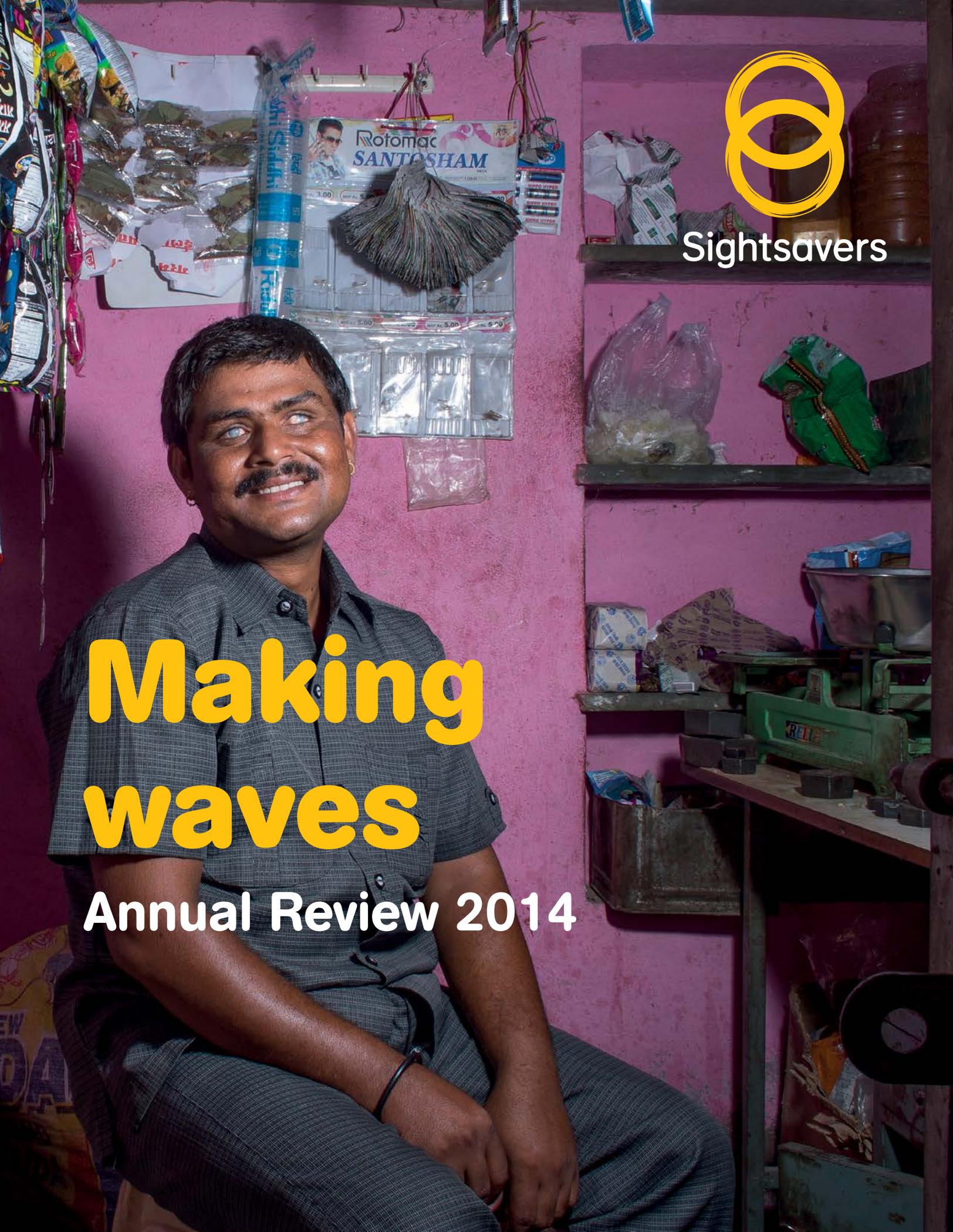




Sightsavers

# Making waves

Annual Review 2014



# A message from our President

This was a year of tremendous achievement and great challenges. Our biggest successes were in advocacy on disability, on delivery within neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and in fundraising.

