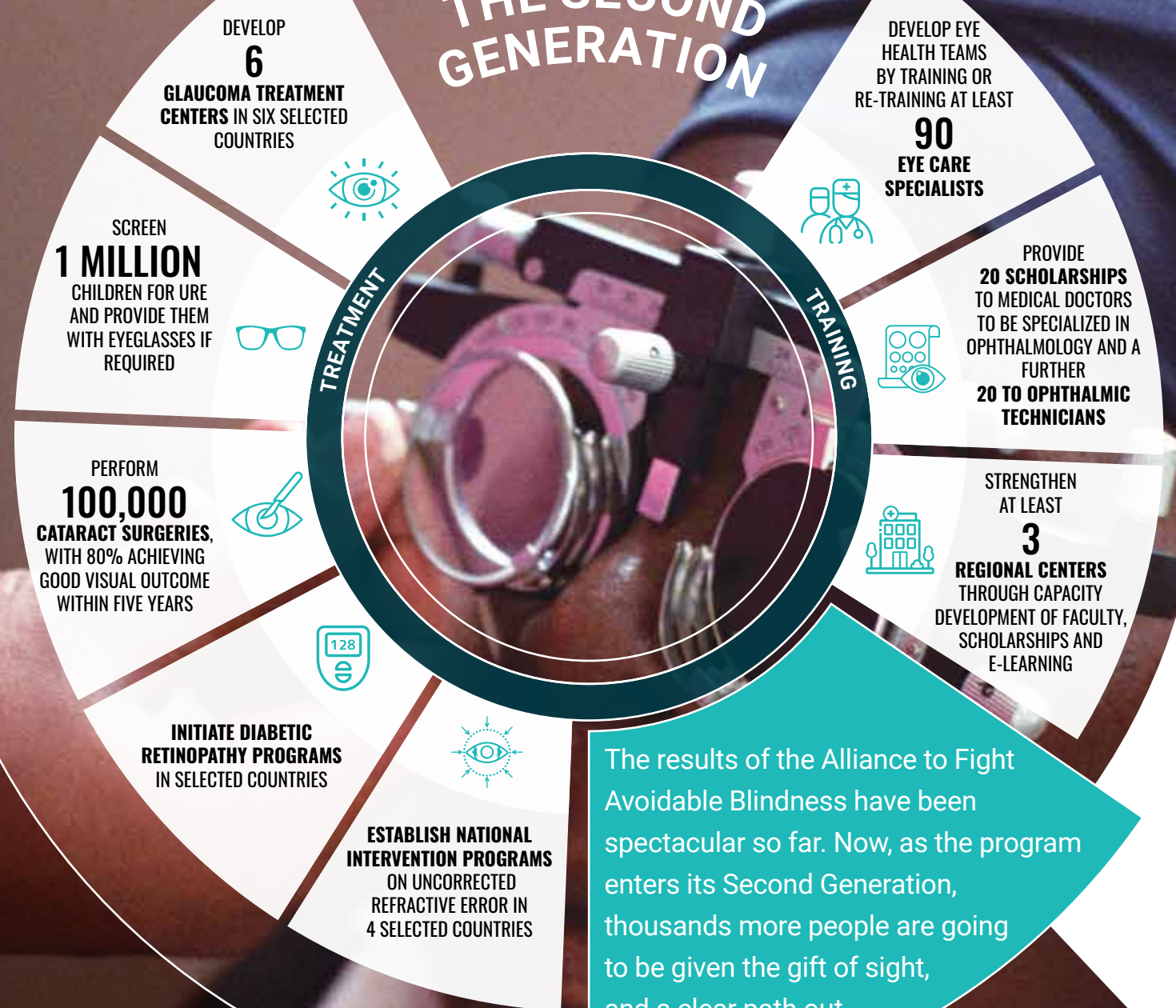




Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness

## TARGETS FOR THE SECOND GENERATION



### SOUTH-SOUTH PARTNERSHIP

#### A UNIQUE ASPECT OF THE ISDB

A unique aspect of the IsDB – and thus of the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness – is the idea of South-South partnership. As nations join the Alliance and share their expertise and resources with other IsDB member countries, strong partnerships are formed. This co-operative spirit and solidarity have an impact that goes well beyond eye care. It is teamwork that can light up lives and transform whole nations.

