### 2021 ANNUAL REPORT







IRIS Mundial has helped more than 98,000 persons and more than 1,000 persons has benefited from surgeries.

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### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE GENERAL MANAGER



As happens every year, we are pleased to share our annual report with you. It tells the story of 2021 in images, writing and testimonies. We are particularly proud of the work done by IRIS Mundial, its members, employees, volunteers and partners: a wonderful team that is committed, day after day, year after year, to helping the most disadvantaged populations better see the world.

and share the highlights of their experience and the life of the organization of our next one-time project in Gabon. organization through written and video testimonies. We had the opportunity to gather more than seventy people at a festive event to In order to diversify IRIS Mundial's activities, target audiences and mark this important milestone in the life of IRIS Mundial. After a year areas of intervention, we started an exploration phase in 2021 with of pandemic restrictions, the joy of being able to meet, celebrate and the objective of initiating projects in Canada, for populations that share was all the greater.

Mundial and the Ministère des Relations internationales et de la mission to populations in need in Canada. Francophonie du Québec (MRIF). IRIS Mundial has obtained funding for a three-year mission as part of the MRIF Nouveau Québec Sans We warmly thank our many partners, collaborators, members, great flexibility to IRIS Mundial and its partners in Haiti and Senegal, precious collaboration. allowing them to implement their mission in an optimal way.

2021 was another ground-breaking year in terms of the resume international travel soon... implementation of our activities. Sanitary restrictions once again prevented us from travelling abroad. We therefore started our online training and mentoring sessions, enabling us to test and refine President our remote learning methodology. These sessions were mainly addressed to the nurses of our Program for the Prevention and Fight against Blindness (PPFB) in Saint-Louis, Senegal, but also to the optician. The program in Senegal was able to provide eye screening and eye examinations to hundreds of people in addition to eye surgery when needed. However, the activities were once again mainly confined to the community ophthalmology centre. Since gatherings weren't recommended, we weren't able to restart the mobile clinics until the end of 2021. The sociopolitical crisis that has been going on for several years in Haiti, as well as the recent health crisis have had a considerable impact on our partner, the CEDI-VE in Limbe, Haiti. After being autonomous for several years, the Limbe PPFB received help from IRIS Mundial in dealing with

2021 was marked by the 20th anniversary of IRIS Mundial. It was a the daily difficulties they are facing. Thanks to the MRIF funding, year of celebration, reunion, recognition and memories. Volunteers, we can support the PPFB financially once more, with equipment old and new, had the opportunity to look back on the years and training. Lastly, we have not yet been able to resume the

have difficulty accessing visual care. We decided to focus first on the possibilities of developing activities in remote First Nations 2021 also marked the trusting relationship developed between IRIS communities. We have also begun the legal process to expand our

Frontières program. This unprecedented funding mechanism gives volunteers, administrators, donors and funders for their support and

We began 2022 with a positive outlook and the hope of being able to

Johanne de Champlain

Fohaure de Chareplane

### General manager Julie Roegiers

### **IRIS MUNDIAL SHOWCASE**

### **WHO WE ARE**

### **MISSION**

To improve the ocular health of underserved people in developing Mission IRIS Mundial is a reference body promoting the Right to countries by giving them access to high-quality preventive and Sight, which aims to improve the visual health of the most vulnerable curative eye care services, and thus improve their living conditions. populations in developing countries.

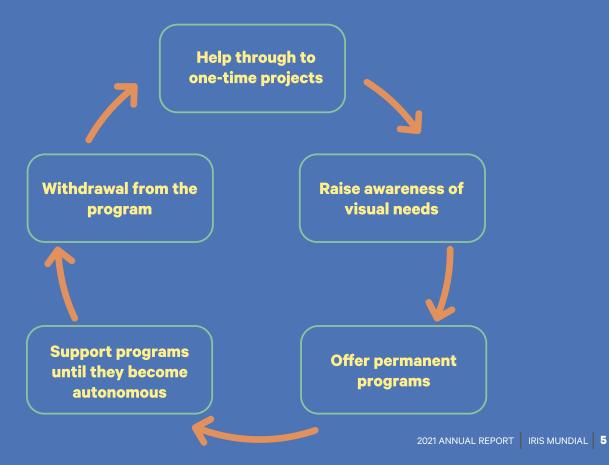
### **VISION**

### **VALUES**

- Solidarity
- Accessibility
- Excellence
- Sharing of knowledge & empowerment
- Partnership
- Respect for cultures
- Contribution of volunteers

### **AREAS OF INTERVENTION**

- Blindness prevention through education and awareness on ocular-visual health;
- Diagnosis of ocular-visual problems by screenings and eye exams;
- Correction of visual impairments by offering eyeglasses, medical and surgical treatments;
- Transfer of knowledge and ongoing training of local professionals.