Sightsavers worked tirelessly across the globe to advocate for the rights of the 800 million people with disabilities in the developing world – especially, as you’ll read, in the run-up to the potentially historic 2015 UN General Assembly.

Our NTD work (particularly in trachoma) continues to grow. We supported over 100 million treatments altogether in 2014. This report includes details of the incredible consortium we lead which has been mapping trachoma across the world. We were excited to win our first ever grant from

the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in partnership with the Taskforce for Global Health in Atlanta. This will support a range of partners working on NTDs to track progress on elimination.

The biggest fundraising success came from our A Million Miracles appeal, where we followed one man’s journey from blindness to sight – broadcasting his cataract operation in real time. We thank Winesi March of Malawi for allowing us to share such a personal moment with him – this helped us raise over \$16.4 million worldwide — which will



help many more people just like him. This, together with some new big grants, took our global income to over \$82.4 million for the first time ever.

However, while we were celebrating successes, the backdrop in many of our countries was grim. The Ebola crisis was at its height and our programs in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia were suspended for much of the year. The challenges our staff faced were immense. There was significant conflict and tension in many countries where we work – South Sudan, Mali and Pakistan in particular. I recognize that many of our staff and partners have to grapple with really difficult situations, and their achievements are all the more impressive as a result.

I would like to thank all our donors, volunteers, partners, Board members and staff for all they do for Sightsavers. We continue to go from strength to strength, increasing our impact at the country level and our influence on the global stage. I hope 2015 brings more success – and a set of Sustainable Development Goals where no one is left behind.

Adrian Poffley

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Poffley'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

President, Sightsavers International, Inc.



# 2014

**was a year of making  
waves for Sightsavers**



## **A Million Miracles**

Our biggest ever fundraising campaign launched with the online broadcast of a live cataract operation from Malawi.

## **Put Us in the Picture**

Our campaign to make development disability-inclusive took the world closer to recognizing the rights of 800 million people with disabilities.

## **New technological solutions**

Innovative programs – including the biggest infectious disease mapping project ever – put the elimination of the world’s most common infectious cause of blindness in sight.

## **Exciting new partnerships**

Joining forces with the likes of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation took the scale of our work far beyond what we could achieve alone.

