



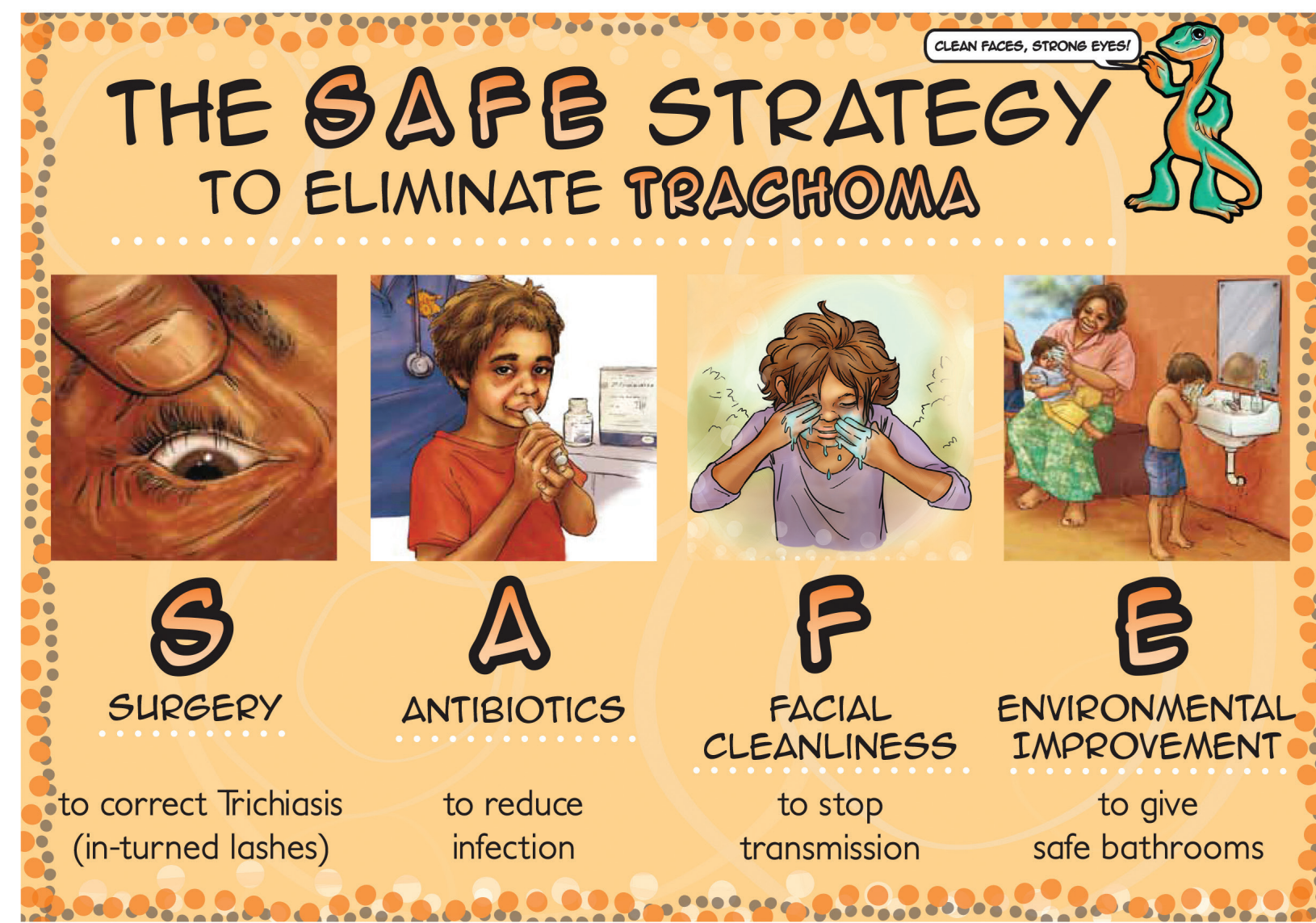
Sustainable Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 and Beyond Depends on Collaboration and Partnerships

Fiona Lange, Emma Stanford, Tina De Melo, Angee Ross, Yash Srivastava and Hugh Taylor
Indigenous Eye Health, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

