

# Annual review 2015



Sightsavers

## Contents

### Introduction

04

### Fighting blindness

10

### Disability and inclusion

16

### Map highlights

22

### Neglected tropical diseases

24

### Our funding partners

28

### Finances

36

### Thank you

38

### What's next

40

### Contact us

43



#### Our vision:

Sightsavers' vision is of a world where no one is blind from avoidable causes and where visually impaired people participate equally in society.



Children from Mwanza District, Malawi, run after Madalistso Nyangulu, ophthalmic clinical officer, as he leaves on his motorbike over the dusty, bumpy roads after carrying out an outreach eye clinic in their village.



## A message from our President

History was made in 2015, as the Millennium Development Goals were superseded by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN General Assembly. The SDGs will form the bedrock of our work going forward and Sightsavers has been campaigning for disability to be front and center of these – working closely with other organizations. The overall theme of ‘leave no one behind’, together with many references in the text and a requirement to disaggregate the data collected to show progress, all represented a massive step forward for people with disabilities. Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and universal health care were both also highlighted.

Last year also saw the completion of the Global Trachoma Mapping Project – the largest infectious disease survey ever undertaken – as the 29<sup>th</sup> country was mapped and the project brought to a close. We had a record year for NTDs, supporting the delivery of over 140 million NTD treatments both through our lead on major coalition grants and independently. I would particularly like to thank USAID for their support.

Our Million Miracles campaign continued to be a success, and we were able to fund a significant increase in cataract operations. One notable example was that of 14-year-old Rose Paolo of Malawi. A video of Rose seeing herself for the first time as a result of a cataract operation went viral through Upworthy with over 2.6 million views.

There were challenges, though, as Ebola continued to wreak havoc in West Africa, although the position is now easing. We also lost a much-loved and respected member of staff in India, Vasant Shendye, to a hotel fire. We have named a program in Uttar Pradesh in his memory.

The year was strong financially with global income (excluding gifts-in-kind) exceeding \$90 million for the first time ever. I would like to thank all of our donors who made this possible.

**Adrian Poffley**  
President, Sightsavers International, Inc.



## 2015 saw positive achievements for Sightsavers...



### NTDs – the completion of the Global Trachoma Mapping Project

The three-year GTMP – the largest global mapping of an infectious disease ever – was completed. It covered 29 countries, involved 2,500 people globally and attracted considerable press interest. The gathered data will now allow us to better target where trachoma treatments are required.



### The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – the world agreed to leave no-one behind

The UN Summit passed a historic agreement that placed the needs of people with disabilities as one of its SDGs. Sightsavers worked tirelessly alongside other agencies to make this happen – to “leave no-one behind”.



### Our rapid response to the Ebola crisis

The impact of Ebola on already weak health systems in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia was devastating. We’ve had to rebuild our programs, provide barriers against infection in hospitals and support treatment for survivors for uveitis, a potentially blinding side effect of Ebola.



### Raising awareness – unprecedented media profile

2015 was the start of significant media coverage in the US. In addition to Upworthy’s viral video of Rose, a teenager in Malawi who saw herself for the first time after cataract surgery, which reached over 2.6 million, Sightsavers’ social inclusion work was featured in Newsweek and TIME magazine in September.

## Year in numbers

 **334,000** eye operations performed  
(cataract, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, trichiasis and other general eye surgeries) – an increase of almost a quarter on 2014.

 **142 million**  
treatments given for neglected tropical diseases, such as trachoma and river blindness.

 **1,200** health workers  
trained in Ebola eye complications.

 **\$30 million**  
raised so far for A Million Miracles – enough to fund almost 600,000 operations.

 **16,000** people  
who are blind, have low vision or other disabilities, received training in daily living skills, mobility and orienteering, vocational training or rights and entitlements training.

 **220,000** village level volunteers trained  
(includes community distribution of treatment, primary eye care, education and inclusion courses).



## Fighting blindness

### A Million Miracles

Now in its second year, Sightsavers' biggest-ever global fundraising appeal remains on track to raise \$50 million to fund one million sight-restoring cataract operations in some of the world's poorest countries. To date, nearly \$30 million has been raised worldwide, which is enough to fund almost 600,000 operations.

On World Sight Day 2014, Sightsavers launched a Million Miracles with an online event with Google+ to show the world's first live broadcast of the moment when one of our beneficiaries saw for the first time after cataract surgery. This pioneering broadcast was screened live from Malawi and followed the journey of Winesi. After his successful cataract operation, Winesi was able to see his grandson for the very first time, his wife's face again after two long years and even return to farming to help support his family.