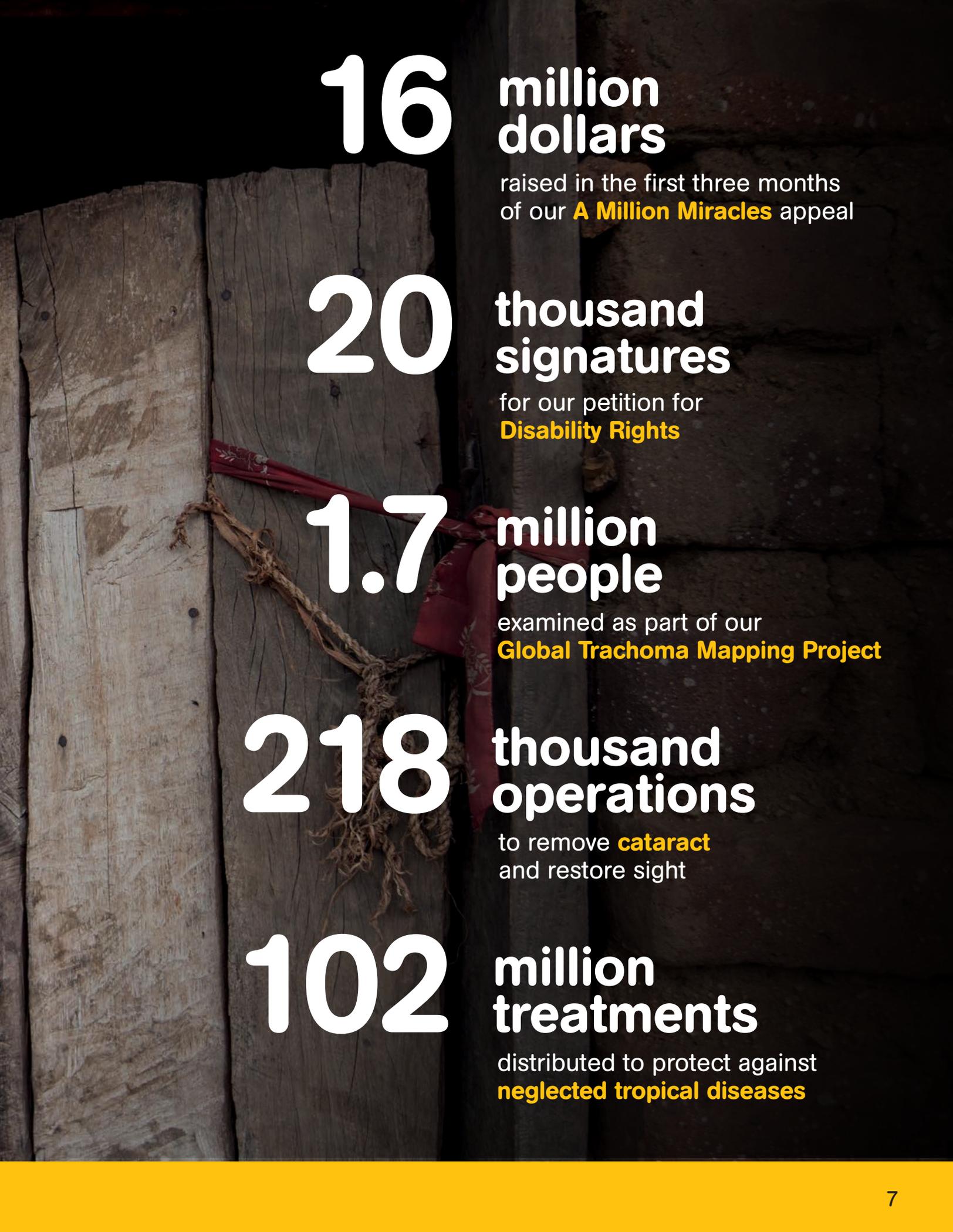
## **Our work on the ground**

We distributed more than 102 million treatments for neglected tropical diseases in spite of the Ebola outbreak.

Year in numbers

2014





16

million  
dollars

raised in the first three months  
of our **A Million Miracles** appeal

20

thousand  
signatures

for our petition for  
**Disability Rights**

1.7

million  
people

examined as part of our  
**Global Trachoma Mapping Project**

218

thousand  
operations

to remove **cataract**  
and restore sight

102

million  
treatments

distributed to protect against  
**neglected tropical diseases**

Fighting cataract blindness

A photograph of two elderly men of African descent. The man on the right is wearing a white headwrap and a white button-down shirt, smiling broadly with his arm around the shoulder of the man on the left. The man on the left is also wearing a white shirt and has a gentle smile. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# A Million Miracles



The miraculous moment when Winesi discovered he could see again inspired an extraordinary response to our biggest ever fundraising appeal.

 Sightsavers

**A MILLION  
MIRACLES**

# Fighting cataract blindness



Winesi can help with family life again

Cataracts are the leading cause of blindness in the world. That's why, in 2014, we launched our biggest ever fundraising campaign, A Million Miracles. Its aim? To fund a million sight-saving operations.

## Winesi March, Malawi

Winesi, 70, had been blind for two years when we met him. "I can no longer provide for my family," he said. "I've never seen my grandson, Luka. I have only ever heard him cry."

Dr Gerald Msukwa, one of only eight cataract surgeons in Malawi, operated on Winesi during a live online broadcast. A worldwide audience was able to share in the miraculous moments that have allowed Winesi to see his family again.

This amazing footage helped A Million Miracles reach an online audience of 20 million people and raise a staggering \$16.4 million worldwide in the space of just three months.

At only \$50 for an adult's cataract operation, that's already enough to fund nearly 330,000 operations. To learn more, please visit [www.millionmiracles.org](http://www.millionmiracles.org).



Winesi plays with  
Luka, his grandson

# 217,907

people received surgery  
in 2014 to remove a  
blinding cataract

## You can help us do more

A Million Miracles is off to a flying start but there's still a long way to go if we're to reach our target of \$50 million and fund a million sight-saving operations.

