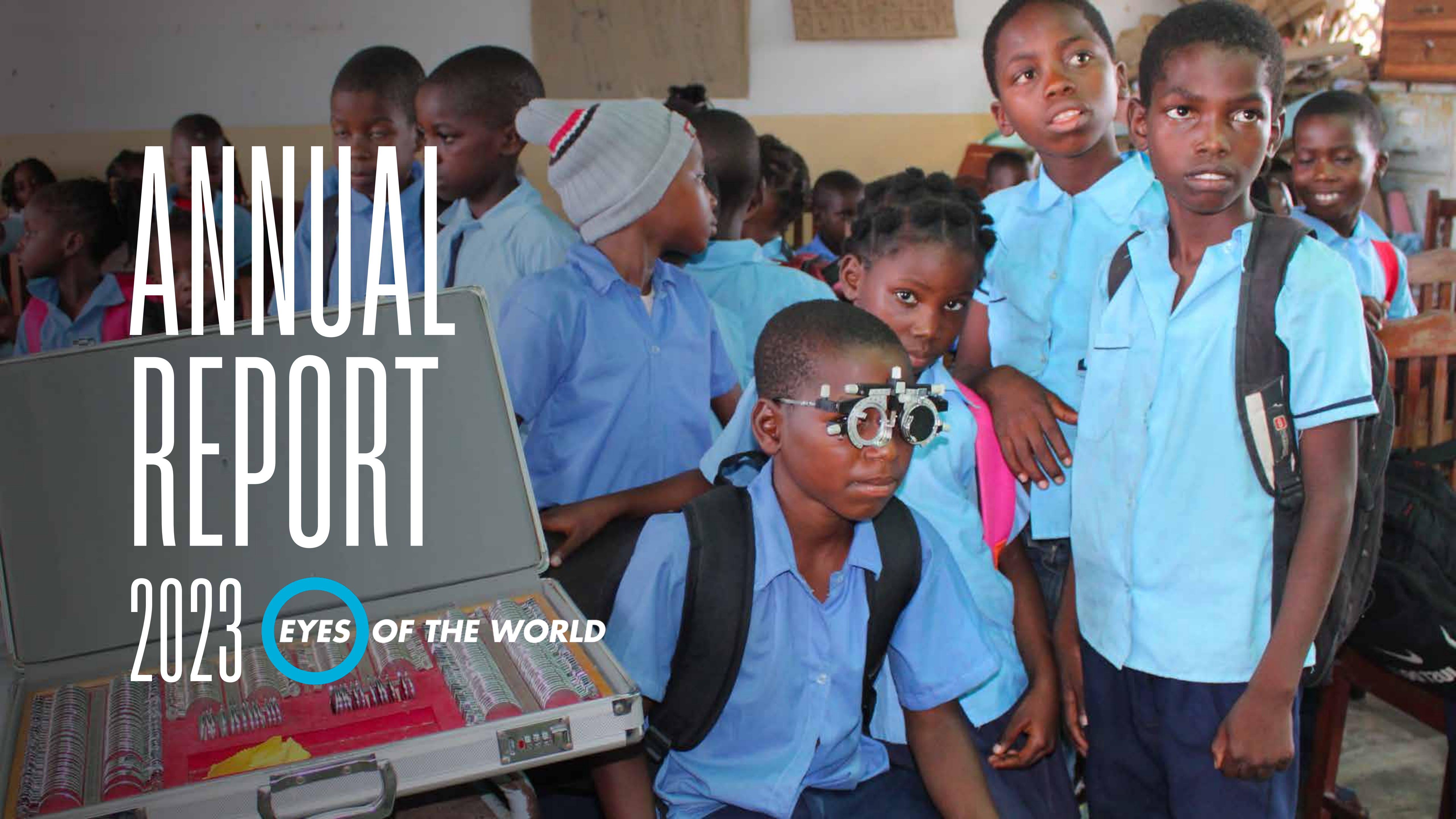


# ANNUAL REPORT

2023



EYES OF THE WORLD



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**Eyes of the world is a private foundation with headquarters in Barcelona, established on July 9, 2001 and registered in:**

- › Registry of Foundations of the Government of Catalonia, with number 1568, on July 18, 2001.
- › Registry of Non-Governmental Development Organizations, attached to the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), on May 10, 2004.
- › Registry of Non-Governmental Organizations for Development of the Government of Catalonia, Secretariat of Foreign Cooperation, with number 29, on June 19, 2005.
- › Registry of Foundations of the Basque Country, on July 19, 2005.
- › Registry of Foundations of the Valencian Community, on January 29, 2007.
- › Register of the Headquarters of Puy-de-Dôme, France, on December 27, 2012.
- › Bureau of Associations, Foundations and Professional Associations of Pamplona, Navarre, on November 20, 2013.
- › Registry of the Agents of International Development Cooperation in Andalusia. Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation, March 29, 2019.
- › Registre d'Agents de la Cooperació Internacional al Desenvolupament a Andalusia. Agència Andalusia de Cooperació Internacional al Desenvolupament, el 29 de març de 2019.
- › Lafede.cat, organizations for global justice, as an observer member, on June 15, 2019.
- › Register of the Navarre DNGO Coordinator, 8 September 2022.
- › Registration of the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief, on 12 March 2024.

**Eyes of the world appreciates the contribution of all the people who, either with photographs or with information, have documented the activities of the Foundation.**



## MISSION

Eyes of the world works to achieve a world in which people with visual impairments and without economic resources from countries with a medium or low development index can receive quality ophthalmological care from their health services and create the necessary conditions to reduce the incidence of eye pathologies in each territory.

It also raises public awareness in our environment regarding the deficiencies of basic health in those areas.

## VISION

Eyes of the world envisions a world in which no one is needlessly blind, the right to sight is effective and everyone has the opportunity to realise their full potential.

## PRINCIPLES AND ACTION GUIDELINES

### FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- › Humanity
- › Independence
- › Equal opportunities and gender equity
- › Altruism
- › Professionalism
- › Transparency