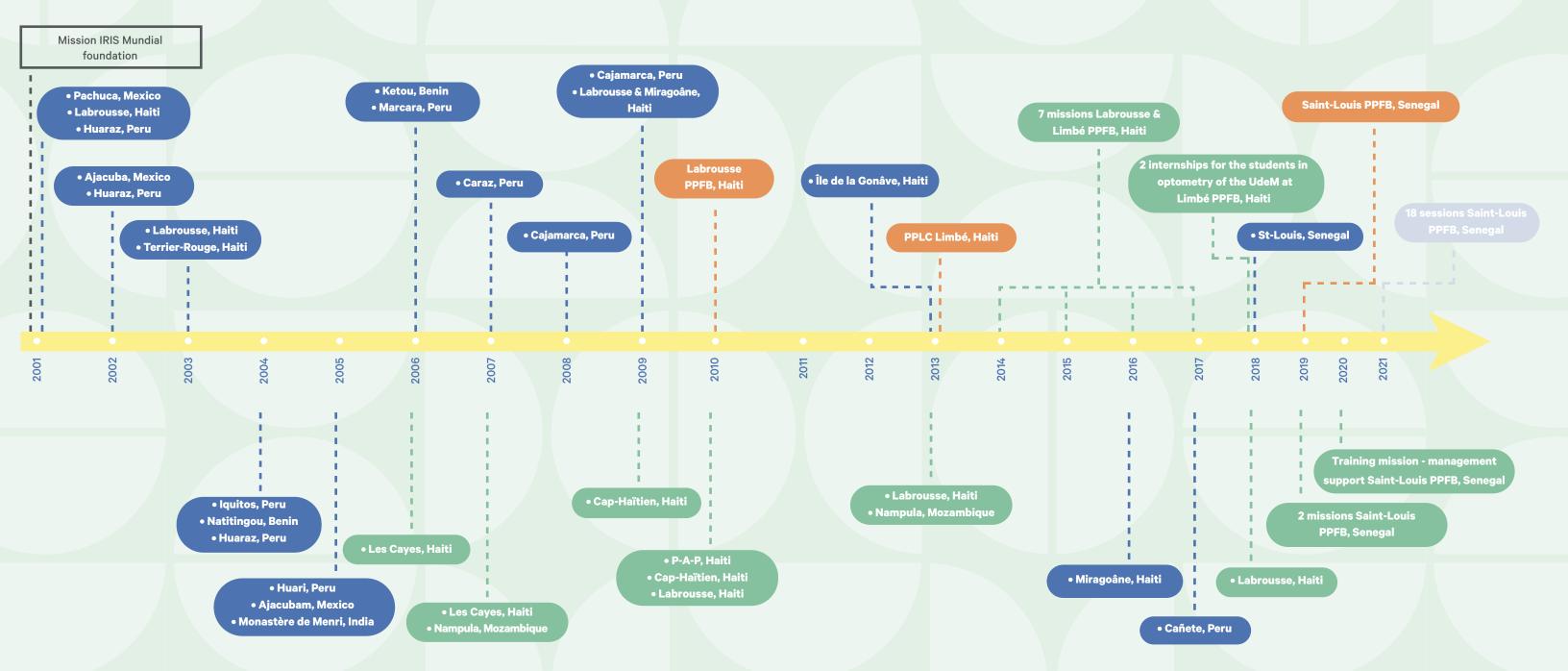
### **HISTORY**

LÉGENDE

Since 2001, with the initiative of Dr. Jean-Pierre Tchang, Optometrist, IRIS Mundial volunteers participated in more than 24 one-time projects, mainly in Haiti and Peru, but also in Senegal, Mexico, Benin, Mozambique and India, and more recently in Senegal. Thanks to the contribution of volunteers who offer their professional expertise, their time, their availability and their commitment, IRIS Mundial projects contributed directly to assist over 98,000 people and over 1000 people underwent surgery. These projects help thousand people to better see the world! This year, for the IRIS Mundial's 20th anniversary, a wonderful article has been written about its history, in which we retrace some of the highlights of its existence, through unique testimonials from some of the first volunteers of IRIS Mundial.

Beginning of permanent programs (3) Training missions (22) One-time projects (24)

Remote training & mentoring sessions



### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MANAGEMENT**



President Johanne de Champlain Retired nurse



Vice-Président Marie-Chantal Hudon Optometrist



Jérémie Plourde-Perreault Professional Chartered Accountant



Camille Rousseau Web Marketing Coordinator



Élaine Giasson Optometrist

Leaving administrator

**Leaving Administrator** 

Primose Antoine Financial Analyst



Administrator Mihaela Mara Somogvi Optician



Louis M. Côté Lawver



Jacques Dupont Broad-based professional



Administrator Mariame Diaw Optometrist

### **RELEVANCE OF PROJECTS**

Globally, 1,1 billion people live with vision loss.\*

90% of vision loss is preventable or treatable.\*

Unaddressed distance vision impairment is 4x higher in many low and middle-income regions..\*

Almost everyone will need access to eyecare services during their lifetime\*

55% of people with vision loss are women and girls.\*

Vision loss is habitual blurred vision (vision impairment) at distance or near. There are four categories of vision loss: blindness, moderate to severe, mild, and near. Vision loss may be permanent or it may be treatable, for example with glasses or surgery.

IRIS Mundial's activities help to reduce blindness prevalence and vision impairment among impoverished people, thereby they improve their quality of life and their participation in the socioeconomic development of their community.

According to eye-care specialists, the socio-economic benefits of an effective care are far greater than the costs of non-treatment.

\* Sources: Bourne R, Steinmetz J, Flaxman S, et autres, Trends in prevalence of blindness and distance and nea vision impairment over 30 years: an analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study. Lancet Glob Health. 2020. Accessible via l'atlas de la vision de l'IAPB (http://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas)ainsi queWorld Report on Visionde l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé (OMS)et l'Atlas de la vision de International Agency for the Prevention



### Economic benefits

- An increase in motor skills and employment opportunities;
- An increased household expenditure (88% per capita after a cataract surgery;
- A reduction of the economic burden on the family;
- An increase in the community productivity (22% with an eyewear)
- A higher employability rate, especially among women.



Educational performance is linked to good vision. Children with vision impairment have poorer educational outcomes and are more likely to be excluded from schools. Investing in eye health services improves educational attainment and increases participation in education. For example: Glasses can reduce the odds of failing a class by 44%.





