Zamfara Urban Eye Care Programme

Impact made by the project
The cataract surgical rate has almost doubled from 413 to 950 cases per million population in the four year period. There is increased awareness of eye health in the state that has led to increased uptake of cataract surgery services which has enabled beneficiaries to return to their day-to-day income generating activities.

Sustainability
Eye health services continue to be made available at three major eye units and two satellite clinics in the state. Management information systems, human resource development, provision of eye medicines and project management are integrated into the health system

Local Standard Chartered engagement
Security challenges did not allow for planned staff engagement but the Seeing is Believing logo was used on posters displayed at eye clinics, vehicles, IEC and meeting materials.

Main objectives for the project:
• To provide accessible, affordable, high quality and sustainable eye care services
• To advocate for support to eye care services and increase awareness on eye health issues
• To have in post a sufficient number of well trained and equitably distributed eye care personnel
• To put in place the required physical infrastructure and equipment at all levels

Training of eye care personnel & support to physical infrastructure

SiB contributed towards... Leading to... Therefore impacting...
Training of Community Health Extension Workers on eye health 100 Community Health Extension Workers trained Increased referrals of patients with eye conditions to the eye units and increased provision of treatments for minor eye conditions
Provision of eye unit equipment and instruments 2 eye units equipped with adequate equipment and instruments Increased number of surgeries at eye units and during outreach, including the provision of 10,366 cataract surgeries
Community screening by Community Health Extension Workers and Ophthalmic Nurses 112,922 adults screened for eye conditions Increased access to eye care services for people that live far from static eye units
Establishment of eye units 3 eye units (1 funded by the government) are providing services in the state. Increased access to eye health services for remote populations
Provision of spectacles for poor people 20,466 spectacles dispensed thereby improving vision on beneficiaries People dispensed spectacles had their vision improve. Children dispensed glasses are now able to study better in school
SiB Project
Implementing partner: Sightsavers
Total budget: USD679,021
Total SiB contribution: USD1,000,488 (USD 480,608 on-granted to BHVI)
Project Duration: January 2011 to December 2015
Location: Zamfara State

Situation analysis
Target Population: 3.3 million
Blindness Prevalence: 4.84% (according to a National Blindness & Low Vision Survey), with cataract being the leading cause of blindness

Name: Umaru Dabo
Age: 53
Location: Kucheri, Tsafe, Zamfara State

Dabo had been blind in both eyes for one year and couldn’t see anything but light. He visited Gusau eye centre based on his neighbour’s advice but unfortunately the doctors were on strike. Dabo said “my big worry is I lost my sight for more than half a year now and my hope of getting it restored is drained with the doctors on strike. Nevertheless I will not go anywhere; the most important part of the body is the eye, so I will wait until is being operated”. He received cataract surgery and exclaimed, “Oh I thank God, I don’t know how to thank you people because I thought my sight has gone forever, but I waited to see if what I heard is true and here I am seeing everything around me!”

Awareness raising and spectacle distribution

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<td>Training of teachers on primary eye screening</td>
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