### ACTION GUIDELINES

- › Permanence
- › Development
- › Cooperation
- › Efficiency

# PRESENTATIONS

## Adaptation to change

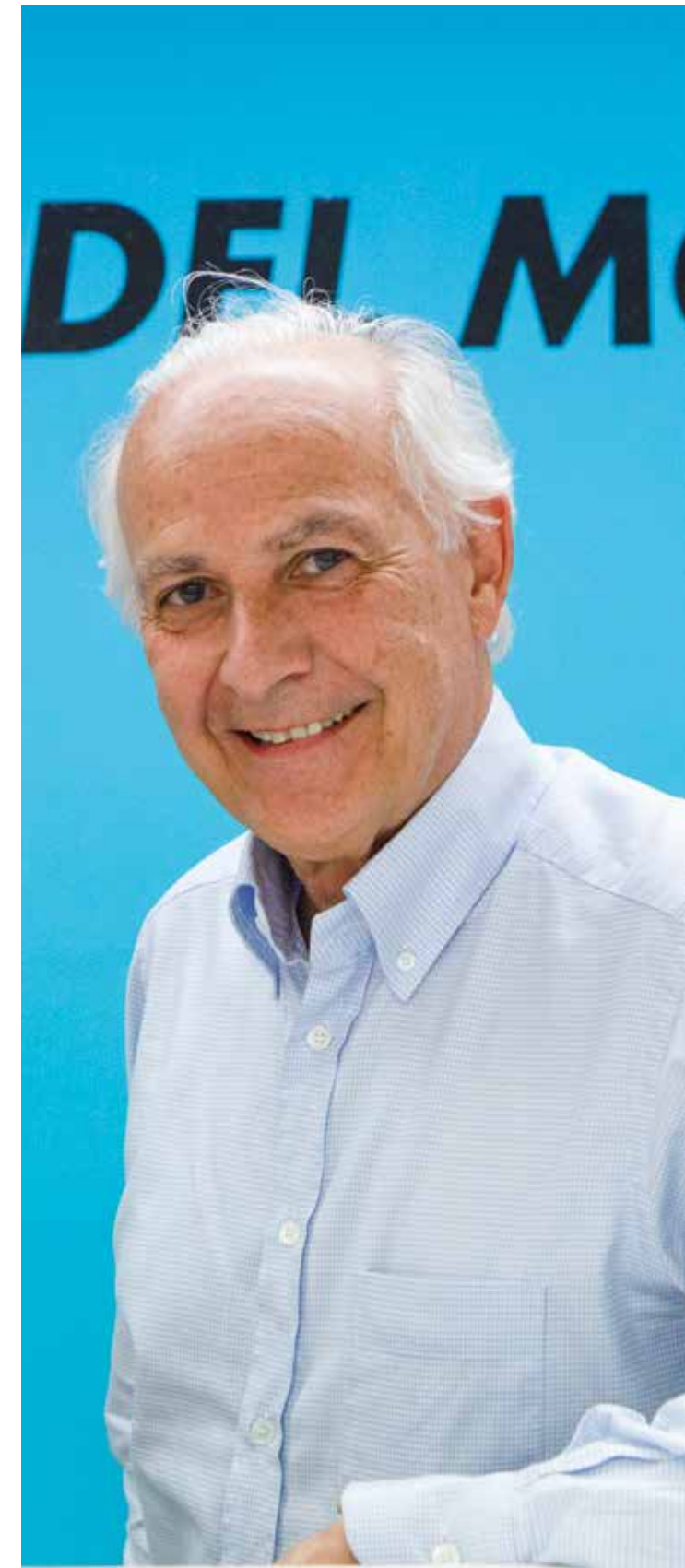


**RAFAEL RIBÓ**  
President

We undertake cooperation projects in **places where, unfortunately, crisis and instability are an ongoing problem.** War, conflict and all manner of restrictions are part of the daily lives of a particularly vulnerable population who barely have the resources they need to survive and are often forced to leave their homes. Under these conditions, **health is but another victim.** Particularly eye health, which is at the bottom of the list of priorities.

Within this context, 2023 was another complicated year in which Eyes of the world had to deal with numerous challenges in effort to **continue to provide high-quality eye care in difficult circumstances.** Certain activities were affected by electricity supply failures, political and social crises, severe coexistence issues and environmental degradation. Yet despite this, we continued to make headway in the promotion of eye health as a matter of priority on a social, economic and developmental front. Because we cannot continue to live in a world in which millions of people are disadvantaged as a result of visual impairment or blindness. We cannot allow women and men to fall behind due to insufficient access to eye care. That is why, although our efforts are largely focused on planning prevention and development actions inspired in times of peace, we must also be capable of developing a stronger and more efficient response in situations of extreme vulnerability.

## More knowledge, better vision



**BORJA CORCÓSTEGUI**  
Vice president

2023 was a year of upgrades to infrastructure, facilities, training and skills. We opened **new facilities**, such as the ophthalmology centre in Rabuni and the new operating room in Mopti; consolidated and expanded the **WetLab** project in Oruro, a surgical ophthalmology training centre that has become a benchmark in Bolivia; increased the number of **teletraining** sessions aimed at providing specialised knowledge; and purchased new high-quality image devices, such as **MicroREC and Ocuify**, to reinforce surgical and diagnostic skills.

Eyes of the world also invested in **data collection and analysis with a view to further refining our action strategies.** This included a study in Mali on the impact of corrective lenses in schools, coordination meetings held as part of all our projects to assess activity progress, meetings with local administrations and associations, work sessions with health workers and partners, satisfaction surveys and new patient follow-up procedures. This flow of information provided new perspectives and helped us offer responses and develop strategies that improve the quality and effectiveness of our eye health services.

# ABOUT US

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Rafael Ribó Massó**, president and member Executive Committee