- A reduction of social exclusion;
- An increased participation in daily activities and leisure;
- A preservation of social status, self-esteem and well-being.





# IRIS Mundial Turns 20

### **Tribute to its founder**



Dr. Jean-Pierre Tchang is an exceptional person who has been able to change the lives of the people he helped, but also of the volunteers he brought with him. Indeed, from the birth of IRIS Mundial until 2014, he instilled his passion to help people in need through his invaluable and incalculable involvement. In fact, he organized 21 one-time projects and 10 training missions in more than 6 countries, in addition to setting up the 2 permanent programs in Haiti. To carry out these projects, he convinced nearly 244 volunteers to become involved in the IRIS Mundial adventure with him. Thanks to the Dr Tchang's remarkable contribution over the years and to the succession following his departure, IRIS Mundial has been going strong for two decades now and is looking forward to new exciting perspectives. Thank you to Jean-Pierre for his great dedication to the organization!

### **RIS Mundial in video**

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of IRIS Mundial, which was celebrated in 2021, two videos were produced highlighting the last 20 years of the organization.

The <u>first video</u> is an institutional video that presents IRIS Mundial, its history, its mission and the impact of its actions. Through interviews with the founder of IRIS Mundial, Dr. Jean-Pierre Tchang, the former president of the board of directors, Dr. Francine Lavallée, as well as the former executive director (Catherine Rioux) and the current executive director (Julie Roegiers), you can discover this beautiful organization. (IN FRENCH ONLY)

For the <u>second video</u>, IRIS Mundial volunteers tell their stories. Current and former volunteers of the organization are given the floor. Through their testimonials, we are transported to Haiti, Senegal, Quebec and the rest of Canada. Their poignant words of humanity have made this video lively and authentic, just like IRIS Mundial.

Thanks to Mr. Jonathan Bordeleau for shooting and editing the videos!

### **Stories and anecdotes**

In addition to the videos, several volunteers also participated in celebrating the 20th anniversary of IRIS Mundial by writing about their involvement and experience with us. Through the **testimonies**, we can find vibrant and motivating messages, funny anecdotes, unexpected situations as well as moving and unifying memories. Thank you to Christiane Béliveau, Francine Lavallée, Katherine Massam, Élisabeth Duncan, Benoit Tousignant, Lyne Paré, Andrée Coulombe, Jacques Samson, Élaine Giasson and Johanne de Champlain for their article!

### IRIS Mundial's 20 years event



On November 20, a festive evening took place to celebrate the 20th anniversary of IRIS Mundial. More than seventy former and recent volunteers and partners came together to celebrate the work of the organization over the past two decades, and its plans for a promising future!

The evening was dedicated to the late volunteer Dr. Jean-Pierre Paradis, optometrist who left his mark on IRIS Mundial history through his tremendous contribution. Two volunteers also paid tribute to the founder of the organization, who has inspired so many volunteers to get involved in this noble cause over the years. In addition, the annual Jean-Pierre Tchang prize, created to highlight the exceptional contribution of a volunteer to IRIS Mundial's mission, was awarded to Mrs. Marie-Claude Cossette for 2020 and Mrs. Élaine Giasson for 2021! Congratulations and thank you for your involvement for so many years! Among the highlights of the evening, there is the presentation of the 2020 and 2021 Jean-Pierre Tchang awards and also the inauguration of our new brand identity, symbolizing a new step for the next 20 years. Many reunions, a few activities, souvenir photos, the presentation of 3 new IRIS Mundial videos, fun and laughs were also on the agenda!!

### **Online cooperation**

Cooperation at a distance is not new for IRIS Mundial. We have always relied on trust, autonomy and balanced collaboration. IRIS Mundial recognizes its partners as sovereigns in the implementation of their mission and as the keepers of the privileged link with their community and their beneficiaries. Thus, the Programs for the Prevention and Fight against Blindness (PPFB) are programs implemented by our partners in Haiti and Senegal, who are involved in all decisions that concern them. IRIS Mundial provides financial, logistical and capacity-building support and is always available for its partners. IRIS Mundial interacts from a distance but it is the staff of the partners themselves that are deployed for the implementation of the programs.

Remote cooperation has always been part of IRIS Mundial's daily work, but the pandemic has led us to go even further in this direction. During the last two years, all capacity building activities have had to be organized at a distance. Two of our volunteers (an optometrist and an optician) were planning to go to Senegal to give a 10-day training to the nurses and the optician at PPFB Saint-Louis. Their departure was scheduled for March 13, 2020. Their mission had to be cancelled the day before their departure. Seeing that the situation was not going to improve and that travel was impossible, we decided to try new avenues and to start organizing distance training.

As the pandemic situation is still evolving, we are going to continue with these distance training and mentoring programs for the time being. Moreover, in Haiti, the security situation was already encouraging us to review our working methods before the pandemic, particularly in terms of training. Dr. Marie-Chantal Hudon, Vice-President of IRIS Mundial, comments: «the pandemic will also have taught us how to work from a distance; in countries where remote communication is possible». Thanks to the funding recently granted by the Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie of Quebec (MRIF), we decided to invest in distance technology to improve the quality of these trainings: portable webcam, reinforced sound system, etc.







### **Interventions in Canada**

Since access to vision care is more difficult for certain populations in Canada, and following the pandemic that redefines international cooperation activities, IRIS Mundial wished to become more inclusive and expand its mission. Indeed, the organization wants to implement new activities to improve access to visual care for certain populations in need: First Nations communities, people experiencing homelessness, undocumented immigrants, etc.