Introduction

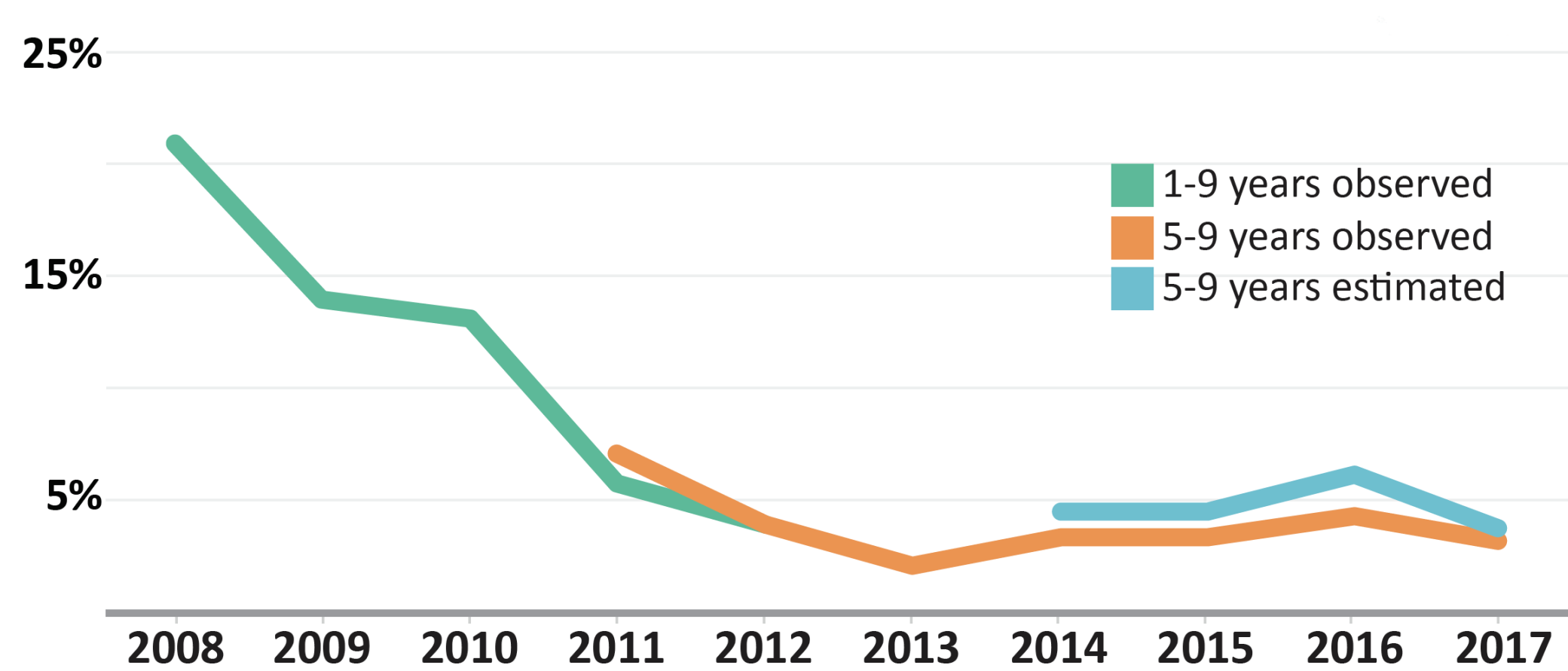
Australia is the only developed country with endemic trachoma and is a signatory to the WHO agreement to eliminate blinding trachoma by 2020 (GET2020) using the four-part SAFE Strategy.

Australia has been doing well on the S and A but more work is needed on the F and E of the SAFE Strategy across many sectors outside of health.



Reported Prevalence of Trachoma in Children

[ATSR 2018]