**Borja Corcóstegui Guraya**, vice president and member Executive Committee

**Daniel Capdevila Dalmau**, secretary and member Executive Committee

**Núria Ramon Garcia**, member, member Executive Committee and head of Strategic Partnerships

**Josep Antoni Pujante Conesa**, member, representing Government of Catalonia (Health Department)

**Pilar Díaz Romero**, member, representing Barcelona Provincial Council

**Pilar Solanes Salse**, member, representing Barcelona City Council

**Enric Botí Castro de la Peña**, member, representing ONCE Foundation for Latin America (FOAL)

**Miriam Barbany Rodríguez**, member, ophthalmologist

**Andrés Müller-Thyssen Bergareche**, member, ophthalmologist

**María Teresa Vilalta Ferrer**, member, economist

## ADVISORY BOARD

**Liliana Arroyo Moliner**, general manager of Sociedad Digital, Generalitat de Catalunya

**Roser Artal Rocafort**, head of Innovation and Projects at the Pallars Regional Hospital (GSS)

**Josep Caminal Badia**, member

**Jordi Constans Fernández**, member of different councils such as Puig, GB Foods and Fluidra

**Ángel Corcóstegui Guraya**, founding partner Magnum Capital

**Patricia Fernández-Deu**, manager of External Relations MAHALA

**Jordi Fontcuberta Villa**, CEO General Optica

**Lluís Reverter Gelabert**, member

**Ferran Rodés Vilà**, president of ARA newspaper

**Josep Santacreu Bonjoch**, president of the Chamber of Commerce

**Xavier Trias Vidal de Llobatera**, member

**Virginia Knörr Barandiaran**, manager of VK Comunicació

**Muntsa Vilalta Cambra**, general manager of FemCAT

## MEDICAL COMMITTEE

**Borja Corcóstegui Guraya**, president

**Ricardo Casaroli Marano**, secretary

**Mónica Lecumberri López**, Eyes of the Sahara Medical Supervisor

**Carlos Móser Würth**, Eyes of Mozambique Medical Supervisor

**Hernán Gras**, Eyes of Bolivia Medical Supervisor

**Andrés Müller-Thyssen Bergareche**, Eyes of Mali Medical Supervisor

**Miriam Barbany Rodríguez**, ophthalmologist

## TERRITORIALS DELEGATES

**Rosario Martínez Navarro**, Valencian Community delegate

**Jesús Barragán Bretón**, Andalusian delegate

**Ana Isasa Fernández**, Euskadi delegate

**Kike Otaegi Arizmendi**, Navarra delegate

**Alfonso Jordán García**, Madrid delegate

**Lurdana Texeira Gomes**, Portugal territorial nucleus

**Hernán Gras**, Argentina territorial nucleus

**Romain Bordas**, France and Switzerland territorial nucleus

## OPERATIONAL TEAM

**Anna Barba Giró**, director

**Elisenda Rom Suñol**, assistant director and head of Communication

**Bibiana Ruberte de la Iglesia**, head of Project and Gender Management

**Mónica Martínez Casamada**, head of Administration and Finance

**Marina Satorras Guil**, Projects and Education for Development technician

**Tamara Morales López**, Administrative Management technician

**Sara Regrag Benslaiman**, Finance administrative

**Miren Rodríguez Barrenechea**, Munduko begiak Euskadi coordinator

**Alfonso Noboa Hernández**, Munduko begiak Navarra coordinator

## TEAM ON THE GROUND

### SAHARA

**María Tavera Villén**, Eyes of the Sahara coordinator

**Zeinuha Dah**, administrative

**Mohamed Mahmud**, IEC technician

**Sidahmed Mohamed-Salem**, administrator of the Bechar Ophtalmology House in Rabuni

**Aali Mohamed Lehib**, administrator of the Bechar Ophtalmology House

### MOZAMBIQUE

**Vasco Cote**, Eyes of Mozambique coordinator

**Natacha Patricia Simone**, projects technician

**Sarifa Ismael**, administrative

**Carlos Ferreira**, driver/logistician

### BOLIVIA

**Patricia Tárraga Quintela**, Eyes of Bolivia coordinator

**Rubén Murillo Espinoza**, accounting administrator

**Gabriela Zea Arce**, head of fundraising

**Zulma Guerrero Herrera**, Tarija project coordinator

**Ruth Bolaños Carreño**, Oruro project coordinato

**Julio Ugarte Baldelomar**, Oruro driver/logistician

**Katty Yave Rollano**, IEC Oruro technician

**Lucero Pérez Colque**, logistics and courier assistant Oruro

**Martha Apaza Nina**, logistics and courier assistant La Paz

**Wilder Sánchez Fernández**, Tarija driver/logistician

**Diana Alejandra Cruz Acarapi**, administrative assistant

**Miguel Ángel Mendoza**, medical logistic assistant

### MALI

**Albert Coulibaly**, Eyes of Mali coordinator

**Seydou Togo**, programme assistant

**Hélène Dena**, administrative

**Mamadou Guindo**, dirver/logistician

**Edjuko Douyon**, accountant

**Dagaloum Doumbo, Amadou Sana, Etienne Wadiou, Abdoulaye Zebré, Agnou Oumar**, security guards

# ABOUT US

## VOLUNTEERS AND COLLABORATORS

Antón Aguirre, Pablo Aguirre, Miguel Aizkorbe, Nagore Arbelaitz, Kepa Aulestia, Xabier Azanza, Pio Barbería, Carol Camino, Glòria Cano, Ariadna Capdevila, Carolina Capdevila, Ricardo Casaroli, Isa Chivite, Júlia Companys, Roger Companys, Ibone Egía, Sara Egía, Iñaki Elorza, Josune Fernández, Begoña Gabiña, Iñaki Ganuza, Carles García, Francesc Garcia, Lourdes Garcia, Jose Ramón Gómez, Marisa Gómez, Ana Isasa, Karmele Lasa, Mónica Lecumberrri, Izaskun Legarreta, Oriol Llop, Meritxell Maldonado, Pello Mariñelarena, Anna Mas, Elisabet Mesquida, Josep Mir, Albert Montañés, Tole Mora, Manuel Moreno, Carlos Moser, Andrés Müller-Thyssen, Adrián Ordinana, Enrique Otaegi, Xaulo Otaegi, Jordi Palouzié, Gloria Picazo, Vilma Pinheiro, Sylvie Rochigneux, Marina Rodríguez, Tania Roris, María Sanchidrián, Marta Serra, Liam Singleton, Joana Soteras, Ana Zaameño, Maitane Zarate.



## With a gender perspective



**ANNA BARBA**  
Director

No cooperation project should be impervious to inequality. For this reason, in 2023, in addition to the actions that Eyes of the world undertakes each year to guarantee gender equality, further progress was made in internal organisational issues, such as the drafting of the Gender Strategy and the Protocol for Preventing, Detecting and Addressing Sexual Violence. We also incorporated new issues into our programmes, such as support for health authorities in the drafting of the **first Sahrawi Gender and Eye Health Strategy**. Or the actions undertaken to raise awareness among men in Mozambique about the **new forms of positive masculinity** and their role in promoting women’s healthcare. In Mali, we launched a new literacy activity that involved providing vulnerable women reading, writing and sums classes to strengthen their abilities and autonomy. And in Bolivia, our initiatives were centred around **peasant women**, who received training to become eye health promoters in rural areas.

Particular mention and thanks must go to the incredible work of the **women’s associations in all territories**, which assisted in disseminating information, educating and rallying support for eye care among other women. With them and for them, we will continue to fight to create an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment, offering them the tools they need to become agents of change and actively participate in decision-making, empowering them both individually and collectively.