The results of the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness have been spectacular so far. Now, as the program enters its Second Generation, thousands more people are going to be given the gift of sight, and a clear path out of poverty.

## JOIN THE ALLIANCE

Help give a bright future to people, and nations, who need to see a clear path out of poverty.

Your involvement today could expand our reach and bring the gift of sight to more people, transforming their lives. To find out more about how you can help, contact:

Islamic Development Bank  
8111 King Khalid St. Al Nuzlah Yamania Dist.  
Unit No. 1  
Jeddah 22332-2444  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
✉ [afab@isdb.org](mailto:afab@isdb.org)  
☎ +966 12 6361400



## THE ALLIANCE TO FIGHT AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS (AFAB)

### BEATING BLINDNESS

RESTORING SIGHT TO GIVE PEOPLE A CLEAR PATH OUT OF POVERTY



## THE ALLIANCE TO FIGHT AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS

At the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), our goal is to foster the economic development and social progress of our member countries.

That is why, in 2008, we launched the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness, a partnership program designed to restore people's sight, prevent vision loss and build the capacity of medical teams in countries in Africa where millions needlessly live in darkness. Not only does widespread blindness devastate lives, it is also a major obstacle to a country's economic growth.

The Alliance brought together eye-care non-governmental organizations, ministries of health, training centers and donors, all with the shared goal of helping as many people as possible 'see the light' and find a clear path out of poverty.

The First Generation of this ambitious program ended in 2015 with impressive results. Now, we are building on that success and roll this initiative out to more countries, where we will raise awareness, train medical staff and target a wider range of eye conditions.

THE IMPACT PROMISES TO BE NOT JUST EYE-OPENING, BUT LIFE-CHANGING.

### BLINDNESS AROUND THE WORLD: THE FIGURES

ACCORDING TO THE WORLD REPORT ON VISION (WHO PUBLICATION IN 2019),

AT LEAST **2.2 BILLION PEOPLE** HAVE A VISION IMPAIRMENT, OF WHOM AT LEAST 1 BILLION HAVE A VISION IMPAIRMENT THAT COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED OR HAS YET TO BE ADDRESSED.

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY **253 MILLION** WITH MODERATE OR SEVERE DISTANCE VISION IMPAIRMENT OR BLINDNESS

**36 MILLION** ARE BLIND.

**217 MILLION** HAVE LOW VISION.

**LOW INCOME COUNTRY**

**89%** OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE LIVE IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES.

AMONG THE LEADING CAUSES OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT ARE CATARACTS, GLAUCOMA, AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION, DIABETIC RETINOPATHY AND REFRACTIVE ERRORS SUCH AS LONG- OR SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS.