IRIS Mundial decided to focus its first interventions in Canada on remote First Nations communities, following research that highlighted their visual care needs. Indeed, in these communities, there is often a lack of structures to facilitate contact with vision professionals wishing to get involved. IRIS Mundial has a large pool of vision and health professionals, many of whom have already expressed a strong interest in getting involved with First Nations. However, most of the interested volunteers wonder how to offer their services and do not possess the necessary mobile equipment. This is where IRIS Mundial can have a coordinating role to facilitate access to visual care.

With this in mind, the organization began to develop and define a project with First Nations in collaboration with IRIS, The Visual Group (IVG), New Look Vision Group (NVG), the Université de Montréal School of Optometry (ÉOUM) and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission (FNQLHSSC). Obviously, this new project facilitating access to vision care for First Nations communities in Canada is being considered on a long-term basis. The horizon set to begin activities is the summer of 2023.

### **PERMANENT PROGRAMS**

IRIS Mundial aims to help developing countries reach autonomy in terms of eye care. The organization does this by establishing permanent eye care services and working with local partners by respecting existing cultures and structures in the country. In order to make visual services available throughout the year, IRIS Mundial has implemented three "Programs for the Prevention and Fight against Blindness (PPFB)" that aim to offer a quality eye care system to the most disadvantaged population located in isolated areas. The PPFB team is made up of nurses and assistants, who are joined by an ophthalmologist once a month.

- To offer a permanent eye care program to the population and collect statistical data on the main causes of blindness and vision impairment in the area;
- To provide primary, secondary and tertiary eye care: to conduct vision screenings at the ophthalmological clinic, in mobile clinics and in schools in the area, to refer the patients who require further treatment to the ophthalmological clinic where an ophthalmologist will examine them once a month; and to offer a free eye surgery in a partner clinic to some patients.
- To help improve the knowledge of the local inhabitants on visual care and how to access it: provide public awareness and education sessions on visual hygiene, provide radio spots on visual health, create partnerships for referencing, etc.



"The first day I put my glasses on, everything changed, I could see so well it didn't seem real"

- A patient at Saint-Louis PPFB.

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### **Saint-Louis PPFB**

### Context:

Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie du Québec and ended at the end of May 2021.





## Senegal

### Impacts of the pandemic

In 2021, the Saint-Louis Program for the Prevention and Fight against Blindness (PPFB) was able to resume normal activities. However, because of the restrictions on gatherings that persisted for much of the year, mobile clinics and awareness sessions did not resume until the end of the year.

Name of the project: Saint-Louis PPFB - consolidation phase

Area of intervention: Community Ophthalmological Center, Sanar, Saint-Louis,

Project date: September 1, 2021, to August 31, 202

Total Investment: \$ 97 500 CAD

Donor: «Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie du Québec (MRIF) au travers du

Main Partner: «Association Saint-Louisienne pour la Vue» (ASV)

**People involved:** 5 employees hired for the program

Final results (2021):

· 197 visual screening during mobile clinics

· 3763 visual screenings at the permanent clinic

· 12 eye surgeries

A teacher from Saint-Louis, who participated in a training session to better detect potential visual problems in her students, told us:

"The program is interesting and allowed us to become aware of the importance of this organ-the eye, and the causes of its potential impairments. The presence of the program will allow children from poor social backgrounds to increase their chances of succeeding. We are better equipped to detect abnormalities."



### Training

At the beginning of 2021, Dr. Marie-Chantal Hudon and Dr. Francine Lavallée provided training in basic eye health (level 1) for the new PPFB Saint-Louis nurse. This training was organized in 9 modules of 2 hours during the months of February through to early April 2021. There were theory sessions as well as practical exercises. This first online experience was globally positive. It also allowed for small adjustments to be made in terms of hardware and remote technology.

During the months of April and May 2021, Dr. Marie-France Duquay gave level 2 training to the nurses of the PPFB Saint-Louis. This was an advanced training on refraction as well as on the use of the phoropter. The phoropter is a diagnostic instrument that allows us to determine the refractive error of the eye and to specify the power of the lenses needed to correct the vision. It was given to our Senegalese partner, the Association St-Louisienne pour la Vue, for use in their community ophthalmology center. Dr. Duguay was able to show the nurses how to use it. «At first, I wondered how we could do this training remotely with this big instrument. Well, we did it, it worked and we're going to continue," she says. There were many exercises based on case studies. ,For example, during an eye examination, an objective refraction (performed with a measuring device, the auto-refractometer) must be complemented by a subjective refraction which can be done with the phoropter. By questioning his patient, the professional defines the lenses that will offer his patient the best vision and the greatest comfort. The case studies analyzed with the trainer allow the nurses to reflect on how to make an evaluation according to the different context of each patient; age, professional activity, eye health problems if applicable, patient's feeling, etc. Since there is no one correct answer, it was interesting to be able to discuss the different possibilities and have the trainer share her experience.

These trainings are followed by monthly mentoring sessions during which the nurses and IRIS Mundial's volunteer optometrists can discuss concrete cases. Finally, in September 2021, a half-day training was given by one of our volunteer opticians, Sophie Duchesne. On this occasion, the optician at the Saint-Louis community ophthalmology center had expressed the wish to have a refresher course in the field of lens edging for frames with nylon thread. Because of the particular structure of nylon frames (which do not have a rigid frame all the way around), edging lenses for these frames requires a very specific technique. Sophie Duchesne therefore decided to set up a lens edging workshop in the IRIS boutique in Blainville to train the Saint-Louis eyewear manufacturer directly.



