

Our Annual Impact Review 2014 - 2015



Fighting disease,
poverty and prejudice

Fighting disease

Our programmes are focused on people affected by leprosy, lymphatic filariasis (LF), malaria and tuberculosis (TB). Last year, we reached more than 256,400 people directly with healthcare and other support.

We enabled 232,330 people to confirm their health status by providing diagnostic services within their villages, in mobile clinics and through our partner organisations.

Bangladesh

We continue to work in four districts in the north west: Bogra, Pabna, Natore and Sirajgonj. In collaboration with partner organisations, we also work in a further 12 districts mainly in the Sylhet and Ranpur divisions.

Since last year there has been a 40% increase in the number of people being tested for leprosy in our project areas and a 35% increase in case detection.

TB control continues to be an important element of our work. More than 73,100 people were tested for TB and treatment was started for 4,550 people whose test results were positive.

Three disability referral centres have been established since 2013. Nearly 2,000 people benefited from access to these centres in 2014 - 2015.

India

We work in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, New Delhi, Odisha and Telangana and with partners in Assam and Sikkim.

We provided leprosy services in 27 referral centres across seven regions, mostly in the centre and east of the country. Many of the centres are housed within government hospitals, which makes timely referrals and priority treatment easy.

As a result of health awareness campaigns, the primary health centres where we work saw a 15% increase in outpatients reporting symptoms of leprosy, LF and TB.

Our work on TB has primarily been focused in Odisha, where 7,520 people were treated and cured. The cure rate was 95% (10% higher than the national rates).

The lives of 464 people were changed through surgical procedures to correct malformations in their hands or feet or to counteract lagophthalmos, an inability to close their eyelids.

Learning at school
about neglected
diseases



Health education

**In 2014 - 2015,
we reached more
than 256,400
people directly
through diagnosis,
treatment and care**

We reached a further 1,581,370 people through health education and events to raise awareness of diseases

This impact review covers the 12-month period from April 2014 to March 2015



Fighting poverty and prejudice

Health education is an important pillar of our work in both Bangladesh and India. Raising awareness about diseases such as leprosy, lymphatic filariasis, malaria and TB not only encourages changes in behaviour, but also tackles the prejudice which can result in self-stigma, isolation, domestic violence and even suicide.

Health education reduces prejudice

In 2014 - 2015, we reached over 1.5 million people through our health education messages. We use theatre, folk art, films and exhibitions as well as posters, leaflets and loud speaker announcements. A village event, such as a weekly market, is an ideal opportunity to catch people's attention and share information.

Our programmes of health education in schools are particularly effective, providing information and challenging attitudes. Children often act as strong advocates for change.

We work to reduce stigma and discrimination to encourage those affected by diseases to come forward for diagnosis, treatment and support.

Self-help and self-care improves lives and livelihoods

Along with our support of institution-based health and disability care, we work with individuals and communities to help them to respond to their own needs.

Nearly 3,400 people were trained in home-based self-care

With his self-help group, Trinath has learned how to look after his swollen leg

for leprosy. For every person who learns these skills, the impact of the disease on their day-to-day lives is alleviated and the proportion of their income spent on medical care is reduced.

In Bangladesh, we support self-help groups, usually with up to twelve members each, with vocational training, small grants for setting up a business and information on their rights. More than 2,820 people in 255 groups in Bangladesh have already started to change their lives, earn an income and participate in community activities. In three project areas, men's wages have increased by 57%, women's wages by 72% and there has been an increase in the consumption of vegetables and pulses. Government grants and other benefits were claimed for the first time by 530 people.

Walking means work

For many people affected by leprosy or LF, walking is very difficult as their feet are damaged, swollen or vulnerable to injury. We distributed 14,780 pairs of custom-made shoes with microcellular rubber soles to support and protect feet. With two pairs of these shoes each year, many people are able to continue or resume working, which has a long-term beneficial effect on their income.

We are driven by the needs of the people with whom we work



Demonstrating self-care

We contributed to reduced poverty and improved standards of living for 10,450 people and their families



464 lives were changed by reconstructive surgery

The cure rate for TB was 95%

530 people claimed government benefits for the first time

3,400 people were trained in home-based self-care for leprosy

7,520 people were treated and cured of TB in Odisha, India

We trained 20,000 healthcare workers to recognise symptoms

In Bangladesh, more than 880 people, drawn from self-help groups, were trained in home-based self-care for leprosy

14,780 pairs of shoes helped people to walk safely

We provided leprosy services in 27 referral centres across seven regions in India

Sustainable solutions

We continue to invest in the training and development of health professionals.

