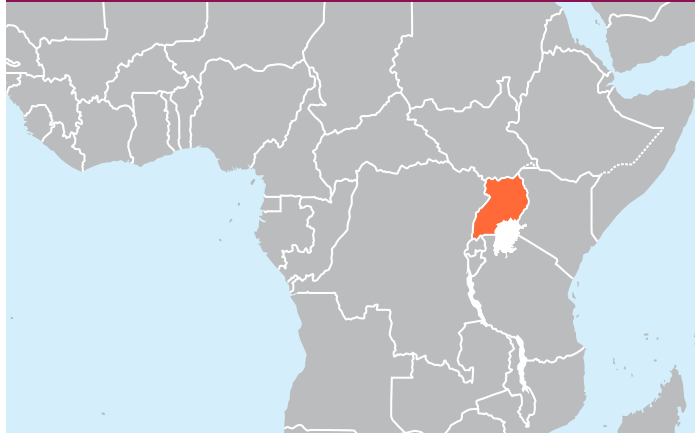


# Uganda Fact Sheet

**SEVA'S WORK AT A GLANCE:** In country since 2008 | Partners: 2

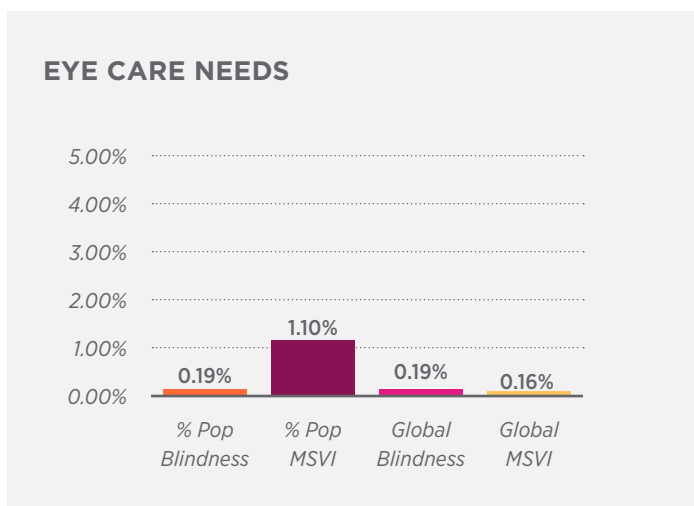


## Country Overview

- » Located in Sub-Saharan Africa
- » Uganda spans 93,000 mi<sup>2</sup>
- » Population: 45.7 million
- » 2020 Human Development Index Ranking: 159 of 189 countries<sup>1</sup>

## Scope of Eye Care Needs<sup>2</sup>

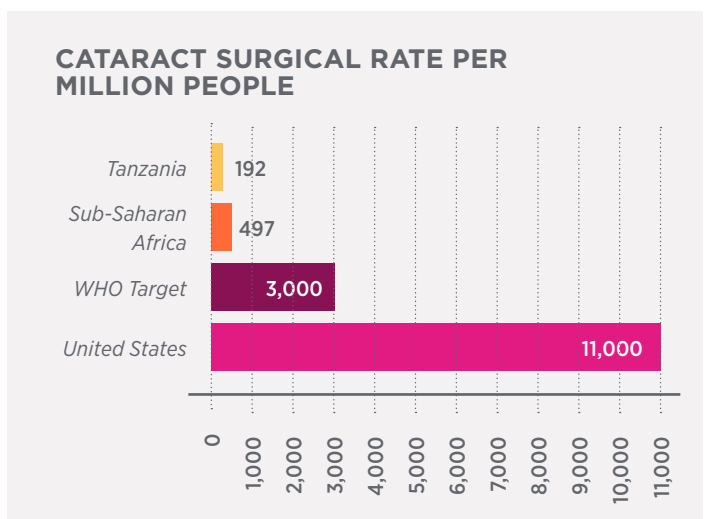
- » 0.19% of Uganda's population is blind (83,000), as compared to 0.19% in the United States
- » 1.10% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment (475,965), as compared to 2.02% in the United States
- » 0.19% of global blindness
- » 0.16% of global MSVI



## Nationwide Eye Care Response

Uganda's 2010 CSR was 192 surgeries per million, as compared to the US CSR of 11,000 per million and Sub-Saharan Africa's CSR of 497 per million. Seva Foundation works to improve these rates through our hospital management systems and training support.

- » In 2014, there were 1.2 ophthalmologists per million people in Uganda.
- » There were 0.2 optometrists, and 14 AOPs per million people.



<sup>1</sup> 2020 UNDP Human Development Report: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries>

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all country sight statistics from IAPB Vision Atlas: <http://atlas.iapb.org/global-action-plan/gap-indicators/>

## Seva's Approach in Uganda

With approximately one ophthalmologist per 1 million people, Uganda's need for reducing avoidable blindness has become an important part of VISION-2020, a global initiative to eliminate blindness.


Uganda was the first country in Africa to come up with a national plan, including the elimination of river blindness (onchocerciasis), which affected one-third of the nation's districts. Because of their efforts, Uganda has reduced transmission of the disease from eight out of eighteen endemic areas. Along with river blindness, the reduction of avoidable childhood blindness, and treatment of trachoma trichiasis are strategic initiatives of Uganda's Vision2020 plan.


Seva's partnership with Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO) in Uganda supports direct service care of medical treatments and surgeries for patients affected by trachoma, cataract, and other debilitating eye diseases. In 2016 Seva began working with an eye clinic in Tororo to expand eye care services to children.



## Impact of COVID-19 in Uganda

COVID-19 cases in Uganda increased in June and then again the end of August. To date, the country has received just over 2 million vaccines. Services have been limited depending on government recommendations and lockdowns but overall, eye care services have been able to resume and continue to be provided at the clinics. As part of its response, Seva worked with KCCO to provide funds for essential protective equipment for its partner hospitals.

### EYE CARE PERSONNEL

1.2  Ophthalmologists per million people

0.2  Optometrists per million people

14  Ophthalmic personnel per million people  
 = 1 million people

### SPOTLIGHT ON REACHING CHILDREN

Omiat Kebron is a 2-year-old boy who was referred from a community outreach screening in the Ngora district. He was diagnosed with congenital unilateral cataract in his left eye. In March 2020, he had a successful cataract surgery at Benedictine Eye Hospital. Shortly after, he was diagnosed with post-operative uveitis and was readmitted for observation plus treatment. Before being discharged, the presidential directive on the ban of public transport was announced due to COVID-19, and so he was not able to travel back home. The hospital organized private transportation for him and his mother. Since then, she's reported much improvement.

### IMPACT (FY 2020-2021)\*

11,729

People receiving services

880

Cataract surgeries performed

1,850

Children screened

523

Children receiving surgery

183

Children receiving glasses

\* Numbers based on reports received.

## UGANDA FACT SHEET

### Resources:

[Celebrating Uganda's Dr. Patrick](#)

[Restoring Vision, and Independence, to a Local Leader in Uganda](#)

