ADDRESSING CATARACT BLINDNESS IN GHANA: AN EXPERIENCE WITH CURE BLINDNESS PROJECT IN RURAL GHANA.

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OUTLINE

- Self introduction
- Ghana – an overview
  - Cataract burden in Ghana
- St. Mary Hospital Eye Clinic
- Cure Blindness Project
- Experience with CBP outreaches.

SELF INTRODUCTION

Enoch Yelzaala Dagoe

40yrs

Married with 3 kids

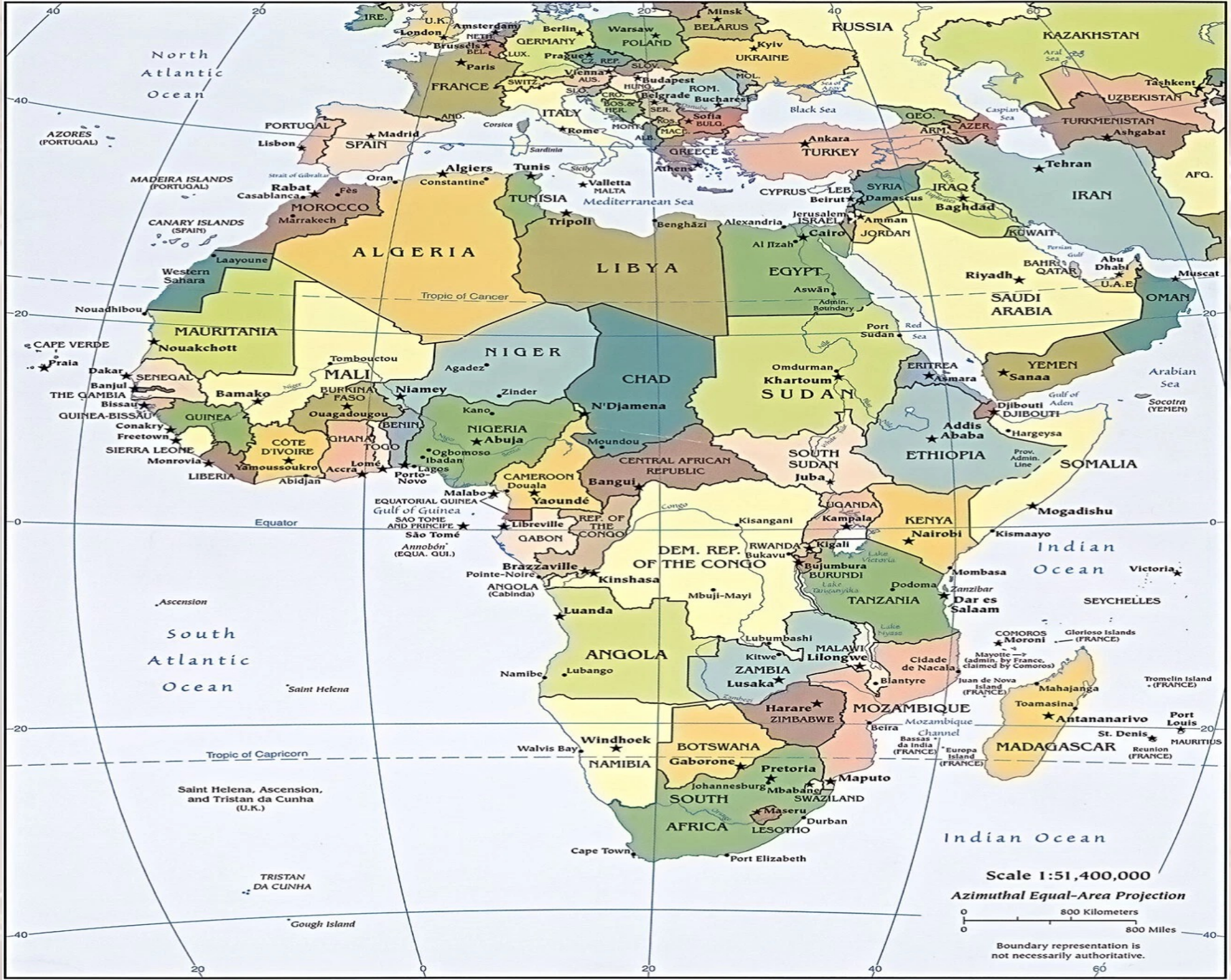
Educational background:

