Replicable Comprehensive Rural Eye Care Model for Vulnerable Groups in Inner Mongolia, China

**Impact made by the project**
This project developed comprehensive rural eye care model for vulnerable groups in Inner Mongolia to provide quality and sustainable comprehensive rural eye care services.

**Sustainability**
The extensive consultation with the local stakeholders to ensure high level of ownership, development of vision centres to contribute financial sustainability, project activities integration in to public health and education system utilizing existing structures, administrative systems, personnel, public awareness raising activities all promoting sustainability of the Project in the future.

**Local Standard Chartered engagement**
There were at least 46 bank staff engaged with the project launch and closing ceremony, screening camps, National Sight Day and World Sight Day campaigns.

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**Main objectives for the project:**

- To build the capacity of eye-care professionals in order to provide quality and sustainable comprehensive rural eye care services to local people
- To develop physical infrastructure and provide necessary equipment.
- To address priority diseases effectively through screening, treatment and eye health promotion.
- To ensure the relevance of activities undertaken to support quality program implementation.
- To further develop, refine and document the comprehensive rural eye care model and use this as a basis for advocacy to be replicated throughout China.

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**Strengthening eye health delivery in local health system**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SiB contributed towards...</th>
<th>Leading to...</th>
<th>Therefore impacting...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>317 trained medical staff including surgeons, doctors, refractionists and nurses</td>
<td>Surgical skills of surgeons established or improved and eye care teams established</td>
<td>Partner hospitals' competency to deliver sustainable comprehensive eye health increased</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,942 Community Health Workers (CHWs) trained on Primary Eye Health</td>
<td>CHWs were capable to conduct screening, referral and health education</td>
<td>Eye patients have increased access to eye screening, and are counselled and referred appropriately</td>
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<td>671 teachers trained on child eye health and basic screening</td>
<td>Teachers were enabled to conduct visual acuity screening and eye health education to students.</td>
<td>Children are able to be screened and counselled in schools and referred to get treatments</td>
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<td>8 project hospitals supported equipment worth US$ 372,365</td>
<td>8 project hospitals are equipped with better equipment for cataract, refraction and diabetic retinopathy.</td>
<td>The eye units offer quality and sustainable eye care services and make them more accessible to people in communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Established a vision centre (VC) in each county hospitals and trained relevant staff</td>
<td>All vision centers operate smoothly with growing volume and income.</td>
<td>Local people are able to access professional refraction and spectacle services.</td>
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Increasing community access to eye care services

SiB contributed towards...

- 179,080 people screened in the community, 56,404 diabetic patients screened and 112,758 students screened schools
- IEC materials and training manuals developed raise eye care awareness
- Advocacy activities conducted for government officials
- 2,340 quality cataract surgeries conducted at county hospitals
- 24,012 pairs of spectacles prescribed and distributed
- 6,284 diabetic patients got laser treatment
- 228,413 other eye disease treated

Key service delivery increase

In the number of laser treatments from 357 in year 1 and 2,431 in year 3)

581%

People who have eye conditions promptly diagnosed and referred for eye diseases treatments.

2,921,801 people reached by IEC materials, health education sessions and public awareness campaign.

Increase government officials awareness of blindness prevention

Local people are able to access and actively seeking eye health services and get treatments promptly.

Leading to...

Therefore impacting...

Increase volumes and income of hospitals and people are able to access eye check more convenient.

Increase awareness level of eye health within the communities and contributed to increase services uptake.

Local partners including government recognize The Project Model and have priority of eye health in their health work.

The eye patients are able to live productively in their households and local communities and reduce the burden of their family and society.

SiB Project

Implementing partner: The Fred Hollows Foundation in China

Total budget: $1,197,853

Total SiB contribution: $958,225

Project Duration: Jan 2014-May 2017

Situation analysis

Target Population: 25 million

Blindness Prevalence: 0.12 %.

Leading causes: Cataract and sequelae related to cataract extraction, posterior segment disease (including DR) and refractive error accounted for 34.9%, 23.3% and 14% of all causes for bilateral blindness.

Name: Mr. Zhai Jianjun

Age: 35

Location: Hohhot, Inner Mongolia

Mr. Zhai resides in Hohhot. His eyesight suddenly weakened, and his eyes bled. He was hospitalized and diagnosed as left-eye vitreous hemorrhage due to diabetic retinopathy in both eyes. “I didn't know I had diabetes until this instance of eye bleeding.” Since no evident symptom was present in early stage of diabetic retinopathy, the treatment of Zhai was delayed. The cost for diabetic retinopathy therapy was high, which troubled Zhai badly. After receiving the surgery, he has recovered vision.