



Sightsavers

Making waves

Review 2014



A message from our Chief Executive

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

One of the most emotional moments of my career came when we learned that the UK government Department for International Development was going to create a Disability Framework in response to our Put Us in the Picture campaign. This will ensure that development work funded by the UK will be inclusive in the future.

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. Thank you Winesa for allowing us to share such a



personal moment with you – this helped us raise over £10 million (including around £5 million thanks to Aid Match from the UK government) – which will help many more people just like you. This, together with some new big grants, took our income to over £50 million for the first time ever.

However, whilst we were celebrating successes, the backdrop in many of our countries was grim. The Ebola crisis was at its height and our programmes in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia were suspended for much of the year. The challenges our staff faced were beyond my experience, and my heart went out to them. There was significant conflict and tension in many countries where we work – South Sudan, Mali and Pakistan in particular. I recognise 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, trustees 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.

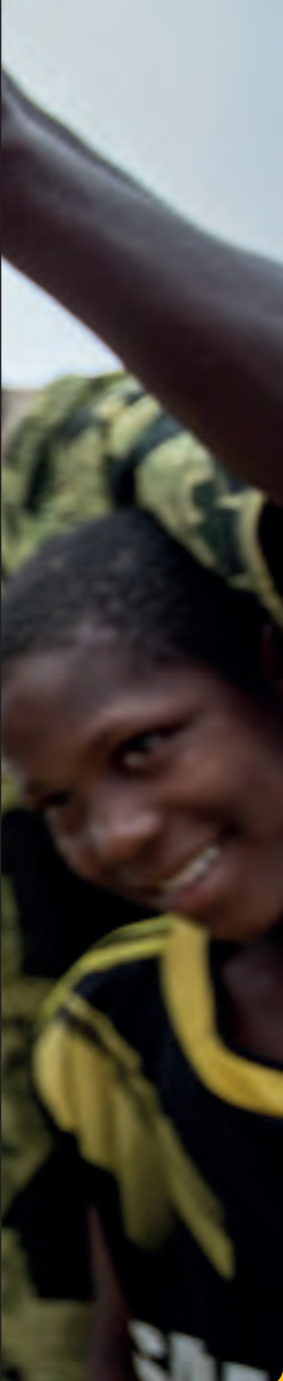
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline Harper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Caroline Harper OBE



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 recognising the rights of 800 million people with disabilities.

New technological solutions

Innovative programmes – 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





10 million pounds

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

20 thousand signatures

for our petition **Put Us in the Picture**

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 Black men. The man on the right is wearing a white headwrap and a white short-sleeved button-down shirt, smiling broadly with his teeth showing. The man on the left is also wearing a white short-sleeved button-down shirt and has a grey beard; he is smiling gently. The man on the right has his right arm around the man on the left's shoulder. They are both looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

A Million Miracles



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

Matching your
donations with



UKaid

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 £5 million in the space of just three months. Your amazing generosity also meant we could maximise the UK government's commitment to double donations, taking us up to £10 million.

At only £30 for an adult's cataract operation, that's already enough to fund more than 330,000 operations.



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 £30 million and fund a million sight-saving operations.

Donate to A Million Miracles

www.millionmiracles.org

and help people like Winesi see again.

A more inclusive world

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 political 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. See p14-15.

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, called on the UK government to help make global development disability-inclusive.

Our campaign petition gained over 20,000 signatures and was taken to London to be handed to Lynne Featherstone, then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for International Development, by Paralympian and Sightsavers ambassador Ben Quilter.

As part of Put Us in the Picture, we produced a photographic exhibition called Framing Perceptions. Sponsored by the Guardian and featuring the work of Guardian photographer Graeme Robertson, it included a successful private view for politicians and professionals in December 2014. The exhibition gave people with disabilities a platform to tell their own stories

of empowerment and exclusion, and show how decisions made at policy level can affect individual lives.

Our campaign is starting to change UK government policy. The Department for International Development launched its Disability Framework in December 2014, which we're hoping will increase the government's drive and ambition on disability, and help it influence other countries to be more inclusive too.

We believe it's a vital step towards global goals that will fully recognise the rights of people with disabilities everywhere.



A full life

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

We don't just campaign 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 a disability the chance to start their own business.

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

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

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

The fact 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.”

“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 organisation (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 man with a mustache, wearing a grey short-sleeved button-down shirt and dark trousers, is sitting on a wooden stool in a small, cluttered shop. The shop has pink walls and various items hanging on the walls, including packets of instant noodles and other goods. The man is looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression.

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 publicising 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 realised 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."

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 organisations which began rolling out two flagship treatment and prevention programmes 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 programme 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.sightsavers.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.



To eliminate trachoma, we need to know where and who it affects. That's why a pioneering programme funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and 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 Programme. "There's no data lost," he says, "we do it fast and easily." Crucially, this data means we can deliver treatment where it's needed most, helping bring us to the brink of eliminating trachoma in Mali.

