

press release

Standard Chartered partners with LRBT to help eradicate blindness among women

Standard Chartered funds eyesight restoration for women across Pakistan

Karachi, January 2015 – Standard Chartered Bank has launched a new local initiative that aims to help eradicate female blindness in partnership with LRBT.

The overall aim of this project is to restore the eyesight of approximately 3,111 women by sponsoring cataract surgeries. These surgeries will be conducted at LRBT hospitals across the country. This programme specifically focuses on women because female population is marginalised and is at a disadvantage when it comes to healthcare spends.

This is the first time that the Bank is sponsoring a project directly for LRBT through its Seeing is Believing programme, Standard Chartered's initiative to help eliminate avoidable blindness. LRBT aims to complete these surgeries by mid year 2015.

Commenting on the project, Mr. Shazad Dada, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Pakistan said, "There are more than 850,000 blind women in Pakistan accounting for approximately 51 percent of the total blind population. I am proud that we are sponsoring the first ever female specific project in the health care space. This programme will hopefully start the drive towards ensuring that every female treated has the gift of sight to enjoy a more wholesome life. Undoubtedly, more could be done to eliminate avoidable blindness in the country and I am delighted that organisations like Standard Chartered are part of the solution."

Standard Chartered, since the launch of the Seeing is Believing programme in 2003, has invested approximately USD 2 Million to help eliminate avoidable blindness from

Pakistan. The Bank has funded some 566,000 cataract operations to date and has helped 3 million people for various eye ailments. Seeing is Believing, with the support of its partners, has played a major role in driving reduction of cataract blindness in Pakistan.

In recognition of the Bank's efforts, the Government of Pakistan has also made Standard Chartered a partner of the National Steering Committee for Eye Health.

Seeing is Believing is Standard Chartered's global programme to help eliminate avoidable blindness run in partnership with the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB).

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Notes to Editors:

Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international banking group. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns more than 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for nearly 87,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. Standard Chartered's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please visit www.standardchartered.com

Standard Chartered Pakistan

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

2013 marked Standard Chartered's 150th anniversary in Pakistan. The Bank, which started as the Chartered Bank opened its first office in Karachi in March 1863.

The Banks serves both Corporate Institutional and Retail Clients. Provides credit cards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises, trade finance, cash management, lending, securities services, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance to Corporate Institutional Clients. It also offers a complete suite of Islamic banking solutions under its Standard Chartered Saadiq brand.

Standard Chartered was assigned a rating of AAA/ A1+ by PACRA. In 2012 and 2013 it won the award for Best Bank in Pakistan by The Asset Triple A for two consecutive years.

The Bank employs over 4,000 people in Pakistan and has a network of 116 branches of which 10 are dedicated Standard Chartered Saadiq branches as well as 191 ATMs.