**Country Overview**

» Located in the Caribbean
» The Dominican Republic spans 18,704 mi²
» Population: 10.5 million
» 2016 Human Development Index Ranking: 99 of 188 countries

**Scope of Vision Needs**

» 0.36% of the Dominican Republic’s population is blind (34K), as compared to 0.15% in the United States
» 1.74% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (160K), as compared to 1.25% in the United States
» The DR accounts for 0.1% of global blindness and 0.07% of global MSVI

**Nationwide Eye Care Response**

» The DR’s Cataract Surgical Rate is 2,167 per million as of 2013
» The DR’s CSC = 60% (<3/60)
» There are 42 ophthalmologists per million people (428 total)
» No data is currently available for optometrists and AOPs

---

2. Unless otherwise noted, all statistics provided by IAPD Vision Atlas Global Vision Database.
Seva’s Approach in the Dominican Republic

Through its partnership in the Global Sight Initiative with Visualiza Clínica Médica Oftalmológica in Guatemala, Seva supports Centro Oftalmico Digar in the Dominican Republic. Visualiza’s skills-based training to eye care professionals in the DR will increase the number and quality of eye care services provided to the people of the capital city, Santo Domingo, and surrounding areas, will help to reduce cases of preventable blindness and moderate and severe visual impairment.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROMOTING EVIDENCE

As part of its mentorship process, Visualiza works with hospitals to ensure they have an electronic data management system to assess the work that they are doing to improve eye care delivery. If the hospital does not have such a system, they introduce a system specifically designed by Visualiza. The system allows the hospital to track the number of patients, their place of origin, their gender, their eye care needs and the services the hospital provides. The hospital can then use this data to assess if they are reaching their target demographic of patients, if there is a village or community that needs further eye health promotion, if quality outcomes are being reached, or if further follow up is required. With this information, the hospital is better equipped to provide quality services to communities in need.

Resources:

Case Study: Visualiza Eye Care Systems

SIGHT SERVICES

42

Ophthalmologists per million people

≥ 1 million people

IMPACT (FY17-18)

1

Clinic

3

People trained