- Bsc. Human Biology, MBChB – 2013, University for Development Studies.
- Cert. Health Administration and Mgt – 2016, GIMPA
- SP Cert. Ophthalmology – 2023, University of Medical Sciences of Havana.
- Master of Public Health – 2024, GIMPA



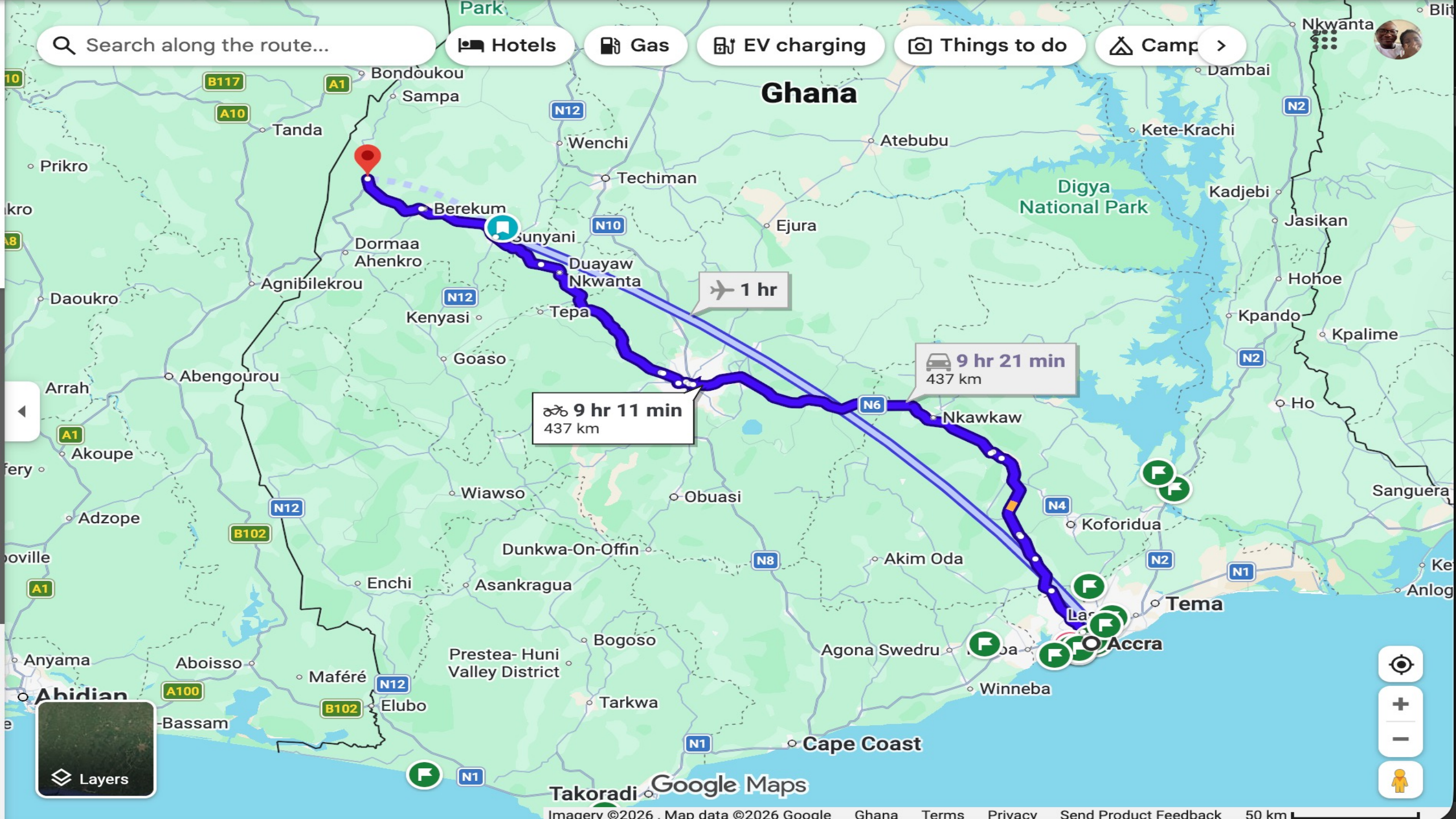
GHANA – AN OVERVIEW

- Population – 35.7Million
- Land area – 87,854mi^2
- Language – English but over 70 ethnic groups each with its own language. 11 government sponsored languages.
- Minimum wage – 21.77 cedis/day(1.67 euros)
- Number of Ophthalmologists – 150-170, distributed unevenly.

