

How can a supply structure be guaranteed across borders?

Only the establishment of local, long-term and self-sustaining programs for tissue donation, processing and transplantation opens up independence of the affected countries. However, neither the DGFG nor our partners in Germany are able to implement these programs on their own financially nor logistically. Therefore, we strive to establish a platform that brings together those seeking help as well as supporters and experts from all over the world: to create an open space that allows knowledge transfer, hands-on help and reliable networking.

OUR IDEA:

- » Roundtable discussions with important multipliers
- » Research projects
- » Exchange and training programmes for medical staff
- » Public relations and awareness campaigns

All these activities require a financial outlay, to cover travel, material, and personnel costs. As a non-profit organisation, we ask for support of our mission to promote tissue donation internationally.



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IBAN: DE86 2512 0510 0001 5630 15
BIC: BFSWDE33HAN (Bank für Sozialwirtschaft)
Intended purpose: Borderless

Fundraising

Networking, project participation, long-term funding -
there are many ways to support our engagement.

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DGFG

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
GEWEBETRANSPLANTATION
GEMEINNÜTZIGE GESELLSCHAFT mbH

Tissue donation beyond borders:
**Fight against
corneal blindness**

Our mission to fight against corneal blindness does not stop at national borders.

The cornea is our window to the world. If it is injured by thorns, fire or chemical burns or if a corneal disease is present, people are at risk of going blind. The only way out is a corneal transplant – a therapy that is almost impossible to achieve for many Africans nowadays. While other eye diseases can be treated with the help of medications or glasses, the situation with an injured cornea is much more complex. The reason: Mostly you need a tissue transplant, donated from a deceased. In order to collect corneas after death, a functioning system of collection centers, tissue banks as well as trained personnel for corneal donation, preparation of the transplant as well as surgery, pre- and post-operative care of the patients in the country is needed.



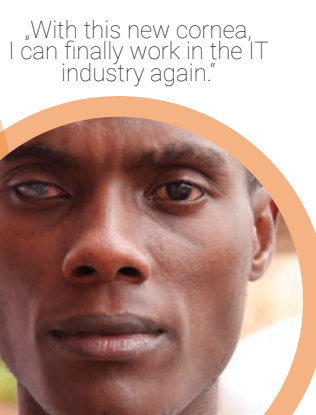
Fokam (38) had a deeply scarred cornea on her left eye.

„I want to explore the world through my eyes again.“



Hélène (49) lost her right eye and cauterised her left in an acid attack.

„Until now, I was not able to manage my daily life alone.“



Georges (25) recognises colours and shapes after his transplant on his right eye.

„With this new cornea, I can finally work in the IT industry again.“

Donating tissue after death is an altruistic act. For many, it is a heartfelt sign of charity.

Behind every transplant are people who have agreed to donate tissue after death. A human good that is finite. While in countries like the USA or Germany patients can be provided with a corneal transplant after a certain waiting period, people in Africa without an independent local donation program may wait a lifetime. The result: exclusion, unemployment, lack of education and perspectives.

Within the aid projects in Rwanda and Cameroon, DGFG supports Cornea Help e.V. and other private initiatives of ophthalmologists from Germany in the fight against corneal blindness. The patients pictured in this flyer were treated locally with a transplant from Germany. Corneal transplants do not only offer eyesight, but also a genuine perspective and improved quality of life.

Our vision: The end of corneal blindness. With the help of long-term patient care that is self-sustaining from within the country.

For several years we support doctors in voluntary aid missions in Cameroon, Rwanda and Armenia, among other places, with corneal transplants. These came from DGFG's tissue network, consisting of hundreds of donor clinics as well as 13 tissue banks. But given the world wide demand this help is just a drop in the bucket. We must think about tomorrow today.

12.7 MILLION PEOPLE ARE AT RISK OF CORNEAL BLINDNESS.

98 PERCENT OF THEM LIVE IN LOW- AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES.

ONLY ONE IN 70 CAN RECEIVE A CORNEAL TRANSPLANT.

The DGFG supports self-sufficiency – by knowledge transfer and networking.

DGFG works together with experts in eye banking and corneal surgery. In addition, our partners have gained a high degree of intercultural sensitivity and competence over the years and have established a network of valuable local contacts. With the missions we provide medical help, transfer knowledge, offer space for professional, technical as well as scientific exchange and draw the attention of society, politics, and other multipliers to the need for tissue donation.



Scan now
and see films about our international
engagement!
<https://bit.ly/3cSj2I7>