The Global Trachoma Mapping Project

Started three years ago by a group of more than 20 organisations, 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

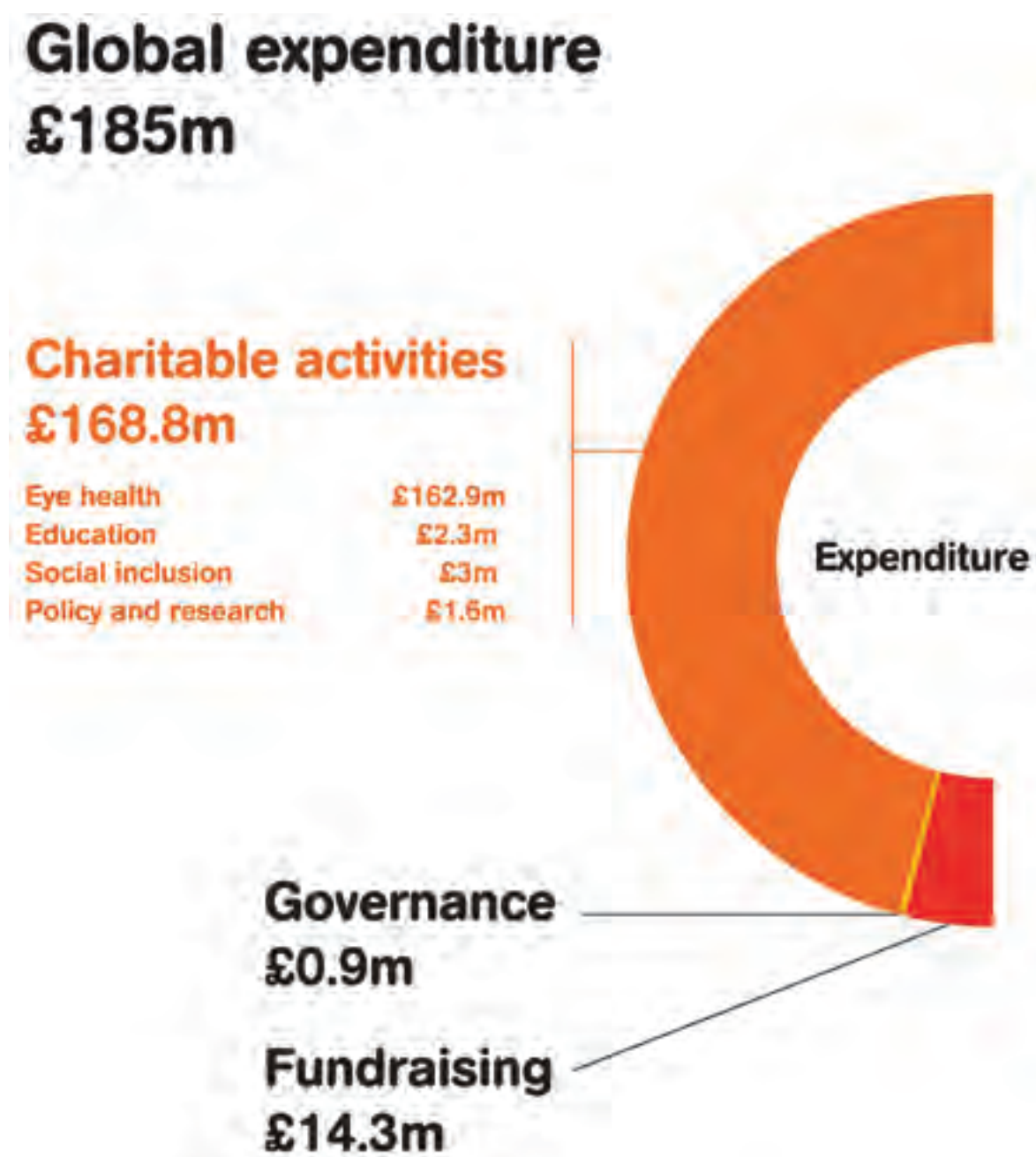
43 million items of data processed

900 health workers trained

*figures correct as of February 2015

Record-breaking

For the first time in our history our income surpassed £50 million – gifts in kind took the total figure up to £187.6 million.



year

**Global income
£187.5m**

**Gifts in kind
£134.3m**

**Generated funds
£53.3m**


Individuals	£21.1m
Trusts	£1.3m
Companies	£2.1m
Legacies	£7.3m
Grants	£6.4m
Charitable activities	£12.9m
Other	£2.3m

Figures represented in millions.

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

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The OPEC Fund for International Development
The UK Government's Department for International Development
United States Agency for International Development

NGOs

Fred Hollows Foundation
Helen Keller International
John Snow Inc.
RTI

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.sightsavers.org or
call us on **0800 116 4116**

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