With relevant knowledge and information, healthcare workers can recognise signs and symptoms of diseases and can refer people to the nearest Lepa or government health centre. Increased awareness amongst professionals in turn reduces the prejudice of healthcare workers towards the people with whom we work.

We continue to invest in the training and development of health professionals. We trained nearly 20,000 medical students, doctors, surgeons, nurses and other healthcare workers on the recognition and treatment of leprosy.

We support government initiatives to mainstream treatment and support for people affected by leprosy so that they can be treated in general centres rather

than through separate services. In Bangladesh, we have taken the lead in a national project, bringing together non-governmental organisations, an international research institute (icddr,b) and government (National Leprosy Elimination Programme) with the aim of improving the integration of leprosy services within the national health programme.

Our Samdiravedchi project in India developed health plans for 48 villages and formed 192 village health and sanitation committees. Working with local communities, we significantly reduced the density of mosquitoes in nearly 1,000 sites by spraying anti-larval treatment.



Our referral centre in Dhoolpet, India, has developed into a resource centre on leprosy for other non-governmental organisations, companies, university medical and nursing students and other visitors. Sharing our expertise and knowledge in this way and at international conferences gives us the opportunity to showcase our work as best practice.

£12 provides one year's supply of self-care kits to a person affected by leprosy or LF

£25 runs a school education programme for up to 100 children

£165 funds a one-day TB sputum collection camp

Influencing the agenda

Our Blue Peter Public Health and Research Centre near Hyderabad continues to be a centre of excellence for scientific research on leprosy and TB.

We are a member of the UK Coalition Against Neglected Tropical Diseases, which engages with the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and NTDs.

As a member of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, we contributed to their meeting in Addis Ababa in December 2014.

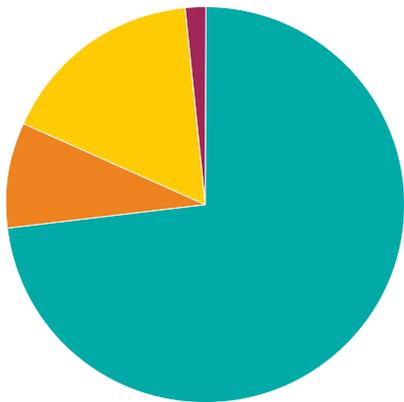
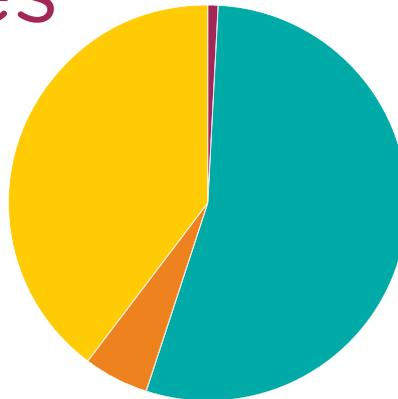
We sit on the executive committee of the Neglected Tropical Disease NGDO Network, a global forum for non-governmental organisations working together on NTDs.

At the British Lymphology Society Conference in October, the award for best poster was presented to Rajni Kant Singh, Lepa State Coordinator of Bihar.

We co-sponsored and participated in "Delivering the Promise: seeking justice with people affected by leprosy" workshops in November in Dublin. We are working with partners to ensure that the agreed plans are put into action.

Where your money goes

Total Income		£4,972,841
Public support	£2,689,848	54.1%
Trusts and business	£263,528	5.3%
Statutory grants and charitable activities	£1,976,919	39.7%
Sales, investments and other	£42,546	0.9%



Total Expenditure		£5,137,154
Projects and programmes	£3,767,015	73.3%
Research, education etc.	£448,991	8.8%
Fundraising	£834,157	16.2%
Admin and governance	£86,991	1.7%

The financial information has been audited and will be presented to the Trustees in October 2015.



Asian Wealth magazine chose us as their Charity of the Year

We are pleased to acknowledge the contribution of the UK Department of International Development towards our work in Bangladesh.



Our events fundraisers brought in nearly £38,000. Thank you for your fantastic efforts. Please stay with us and take on another challenge!

Community fundraisers throughout the UK meet around 100,000 children in schools every year, as well as talking to community groups, church congregations and others. The community income this year increased to more than £890,000. If you would like to hear more about Lepra in your own school or group, please contact us.

“Great route, beautiful scenery, lovely lunch and tea stops – it is the highlight of my year”

Edinburgh to St Andrew's bike ride participant



Contact us on
01206 216700 or
fundraising@lepra.org.uk
to find out more

- Make a donation
- Leave us a gift in your will
- Organise a fundraising event
- Take part in a challenge event
- Support us through your business, school or other group