## Diabetic Retinopathy Program in Northern Jordan

### Impact made by the project

Diabetic Retinopathy services strengthened at the secondary level, for screening of diabetes patients, identification & referral of DR cases and provision of quality services at secondary eye departments and tertiary centers.

### Sustainability

The project was developed in the Government system so they will continue to support the infrastructure, salaries & consumables. Patients are covered by health insurance schemes, ensuring financial sustainability.

### Local Standard Chartered engagement

Staff were engaged with project launch, equipment donations and regular project update meetings. They also supported the dissemination of IEC materials

### Main objectives for the project:

- To increase the awareness of Diabetes patients on measures to prevent Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) or blindness from DR
- To Identify & treat 70% of DR patients at risk of blindness. Provide low vision services to 50% of the irreversibly visually impaired DR patients
- To retrain 50% of ophthalmologists and 3 vitreoretinal (VR) surgeons in the region to effectively manage DR. Retrain 80% of health workers on effective management of Diabetes Mellitus (DM) & DR.
- Provide adequate equipment and materials for the 2 tertiary health centers and 8 secondary health centers.
- Advocate for the setting up of DR screening services in other regions of the country and the region

### Diabetic Retinopathy system supported

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<th>SiB contributed towards...</th>
<th>Leading to...</th>
<th>Therefore impacting...</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Information Education &amp; Communication (IEC) materials developed &amp; disseminated, including the use of social media to target female patients.</td>
<td>1,802,26 people reached through awareness raising activities</td>
<td>People with diabetes now have knowledge on DM and DR and how to prevent complications</td>
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<td>- 141 doctors / diabetologists trained in DM management</td>
<td>109,090 patients with diabetes screened</td>
<td>Increased referral of diabetic patients from diabetic clinics to ophthalmology departments in tertiary hospitals</td>
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<td>- 59 Ophthalmologists trained in DR management</td>
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<td>- 2 surgeons trained in VR surgery</td>
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<td>- 2 tertiary &amp; 2 secondary hospitals were refurbished.</td>
<td>9,696 DR patients have received services through lasers or other needed procedures</td>
<td>Patients have increased access to better quality DR screening &amp; treatment</td>
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<td>- $377,432 of equipment &amp; $76,524 of consumables provided for 2 tertiary &amp; 4 secondary hospitals and 5 primary health units</td>
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## Low Vision services strengthened in 2 hospitals

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<td>Training arranged for low vision specialists &amp; equipment technicians</td>
<td>5 low vision specialists &amp; 15 equipment technicians trained</td>
<td>People with irreversible visual impairment due to DR receive low vision services</td>
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<td>Low vision clinics set up in 2 hospitals &amp; supported with $39,000 of equipment &amp; low vision aids, to provide LV services</td>
<td>140 patients have received LV services for the time period between April - September, 2015</td>
<td>Low vision services in the region have been expanded</td>
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### SiB Project
Implementing partner: Prevention of Blindness Union
Total budget: $1,548,300
Total SiB contribution: $999,908
Project Duration: 4 years

### Situation analysis
Target Population: approx. 1,290,000
Blindness Prevalence: 0.6%
Leading causes: Cataract 50%, Diabetic Retinopathy 13%, Glaucoma 5%

### Name: Fatima Qassim
Age: 53
Location: Irbid

3 years ago, Fatima found out that she has diabetes, and that diabetic retinopathy was in its early stages. She started feeling discomfort and pain in her eyes. Fatima sought advice at a primary health care centre nearby, where she was referred to Basma Teaching Hospital in Irbid.

At Basma Hospital, she was treated by an ophthalmologist, who provided her with needed medical attention and treatment. She now has a sense of security, as well as the confidence to be the independent and active person she is.