Donate to A Million Miracles

[www.millionmiracles.org](http://www.millionmiracles.org)

and help people like Winesi see again.

# Global break

In developing countries 800 million people are being ignored, left out, discriminated against. Often they are denied their right to healthcare, education, work and social protection simply because they are disabled.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – global poverty-reduction targets agreed in 2000 – made no mention of people with disabilities, denying them the chance to benefit equally from global aid.

As world leaders agree to a new set of targets to replace the MDGs in 2015, we're campaigning to make sure that this time, when poverty-reduction goals are set, they leave no one behind.

We're fighting discrimination against people with disabilities wherever we find it. Here are just a few of the vital policy breakthroughs our advocacy work made possible across the world in 2014.

### UK

The government launched a new Disability Framework in response to our Put Us in the Picture campaign.

### Senegal

Promoted inclusive education, agreeing technical and financial support for inclusive and special schools and investment in teaching materials for children with disabilities.

### Tanzania

Reformed its constitution to include significantly strengthened support, protection and recognition for people with disabilities.

# throughs



## **Pakistan**

On the verge of passing the National Disability Bill, which will bring Pakistani law into line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

## **India**

The Reserve Bank committed to providing all new ATMs with ramps and audio to make them accessible for people with disabilities.

# Put Us in the Picture

**Put Us in the Picture, our first policy campaign, is calling on governments to help make global development disability-inclusive.**

Sightsavers launched its first advocacy campaign in 2014. **Put Us in the Picture** promotes global goals that will fully recognize the rights of people with disabilities everywhere.

We don't just advocate for a future where no one is left behind. As you'll see in the pages that follow, our work on the ground is making sure people with disabilities can live a full life right now: from getting children who are blind into school to giving people with disability the change to start their own business.

But it's only the start. We have plans to expand Put Us in the Picture in many more countries across the world – we'll keep you posted on our progress.



A more inclusive world

# A tale of two teenagers

The contrasting stories of Jenneh and Nabirye show how school can make all the difference for a child with a disability.

**“When the teacher asks questions, I’ll stand up, I’ll answer”**

## Jenneh Collier, Sierra Leone

Energetic and confident, 13-year-old Jenneh excels at school.

She consistently gets top grades, has lots of friends – “they love me and I love them” – and has set her sights on being a teacher.

The fact that she is blind will not determine the life she will live.

# 8,159

## children with disabilities supported to attend school

“ Now I don't do anything, I just stay at home ”

### **Nabirye Haliyat, Uganda**

When Nabirye lost her sight aged nine it had a devastating impact on her chance of a full life. Her school couldn't support children with disabilities so she had to drop out.

Nabirye, now 15, says: “I felt so bad leaving school. I liked science and English, I wanted to be a lawyer, but I don't think I can anymore.”

# Thanks to our US Donors...

Donations from our US donors supported eye screening for more than **17,290** students in Kenya and Tanzania and over **24,000** students in India.

Sightsavers, funded by donations from the US, has supported the Kenyan Inclusive Education Project and the Tanzania League for the Blind to provide inclusive education places to children who are visually impaired. More than **17,290** children across Kenya and Tanzania were screened for visual impairments and over 1,875 learning aids were provided to schools. Training was also provided to 49 teachers to improve their ability to support their deaf and/or blind pupils.

An estimated 153 million people worldwide live with visual impairment due to uncorrected refractive error. For students in particular, untreated visual impairment can dramatically impede their education. With the support of the **Baxter International Foundation**, our Vision Delhi program reached **45,790** patients through the establishment of five fully equipped vision centers and screened **24,188** children at 34 schools in Delhi. As a result, glasses were prescribed and dispensed to **1,696** children with refractive error.

“ All people with disabilities  
can stand on their own  
feet and earn ”



Sankarlal and Anuradha felt isolated and powerless. But after they joined a disabled people's organization (DPO) everything changed. DPOs empower people to get a job or start a business, to claim their rights and to have a stronger voice in their communities.



