



**OUR VISION:** A world where no one is needlessly blind.

### **THE PROBLEM:** The need for eye care in the Republic of Congo is real and desperate.

480,000	The number of Congolese estimated to suffer from blindness or visual loss	<b>***</b> *	3 in 4 who are visually impaired require help with daily activities.
35%	The percentage of Congolese that live in Absolute Poverty, i.e. < USD1.90 a day	***** ****	9 out of 10 people who are blind cannot go to work or school.

THE SOLUTION: We have opened two eye centres and we are building a hospital.

#### Provide Comprehensive Eye Care

We opened our Impfondo Eye Centre in 2012, our Ouesso Interim Eye Centre in 2019, as well as our Interim Surgical Centre in 2022, to provide accessible comprehensive eye care.

Our new eye hospital is under construction and is scheduled to open in 2023.

#### Empower the Local Community

We train the community to create sustainable, locally managed services so that they will continue to run long after our involvement.

Our nurse training program has been running since 2019. The students have been involved in clinical work, eye screening and COVID-19 relief initiatives.





We partnered with the government, WHO and schools to distribute masks and recorded COVID awareness info via radio in 2020.

In 2021, we ran 4 eye health screening and educational campaigns, and began to produce and distribute a children's magazine to local schools to promote literacy, numeracy, and health education.

# **OUR IMPACT**:

The priceless gift of sight transforms thousands of lives in one of the poorest and most neglected areas in the world.



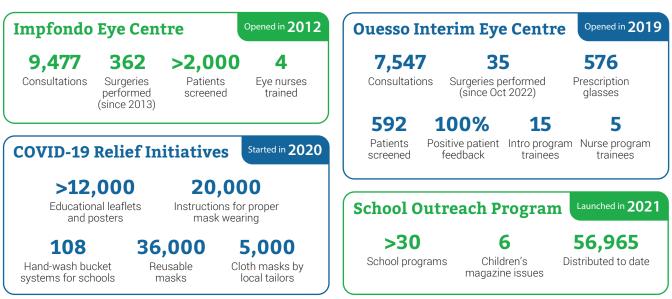
Every US\$1 invested in eye health generates on average US\$4 of economic gain.<sup>1</sup>

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Restoring someone's sight is the single most costeffective health intervention to reduce poverty. – WHO<sup>2</sup>

## **NEW SIGHT IN NUMBERS**



Updated as of 31 December 2022

1) The Fred Hollows Foundation. Investing in Vision: A Study by PricewaterhouseCoopers. 2013-2014. https://www.hollows.org/au/research/investing-in-vision

2) World Health Organization. Global Initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness: Action Plan 2006-2011.2007. https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/43754/9789241595889\_eng.pdf