Amec Foster Wheeler’s operation in India recently sponsored an eye camp in the village of Kilkodungalore (120km from Chennai) conducted by Sankara Nethralaya, a leading eye-care hospital in India.

The project run by Sankara Nethralaya aims at tackling the major cause of preventable blindness namely cataract, by providing quality eye care on the door steps of rural India through a Mobile Eye Surgery Unit. The unit comprises one sterilised van containing the operating theatre, and one unsterilised van containing changing rooms, toilets and facilities.

The mobile units are the first of their kind in India, and the only project that has been approved by the Government of India Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to carry out cataract surgeries in rural villages.

In addition to the funding by Amec Foster Wheeler, 15 of our employees volunteered to assist the project team in registering patients and then supporting those patients as they moved from one section to another.

Over the period of the project in the Kilkodungalore village, 767 patients were screened and 152 cataract surgeries were undertaken which is far higher than the average 98 which was expected.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for employees to visit the eye camp organised in a rural village. Normally, vision for a person means a lot to him and his family. The moment vision is lost, people become dependent on others. The moment they get back better eyesight, it’s smiles all over and the entire livelihood is restored. It is lovely to be a part of this initiative. My sincere thanks to Amec Foster Wheeler for giving me an opportunity to witness this lovely sight.”

Employee volunteer