Vietnam Child Eye Care Project (VNCEC)
Impact Report

Impact made by the project
The National School Eye Care Guidelines approved by the General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM) and used nationwide to contribute reduction of visual impairment in school children in Vietnam.

Sustainability
The VNCEC worked successfully to strengthen the capacity of the existing cooperative model between the education and health sectors to deliver School Eye Health in the three target provinces. The Project increased eye health knowledge among teachers, school nurses, parents, and children. In addition, it also enhanced ownership of these project partners and other stakeholders.

Local Standard Chartered engagement
Eleven events were conducted by 236 local bank staff involved in school screening, eye education and other related activities. 2,479 children were screened with 254 spectacles provided to children at social sponsor centres at target project areas. SiB and SCB logos and images were promoted at project activities and events.

Main objectives for the project:

- **Objective 1 - Governance**: To improve policy coordination between education and health sectors in support of a national school eye health program for children.
- **Objective 2 - Human Resource Development**: To strengthen school staff and eye health personnel capacity to deliver eye care services for school children.
- **Objective 3 - Service delivery**: To improve quality of and increase access to eye care services for school children.
- **Objective 4 - Information Systems**: To develop a children’s eye health monitoring system to inform increased government and global commitment to resourcing quality school eye health programs.
- **Objective 5 - Behaviour Change Communications**: To enhance eye care awareness for children, parents and teachers to support sustainable reduction of visual impairment in communities.
## TRAINING

SiB contributed towards...  | Leading to...  | Therefore impacting...
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Training 19 members of Project Management Board (PMB) on project and project cycle management;  | An increase in personnel for eye care and improvements in their knowledge and skills on child eye care program management  | 245,680 Students and other target groups now can access to the good service of child eye care, and eye education provided by 10 target district health hospitals in the project areas. |

| 38 district preventive health staffs on ToT trained on eye care, and communication skills. In addition, 14 staff of private optical shops and district health offices trained on refraction.  | Capacity of 52 eye health related cadres (for both district and commune level) was improved  | Better qualified child eye health services was available and accessible for 245,680 school children. |

| 338 primary health worker trained in primary eye care and communications skills, conduct simple vision chart.  | Commune and village health workers were capable to conduct screening, referral and eye health education  | More students, eye patients in communities have been increased access to eye screening, and are counselled and referred appropriately. |

| 11,223 school nurses, teachers, and youth union staff trained on primary child eye care, refractive errors and conduct simple vision screening and eye education.  | Capacity of 11,223 school-based personnel in eye health program was improved  | 245,680 Students were easier to access better eye health services in school settings. |

## SERVICE DELIVERY

| Vision screening conducted for 940,740 students  | 30,251 School children’s eye problems were identified and referred to medical team for earlier diagnosis and treatment.  | 30,251 School children’s vision was improved for better education. |

| 30,170 pairs of spectacles provided to students  | 30,170 Students have better vision for studying and enjoying daily activities.  | 30,170 Students have healthy lives and educational outcomes. |

| 81 eye surgeries subsidized for children  | 81 children had their sight restored.  | 81 Students have healthy lives and educational outcomes. |

## HEALTH EDUCATION

| 1,421,115 times of students and 454,893 parents accessed basic information on eye care  | Eye care awareness among school children and parents was improved.  | Student’s eye care practice was performed better to improve eye health status. (74.9% students reported wearing glasses frequently; 98% parents getting their children’s eyes checked annually). |
SiB Project

Implementing partner: The Fred Hollows Foundation in Vietnam

Total budget: $1,242,872
Total SiB contribution: $994,298
Project Duration: Jan 2016-Dec 2019

Situation analysis

Target Population: 4,443,761

Blindness Prevalence: Refractive Error (RE) accounts for 2.5% of the total blindness and 17.5% of Vietnamese children (aged 5 – 14) are estimated to suffer from some form of RE.

Leading causes: Cataract remains the leading cause of blindness at 74%, along with post segment pathology, glaucoma and other corneal opacity.

CASE STORY

Two years ago, a little girl named Khanh Vy underwent strabismus surgery. Now with her sight restored, she is enjoying a new life.

Vy’s family is poor – Vy’s father has suffered from a heart-related disease which left him unable to work. Mrs Vui, her mother has become the breadwinner for the whole family by selling street food.

“Selling street food is very unstable and most of the time, my income is just low or nothing,” Mrs Vui said.

Life is hard - their income is just enough to buy their daily meals. Surgery to restore Vy’s sight was something the family could not afford.

Thanks to the SiB project in Da Nang city, Vy received free strabismus surgery. Her sight has been restored and a new life has begun for her.