After seeing the films of Winesi having his sight restored last year, UK's Channel 4 contacted us and asked to visit Malawi for a special episode. A two-person team spent two weeks in Malawi shadowing a Sightsavers-supported ophthalmic team from the Ministry of Health. They particularly focused on the difficulties patients face in paying for transportation to get to hospital, and followed the story of a 14-year-old girl called Rose. The original program was watched by more than 8 million people, and Rose's story was featured on Upworthy reaching an additional 2.6 million viewers.

To raise further awareness of the campaign on its first anniversary, we made a short film which featured volunteers wearing cataract-simulating lenses. They experienced life with sight loss – a project that had emotional results. The campaign reached 8 million people in 2015, with the Million Miracles Christmas appeal raising almost \$1.5 million globally.



**Our A Million Miracles campaign is on track to raise \$50 million to fund one million sight-restoring cataract operations.**



Watch the video at:  
[www.millionmiracles.org/close-your-eyes-and-count-to-ten/](http://www.millionmiracles.org/close-your-eyes-and-count-to-ten/)



Laurinda with one of her seven children, was unable to work as she lost her sight four years ago.



Laurinda was overjoyed after her successful sight-restoring operation.



### Case study

Name:  
**Laurinda**  
Age:  
**37**  
Location:  
**Mozambique**



### Laurinda's story

One person to benefit from the campaign was Laurinda, a single mother of seven children from Mozambique who lost her sight four years ago. Her life was one of constant struggle – she had to rely on her teenage daughter Aida for everything, from tending to the younger children to earning money to feed the family. She had never even seen her youngest child.

When Laurinda found out from her community leader that there was a chance she might see again, she was stunned – she had no idea such treatment was available and that a simple cataract operation meant a new life was achievable.

The pure joy when Laurinda's bandages came off was infectious. Everyone in the room smiled, and Laurinda clapped her hands and sang. She could see for the first time in four years, and could now prepare food and go to the bathroom without assistance.

It's had a remarkable effect on Aida, too, who now receives help from her mother as she raises her own baby, Antonietta. A weight has been lifted off her shoulders, and she smiles and chats like a normal teenager.

These surgeries would not be possible without Sightsavers' supporters. Not only do they change the lives of the patients, they make a massive difference to that person's loved ones, too.

“What makes me happy now that I'm cured is that I can work and go where I could not before... I can see my children and grandchildren, who I couldn't see in the past.”  
**Laurinda**



Laurinda with her eye surgeon Dr Anselmo Vilanculo after her sight was restored.

## Ebola update

Across 2014 and 2015, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia were devastated by Ebola, a highly contagious disease that's transmitted through direct human contact. Previously unknown in the region, this West African epidemic claimed 2,536 lives in Guinea, 4,809 in Liberia and 3,955 in Sierra Leone – these death tolls are believed to be grossly underestimated.

Ebola's rapid spread was due to a number of factors, including weak health systems in the region, a general distrust of the authorities and traditional funeral practices such as embracing deceased relatives.

The impact of Ebola on these already overburdened health systems was catastrophic. As eye health was not a priority during the emergency, we took the decision, with the Ministries of Health, to suspend all planned activity until the middle of last year. In June 2015, as the epidemic started to come under control, we began to support the rebuilding of services.

During the crisis, instead of planned activities, we provided hospital with barriers against infection. We trained health personnel in strict protocols for managing Ebola, developed secure treatment centers and trained up rapid response teams. We also launched extensive public awareness campaigns.

It soon became clear that Ebola survivors had particular problems with an eye disease called uveitis, which if left untreated could lead to blindness. We worked with NGO Partners in Health to screen almost 2,500 survivors in Sierra Leone, where we found that more than half needed immediate treatment. We subsequently trained over 1,200 health workers in specific Ebola-related eye complications.



**During West Africa's Ebola crisis, we provided hospitals with barriers against infection, trained health personnel in strict protocols for managing Ebola and developed secure treatment centers.**

Ebola is now known to remain resident in up to 25% of survivors - meaning long-term symptoms for the patient such as visual impairment, joint and muscle pain, neurological disorders and debilitating weakness. We will continue to work in affected countries to minimize the further impact of this disease and to provide appropriate services to those affected by Ebola.



Nancy Smart, Sightsavers Country Director, Sierra Leone, winning her award for the work she has done to fight Ebola.

## Disability and inclusion

The promotion of equal opportunity for people with disabilities is a core part of Sightsavers' vision.