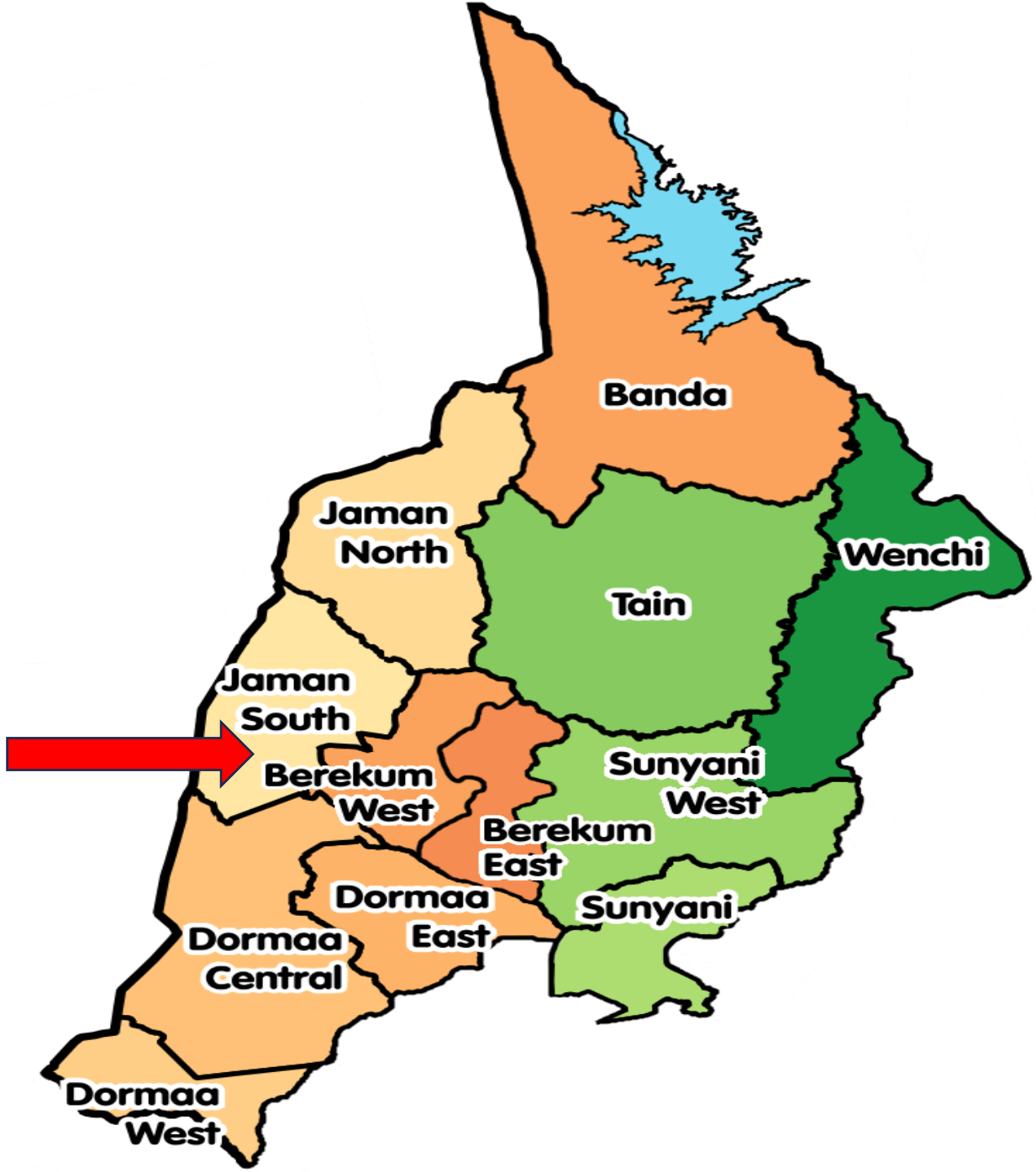

North Atlantic Ocean
South Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Indian Ocean
Mediterranean Sea
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Aral Sea
Red Sea
Persian Gulf
Gulf of Aden
Arabian Sea
Gulf of Guinea
Lake Victoria
Lake Tanganyika
Lake Nyasa
Mozambique Channel
Tropic of Cancer
Tropic of Capricorn
Equator
RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
BELARUS
UKRAINE
POLAND
GERMANY
FRANCE
SPAIN
PORTUGAL
ITALY
GREECE
TURKEY
IRAN
IRAQ
SYRIA
LEB.
CYPRUS
ISRAEL
JORDAN
EGYPT
LIBYA
ALGERIA
TUNISIA
MOROCCO
SAUDI ARABIA
KUWAIT
BAHR.
QATAR
U.A.E.
OMAN
YEMEN
SUDAN
ETHIOPIA
ERITREA
SOMALIA
DJIBOUTI
KENYA
UGANDA
TANZANIA
RWANDA
BURUNDI
DEM. REP. OF THE CONGO
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
SOUTH SUDAN
CHAD
NIGER
NIGERIA
MALI
BURKINA FASO
GHANA
TOGO
BENIN
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GUINEA
SENEGAL
THE GAMBIA
GUINEA-BISSAU
MAURITANIA
WESTERN SAHARA
CAMEROON
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
GABON
REP. OF THE CONGO
ANGOLA
NAMIBIA
BOTSWANA
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE
MALAWI
SOUTH AFRICA
LESOTHO
SWAZILAND
MADAGASCAR
SEYCHELLES
MAURITIUS
COMOROS
Reunion (FRANCE)
Glorioso Islands (FRANCE)
Juan de Nova Island (FRANCE)
Europa Island (FRANCE)
Tromelin Island (FRANCE)
Bassas da India (FRANCE)
Mayotte (admin. by France, claimed by Comoros)
Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha (U.K.)
TRISTAN DA CUNHA
Gough Island
Ascension
Saint Helena
