

## FAQs

### **What communities will be supported by 'EndTrachoma by 2020'?**

Trachoma endemic regions in WA, Central Australia and the APY land regions with higher rates of trachoma, and those who have requested support.

### **Aren't trachoma programs in Australia already well funded?**

Funding from the Australian Government is largely allocated to screening for and treating trachoma. Greater investment in the prevention of trachoma is needed.

### **How does this project with Rotary support organisations?**

Rotary is working with the Australian Trachoma Alliance, a network of organisations working to end trachoma, as well as government and Indigenous health authorities. The project is multi-district and will provide support in the Rotary Foundation areas of water and sanitation, and child and maternal health. This focus will ensure the elimination of trachoma from Australia by 2020. Clubs can continue to support their chosen organisations.

*Photo: Major General Michael Jeffrey, Chairman of the Australia Trachoma Alliance, talking Trachoma with our 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley.*



#### **#1 Rotary Australia turns 100 in 2021**

Celebrate this milestone by really making a difference: supporting an Australia-wide project to help communities aspiring for better lives.

#### **#2 It's time to rid Australia of Trachoma**

Australia is the last developed country where trachoma still persists. Let's join the World Health Organisation's global effort to **EndTrachoma by 2020**.

#### **#3 Australians supporting Australians in need**

By working together, we can help our Indigenous People who are experiencing poverty and poor health to experience better health and thus a better life

#### **#4 Rotary - part of the Australian Trachoma Elimination Effort**

Our work is recognised by every organisation involved in trachoma elimination in Australia as part of the Australian Trachoma Alliance. Our partners include Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, Indigenous Eye Health and the Fred Hollows Foundation.

#### **# 5 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley wants your support**

Our very own Australian RI President Ian Riseley wants us united on this centenary project.

Watch Ian's message at: <http://tinyurl.com/z44fmb4>



**EndTrachoma by 2020**

Rotary Australia | Building Healthy Communities

## **Projects** that can end Trachoma in Australia forever



[www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au)

# What is Trachoma?

Trachoma is an eye infection caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia Trachomatis*. Repeated infection can lead to permanent blindness.

Infections can be treated quickly, effectively and even prevented by improving personal and community hygiene.

Australia is the world's only developed country affected by trachoma, causing significant problems in a number of remote Aboriginal communities.



*Lien Trinh, Optometrist and Project Manager for EndTrachoma by 2020.*

*Lien is a former Rotary Foundation Global Scholar who studied at the London School of Tropical Medicine.*

**Our 2017-18 Rotary International President, Ian Riseley, wants to see a Trachoma-free Australia by 2020.**

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**FACEBOOK:** [endtrachomaby2020](https://www.facebook.com/endtrachomaby2020)



*We must work together to make sure that all children in affected communities are able to keep their faces clean and that they have safe and functional washing facilities.*

*Our projects are based around the simple fact that providing the opportunity for people to be clean can prevent the spread of infectious diseases like Trachoma.*

We have been scoping community development projects in trachoma endemic regions since the World Health Organisation's Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 meeting in Australia in 2016. We visited a number of remote Indigenous communities and are now working with government and non-government partners on preventative strategies to eliminate trachoma.

Through these partnerships, we have identified ways Rotary can support some of our least advantaged Australians to improve their health and wellbeing.

1. Installing mirrors in homes can facilitate pride in one's self and highlight hygiene issues.
2. We are working to enable each child access to face washing facilities to help prevent the spread of infection.
3. Providing access to washing machines will enable the washing of clothes and bedding.
4. SpaTap provides the opportunity for hand washing or even a shower where there is no facility

These simple measures are just the start of how we can help eliminate trachoma, and the spread of many other infectious diseases.

**Mirrors**



**Face washing**



**Washing Machines**



**SpaTap**



To make a donation, please visit our website: [www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au)

All donations to 'EndTrachoma by 2020' are tax deductible when made out to **Nourish Our Communities Ltd**