

IRIS Mundial

Mobile eye clinic in Podor, Senegal

Project presentation





About us

Contacts

Julie Roegiers - General manager
450 497-8320 post 1
irismundial-info@iris.ca
www.irismundial.ca

To donate

- **Benevity portal:** cause Mission IRIS Mundial
- **Website IRIS Mundial:** <https://irismundial.ca/en/mobile-eye-clinic-in-podor-senegal/>



Background

IRIS Mundial is a Canadian international cooperation organization whose mission is to provide quality preventive and curative optometric, optical and ophthalmological services to populations in developing countries, as well as to people in need in Canada.

Since 2001

- **25 one-time projects** (group mission)
- **5 permanent programs** for the prevention and fight against blindness (Haiti, Senegal and Gabon)
- **26 training mission** (to local professionals)



One-time Project



It's our mission for eyes in need



WHAT IS IT? • Group mission involving a multidisciplinary team of 14 Canadians (optometrists and opticians) offers a complete eye examination, eye medication and a pair of prescription glasses to underprivileged populations living in regions where such care is unavailable.

WHEN? • January 23 to February 1, 2025

WHERE? • Podor department, 200 km from Saint-Louis in Senegal.

LOCAL PARTNER: • Association Saint-Louisienne pour la Vue (ASV)

PROJECT BUDGET: • 20 000 \$ CAD, including: purchase of medication, l'équipement purchase and transport, mobile clinic travel, etc. This also includes funding for eye surgery.





OBJECTIVES

In order to reach the most vulnerable people, IRIS Mundial wants to organize a mobile clinic in the department of Podor, during which various villages far from major urban centers will be able to receive visits from our Canadian volunteer professionals and benefit from our eye health services.

General objective

Contribute to improving the quality of life and school learning of disadvantaged adults and children in the Podor region by setting up a mobile eye health clinic.

Specifics objectives

- Offer a complete eye exam to around 1,200 disadvantaged adults and children in the Podor region.
- Provide eye medication where necessary (antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, antihistamines, glaucoma medication).
- Distribute a free pair of glasses for the correction of refractive errors to all patients requiring them, as well as a pair of sunglasses to all those consulted.
- Refer patients for treatment by our partner, the Association St-Louisienne pour la Vue (ASV), at their community eye clinic in Saint-Louis.

Direct beneficiaries

1 200 women, men, boys and girls in the Podor department who will benefit from a complete eye exam and will receive pairs of glasses to correct refractive errors, if necessary, as well as a pair of sunglasses.



RELEVANCE OF PROJECTS

- **1,1 billion** people live with vision loss globally*
- **90%** of vision loss is preventable or treatable *
- **There are 4 times more** of unaddressed distance vision impairment in low- and middle-income regions.
- **\$411 billion** is the annual global costs of productivity losses associated with vision impairment *
- **Almost everyone** will need access to eyecare services during their lifetime*
- **55%** of people with vision loss are women and girls*



Economic benefits

- ↑ In motor skills and employment opportunities;
- ↓ Household expenditure (88% per capita after a cataract surgery)
- ↑ In the community productivity (22% with an eyewear);
- ↑ A higher employability rate, especially among women.
- ↓ Of the economic burden on the family;

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.

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



Social benefits

- ↓ Of social exclusion;
- ↑ Participation in daily activities and leisure;
- ↑ A preservation of social status, self-esteem and well-being.



Childhood benefits

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

For example: glasses can reduce the odds of failing a class by 44%.*

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 socio-economic development of their community.



* Sources: Bourne R, Steinmetz J, Flaxman S, et autres, Trends in prevalence of blindness and distance and near 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 que World Report on Vision de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé (OMS) et l'Atlas de la vision de l'International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)





Get involved!

Being an active member of IRIS Mundial means being an integral part of the organization. It means taking part in important decisions and contributing to its development.

Become an active member.

Do you want to support the cause of IRIS Mundial and are you a university, association, company or a professional order?

Become an associate member.

For further information :

<https://irismundial.ca/en/get-involved/become-a-member/>

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On behalf of the world's most underprivileged,
IRIS Mundial says

THANK YOU!