# A more inclusive world

“ Before, people thought I was unproductive, they pitied me. Now I stand on my own legs ”

## Sankarlal Sansi, India

“I used to sit inside the house and my wife used to go to work and support me,” says Sankarlal, who lost his sight when he was 14.

Joining a Sightsavers-funded DPO transformed his life. The group helped him get a government loan to start a business, which he has now expanded into a shop selling vegetables and pulses, with a refrigerator for cold drinks.

He’s proud to have shown people that being blind hasn’t stopped him earning a living and supporting his family.

A photograph of a man with a mustache, wearing a grey short-sleeved button-down shirt and dark trousers, sitting on a wooden stool in the doorway of a small shop. The shop's interior has pink walls and is filled with various goods, including packets of Rotomac Santosham, a broom, and other items hanging from the ceiling. The man is looking upwards and to the right.

**32,247**

**people with disabilities supported to live independently**



“ We don't think of ourselves as disabled, be confident in heart ”

## Anuradha Pareek, India

After a childhood accident left her with severe burn injuries to her face and hands, Anuradha grew up feeling depressed and unconfident. As an adult, her lack of self belief saw her trapped in an unfulfilling job, unable to see a way out.

An ad she saw by chance in a newspaper one day changed everything. It was publicizing a meeting of the local DPO, supported by Sightsavers. Anuradha went along and met "brothers and sisters, people like me". She learned she was entitled to a pension and travel pass, and realized she was capable of doing more for herself and others.

With each meeting she attended, her confidence and belief in her own abilities grew. Anuradha became a vital member of the DPO, eventually taking over as its leader, and in February 2015 she was elected to local government. Her new position means she's able to fight for the rights of people with disabilities even more effectively.

"Now I'm very confident and take care of my family," she says. "I like the work from the bottom of my heart as I feel happy when people with disabilities can do things for themselves."

Innovating to beat NTDs

# Life-changing treatment

We distributed a staggering 102 million treatments for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in 2014 – a figure that would have been even higher if not for the Ebola outbreak.



# 102 million

## treatments for NTDs delivered

- 9.2 million for trachoma
- 29.4 million for river blindness
- 44.9 million for lymphatic filariasis
- 14.3 million for soil transmitted helminths
- 4.4 million for schistosomiasis

## Making millions safe from trachoma

Trachoma is a disease that can make every blink agony, and is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness. Today about 21 million people, mostly women and children, are infected and a further 232 million people are at risk of getting the disease.

Blinding trachoma can be eliminated by implementing an integrated package of interventions, developed by the World Health Organization, known as SAFE – surgery, antibiotic distribution, facial cleanliness and environmental improvements.

Sightsavers is leading a team of partner organizations which began rolling out two flagship treatment and prevention programs in 2014. One is an ambitious project, funded by the UK government Department for International Development, to make progress towards eliminating trachoma as a public health risk in four countries in Africa. Over the next five years, the program aims to provide almost 12 million people with antibiotics and manage surgery for 177,000 people with trachoma.

We're also leading The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust Trachoma Initiative on behalf of the International Coalition for Trachoma Control in Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda – supporting surgeries and distribution of the antibiotic treatment Zithromax®.

**You can help us do more**

Be part of the global effort to eliminate trachoma by 2020

Please donate today at [www.sightsaversusa.org](http://www.sightsaversusa.org)

Innovating to beat NTDs

# Information is power

Meet Boubacar. He's one of many surgeons harnessing the power of mobile phone technology in the fight against trachoma.



## Thanks to our US Donors...

To eliminate trachoma, we need to know where and who it affects. That's why a program funded by the **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** and the **IZUMI Foundation** provides our mobile surgeons in Mali with motorbikes and mobile phones. When Boubacar arrives in Mali's most remote villages on his motorbike, he uses his mobile phone to report on the prevalence of trachoma and the number of people he treats, sending the information to the National Eye Health Program. "There's no data lost," says one, "we do it fast and easily." Crucially, this data means we can deliver the treatment where it's needed most, helping bring us to the brink of eliminating trachoma in Mali.