# 2023

**BOLIVIA**  
TARIJA, URURO, LA PAZ AND  
SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENTS

**SAHARA**  
SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN  
TINDOUF (ARGELIA)

**MALI**  
MOPTI  
REGION

**MOZAMBIQUE**  
INHAMBANE  
PROVINCE



**157,559**  
**PEOPLE ASSISTED**  
95,534 adults (55% women)  
62,025 minors (52% girls)



**5,583 SURGERIES**  
51% women



**2,212 TRAINED**  
**PROFESSIONALS**  
65% women



**57,793 PEOPLE**  
**MADE AWARE**  
60% women

**2,075,800**  
**PEOPLE IMPACTED**  
by local media

# OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS THROUGH IMPROVED EYE HEALTH



## DIRECT EFFECTS

## INTERMEDIATE EFFECTS

## RESULTS

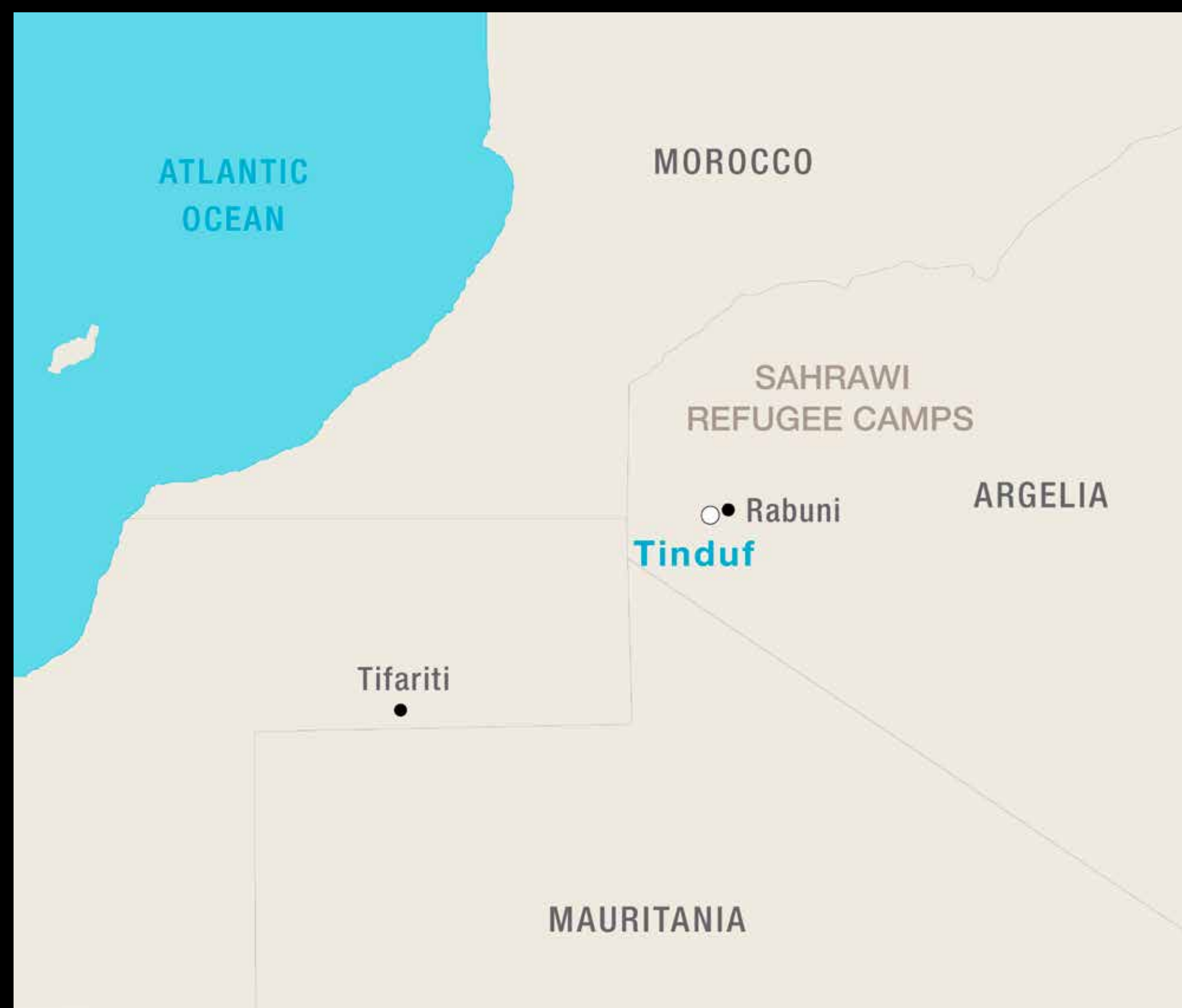


## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES





# EYES OF THE SAHARA



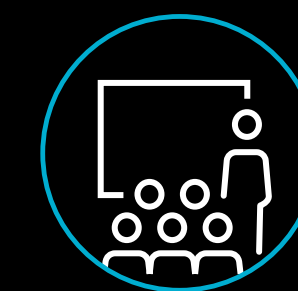
In 2023, project milestones included the opening of the ophthalmology centre in Rabuni, the optimisation of the ophthalmology house in Béchar, the use of technology and developments in the struggle for equality, which culminated in December in the approval of the first gender and eye health strategy, scheduled to be implemented in 2024.



**53,075**  
**PEOPLE ASSISTED**  
37,241 adults (56% women)  
15,834 minors (52% girls)



**1,405 SURGERIES**  
55% women



**20 TRAINED PROFESSIONALS**  
40% women



**18,017 PEOPLE MADE AWARE**  
54% women

**138,800**  
**PEOPLE IMPACTED**  
by local media



# NEW OPHTHALMOLOGY CENTRE IN RABUNI

The eye health network in the Sahrawi refugee camps has grown in both size and strength in recent years. That is why it was so important to create a new ophthalmology centre in the Rabuni National Hospital which could ensure access to quality care for the population. Construction began in December 2022 and the inauguration took place in May 2023.

The centre includes two ophthalmology clinics, a children's vision therapy clinic, a glass assembly workshop and two storerooms. The facilities are now fully equipped and fully functional and offer care to an average of 60 people per day.



# IMPROVED EYE CARE IN THE BECHAR WILAYA

**Increase in the number of patients in the ophthalmology house.** In effort to respond to the demands of the Sahrawi health authorities and reduce the prevalence of eye conditions, Eyes of the world leased a larger house in the Béchar wilaya. In doing so, it increased the number of people who received care during the year by 164%. And to improve

its management, a number of initiatives were carried out, such as updating the patient follow-up procedures, providing free transportation and increasing the coordination staff.

**Assessment of cataract surgery quality.** Everyone who underwent surgery at Béchar was checked within a few weeks in the camps by a team of local professionals, with a view to collecting data that could help optimise the quality of the operations.

# INCREASED USE OF TELEMEDICINE

**Online training and consultations.** The optometrists and assistants took part in 22 sessions with the University of Zaragoza on paediatric refraction, visual therapy and reduced vision. Three WhatsApp groups were also created with volunteer optometrists to provide local professionals a permanent forum in which to ask questions about specific cases that come up in daily practice.



# DETECTION OF EYE CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS AND TENTS

**New procedures for testing minors.** The ultimate aim of testing children's eyesight is to detect and treat eye conditions as early as possible and correct refractive errors. To improve the efficiency and quality, this year, the operating procedures were modified in effort to screen more children in schools and with their families.

**Home visits for vulnerable groups.** Thanks to the cooperation of the Basmat Khayr women's association, in 2023, screening campaigns were conducted in all wilayas to offer care to people in extremely vulnerable situations. People with vision problems were referred to the clinic at the wilaya's hospital. Anyone without transportation was picked up by a vehicle from the women's association. And anyone with reduced mobility was visited by the optometrist at their home.





# GENDER-SENSITIVE AWARENESS

**Primary school activities.**

A total of 364 talks were organised with primary school students in all wilayas with a dual aim: to raise awareness about eye care (hygiene, lighting, use of glasses) and stress the fact that eye health depends neither on gender nor gender roles

**Communication campaigns.** In addition to generic advertisements and messages on local media about eye health and care services, two specific campaigns were conducted on the issue of chronic conditions, the aim of which was to provide information about glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy through a report on Sahrawi television recorded at the new centre in the Rabuni National Hospital and leaflets handed out by women from the Basmat Khayr association in the daïras, clinics and hospitals in each wilaya.

# A PERSONAL VIEW FATAMA MOHAMED LAMIN

## "We went from being almost blind to seeing normally again"

Fatama lives in the Bojador refugee camp. She began to lose her eyesight and experience headaches and dizziness, yet did not become concerned until the pain became unbearable. She was diagnosed with cataracts and underwent surgery on both eyes in the hospital in Béchar. Despite making a complete recovery in one eye, she, yet continued to have blurred vision in the other, as a result of glaucoma. In 2023, she became one of the first people to visit the new ophthalmology centre in Rabuni to have her eyesight tested and glasses made. She is eternally grateful for Eyes of the world's help, as she considers that "it is a miracle" she is able to see again.



# EYES OF MOZAMBIQUE



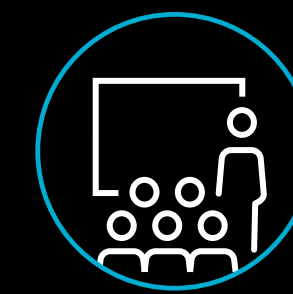
It was a year of sweeping political and socioeconomic change, complicated even further by several strikes by health workers and tropical storm Freddy, which tragically affected thousands of families and damaged healthcare infrastructure. Nonetheless, the project succeeded in continuing to lower the barriers that prevent people from accessing eye health.



**32,871**  
**PEOPLE ASSISTED**  
23,433 adults (56% women)  
9,438 minors (53% girls)



**972 SURGERIES**  
47% women



**784 TRAINED PROFESSIONALS**  
71% women



**890 PEOPLE MADE AWARE**  
89% women

**374,000**  
**PEOPLE IMPACTED**  
by local media

## THEATRE OPENS EYES

Theatre is entertaining and fun, and in Inhambane, it also helps prevent blindness. In 2023, plays were staged in the districts of Zavala, Vilankulos and Massinga for a total of 247 spectators (150 women and 97 men) to convey the importance of eye health to the rural population.

The entertaining 45-minute-long play served to disseminate information on hygiene, the importance of vision testing, the treatment of disorders such as cataracts and the need to regularly visit health centres, in addition to emphasising the importance of women being able to make their own decisions about their health.