The pandemic will also have taught us how to work from a distance; in countries where remote communication is possible" (Pr. Marie-Chantal Hudon, trainer)



### Impacts of the pandemic and the socio-political crisis

The situation in Haiti has unfortunately not improved in 2021. In addition to the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on July 7th, battles between rival gangs near the capital, Port-au-Prince, caused nearly 15,000 forced displacements of the population and more than 2,000 murders and kidnappings. In other departments of the country, the security climate is more or less stable, depending on the political situation which undoubtedly affects security. In a press release. the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti described the horrendous situation: rapes, murders, robberies, armed attacks and kidnappings that are still occurring daily. The consequences at all levels are dramatic: cut off territories, paralysis of economic activities, growth failure, impoverishment and polarization of wealth, fuel shortages, loss of progress in health, education and nutrition, etc. The percentage of the population suffering from hunger has doubled. Their purchase power has also been dramatically eroded by the exchange rate crisis and the 26% inflation in recent months. If the Haitian people are in the streets marching, it is to express their desire to change the nature of the Haitian state and its situation of dependence. In addition to the socio-political crisis, the arrival of the pandemic and health restrictions have considerably weakened the structure of our partners and their programs, especially in 2021. Indeed, Haitians have been somewhat spared in 2020, but the arrival of COVID-19 variants had a major impact on the country. Thus, on the PPLC side, the service offer was reduced to a minimum and the setup of mobile clinics in remote areas and in schools had to be put on hold for a long period of time. Additionally, the construction of roadblocks due to instability and the presence of armed groups has greatly complicated travel for both staff and patients. Seeing how the current reality has affected the provision of visual care by our partners in Haiti, IRIS Mundial has decided to help them again.

### **Limbe PPFB - support phase**

Area of intervention: «Maison Partage du Savoir», Limbe, Nord Departement, Haiti

Project date: September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2021

Total Investment: \$ 101 500 CAD

**Donor :** «Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie du Québec» (MRIF) a through the « Nouveau Québec sans Frontières » (NQSF) program

Main Partner: «Centre d'Éducation et de Développement intégré- Village de l'Espoir» (CEDI-VE)

People involved: 5 employees hired for the program

Automn results (sept. 2021 to dec. 2021):

· 35 visual screening for children and 202 for adults at the permanent clinic

· 1 eye surgery

· 26 eyeglasses distributed

### Other activities carried out in 2021:

A second nurse has been hired to revitalize the service offered and an agreement has been reached between the partner and a Haitian consultant to provide professional coaching in order to optimize the organizational management of the CEDI-VE. The situation has not yet allowed for the resumption of mobile clinics, but radio spots to raise awareness about visual hygiene are once again being broadcast. The construction of the new permanent roof is already finished and the partner has received the material from IRIS Mundial sent by boat: optometric instruments, sunglasses and reading glasses, several additional accessories (cases, cleaners, etc.), as well as all the computer and electronic equipment needed to set up the videoconference structure.

### **Labrousse PPFB**

As part of our strategic planning, we made a commitment to help former partners who needed it. In this case, we have reconnected with FODES-5 (Fondation pour le Développement économique et social) as well as the Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes de Labrousse Health Center to understand the current Labrousse PPFB situation. Based on identified needs, sunglasses, reading glasses, glass cases and a new air tonometer, to take intraocular pressure, were sent to them by boat. In addition, the planning of a distance learning program was initiated for the nurses of the health center. There are important logistical issues to consider in Labrousse, due to the near absence of telephone and internet access. Indeed, these training sessions will be conducted on site by former PPFB nurses instead of IRIS Mundial distance volunteers. They should be carried out in 2022.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>\*Source : Rapports sur la situation sécuritaire provenant du PSAT – Projet de Services d'Appui sur le Terrain en Haîti

# One\_time projects

### Mise en contexte des projets ponctuels

### Background:

A one-time project is a group mission of one to two weeks, in which a multidisciplinary Canadian team of approximately 25 volunteers travel to provide a first experience in ophthalmic services (eye exams, pairs of glasses, medication and sometimes surgeries) to about 2,000 disadvantaged people in a developing country. These missions are always organized in a region where visual care isn't available, and in partnership with a local organization in the intervention area.

A lot of upstream work has to be done to realize and organize a project of this scale. Before officially launching a mission, IRIS Mundial must first:

- 1 Identify a serious healthcare local partner in a developing country;
- 2 Ensure that the country and the intervention area are safe enough to send the team of volunteers;
- 3 Identify visual problems and confirm the inaccessibility of disadvantaged populations to eye care in the area:
- 4 Validate the capacity of the local partner to support the implementation of the mission;
- 5 Validate the logistical feasibility of this kind of mission in the area.

<sup>3</sup> Opticien(ne)s, ophtalmologistes, optométristes, médecins, infirmiers(ères), traducteurs/trices, logisticien(ne)s et autres intervenant(e)s.

Usually, an IRIS Mundial representative must be sent on-site to carry out an exploratory mission and obtain the majority of the information needed. When all the conditions are met, four mission managers create a committee to establish timelines and start implementing the next steps:

- 1 Send a call for applications to recruit the members of the team;
- 2 Organize used glasses preparation workshops at the warehouse to build a bank of more than 6,000 pairs of glasses;
- 3 Contact suppliers to obtain ocular and systemic medications, as well as surgical equipment if the project entails a surgical aspect;
- 4 Prepare the mission trays with the pairs of glasses, but also the ophthalmological equipment, as well as all the logistical material necessary for the mission;
- **5** Work with the local partner on procedures for obtaining official authorizations to realize the mission as well as the licence to practise for professionals, etc.;
- 6 Create and provide an intercultural pre-departure training for volunteers;
- 7 Carry out many other tasks related to logistics and preparation of the mission.

