

LIGHT
FOR THE WORLD



Let Action Speak

ACTIVITY REPORT 2010 / 2011



LICHT FOR THE WORLD is a European confederation of national development NGOs, committed to saving eyesight, improving the quality of live and advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities in the underprivileged regions of our world.

www.light-for-the-world.org

In 2010 we continued to work hard to improve the quality of life and human rights situation of persons with disabilities in underprivileged regions of our world.

In a financially difficult year for the entire world, our focus stayed firmly on sustaining our 169 projects in 23 countries, and continuing to restore the sight and change the lives of many thousands of people. This year we reached 700,000 people with our work and performed 40,700 cataract surgeries (3,200 more than 2009) in order to restore eyesight for people who otherwise would live a life in darkness.

As 85% of those who are blind or visually impaired live in developing countries and 80% of blindness remains avoidable or treatable, we have continued to work towards the Vision 2020 goal of eradicating avoidable blindness. Together with our local partner organisations we improve living conditions for people with disabilities and we support programmes that strengthen opportunities for people with disabilities to create their own sustainable futures.

120 million children with disabilities live in developing countries. In 2010, LICHT FOR THE WORLD supported 79 programmes that comprehensively and sustainably reach and support children with disabilities. We provided life-changing support to 19.000 children with disabilities, including rehabilitation, assistive devices, access to healthcare and education, and greater participation and integration in their communities.

Persons with disabilities are often exposed to discrimination, social exclusion and the denial of their rights. One hundred countries and the EU have now ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This has created an important base for LICHT FOR THE WORLD'S work to ensure persons with disabilities can access their rights. 2010 also marked the crucial half-way point towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and LICHT FOR THE WORLD'S lobbying efforts resulted in the UN-resolution 'Realising the Millennium Development Goals for Persons with Disabilities Towards 2015 and Beyond' (December 2010) which sets out to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all programmes and initiatives to achieve the MDGs.

To ensure that we reach as many persons with disabilities as possible and to continue to work effectively and economically, LICHT FOR THE WORLD in Austria, the Czech Republic and Belgium continued to work effectively as a confederation during 2010. In April 2011 we were delighted to welcome DARK & LIGHT (The Netherlands) to the confederation, building on six years' successful collaboration in Ethiopia, Pakistan and South Sudan.

Working with our partners and supporters we are committed to ensuring inclusive sustainable development and the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities in the developing world.

Sincerely,


Rupert Roniger
Director Austria


Filip Zoubek
Director Czech Republic


Johan Elsen
Director Belgium


Ton ten Hove
Director Netherlands

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Our mission

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is dedicated to ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities in developing countries, without discrimination of gender, ethnicity, social group or religion.

Of 39 million blind people in the world, 80% live in developing countries. Shockingly, 80% of all cases of blindness in the world are either treatable by relatively simple means or could have been avoided in the first place.

80% of the world's 650 million persons with disabilities live in developing countries and 120 million are children. Without access to basic health-care, primary education or livelihood opportunities, many people with disabilities are locked in a vicious cycle of poverty and disability. In addition, poverty places millions of people at risk of avoidable disability through malnutrition, unsafe living and working conditions and inadequate healthcare and sanitation. In more than 50% of cases, a disability or impairment is avoidable.

Marginalised and voiceless, many persons with disabilities are deprived of even their basic human rights and are largely either ignored or excluded from development processes.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD provides access to treatment and rehabilitation for persons with disabilities by supporting local partner organisations.

Guiding principles

in cooperation with partners in the developing world:

- We support local partners in underprivileged regions of the world in their work with and for persons who are blind, have other disabilities or are at risk of becoming disabled.
- We provide support irrespective of gender, ethnicity and religious affiliation with a particular emphasis on marginalised groups such as women, children, indigenous peoples and those living in poverty.
- We act according to the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Our programmes aim to reach as many people as possible while targeting those in greatest need.
- We support programmes that provide sustainable social integration, empowerment and opportunities for those who are blind or have a disability.
- We support our programmes through difficult financial periods and respond to all challenges with endurance, perseverance and flexibility.
- Our programme work is based on the efficient and economical use of resources and we respect the principles of ecological and social sustainability and fair trade wherever possible.
- We enable the global exchange of learning and experiences on effective and efficient development programmes.



Evariste from Ruanda was blind from cataract. Since surgery he can see again and support his family.

We also commit ourselves to the task of creating new opportunities for persons with disabilities, to increase mobility with the help of devices, to start initiatives that will provide education and income, and to support people with disabilities to exercise their rights.

In addition, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is committed to raising awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities within their family, communities and national contexts, as well as within the wider development agenda. This is an important basis for social inclusion and for the autonomy and self-determination of persons with disabilities.

Decades of commitment

From the desire to help the less advantaged...

In 1988, a group of dedicated individuals met in Vienna to mobilise help for people who are blind or have other disabilities in developing countries, following the ideals of Ernst Jakob Christoffel. Among the first projects of the fledgling organisation were eye care units and rehabilitation programmes in Ethiopia and Kenya.

In 1996, the Austrian Government began its collaboration with LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in supporting a training programme for ophthalmic staff in Kikuyu, Kenya, as part of Austrian Development Cooperation.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Belgium was founded in 1997 under the name, Christian Blindmission Belgium. One of the first programmes supported was CCBRT – an orthopaedic and eye care hospital and rehabilitation programme in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

In 1999, the initiative 'VISION 2020 – The Right To Sight' was launched in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO). From the beginning, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been an active member in this global action plan to eliminate preventable blindness by the year 2020.

In 2000, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD established a much needed eye care department in Jijiga, Somali



Born with club feet, Tamiru now receives the help he needs at the Arba Minch rehabilitation center.

Region as part of the National Blindness Prevention Programme in Ethiopia.

Since 2003, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been involved in developing the eye care department of the Kabgayi hospital in Rwanda.

In 2004, for the first time, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD was successful in getting European Union support for one of our programmes.

In 2006, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) was adopted. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD had advocated successfully to ensure that International Development Cooperation was included in the UN-Convention.

... to an international confederation

In 2007, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in the Czech Republic was founded in Prague and currently supports programmes in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Burkina Faso.

In 2008, a formal agreement of confederation was signed by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic in order to strengthen the collaboration in programme countries and to maximise the potential to raise awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in developing countries.

In 2009, the Confederation established a Unit of Programme Support and International Advocacy in order to effectively advocate for the human rights of persons with disabilities on both European and international levels, to optimise the use of resources and to better bring together international expertise.

In April 2011 the Dutch foundation DARK & LIGHT joined the Confederation, building on over six years' successful collaboration in Ethiopia, Pakistan and South Sudan. DARK & LIGHT was founded in 1982. Since then, this small 'family foundation' founded by Dutch ophthalmologist Martien Cozijnsen and his wife has grown into a development organisation for prevention of blindness and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities through 50 projects in 11 developing countries.

Today, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is one of the leading European NGOs dedicated to restoring eyesight, preventing blindness, providing rehabilitation and access to inclusive education, and promoting the human rights of people with disabilities. Today, we are proud to support 171 programmes in 23 countries.

Prevention of Blindness

Ten years ago the World Health Organization (WHO) together with international NGOs and professional societies in eye care launched the initiative 'VISION 2020 – The Right to Sight'. Its ambitious objective: To eliminate avoidable blindness by the year 2020'. 2010 marked the halfway point of this global initiative and was a time to take stock of achievements made and the task still ahead.

The facts: 285 million people worldwide are visually impaired, while 39 million are blind.

Cataract is still the most common cause of blindness in the developing world as people living in poverty generally do not have access to basic eye care.

Over 85% of those who are visually impaired live in developing countries.