After more than four years of discussion, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted at the UN General Assembly in 2015. Two of our critical goals – inclusive education and equality – were reflected in the new agenda. This was a massive step forward for people with disabilities.

To celebrate, our **Put us in the Picture** campaign hosted a photographic exhibition at the UN headquarters in New York, called 'Framing Perceptions', featuring people with disabilities in Uganda and India who are participating in Sightsavers-supported programs.

In June 2015, we launched our social inclusion strategy, which aligned our programs with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Our priorities within this

are economic empowerment and political participation for people with disabilities, with gender equality and advocacy mainstreamed across all our programs.

Examples of our new programs are our youth economic empowerment project in Uganda, and an inclusive elections initiative in Cameroon to support greater participation of people with disabilities in political processes.

We've been working in India and Tanzania to explore how best to disaggregate data collected within our programs by disability. This is essential for us to be able to determine whether our programs are inclusive.

Several of our inclusive education projects ended in 2014 and we have changed our approach – focusing on a smaller number of large, high-quality programs directed at system change. The biggest is in India, with three major new programs in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda.



Sightsavers at United Nations General Assembly.



You can find the Sightsavers' social inclusion strategy, and other useful documents from our online document library: [www.sightsavers.org/search/](http://www.sightsavers.org/search/)



Sylvia had a very tough time after losing her sight, but is now able to earn an income from her knitting through one of our disability and inclusion programs.



Mbathio in her home and familiar surroundings, before heading off to school.



Case study

Name: Mbathio  
Age: 14  
Location: Senegal



Mbathio's story

Mbathio is one of 18 blind children attending a mainstream school in Dakar, Senegal. Four years ago, the school opened its doors to children with disabilities, giving them an opportunity to live a normal life – just one of three schools in Dakar involved in this pilot project.

A shy, quiet girl, Mbathio excels at maths and uses a Braille board to do her lessons. Before attending school, she simply stayed at home all day. She never thought going to school would be a possibility; now she has career aspirations.



Mbathio reading braille in her classroom.

“The behavior change in these pupils is extraordinary. Mbathio can now walk independently to school, is confident, and has integrated fully. You simply cannot tell by looking which children are blind.”  
Mbathio's teacher

The project also works towards changing community perceptions that blind children are unable to learn. “People who think blind children don't deserve an education are ignorant,” says Mbathio's voluntary community teacher. “We have worked hard to educate the community and remove the stigma attached to blind children being at school.”



Aminata, pictured on the right, with her classmate walking around her school grounds.



### Case study

**Name:**  
Aminata  
**Age:**  
7  
**Location:**  
Senegal



### Aminata's story

At her inclusive school in Dakar, Senegal, seven-year-old Aminata is inquisitive and attentive. She hangs onto her teacher's every word, raising her hand to answer questions. When her classmates lift their chalkboards for the teacher to check their work, Aminata does the same with her Braille tablet.

Having her work checked the same way as the other children instils in her a sense of confidence and self-worth. "I want to keep going to school," she says. "I like my teacher and I want to teach French when I grow up."

After school, Aminata plays at home with her family, moving comfortably around the familiar environment. "She is much happier now," says her mother. "I want her to learn a lot of things, so when she is older she can get a job and help support her family."



Aminata enjoying a fun lesson at school.

The benefits to Aminata being educated alongside her peers are immeasurable. Being part of the school makes her feel valued, helping her to thrive and develop into a happy, confident child.

“She is much happier now... I want her to learn a lot of things, so when she is older she can get a job and help support her family  
**Aminata's mother**

Aminata was born blind, as were her parents and three of her siblings. Before being allowed to attend the inclusive school, she stayed at home while her parents went out begging. She was too young to do chores or to go out by herself. Now, her day has structure and purpose.

## Map highlights

This snapshot of 2015 shows at a glance some of the incredible achievements we've seen over the last year. Disease elimination targets are being met more efficiently than ever, inclusive education is becoming steadily accepted in many countries, and continued advocacy means that people with disabilities in the developing world are increasingly being given the chance to live normal lives.

### Uganda – progress towards elimination of trachoma and river blindness

In several districts, we no longer need to distribute treatment for either disease. Five entire districts have reached the ultimate intervention goal for active trachoma, with cases now below one person in 1,000. Surveillance continues in other districts to confirm the elimination of river blindness.

### Ghana – a country on the brink of confirming trachoma elimination

Ghana entered the final stages of its trachoma elimination program by carrying out pre-validation surveys – these confirm whether the 2013 elimination targets for active trachoma have been maintained. They'll also check whether elimination targets for advanced trachoma – which requires surgery – have been reached.