Annobón (EQUA. GUI.)
São Tomé
Socotra (YEMEN)
Scale 1:51,400,000
Azimuthal Equal-Area Projection
0 800 Kilometers
0 800 Miles
Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

MAP OF GHANA


GHANA
IN PERSPECTIVE
UPPER WEST
UPPER EAST
NORTH EAST
SAVANNAH
NORTHERN
BONO EAST
BONO
OTI
AHAFO
ASHANTI
VOLTA
EASTERN
WESTERN NORTH
GREATER ACCRA
WESTERN
CENTRAL


Search along the route...
Hotels
Gas
EV charging
Things to do
Camp
Ghana
Park
Bondoukou
Sampa
Tanda
Prikro
Wenchi
Techiman
Atebubu
Kete-Krachi
Dambai
Nkwanta
Digya
National Park
Kadjebi
Jasikan
Hohoe
Kpando
Kpalime
Ho
Sanguera
Berekum
Dormaa
Ahenkro
Duayaw
Nkwanta
Ejura
Agnibilekrou
Daoukro
Kenyasi
Tepa
Goaso
Abengourou
Arrah
Akoupe
Adzope
Wiawso
Obuasi
Dunkwa-On-Offin
Akim Oda
Koforidua
Nkawkaw
Enchi
Asankragua
Bogoso
Prestea- Huni
Valley District
Tarkwa
Agona Swedru
Winneba
Cape Coast
Takoradi
Tema
Accra
Anyama
Aboisso
Maféré
Elubo
Bassam
Abidjan
1 hr
9 hr 21 min
437 km
9 hr 11 min
437 km
N1
N2
N4
N6
N8
N10
N12
A1
A10
A100
B102
B117
Layers
Google Maps
Imagery ©2026 , Map data ©2026 Google
Ghana
Terms
Privacy
Send Product Feedback
50 km

DISTRICTS OF BONO



MAP OF JAMAN SOUTH



CATARACT BURDEN IN GHANA

- 165,000 blind due to cataracts(54.8% of all blindness in Ghana)
- Surgical gap: 68,000 surgeries annually to clear backlog + new cases. But only 30,000 surgeries are done annually.
- Only 18 out of 100 people who need surgery get it, leading to a cataract surgery rate of 712 per million population vs WHO target of 2000+

WHY THE GAP?