The progress: At the halfway point of the global Vision 2020 initiative, WHO published encouraging figures: blindness globally has decreased significantly from 45 to 39 million:

- Onchocerciasis is largely controlled.
- Great strides have been made with the SAFE trachoma strategy as the number affected by blinding trachoma has dropped from a high of 360 million 1985 to 40 million today.
- Blindness and visual impairment in children caused by Vitamin A deficiency and infectious diseases has decreased significantly.
- In Ethiopia, where LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been engaged in Vision 2020 since the beginning, the success of this approach is clearly visible: in ten years the number of eye care professionals has doubled, three universities train ophthalmologists and five programmes upskill ophthalmic nurses to work as cataract



In Northeast India, we support 5 ophthalmic projects to reduce the high blindness rate of 2.45%.

surgeons. As a result, in 2010 41,000 cataract surgeries were carried out in Ethiopia, compared to 15,000 per year before the launch of Vision 2020.

The mission: However, much remains to be done if we are to really address the 80% of blindness that is preventable or treatable. To do this effectively, 'VISION 2020 – The Right to Sight' has put the development of National Prevention of Blindness plans at its core, linking respective government institutions, NGOs, professional associations and educational institutions. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in National Blindness Prevention Programmes in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Northeast India and Pakistan and we will continue to work towards the goal of eliminating avoidable blindness by 2020.

Major causes of preventable blindness

Cataract

Cataract is the most common cause of blindness worldwide (48%) and is responsible for 18 million people losing their sight. Cataract is a clouding of the eye's lens which impedes the passage of light.

Although most cases of cataract are related to the ageing process, occasionally children can be born with the condition or a cataract may develop after eye injuries, inflammation or other eye disease. A person with cataract can have their sight

restored in a simple 15 minute operation completed under local anaesthetic, where the cloudy lens is replaced with an artificial intraocular lens. The results are quick and often dramatic with patients being able to return home the day after surgery with their sight restored. According to WHO, cataract surgeries are among the most effective health interventions.

In the last 20 years, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has made over 375,000 cataract surgeries possible.

Trachoma

84 million people worldwide are affected by trachoma. 40 million are at risk of losing their sight, while 8 million people are already blind or severely visually impaired because of trachoma. Trachoma is one of the oldest infectious diseases known to mankind, and strongly linked to poverty. Repeated infections can cause the lid to develop scars, turning the eyelashes inwards, slowly and painfully scraping the cornea and causing blindness. In hyperendemic areas active trachoma is most common in pre-school children with prevalence rates as high as 60–90%. In Ethiopia, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the mass distribution of antibiotics in highly endemic areas, reaching 830,000 people in 2010, and also provides assistance for the eyelid surgery necessary at a more advanced stage of the infection.



Blindness prevention in Afghanistan: LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports two eye care programmes.

Childhood blindness

Around 1.4 million children worldwide are blind due to preventable causes like Vitamin A deficiency, cataract, untreated infections and unidentified refractive errors.

In Northeast India, Rwanda, DR Congo and Pakistan, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports child screenings in schools for early identification and treatment and the provision of glasses. In addition,

the programmes raise awareness among parents and teachers to prevent childhood blindness.

In Tanzania, Rwanda and DR Congo we support programmes for childhood cataract surgeries: in 2010 about 400 children underwent cataract surgery there.

Onchocerciasis (River Blindness)

Onchocerciasis is an insect-borne disease caused by a parasite and transmitted by black flies. The parasite moves into the eye causing inflammation, bleeding and other complications that ultimately lead to blindness or other disabilities. It is estimated that there are about half a million people blind from onchocerciasis. The interventions to control the black fly and mass treatments with the drug Mectizan have brought huge success in treating Onchocerciasis. In Southern Ethiopia LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is involved in treating 1.5 million people with an annual dose of Mectizan.

Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a common cause of blindness worldwide, responsible for 4.5 million people's sight loss. In developing countries eye clinics often lack the equipment to diagnose or treat glaucoma. Preventing glaucoma in developing countries is still in its infancy and the training of ophthalmologists in this field is vital.

Low vision and uncorrected refractive error

More than 100 million people worldwide live with low vision, which means that someone has a moderate to severe visual impairment, even after all possible medical intervention has been tried. So, in addition to suitable medical attention, people with low vision need assistive devices and rehabilitation to develop their abilities and support them in their daily lives.

Additionally, more than 150 million people live with uncorrected refractive errors. Without adequate visual aids such as glasses, they have limited access to education and employment opportunities and consequently cannot lead an independent life. In the majority of Africa only 20% of those who need them have access to adequate visual aids. In Uganda, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the first national programme for the correction of refractive errors, in partnership with the International Centre for Eye care Education. A major aspect of this work is the education of local staff in identifying and dealing with refractive errors.

Community Based Rehabilitation



Born with club feet, Samuel, 14, has progressed well thanks to the CBR programme in Ethiopia and can now even play football with his friends.

Many persons with disabilities in developing countries face discrimination and social exclusion, with virtually no access to medical attention, education or employment. As a result, an overwhelming majority of persons with disabilities or families of children with disabilities in developing countries are exposed to poverty and the mortality rate of persons with disabilities is extraordinarily high.

Community based rehabilitation (CBR) is a comprehensive and sustainable way to reach and support persons with disabilities of all ages in developing countries, even in the remotest areas. It is vital in bringing together family, neighbours and the whole community to allow persons with disabilities to participate equally and fully in their communities and wider society. It aims to provide rehabilitation and also to reduce the poverty experienced by persons with disabilities.

On an individual level, rehabilitation workers visit children with disabilities in their homes on a regular basis. They show family members how to do exercises with their children, for example, how to strengthen their muscles and increase mobility and coordination as in the case of Belayinesh on page 12. The children not only gain access to necessary medical treatment but also to vital therapeutic equipment. Instead of being taken away to special institutions, they remain part of their family and

community. Parents, teachers, friends and neighbours experience first-hand how the abilities and qualities of a child with a disability can contribute to family and community life. The rehabilitation workers also play an important role in empowering persons with disabilities and their families to fight discrimination and create a disability-friendly and aware society.

International CBR Guidelines

In October 2010, WHO, UNESCO, ILO and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) launched new CBR Guidelines. The Guidelines, which LIGHT FOR THE WORLD was involved in developing as part of IDDC, will guide our CBR programmes into the future.

With support from Austrian Development Cooperation and the Czech Development Cooperation, we are strengthening our CBR programmes in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Mozambique. In North-east India we support CBR initiatives in 55 districts in partnership with the Indian-based CBR Forum.

In 2010 in total, nearly 19,000 children with disabilities benefited from CBR programmes that we supported in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, South Sudan, Tanzania, DR Congo, Northeast India, Cambodia and Bolivia.

Inclusive Education

It is estimated that over 90% of children with disabilities in developing countries do not go to school. According to UNESCO, out of 75 million children of primary school age not receiving primary education, one third are children with disabilities.

Thus, children with disabilities make up one of the world's largest and most disadvantaged minorities. In order to achieve access to primary education for all children – as established in Millennium Development Goal 2 – urgent action must be taken. This includes constructing accessible school buildings, training teachers in special educational needs, providing adequate resources and support structures, and raising awareness among families, communities and decision-makers to remove the social and practical barriers that prevent children with disabilities from accessing their basic right to an education.

We strongly believe that children should have the opportunity to learn among their peers. Enrolling children with disabilities in regular schools or 'inclusive education' is not only widely accepted as a strategy to increase education levels for all but is enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. By attending their local, mainstream school children are not separated from their friends and family but remain within their community. This is especially important in rural areas which lack special schools.

Education in mainstream schools

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports programmes to promote high quality inclusive education to respond to the needs of children with disabilities.