### Kenya – the long-term impact of inclusive education

A new education project was prepared for launch in January 2016. It will strengthen the nationwide network of 200 Education Assessment and Resource Centers, which place children with disabilities into education. The project will also work with mainstream schools to pilot approaches to the inclusion of children with disabilities.

### Tanzania – long-time advocacy objectives come to fruition

The country's revised constitution included high recognition of people with disabilities, and their fair representation in the Constitutional Assembly. Tactile balloting for a general election was introduced for the first time, while fourteen people with disabilities were appointed to top ministerial positions.

### Pakistan – increased healthcare access for women

A staggering 8,654,490 people received eye-health examinations thanks to a program designed to strengthen health systems. This was achieved, in part, through training 2,077 female health workers in primary eye care, which significantly increased access for women to eye health services.

### Bangladesh – free cataract surgeries

Through our Bangladesh District Eye Care Project, Sightsavers provided 68,836 free cataract surgeries for people living in poverty – that's around 80% of the total annual surgeries in the districts where we operate.

### India – making eye health accessible to everyone

A pilot program in Bhopal aimed to develop eye-health programs inclusive to both men and women with disabilities of all ages, and programs particularly responsive to the needs of women. Measures continue to ensure there are strong referral networks and accessible services in the region.

### CATCH – Coordinated Approach to Eye Health, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia

Thanks to funding from the UK government, patients with cataracts and other eye conditions who turn up to trachoma surgery outreach camps could be screened, treated and referred for more complex treatment. This funding strengthens local health facilities with equipment, consumables, skills and expertise. This led to 1,273 people - who would have been deterred from seeking further help - receiving sight-restoring cataract surgery.

## The Global Trachoma Mapping Project (GTMP)

One of the greatest achievements in 2015 was the completion of the GTMP – the largest infectious-disease mapping project ever undertaken. Its aim was to find out where trachoma – the world’s leading cause of infectious blindness – was most prevalent.

The volume of data collected over the past three years is greater than that gathered over the previous thirty. It allows us to now focus on where treatment is most needed, and to meet the World Health Organization’s goal of eliminating trachoma by 2020. One of the primary hurdles to elimination had been a lack of information; we now have a clear picture of exactly what needs to be done.

Funded by the UK government and USAID, the three-year project involved 24 organizations in a Sightsavers-led coalition. Ultimately 2.6 million people in 29 countries were screened. One person was examined roughly every 40 seconds, with all data captured on smartphones.

In the developing world, trachoma impairs the vision of around 2.2 million people, 1.2 million of which are irreversibly blind. Common in poor, crowded communities with poor sanitation, it’s an extremely painful infection that’s spread by touch, clothing and flies. In its initial stages, it passes mainly between small children and the women who care for them.

Repeated infections throughout childhood make the eyelashes turn inward, gradually causing blindness in adults. Trachoma is treatable



with antibiotics, and also preventable once people understand how it spreads. If not caught in time, the blindness is irreversible.

Based on the data accumulated by the GTMP and other sources, the International Coalition for Trachoma Control has estimated it would cost about US\$1 billion to eliminate blinding trachoma by 2020, of which US\$200-300 million has already been committed. Trachoma-associated blindness has been estimated to cut global productivity by between US\$2.9 billion and US\$5.3 billion a year.



Visit the GTMP website which has interactive features and maps the world’s leading infectious cause of avoidable blindness: [www.globaltrachomamappingproject.com](http://www.globaltrachomamappingproject.com)



A team from the Global Trachoma Mapping Project checks a family’s eyes to see if they have trachoma, in Sudan.



A team from the Global Trachoma Mapping Project uploading data via a smartphone.

## The Global Trachoma Mapping Project (GTMP)



The groundbreaking three year disease-mapping project has shown that **100 million people** are at risk of blindness from trachoma



Using smart phone technology we examined **2.6 million people** in **1,627 districts**



**2,160 people** were screened everyday



**29 countries** were mapped in 3 years



**1 person** was examined every **40 seconds**



Funded by **UK aid** and **USAID** working in collaboration with **63 partners**: ministries of health, not for profits and academics

## Our funding partners

We collaborate with many partners, large and small, whose support continues to be invaluable. Here are a few we have worked with in 2015 to make lasting change.



