What is the Eye care in health systems: Guide for action (the Guide)?

The Guide is a practical resource for countries to analyse, plan, implement and review integrated people-centred eye care (IPEC). More specifically, it outlines recommended activities towards the development of:

1. an eye care strategic plan that outlines priorities;
2. a monitoring framework linked to the eye care strategic plan; and
3. one or multiple operational plans outlining actions in support of the implementation of the eye care strategic plan.

What are the four phases of the Guide?

There are four phases in the Guide which are:

Phase 1: ANALYSE: Objective: Carry out a situation analysis of the eye care sector to establish priorities

Phase 2: PLAN Objective: Use the priorities to develop an eye care strategic plan and related monitoring framework

Phase 3: DO Objective: Conduct operational planning to define activities, timelines and budget at national, subnational and institutional level to implement the eye care strategic plan

Phase 4: REVIEW Objective: Establish ongoing review processes to correct actions

Phase 1 (Analyse) and Phase 2 (Plan) are carried out periodically, for example once every 5 years, whereas Phase 3 (Do) is ongoing and Phase 4 (Review) is carried out annually (Figure 1).

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Figure 1: The four phases of the Guide

Phase 1
ANALYSE
The eye care situation

Phase 2
PLAN
Develop eye care strategic plan and monitoring framework

Phase 3
DO
Develop eye care operational plan and implement

Phase 4
ANNUAL REVIEW
Evaluate and modify operational plan
What tools accompany the Guide?
Four additional tools have been developed by WHO, to accompany the Guide and support countries in their development of the plans and frameworks described above. The Guide was designed to be a dynamic resource, allowing the inclusion of additional tools at any time to facilitate the analysis, planning, implementation and review of IPEC in countries.

Who is the Guide for?
The primary audiences for the Guide are governments of low- and middle-income countries and the agencies working with them to provide eye care to the people in need. It is designed for use at the national level but can also be used at the subnational level.

Figure 2: The four accompanying tools to the Guide

Eye Care Situation Analysis Tool (ECSAT)
Purpose: Questionnaire based survey tool to comprehensively assess eye care in a country.

Eye Care Indicator Menu (ECIM)
Purpose: List of recommended national eye care indicators to be collected regularly.

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Purpose: Questionnaire based survey tool to comprehensively assess eye care in a country.

Eye Care Situation Analysis Tool (ECSAT)
Purpose: Questionnaire based survey tool to comprehensively assess eye care in a country.

Package of Eye Care Interventions (PECI)
Purpose: Planning and budgeting for eye care at each level of the health system.

Eye Care Competency Framework (ECCF)
Purpose: Planning tool for eye care human resources based on competencies.

For further information, please contact:
Vision and eye care Programme
World Health Organization, Geneva

Or visit the website:
https://www.who.int/health-topics/blindness-and-vision-loss

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