Successful inclusive education uses a child-centred pedagogy, to the benefit of all children attending school. Among the initiatives supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD are pilot schools for inclusive education, training programmes for teachers in special education, resource centres to provide assistance to educational institutions, and the provision of specific teaching materials such as Braille books. In Burkina Faso and Pakistan, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in a policy dialogue with national ministries and regional authorities to promote inclusive education. On an international level, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is a member of the Global Campaign for Education and the initiative 'Education for All – Visually Impaired'.



Children with disabilities should attend mainstream schools and realise their right to education.

Children who are deaf or hard of hearing face particular barriers when trying to access education. With support from the European Union and Austrian Development Cooperation we are helping to implement a national programme in Papua New Guinea to provide children who are deaf or hard of hearing with access to primary education and healthcare.

In 2010, 20,000 children had their hearing tested and 250 children with hearing impairments were fully integrated in the school system.

From 2012 all teachers involved in the programme will be incorporated into the government workforce, ensuring the long-term sustainability of this initiative.

Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities



Persons with disabilities must be included in the Millennium Development Goals.

Since the Millennium Declaration in 2000, the international community has placed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) at the centre of its attempts to lift more than a billion people out of absolute poverty by eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development.

MDGs 2010: A stock-taking

2010 was an important year to take stock and review the progress that had been made so far. Even before the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on MDGs in September 2010 one finding was already evident: irrespective of the level of progress made in different regions of the world, one in five of the world's poorest have been left out: persons with disabilities (World Bank). This omission from the MDGs has compounded the exclusion of persons with disabilities and ensured that the MDGs can never be fully achieved without the inclusion of

persons with disabilities. For example, how can we achieve universal primary education when one-third of the children who remain out of school have a disability and we continue to build inaccessible schools?

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has set out to address the exclusion of persons with disabilities from the MDGs through a number of initiatives. Acknowledging input from the UN General Secretary, the World Bank, resolutions adopted at UN level, evidence provided by disabled peoples' organisations in developing countries and a lively exchange with LIGHT FOR THE WORLD and other members of the International Disability and Development Consortium, outcome document of the MDG Summit in New York in September 2010 clearly stated that actions to achieve the MDGs must focus on persons with disabilities.

The UN General Assembly took up this statement in its resolution 'Realising the Millennium Development Goals for Persons with Disabilities towards 2015 and Beyond', calling upon the Member States to explicitly include persons with disabilities in national programmes and initiatives to achieve the MDGs and for a high-level meeting to take place in September 2012 to strengthening efforts to ensure this happens.

UN-Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD will continue to advocate at all levels to end the discrimination, stigmatisation and exclusion of persons with disabilities in the planning and implementation of programmes to achieve the MDGs. Article 32 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force in May 2008, is a legally binding commitment that clearly states that persons with disabilities must participate fully and enjoy equal opportunities and equal rights in international development cooperation. Yet the rightful inclusion of persons with disabilities in international development cooperation is more than a legally binding commitment, it is the only way in which we will achieve just and sustainable development for all.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is the first UN human rights instrument that links human rights and social development. As well as Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic the following partner countries of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD have ratified the UNCRPD: Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Bosnia-Herzegovina, India, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

The European Union

At the end of 2010, the EU ratified the UN Convention – the first to be signed by the EU as a regional integration organisation. All partnership agreements with developing countries and programmes financed by the European Commission now must include persons with disabilities to comply with the obligations.

In addition, the recently adopted EU Strategy for persons with disabilities 2010-2020 includes concrete measures, such as the provision and training of focal persons for disability in the EU delegations in partner countries. The strategy asks for the continuing provision of support to disability-specific initiatives, while also accelerating the inclusion of persons with disabilities in mainstream development programmes:

- In the EU-Africa Strategy developed over the last few years, specific reference is made to persons with disabilities in the areas of education and health of the MDG partnership.
- Projects supported within the EU's 'Investing in People' framework now also address disability as a cross-cutting issue.



Government Representatives and persons with disabilities celebrating the foundation of Pakistan's „DPOs Council“.

The challenge remains to sustain the momentum of the last few years and to integrate an inclusive development approach into the new 'EU External Action Service' that is currently being set in line with the Lisbon Treaty. To be truly impactful on the lives of persons with disabilities, all of our advocacy work at the EU and international levels needs to be mirrored at partner country level.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is actively engaged in implementing the UN Convention in partner countries. We support local initiatives of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations to develop the capacities and knowhow to make their voices heard. Respective initiatives in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Tanzania and Northeast India not only support individual persons to enjoy their rights, but on a structural level, disabled people's organisations engage in dialogue with broader civil society and government offices at local, regional and national level.

2010 was a key year in working towards this vision, as the UN General Secretary stated: "The upcoming periodic review of the Millennium Development Goals provides an opportunity to include the concerns of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the Goals by 2015."

Regional Focus

Effectively reaching the poor in underprivileged regions

In developing countries impairments can be caused by many different factors: malnutrition, lack of access to clean water and sanitation which precipitates the outbreak of epidemics, and, most notably, the absence of functional health systems.

With the additional practical, financial and marginalisation issues that they must face, persons with disabilities often struggle in the face of such challenging circumstances. Providing effective interventions to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities creates significant challenges.

In addition, effective and sustainable development cooperation requires an in-depth knowledge of a country and its regions, the national development strategies, the health, education and social services systems, as well as the ability to network effectively with all relevant stakeholders. For these reasons, we concentrate our work on 7 priority countries and 9 other partner countries. This concentration ensures our ability to effectively collaborate with local partners, governments, professional organisations, training institutions and local experts.

Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Sudan, Northeast India, Pakistan and Bolivia

In our **priority countries** of Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Sudan, Northeast India, Pakistan and Bolivia we aim to create comprehensive inclusive national programmes, which guarantee the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in society. Our national programmes are based on and, wherever possible, aligned to national development strategies. We also engage in participatory dialogue to develop such strategies.

In our other **partner countries** of Burundi, DR Congo, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Afghanistan,

Cambodia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, we focus on effective interventions in selected core areas of our work, such as the prevention of blindness, rehabilitation and education of persons with disabilities and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities.

We provided emergency aid in response to the natural disasters in Haiti and Pakistan in 2010 and continue to engage in ongoing rehabilitation, focusing on ensuring the participation of persons with disabilities.



Ethiopia

Preventing blindness

Of the 1.2 million people in Ethiopia who are blind, around 1 million are blind from avoidable causes. With only one ophthalmologist for every 1 million people and little if any eye care outside of the capital Addis Ababa, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is working hard to prevent this unnecessary loss of sight. In 2010 we restored sight through 17,125 cataract surgeries in 14 different eye care programmes – 42 % of all such surgeries in Ethiopia; and continued to support the training of ophthalmologists, increasing their number from 54 in 1998 to 104 in 2010.

In western Ethiopia, we are involved in a project where 50 % of the population are at risk of Onchocerciasis or 'River Blindness'. Since 2004, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been one of only two international NGOs supporting the Ethiopian government's Onchocerciasis prevention and control programme. In 2010, we supported the distribution to 1.5 million people. Over 9 million children under the age of nine have trachoma. In the next four years a new project in Oromia state will see 300,000 people screened for eye diseases, 3 million people receive antibiotics to combat trachoma and 79,000 people with trachoma treated with a simple and cost-effective ointment.

Support for children with disabilities

Many children with disabilities in Ethiopia face a limited and difficult life due to a lack of medical and other support. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 6 Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Programmes in Ethiopia and in 2010, 1,678 children received life-changing support and medical care, including 82 hearing-impaired children who benefited from a new inclusive education programme in the south of the country; 85 children with disabilities from nomadic and therefore hard to reach families, who received vital medical care, rehabilitation and access to education; 438 children with disabilities were supported to go to school; and 1,609 children such as Belayinesh received life-altering physiotherapy.