### Lions Clubs International, British Isles and Ireland

Lions Clubs International, which celebrates its 100th birthday next year, is the world's largest service club organization with 1.35 million members across 208 countries. Every year in Europe alone, Lions Clubs' members volunteer around 6 million hours of service and raise \$116 million to support the needs of their local communities.

In 1972, Lions Club International British Isles and Ireland began working with Sightsavers, and a formal partnership and registered charity – the Lions Sight Savers Trust – was established in 1982. Since then, the Trust has donated over \$4.5 million to Sightsavers.

In October 2014, Trustees David Firth and Patrick Hamblin agreed to direct all donations from Lions Sight Savers to support our largest appeal to date, A Million Miracles, which aims to fund one million sight-restoring operations across Asia and Africa by 2018.

Lions Sight Savers has been particularly valuable to this appeal, donating \$166,000 in 2015 alone, directly helping to restore, save and protect the sight of 9,100 people.



Find out more about Lions Clubs International at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)



### Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the IZUMI Foundation

Thanks to generous funding between 2013 and 2016 from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the IZUMI Foundation, we are one step closer to eliminating trachoma in Mali.

Trachoma is an excruciating and potentially blinding eye infection that's common in poor and rural areas with inadequate water supplies. If caught in time, it's treatable with antibiotics or surgery; if left untreated, the blindness that follows is irreversible.

Over three years, with the help of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and IZUMI Foundation, Sightsavers has equipped surgeons with motorbikes so they can treat people in remote areas, and we've supported innovative approaches including providing medical staff with mobile phones to allow them to input crucial data from the field.

The funding has contributed to life-changing surgeries for over 5,000 people in Mali.



Find out more at [www.hiltonfoundation.org](http://www.hiltonfoundation.org) and [www.izumi.org](http://www.izumi.org)



### Case study

**Name:** Salimata  
**Age:** 60  
**Location:** Mali  
**Funding partner:** Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and IZUMI Foundation



### Salimata's story

For over two years, Salimata had been living with the agony of trachoma, which was steadily impairing her sight.

In her remote village, Salimata grew okra for a living. As her sight failed, she knew she'd have to give up her job and stop supporting her family. Thanks to the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation grant, and support from the IZUMI Foundation, mobile surgeons can now deliver treatment to people like Salimata, and allow them to return to work and live a life free of suffering.

While trepidation about surgery is common among local people in these remote communities, word is spreading about its benefits. Salimata understands its value all too well.



“After the operation on my left eye, I can do small jobs like other women my age. Nothing is more precious than sight.”

Salimata

## Our funding partners

We collaborate with many partners, large and small, whose support continues to be invaluable. Here are a few we have worked with in 2015 to make lasting change.



### eBay

In 2015, we started working with eBay for Charity to offer buyers and sellers the chance to donate to Sightsavers.

Making a donation is quick and easy. You can become a sight-saving shopper by making us your favorite charity on eBay, then donating to Sightsavers at the checkout every time you make a purchase. Or, if you're a trader, make us your favourite charity and you'll have the chance to donate every time you sell.

Your donations really do make a difference – we've so far raised over \$60,000 in the UK and \$63,000 in the US – over \$123,000 in total.

Our partnership with eBay for Charity has been fantastic at raising both awareness and vital funds for Sightsavers. We look forward to continuing this partnership in 2016.



Find out more at [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)



### L'Occitane Foundation

The L'Occitane Foundation has supported Sightsavers' work in Burkina Faso since 2014, funding our program in the south-west of the country to eliminate river blindness and blinding trachoma.

In 2015, the Foundation helped us treat 44,597 people against river blindness. The funding also provided eyelid surgery to 35 patients with advanced trachoma, and helped to train over 166 health workers and 1,115 community volunteers.

The ultimate aim of this project is to ensure that the 660,000 people living in the region are protected against river blindness and trachoma. We're delighted that the L'Occitane Foundation will be partnering with us again in 2016, and continues to share our mission to eliminate both these diseases in Burkina Faso by 2021.



Find out more at [www.fondation.loccitane.com](http://www.fondation.loccitane.com)



Make Sightsavers your favourite charity on ebay:  
<http://charity.ebay.com/charity-auctions/charity/sightsavers-international/68659/>



A child in Gyankobaa, Ghana, receiving the sight-saving medication Mectizan®.

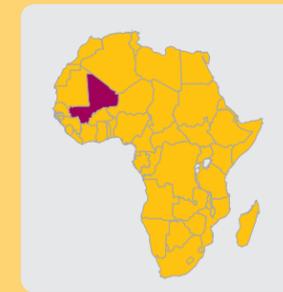


Lamia on the children's ward of Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute and Hospital, Bangladesh, following her successful cataract surgery.



