



# SightLife India Annual Report

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*April 2022 – March 2023*

## **Executive Summary**

SightLife India (SLI) has made significant progress in advancing cornea care and reducing corneal blindness across the country. From April 2022 to March 2023, the organization surpassed transplant targets, expanded virtual training initiatives, scaled cornea distribution operations, and enhanced its prevention and advocacy strategies. Collaborations with eye banks, hospitals, training institutions, and government stakeholders have been pivotal to our impact.

## **1. Eye Bank Development**

SLI supported 17,022 transplants in 2022, exceeding targets by 12%. Despite data loss from EBSR, other partners like LIEB, SCEH, and Aravind performed strongly. Notably, LIEB became the second eye bank in India to cross 2,000 annual transplants. Virtual sessions on technical topics and sustainability were attended by 237 participants, with a strong NPS of 93 and a direct skill adoption rate of 93%.

Key Innovations:

- Call Center Model training by EBAK
- Crematorium-based recovery practices
- Continuation of the virtual learning series in collaboration with EBAI



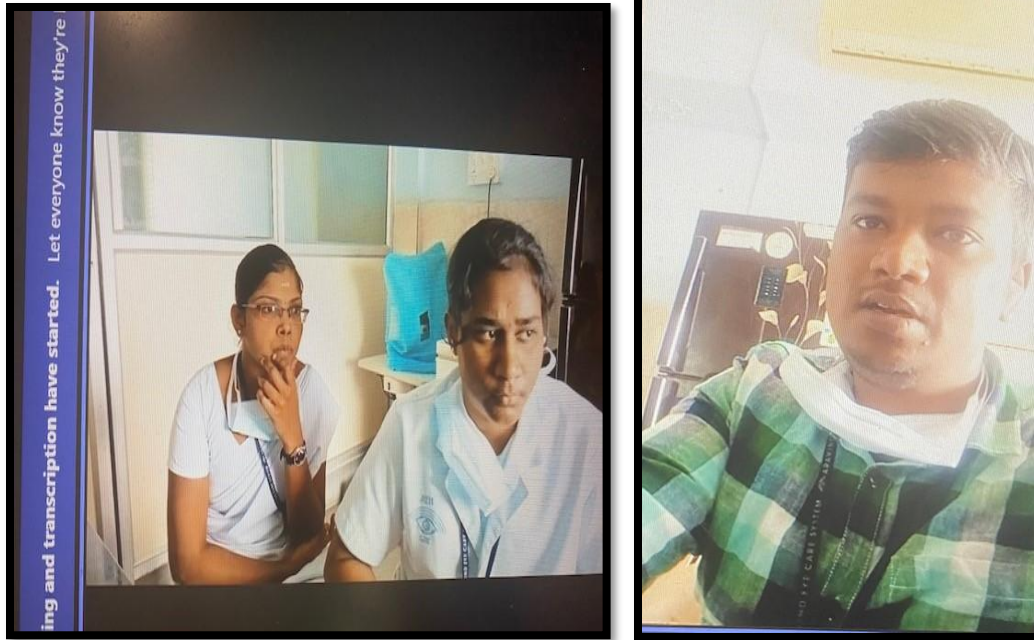
*Participation in EBAI National conference in December 2022 in Delhi*

### **3. Cornea Distribution System (CDS)**

The CDS distributed 2,820 corneas in 2022–2023, a 58% increase over target. Partners like DDEB, EBSR, and EBAK significantly contributed. CDS supported 723 transplants in Jan-Mar 2023, serving 16 states and 65+ surgeons. This robust distribution network continues to ensure access to high-quality tissues nationwide.

### **4. Quality and MEAL Program**

Remote quality audits were conducted for CU Shah Eye Bank and Aravind IOB, including onboarding for virtual assessments. The team also presented their remote audit process at EBAI's national conference. Despite staff limitations in early 2023, audits continued with CAPA processes initiated for Chennai.



*Remote audit process at AIOB: Eye Bank Manager Interview and Technician Interview*

Monitoring and evaluation systems were designed for the Novartis Project and other key initiatives.

## 5. Clinical Training

Highlights:

- Launch of self-paced PKP Skills Transfer course via EyeLearn; 10 surgeons graduated in Q4
- DSEK training in Kochi
- Finalization of the DALK curriculum
- Two Cataract to Cornea fellows graduated from SCEH; NPS: 100
- Cornea Care Curriculum piloted in Nepal



Dr Audrey Talley Rostov evaluating patients and training OAs during the clinical skills activity

The PKP course received an NPS of 100 and DSA of 100%. Faculty included top national and international cornea specialists.

## 6. Corneal Blindness Prevention Program

CHWs trained: **637**

Total Patients seen: **21,378**

Abrasion Cases: **12,705 (avg. resolution rate ~97%)**

Referrals made: **319**

### Key achievements:

- Curriculum standardization (CHW guides, ToT manual, PowerPoint decks)
- Refresher trainings conducted twice (May and October 2022)
- CHWs continued to follow COVID protocols and government guidance



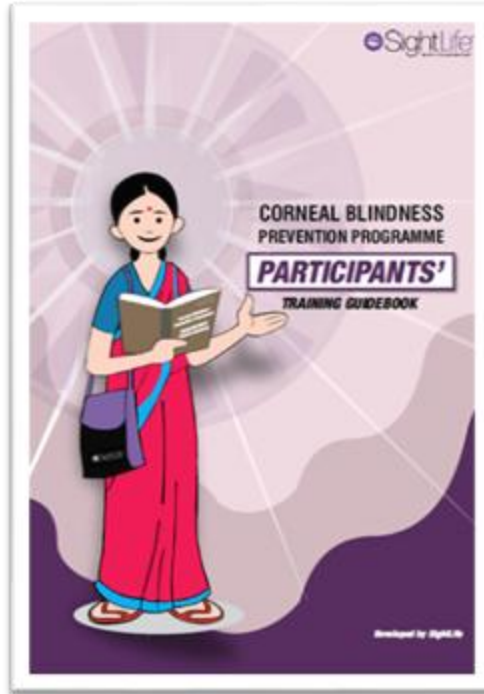
Refresher training in progress at Leherpur



*CHW participating in refresher training in Biswan*



*CHW screening the eyes of a patient in Tambaur, UP*



*Snippet of participant guide developed by L&D expert*

Breakdown by site:

- Biswan, Leherpur, and Tambaur blocks consistently recorded high outreach, with Biswan leading in total patient interactions

## **7. Pediatric Program (Closed)**

USAID-funded program concluded in May 2022. Key outcomes:

- 28,680 beneficiaries
- 3,864 children screened
- 655 providers trained
- 386 surgeries performed

## **8. Human Resources & Compliance**

Key hires:

- Shruti Wahal (Learning & Development Manager)
- Akshita Maithani (Manager - Communications)



Workshops and strategy meets were conducted regularly to build cohesion, including leadership retreat and team engagement activities with board members.



*Team engagement activities in Delhi*



*Key leaders and board members at SightLife led community strategy workshop in Delhi*

FCRA filings and website updates were completed on time.

SightLife India has strengthened the eye health ecosystem in India through data-driven, collaborative, and innovative programming. The focus for the next year will remain on enhancing quality standards, digital learning, decentralized eye care access, and policy advocacy to eliminate corneal blindness.