

Benin Fact Sheet

SEVA'S WORK AT A GLANCE: In country since 2017 | Partner: 1



Country Overview

- » Located in West Africa
- » Benin spans 44,310 square mi²
- » Population: 10.9 million people
- » 2019 Human Development Index Ranking: 163 of 189 countries¹

Scope of Eye Care Needs²

- » 0.87% of Benin's population is blind (38K), as compared to 0.15% in the United States
- » 4% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (207K), as compared to 1.25% in the United States
- » 0.10% of global blindness
- » 0.10% of global MSVI

Seva's Approach in Benin

Seva partners with the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO) to reduce blindness in Benin. One of the newest partnerships through Seva's Global Sight Initiative (GSI), KCCO began a capacity building program with St. Andrew de Tinre Hospital in Parakou, Benin in 2017. KCCO provides training, assistance for outreach activities to low-income communities in Benin, and support for a growing number of patients to be seen at the hospital in Parakou.

¹ 2019 UNDP Human Development Report: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries>

² Unless otherwise noted, all statistics provided by IAPB Vision Atlas Global Vision Database.

* Numbers based on reports received.

Nationwide Eye Care Response

Sub-Saharan Africa's median Cataract Surgical Rate (CSR) is 488 — one third of the global average and 1/13th of the average for high-income countries. Seva works to improve these rates through our hospital management systems and training support in Benin, focusing on improvement in the following Global Action Plan indicators for universal eye health.

- » Benin's CSR was 578 surgeries per million in 2015, as compared to the US CSR of 6,353
- » 3 ophthalmologists per million people in Benin as of 2010 (US = 60 per million people)
- » 0.3 optometrists per million people as of 2014 (3 total)
- » 6 AOPs per million people in 2012 (64 in total)

IMPACT (FY 2019-2020)*

6,534

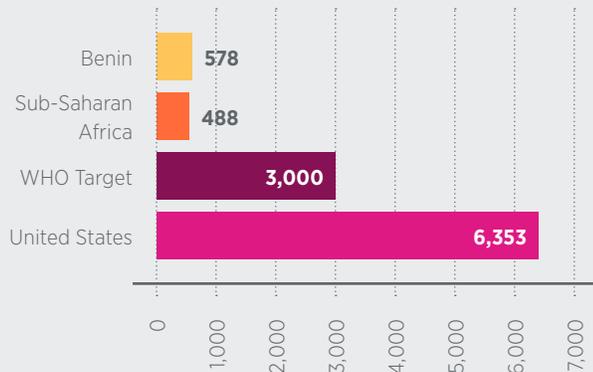
people receiving
services

1,192

cataract surgeries
performed

BENIN FACT SHEET

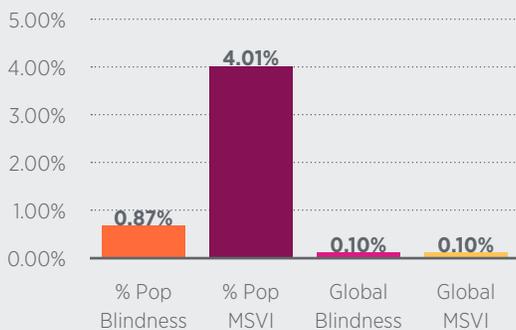
CATARACT SURGICAL RATE PER MILLION PEOPLE



SIGHT SERVICES



VISION NEEDS



SPOTLIGHT ON BUILDING CAPACITY

Established in 2001 in response to the VISION 2020 initiative, KCCO is the largest organization in Africa dedicated to reducing blindness through community ophthalmology training. With Seva's support in hospital management systems and training, KCCO partners with local governmental hospitals to train community health workers, conduct outreach trips to rural communities without regular access to eye care, provide clinical training for ophthalmologists and cataract surgeons, and providing funds for medical treatments for those who cannot afford them. In Benin, Seva and KCCO will develop an outreach program that should significantly increase the number of cataract surgeries completed. In the first year of the partnership, St-Andre de Tindre Hospital had performed its entire previous year of surgeries in the first three-quarters of the year. In addition, quality outcomes will improve as improved equipment and protocols are introduced.

Impact of COVID-19 in Benin

COVID-19 continues to have an impact on the country, particularly in major cities where COVID-19 has been concentrated to date. Many businesses continue to operate and movement is not restricted, although movement into the country is monitored with mandatory COVID-19 testing. The school year began in September with children attending school in person with increased safety measures. Seva's partner continues to provide necessary eye care services. As part of its response to COVID-19, Seva worked with KCCO to provide funds for essential protective equipment for its partner hospital in Benin.

Resources

[Seva's work in Africa](#)

[KCCO Website](#)