# DECENTRALISED EYE CARE

**Visits to schools and vulnerable individuals in remote locations.** Over the course of the year, school screenings were conducted in several districts with a view to detecting eye problems. As part of these campaigns, the ophthalmology technicians tested the students' and teachers' eyesight and handed out 358 pairs of glasses. They also visited centres for the elderly, prisons and orphanages. And to reach more remote places, the mobile optician's travelled to Funhalouro, Homoine, Inhassoro and Jangamo, performing 591 consultations (59% women) and handing out 56 pairs of glasses.

**Surgeries in 5 districts.** Campaigns were conducted in Quissico, Vilankulos, Massinga, Chicuque and the Inhambane Provincial Hospital. Each was supported by a team of 13 people, which included ophthalmologists, technicians, instrument technicians and assistants. The patients who underwent cataract surgery received follow-up visits to monitor the quality of the surgery using the new Boost app.

# MORE LOCAL TRAINING, INCREASED SUSTAINABILITY

**More specialised health workers.** One of the main fields of training explored new clinical approaches to eye problems and conditions in paediatric optometry, with hands-on sessions in the hospital in Maputo and online case discussions. Two high-quality optical devices, MicroREC



and Ocuify, were also purchased to deliver teletraining sessions to ophthalmologists, with a view to improving their surgical and diagnostic skills in complex sub-specialties.

**Training for teachers and community leaders.** One optometrist and one ophthalmology technician offered visual acuity testing training to 39 female schoolteachers and 23 male schoolteachers to help them detect eyesight problems in the classroom, as well as eye health and hygiene training to 30 community leaders (5 women), calling attention to the bad practices of certain traditional medical practitioners that could jeopardise the population's eye health.

# WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

**A gender-sensitive diagnosis for designing training sessions and workshops.** This new study helped identify inequalities in access to eye care. To combat them, a number of activities were organised, such as training sessions on gender roles and relations for women, which aimed to empower them both individually and collectively and encourage their participation in decision-making; gender workshops for female community leaders to promote an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment; and the reinforcement of local associations in issues of gender and the struggle against all types of violence.



**Promotion of new forms of masculinity.** Positive masculinity and active support for women’s eye health were the subjects of numerous awareness sessions with men’s groups. Radio programmes and debates that included listeners’ testimonies were also used.

## NEW NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

**Coordination of provincial and national meetings.** A number of meetings were organised throughout the year to assess the progress being made in the National Eye Health Programme’s activities and reflect on the ophthalmology sector’s challenges and prospects which prompted the creation of a new plan.

**Preparation of the 2023–2030 National Ophthalmology Plan.** Eyes of the world supported the creation of a new strategic plan based around three pillars: the government’s increased

promotion of eye health as part of the Ministry of Health’s programmes and through partnerships with other government agencies and the private sector; the training of human resources to meet the needs of the various levels of care and ensure an even distribution; and the upgrading of infrastructure and equipment to ensure the availability of material and medications and increase eye care coverage.



## A PERSONAL VIEW SAULINA MELICE

### "I never thought I'd be able to see again"

Saulina is 72 years old and lives in the district of Massinga. Diagnosed with bilateral cataracts, she lived in complete darkness for more than three years. Blindness left her in a state of profound isolation and despair, made even worse by family abandonment, which led to her admission to the Elderly Support Centre. Her life changed thanks to the two eye operations she underwent, the most recent of which took place in 2023 as part of a free surgery campaign organised by Eyes of the world. Her eyesight revived her joie de vivre and the hope that she thought she had lost. She became more autonomous, returned to working in the fields and asked the Foundation to keep "helping and transforming the lives of others".





# EYES OF BOLIVIA



In 2023, efforts were made to promote the sustainability of the eye health services from an inclusive and equitable perspective, improving access to and the quality of the ophthalmological and surgical care for vulnerable populations in the rural areas of Oruro and Tarija: indigenous communities, women and children.



**22,116**  
**PEOPLE ASSISTED**  
11,295 adults (55% women)  
10,821 minors (50% girls)



**213 SURGERIES**  
49% women



**1,282 TRAINED PROFESSIONALS**  
62% women



**23,377 PEOPLE MADE AWARE**  
59% women

**1,116,900**  
**PEOPLE IMPACTED**  
by local media

## MORE FEMALE EYE HEALTH PROMOTERS

Eye health promoters are key to reaching the most vulnerable rural populations and raising awareness of the importance of vision care among their communities, urging individuals with cataracts – particularly indigenous women – to undergo a life-changing surgery. In 2023, women from peasant organisations in 29 villages took part in the 3 training workshops held in Oruro and the 3 that took place in Tarija, in which 130 new health promoters received the training required to deliver educational talks, perform visual acuity tests and refer cases to health centres.





# STRENGTHENING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

**New eye health plans.** To broaden and improve access to eye health, in 2023, further requests were placed with local authorities to allocate part of their budget to eye health plans. These efforts succeeded in doubling the expected target, resulting in 26 eye health plans in schools (11 in Oruro and 15 in Tarija) and encouraging 6 new villages to, for the first time, set aside public resources for visual health.

**Professional training.** During a period of 5 months, 5 ophthalmologists from the public system underwent surgical training in the WetLab in Oruro, which culminated in the performance of a

series of cataract operations on patients in rural areas. Due to its status as a benchmark, this programme now has increased capacity and new equipment and instruments have been purchased. In 2023, close to 200 primary care health professionals also received basic ophthalmology training.

# IMPROVED ACCESS TO CATARACT SURGERY

**Patient recruitment.** In 2023, 13 villages benefited from the strategy aimed at recruiting rural patients with cataracts. Eyes of the world supported the Ministry of Health and Sports and the "Look Bolivia" programme in organising free ophthalmology campaigns for elderly people with limited resources. The



patients and their family members were informed about the possibility of undergoing surgery under Universal Health Coverage (UHC), while home visits for peasant women were organised to answer their questions and concerns about the procedure.

**Logistical support for people without resources.** Agreements were signed with a number of municipal councils to cover the cost of transportation and accommodation for vulnerable people in need of cataract surgery, making it easier for them to travel from their communities to the hospitals in Oruro and Tarija.

# GREAT WORK AT THE SCHOOLS

**Screening training for 925 teachers.** The teaching staff from 143 rural schools were given eye care and visual acuity testing training. This provided them the skills necessary to screen the students, who are later visited by the ophthalmological brigades to treat any vision problems detected. 2,322



prescription glasses were handed out to students, people with disabilities and adults in vulnerable situations, while follow-up visits were scheduled to monitor adherence and adaptation to the lenses.

**Educational talks.** A series of talks were organised at schools, special education centres and foster homes, in which 12,333 students received informational material and learned about the importance of visual health care and the correct use of lenses, along with gender and environmental issues.

# GENDER-SENSITIVE EYE HEALTH PROMOTION

**Putting an end to misinformation on cataracts.** The various awareness-raising actions organised were intended primarily for women, who are affected more by this condition, yet undergo surgery in smaller numbers. Through talks, health fairs, community gatherings, women's organisations,

social media and media outlets, efforts were made to raise awareness of the importance of quickly diagnosing women and mitigating their doubts about the treatment and post-operative care.

**Increased knowledge of refractive error care.** Dissemination of information and advice on eye health in on-site sessions, WhatsApp groups and radio clips to reach more remote places and ensure that no one is left behind, as well as through women's groups to promote healthy self-care habits and provide information on the correct use of lenses.



