

A red crosshair graphic consisting of a vertical line on the left and a horizontal line across the middle, intersecting at the center.

The RIIO

**The Biannual report :
June-December 2021**

www.riio.org



THE RIIO

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS

Dear stakeholders and readers,

Welcome to our Bi-annual newsletter from Rwanda International Institute of Ophthalmology (RIIO) which highlights what RIIO has accomplished in recent months with the contribution of partners at multi-levels.

We appreciate the confidence that all of our stakeholders and readers have placed in us and in our work. We are constantly striving to develop sustainable, structured, and strategic partnerships with local, national, and international organizations, as well as private enterprises. Since its inception, RIIO has been involved with different partners and We are grateful to organizations that have supported our program so far and we are open to more partnerships in the future as there is always more work to be done Regardless of achievements to date.

Find out more about our work at www.riio.org. As always, contact us on our social media platforms on : [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) ; if you have any question and comment.

Sincerely,

RIIO Directors



THE RIIO

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WHO WE ARE

The Rwanda International Institute of Ophthalmology (RIIO) was established in 2011 by two ophthalmologists living in Kigali. After many years in public service, Dr. John Nkurikiye and Prof. Wanjiku 'Ciku' Mathenge, created RIIO in response to gaps in the provision of eye services in Rwanda.

Their vision for eye care in Rwanda? To see a country where homegrown quality eye health solutions for care delivery, education and advocacy further inspire the government and other partners to transform how eye health is understood, how good vision is valued and preserved and the way that local eye health problems are solved.

To this end, RIIO's mission is to engage with local governments, partners and patients as an organization committed to influencing eye care delivery for the better through projects that are able to integrate education, innovation, research, and enterprise for the long-term benefit of Rwanda and the Region.

Learn more [here](#).

ACHIEVEMENTS



DESPITE COVID 19 PANDEMIC , RWANDA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY(RIIO) CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES THROUGH DIFFERENT PILLARS IN THE YEAR 2021 :

I. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Through South-South cooperation model , RIIO sent 4th Year Residents to CADESSO in GUINEA-CONAKRY where they have greatly benefited from the Small Incision Cataract surgery Course in CADESSO .
- All 10 Residents in PGY 3 and 4 received completion certificates from COECSA and ICO for OPTICS , REFRACTION and VISUAL SCIENCES
- In November 2021 a new batch of 4 Residents started PGY 1 among them 2 Rwandans and 2 Kenyans (2 women and 2 men)
- 4 Visiting lecturers from USA participated in teaching , clinical and outreach activities at RIIO (Dr Omair , Dr Myres , Dr Eliza and Dr DUAA)
- All 10 Residents are pursuing 6 months rotations at different electives sites : DAEH exposing them to more diagnostic and specialty surgery, at RMH and Kabgayi Eye Clinic to see how a referral set up works , through their base at kibagabaga they are understanding how to run a district level eye clinic

ACHIEVEMENTS



II. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In just over one year we completed 10000 consultations and 365 surgeries at the new Kibagabaga clinic.

Cataract Outreach Program

In 2021 we provided outreach surgery in 4 underserved clinics at Butaro, Nyamata, Kinyihira and Kiziguro Hospitals.