### One-time project in Gabon

A multidisciplinary team of 25 volunteers should have traveled to Gabon in November 2020. The goal of the project was to provide eye exams and glasses to approximately 2,000 people. Preparations for the project had started with the collaboration of the Embassy of Gabon in Canada and the recruitment of volunteers was almost finalized in March 2020. Due to the pandemic, we had to suspend the preparation of this mission and still do not know when it will take place.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Responsables des soins visuels, des bénévoles, du dispensaire et de la logistique





### **Collection and repair of used glasses**

9 workshops for the preparation of used glasses at the Saint-Jérôme warehouse

9 miscellaneous initiatives at the Saint-Jérôme warehouse

**Several** initiatives to collect used glasses from the 150 IRIS stores across Canada





### 2020 & 2021 Jean-Pierre Tchang Award

The Jean-Pierre Tchang Award was created in 2009 to recognize, on a yearly basis, the exceptional contribution of one of our volunteers to the IRIS Mundial mission.

Due to the pandemic, IRIS Mundial wasn't able to organize a volunteer meeting in 2020, when the Jean-Pierre Tchang Award should have been presented. Therefore, the 2020 and 2021 awards were both presented in November 2021 during the IRIS Mundial 20th Anniversary Event. The recipients are respectively Marie-Claude Cossette and Élaine Giasson.

During the presentation of the 2020 Award to Marie-Claude, two of her long-time friends, who she met through IRIS Mundial, Dr. Lyne Paré and Dr. Marie-Carole Bégin, offered her a touching testimonial and described her through the letters of her name. Marie-Claude's involvement started in 2003, after meeting Dr. Jean-Pierre Tchang, the IRIS Mundial's founder, during a trip to Peru the previous year. She immediately joined the organization and took part in a one-time project in Huaraz, Peru. In total, she participated to nine missions with IRIS Mundial, usually as a nurse and one time as the Volunteer manager. She was also a member of the board of directors from June 2017 to November 2019.

For the presentation of the 2021 award to Dr. Élaine Giasson, Dr. Marie-Chantal Hudon and Mihaela Mara-Somogyi, volunteers and colleagues, had prepared a beautiful speech and a very moving song for her. Élaine was not present at the 20th anniversary party, so we revealed the surprise to her in a video conference! Élaine participated in more than 7 missions with IRIS Mundial. She assumes also several roles within the organization: member of working committees, working on the proofreading of official documents, member of the administration council since September 2016, etc. At her store, Élaine also coordinates the work of her employees who meticulously sort, repair and analyze used glasses, before sending them to IRIS Mundial.

Thank you dear Marie-Claude and Elaine, for your big heart and dedication to the IRIS Mundial cause!

### A science article published

Thanks to data collection efforts from patients during the 2018 IRIS Mundial project in Senegal, a science article has been published relating to visual impairments and eye diseases present in the St-Louis area of Senegal. This article, published in June 2021 in the Médecine Tropicale et Santé Internationale journal, was produced thanks to a precious collaboration with two IRIS Mundial volunteers, Drs. Benoit Tousignant and Julie Brûlé, Optometrists, and the Université de Montréal School of Optometry..

### Relocation

IRIS Mundial has moved its head office and now welcomes you a few blocks away at its new location at 1885 Daniel-Johnson Boulevard, Laval, QC H7T 1H8, at IRIS Centropolis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Association québécoise des Organismes de Coopération internationale

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Fonds d'Investissement solidaire international du Québec

### **Events**

- IRIS Mundial annual General Meeting (online), June 8
- Online training for the IRIS team members on the preparation of glasses, May 5
- IRIS Mundial's 20 years event, November 20

### Participation in the activities of the AQOCI<sup>2</sup>

- Regional concertation table for Haiti, January 19 & 21
- Volunteers management training, January 26
- Official launch of the Framework for Anti-racism Efforts of Canada's International Cooperation Sector,
- Integration of the cross-cutting issue "environmental sustainability", February 5
- Panel impact of COVID-19 on international cooperation, February 11
- Reducing recruitment risks for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, February 18
- Special general assembly of AQOCI, February 26 & March 31
- Risk Management Training, April 15
- Coordination meeting of the NGOs for Senegal (Quebec Delegation in Dakar), May 11
- Webinar on the new funding program of the MRIF, May 12
- Meeting of AQOCI members on the new funding program of the MRIF, May 31
- Meeting with the new Delegate General of Quebec in Dakar, May 31
- Annual general assembly of the AQOCI, June 11
- Webinar on the socio-political situation in Haiti, July 13
- Coordination meeting of the NGOs for Senegal (Quebec Delegation in Dakar), July 27
- Meeting on the emergency situation of Haiti, August 17
- Coordination meeting of the NGOs for Haiti, September 24
- Training how to calculate and offset our carbon footprint, October 20 & November 23
- Travel Navigator safety briefing, October 27
- Regional concertation table for Africa, November 15 & 16

Coordination meeting of the new funding program of the MRIF, December 2

Did you know that, according to the IAPB3, glasses can reduce the odds of failing a class by 44%?