Surface Area: 1,133,380 km²
Population: 81 Mio.
Capital: Addis Ababa
Human Development Index: 0.328 (ranked 157/169)
BNP per capita: ca. USD 280
Life expect: 56 years
Rate of illiteracy: (age > 15): 64.1 %
Infant Mortality: (age < 5): 109/1,000
Access to clean water: 42 %
Rate of Blindness: 1.6 %

Belayinesh – a new future

Born with cerebral palsy in a small town in rural Ethiopia, Belayinesh was unable to walk or even sit until she was eight years old. Fortunately for Belayinesh, she was discovered by Siltanu, a rehabilitation worker from LIGHT FOR THE WORLD who used parallel bars and then crutches to train her to use her legs. After two years of rehabilitation work Belayinesh can now

walk unaided to school. For Belayinesh this has brought new-found freedom and independence as she can not only get to school, but can help her mother with the chores and even take part in the traditional Ethiopian coffee ceremony. For her mother, Belayinesh's future has opened up, causing her great happiness and pride: "My daughter now has so many possibilities!"



Belayinesh, 10, has found support and encouragement in a CBR programme in Arba Minch, Ethiopia.

South Sudan

For many decades violence and conflict shook Sudan, leading to huge loss of life and a lack of adequate medical and educational infrastructure, particularly in the south. In January 2011, the people of South Sudan voted to become independent from the North and now this new country faces the challenge of providing healthcare and education for its people.

Inclusive education

Inadequate infrastructure and widespread poverty mean that only 37 % of all children attend school in South Sudan. Children with disabilities face particular difficulties, including lack of accessibility and discrimination. During 2010, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD's projects helped 280 children with disabilities to access education. With the support of the EU, the programme has been expanded and now 7,000 children with disabilities are getting the chance to learn in 45 different schools. However, many more children with disabilities remain out of school. So, in addition to our efforts, we will continue to support the training of teachers in special educational needs, ensuring that the teachers of South Sudan have the skills to support children with disabilities.

Preventing blindness

South Sudan has a very high prevalence of blindness, 3.2 % of the population compared to a WHO average estimate of 1%. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 9 eye care programmes, including mobile outreach work such as ophthalmic relief flights which bring vital eye care to those living in the remotest areas. The outreach work goes hand-in-hand with our support for the creation of permanent eye clinics to provide ongoing eye care and support for those who are blind or visually impaired. In 2010, we supported the expansion of the eye clinic in Mapuordit which serves a staggering 1.8 million people, and construction on the eye department in Yei was completed, providing a permanent eye hospital ward for the people. In 2010, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supported nearly 2,000 cataract surgeries in South Sudan.



Surface Area: 2,505,813 km²
Population: 41 Mio.
Capital: Al-Khartoum
Human Development Index: 0.379 (ranked 154/169)
BNP per capita: ca. USD 1100
Life expect: 58.9 years
Rate of illiteracy: (age > 15): 30.7 %
Infant Mortality: (age < 5): 109/1,000
Access to clean water: 70 %
Rate of Blindness: 3.2 %



Martha was blind from cataract. Her sight was restored during a relief flight.

Martha - back into the light

Despite being only 38, Martha's sight deteriorated over the last few years until she eventually became blind. As a widow and a carer for her mother, losing her sight had a huge impact on Martha's day-to-day life and her ability to support her family. Having heard that a LIGHT FOR THE WORLD relief flight was coming to the town of

Padak, Martha set out with her cane and a guide to walk the long journey of a few hours to Padak. A quick examination by the ophthalmologist showed that Martha has cataract. A 15-minute operation later, Martha joyfully opened her eyes and could see: "From now I can move around on my own again!" she exclaimed happily.

Dem. Republic of the Congo

Preventing blindness

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) with a population of 63 million and only 44 ophthalmologists faces a major challenge in preventing avoidable blindness. An estimated 400,000 people are avoidably blind from cataract alone, yet only 4,500 cataract surgeries are performed each year, leaving many thousands of people in unnecessary darkness. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a comprehensive eye care programme for those living in the little-served area of southern Congo. Community workers are trained to screen and refer patients to the eye hospital for treatment and in 2010, 20,000 people were seen and 900 operated on by the clinic.

With one of the highest poverty rates in the world, such eye care is simply unaffordable for many and so each eye clinic has a social fund to help those who would otherwise be unable to afford the treatment. Looking to the future, 2011 will see the completion of the much-needed extension to the eye clinic in Sainte Yvonne. In addition a new workshop will provide low-cost, quality glasses. Yet, a lack of eye care services remains a huge problem with people travelling from all over southern Congo to find treatment at LIGHT FOR THE WORLD's eye clinic in Lubumbashi. We are looking to create an eye clinic in Likasi, 200km north of Lubumbashi to try and bring eye care to the many thousands of people still awaiting treatment.

2011 will also see a continued focus on reaching children who are blind or who have low vision. Our low vision programme for southern Congo will see:

- local staff trained by our low vision specialist; and
- 400 children receive low-vision devices and training to support them in participating fully in society.



Surface Area: 2,344,885 km²
Population: 64 Mio.
Capital: Kinshasa
Human Development Index: 0.238 (ranked 168/169)
BNP per capita: ca. USD 150
Life expect: 48 years
Rate of illiteracy: (age > 15): 33.4 %
Infant Mortality: (age < 5): 199/1,000
Access to clean water: 46 %
Rate of Blindness: 1.2 %

Eric - his future is bright

Ten-year-old Eric has lived with his grandmother since being orphaned.

"We are left all alone, all my children died" his grandmother explains. "Eric has had problems with his eyes for a long time and I thought only God could help him because I don't have the possibilities." One day Eric's grandmother saw people in her village going from door to door with a torch to screen the eyes of the people. These community workers examined Eric and

recommended that she takes him to the hospital in Lubumbashi for treatment.

A cataract operation by Dr. Kilangalanga restored Eric's sight and now he is looking happily to the future: "I want to study like the other children. And I want to sell water and other things to help my grandmother because I am the only one who can. I hope people will support me like the people from the hospital did. I pray to God that he protects and keeps this hospital."



Eric's sight became weaker and weaker due to cataract. He underwent surgery and is back on his way into an independent life.

Burkina Faso

Education for children with disabilities

In 2010 we have made great strides towards ensuring that children who are deaf or hearing impaired, in particular, can access education. In the capital Ouagadougou, 331 children who are deaf or hearing impaired and 123 children with other speech and physical disabilities were given the opportunity to learn. In Bobo Dioulasso, 135 children who are deaf or hearing impaired were supported to go to school.

2011 will see us continue to support as many children with disabilities as possible to access their right to education. This includes visiting families to identify children with disabilities and providing the necessary medical and rehabilitation support. In 2010 in Garango alone, we visited 2,386 families with 21,528 children and 1,806 children under 16 were identified as either having a disability or of being at risk of becoming disabled. In 2011 we will continue to identify children with disabilities; provide training to teachers to enable them to meet the specific learning needs of children who are deaf or hearing impaired; support schools in providing an accessible learning environment; and raise awareness among parents, schools and communities that children with disabilities can and should have the right to learn.

Preventing blindness

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD will continue to work in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health, providing training, expertise, equipment and other vital support in eye care. In 2010, such support allowed 2,991 cataract surgeries to be performed. Yet, a lack of trained eye care workers continues to be a real challenge, especially in rural areas. Of the 16 ophthalmologists currently working in Burkina Faso, only 4 work in rural areas and 3 of these are supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. We are supporting the long-term identification and training of future ophthalmologists who will bring eye care to rural areas where there is currently none.



