

The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship USP



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Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed

INTRODUCING THE LEPROSY MISSION

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The Leprosy Mission

Introduction: The Leprosy Mission (TLM) is an international Christian organisation, which seeks to defeat leprosy and transform the lives of people affected by leprosy. Founded in 1874, The Leprosy Mission is the oldest and largest leprosy-focused organisation in the world, with a track record of almost 150 years in serving communities. We are working to achieve our vision of 'Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed'. Our International Office is located in London, UK and serves as a secretariat to a global network of Members and Affiliates located in 30 countries.



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NGO FACT FILE



Transforming lives across 30 countries



Annual Income of £31.2m



Beneficiary reach of over 0.5 billion people



Over 1,800 fellowship staff around the world



Working with over 300 local partners



Support from more than 32 Institutional Donors globally

The gross annual income [2020] of the Mission is around £31 million. Around the world we have an estimated 1,800 staff employed, implementing 223 projects. We work in 17 countries, of which 12 are WHO leprosy priority countries. The largest number of projects are in India, but there are also a significant number in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nigeria and Nepal.

Capacity

We are part of member consortiums in applying for funding, with strong donor relationships with the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the New Zealand Department of Foreign Affairs (MFAT) and Australian Development Fund (DFAT) with which we have a long track record as an officially recognised partner. We have strong relationships with Delegations, Embassies and Ministries in each of the countries in which we work and are actively developing new relationships with Sweden's Agency for Development Cooperation (SIDA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland (MOFAF), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the like.

5 Key areas of expertise in programming:

Collectively, TLM has a diverse range of expertise in health and rehabilitation, disability-inclusion, human rights, research, advocacy, livelihoods and community development. Our 5 key programmatic areas are:

1 HEALTHCARE

Our hospitals provide an exceptional level of care to leprosy patients as well as meeting the general medical needs of their surrounding communities. Reconstructive surgeries, ophthalmic eye surgery, physiotherapy, assistive devices and special footwear, treatment of ulcers and leprosy reactions, counselling and health education are all designed to enable people affected by leprosy live independent and dignified lives. We also provide training to health workers, medical students, self-care groups and communities, so that knowledge of the disease reaches all levels of society. At the community level our programmes cover not only leprosy but also other neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), maternal health, nutrition and water & sanitation. We support primary health care workers and government health care systems to identify and diagnose people with leprosy and ensure they get prompt treatment – in doing so we seek to interrupt the transmission of leprosy.

‘with the right investment, we can be the generation that ends leprosy for good’



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2 ADVOCACY

Working closely with people affected by leprosy and with the United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Rights of People Affected by Leprosy and their Families, we advocate for the rights of leprosy-affected people and aim to reduce the physical and social barriers that they face. We also promote self-advocacy – by training leprosy-affected people and other NTDs about their rights, in order to improve their self-confidence and voice, so that they can lobby for change in discriminatory laws and practices at the local and national levels of government.



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COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION (CBR)

Our CBR Inclusive Development (CRB-ID) activities include skills training (including various forms of vocational education), micro-finance (savings and credit), self-help groups of people affected by leprosy and disability, low-cost housing, self-care groups (preventing development, or worsening of disabilities) and integration of people affected by leprosy into existing organisations of persons with disabilities and the wider community. Currently, TLM has a network of over 2,600 self-care / self-help groups around the world with a membership of over 34,000 affected persons. We also provide economic livelihood development as a means of fight poverty and empowering communities, fostering greater change and transformation.



More than 2,600 self-help/care groups across the world, catering to over 34,000 affected persons

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EDUCATION

We operate a number of education schemes for those directly or indirectly affected by leprosy, disability or who are from marginalised backgrounds. These schemes include: vocational education programmes (residential vocational training establishments and community-level skill-development programmes); literacy classes; formal education under which children from leprosy and disability affected poor families receive scholarships to enable them to attend school. The education scheme is often combined with working with families to improve their livelihoods so that they can afford to pay for their children's education.



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RESEARCH

With our large geographical footprint and our network, of hospitals, The Leprosy Mission has very good access to people with leprosy and this makes us a valued partner in many globally recognised research studies which have shed light on many new areas of the disease and its management. We have three internationally recognised research centres in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, which are involved in, among other things: Understanding and prevention of transmission, Development and field trialling of early diagnostic tests and monitoring for multi-drug treatment (MDT) resistance, as well as individual hospitals that collaborate in global research studies. Our research is not restricted to our hospitals and laboratories. TLM incorporates research into its public health and community-based projects in order to enlarge the current knowledge base, thus enabling evidence-based policy and practice. Our global Research Working Group, made up of internationally recognised leprosy researchers, who advise and support research work around the leprosy world.



The Leprosy Mission spent more than £3.5 million on research between 2015 and 2021