### Case study

Name: Salimata  
Age: 60  
Location: Mali  
Funding partner: Conrad N. Hilton and Izumi Foundation



### Zon Mariam's Story

82-year-old grandmother Zon Mariam can't remember when the pain started, but for years had been living with a constant ache in her right eye. "I felt like there was sand in my eye, but when I washed it, it was still there," she says. "The pain never stopped."

Her eye condition meant it was often hard for Mariam to cook and help around the house. Following visits by hospital staff to her home, she was stunned to learn there was a cure for her condition, and shortly afterwards was taken in by her children for surgery.

"After a short recovery period, I did not suffer again! I can see better now. Since my eyes were operated on, I go to the bush and collect firewood."



Zon recovering after her sight-restoring surgery.



"After a short recovery period, I did not suffer again! I can see better now."

Zon Mariam

## Our funding partners

We collaborate with many partners, large and small, whose support continues to be invaluable. Here are a few we have worked with in 2015 to make lasting change.



### Virgin Unite

In March 2015, Sightsavers launched a three-year partnership with non-profit foundation Virgin Unite to support eye-health projects in Tanzania and Bangladesh. Sir Richard Branson had heard about the sight-restoring cataract operations of our Million Miracles appeal, and was personally inspired to support a project with such tangible results.

Virgin Unite has been invaluable in supporting the communication of the Million Miracles appeal. Richard Branson penned a blog for the Virgin website in August 2015, in which he wrote: "One of the most remarkable things I've seen through my charity work is the instant life-changing impact of being able to hear for the first time. Being able to see again, or for the first time, would be equally transformative., which is why I'm proud Virgin Unite is supporting Sightsavers to help fund their efforts to restore sight to people by providing one million cataract operations by 2018."

We subsequently posted two guest blogs of our own on the Virgin Unite website. The blogs and appeal have all been promoted on Virgin's social media platforms, allowing us to reach out to tens of thousands of potential new donors.



Find out more at [www.virgin.com/unite](http://www.virgin.com/unite)



### Standard Chartered

Seeing is Believing is Standard Chartered's global charitable initiative to tackle avoidable blindness run in partnership with the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). Seeing is Believing has supported Sightsavers' projects in poor and underprivileged communities in Africa and Asia since 2003. In 2015 Seeing is Believing supported our work in Sierra Leone, Uganda, India and Pakistan, and new projects have been confirmed from 2016 in Tanzania, Zambia and Pakistan. We'd like to thank everyone at Seeing is Believing for helping to bring affordable eye-care to some of the poorest communities across the globe.



Find out more at [www.sc.com](http://www.sc.com)



### Case study

**Name:**  
Muhammad Ashraf  
**Age:**  
42  
**Location:**  
Pakistan  
**Funding partner:**  
Standard Chartered



### Muhammad Ashraf's Story

As an employee of the Pakistan Railway Services, Ashraf's job involves documentation. However, during the last three years, Ashraf had been finding his job difficult due to his deteriorating eye sight. He visited Mayo Hospital (one of Sightsavers' partner hospitals) complaining of blurred vision, after having previously visited the Diabetes clinic where he was given a management and treatment plan by the endocrinologist. Ashraf was then referred to the Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Room, where he was screened for Diabetic Retinopathy using a Non-Mydiatric Fundus Camera.

Ashraf was diagnosed with sight threatening diabetic retinopathy. This is a stage where the effect of uncontrolled diabetes on the retina is severe and needs treatment, otherwise it could lead to blindness.

Ashraf was troubled when told that he had serious eye complications as a result of his diabetic condition, and thought that he would lose his vision forever. He was on the verge of losing his job as a result. However, when the counsellor explained how his diabetic condition was affecting his sight, and how diabetes management and timely treatment can save his sight from further deterioration, Ashraf was hopeful and determined to comply with it.