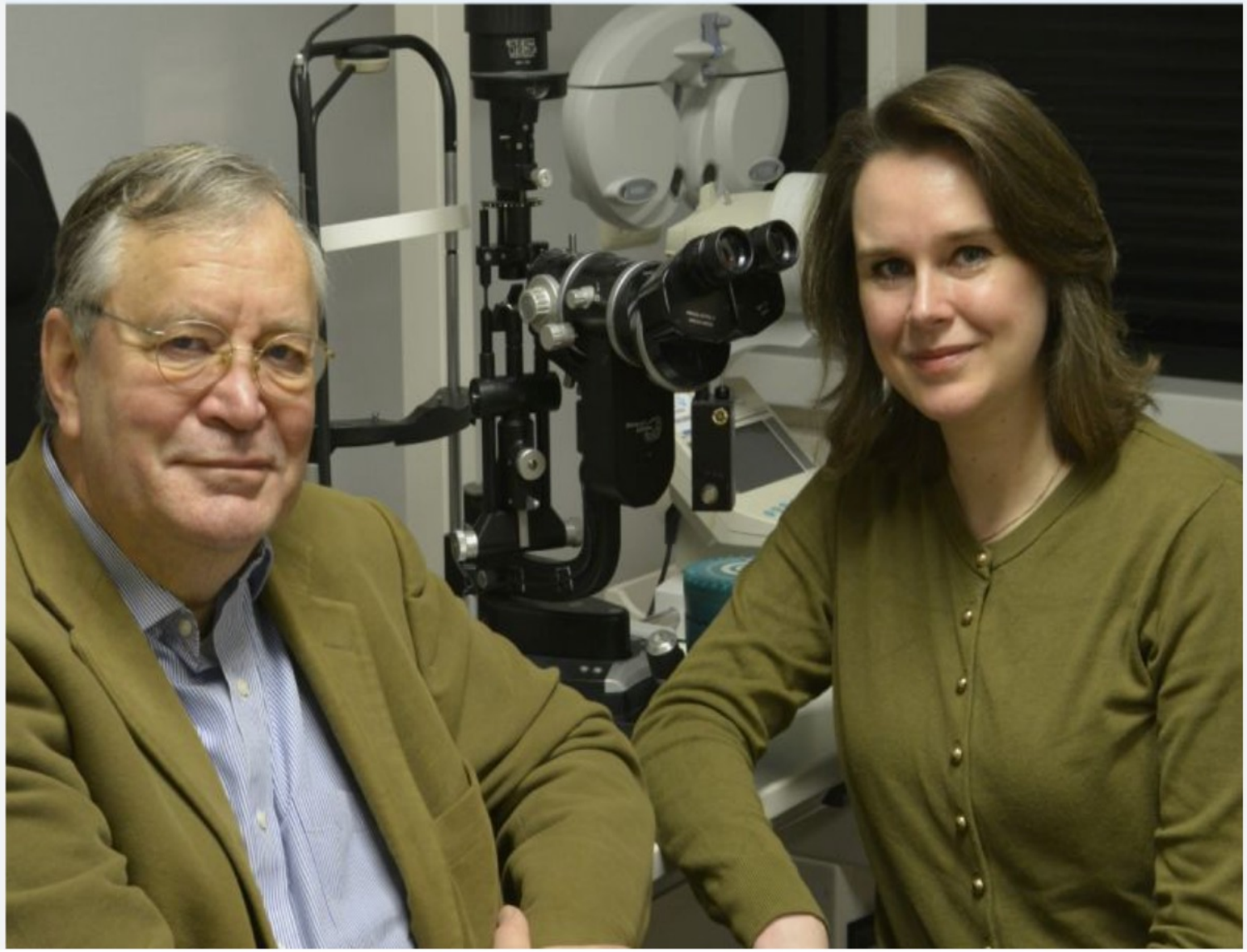
- Inadequate surgeons.
- Unequal distribution(6 regions do not have Ophthalmologists – Upper West, Upper East, Savannah, Oti, Western North, and North East.
- Access : 67.74% of blind people live in areas with little/no quality eye care.
- Other Barriers: lack of awareness, cost, transport, cultural misconceptions.

SMCH EYE CLINIC

Eye Care Services in Drobo –
Dr. Ben Van Noort, 2007 – 2017
Dr. Tim Westland – 2016 -2018
Dr. Enoch Dagoe – 2023 till date.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XBtqGnQYhQ

Zo vader, zo dochter: 'Wij krijgen thuis spreektijd'




PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT (PHU)
REPRODUCTIVE AND CHILD HEALTH (RCH)
CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (CWC)
WELLNESS CLINIC (WC)
WARNING
24 HOUR

Dr. Tim Westland – 2016 - 2018




EYE DEPARTMENT


Dr Ben Eye Clinic
Named after the founder
Dr Ben van Noort,
ophthalmologist
Member of the St. Mary's
hospital foundation
St. Jansdal, Harderwijk,
The Netherlands


