



Sightsavers **Review of the Year 2013**

See how you helped transform over 100 million lives last year...

With your help, we gave millions and millions of people the chance of a better future. But the true impact of our achievements together can be seen in the stories behind the statistics – the individual miracles that you helped to make happen.

In these pages, you will be able to read about some of the children, parents and grandparents whose lives your generosity has changed for the better, forever. Perhaps your gift helped save a whole community from river blindness, gave a family hope for their loved ones or brought smiles to the faces of toddlers rescued from blindness.

Whether it was a sight-restoring cataract operation, a much-needed trachoma treatment or supporting a blind child through education, your generosity will have helped us along the way to transforming over 100 million lives in 2013.

Thank you!

Meet some of the people whose lives you have helped change...

Over 100 million lives transformed. How you've created hope for the future...

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters in 2013, we've been able to transform the lives of millions of people around the world. With your help, we were able to provide sight-saving treatments, life-changing operations and new opportunities for people all over the world.

You're helping people in these countries:



210,011 more cataract sufferers had their sight restored

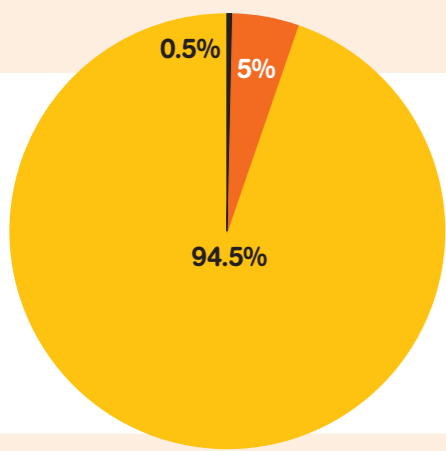


we carried out 46,298 more trichiasis surgeries



Other projects you've supported in 2013:

- Training **886** eye care workers so we can diagnose and treat even more people
- Supplying communities at risk of river blindness with **effective preventative medication**
- Providing **hundreds of thousands** of pairs of corrective glasses to people suffering from visual impairments



Where donations are spent

- Cost of generating funds
- Total charitable activities
- Governance costs

* includes donated medical supplies

From every €1 we receive*, 94.5c directly helps to prevent blindness, restore sight and support the irreversibly blind. The other 5.5c keeps us running and helps raise the next €1.

Thanks to you, millions of people all around the world have received the specialist eye care they need to have a better chance in life.

Now Nyakaka can see again, she can return to the job she loves...

Cataract

Nyakaka Yaul Nyoun, 50, is a widow who lives with her four children in Akobo, Jonglei State. After developing cataract, she lost her much-loved livelihood as a midwife...



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"When I realised I could see less and less, I thought I was getting old, but gradually the problem became worse. I was working as a midwife, but I had to give that up because of my bad sight. I became a farmer, but I had trouble with that too.

"The local clinic could only give me eye-drops that didn't help. I missed my job as a midwife – now my family and colleagues at the hospital had to support me, whereas before I was the supporter.

"One day, I heard of the outreach camps in Nasir – I travelled for two days by boat to get there. I wasn't nervous or scared, I just hoped that I would be treated.

"I was lucky, and got cataract surgery. Before, I couldn't see any faces, but when the padding was removed, I could see my twin sister and niece in front of me.

"I know that without the surgery, I would have gone blind, and am very thankful for the results!"

"I'm very happy and I hope to go back to my job. I know that without the surgery, I'd have gone blind. I'm very thankful for the results!"

Nyakaka, 50, is pleased that she can care for new mothers and provide for her own family again.



© Adriane Oheanlian/Sightsavers

A gift of €32

pays for someone like Nyakaka to receive cataract surgery at one of our outreach camps in remote parts of the world.

Benedicta: a little girl saved from blindness...



© Zuli Muchida/Sightsavers

When 18-month-old Benedicta's mother noticed tiny flecks of white in her daughter's eyes, she knew that something was seriously wrong. At hospital, Benedicta was given the vital treatment she needed to restore her sight – and now she's all smiles!

"My daughter will have a better future because of this operation."



Thanks to you, Evodia can help to protect the sight of her whole community...

Busy mother Evodia lives in Kesu in West Africa. She volunteers as a Sightsavers Community Directed Distributor (CDD), protecting her village from river blindness...

River blindness is transmitted by a bite from black simulium flies that breed near fast-flowing rivers. It spreads parasitical larvae into a person's immune system, causing inflammation and, eventually, blindness. It can be treated with Mectizan®, which kills the larvae.

Evodia told us: "I became a CDD as I want to help my community. In training, I learned how to give the right dosage of Mectizan® to protect people from river blindness."



After training, Evodia received her CDD certificate (left).

"I became a CDD as I want to help my community."

"I get up very early in the morning to distribute it. If people are not in, then I keep going back until I find them. I feel appreciated – lots of people thank me! There are about 10 CDDs in my community and we hold planning meetings twice a week to support each other."

"We also let the community know about river blindness with posters we put up, and announcements in church and at the market."

