2.2 billion people+ globally live with visual impairment

DECADES OF SAVING SIGHT IN MADAGASCAR

Almost 80 percent of Madagascar’s population lives on less than US$2 a day. This sobering reality means many in the country go untreated for cataracts — the number one cause of blindness there — and for uncorrected refractive errors. Compounding the negative impact? Many with vision challenges can neither work nor support their families.

Moved to create a better reality, and with support from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Lions in the world’s second largest island country launched Lions SightFirst Madagascar. The program recently reached its 20th anniversary, providing Lions the opportunity to reflect on the life-altering service they have provided.

More than US$5.2 million in LCIF grants over the two decades have enabled Lions to operate SightFirst Madagascar and deliver hope like this:

“Seeing people helped by Lions and LCIF smile goes straight to your heart.”

- 80,000 cataract surgeries performed
- 115,000 pairs+ of eyeglasses distributed
- 600 people+ diagnosed/treated for diabetic retinopathy
- 60 physicians+ trained

“ Seeing people helped by Lions and LCIF smile goes straight to your heart,” said Lion Anja Ramilison. “No riches can buy that feeling.”
Seeing Things Clearly

Vision has been at the forefront of Lions service for more than a century. Though tremendous strides have been made, work must continue, as statistically, vision-related issues look like this in Africa and the African Region:

**RIVER BLINDNESS**
99% of people infected with onchocerciasis/river blindness live in 31 African countries

**TRACHOMA**
Africa is the continent most affected by trachoma

**BLINDNESS**
~15.3% of the world’s blind population is in Africa
Nearly 6 million people in the African Region are blind

**VISUAL IMPAIRMENT**
20 million people+ in the African Region have low vision

**THAT’S THIS PART OF THE WORLD. GLOBALLY, VISION CHALLENGES LOOK LIKE THIS:**

- 1 billion people live with vision impairment that could have been prevented or can be corrected
- **US$14.3 billion** is needed to treat existing cases of refractive error and cataracts worldwide
- Unaddressed distance vision impairment in many low- and middle-income regions is **4 times higher** than in high-income regions

**LCIF AND LIONS**
Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

More than US$365 million in LCIF SightFirst grants
- US$125 million+ in the African Region alone
- have helped Lions show the world a brighter tomorrow. We will continue to be part of the solution, adding to this progress:

Visit lcif.org/vision to learn more and access information about LCIF’s SightFirst, Matching, and District and Club Community Impact Grants.

SOURCES: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 World Health Organization