

Our Annual Impact Review 2013 - 2014



Fighting disease,
poverty and prejudice

Fighting disease

In Bangladesh, we opened the **first ever physiotherapy centre**. We will open two more centres in 2014 - 2015.

For the second year running in our project area in Bangladesh, we recorded a 13% **increase in newly diagnosed leprosy cases**. The increase could be due to our increased investment and focus on leprosy which has enabled us to find previously hidden and neglected cases.

In collaboration with partners, we have conducted the **first ever national level leprosy disease mapping exercise** in Bangladesh.

In India, we continued to provide leprosy services through 27 referral centres in seven regions. More than **750 lives** were changed through reconstructive surgery. We provided disability aids and self-care kits to **2,250 people** and protective footwear to **14,800 people**.

We continued to support and strengthen the national TB control programmes in both countries, supporting the testing of **107,000 people** with symptoms and the treatment of nearly 10,000 people who tested positive. **The cure rate was 89% in India and 94% in Bangladesh.**

In India, across four states, nearly **7,000 people were diagnosed with lymphatic filariasis** (LF, sometimes known as elephantiasis) and started treatment. Hydrocoele (scrotal swelling) affected more than 220 men.

Our best practice models in LF management were showcased and disseminated in the 2013 World Health Organization South East Asia regional office publication **"Guidelines on Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention in Lymphatic Filariasis"**.

We continued to publish Leprosy Review on a quarterly basis to share knowledge in the health and scientific community, www.leprosy-review.org.uk.

Sabitri, who has learned how to use self-care techniques for LF



Dr Achary examines a pupil at Madhubana High School, Odisha

In 2013 - 2014 we improved the lives of more than 1.2 million people in Bangladesh and India.

We reached a further 1.2 million people through our community-based health education.

This impact review covers the 12-month period from April 2013 to March 2014



Fighting poverty

In 2013 – 2014, we contributed to reduced poverty and improved standards of living for 5,900 people and their families.

In 2013 – 2014, we increased investment in our programmes which has resulted in an **increase of 100%** in the numbers of people reached.

On average, the cost to help each beneficiary was just **£5**.

In Bangladesh last year, we worked with 155 self-help groups, with 1,609 members. There have been remarkable improvements in standards of living and quality of life through our community empowerment and poverty reduction activities. Over the last three years, our approach in Bogra district has, on average, increased beneficiary income by one third. Families can increase their household expenditure by 23%, spending more on essentials such as food.

To illustrate the difference we can make through our support, we are sharing Suraj Miah's story. He is the convenor of a self-help group of five people, part of our Exclusion to Inclusion project in Bangladesh. The group has been paying into their joint fund for two years and has saved 30,000 Taka (£228), of which 10,000 Taka was granted by us and is used for a rolling loans fund.

Suraj, who has been cured of leprosy, sells firewood in bundles – about 800kg every month. He can't walk, so he drags the bundles along the ground. His hands are also badly damaged. He makes a profit of 2,000 Taka (£15) per month, which is nearly double his earnings 18

months ago. With this, he buys rice, lentils, potatoes, salt and oil for himself and his wife. Without the support of the group and his new income, he would not be able to pay for his wife's medicine (52 Taka every day). Now, they can both afford to eat as well as pay for the treatment.

In India, we facilitated access to social security benefits for nearly 900 people living in leprosy colonies.

In Bihar, India's poorest state, we supported the Association for People Affected by Leprosy to lobby government departments to improve living standards for people living in colonies. The result was that 23 families, living in one district, now each have a piece of land on which to construct a house or shelter for themselves.

Also in Bihar, 90% of people affected by leprosy and living in colonies were begging to earn an income. Campaigning by the Association has achieved an increase in their disability pension from 200 to 1,800 Rupees (£18) per month.

It costs us just £1,200 each year to support four of these Associations in the states in which we work and £3,000 to support our advocacy work in Bangladesh.

Polu, project manager in Bogra, with Suraj Miah

2.4 million

the number of people we reached directly and through health education

960 families in Bangladesh are better off through community empowerment

900

the number of people in leprosy colonies for whom we facilitated access to social security benefits

We trained **7,180** village doctors on health issues and correct treatment

£18.00 the monthly benefit achieved for people disabled by leprosy in Bihar

We supported testing of **107,000** people with TB symptoms

We worked with **155 self help groups** (1609 members) in Bangladesh

We trained **14,800** government and community health workers and

13,000 community volunteers

14,800

pairs of custom-made footwear provided in India

Fighting prejudice

Stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy and other neglected diseases can have devastating effects, including being forced to leave the family home, staying away from school or being unable to marry.

Our health education programmes raise awareness of leprosy, lymphatic filariasis, TB, malaria and other diseases. These not only encourage people with symptoms to come forward for diagnosis, but also reduce prejudice against those who are already diagnosed and have permanent, visible disabilities.

