



## International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

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## ABSTRACT

**Title:** Inclusive Eye Health Study, Pakistan

**Abstract text (limited to 300 words, should include background, methods, results and conclusions):**

### Background

Following the 2010 floods in Pakistan, CBM developed an inclusive eye care initiative through local partner CHEF International in Charsadda district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) province. The initiative focuses on building inclusive eye health at the primary and secondary level. CHEF worked with four primary public sector Basic Health Units (BHUs), where eye health is integrated into general health care, and one secondary NGO eye unit. The programme was also linked to an inclusive education programme, in order to create referral pathways for children with visual impairments. Prior to this there had been no method for disability inclusion at primary or secondary level in KPK.

The project addressed the following key areas:

1. The policy level – creating an inclusive eye health task force as part of the national committee for the prevention of blindness.
2. Organisational level – Training CHEF staff in inclusive eye health.
3. Service delivery level – Making facilities accessible, including staff training.
4. Community level – training Lady Health Workers (LHWs) who conduct outreach

### Methodology

Structured interviews with the National Eye Care Coordinator, CHEF's Project Manager, DPOs, staff and patients from BHUs, the headmaster, teachers and parents of the Government Middle School for boys, and LHWs. A number of focus group discussions were also held.

### Results

1. A national focus on inclusive eye care;
2. Health/eye care services are accessible to people with disabilities;
3. A replicable best practice model for the Pakistani context.

### Conclusions / Learning

1. Making entire institutions inclusive is more successful than working with an eye unit;
2. Strengthening public health systems is key to sustaining services;
3. There is a need for cooperation between government and other stakeholders
4. DPOs are essential for advocacy at all levels;
5. Education systems need to be strengthened to ensure children with visual impairments are enrolled in school.

**Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2015**

Please submit your abstract to: [disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk)

**Restricted to one first author abstract per participant.**

If you have any questions, please write to:

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