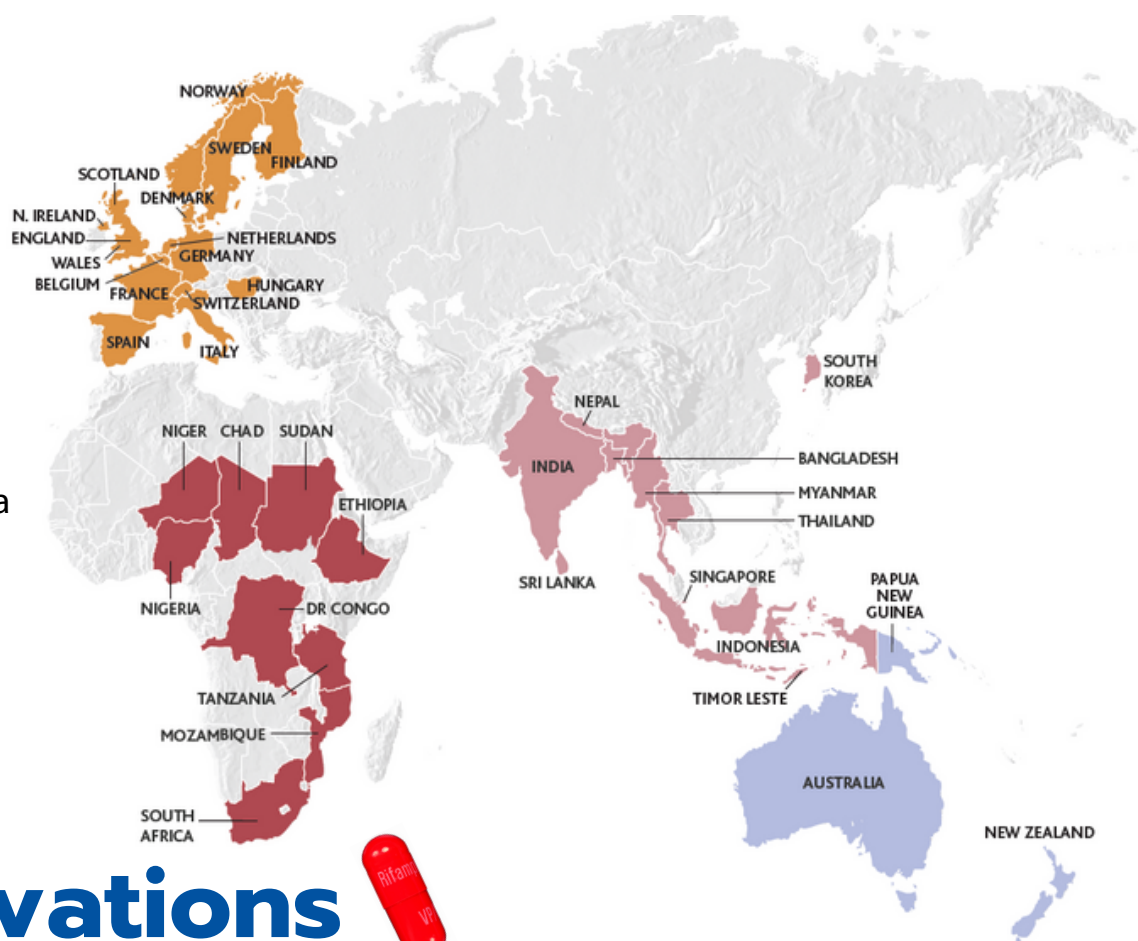
Reach

The opportunities ahead are tremendous, we want to replicate the impact and success we have had in our working areas, on a truly global scale'

We are a global network of 30 members and affiliates, with three research hubs, 16 owned hospitals in South Asia and support seven other hospitals across Asia and Africa (owned by partners). We raise funds through offices in Australia, Belgium, Denmark, England & Wales, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Scotland, South Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.

We have implementing & programmatic partnerships in:

- Bangladesh
- Chad
- DRC
- Ethiopia
- Indonesia
- India
- Myanmar
- Mozambique
- Nepal
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Papua New Guinea
- Sri-Lanka
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Timor Leste



Innovations



Throughout the last four decades, leprosy programmes have focused on case detection and treating persons affected by leprosy with MDT. This has successfully reduced leprosy prevalence, but has not reduced the new case detection rate, preventing us from moving towards elimination of leprosy. Now, in the 2020s, we have the possibility to roll out Post-Exposure (chemo) Prophylaxis [PEP] using a single dose of the antibiotic rifampicin (SDR-PEP). SDR-PEP is given to leprosy household contacts and near neighbours of index cases, and if provided on a large enough scale can break leprosy transmission and resign this disease to the history books forever. We are currently implementing a number of PEP projects. Other innovations include using 3D printing to make custom-made shoes and insoles, active devices and prosthetics and using smartphones for identifying leprosy skin lesions earlier than the naked eye.



Main Objectives

A. Zero Leprosy Transmission by 2035, to defeat leprosy through the early detection and treatment of cases, the focusing of resources on key endemic districts and innovative solutions targeted at interrupting leprosy transmission. Our main focus is on leprosy, however, our work often includes other people with disabilities, other neglected tropical diseases, other marginalised people in society, and those living in extreme poverty.

B. Towards Zero Leprosy Disability, reduce the disability burden in people effected by leprosy; transform the physical, mental emotional and spiritual wellbeing of people affected, through the timely detection, monitoring and treatment of impairments of the eyes, hands and feet.

C. Reach Zero Discrimination, against people affected by leprosy by promoting greater inclusion of, and justice for, people with disabilities and enabling opportunities for people to have sustainable livelihoods.

We aim to integrate and mainstream leprosy into other country services and programs such as Water & Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) and NTD programs to increase our reach to specific beneficiaries and ensure that programs have a sufficient disability and persons effected inclusion component, not only to win funding, but to better serve our key beneficiaries.



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TLM has a global track record in consortia building and key donor relationships with multiple institutional funders. We see cooperation, partnership and consortia building as a necessary stage in expanding service delivery, accessing larger funding opportunities and mainstreaming leprosy and disability services into all development and humanitarian programming. We are actively seeking new partners to help expand our reach to beneficiaries and are committed to ensuring gender and disability inclusion into all of our projects.

For More Information Please Contact Us

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