THUTO LE PONO BOSWA
“Education and vision are your rights, your inheritance”

Julia Tebogo Bothasitse, coordinator Botswana

Background
All international programmes of Visio are intrinsically linked to the development or reinforcement of services for people with low vision in different countries with different challenges. To maximize impact for the beneficiaries, different relevant aspects within the VIP system are linked: identification and screening – assessment – early intervention – education – rehabilitation – work – lobby and advocacy. The programme interventions are at strategic, management and operational level. Starting point of each programme is a shared ambition. From the very beginning stakeholders are actively involved and encouraged to work together in reaching the overall purpose in a sustainable and tailor-made way. In Botswana Visio started a programme on the enhancement of quality of low vision services in 2016.

Purpose of the programme
To build a strong and accessible system with quality screening and assessment of visually impaired children in order to offer quality education and rehabilitation according to the capabilities of the visually impaired learners.

Objectives of the Programme:
- To have quality education for learners with VI in pre-primary and primary education (3-13 years).
- To increase access to inclusive educational setting.
- Quality visual function assessment for children (0-13).

Beneficiaries of the programme
School age children with visual impairment from 3-13 years.

Main results/activity areas
- A reliable monitoring & evaluation system to monitor the progress and the impact of the project in VI school children.
- Empowerment of parents to guide their children to be part of the community.
- Skills enhancement of VI specialists in education and health sectors.

Main Stakeholders
- Ministry of Basic Education (MoBE)
- Ministry of Health and Wellness MoHW)
- VI learners family members

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