# Tanzania

For more than three decades, Helen Keller Intl has partnered with families, communities, and partners to ensure good health and nutrition for millions of people. We address preventable causes of blindness, including trachoma and cataracts, by training healthcare heroes to go door-to-door to screen for both diseases and help patients get the sight-saving surgeries they need to reclaim their lives. Additionally, we partner with the Tanzanian government to improve nutrition by fortifying staple foods like flour, cooking oils, and grains with essential vitamins and ensuring children under

the age of five receive twice yearly vitamin A supplementation.



Number of staff: 22
People reached annually: 490,000



Office opened: 1984
Operating budget: \$1.8 million

## **Challenges**



1/3 of children under the age of 5 are stunted due to poor nutrition.



Cataracts are the leading cause of vision loss in Tanzania, responsible for more than 50% of all blindness cases and impacting more than 167,000 people.



More than 12 million people are at risk of irreversible blindness because of trachoma infections.

#### Where We Work



- Arusha
- Dodoma
- Iringa
- Manyara
- Mara

- Mbeya
- Njombe
- Rukakwa
- Songwe

#### **Our Solutions**



Deliver twice-yearly vitamin A supplementation to children under the age of 5 to ensure good health and combat malnutrition.



Train case finders to identify and refer cataract patients and support clinicians with education and resources to reverse blindness caused by cataracts



Support eye care workers to address trachoma infections in their communities through detection and surgeries.





## **Our Impact**

- ✓ Reached 80% more than 500,000
   of children under the age of 5 with
   2 doses of vitamin A, protecting their vision and health.
- ✓ Supported cataract screening of nearly 1,300 individuals, of which 688 received surgery for at least 1 eye.
- Helen Keller-trained community case finders identified nearly 6,200 cases of trachoma and more than 700 patients received corrective surgery to preserve their sight.

**Key Partners:** Alcon Foundation, GiveWell, HCP Cureblindnness, SightSavers International

#### **About Helen Keller Intl**

Helen Keller Intl partners with communities that are striving to overcome longstanding cycles of poverty. By delivering the essential building blocks of good health, sound nutrition, and clear vision, the organization helps millions of people create lasting change in their own lives. Working in 20 countries – across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States – and together with a global community of supporters, Helen Keller helps to ensure every person has the opportunity – as Helen did – to reach their true potential.

### **Contact Information**

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