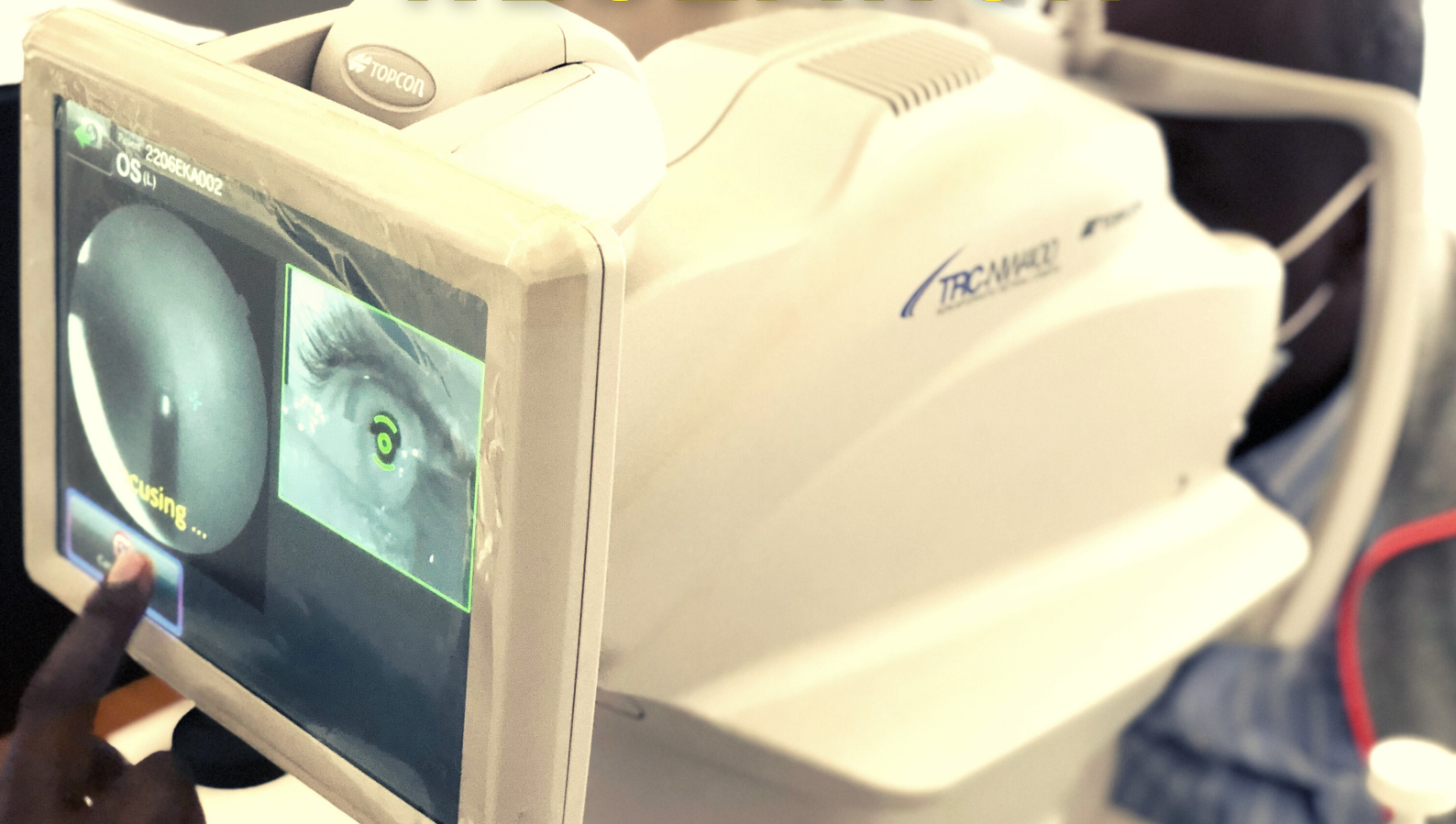
ACHIEVEMENTS

Cornea transplantation at RIIO

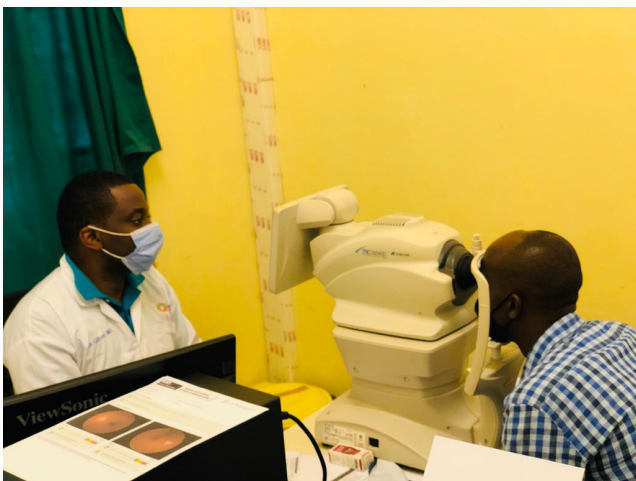
- In partnership with Cornea-Help – an organization based out of Wiesmoor, Germany, RIIO through his Director Professor John Nkurikiye Chief Consultant Ophthalmologist and Cornea specialist, assisted by RIIO Residents performed Cornea Transplant surgeries at the RIIO-Kibagabaga Community Eye Clinic. In 2021 the total of 13 deserving recipients among them 7 Children and 6 Young people restored hope for the future .



RESEARCH



- In partnership with Orbis International, RIIO completed the first Randomised Controlled Trial using artificial intelligence for diabetic retinopathy, a first for our region.
- 4 Residents in Year 4, presented their Research project proposal to the RIIO Research and Ethics Committee.



ACHIEVEMENTS



IV. INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

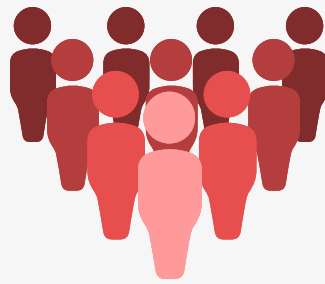
Prof. Ciku Mathenge was an invited guest at 2 conferences. American Association of Ophthalmology, African Ophthalmology Council, and National Medical Association and COECSA.

Dr. John Nkurikiye chaired the COECSA congress in his role as President and guided the COECSA exams held in Ethiopia.

V. PARTNERSHIPS

In 2021 we got a new partner the Ophthalmology Foundation who supported 2 international trainees with scholarships.





PARTNERS

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO OUR SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION FOR 2021 ACHIEVEMENTS .



RIIO ✓
Quality Eye Health Solutions

**Rwanda International
Institute of Ophthalmology**

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