

# #EndTrachoma in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region: The time is now.

Sources: World Health Organization (July 2025)

## Trachoma:

# #1

is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.



is known to be a public health problem in four countries affecting 5.6 million people (Afghanistan, Egypt, Sudan, Yemen).

# SDGs

elimination contributes to Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 calling for an end to neglected tropical diseases.



is being reduced through coordinated actions from partners in the global health and development communities.

## Progress to date:



### Six countries

have been validated by WHO as having eliminated trachoma as a public health problem (Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia).



### Antibiotics

Over 18 million people have received antibiotics to clear infection and reduce transmission since 2011.



### WASH

The elimination of trachoma in the Islamic Republic of Iran without specific trachoma interventions demonstrates the effectiveness of WASH interventions.

## Generating evidence:



### Mapping

16.5 million people live in districts where trachoma is suspected to be a public health problem.



### Validation dossiers

The Trachoma EMR Alliance is supporting EMR countries to ensure elimination as a public health problem is prioritised in the region.

## Challenges remain:



**Not enough resources**



**Hard-to-reach populations**



**Humanitarian crises**

## The elimination of trachoma will contribute to multiple Sustainable Development Goals:



**Goal 1:  
No poverty**



**Goal 4:  
Quality education**



**Goal 5:  
Gender equality**



**Goal 6:  
Clean water and sanitation**



**Goal 17:  
Partnerships for the goals**

# ICTC International Coalition for Trachoma Control

For more information visit [www.trachomacoalition.org](http://www.trachomacoalition.org)