Last year alone in Mali, Sightsavers visited **1,486** villages, supported the screening of **104,064** people, and supported subsequent life-changing surgery for **1,443** people to treat trichiasis, the painful and potentially blinding condition caused by repeated trachoma infections.

## The Global Trachoma Mapping Project

Started three years ago by a group of more than 20 organizations and led by Sightsavers, the International Trachoma Initiative and the World Health Organization, GTMP uses smartphones to gather data on trachoma, often from some of the most remote and dangerous places on earth. Under Sightsavers' leadership it has become the largest infectious disease survey in history.

The scope of the GTMP is phenomenal, covering 1,400 districts in 22 countries and a population of 200 million people. It's been so successful that there are plans for the project to be used as a model to plot the prevalence of other diseases.

### The GTMP in numbers\*

**2.1 million people examined**

**200 million people covered**

**43 million items of data processed**

**900 health workers trained**

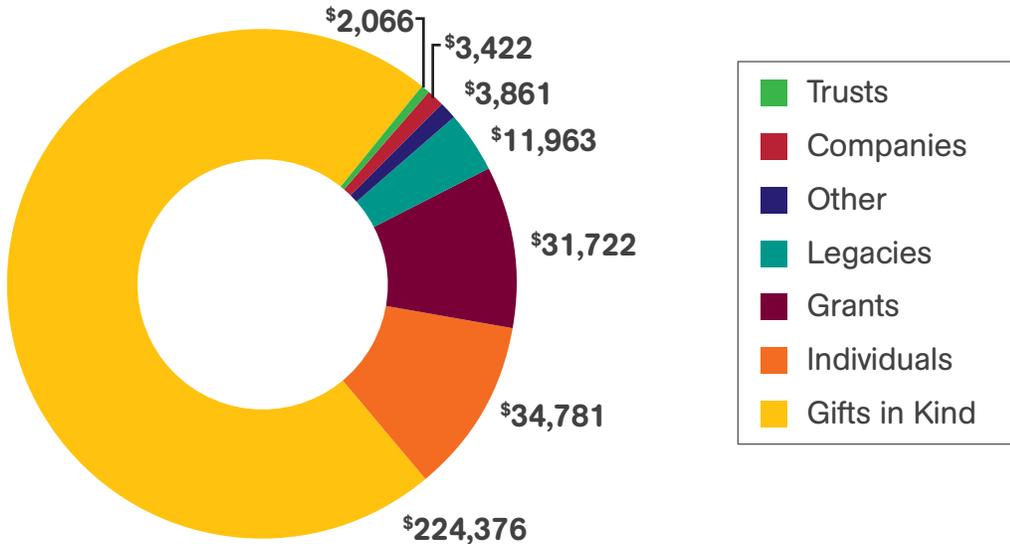
\*figures correct as of February 2015

# Finances

For the first time in our history, our global income surpassed \$82 million – gifts in kind took the total figure to over \$312 million.

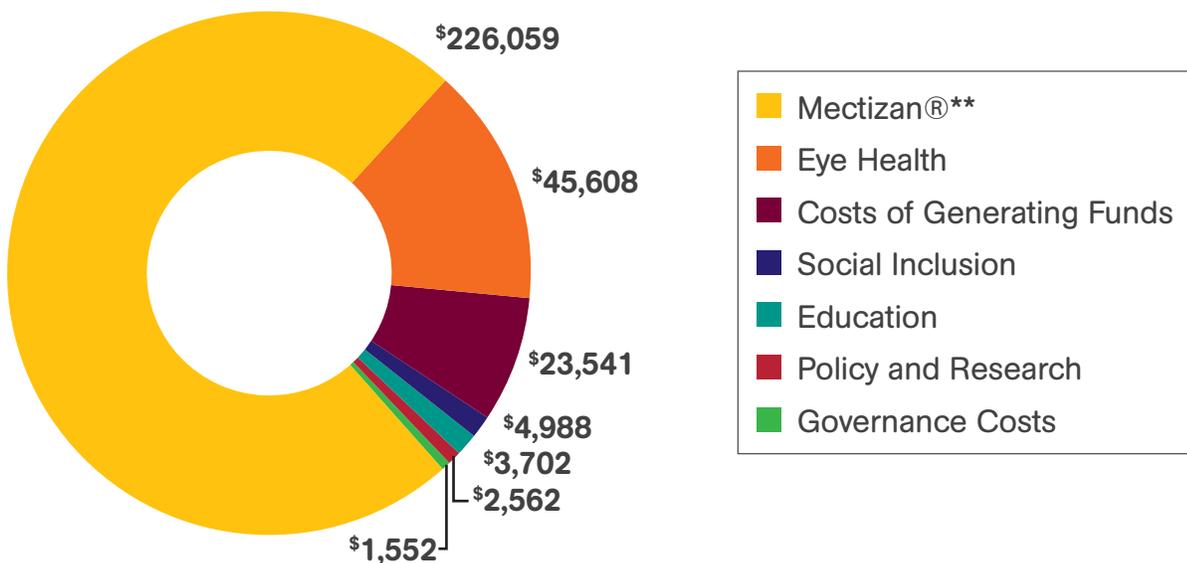
## Global Income & Expenditure [amounts in thousands]