THIS EYE DEPARTMENT
WAS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY
ST. JANSDAL HOSPITAL, THE NETHERLANDS
AND ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, DROBO
IT WAS OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED
AND BLESSED BY
MOST REV. MATTHEW KWASI GYAMFI
ON 15TH FEBRUARY, 2018
AND
DEDICATED TO DR. VAN NOORT FOR HIS
IMMENSE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS
OPHTHALMIC CARE IN DROBO FROM
2007 - 2017


REGISTRATION


ACCOUNTS OFFICE


OPTICAL SHOP
OPTICAL SHOP


THEATER


4
CONSULTING ROOM
3
CONSULTING ROOM




ARK 7000
AUTO REF - KERATOMETER
APPASAMY ASSOCIATES


YAG & SLT COMBO
TWINSTAR






PHARMACY
CORONAVIRUS PRECAUTION
Don't be scared. Just take care

Dr. Enoch Dagoe – 2023 till date.



CURE BLINDNESS PROJECT

- Founded in by Geoff Tabin and Sanduk Ruit in 1995 as a global non-profit organization in eye care.



- Started as the Himalayan Cataract Project and in 2025, rebranded to the Cure Blindness Project.



Cure Blindness PROJECT™

- Main focus : screening, treatment, training, equipment support and cataract surgery camps in low and middle-income countries(Nepal, Bhutan,Ghana, Burundi, DRC, Liberia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Zambia)

1. LOCAL CAPACITY
Provide training for clinical and non-clinical personnel to expand access to quality care and improve outcomes →

2. INFRASTRUCTURE & EQUIPMENT
Ensure trained personnel have the appropriate tools to apply their skills →

3. PATIENT CARE
Support partners in providing direct service and expand partnerships to ensure access to care across disease areas →

4. PREVENTION
Expand training for community health workers to address comprehensive eye care at primary care level →

- Cost efficiency : 70USD(59.70Euros)

1.8m

Surgeries Performed

19.1m

Screenings & Basic Treatment

6

Hospitals

25.2k

Trainings Performed


அரவிந்த் கண் மருத்துவமனை
ARAVIND EYE HOSPITAL


SIM2
SIM29


AUROLAB



- How did I join CBP outreaches?

- Outreaches done in 2025:
  - Holy Family Hospital, Berekum
  - Sunyani SDA hospital
  - Sunyani Teaching Hospital
  - St. Mary Hospital Drobo – 2X
  - St. Theresa Hospital Nkoranza – 2X
  - Eastern Regional Hospital, Koforidua – 2x
  - Holy Family Hospital- Nkawkaw
  - Asuoso Therasa Hospital, Akroso
  - St. Dominic Hospital, Akwatia – 2x
  - Our Lady of Grace Hospital, Breman Asikuma
  - Greenshield Hospital – Sefwi Dwenasi


EYE
DROBO


2025/09/18 20:09
Ɔdehyeɛba


NATIONAL CATARACT OUTREACH PROGRAM (NCOP)
DR. ENOCH DAGOE
OPHTHALMOLOGIST
20 06
THE GUSTARD FAMILY






ETU
ADLOE


WARNING
ST MARY CATHOLIC HOSPITAL-DROBO
IN COLLABORATION WITH CURE BLINDNESS PROJECT, GHS &NHIA
PRESENTS
FREE CATARACT SURGERY
SCREENING
1ST SEPTEMBER- 17TH OCTOBER,2025
8 AM TO 3PM
VENUE: SMH, EYE CLINIC
SURGERY
:20TH -24TH OCTOBER, 2025
NB: PATIENTS SHOULD COME ALONG WITH THEIR NHIS CARD
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL US ON :
0545837183- DR. JOACHIM, 0543119813-MR. PETER


