

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.

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

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

<p>Provide Comprehensive Eye Care 01</p> <p>We opened our Impfondo Eye Centre in 2012, our Ouessou Interim Eye Centre in 2019, as well as our Interim Surgical Centre in 2022, to provide accessible comprehensive eye care.</p> <p>Our new eye hospital is under construction and is scheduled to open in 2023.</p>	<p>Empower the Local Community 02</p> <p>We train the community to create sustainable, locally managed services so that they will continue to run long after our involvement.</p> <p>Our nurse training program has been running since 2019. The students have been involved in clinical work, eye screening and COVID-19 relief initiatives.</p>	<p>Advocate Eye Health 03</p> <p>We partnered with the government, WHO and schools to distribute masks and recorded COVID awareness info via radio in 2020.</p> <p>In 2021, we ran 4 eye health screening campaigns, and began to produce and distribute a children's magazine to local schools to promote literacy, numeracy, and health education.</p>
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OUR IMPACT: The priceless gift of sight transforms thousands of lives in one of the poorest and most neglected areas in the world.

<p> Every US\$1 invested in eye health generates on average US\$4 of economic gain.¹</p>	<p> Restoring someone's sight is the single most cost-effective health intervention to reduce poverty. – WHO²</p>
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NEW SIGHT IN NUMBERS

<p>Impfondo Eye Centre Opened in 2012</p> <p>9,477 Consultations 362 Surgeries performed (since 2013) >2,000 Patients screened 4 Eye nurses trained</p>	<p>Ouessou Interim Eye Centre Opened in 2019</p> <p>8,419 Consultations 35 Surgeries performed (since Oct 2022) 671 Glasses</p>
<p>COVID-19 Relief Initiatives Started in 2020</p> <p>>12,000 Educational leaflets and posters 20,000 Instructions for proper mask wearing 108 Hand-wash bucket systems for schools 36,000 Reusable masks 5,000 Cloth masks by local tailors</p>	<p>592 Patients screened 100% Positive patient feedback 15 Intro program trainees 4 Nurse program trainees</p> <p>School Outreach Program Launched in 2021</p> <p>>30 School programs 6 Children's magazine issues 56,965 Distributed to date</p>

Updated as of 31 March 2023

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