Surface Area: 274,200 km²
Population: 15.2 Mio.
Capital: Ouagadougou
Human Development Index: 0.305 (ranked 161/169)
BNP per capita: ca. USD 430
Life expect: 53.7 years
Rate of illiteracy: (age > 15): 71.3 %
Infant Mortality: (age < 5): 169/1,000
Access to clean water: 72 %
Rate of Blindness: 1.5 %



Habibou lost her sight through cataract. Now she can see again.

Habibou – seeing her grandchildren

Hearing about a LIGHT FOR THE WORLD outreach eye clinic in Garango, 75-year-old Habibou who is blind sets out with her daughter Marian and her young grandson Adaro who she has never seen, with little hope of having her sight restored.

Habibou became completely blind four years ago after years of deteriorating sight. The loss of her sight impacts daily on Habibou who has worked all

her life and who had a large family with many children and grandchildren.

At the outreach clinic Habibou patiently waits her turn and is delighted when Dr. Sanou tells her that her blindness is caused by cataract and can be cured. Having arrived guided by her daughter, Habibou is able to walk home unaided, taking in the long-unseen sights and looking forward to seeing the rest of her family.



Mozambique

Training the eye workers of the future

Despite making great strides since peace was restored in 1996, nearly 50% of the population of Mozambique live below the poverty line and the country ranks 165 out of 169 on the United Nations Human Development Index.

Twenty-six years of war left an almost non-existent health infrastructure and a lack of trained eye care workers remains a huge challenge. Until recently, eye care staff such as cataract surgeons could only be trained in the capital, Maputo. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has worked closely with the Ministry of Health to develop a second training centre in Beira.

As the culmination of a busy 2010 involving curriculum development and selecting candidates, in February 2011, 30 students from all over Mozambique began the training course.

Upon completing their training in 18-months each of the 30 students will take up a guaranteed position as an ophthalmic technician in their own provinces, bringing eye care to many unserved areas of Mozambique and making huge strides towards the prevention of blindness in the country.

- Surface Area:** 799,380 km²
- Population:** 22.4 Mio.
- Capital:** Maputo
- Human Development Index:** 0.284 (ranked 165/169)
- BNP per capita:** ca. USD 380
- Life expect:** 48 years
- Rate of illiteracy:** (age > 15): 46%
- Infant Mortality:** (age < 5): 130/1,000
- Access to clean water:** 42%
- Rate of Blindness:** 1.0%



Northeast India

Ensuring the rights of people with disabilities

Northeast India is one of the most remote and underprivileged areas of the country. Although India has substantial legal protection for people with disabilities, such protection has little impact on the 4 million people with disabilities living in the region. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a number of initiatives to help people with disabilities in the region to access their rights. A key area of support is the Disability Law Unit of the Shishu Sarothi Centre for Rehabilitation and Training for Multiple Disability which raises awareness of discrimination and pursues legal victories for people with disabilities. Such victories include the implementation of the law ensuring that 3% of government workers should be people with disabilities.

In 2010 LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supported Shishu Sarothi's vital contribution to the drafting of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, ensuring the Act's compliance with the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

Our support also ensured that the 2011 Census had increased its questions on disability from 1 (Census 2001) to 8, which should provide more accurate and substantial data on disability needs in India.

History was also made when the first ever job fair was held in North-east India for people with disabilities. At the job fair 283 graduates with disabilities from across 11 states were given the opportunity to meet with human resource executives from 22 different companies. Of the 283 candidates, 92 have been shortlisted for second round interviews.

- Surface Area:** 255,083 km²
- Population:** 43 Mio.
- Capital:** -
- Human Development Index:** 0.390 (ranked 151/169)
- BNP per capita:** ca. USD 950
- Life expect:** 56.2 years
- Rate of illiteracy:** (age > 15): 34.3%
- Infant Mortality:** (age < 5): 106/1,000
- Access to clean water:** 44%
- Rate of Blindness:** 2.5%

Bolivia

Rehabilitation and inclusion

The World Health Organization estimates that 10% of Bolivian's have a disability, yet of the 61% of those with disabilities who are aged between 20 to 58, only a tiny 1.1% are professionals. Therefore, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD'S work in Bolivia focuses on the inclusion of people with disabilities in employment, education and the daily life of their communities. A major barrier to the inclusion of people with disabilities in employment is a lack of accessible education. While students with disabilities are admitted to university, negative preconceptions prevail, buildings are often inaccessible and many teachers lack knowledge to adapt teaching materials.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has joined forces with the University Mayor de San Simón in Cochabamba to run awareness raising campaigns with over 40,000 students and 2,800 teachers and administrative staff, conduct research on the situation of students with disabilities and offer counselling to 300 students with disabilities and the community. We have also been busy working with the University to recruit participants for the Diploma on Community Based Rehabilitation and the Masters on Attention and Management for Persons with Disability, where 60 participants from all over Bolivia, including 17 from our partner organisations have been recruited.



- Surface Area:** 1,098,581 km²
- Population:** 9.7 Mio.
- Capital:** Sucre
- Human Development Index:** 0.643 (ranked 95/169)
- BNP per capita:** ca. USD 1,460
- Life expect:** 66 years
- Rate of illiteracy:** (age > 15): 46%
- Infant Mortality:** (age < 5): 54/1,000
- Access to clean water:** 86%
- Rate of Blindness:** 0.8%

Pakistan

Emergency response

In the summer of 2010, Pakistan was hit by monsoon flash floods that devastated the lives of 20 million people. In the absence of an inclusive emergency response, people with disabilities and their families struggled to cope with the crisis. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supported our partners to respond to the immediate needs of people in the provinces of Gilgit-Baltistan, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Over 42,000 people received emergency medical treatment, nearly 2,000 families received food and other vital supplies and 94 families who lost everything during the flood could rebuild their homes. In addition, wheelchairs, hearing aids and other assistive devices were distributed.

As well as providing emergency relief in 2010 LIGHT FOR THE WORLD focused on ensuring that disability becomes central to the ongoing and future emergency response and that such mainstreaming continues to build a more inclusive society.

Our work has included creating awareness of disability issues within relief workers, the wider community and government structures through workshops and media campaigns, and through practical means such as the creation of two model villages rebuilt with accessible public infrastructure. We have also developed key strategy papers on disability mainstreaming and disability inclusive disaster management, as well as technical guidelines and training materials, and provided assistive devices where needed.



- Surface Area:** 796,095 km²
- Population:** 166 Mio.
- Capital:** Islamabad
- Human Development Index:** 0.490 (ranked 125/169)
- BNP per capita:** ca. USD 950
- Life expect:** 67 years
- Rate of illiteracy:** (age > 15): 46.3%
- Infant Mortality:** (age < 5): 89/1,000
- Access to clean water:** 90%
- Rate of Blindness:** 1.0%

Programme work in other countries

NIGERIA: Preventing blindness and eye care

With many eye problems the sooner they can be detected the better they can be treated and so in 2010 we helped to train 2,500 teachers in Plateau State in Nigeria to identify visual impairments in their schools. This pilot School Eye Health Project is implemented in cooperation with Jos University, CHEF International and the International Council of Ophthalmology, as part of a bigger programme also being run in Pakistan. In addition to training teachers the project also creates a referral system for the children and any family members with visual impairments, and provides much-needed access to glasses.

RWANDA: Building on eye care success

The eye clinic in Kabgayi is the most productive eye health facility in the whole country. Our long-standing partnership with the Kabgayi eye clinic in 2010 again saw thousands of people screened and treated: 3,728 eye surgeries took place, of which more than 2,000 were sight-restoring cataract surgeries. To meet the growing demand on the clinic's eye care services, we are currently supporting the training of two local cataract surgeons who will begin work in the clinic once fully trained.

