



The Rolpa and Okhaldhunga Community Eye Centres (CECs), Nepal

BLINDNESS IN NEPAL

- **Cataract** accounts for **72%** of preventable blindness.
- **Other causes of blindness:** Glaucoma, Trachoma, uncorrected refractive error and childhood blindness
- **67%** of blind people in Nepal are women and girls



When left untreated, blindness and visual impairment can result in lost education and employment opportunities, as well as an impaired quality of life. Blindness prevents parents from providing for their dependents and very often children are called upon to act as carers, taking them out of school, and depriving them of an education.

WHERE WE WORK

In Nepal, The Fred Hollows Foundation (UK) focuses its work in the districts of Rolpa and Okhaldhunga. 70% of avoidable blindness cases are a result of treatable cataracts, with an additional 30,000 people becoming cataract blind every year. 90% of blind people live in rural areas, with only 150 ophthalmologists in the country, and half those working in the capital, Kathmandu.



WHAT WE DO

We support two Community Eye Centres (CECs), in partnership with the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology (TIO). We deliver first class eye health care through the provision of equipment and training for local eye health care professionals; screenings and treatment as well as annual Outreach Microsurgical Eye Clinics (OMECS), to ensure that our high quality eye services reach those in remotest areas.

THE DIFFERENCE WE MAKE

By treating those suffering from blindness, The Foundation and its partners help to create an opportunity for patients to re-gain their independence. We will also be empowering the carers of the patients to once again have the chance to lead a full life without the responsibility of caring for their family member.

If you wish to support this project visit

www.hollows.org.uk/donate/

Or contact:

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