

press release

Standard Chartered's Seeing is Believing programme decreases cataract related blindness in Pakistan by upto 36per cent

Key Highlights:

- Over 12 million beneficiaries
- Trained more than 85,000 lady health care workers
- Screened 1.5 million children for Refractive Errors
- 500,000 sight restorations surgeries
- 25 Visually impaired impaired employees

September 17, 2020 – Standard Chartered Pakistan along with its implementation partner Sightsavers , announced the successful completion of the Seeing is Believing Programme in Pakistan.

The Seeing is Believing 15 year journey in Pakistan is truly inspirational, impacting over 12 million beneficiaries. Through the various projects, the Seeing is Believing programme has helped eradicate upto 36 per cent of avoidable blindness in Pakistan. The Bank also employs 25 visually impaired employees who are a critical part of its workforce.

Seeing is Believing in Pakistan demonstrates the Bank's commitment to work with partners in the public and private sector towards the New Sustainable Development Goals endorsed by world leaders at the United Nations in September 2015. By investing in projects that focus on comprehensive eye health, Seeing is Believing supports global goal number 3 - ensure healthy living and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.

Commenting on the Closing Ceremony, Rehan Shaikh, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Pakistan said, "The Seeing is Believing journey is a testament to the important and relevant role the bank plays in Pakistan. Our internationally recognised and acclaimed programme raised USD104.2 million and impacted more than 219 million people across 38 countries. In Pakistan, as a result of our projects, the Bank is attributed with decreasing avoidable blindness

across the country by 36 per cent. By virtue of the difference made by its efforts in eye health, the Bank became the only corporate member in 2008 to sit on the National Committee of Eye Health (NCEH).”

Munazza Gillani, Country Director Sightsavers said, since 2004, Standard Chartered Bank and Sightsavers together under the “Seeing is Believing Programme” has contributed significantly for prevention and control of blindness in Pakistan by investing in health systems strengthening. This was achieved through enhancing access to quality cataract operations, human resource development, District Comprehensive Eye Care, School Eye Health Screening projects, and to prevent and treat diabetes related blindness. We are truly grateful for the excellent support and partnership of Standard Chartered for facilitating Sightsavers and Ministry of Health achieving the lasting impact through the SIB programme.

--- ENDS ---

For more information or interview opportunities, please contact:

Farhan Ahmed

Head Communications
Standard Chartered Bank
+92 302 8600621
Farhan.Ahmed@sc.com

Tasneem Mirza

Associate Director, Communications and Sustainability
Standard Chartered Bank
+92 302 8204852
Tasneem.mirza@sc.com

Standard Chartered PLC

We are a leading international banking group, with more than 80,000 employees and a 150-year history in some of the world’s most dynamic markets. We bank the people and companies driving investment, trade and the creation of wealth across Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, Here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

For more information please visit www.sc.com. Explore our insights and comment on our blog, [BeyondBorders](#). Follow Standard Chartered on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#)

Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited

Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Ltd. is the oldest and largest international bank in Pakistan since 1863. It is also the first international bank to be awarded Islamic banking licence and the first to open an Islamic banking branch.

The Bank serves Corporate & Institutional, Commercial and Retail Clients through a comprehensive suite of products and services. Corporate & Institutional Banking comprises global subsidiaries, international corporates, financial institutions and sovereign clients. Commercial Banking serves local corporates and small & medium sized clients. Retail Banking serves priority, premium, personal and business banking clients. All segments offer a complete suite of Islamic

banking products and services under Standard Chartered Saadiq brand and state of the art digital banking solutions.

Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited is listed on the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) and was assigned a rating of AAA / A1+ by PACRA.

The Bank employs more than 2,800 people in Pakistan and has a network of 279 touch points (60 branches, 170 ATMs, 29 CDMs and 20 CDKs) across 11 cities.

For more information please visit www.sc.com/pk or follow Standard Chartered Pakistan on Facebook.