## A PERSONAL VIEW CIRA MATIRAYO

### "I can finally see my grandchildren for the first time"

Cira is 73 years old and lives in Pampa Grande, Tarija. Within a few years, her vision became clouded to the point that she was unable to see, forcing her to stop doing many things by herself. Neither did she have the opportunity to see her most recent grandchildren. Her youngest daughter heard that Eyes of the world was coming to perform eye tests at the local school and brought her mother in. The ophthalmologist diagnosed her with cataracts and told her that she needed surgery, but not to worry, the Foundation would help her. Following the operations, Cira wept with joy upon seeing again so soon after. She became able to take walks by herself, tend to her garden and, most importantly, see her grandchildren. She now shares her story in hopes that it might encourage others to have surgery, "without a doubt".



# EYES OF MALI



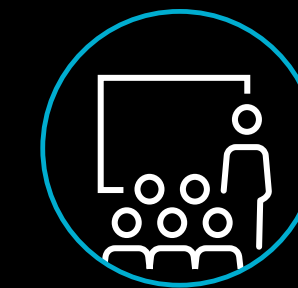
Project execution was once again stalled due to the country's critical situation. Violent attacks, looting, bombings and abductions triggered mobility constraints, while the energy crisis left several hospitals without electricity on various occasions throughout the year. Eyes of the world surmounted these difficulties and continued to provide eye care in the region of Mopti.



**49,497**  
**PEOPLE ASSISTED**  
 23,565 adults (53% women)  
 25,932 minors (52% girls)



**2,993 SURGERIES**  
 51% women



**126 TRAINED PROFESSIONALS**  
 67% women



**15,509**  
**PEOPLE MADE AWARE**  
 70% women

**446,100**  
**PEOPLE IMPACTED**  
 by local media



# THE IMPACT OF LENS USE IN SCHOOLS

With a view to optimising the child eye test campaigns, Eyes of the world conducted a study on the impact of corrective lenses in schools in Mopti. The study highlighted the irregular use of glasses, caused by both a lack of awareness of their benefits and the uncomfortable situations to which children who use them are subjected on account of their classmates' teasing. To avoid attitudes of rejection, the Foundation introduced several measures, including health education training for teachers, families and students; handing out teaching material; allowing the students to choose the frames; and monitoring the use of lenses on an ongoing basis.



## PLANNING VISITS AND SURGERY

### **Eye tests in 80 camps and 26 schools.**

In Bankass, Koro, Douentza, Mopti, Bandiagara, Djenné and Sikasso, 14,086 people displaced by internal conflicts (56% women and girls) had their eyes tested, during which cases of cataracts, trichiasis and tropical endemic limboconjunctivitis were detected. Food was also distributed among the most vulnerable people.

As part of the school campaigns for the early detection of refractive defects in Bandiagara, Djenné, Douentza and Koro, 8,623 girls and 8,146 boys were visited.

**Intensive surgical sessions.** In addition to the fortnightly cataract operations at the health centre in Bankass, 2023

also saw the performance of 27 surgical campaigns in 5 districts, which benefited from the social mobilisation promoted by the radio stations and several local associations, which urged people with cataracts to attend. Operations also began in the new ophthalmology surgery in the Sominé Dolo Hospital in Mopti, funded in full by Eyes of the world.

## UPGRADING OF PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND EQUIPMENT

### **Continuous training for health workers.**

To strengthen and update their skills,

health workers continued to receive theoretical and hands-on training on the use of clinical material, the detection of common eye conditions and referrals to the specialised ophthalmology unit. In addition, further training was provided to an ophthalmology specialist at the AITO to treat eye health problems in the region of Mopti.

### **Technological improvements.**

Spare parts, equipment repairs and preventive maintenance helped improve the quality of the eye health services. New ophthalmology and optical equipment and laptop computers were also donated. Furthermore, the Sominé Dolo Hospital in Mopti received a MicroREC video recording system, which will help improve the training activities and eye surgeries, and an Ocuify for taking photos of rare and/or complex cases and sharing them with local ophthalmologists via WhatsApp.



## GENDER-SENSITIVE AWARENESS-RAISING AND MICROCREDITS

**Women informers and leaders.** Thanks to the involvement of women from the women's associations in Bankass and Koro, 96 awareness-raising talks were organised, in which 7,217 people (64% women and girls) received information about gender equality in access to eye care and the treatment of refractive errors, cataracts and trachoma.

**More aid to support income-generating activities.** More funds were allocated in effort to help 184 vulnerable and visually impaired women launch activities that could generate income and improve their

situation and access to eye health. Altogether, over 350 women have benefited from this initiative. They were also offered literacy training in the form of reading, writing and sums courses, as well as entrepreneurship and financial management training.



# IMPROVED SANITATION AND HYGIENE

**Strengthening services.** In 2023, the WHO validated the elimination of trachoma as a public health problem in Mali. While this is fantastic news, cases continue to be reported in more remote villages and the issue concerning access to sufficient drinking water to ensure eye hygiene persists. During the year, Eyes of the world oversaw the rehabilitation of 4 wells and the latrines at two schools. A new biomedical waste incinerator was also built at the health centre in Djenné.



## A PERSONAL VIEW KINDO HALIMATOU MAÏGA

### "If the head of the household has no money, how can I ask for glasses?"

Kindo is 55 years old, lives in Moyounogoun and cooperates with Eyes of the world as part of the school awareness campaigns and in meetings held to educate women about the importance of eye care. However, when she was diagnosed with cataracts, she was afraid to have surgery and preferred to use corrective lenses. A pair of glasses she was unable to afford, given, as a woman, her lack of control over the management of the family's meagre financial resources. The Foundation provided her a pair of glasses, which "are extremely helpful, because otherwise I wouldn't be able to read".





# TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNICATION



campaign created to raise awareness about the effects of climate change on vision; and the eye health prevention and promotion advice provided in #EyeHealthForAll.

school students of the importance of vision and care inequalities in more vulnerable areas. In 2023, 5 schools participated: one in San Sebastian and 4 involved in the React film workshop project in Barcelona. An activity was also organised in Navarra for students enrolled in the cooking course at the Burlada vocational school, who prepared recipes using ingredients that are beneficial for eye health.

with members of the associations in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa. An exhibition of the Visions art collection was also held at the Barcelona Medical Association. In addition, the University of Deusto hosted a talk for all members of the Health Sciences community (Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy and Psychology) on the state of eye health in the world and the differences in access to ophthalmological care.

## DIGITAL VISIBILITY

In 2023, digital media continued to be one of the primary means for fostering reflection and change. The website eyesoftheworldfoundation.org became more accessible and transparent. And a great deal of content was published on social media, with an emphasis on that aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the right to Universal Healthcare, under the motto #StopHealthBarriers; the #ClimateVision

## EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Within the strategic framework of Education for Development, Eyes of the world took part in service learning projects to raise awareness among secondary



## MEETINGS WITH THE HEALTH SECTOR

As part of the ongoing initiatives organised with medical associations, information and working group creation sessions were carried out





# AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIONS

In effort to engage citizens and promote an active position in favour of universal access to eye health, Eyes of the world

was present at charity and volunteering fairs in Zarautz, Irún, Azkoitia, the University of Deusto and Pompeu Fabra University.

Music was also used to call attention to the Foundation's work: with two charity concerts in San Sebastian and one in Azkoitia featuring the programme "Music for Your Eyes" and a performance of "A ciegas" (Blindly) at the Royal Catalan Academic of Fine Arts.

Furthermore, this year, the photography exhibition Eyes of Inhambane travelled to Tudela and San Sebastian; the documentary *Gabor* was screened at Okendo Kultur Etxea; and a number of talks, cultural visits and solidarity events were organised, such as those held at the Istingorra and Klink dining clubs in Gipuzkoa.