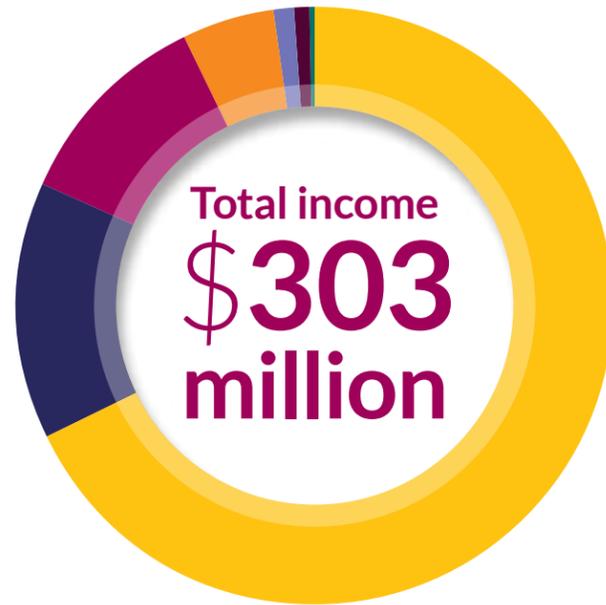
Counselling through our Diabetic Retinopathy project, funded since April 2014 by Standard Chartered's Seeing is Believing programme, stopped Ashraf, 42, becoming blind. Ashraf is now fully compliant with the management and treatment plan and is better able to manage his condition.



Counselling through the project funded by Standard Chartered stopped Muhammad Ashraf becoming blind.

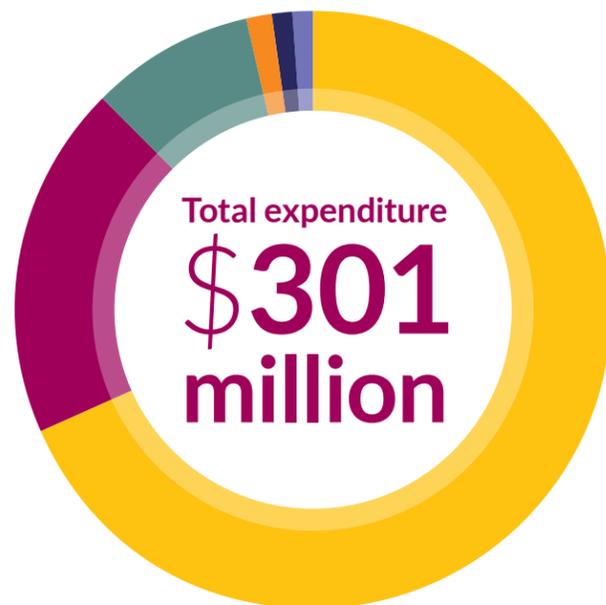
# Finances

## Global income



\$205.5m	Gifts in kind (including Mectizan® tablets)
\$42.3m	Grants from governments/NGOs
\$33.3m	Individuals
\$15.2m	Legacies
\$3.4	Trusts and foundations
\$2.6	Companies
\$0.7m	Other

## Global expenditure



\$206.4m	Mectizan®
\$56.8m	Eye health
\$26.3m	Costs of generating funds
\$4.2m	Social inclusion
\$3.4m	Policy and research
\$3.4m	Education

Figures represented in millions.

## US Total contributions

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.

Cash contributions	<b>\$1.6 million</b>
Gifts in kind*	<b>\$205 million</b>
2015 total revenue	<b>\$207 million</b>

\*2015 non-cash donations are entirely comprised of Mectizan® tablet donations from Merck, Inc. to treat river blindness.

## 2015 US Cash income by source



88%	Trusts and foundations
4%	Companies
4%	Individual donors
4%	Other**

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



Last, but  
not least,  
Thank you!

2015 was a year of incredible achievements, none of which would have been possible without your support. We'd like to thank the many people around the world who let us share their inspiring, emotional stories; from Laurinda who saw her baby for the first time following cataract surgery to Aminata, who can now attend an inclusive school with her friends.

We also work in partnership with trusts and foundations, government ministries, international institutions, corporate partners and fellow charities, whose help has had an enormous impact on a great number of people.

From individual donors to large corporations, we are grateful for your generosity, which helped us continue our life-changing work throughout the year.

## Special thanks to:

### Individuals

Hilary Andersson  
Bridget Flanagan  
James C. Grant  
Jeffrey Kleintop  
Jim and Kimberley Lowe  
Erik-Jaap Molenaar  
Mohammad Naeem  
Gregory Noakes  
Niall Porter  
Ahmad Shirvan  
Wendy White

### Trusts and Foundations

A G Leventis Foundation  
Allen Foundation  
Anthony and Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation  
Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland  
Beatrice Laing Trust  
Bernard Lewis Family Charitable Trust  
Bhim Ruia Foundation  
Brian Mercer Charitable Trust  
Carmen Butler-Charteris Charitable Trust  
Children's Investment Fund Foundation  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
Fox Family Foundation  
Henry E Niles Foundation  
Higgins-Trapnell Family Foundation  
Hover Trust  
IZUMI Foundation