**2014 Total Global Income: \$312,191**



\*In 2014 Sightsavers secured gift in kind donations from Merck Inc. (in the form of Mectizan® tablets), Emirates (Skywards air miles) and Google Grants (AdWords).

**2014 Total Global Expenditure: \$308,012\***



\*Charitable activities expenditure is inclusive of gift in kind donations from Merck Inc. (in the form of Mectizan® tablets), while Cost of generating funds is inclusive of Google Grants (AdWords). Emirates (Skywards air miles) are included in both sections. These are accounted for in accordance with accounting standards.

\*\*Includes \$223,704 in Mectizan® tablets donated by Merck, Inc. The remainder is the cost of distribution.

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## US Total Contributions [amounts in thousands]

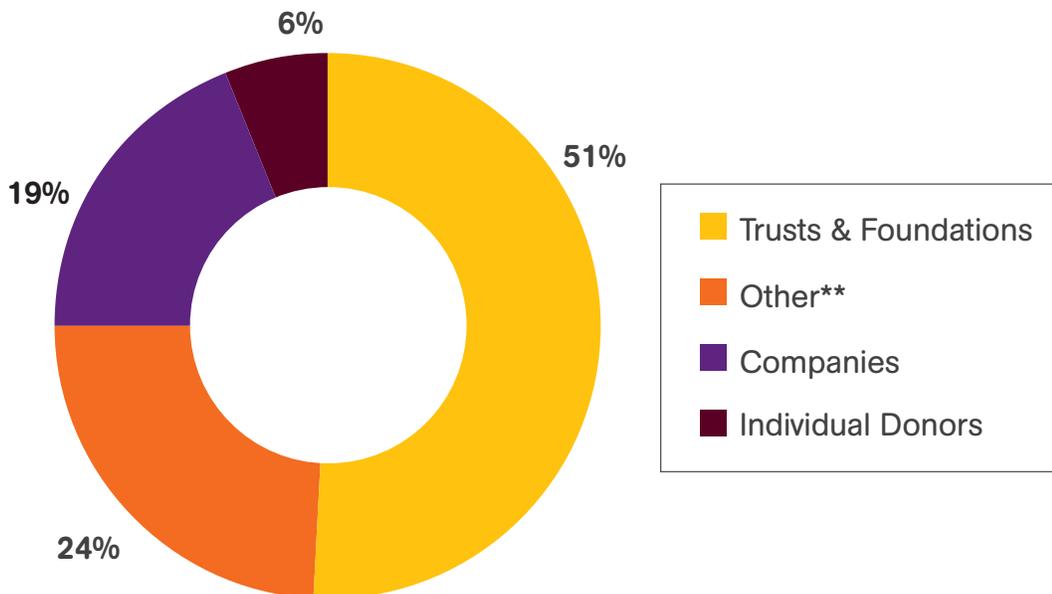
Sightsavers International, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) US non-profit organization sub-classified as a 509 (a)(3) supporting organization of Sightsavers – a global development organization headquartered and registered as a charity in the United Kingdom. Financial records are audited annually by RZ & ASSOCIATES, LLP.

