Restoring Sight, Transforming Lives

Impact made by the project
The program has contributed to increased investment, ownership and awareness of Local Government Units in eye care. It has also helped to contribute to the CSR in the Philippines and increase access to eye care services to those in hard to reach areas of the country.

Sustainability
Restoring Sight, Transforming Lives, looked specifically at three key areas to improve sustainability – these are: health providers, health facilities, and the referral system.

Local Standard Chartered engagement
SCB volunteers participated in screening and surgeries, dispensing of spectacles and medical missions within and outside Metro Manila

Main objectives for the project:
1. The involvement of Local Government Units (LGUs) in providing quality eye care to their constituents will be increased in three underserved/unserved provinces.
2. Cataract and other sight restoring surgeries will be performed to reduce cataract backlog and contribute to the CSR in the country.
3. Quality refraction services will be provided to people with visual impairment.
4. The prevalence of childhood blindness will be reduced through paediatric eye surgeries.

Strengthening of eye health services

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<tr>
<th>SiB contributed towards...</th>
<th>Leading to...</th>
<th>Therefore impacting...</th>
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<tr>
<td>Training of 442 Maternal &amp; Child Health workers and 2,089 Community Health Workers in primary eye care</td>
<td>The integration and strengthening of eye health into Government and other health providers services.</td>
<td>the increased availability of trained personnel to identify and refer clients with eye health issues to appropriate services</td>
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<td>3,569 infants being examined for ROP</td>
<td>176 ROP infant patients treated</td>
<td>Reduced blindness in children due to ROP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitating national paediatric workshops to discuss paediatric eye health and strategies to improve them</td>
<td>Increased profile and awareness of child eye health challenges and strategies for improving them in the Philippines</td>
<td>Contribute to the formation of evidence based paediatric eye health in the Philippines to address the uptake to surgeries</td>
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Good outcome cataract surgeries performed

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<td>Eye care services in 77 provinces across the Philippines</td>
<td>5 underserved provinces (Aklan, Masbate, Romblon, Ilocos, Batanes) adopting eye health services into their local systems and 5 provinces (Negros, Madbate, Misamis, Romblon, Aklon) increasing their financial support for eye care</td>
<td>Increasing the long terms sustainability of eye health services in 7 provinces</td>
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<td>A total of 253,387 were screened for cataracts by 400 volunteer ophthalmologists</td>
<td>77,535 were successfully operated, including regular outreach missions to underserved provinces</td>
<td>Improving sight and contributing to the increase of the Cataract Surgical rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working closely with government and supporting national eye health strategies</td>
<td>The program for prevention of blindness is integrated in the health programs at the local and national levels while responsibilities are shared among all stakeholders.</td>
<td>Improving the delivery of eye care and health services at all levels.</td>
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Key service delivery increase

- Increase in the number of infants receiving laser treatment for ROP, from 46 in Year 1 to 72 in Year 3 (56%)
- Increase in the number of cataract cases screened from 69,491 in Year 1 to 72,074 in Year 4 (4%)

SiB Project
Implementing partner: CBM
Total budget: $1,250,035
Total SiB contribution: $1,000,000
Project Duration: 3 years 9 months
Jan 2013 – September 2016

Situation analysis
The country has a prevalence of visual impairment of 4.62%, bilateral blindness is 0.58%.
People who are blind are estimated at over 500,000 while error of refraction at 53% is the most common cause of visual impairment

Name: Julia
Age: 9 years
Location: Masbate, Philippines

Julia, is a nine-year old girl born with congenital cataract. She underwent two surgeries and was finally able to see. She is now attending school.

The success of Julia’s cataract operation also convinced Julia’s father and uncle (who also had cataract) to undergo cataract surgery as well.

“It’s only now that I see how beautiful my sister is. Before, I only recognize her through her voice. Finally I can see her”.