



Theory of Change Eye Health Narrative accessible version

(This is a narrative accessible version of the diagram format.)

What is a thematic theory of change?

Our theory of change, which guides our strategic decisions and investments, stems from the impact we aim to achieve together with our partners by 2030: A world where people with disabilities and with eye conditions exercise their rights and are drivers of change. Through our approach of sparking lasting change, we are working hand-in-hand with individuals and communities and transforming organisations and policies.

This thematic theory of change on eye health (available also in diagram form) prioritises our key programme interventions and inputs, and outlines how these together with partner actions lead to outputs that place us on track to achieve intermediate outcomes. These in turn lead to strategic outcomes, which enable our impact goal to be achieved by 2030: Persons of all genders and ages, including people with disabilities, who have treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions have access to equitable and inclusive eye care services. They can fully exercise their rights to health, education, work and to protection in emergencies.

Narrative Version: Thematic Theory of Change for Eye Health

To achieve our 2030 vision of ensuring that persons of all genders and ages, including people with disabilities, who have treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions have access to equitable and inclusive eye care services and that they can fully exercise their rights to health, education, work and to protection in emergencies, we will prioritise:

Light for the World Inputs and Interventions

In its role as an expert organization in eye health on national and international level Light for the World will input and intervene for **individual and community change** in the following ways:

- **capacity development** and supportive supervision of **community workers, primary health workers and teachers** in primary eye care and school eye health, including behavioural change activities;
- **school eye health activities**, including pre-screening, referral and spectacle provision at school level;
- **expansion or outreach** of comprehensive eye care services to **underserved and remote geographical areas**;

- **reaching underserved populations** such women and girls, children and persons with disabilities with comprehensive eye care services; and
- providing funding and procurement services for eye care **equipment, consumables and medicines** as well as contributing with technical, funding and coordination support to develop functioning **eye health equipment maintenance systems**.

To foster **organizational change** of eye care facilities and strengthen the eye health system, Light for the World will provide:

- technical, funding and coordination support for **subspecialty training** of ophthalmologists and allied ophthalmic personnel on glaucoma, paediatric eye care, and other subspecialties required for the treatment of complex eye diseases; and
- technical, funding and advisory support to strengthen **eye care data** collection, analysis, management and reporting systems to enhance service quality.

To achieve the required **policy changes**, Light for the World will:

- provide technical and funding support for **research and evaluation initiatives** to enable evidence-based eye health policies and strategies and contribute to the global body of knowledge;
- provide advocacy, funding and technical support for **policy and strategy development or adaptation** and implementation, ensuring alignment with international standards;
- **connect** national governments with national and international eye health networks and stakeholders to **foster collaboration and partnerships for systems change**; and
- co-develop **public campaigns** and **strategic communication** aimed at systems change.

In terms of addressing the **cross-cutting topics gender equity and climate action**, Light for the World will strive towards:

- practicing gender-responsive programming to ensure equal access of women and girls to comprehensive eye care services; and
- work towards climate-sensitive and environmentally sustainable eye care services and infrastructure.

Partner Activities and Outputs

To enable the envisaged changes Light for the World will engage with a multitude of local, national and international partners on both individual and community, organisational as well as policy and systems level.

On the **individual and community** level Light for the World will work with:

- **community workers, teachers and primary health workers to engage in primary eye health** and support behavioural change communication, identification of people with avoidable and/or treatable eye conditions and referral to eye care services in their communities;
- **eye care partners to train** community workers, teachers and primary health workers in primary eye health and school eye health;
- teachers and school leadership to engage in regular **pre-screening of students** with avoidable and/or treatable eye conditions; and
- eye care facilities at all levels to make **efficient and effective use** of infrastructure, equipment, medicines and consumables to **deliver comprehensive eye care services to underserved populations**.

At the **organizational** level, our support will ensure that:

- eye care facilities perform **regular maintenance of existing eye health equipment** to ensure sustainability of comprehensive eye care services;
- eye care facilities conduct **regular data collection**, report **disaggregated** eye health data into national health management information systems and use evidence-based tools to measure service quality; and
- regional training hubs provide **training for ophthalmologists and allied ophthalmic personnel** on paediatric eye care, glaucoma, and other subspecialties.

To support changes on the **policy and overall system** level, our support will contribute to:

- Ministries of Health will develop or adapt **eye health policies, strategies and operational plans**; and
- national, regional and global (eye) health actors and coalitions will **influence, financially and technically support policy and strategy development and advocacy for increased budget allocation** to eye health; as well as
- **human resource policies and strategies of national health systems** that ensure eye care service provision to all people with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions.

Intermediate Outcomes

As a result of the collaborative efforts of Light for the World and its local, subnational, national and international ecosystem of partners and stakeholders the following intermediate outcomes are envisaged.

On **individual and community** level:

- **Local communities** include eye health in their community health activities, and community members **demand eye health and quality services**;
- **Schools** in pilot districts/regions **systematically identify students** with avoidable and/or treatable eye conditions, **refer** them to eye care services and engage in **follow-up**; and
- National and subnational health systems routinely and effectively provide **integrated people-centred eye care services** for people with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions of **all genders and ages** and **everywhere**, ensuring the best **possible visual outcome** for all patients.

On **organisational** level:

- **Tertiary eye care facilities** have developed **subspecialized services** according to the respective national eye health strategy, including **paediatric eye care** and **glaucoma**, and act as national **resource and referral centres** for training and clinical eye care; and
- Ministries of Health must strengthen their **eye health information systems** for effective monitoring, evaluation and decision making by including sex, age and disability **disaggregated eye health data** on diseases prioritized within the national eye health strategic plans.

On **policy and systems** level:

- Ministries of Health are guided by people-centred, comprehensive **eye health strategic and operational plans** with special attention to women and girls, children and persons with disabilities, and **school eye health and child eye health policies** must be endorsed and implemented;
- Ministries of Health and Finance must provide increased **earmarked funding for eye health** and equipment to meet the needs of all persons with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions, especially those of underserved populations; and
- Ministries of Health increase available **human resources for eye health** with qualifications and in numbers sufficient to meet eye care needs of all persons with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions.

Strategic Outcomes

These intermediate changes will result in more profound, systemic and long-lasting improvements for persons who have treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions. To achieve the final impact Light for the World is aiming for we need to ensure that:

- persons with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions are **detected as early as possible** at school, community or primary health level and are referred for appropriate **treatment and correction**;
- national and subnational **eye health systems are accessible, efficient, responsive and prepared to deliver** comprehensive eye care services to all people with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions, including neglected and/or complex eye diseases; and
- national and subnational health **policies, funding and human resource allocation** ensure **equitable and inclusive access to eye care services** for all people with treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions and people with disabilities, of all genders and ages.

Impact

These combined efforts and result chains will move us towards our 2030 impact goal: **Persons of all genders and ages, including people with disabilities, who have treatable and/or avoidable eye conditions have access to equitable and inclusive eye care services. They can fully exercise their rights to health, education, work and to protection in emergencies.**