James and Patricia Hamilton Charitable Trust  
Krauss Charitable Foundation  
Khoo Teck Puat UK Foundation  
Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Lions Sight Savers  
MB Trust  
Northwick Trust  
Open Society  
Patrick & Helena Frost Foundation  
R H Scholes Charitable Trust  
Rotary International  
Share Gift  
Shirin Sultan Dossa Foundation  
Souter Charitable Trust  
Swire Charitable Trust  
Taipei American School Foundation  
The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation  
The END Fund  
The Ingram Trust  
The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust  
The Ranworth Trust  
Zochonis Charitable Trust

### Corporate partners

Ace & Tate  
Allergan International Foundation  
Allied Vision Technologies  
Boosters  
Brewers  
East End Foods  
eBay for Charity  
Engie  
Essilor  
Fondation d'entreprise Thea

Fondation L'Occitane  
Fullerton India  
Innoven Capital  
Optical Express  
Paperchase  
Rayban  
Robert Bion & Co Ltd  
Rotork  
Rotork India  
RPG  
Standard Chartered  
Tomlinsons  
Urvi Ashok Piramal Foundation  
Virgin Unite

### Institutions

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

### NGOs

Helen Keller International  
John Snow Inc.  
RTI  
The Task Force for Global Health  
University of Birmingham

## What's next

You've read how your donations have helped us to continue our life-changing work. 2015 has seen some historic changes, from the needs of people with disabilities being placed as one of the UN's sustainable development goals to the completion of our Global Trachoma Mapping Project.

With your support, we are one step closer to a world where:

 No one goes blind from a preventable or treatable cause.

 Eye care is universally available, whether it's providing a pair of glasses or a surgical treatment.

 Blinding trachoma and river blindness are eliminated.

 Disabling lymphatic filariasis is eliminated.

 No child with disabilities is excluded from school.

 People with disabilities have equal access to healthcare, education, employment and social protection.

Throughout 2016, we will continue with our core strategy and work hard to reach our targets. Our Million Miracles campaign remains on course to deliver funding for one million sight-restoring operations by 2018. Our UNITED programme in Northern Nigeria also gathers speed with its target of delivering 124 million NTD treatments by September 2017, protecting 27 million people against diseases such as trachoma and river blindness.

We plan to cement our leadership position on sustainable development goals through strong inclusive programmes, including increasing the number of people with disabilities in our own organization.

Our Put Us in the Picture campaign will be launched in Ireland and elsewhere. We will move onto the next phase of our Global Trachoma Mapping Project – Tropical Data – which will build on the immense GTMP platform to gather similar data for neglected tropical diseases.

Our communications will be strengthened with a new Director of News to lead our media team and spread the word about our work to appropriate audiences worldwide. The reinforcement of mutual learning and innovation between our NTD and eye health programmes will also be key.

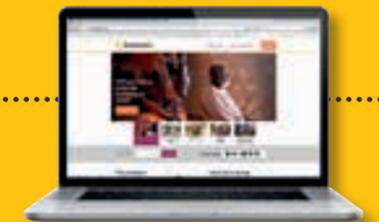
### You can help



The world is changing

Your help really makes a difference

Visit [www.sightsaversusa.org](http://www.sightsaversusa.org) or call us on 800-707-9746





**Our mission:**  
We are an international organization working with partners in developing countries to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equality of opportunity for people with disabilities.

Find out more about Sightsavers and join our mission...

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

 Share **SightsaversUK**

 Follow **@SightsaversUSA**

 Watch **SightsaversTV**

### Global Patron

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

### Global President

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra  
The Hon. Lady Ogilvy, KG GCVO

### Global Vice Presidents

Lady Wilson OBE  
Sir David Thompson KCMG  
Sir John Coles GCMG  
Sir Nicolas Fenn GCMG  
Sir Graham Burton KCMG

### Global Chief Executive

Dr Caroline Harper CBE

### US Board

Adrian Poffley, Director and President  
Ann-Marie Walsh, Director and Vice President  
Michael Chilton, Director and Vice President  
Simon Bush, Director  
Geordie Woods, Director  
Ken Moon, Treasurer  
Mark Wehrly, Secretary

---

### Mailing address:

One Boston Place, Suite 2600  
Boston, MA 02108

(800) 707-9746

[info@sightsaversusa.org](mailto:info@sightsaversusa.org)

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

 Share SightsaversUK

 Follow @SightsaversUSA

 Watch SightsaversTV

