



## **Media Advisory: For Immediate Release**

### **People of Chikankata District to have better access to eye health care with the opening of Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic, supported by Operation Eyesight Universal, at Kafue Gorge Hospital**

**Media are invited to attend the grand opening of the Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic on Friday, December 6 at Kafue Gorge Hospital, 4CMW+QFM, Luwanya, Zambia, 09:00 - 13:00 (interviews and photos can also be arranged by phone or email)**

**Lusaka, Zambia, December 6, 2024:** Every child, woman and man in Chikankata District will now have better access to affordable quality eye care with the opening of the Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic, a community vision centre at Kafue Gorge Hospital. The clinic was constructed, outfitted with diagnostic equipment and supplied with furniture through support from Operation Eyesight Universal, an international development organisation that has been working in Zambia since 2001 to prevent blindness and restore sight.

**What:** Opening Event of the Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic at [Kafue Gorge Hospital](#)

**When:** Friday, December 6, 2024, 09:00 – 13:00

**Where:** the Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic is found at the [Kafue Gorge Hospital, 4CMW+QFM, Luwanya, Zambia](#)

**Why:** The Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic will bring eye health care to the people of Chikankata District. The clinic is part of Operation Eyesight Universal's Hospital-Based Community Eye Health Programme model. To support the government's efforts to increase coverage of eye health services, Operation Eyesight Universal has been implementing the model to improve access to quality eye health services at the community level and to reach underserved communities. The model integrates eye health services into existing public health facilities (such as the Kafue Gorge Eye Clinic at Kafue Gorge Hospital), raising community awareness that educates families in preventing eye diseases through a network of Community Health Workers. These workers are recruited from the district, who go door to door, screening everyone's vision and referring those with vision loss to vision centres and hospitals.

**Who:** Invited to attend are the National Eye Health Coordinator, Dr. Phyllis Moonga; Mr. Nicholas Mutale, Chair of the Eye Health NGO partners; Phales Mungule, Country Director for OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation, project partner; Operation Eyesight Universal Zambia Board members, including Board Chair Manoj Patel and Operation Eyesight Universal Zambia Team members including Phiri Kennedy, Country Director and spokesperson. Representatives of local organizations have also been invited.



**About Operation Eyesight Universal** [operationeyesight.com](https://operationeyesight.com)

Operation Eyesight Universal is an international development organisation working to prevent blindness and restore sight. Our vision is the elimination of avoidable vision loss. Founded in Calgary, Alberta, Canada in 1963, we are a global community spanning four continents – Africa, South Asia, Europe and North America. While our vision is global, our focus is local. Our team’s presence on the ground allows us to leverage the unique strengths of our communities of work. Through activities like community outreach, water and sanitation projects, and health education, we are addressing the root causes of avoidable vision loss, such as poverty, poor sanitation and gender inequality.

**Operation Eyesight's Work in Zambia** [operationeyesight.com/zambia/](https://operationeyesight.com/zambia/)

Operation Eyesight has been operating in Zambia since 2001, collaborating with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders. In 2023, in partnership with the respective district health departments, we established two new vision centres, at **Kanyama General Hospital** in Lusaka Province and **Kapiri Mposhi Urban Health Clinic** in the Central Province, benefiting over 400,000 people.

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