<sup>7\*</sup>International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness







Fundraising activities

### Nouveau Québec sans Frontières program

In 2021, the grants given to international cooperation organizations by the Quebec Ministry of International Relations have been modified to better adapt to the current reality. Indeed, a new revolutionary program called Nouveau Québec sans Frontières (New Quebec without Borders) has been inaugurated. IRIS Mundial is honoured to be one of the organizations selected and will receive a grant of \$300,000 over a three-year period to support the achievement of its mission! Thanks to this specific fund, two of our permanent programs, the St-Louis PPFB in Senegal and the Limbe PPFB in Haiti, will also obtain financial support to continue the implementation of their activities. We can therefore continue to help thousands of people to better see the world!



### **IRIS Mundial Month**

February 2021 was IRIS Mundial month in each IRIS store across Canada! For each pair of eyeglasses sold during this special month, a donation of \$10 was made to IRIS Mundial to the grand total of \$89,900!

Also, a donation of \$50 was made to IRIS Mundial for every ocular surgery carried out, and over \$ 3,350

We warmly thank all the owners and the team members of the IRIS stores and the shareholders, professionals and employees at the IRIS Ophthalmology Clinic for their generosity and their efforts in promoting IRIS Mundial.

Thanks to these donations, IRIS Mundial will continue to help thousands of people to better see the world!

IRIS is the main partner of IRIS Mundial and we are thankful of their generous contribution, this is why the organization can continue to implement projects in developing countries. A warm thank you for:

- The annual fundraising campaign: thanks to the IRIS Mundial month, \$ 1,219,740 have been raised
- The technical support and expertise: accounting, information technology, law, communication and
- The contribution of optometrists, opticians and ophthalmologists volunteers.
- The collect and preparation of used glasses by the staff of the IRIS stores.



Throughout the year, the staff of the 150 IRIS stores all over Canada promote the activities of IRIS Mundial and invite the patients to contribute to the cause by making a donation in cash or by giving their old glasses in order to offer them a second life. In 2021, more than \$1,145 have been raised. IRIS Mundial is grateful to the staff of IRIS stores for their efforts towards this goal and thanks all the generous donors.



### **COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES**

### STANDING COMMITTEES

**GENERAL MANAGER EVALUATION COMMITTEE:** to evaluate on an annual basis the work of the General Manager and her working conditions.

**PROJECTS COMMITTEE:** to evaluate project opportunities and partnership requests, to work on project management and follow-up in collaboration with the General Manager.

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** to help create financial partnerships/sponsorships, funding requests to financial backer, organization of fundraising events.

ETHICS COMMITTEE: to deal with complaints and ethical conflicts. Develop policies and codes of conduct.

**IRIS COMMITTEE:** to ensure sponsorship renewal and formalize the commitments of all parties.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE:** to conduct a self-assessment of risk and safety management, to develop the various safety tools and policies and to ensure that they are kept up to date.

**FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE:** to support the Board of Directors in its responsibilities relating to financial information internal control and financial risk management

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** to help develop and implement a communication strategy.

**MATERIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** to manage all IRIS Mundial's material in its warehouse and to help prepare the material for the missions.

### **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**IRIS MUNDIAL'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:** to manage and organize activities to commemorate IRIS Mundial's 20th anniversary.

**SURGERY COMMITTEE:** to coordinate the surgery component of one-time projects, and help to identify and prepare the specific material needed.

**IPAD COMMITTEE:** to help develop and implement a specific software for the collection of epidemiological data during one-time projects.

**TRAINING COMMITTEE:** to help develop and prepare training and training material.

**FIRST NATIONS EXPLORATION COMMITTEE:** to explore the possibility of developing interventions with First Nations of Canada in remote areas.

### **ACTIVE COMMITTEES IN 2021**

**SAFETY COMMITTEE:** finalization of the volunteer safety guide and emergency plan. Development of the risk and security management policy.

IRIS MUNDIAL'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE: preparation of IRIS Mundial's 20th Anniversary Event.

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE: review of financial management procedures

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** communication plan for 2021 and development of different communication ools.

MATERIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: planning of eyeglass repair workshops

GENERAL MANAGER EVALUATION COMMITTEE: annual evaluation of the General Manager.

TRAINING COMMITTEE: carrying out distance training and mentoring sessions for the Saint-Louis PPFE

**FIRST NATIONS EXPLORATION COMMITTEE:** research to identify needs and partners with whom to define the project.



## Communication

### **PUBLICATIONS OF IRIS MUNDIAL**

- ARTICLE ON IRIS MUNDIAL'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT
- 10 TESTIMONIES OF VOLUNTEERS
- 3 NEWSLETTERS
- PRESS RELEASE ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE IRIS
  MUNDIAL MONTH IN FEBRUARY
- SLIDES ON THE SCREENS OF THE IRIS STORES IN FEBRUARY

### **MEDIA PUBLICATIONS**

- 1 ARTICLE IN OPTICAL PRISME ON THE IRIS MUNDIAL MONTH
- SCIENCE ARTICLE IN THE TROPICAL MEDICINE AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH JOURNAL