# MOMENTS OF CELEBRATION

The Eyes of the world night charity dinner held to raise public awareness of the need to eradicate inequalities in eye care and raise funds to fight preventable blindness took place at the Rei Martí Water Deposit in Barcelona on 9 November, and featured a live performance by Joan Dausà. To mark its 22nd anniversary, on 13 July, the Foundation paid a visit, alongside volunteers, contributors, partners and donors, to the Egyptian Museum in Barcelona, where it discussed the

development of the project under Horus' watchful gaze.

And a very special recognition: on 11 November, at the 11th edition of the Sant Andreu de la Barca International Film Festival, Eyes of the world received the Oriana Science Award for its altruistic inspiration and humanitarian action.



## FINANCIAL DATA

### REVENUE

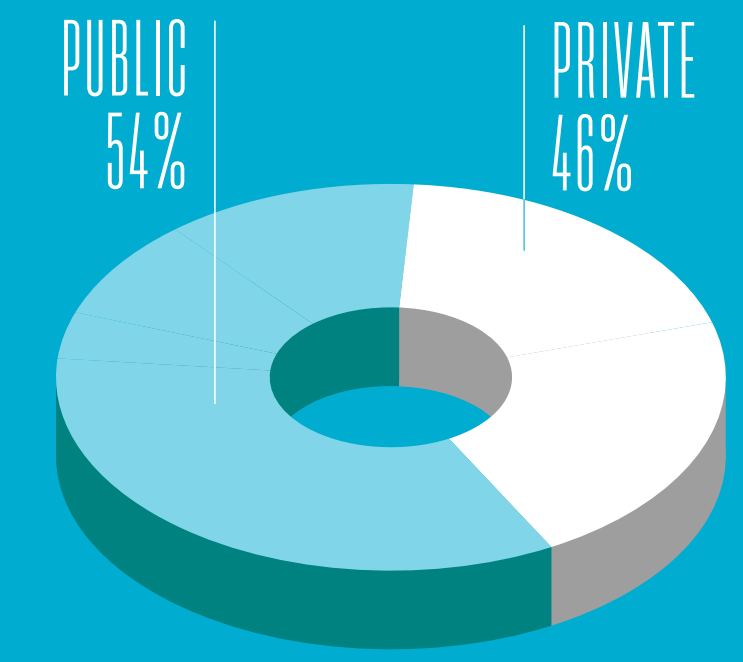
<b>PUBLIC</b>	€1.221.944
Foundational institutional trusts	€145.000
Cooperation grants	€1.044.093
Sensibilization grants	€25.948
Other public grants	€6.902
<b>PRIVADOS</b>	€1.024.961
Companies and entities	€652.947
Individual members	€27.815
One-off donors	€82.381
The Eyes of the world Night	€128.985
In-kind donations	€132.834
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	€2.246.905

### EXPENDITURE

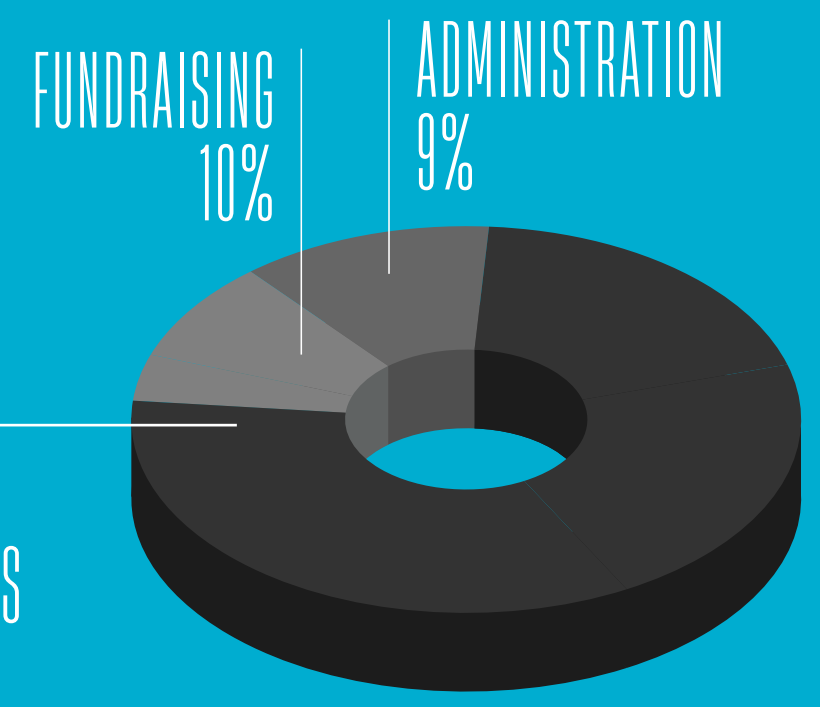
<b>PROGRAMAS DE ACTUACIÓN</b>	€1.873.891	<b>GENDER</b>	10%
Development cooperation	€1.736.651		10%
Eyes of the Sahara	€474.276		4%
Ojos de Mozambique	€386.438		30%
Eyes of Bolivia	€397.509		1%
Eyes of Mali	€345.596		7%
In-kind donations	€32.833		
Education for global justice	€137.240		14%
<b>FUNDRAISING</b>	€227.643		10%
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	€203.07		12%
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	€2.304.604		9%