TANZANIA:

Training the eye care workers of the future

One of the biggest challenges to providing effective healthcare in Africa is a shortage of trained health professionals. In 2010, in collaboration with our local partner CCBRT, we focused on training local eye health professionals to ensure that we could provide high-quality, comprehensive support and eye care to persons with disabilities in Tanzania.

At both the disability hospital of CCBRT in Dar es Salaam and the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Moshi large numbers of children with cataract and other blinding eye diseases are finally getting access to the high-quality treatment they need. In Moshi alone, 128 children with cataract had their sight restored in 2010. Our systems for identifying children with cataract in their communities and providing treatment and follow up rehabilitation developed in collaboration with the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology not only benefit the children of Tanzania, but have become a model for the whole of sub-Saharan Africa.



Eye screening in Nigeria: The sooner illnesses are identified the better they are treatable.

AFGHANISTAN:

Sustainable support for the visually impaired

We support those who are visually impaired in Afghanistan in the most sustainable way: through prevention, treatment, education and vocational training programmes run by our local partners, with close cooperation with relevant national stakeholders. Focusing on the often-neglected area of primary eye care, in Badakhshan we support a comprehensive district eye care problem that serves an estimated population of 1.23 million.

In Kabul and Parwan provinces we promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities through economic, social and physical rehabilitation through the Enabling and Mobilising Afghan Disabled initiative of our local partner SERVE.

CAMBODIA: Community-based rehabilitation and education

Centred in Kampong Cham province, our work in Cambodia has two main strands: an initiative to provide educational opportunities to students with low vision; and our community-based rehabilitation programme, which aims to empower persons with disabilities through improving their economic and social status.

Early intervention, the strengthening of primary healthcare, awareness raising and training all form key aspects of our work in Cambodia to reduce eye health problems, especially among children.

INDONESIA: Inclusive education for children with disabilities

In Eastern Indonesia we support the provision of high-quality inclusive education for children who are blind or have low vision, as well as children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Rehabilitation workers provide comprehensive support to children, including competence and social skills training.

In order to provide people who are blind with life-changing access to books and learning materials in accessible formats, we have partnered with a national special library for visually impaired people and we support the production of Braille and talking books.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA:

Sustainable support for the hearing impaired

Hearing impairment is a major problem in Papua New Guinea with school screenings revealing that about 60% of school children have some sort of hearing problem. With support from the European Union and the Austrian Development Cooperation we have helped to create a national network of resource centres to provide children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing with access to primary education and vital healthcare. In 2010, the resource centres provided support to 20,000 children.

We have worked hard to ensure the long-term sustainability of the programme and are delighted to say that the government of Papua New Guinea has agreed to include all teaching staff on their payroll after the end of present programme.

In **BURUNDI** we are presently conducting a contextual analysis and stakeholder mapping exercise to identify the most effective approach for our involvement. In **EASTERN AFRICA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA** we participate in coalitions, led by the British organisation Sightsavers, to train eye health professionals at various levels.

In Asia we support another regional initiative to develop a network of childhood cataract detection and management specialists. In **BANGLADESH** we support the inclusion of persons with disabilities within a food security programme supported by a broader coalition of NGOs in the Gaibandha region. In this programme targeting 40,000 households living below poverty line we focus particular-



LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a programme to ensure the inclusion in school of the 60% of children in Papua New Guinea who have a hearing problem.

ly on especially poor single mothers with disabilities. In **NEPAL** we continue to actively contribute to partnerships for vocational and technical skills development for persons with disabilities in Bhutanese refugee camps.

In **BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA**, with the support of the Austrian Development Cooperation, we contribute to innovative initiatives to fully integrate persons with disabilities into their communities, using a participatory approach. In response to the devastating earthquake in **HAITI** in early 2010, we joined hands with CBM in setting up focal points for persons with disabilities to get access to much-needed medical treatment, rehabilitation and psycho-social support.

Africa 103 PROJECTS

status 10th March 2011

BURKINA FASO

Bobo Dioulasso	Education for children with hearing impairments
Diebougou	Community based rehabilitation programme and eye care centre
Gaoua	Community based rehabilitation programme
Garango	Community based rehabilitation programme
Garango	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Kaya	Community based rehabilitation programme
Koudougou	Eye Clinic
Manga	Community based rehabilitation programme
Manga	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Nouna	Eye clinic
Ouagadougou	Education for children with hearing impairments
Ouagadougou	Education for children with visual impairments
Ouagadougou	Advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities
Ouagadougou	Diagnostic camps and eye surgery
Ouagadougou	Scholarships for ophthalmologists in training
Ouahigouya	Eye clinic
Ouargaye	Community based rehabilitation programme
Zabre	Community based rehabilitation programme
Zorgho	Eye clinic

DR CONGO

Kasenga	Education for children with hearing impairments
Kinshasa	Community based rehabilitation programme
Kinshasa	Eye clinic
Likasi	Eye clinic
Lubumbashi	Education for children with visual impairments
Lubumbashi	Eye clinic and blindness prevention programme in southern DRC
Lubumbashi	Low vision programme for children
Mbuji-Mayi	Eye clinic

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa	Guide for an accessible Addis Ababa
Addis Ababa	Braille books for the central library for blind persons
Addis Ababa	Rehabilitation and integration of deaf children
Addis Ababa	Medical supplies for the national blindness prevention programme
Addis Ababa	Local development programmes for blind and visually impaired persons
Addis Ababa	Rehabilitation and integration of persons with disabilities
Ambo	Community based rehabilitation programme
Arba Minch	Community based rehabilitation programme
Arba Minch	Eye clinic
Awassa	Community based rehabilitation programme
Batu (Zewaye)	Eye clinic
Butajira	Eye clinic
Debark	Eye clinic
Dembidollo	Eye clinic
Gondar	Construction of University Eye Clinic
Gondar	Community based rehabilitation programme
Jijiga	Eye clinic and blindness prevention programme in Somali region
Jimma	University Eye Clinic with mobile eye care services
Kambata	Inclusive education for children with hearing impairments
Mekelle	Eye clinic
Nekemte	Eye clinic
Oromia	Support for healthcare and rehabilitation services
Silti	Distribution of Zithromax to control trachoma
Wolayta Soddo	Eye clinic
Wollega	Programme to eliminate River Blindness (Onchocerciasis)
Woliso	Community based rehabilitation programme
Yabello	Community based rehabilitation programme
Yirga Alem	Eye clinic with mobile eye care services

KENYA

Kikuyu	Training programme for eye care personnel
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MOZAMBIQUE

Beira	Eye clinic with mobile eye care services
Beira	Community based rehabilitation programme
Beira	Rehabilitation programme for children with learning disabilities
Lichinga	Eye clinic
Mangunde	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Maputo	Medical supplies for eyeclinic
Nahmatanda	Training programme for blind teachers
Niassa	Sports programme for persons with disabilities
North Mozambique	Outreach cataract surgery programme
Pemba	Eye clinic
Quelimane	Eye clinic
Sofala	Sports programme for persons with disabilities
Tete	Eye clinic

NIGERIA

Izzi	Eye care services
Plateau State	School eye health programme

RWANDA

Kabgayi	Eye clinic
Kibeho	Education for children with visual impairments

SUDAN

Bor	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Great Yirol	Primary eye care services
Juba	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Khartoum	Eye care programme in refugee camps
Mapourdit	Eye clinic
Mundri	Community based rehabilitation programme
Mundri	Eye clinic
Mundri	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Nuba	Mobile eye care services
Upper Nile	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Upper Nile	Blindness prevention programme
Yei	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Yei	Eye clinic