### **FACEBOOK PUBLICATIONS**

34 BILINGUAL PUBLICATIONS

1018 SUBSCRIBERS OF THE OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE

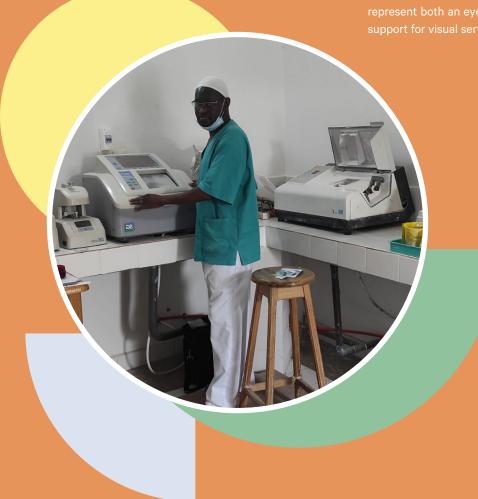
**22 167** PERSONS REACHED

### **WEBSITE PUBLICATIONS**

18 BILINGUAL PUBLICATIONS

### **NEW BRANDING**

After a lot of reflection and hard work, IRIS Mundial is proud to present its new brand identity with a new modern logo, bright colours professional communications and a vibrant new style that reflects the dynamism of the organization! The objective was to create a professional and vibrant visual identity that exudes optimism and support, while encouraging volunteer participation, one of the pillars of IRIS Mundial. The new colorful logo features a globe, intended to represent both an eye and a world globe, highlighting IRIS Mundial's support for visual services around the world.



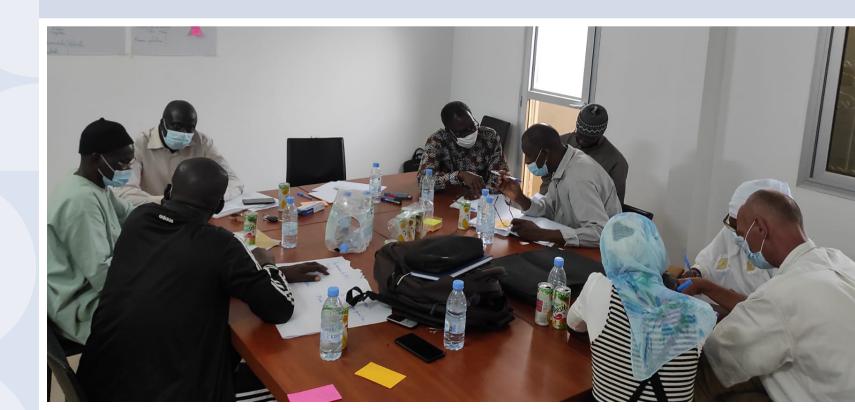




### **STATEMENT OF OPERATION**

REVENUES*	2021	2020		
DONATIONS	\$51302	\$9 210		
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	\$3286	\$-		
IRIS SPONSORSHIP	\$93250	\$81670		
OTHER GRANTS	\$105936	\$85145		
CONTRIBUTED VOLUNTEER SERVICES	\$900	\$3000		
OTHER	\$1822	\$4602		
	\$256496	\$183 627		
EXPENSES				
ADMINISTRATION	\$72557	\$58551		
COSTS OF THE PERMANENT PROGRAMS	\$139340	\$70361		
COSTS OF THE ONE-TIME PROJECTS	\$5201	\$11161		

<sup>\*</sup> Donations in kind, necessary for carrying out the activities, are not included.



\$217098

\$140 073

### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

ASSETS	2021	2020
CASH	\$380196	\$364762
DEBTORS	\$39708	\$6 216
PREPAID EXPENSES	\$0	\$650
STOCKS	\$34081	\$12174
NOTE RECEIVABLE	\$20000	\$20000
FIXED ASSETS	\$13 066	\$15443
	\$487051	\$419 245
LIABILITIES		
PAYABLE ACCOUNTS AND ACCRUED CHARGES	\$22 495	\$7628
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS	\$38811	\$ 25 271
	\$61306	\$32 899
NET ASSETS		
ALLOCATED TO ONE-TIME PROJECTS	\$100 000	\$100 000
ALLOCATED TO STRATEGIC RESERVE	\$150 000	\$150000
UNALLOCATED	\$175745	\$136346
	\$425745	\$386346
TOTAL PASSIF ET ACTIF NET	\$487 051	\$419 245



We sincerely thank all our volunteers, members, administrators, partners, collaborators, sponsors and donors for their trust and generosity in supporting IRIS Mundial's mission and contributing to the success of its projects in 2021.

### **Main partner**

IRIS, The Visual Group, the IRIS stores and the IRIS Ophthalmology Clinic

### **Sponsor**

«Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie» (MRIF) from Quebec

### **Partners**

- Alcon Canada
- Allergan
- «Association québécoise des Organismes de Coopération internationale» (AQOCI)
- Atypique Design
- Bell Média Québec
- Bergeron Fidrilis CPA Inc.
- «Book Humanitaire»
- «Cap-Emploi»
- «CÉGEP Édouard-Montpetit» (Technique en orthèses visuelles)
- «CÉGEP régional de Lanaudière à l'Assomption» (Technique en orthèses visuelles)
- 11. Centennial Optical
- COGECO Québec
- «Collaboration Santé Internationale» (CSI)
- First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission (FNQLHSSC)
- «Création JRP Inc»
- «Délégation générale du Québec à Dakar»
- «Développement, Expertise et Solidarité internationale» (DESI)
- «École d'Optométrie de l'Université de Montréal»
- Essilor 19.
- Fondation Air Canada
- Groupe Vision New Look
- Instruments ophtalmiques INNOVA
- Johnson & Johnson
- Kleargo INC.
- Novartis
- True Blue Vision
- 27. Viweb
- 28. Voltige

### **International partners**

### Haiti

- «Fondation pour le Développement économique et social» (FODES-5)
- «Centre d'Éducation et de Développement intégré- Village de l'Espoir» (CEDI-VE)

### Senegal

- «Association Saint-Louisienne pour la Vue »
- «Centre hospitalier régional de Saint-Louis »

A special thank you to the administrators and members of the different committees of IRIS Mundial for their engagement!