<b>Cash Contributions:</b>	<b>\$851</b>
<b>Non-Cash Contributions*:</b>	<b>\$223,704</b>
<b>2014 Total Revenue, support &amp; contributions</b>	<b>\$224,555</b>

\*2014 non-cash donations are entirely comprised of Mectizan tablet donations from Merck, Inc.

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### 2014 US Cash Income by Source\*\*:



\*\*Other is comprised solely of Sightsavers' UK contribution for capacity building and administration of the Mectizan® donations.

Last but not least

# Thank you!

We couldn't do it without you



Firstly, an enormous thank you to Winesi March and his family, who gave us the privilege of being part of his journey from blindness to sight. Thanks also to the many people around the world who've allowed us to share their inspiring stories this year.

As well as the vital support we receive from individual donors, we also work in partnership with trusts and foundations, government ministries, international institutions, corporate partners and fellow charities – helping us have the greatest impact for the highest number of people.

We're grateful for all your incredible support for our life-changing work in 2014. Special thanks to:

## Trusts & Foundations

A G Leventis Foundation  
Allen Foundation  
Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland  
Beatrice Laing Trust  
Bernard Lewis Family Charitable Trust  
Brian Mercer Charitable Trust  
Carmen Butler-Charteris Charitable Trust  
Children's Investment Fund Foundation  
Comic Relief  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
Donald Forrester Trust  
Four Acre Trust  
Fox Family Charitable Foundation  
Hadley Trust  
Higgins Trapnell Family Foundation  
Hover Trust  
IZUMI Foundation  
James and Patricia Hamilton Charitable Trust  
Khoo Teck Puat UK Foundation  
Krauss Charitable Foundation  
Lions Sight Savers  
MB Trust  
Northwick Trust  
Open Society  
Patrick and Helena Frost Foundation  
R H Scholes Charitable Trust  
Rotary International  
S F I A Educational Trust Limited  
Shirin Sultan Dossa Foundation  
Swire Charitable Trust  
Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust  
Taipei American School Foundation  
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation  
The End Fund  
The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust  
The Ranworth Trust  
Zochonis Charitable Trust

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## Individuals

James C. Grant  
Earl Heuer  
Abdullah Husain  
Diana Knyazeva  
Erik-Jaap Molenaar  
Mohammad Naeem  
Lynne Petterson  
Niall Porter  
Ahmad Shirvan  
Valerie Steele  
Wendy White

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## Corporate partners

Ace & Tate  
Afren  
Allied Vision Technologies  
Brewers  
Fondation L'Occitane  
GDF Suez  
Global Impact  
Google  
Merck  
Meridian Leasing  
Merrill Communications  
Optical Express  
Paperchase  
Pfizer  
Polaroid Eyewear  
Robert Bion & Co  
Rotork  
Standard Chartered Bank  
Tomlinsons  
Vitol Foundation

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## Institutions

European Commission  
Irish Aid  
Isle of Man International Development Committee  
Jersey Overseas Aid Commission  
The OPEC Fund for International Development  
The UK Government's Department for International Development  
United States Agency for International Development

# Within our

**You've read how our work is changing lives through the stories of just some of the millions of people your donations and campaign actions are supporting.**

We can't stop now. We believe we're on the verge of some historic changes in eye health and for people with disabilities.

**With your support, we can create a world where:**

- **no one goes blind** from a preventable or treatable cause.
- **eye care is universally available** whether it's providing a suitable pair of glasses or a surgical treatment.
- **trachoma and river blindness** are eliminated.
- **no child is excluded from school** because they have an impairment.
- **people with disabilities** have equal access to healthcare, education, employment and social protection.

# reach



**This world is  
within our reach**

**You can help make it a reality  
Visit [www.sightsaversusa.org](http://www.sightsaversusa.org)  
or call us at (800) 707-9746  
[info@sightsaversusa.org](mailto:info@sightsaversusa.org)**

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**SightsaversUK**

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