

# China & Tibet Fact Sheet

SEVA'S WORK AT A GLANCE: In country since 1997 | Partner: 1



## Country Overview

- » Size: 3.7 million square miles
- » China's Population: 1.4 billion
- » Tibet's Population: 3.3 million
- » 2016 Human Development Index Ranking: 90 of 188<sup>1</sup>

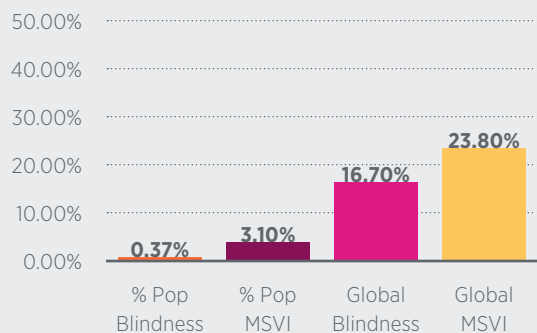
## Scope of Vision Needs<sup>2</sup>

- » 0.37% of China's population is blind (6M), as compared to 0.15% in the US
- » 3.1% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (51M)
- » China accounts for 16.7% of global blindness and 23.8% of global MSVI

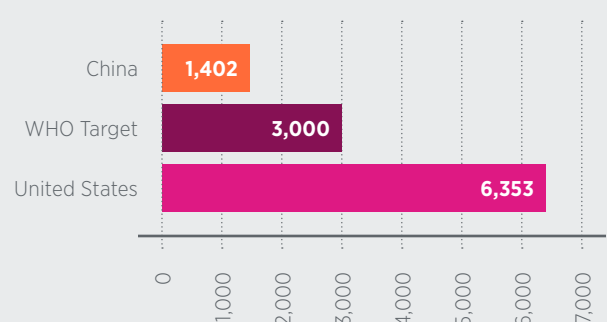
## Nationwide Eye Care Response

- » China's Cataract Surgical Rate is 1,402/million as of 2015
- » There are 20.8 ophthalmologists/million people (28,338)
- » There are 1.5 optometrists/million people (2,000)
- » There are 38.5 AOPs per million people (52K)

### VISION NEEDS



### CATARACT SURGICAL RATE PER MILLION PEOPLE



<sup>1</sup> 2016 UNDP Human Development Report: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/2016-report>

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all statistics provided by IAPD Vision Atlas Global Vision Database.

### Seva's Approach in Western China & Tibet

Seva has been working in Tibet since 1995 and has helped 56,158 blind eyes see again. To date, Seva has trained 1,181 Tibetan eye care personnel, from rural health workers to nurses to ophthalmologists. The Tibet office was formally closed October 2015 and Seva was one of the last international organizations to operate in the capital, Lhasa. Seva continues to work with the Kham Eye Center (KEC) to provide eye care in Kandze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (TAP). KEC is in the western region of China and southeast of the Tibet Plateau. This region has a staggering altitude of 11,463 feet, extremely harsh weather and poor transportation infrastructure. Given that the Kham population lives at a high altitude where they endure strong ultraviolet rays, it is estimated that the prevalence of blinding eye disease like cataract in people over 50 years of age may be three times higher than in mainland China. The construction of Kham Eye Center was completed in 2013 with support from the Kandze Prefecture Government, Kandze Prefecture Health Bureau and Kandze People's Hospital. Seva supports human resource development, technical and managerial mentorship, and provides ophthalmic equipment, instruments and supplies.

### Resources

[Seva's Work in Tibet](#)

[Eye Camps in Tibet](#)

#### SIGHT SERVICES

20.8



Ophthalmologists per million people

1.5



Optometrists per million people

38.5



Ophthalmic personnel per million people

= 10 million people

#### SPOTLIGHT ON CAPACITY BUILDING

While a community-based eye center, Kham Eye Center aspires to be a model for national eye care. With Seva's support, eye care specialists from KEC have trained on new surgical techniques, management, and teaching skills at Aravind Eye Care System. As a result of these innovations, KEC is becoming the premiere training and surgical center for Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai provinces and the TAP.

# CHINA & TIBET FACT SHEET

## IMPACT (FY17-18)

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Partner

|

Eye hospital

19,824

Patients

1,863

Surgeries completed

2,016

Spectacles distributed