The result of the financial year is transferred to the retained earnings account

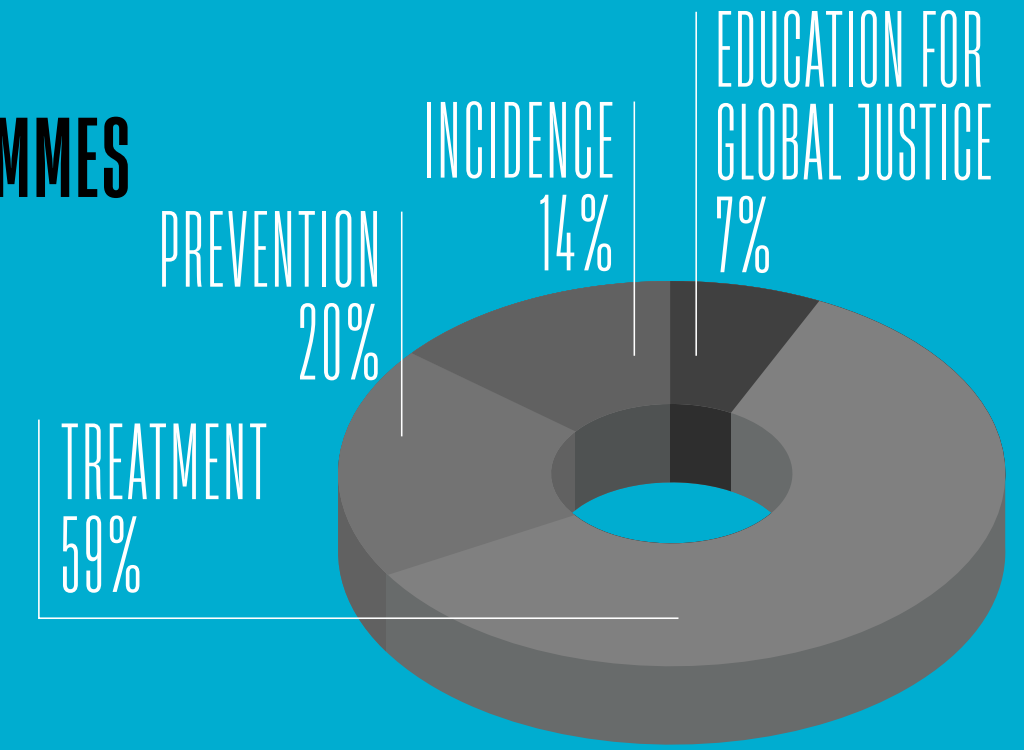
### REVENUE



### EXPENDITURE



### ACTION PROGRAMMES



# PARTNERSHIPS

## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS

### FOUNDATION TRUSTEES



### LOCAL AUTHORITIES



### OTHER PUBLIC BODIES



## PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS

### COLLABORATING ENTITIES



# PARTNERSHIPS

## LABORATORIES AND ORGANISATIONS LINKED TO THE HEALTH SECTOR

Ace Alzheimer Center Bcn  
 Angelini Pharma  
 Bausch&Lomb  
 Bloss Group  
 Colegio Oficial de Médicos de Bizkaia  
 Colegio Ofical de Médicos de Navarra  
 Col·legi Oficial d'Òptics i Optometristes de Catalunya  
 Laboratorio Théa  
 Orbis  
 Topcon  
 VIÚ 20/20

## OTHER ENTITIES

AC Hoteles by Marriott  
 Àgora Bolivia  
 Banc Sabadell  
 Banda de Música de Rentería  
 Bidons Egara  
 Bonita  
 BonpreuEsclat  
 CI Burlada FP  
 Clían Holding  
 Consorci per a la Normalització Lingüística  
 Creative Tehcnology Spain

Departamento de Internet  
 DKV Assegurances  
 EDM  
 Eneko Dieguez Quartet  
 Escuela Internacional de Protocolo  
 Eskifaia Korala  
 Fanorsan  
 Fincas Almedros  
 Fundació Damm  
 Fundació Privada Cottet-Mor  
 Fundación Alicia Koplowitz  
 Fundación CIONE Ruta de la Luz  
 Fundación Champalimaud  
 Gizalde  
 Grupo Ercilla  
 GUIRADO  
 IDES Economistes i advocats  
 IDS Servicios y soluciones tecnológicas  
 Instituto Peñaforida  
 Intermedia  
 Mariaren Bihotza Abesbatza  
 MRW  
 Museu Egipci  
 Okendo Kultur Etxea  
 Ortzian Ensemble  
 Pianoservei  
 Raventós Codorniu  
 RBA  
 Reial Acadèmia Catalana de Belles Arts Sant Jordi  
 Reial Cercle Artístic de Barcelona  
 Repsol Bolivia  
 Roman

Sauleda  
 Sociedad Gastronómica Istingorra  
 Sociedad Gastronómica Klink  
 Synergic Reseach&Consultancy  
 UNED Tudela  
 Universidad de Deusto  
 Xevi Estudi

## THE MEDIA

Ara  
 COPE Euskadi  
 Diari de Barcelona  
 Diario Vasco  
 Gipuzkoa Solidarioa  
 IM Òpticas  
 La Vanguardia  
 Noticias de Navarra  
 Onda Cero Catalunya  
 Radio4 (RNE)  
 Zarauko Hitza

## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Agencia Internacional para la Prevención de la Ceguera (IAPB)  
 Grupo de Trabajo sobre Equidad de Género (IAPB GEWG)  
 Grupo de Trabajo sobre Acción Climática (IAPB CAWG)

Alianza de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) para la Eliminación Global del Tracoma el año 2020 (GET 2020) + Coalición Internacional para el Control del Tracoma (ICTC)  
 Coalición Mozambiqueña para la Salud Ocular (MECC, Mozambican Eye Care Coalition)  
 VISION 2020 América Latina

## PARTNERS AND COUNTERPARTIES

### SAHARA

Ministerio de Salud Pública, Ministerio de Cooperación, Departamento de Oftalmología del MSP, Hospital de Oftalmología de Bechar, Ministerio de Educación, Ministerio de Justicia, Ministerio de Asuntos Sociales y Promoción de la Mujer, Brigada Médica Cubana, Medicus Mundi Catalunya, Asociación Basmat Khayr, Universidad de Zaragoza

### MOZAMBIQUE

AMETRAMO- Asociación de Curanderos Tradicionales de Mozambique, HOPEM - Red de Hombres por el Cambio, Dirección Provincial de Educación, Dirección Provincial de Género, ALBIMQZ- Asociación de Apoyo a los Albinos en Mozambique, Ministerio de Salud (Programa Nacional de Oftalmología),

Dirección Provincial de Salud y Servicios Provinciales de Salud de Inhambane, AMODEVI- Asociación para la movilización de Vilankulos

### BOLIVIA

Caritas Coroico, Fundación Fundessol, Fundación Tesãi, Sociedad Boliviana de Oftalmología, Asociación de Articulación de Mujeres por la Equidad y la Igualdad (AMUPEI), Moya Visión, Optica Todá Adonai, Ministerio de Salud y Deportes (MSyD), Instituto Nacional de Oftalmología (INO), Instituto Boliviano de la Ceguera (IBC), Escuela Nacional de Salud, Gobierno Autónomo Departamental de Oruro (incluye SEDES Oruro, Hospital General San Juan de Dios, Hospital Oruro Corea y Servicio Departamental de Gestión Social de Oruro), Gobierno Autónomo Departamental de Tarija (incluye SEDES Tarija y Hospital Regional San Juan de Dios), Gobierno Autónomo Regional del Gran Chaco (incluye Hospital de Yacuiba Fray Quebracho), Dirección Distrital de Educación del departamento de Oruro, Dirección Distrital del departamento de Tarija, Gobiernos Autónomos de Poopó, Caracollo, Eucaliptus, Sabaya, Huayllamarca, Belén de Andamarca, Padcaya, El Puente, Yunchará y Bermejo.

### MALI

Service de l'Assainissement et du Contrôle des pollutions et des Nuisances "SACPN,, de Bandiagara, Bankass et Koro, Service Local

de Developpement Social et de l'Economie Solidaire "SLDSES,, de Bandiagara, Bankass, Djenné, Douentza, Koro et Mopti, Associations des personnes âgées de Bandiagara, Koro et Bankass, les chefs des sites des populations déplacés internes des communes de Sévaré et de Socoura, Fédération Locale des Associations de Santé Communautaire "FELASCOM,, des 8 districts, Mairies de Koro et Bankass, Associations de Santé Communautaire "ASACO,, du Centre de Santé Communautaire "CSCOM,, de Sokoura dans le district de Mopti, Coordination des Associations et ONG féminines de Mali (CAFO) de Mopti, Académies d'Enseignement de Bandariaga, Douentza et de Mopti, Association Les Yeux du Monde – Mali, Conseil Régional de Mopti, Direction Régionale de a Santé de Mopti, Hospital Sominé Dolo de Mopti, Institut d'Ophtalmologie Tropicale d'Afrique (IOTA) de Bamako, Programme National de Santé Oculaire, les CSRéfs des districts sanitaires Bandiagara, Bankass, Djenné, Douentza, Koro, Tenenkou et Youwarou, Fédération des Associations des tradithérapeutes / herboristes du district sanitaire de Koro, Bankass et Bandiagara, MSF Espagne, Union de Radiodiffusion et de Télévision "URTEL,, de Mopto, ONG ODI-Sahel (Organisation pour un Développement Intégré au Sahel), Fédération Régionale des Associations de Santé Communautaire "FERASCOM,, Coordination Régionale des ONG de Mopti, Conseil Communal des Jeunes des districts de Bandiagara et Koro.



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