orbis 奥比斯

3,000 walkers put their best feet forward for the preventably blind
at Orbis' 17th Walk For Sight

Now in its 17th year, the Orbis Walk for Sight's 2016 edition attracted a bumper field of around 3,000 kind-hearted participants. Held at Tai Tam Country Park, the event was a great success, raising over HK$2,000,000 in support of Orbis' global sight-saving initiatives.

In the past 16 years, Orbis's annual walkathon has raised a total of over $32,000,000 in support of various global sight-saving initiatives. While 80% of all visual impairment can easily be avoided or cured, about 90% of preventably blind people live in developing countries, where poor medical infrastructures and lack of timely and quality eyecare services rob them of their sight. As impoverished families and societies need everyone to contribute in order to progress, loss of sight remains a huge burden.

The guests at this year's opening ceremony officially get the walkathon underway by striking a brass gong and sharing participants' blessings of light and vision with visually impaired people everywhere. Expressing her heartfelt thanks to walkers at the ceremony, **Ms. Mary Lau, Director of Development, Orbis China and Hong Kong** said: "We are delighted to welcome nearly 3,000 participants to today's walkathon. Their kind donations will ensure we can continue to spread the blessings of light by providing skill enhancing training for local medical professionals across developing countries. Today's walkers are also taking a giant stride forward for the visually impaired who must travel the often rocky road to sight recovery. We would once again like to thank Hong Kong International School for providing us with such a wonderful venue, and to our sponsors and volunteers for their as always generous support."

This year's walkathon included a choice of 6km walks for families and 10km or 14km hikes for experienced walkers. A fun-packed post-event carnival made the day doubly memorable and meaningful.

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