TANZANIA

Arusha	Low vision and regional support programme
Dar es Salaam	Advocacy on inclusive education for children with disabilities
Dar es Salaam	Orthopaedic clinic, eye clinic, community based rehabilitation programme, and fistula surgery and women empowerment programme
Dar es Salaam	Training programme for eye care personnel
Morogoro	Education for children with visual impairments
Moshi	Ophthalmological treatment of children
Moshi	Training programme for eye care specialists

TOGO

Lomé	Education for children with visual impairments
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UGANDA

Kabale	Eye clinic
Kampala	National programme for the correction of refraction errors
Mbarara	Eye clinic and training programme for eye care personnel
Mbarara	Rehabilitation for children with low vision
Tororo	School for children who are deaf

AFRICA

	Scholarships for ophthalmologists in training
	East Africa: Training programme for ophthalmologists
	Southern Africa: Training programme for eye care personnel
	Coordination of education programmes for children who are blind or visually impaired

Asia 51 PROJECTS

status 10th March 2011

AFGHANISTAN

Badakshan	District comprehensive eye care programme
National	Prevention of blindness programme
National	Enabling and mobilising people with disabilities

BANGLADESH

Gaibandha	Food security programme for women living in extreme poverty
National	Detection and management of childhood cataract in Asia
National	Disability mainstreaming and inclusive education

CAMBODIA

Kampong Cham	Education for students with low vision
Kampong Cham	Community based rehabilitation programme

INDONESIA

Bandung	Learning skills for visually impaired children
East-Indonesia	Inclusive education programme for children with disabilities
Jakarta	Talking and Braille book production for visually impaired people
National	Capacity building of special library for visually impaired people

NORTHEAST INDIA

Arunachal Pradesh	Mobile eye care services
Assam	Diagnostic camps and eye surgery
Assam	Mobile eye care services
Barapani	Inclusive education and rehabilitation programme for children who are deaf
Bokulgaon	Daycare centre for children with learning disabilities
Guwahati	Integration of children with disabilities in schools
Guwahati	Pilot project for inclusive health
Meghalaya	Advocacy on the rights of persons with disabilities
Meghalaya	Mobile eye care services
Nagaon	Mobile eye care services
Northeast India	Community based rehabilitation programmes in 55 districts
Northeast India	Inclusion of persons with disabilities in the job market
Northeast India	Law unit for persons with disabilities
Northeast India	Monitoring of the UN-Convention for the Rights of People with Disabilities
Northeast India	Service centre for people who are blind and visually impaired
Shillong	Daycare centre for children with disabilities
Tura	Training programme for special educational needs teachers
Williamnagar	Inclusive education and vocational training for children who are deaf

NEPAL

East-Nepal	Support and skills development for people with disabilities at Bhutanese refugee camps
Damak	Education for children with disabilities in refugee camps
Kathmandu	Vocational training for persons who are blind or otherwise disabled

PAKISTAN

Battagram	Eye clinic and prevention of blindness programme
Battagram	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Gilgit Baltistan	Emergency aid for flood victims
Faisalabad	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Blindness prevention programme in 4 districts
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Eye care programme in schools
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Emergency aid for flood victims
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Mainstreaming disability in emergency work
Mardan	Emergency eye clinic for refugees
Peshawar	Training of eye care specialists
Punjab	Emergency aid for flood victims
Skardu	Rehabilitation and inclusion of persons with disabilities
Swabi	Community based eye care centre



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Bougainville	Rehabilitation of children and adolescents with disabilities
Kiunga & Daru	Rehabilitation of children and adolescents with disabilities
Papua New Guinea	Education and healthcare programme for children who are deaf

PHILIPPINES

Mindanao	Education and rehabilitation for people with visual impairments
Cebu	Resource centre for people who are blind

Europe 3 PROJECTS

status 10th March 2011

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

National	Community integration of persons with disabilities
Tuzla	Inclusive education for children with disabilities
Zenica	Training programme for women with disabilities

Latin America 14 PROJECTS

status 10th March 2011

BOLIVIA

Cabezas & El Torno	Community based rehabilitation programme
Cochabamba	Education and community based rehabilitation programme for children who are blind or who have multiple disabilities
Cochabamba	University training programme and service centre on disability and community based rehabilitation
Concepcion	Pre-school and school for children with disabilities
Monteagudo & Huacareta	Community based rehabilitation programme
Sacaba	Community based rehabilitation programme
Sacaba	Inclusion of children and adolescents with disabilities
San Antonio	School and rehabilitation programme for children with disabilities
San Ignacio	School and rehabilitation programme for children with disabilities
Sucre	Vocational training for adolescents with disabilities
Southwest-Bolivia	Social and economic inclusion of people with visual impairments
Trinidad	School for children who are deaf

HAITI

Port-au-Prince	Construction of rehabilitation facility for disabled victims of the earthquake
Port-au-Prince	Reconstruction of eye and ear/nose/throat departments of university clinic

Projects 2010/2011 total (status 10th March 2011)

171

We take action - Awareness Raising



Vienna Night Run is barrier-free. Many wheelchair users from various countries took the chance to participate

Vienna Night Run 2010

The fourth annual Vienna Night Run took place on 5th October 2010 around the famous Ringstraße. A record breaking 16,400 runners took part, with Euro 5 from each runner's fee being donated to the work of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. The event raised an impressive Euro 82,000 which could pay for 2,733 sight-restoring cataract surgeries.

Special guests for the run were the two blind athletes Henry Wanyoike and Francis Karanja from Kenya. Francis Karanja's brother, James Kuria Karanja, could win the run.

As in 2009, the Vienna Night Run was barrier-free again and allowed wheelchair users to take part. The starting signal was given by the Austrian president Dr. Heinz Fischer at 8:30 pm, participants were running through nightfall, symbolic of losing eyesight. 180 runners built the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD-team.

Hannes Menitz, CEO of sportmedia and event organiser, hopes that in the future, the run will support the restoration of eye sight for even more people in developing countries and raise awareness in Austria.

Concert in the dark

When the lights fade, the only thing left to do is listen. In autumn 2010, the band Blindnote, consisting of famous musicians from the world music scene, went on a tour of cultural centers all over Belgium. Both musicians and audience shared the same challenge: relying completely on their hearing as they sat in absolute darkness.

The series of concerts supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD were part of an awareness raising campaign around avoidable blindness in Africa in which music lovers enjoyed an intimate concert in the dark. Johan Elsen, director of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD made a presentation about our work and held a questions and answers session before each concert. The concerts were a resounding success and generated a lot of press coverage in the print media. As part of the initiative Belgian journalists visited the eye hospital in Kabgayi, Rwanda, where the Belgian ophthalmologist Piet Noë operates and saves the eyesight of more than 3,000 patients every year.



Famous musicians from the Belgian world music scene went on tour all over the country to play their music in absolute dark to raise awareness for blind people and their needs.

Music Against Blindness

Music is not only an excellent means of expressing emotions, it can also tell the life stories and challenges of people from around the world. It brings together artists and musicians who can reach out to people through their special musical communication.

Music Against Blindness is a project drawing attention to the issue of visually impaired people mainly in developing countries. The focus of the project is to bring together musicians and artists of various genres, raising awareness and also fundraising for projects supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Czech Republic.

This project started on 8th March 2010 in a club called Malostranská Beseda in Prague with the concert of a blind singer Solo Dja Kabaka from Burkina Faso, who has since become the ambassador of the whole project.

Music Against Blindness was presented at major summer festivals in the Czech Republic during 2010, including Mighty Sounds, Rock for Church(ill), Real beat, Pacovsky poledník and the festival without barriers called "I live just like you do". The project introduced a campaign consisting of lighting up symbolic wax candles with which festival visitors could send light to those who are blind in Africa.

There were two different calls for action "Thousands of lights for Rwanda" and "Thousands of lights for Ethiopia".