A gift of €100

helps three volunteers like Evodia distribute their communities' annual dose of Mectizan® – protecting their neighbours from river blindness.



Evodia (top left) distributes the medicine throughout her community. Here, a young girl receives her dose of Mectizan®.

Your support helped to provide training for **199,473** local volunteers

"I want to be a teacher when I grow up, so that I can help others."

Jacob has taken Mectizan® since he was five.

You've helped to protect Jacob from river blindness...

Nine-year-old Jacob from Kaduna State has been taking Mectizan® since he was five. He already understands the opportunities it will give him...

Jacob told us that he takes Mectizan® for his eyesight. He knows that some people in his village are blind, and said: "You can't gain knowledge or read as well if you are blind. I want to be a teacher when I grow up, so that I can help others."

A good student, Jacob does his homework straight after school – he even helps his sister Helen with hers.

Just like Evodia, Jacob's father, Haggai, is a Sightsavers village volunteer. He's been working in his community for two years, preventing the spread of river blindness by ensuring that his neighbours receive Mectizan®. Hopefully, Jacob will be able to follow in his footsteps one day.

You've helped save **34 million** people from river blindness

A gift of €32

provides a community like Jacob's with Mectizan® for a year – keeping their eyesight clear and healthy.

Thanks to you, more people than ever are looking forward to a life free from pain...

Trichiasis



We treated **9 million** people for trachoma in 2013

© Peter Nicholls/The Times

With 46,298 people treated for trichiasis (the advanced form of trachoma) last year, we've made great strides towards eliminating the disease. One of the people whose eyesight you helped us save was village chief, Abdul-Rahman...

An ophthalmic technician performs Chief Abdul-Rahman's treatment outside his hut.

Abdul-Rahman is an important man in his village, but he was struggling to carry out his many responsibilities because of advanced trichiasis in both eyes.

He told us: "I had painful burning in my eyes and lots of tears, as if I had something in my eye all the time. It prevented me from doing my work."

So when a Sightsavers surgeon found Abdul on one of his visits, the chief was happy to hear that he could be treated straightaway. The surgeon operated on his left eye on the bench outside Abdul's hut – it took just 20 minutes, and Abdul didn't even flinch.

The next morning, a clearly delighted Abdul told us: "I was so happy to hear that I could have the operation right away, and at home."

"I was so happy to hear that I could have the operation right away"

My vision is so much better now. The pain no longer stops me from opening my eye properly to see." Now he's set a date for treatment in his other eye and is looking forward to taking part in his village's upcoming harvest festival.

Chief Abdul-Rahman is led through his village by his granddaughter to have his dressing removed following his operation.



© Peter Nicholls/The Times

A gift of €9

pays for a trichiasis operation just like Abdul-Rahman's – saving someone from a lifetime of pain and blindness.

Doting grandmother Sana lives in a small village called Gumbihini, in the Northern Region of Ghana. She had been suffering from trichiasis for 10 years...

"I had pain in both my eyes. It started with running eyes and it felt like something was in them. I was always rubbing them." Sana went to her local hospital to get eye drops, but they didn't make her condition better.

Thankfully, Sightsavers volunteers found her – and soon she was receiving treatment in her own home. She told us: "I'm glad the surgeon came to my home, because it would have been difficult for me to get to the clinic. I wasn't scared, I was happy!"

"Now I can sort maize and have it made into cornflour to sell. I couldn't do it before, and it was hard to raise money to send my grandchildren to school. The surgeon did a great job!"

"I'm glad the surgeon came to my home. I wasn't scared, I was happy!"

A gift of €9

pays for someone like Sana to have a life-changing, sight-saving operation – so they can provide for their family.



© Peter Nicholls/The Times

In 2013, we carried out **46,298** trichiasis operations like Sana's

Now she's able to work again, Sana can afford to send her grandchildren to school.

Maria has made lots of new friends at school.

Education



© Sightsavers

You helped us give Maria a better future...

Maria lost her sight three years ago, because of the misdiagnosis of anaemia when she was very young. Bright and determined, she's now doing well at a local school...

Maria's father, Carlos, found her blindness hard to accept and was very protective, but after speaking with a specialist teacher from Makande Primary School in Malawi, he saw that they could provide her with what she needed to succeed.

“My wish is for Maria to achieve the highest level of education.”

Thanks to the Braille textbooks that Sightsavers provided, Maria has become an excellent student – she always has her hand up, answering questions. Her favourite subjects are Maths and English, and she happily joins in with her sighted friends at playtime, singing songs and making up games.

Carlos told us that he is very happy with all the progress his daughter has made. He said: “My wish is for Maria to achieve the highest level of education.”



© Peter Caton/Sightsavers

Thanks to donors like you,

9,062

blind children are now attending school

A gift of €21

buys a Universal Braille kit – helping a blind child like Maria progress through their education.

With your help in 2014, we aim to...

- perform **100,000** cataract operations
- complete **42,000** trichiasis treatments
- supply over **200,000** pairs of glasses
- support nearly **7,500** blind children in education
- train **200,000** local eye-care volunteers



With your continued generosity, we hope to change the lives of more people than ever before – over 111 million.