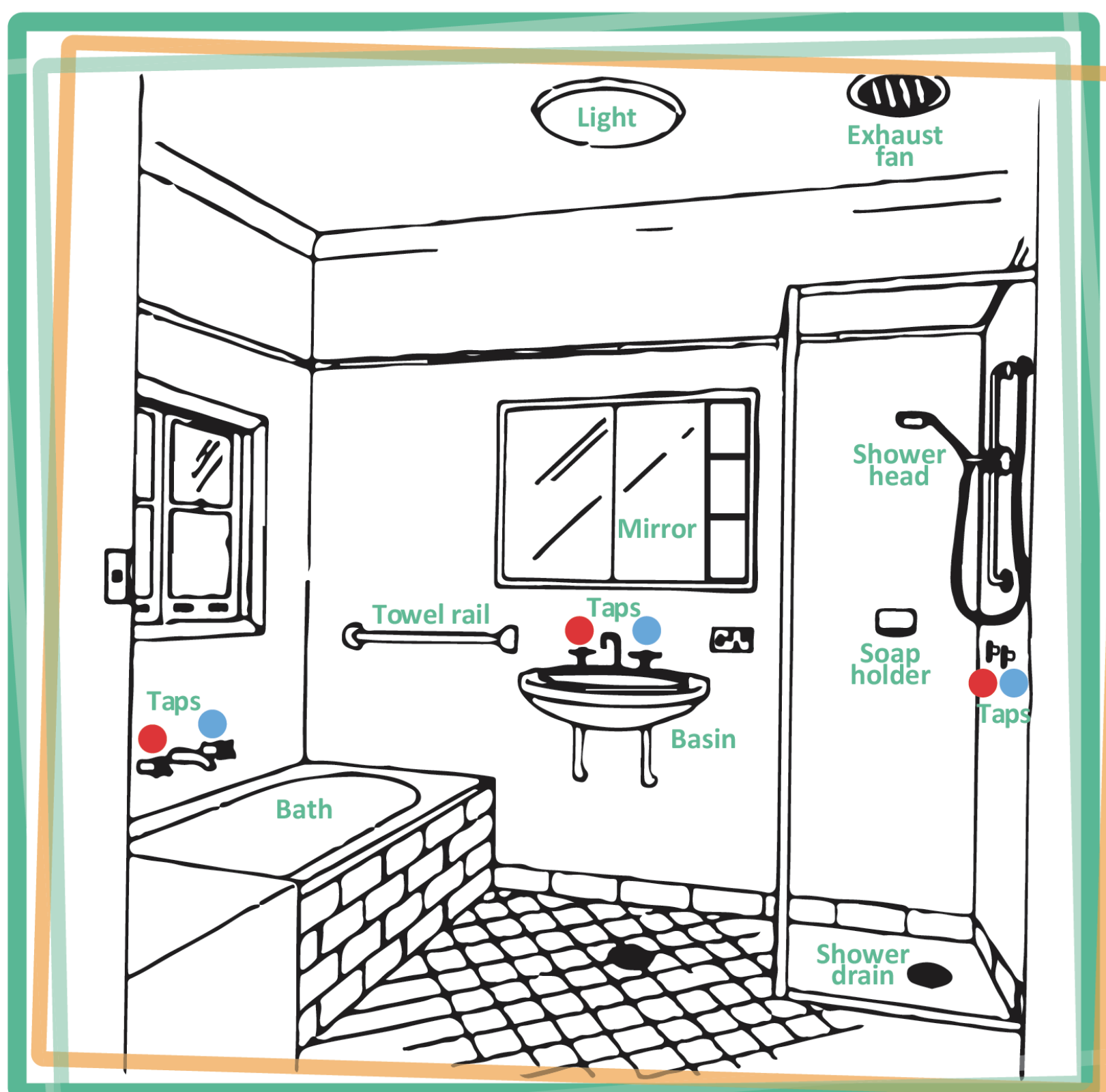
Progress Indicators	2008	2017
Number of hotspots (>20%)	54	17
Number of communities without trachoma	27/233	50/130

Clean Faces, Safe Bathrooms

The sustainable aspects of the SAFE Strategy are:

Facial Cleanliness (F): The absence of nasal and ocular discharge and the key to prevent trachoma infection

Environmental Improvements (E): prompt repair and maintenance of bathrooms and wash facilities



Safe Bathroom Checklist based on work of NT Department of Health and WA Department of Environmental Health 2018

IF THINGS DON'T WORK LET HOUSING KNOW



Indigenous Eye Health Priorities 2019

- Facilitating Intersectoral collaboration & advocacy for change across three jurisdictions
- Working with trachoma partners, community-controlled health organisations and community members
- Collaborating with Departments of Education and Health
- Working with the housing repair and maintenance and health sector
- Continuing with health promotion through sport, music, dance and art and social marketing with Indigenous media partners



Haasts Bluff school and community worked with MusoMagic and with Indigenous Eye Health to record and produce Follow the Tracks music video 2018

Conclusion

Working with trachoma programs and partners to sustainably eliminate trachoma by 2020 requires:

- Working with intersectoral partners for policy change to ensure the prompt repair and maintenance of bathrooms and washing facilities
- Supporting hotspot communities for community ownership of trachoma elimination
- Advocating for policy change with education services to fully implement a hygiene continuum
- Supporting hygiene program partners to include facial cleanliness in all hygiene-related health promotion
- Continuing with multiple, local, language forms of communication to reinforce key messages for communities

With just 1 year 9 months and 15 days to go to the GET2020 deadline, its time work together to scale up a coordinated intersectoral, multi-level approach for sustainable trachoma elimination.



Intersectoral meeting Adelaide AHCSA, October 2018