ANBO MAX Charity Prize

In 2010, DARK & LIGHT / LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Netherlands was delighted to be nominated for the ANBO MAX Charity Prize. Having been shortlisted to the final three in September, DARK & LIGHT, along with the other two shortlisted finalists, made a presentation on national television. While disappointed not to scoop first prize, DARK & LIGHT were delighted to come in second place and to have such a high-profile opportunity to raise awareness of the challenges facing people who are visually impaired in developing countries.

Klarinne Labooij, supporter of DARK & LIGHT, is preparing for an interview on national television.



Solo Dja Kabako from Burkina Faso is one of the most important voices against blindness.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Czech Republic reached more than 42,000 people through these events in 2010 and earned the ongoing support of many festival organisers, musicians, artists, companies and donors.



What was achieved in 2010

2010 saw us save the sight and change the lives of more persons with disabilities than ever before. With your help we reached 700,000 people in 19 countries.

Allocation of funds

In 2010 the expenses of the confederation LIGHT FOR THE WORLD amounted to EUR 13,943,230: an increase of nearly 14.2% on 2009. In 2010 we also increased the percentage of our spending that goes directly to our programme work from 70.40% to 72.23%. This enabled us to support 140 sight-saving and life-changing programmes.

We focus our engagement on where we are most needed and so in 2010 the focus of our work continued to be in Africa. In 2010, we funded 93 projects there. Our six priority countries were Ethiopia (25 projects), Burkina Faso (19 projects), Mozambique (12 projects), DR Congo (6 projects), South Sudan (11 projects) and Rwanda (2 projects).

In Asia and the Pacific we supported 36 projects, and 14 in Latin America.

61 of the projects we support are focused on the prevention of blindness and eye care, while 79 projects are concerned with rehabilitation and integration of persons with disabilities in developing countries.

In 2010 we continued to work to decrease our spending on administration to ensure that as much

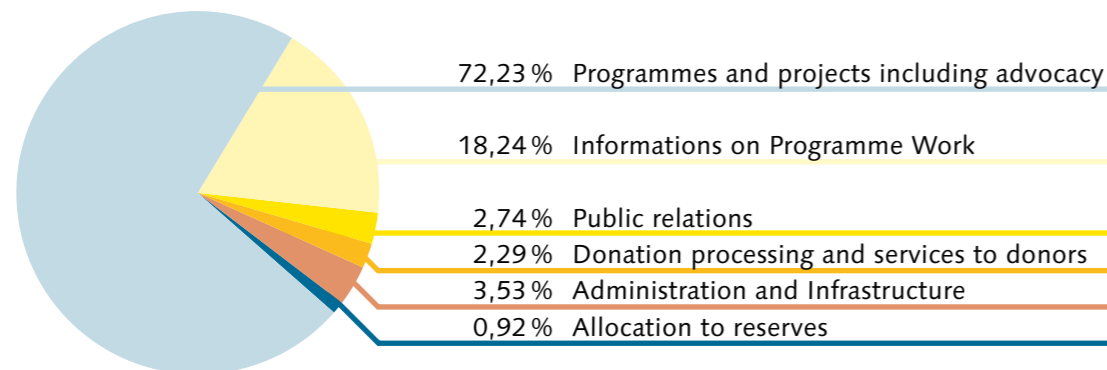
EXPENSES IN EUR

Programmes and projects including advocacy	10.071.578
Informations on Programme Work	2.543.667
Public relations	382.378
Donation processing and services to donors	319.769
Administration and Infrastructure	492.674
Allocation to reserves	133.164
Total	13.943.230

income as possible goes directly to our work with persons with disabilities. We successfully decreased the percentage spent on administration from 4.78% to 3.53%.

We used 2.29% of our spending to process vital donations and support the exhibitions and other events run by our supporters.

18.24% was allocated to inform our donors and those interested about our programme work, as well as on activities in the field of development education (e.g. in schools), while 2.74% was spent for public relations work, e.g. press releases, events and reports about the project work.



Sources of our funding

The overall income of the confederation LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in 2010 amounted to EUR 13,943,230. Thanks to increasing support for the work of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic, it was possible to expand our work.

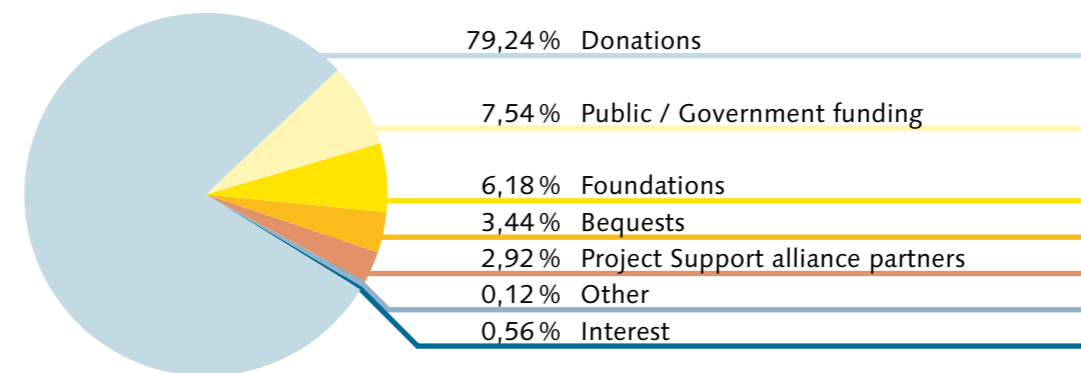
The foundation of our work is built on the commitment of many dedicated individuals, families, companies and institutions, who account for 79.24% of total revenues. Income from donations accounted for approximately EUR 11 million in 2010, while bequests reached a total of EUR 480,099. We received in total EUR 1,051,766 from public institutions in 2010.

The European Union funded programmes for persons with disabilities in Tanzania and Papua New Guinea and for Prevention of Blindness in Eastern and Southern Africa with a total amount of EUR 290,568.

INCOME IN EUR

Donations	11.049.277
Public / Government funding	1.051.766
Foundations	861.927
Bequests	480.099
Projekt Support alliance partners	406.538
Other	16.201
Interest	77.421
Total	13.943.230

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has received EUR 612,903 from the Austrian Development Cooperation (OEZA). These funds were used in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Czech Development Agency supported LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in the Czech Republic with EUR 65,425.



Reliability of all three member organisations audited

Since their foundation, all three member organisations of the confederation LIGHT FOR THE WORLD have had their accounts audited by external auditors. The 2010 accounts were audited in Austria by IB Interbilanz Hübner Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH (formerly Hübner & Hübner Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH), in Belgium by burg.bvba Clybouw bedrijfsrevisoren

and in the Czech Republic by Audit Novotný. In Austria, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been granted the Austrian Seal of Quality for Donations (Spendengütesiegel) for 2010, based on the external audit of the internal control system. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Belgium and the Czech Republic follow similar quality standards.

Memberships, Platforms & Alliances

- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB; VISION 2020 – The Right to Sight)
- International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI)
- International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)
- Global Campaign for Education
- Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP)

Public Sources

- European Union
- Czech Development Agency
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs The Netherlands
- Austrian Development Agency
- The Federal Province of Upper Austria
- The Federal Province of Lower Austria
- The Federal Province of Vienna

Foundations

- Amsterdam Blind Foundation
- Den Hague Blind Foundation
- Het Schild Foundation
- Karl Kahane Foundation
- Liberty Foundation
- Medicor Foundation Liechtenstein
- Rotterdam Blind Foundation
- Stavros Niarchos Foundation
- The Fred Hollows Foundation

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PUBLISHING INFORMATION

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It is health that is real wealth
and not pieces of gold and silver.

MAHATMA GANDHI