The Rift Valley Prevention of Blindness Program

Impact made by the project
The project strengthened the health system and made available quality eye care services in tertiary, secondary and primary level hospitals in the former Rift Valley Province of Kenya.

Sustainability
Through advocacy drives, the project persuaded county governments to include eye health in their budgets. Primary eye care was integrated into primary health care by training CHVs under the Community Strategy of the MOH. Because of the project support in human resource & infrastructure development, provision of equipment and consumables, the county governments of the 6 counties agreed to subsidize the cost of cataract surgeries to remove cost barrier and increase uptake of services.

Local Standard Chartered engagement
Local SC was involved in quarterly review & planning meetings. They also participated in the launch of Huruma Eye Unit & dissemination workshops for operation research & end term evaluation report

Main objectives for the project:
- Quality and sustainable eye care services made available in the project area
- Capacity of primary, secondary and tertiary level facilities is strengthened to provide quality eye care services.
- Primary eye care (PEC) is integrated into the general public health care system.

Service Delivery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leading to...</th>
<th>Therefore impacting...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced ratio of eye health workers to the population and improved service delivery</td>
<td>Increased access to quality and efficient eye health services in 8 hospitals</td>
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<td>500,545 people screened; 11,392 cataract surgeries 19,560 other surgeries and 296,587 people treated including 1,332 people treated for DR</td>
<td>Percentage increment on number of people accessing eye care services at primary, secondary &amp; tertiary hospitals; Increased percentage of cataract surgical outcomes that meets WHO standard.</td>
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<td>14,311 people refracted; 4,044 spectacles dispensed; 181 children benefitted from low vision devices</td>
<td>Establishment of a sustainable refractive error service for patients. Improved quality of live and school performances of children with LV</td>
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<td>249,583 people screened, educated on eye health and referred for treatment; CHVs also counselled and supported in follow-ups</td>
<td>Enhanced eye health at level one of the Kenya Health System that recognises the critical role of CHVs in preventive and promotive health thus integrating PEC into the public health system</td>
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<td>427 Eye screening camps in far flung areas i.e., ≥ 2 hours drive from eye unit</td>
<td>Removal of cost &amp; distance barriers to access to services by many poor, disabled &amp; elderly patients</td>
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SiB contributed towards...
- Training of 6 cataract surgeons & 11 ophthalmic nurses
- Construction of secondary level eye unit; equipping of 8 eye units at primary, secondary and tertiary level hospitals
- Establishment of optical shops at 3 eye units; collaboration with MOH Education Assessment & Resource Centres Coordinators in assessing low vision children
- Training of 1,682 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs)
- 427 Eye screening camps in far flung areas i.e., ≥ 2 hours drive from eye unit
SiB contributed towards...

Development of IEC materials; radio programs on eye health and newspaper advertisements

Leading to...

Awareness creation directly to 198,856 people; estimated 5,120,000 people through radio/TV/other media programming; and estimated 3,500,000 through newspaper adverts

Therefore impacting...

Increased level of awareness of eye health by the population

Key service delivery increase

**85%** in the number of people screened for eye conditions

**56%** in the number of people having cataract surgery

SiB Project

Implementing partner: Operation Eyesight
Total budget: $1,000,001
Total SiB contribution: $800,000
Project Duration: 4 Years

Situation analysis

Target Population: 10,006,805
Blindness Prevalence: 0.7%
Leading causes: Cataract 43%; trachoma 19%; Glaucoma 9% & Childhood blindness 6%

When Thomas went blind because of cataracts, he was forced to close his tailoring business and only source of livelihood. Today Thomas can sew again, thanks to cataract surgery provided with the support of SiB.

Name: Thomas Kimurkew
Age: 57
Location: Elgeyo Marakwet County, Kenya