#LoveYourEyes


THANK
YOU


ST. DOMINIC HOSPI


HSWU




WORLD SIGHT DAY
#LoveYourEye


#LoveYourEyes


OPTIMUS


WAITING AREA
OPD VITALS UNIT
SOLD HERE
SOLD HERE
SOLD HERE
0204 333555 - 6
0302 721727 - 8
ACCREDITED





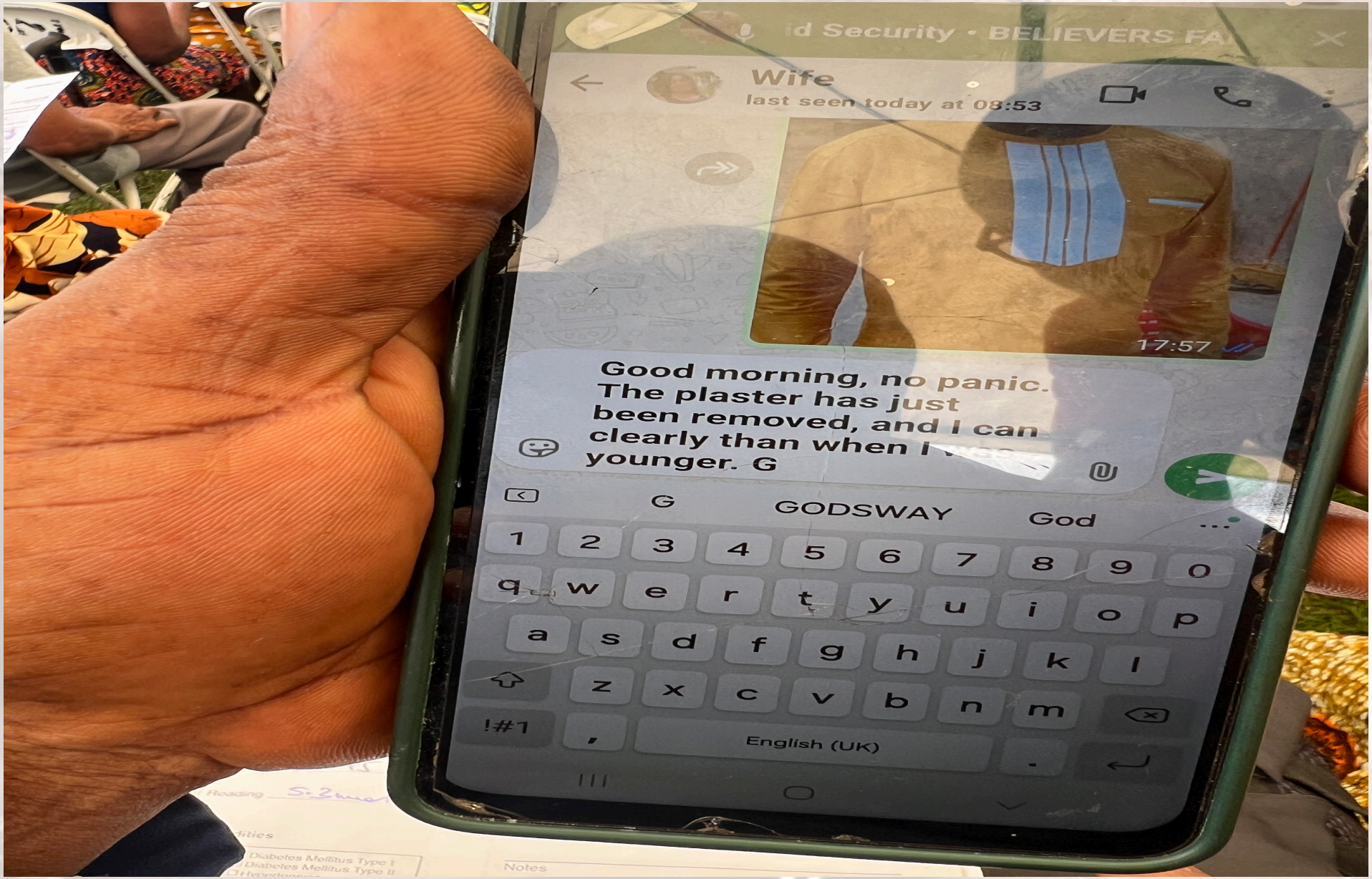

DAYBREAK
VISION PROJECT






DAYBREAK
VISION PROJECT
EJURA 2026
356 CATARACT
SURGERIES
DAYBREAK
VISION PROJECT


DAYBREAK
VISION PROJECT


Wife
last seen today at 08:53
17:57
Good morning, no panic.
The plaster has just
been removed, and I can
clearly than when I
younger. G
GODSWAY
God
English (UK)
Notes

CHALLENGES?

- Work overload!!
- Low remuneration
- Poor road network and risk of travel on the poor roads.




ESCAPE
XLT



THANK YOU

Your legacy is every life you've ever touched.

– Maya Angelou