**80%** OF ALL VISUAL IMPAIRMENT CAN BE PREVENTED OR CURED.

## A POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP MAKING A CLEAR DIFFERENCE

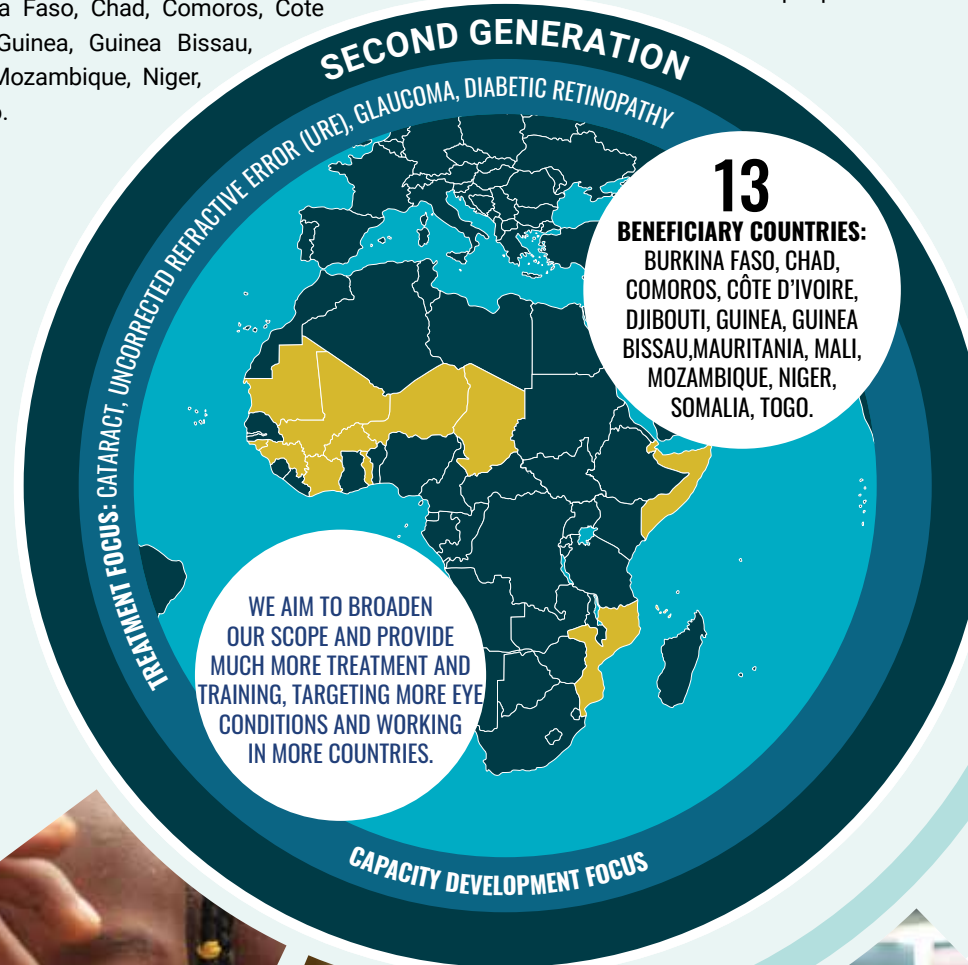
During the first phase of the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness, we learned a great deal as we formed key partnerships, established infrastructure and devised best practice and effective ways of working together to fight blindness.

Now we are applying what we have learned as we broaden our scope and ramp up the scale of this program.

Firstly, we are working in more countries – 13 in total, compared to 8 during the First Generation. In this second phase, we are providing comprehensive, accessible and sustainable eye care services in Burkina Faso, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Somalia and Togo.

Secondly, although we are continuing to treat cataracts, which remain the leading cause of blindness in many countries, we are also broadening our scope to include other preventable and curable eye diseases: uncorrected refractive error, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy.

Finally, in order to make lasting change, we are developing the capacity of medical centers in the countries where we work. The more medical staff we can train, the more we can do to improve diagnosis and treatment of eye conditions, the greater the impact we will have on people's lives and countries' development.



## SOME OF AFAB'S ACHIEVEMENTS

THE FOLLOWING RESULTS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED THUS FAR, UNDER THE AFAB:



5-YEAR ACTION PLAN WERE DEVELOPED FOR THE

**13 BENEFICIARIES**

BASED ON A THOROUGH SITUATION ANALYSES CARRIED OUT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.



**104,564** CATARACT SURGERIES AND **640,549** CONSULTATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT, MAKING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF MANY.



**279**

OPHTHALMOLOGISTS AND OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS RECEIVED SHORT-TERM TRAINING TO ENHANCE THEIR SKILLS IN THE AREA OF EYE CARE.



**24** OPHTHALMOLOGISTS AND **80**

OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS HAVE BEEN GRANTED SCHOLARSHIPS TO ADDRESS THE SHORTAGE OF EYE SPECIALISTS IN THE COUNTRIES.



**100,000** CHILDREN BENEFITED FROM SCREENING FOR REFRACTIVE ERRORS FROM NIGER AND TOGO.

**4,950**

CHILDREN HAVE BEEN DETECTED WITH REFRACTIVE ERRORS, GRANTED WITH NEW GLASSES AND RECEIVED MEDICAL TREATMENT.



**666**

TEACHERS ACQUIRED THE NECESSARY TOOLS AND SKILLS TO SCREEN THEIR STUDENTS FOR REFRACTIVE ERRORS AND TO HELP IMPROVE THEIR VISION.



WE NEED TO BUILD ON THIS MOMENTUM, TRAIN MORE MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND HELP MORE PEOPLE SEE A CLEAR PATH OUT OF POVERTY.