will to cooperate.

A first ophthalmology commission became a comprehensive programme that helps us train our technicians and equip our facilities with all that is needed to treat Sahrawi patients.

The 15-year presence of the programme has had a positive impact because it has really reduced our waiting lists and consolidated the Ophthalmology Department.”

Alien Abdulah, Director for Cooperation from the Ministry of Public Health of the SADR

(Eyes of the Sahara was the Foundation’s starting programme)

“My support to Eyes of the world is nothing but a small contribution to a great cooperative Project to help improve the quality of life of eye disease suffers in the Third World. I started supporting the Foundation because they were responding to a real need and I continue doing so because there is still a lot of work left to do, unfortunately. However, the new gaze of each and every single person who has benefitted from the foundation’s work is the best expression of a wonderful work.”

Carles Puigdomènech Cantó, supporting the Foundation’s work since 2002
Our Partners and Supporters

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION BODIES

FOUNDATION PATRONS

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

OTHER PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS

PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS

PARTNERS
HEALTHCARE LABORATORIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Abbot Medical Optics, Angelini-Farmacéutica, Associació La Nau, Centre Òptic Teixidó, Colegio de Enfermería de Gipuzkoa, Colegio de Médicos de Bizkaia, Col·legi Oficial d’Òptics i Optometristes de Catalunya, Col·legi Oficial de Metges de Barcelona, Consorci Sanitari Integral, Dicograf, Essilor, Esteve, Etnia Barcelona Foundation, Hospital de Donostia, Hospital de Mendaro, Hospital Puerta del Hierro, Indo, Laboratorio Aragó, LCA Pharmaceutical, Leocadio Ramos Suministros Ópticos, OftalTech, Pharmaboz, Sofymed, Suministros Hospitalarios, Topcon, W.M. Bloss, +Vision Grupo Optico

OTHER ORGANISATIONS


VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS


INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Alliance for the Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 (GET 2020) + the International Coalition for Trachoma Control (ICTC)
- Mozambique Eye Care Coalition (MECC)
- VISION 2020 América Latina

PARTNERSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Alliance for the Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 (GET 2020)
- the International Coalition for Trachoma Control (ICTC)
- Mozambique Eye Care Coalition (MECC)
- VISION 2020 América Latina

PARTNERSHIPS ON PROJECT SITES

The Sahara: ANARASD, Asociación Rio de Oro, Asociación Salud Visual, Kabara Lagdaf, Medicus Mundi Catalunya and University of Zaragoza.

Mozambique: Acamo (Associação dos Cegos e Ambliopes de Moçambique), Acomuza (Associação Comunitaria de Zavala), Aguja (Associação Comunitaria de Jangamo), Ametramo (Associação dos Medicos Tradicionais Moçambicanos), Amodevi (Associação Comunitaria de Vilankulo), CADE (Comunidade Academica para o Desenvolvimento), Tfarhane (Associação Comunitaria de Massinga) and Tsinela (Associação Comunitaria Massinga).

Bolivia: Federación de Juntas Vecinales (FEJUVE) de Tarija, Federación Nacional de Ciegos de Bolivia (FENACIEBO), Fundación Vision, NGO Charity Vision, Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Sociedad Boliviana de Oftalmología (SBO), Voluntarios Un solo Corazón and members of the National Committee for Eye Health and Fight against Blindness (Club de Leones, Rotary Club, Hospital of Coroico, among others).

Mali: AMABIPP and CAFO in Mopti.

COUNTERPARTS

The Sahara: Ministry of Public Health of the SADR.

Mozambique: Ministry of Health and Provincial Directorate of Health of Inhambane.

Bolivia: Ministry of Health, Autonomic Departmental Government of La Paz (including SEDES La Paz and National Institute of Ophthalmology, Autonomic Departmental Government of Oruro (including SEDES Oruro), and Autonomic Departmental Government of Tarija (including the Regional Hospital of San Juan de Dios, Autonomous Municipal Government of Tarija, and the Bolivarian Institute of Blindness).

Mali: African Institute of Tropical Ophthalmology (AITO) in Bamako, Regional Directorate of Health in Mopti, Somine Dolo Hospital in Mopti, National Programme of Eye Health, Reference Health Centres (CSRef, in French) in Bandiagara, Bankass and Koro, and Training Academies in Douentza and Mopti.