Mumbai Eye Care Campaign

Impact made by the project
The programme established 15 vision centres to provide eye care services to urban slum dwellers. Eye care personnel were trained and the vision centres were provided with specialist equipment. Community health workers (CHWs) conducted screening and beneficiaries identified with refractive errors were referred to the vision centres.

Sustainability
13 vision centres continue to operate, with the operating costs borne by the partner organizations. CBOs are taking up enhanced responsibilities of awareness generation and ensuring the footfall.

Local Standard Chartered engagement
Standard Chartered employees volunteered at the vision centres within the slum communities and supported with registration of patients. Senior Bank staff from within and outside India, including the Chairmen of Seeing is Believing, visited the project.

Main objectives for the project:
• Detect and treat 1.5 million people for refractive error (adult population)
• To work towards raising eye health awareness amongst poor urban population of Mumbai
• To establish permanent, quality and affordable refractive error services through community based organizations and hospital partners
• To develop and strengthen human resources and capacities in Mumbai

Awareness raising and provision of refractive error services

SiB contributed towards... Leading to... Therefore impacting...

IEC Materials were prepared and shared with the community
Up to 5.4 million people were reached through IEC material.
Improved knowledge on eye health within the community

Capacity building of community health workers
350 community health workers were trained for identification of refractive errors in the community.
Increased number of referrals to the vision centres

Numbers of people screened
1,227,300 persons screened door-to-door in 9 slum wards
30% of the population benefitted from eye screening and were referred for treatments at the vision centres

Provision of spectacles for the poor
An estimated 96,669 Individuals were provided with spectacles
This benefitted an economically productive age group and increased demand for spectacles.
### SiB Project

Implementing partner: Sightsavers  
Total budget: USD 1,090,061  
Total SiB contribution: USD 872,048  
Project Duration: March 2009 to June 2014  
Location: Mumbai

### Situation analysis

- **Target Population:** 2.3 million people  
- **Blindness Prevalence:** 1% (according to a Rapid Survey on Avoidable Blindness conducted in 2006-07)  
- **Leading causes:** The major causes of blindness include cataract, refractive error, low vision and glaucoma

### Support to infrastructure and training of eye care personnel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SiB contributed towards</th>
<th>Leading to...</th>
<th>Therefore impacting...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establishment of vision centres at strategic locations in urban slums of Mumbai</td>
<td>Establishment of 15 vision centres within the community.</td>
<td>Increased accessibility and availability of eye care services and referrals for surgeries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training of optometrists and mid-level personnel</td>
<td>4 optometrists and 170 mid-level personnel trained</td>
<td>Optometrists supported the running of the vision centres and trainee optometrists benefited as they got hands-on training at the vision centres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Name: Jayashing  
**Age:** 48  
**Location:** Mumbai

Mr. Jayashing Phapale, 48, has been delivering tiffin’s across Mumbai since the last 32 years and is a senior member of the Dabbawala Foundation and Mandal. Once he realized that he was not able to read the unique numbers on the tiffin boxes properly it affected his efficiency and income. He was screened by the volunteers of MECC and was provided with a pair of spectacles. He got back to his job and supported MECC by screening other people in his community.