In 2013 – 2014, we reached 490,000 people in Bangladesh and 665,000 in India through community-based exhibitions, film shows and loud speaker announcements.

Our training programmes contribute to reduced discrimination by health workers and others towards people with leprosy-related disabilities. Also, more patients are welcomed for treatment in government health centres. More than 42,500 government and community workers and volunteers participated in these programmes.



Health education van

"Neighbours never invited me to social gatherings, knowing I was affected by leprosy. Nobody wanted to eat in our home, but now the situation is changing."

"Our community people tried to avoid us in the past, but now there is less disparity in our society."

Beneficiaries of our leprosy work in Bogra district, Bangladesh, commenting in our formal appraisal of the three-year "Exclusion to Inclusion" programme

In Bangladesh, we began working with people living with disabilities to establish district-level disabled people's networks. We have facilitated meetings and enabled advocacy meetings with authorities and policy makers. This gives network members the opportunity to speak out with a stronger collective voice to demand their rights. In some villages, local authorities have constructed new roads and installed electricity as a result of lobbying.

Through health education, many men have expressed willingness to undergo hydrocoele surgery. Previously, they were too ashamed to speak about their condition (scrotal swelling).

£150 provides reconstructive surgery to restore function to hands or feet

£75 trains 15 village doctors to recognise the signs of leprosy and TB

£30 runs a community health awareness campaign reaching 500 people

In September 2013, our staff presented 32 abstracts at the International Leprosy Congress in Brussels. This gave us an opportunity to present our models of best practice and our research results to the global leprosy community.

From our Blue Peter Public Health and Research Centre and we published articles in ten international peer-reviewed journals.

In 2013, we were formally included in the global neglected tropical diseases network of non-governmental development organisations (ntd-ngdonetwork.org). Leprosy is now included in the debate on elimination of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) by 2020.

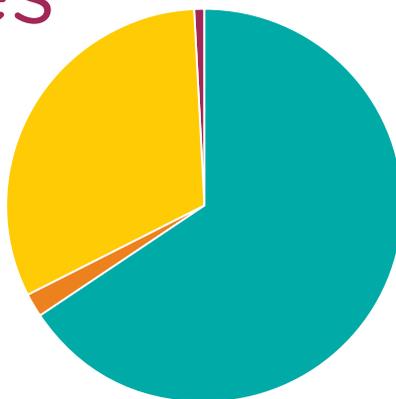
We contributed to the annual report of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and NTDs, commenting on India's premature declaration of leprosy elimination. This was published with the support of the UK Coalition against NTDs, of which we are a member.

Staff in India contributed eight posters and five presentations at the Indian Association of Leprologists conference.

Where **your** money goes

Total Income £5,791,448

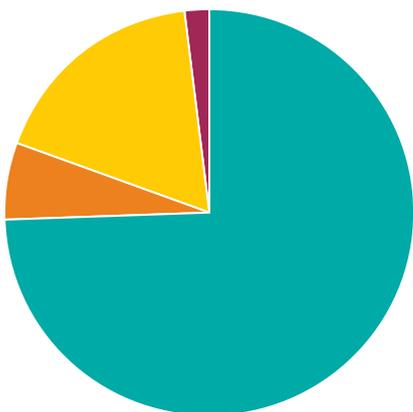
Public support	£3,813,303	65.8%
Trusts and business	£99,097	1.7%
Statutory grants and charitable acts	£1,841,922	31.8%
Sales, investments and other	£37,126	0.7%



Total Expenditure £4,593,307

Projects and programmes	£3,424,240	74.6%
Research, education etc.	£277,368	6.0%
Fundraising	£810,598	17.6%
Admin and governance	£81,101	1.8%

*The financial information above has been audited and will be presented to the Trustees in October 2014. The large difference between income and expenditure was caused by an unexpected generous legacy. The Trustees have planned to spend this for the maximum impact over the next two to three years.



Maureen Taylor celebrated her 60th birthday by raising funds for our 90th anniversary! Her family fun day raised £1,430.

We are pleased to acknowledge the support of the Department for International Development for our work in Bangladesh, helping us to reduce poverty and increase social inclusion for people living with disabilities.

Our work continues because of you
Our community fundraisers brought in an amazing £839,000 from their activities with schools, churches, social groups, local committees and many more.

Thank you to every child and adult who took part in any fundraising activity.

Participants in challenge events raised £43,000.

Thank you to every runner, cyclist and climber who gave so much energy, enthusiasm, time and support.

Online shops

Our Easter and Christmas cards and notelets sold online, as well as other items sold in our eBay shop are an increasing source of income for us.

“The whole experience of riding for Lepra in the Prudential Ride London - Surrey 100 event was exceptional. It is something that will stay with me for the rest of my life.”

Ian Donaldson



Ian Donaldson

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

- Making a donation
- Leaving us a gift in your will
- Organising a fundraising event
- Taking part in a challenge event
- Supporting us through your business, school or other group