



Eyes for Africa restores sight to tribespeople living in remote Ethiopia

May 2009 Southern Omo Valley Ethiopia

Over 1000 people living in remote and rural areas of Ethiopia were screened for eye complaints and given free glasses or cataract surgery to restore their vision.

No eye care has been given in this area before due to the remoteness.

Local and international doctors, optometrists, nurses, an Alcon representative, a photographer and a team of volunteers participated to achieve an outstanding result of over 200 cataract surgeries in ten days, including 48 trichiasis surgeries due to trachoma.

We travelled nearly 700 kms in two days by truck to Jinka and Turmi, over very remote and rough terrain to treat people from the Ari, Bume, Mursi, Hamar, Nyangatom, Dassanech and Karo tribes.

Thank you to:

Lions Recycle for Sight Australia for donating sunglasses,

The Optical Superstore for donating frames,

Carl Zeiss Vision for optical lenses,

Device Technology,

Design for Vision,

Alcon for the loan of Phaco emulsification machine,

and

Zeiss for the loan of the portable microscope.

Donations from fundraising and the generosity of the Australian public has made this campaign a success.

Eyes for Africa is a charitable foundation founded by Julie Tyers in March 2007.

So far, we have restored sight to over 600 people.