



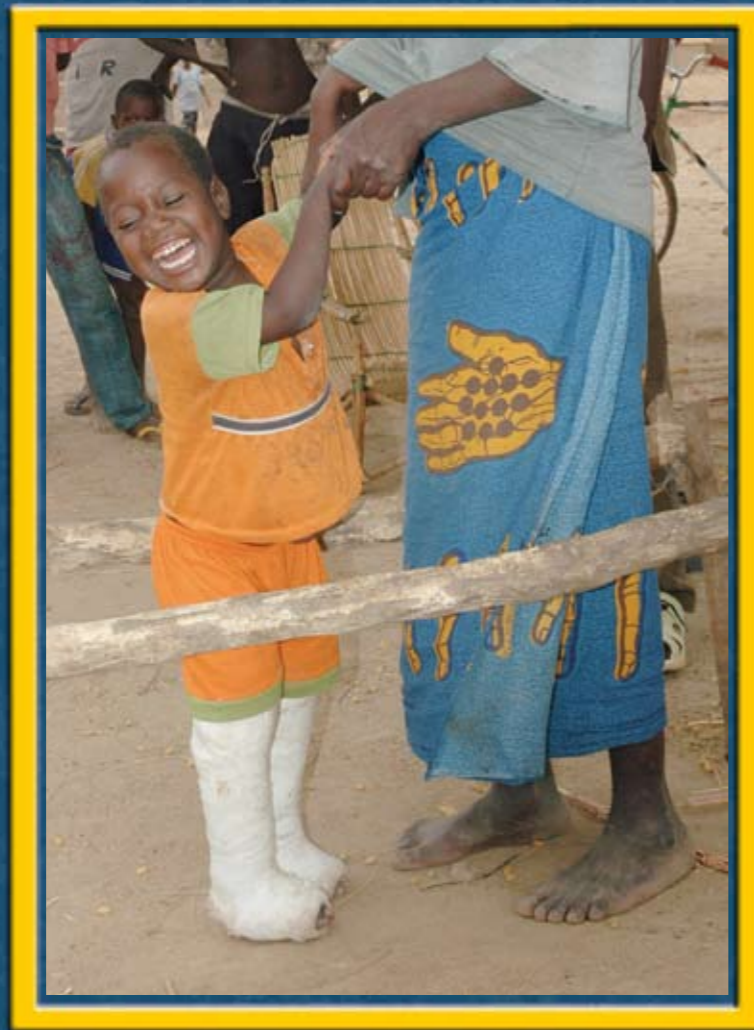
You must be the change  
you wish to see in the world.

*Mahatma Gandhi*



LET ACTION  
SPEAK





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

Internet: [www.light-for-the-world.org](http://www.light-for-the-world.org)

## Preface

*In 2009 we substantially improved the quality of life and human rights situation of persons with disabilities in underprivileged regions of our world.*

*37.500 cataract surgeries were performed in order to restore eyesight for people who otherwise would have stayed blind for the rest of their lives. 16.500 children with disabilities received support in developing their abilities, in gaining access to medical treatment, education and training. In all we reached 600.000 people with our work. Today LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 139 projects in 21 countries around the globe, some of the worlds poorest countries among them.*

*Restoring eye sight and blindness prevention is the major focus in the programme work of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. Cataract is the main cause of curable blindness worldwide and can be treated with quick and effective surgery. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD makes medical eye care accessible to those in need. In order to ensure sustainability we support the training of local ophthalmologists and paramedical staff in collaboration with university hospitals in several African countries.*

*Children with disabilities belong to the most marginalised groups in developing countries. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 19 Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes, mainly in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso. Rehabilitation workers visit children with disabilities in their homes to perform therapy, show the parents how to support their children in their development and supply them with assistive devices. The inclusion of children with disabilities in their social environment, their communities and the local mainstream schools is a key condition for successful rehabilitation.*

*Persons with disabilities are often exposed to discrimination, social exclusion and the denial of their rights. In 2009, we passed important milestones in coming closer to our objective of reaching inclusive development: Thanks to lobbying efforts of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD and its partners the European Union decided to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and two landmark resolutions at the UN focused on persons with disabilities. We collaborate with international organisations and alliances such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), are a member of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) and are actively involved in VISION 2020 - The Right To Sight.*

*For better coordination, use of resources and exchange of experience in our programme countries, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Austria, Czech Republic and Belgium joined forces and established an international confederation. Together with our partners, committed supporters and a strong team, we plan to deepen and expand our programmes for persons with disabilities and by this ensure sustainable development in the fields of healthcare, education and human rights.*

Sincerely,

  
 Filip Zoubek  
 Director Czech Republic

  
 Johan Elsen  
 Director Belgium

  
 Rupert Roniger  
 Director Austria

### Honorary Board Members

Martin Filipec (Chairperson CZ), Staf Nietvelt (Chairperson B), Peter Rettinger (Chairperson A) Dirk Deceuninck, Etienne Deseure, Lenka Galajdova, Bela Hlavackova, Michal Horazdovsky, Hanna Jovanovic, Rudolf Koukol, Karin Krobath, Jaroslav Liska, Andreas Manak, Jan Mayer, Siegfried Priglinger, Eva Reining-Welt, Karl Rigal, Gerhard Schuhmann, Vladislav Vesely

## 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 37 million blind people in the world, 90 % live in developing countries. 75 % of all cases of blindness are 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, 120 million of them are children. Only a very small percentage has access to basic health care and primary education. In this cycle of poverty and disability people are deprived of their fundamental human rights and are largely excluded from development processes. In addition, poverty means that millions of people are at risk of acquiring impairments and becoming disabled.

In more than 50 % of the cases an impairment is avoidable. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD provides access to treatment and therapy for affected people by supporting local partner organisations. We also commit ourselves to the task of creating new prospects for persons with disabilities, to increase mobility with the help of devices, to start

initiatives that will provide education and income and to support them to exercise their rights.

Another objective of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is to raise awareness on the situation of persons with disabilities in their family and environment. This is an important basis for social inclusion and for the autonomy and self-determination of persons with disabilities.

### 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 help irrespective of gender, ethnicity, or religion and in particular to underprivileged groups, such as women, children, indigenous peoples and minorities.
- We act according to the needs of the people affected.
- Our programmes reach as many people as possible.
- We support programmes leading to sustainable strengthening and social inclusion of persons who are blind or have other disabilities in their communities.
- We help our programmes through difficult periods and respond to current challenges with endurance, perseverance and flexibility.
- We apply efficient and economical use of funds and take into consideration principles of ecological and social sustainability and fair trade whenever possible.
- We enable a global exchange of experiences regarding effective and efficient concepts in our programme countries.

### Development cooperation as a mandate

- We enable access to adequate health care.
- We support the establishment of social and health care systems in our partner countries.
- We improve living conditions and opportunities sustainably and in the long-term.
- We advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities, especially in cases where they are not yet in the position to speak for themselves.
- We support representative groups led by persons with disabilities themselves, to self-advocate for their rights and concerns.
- We increase public awareness in Europe of the concerns and interests of persons with disabilities in developing countries.



*Bizunesh, 55, was blind from cataract. Since surgery she can see again and cook the traditional ethiopian dish injera for her family.*

## 20 years of commitment

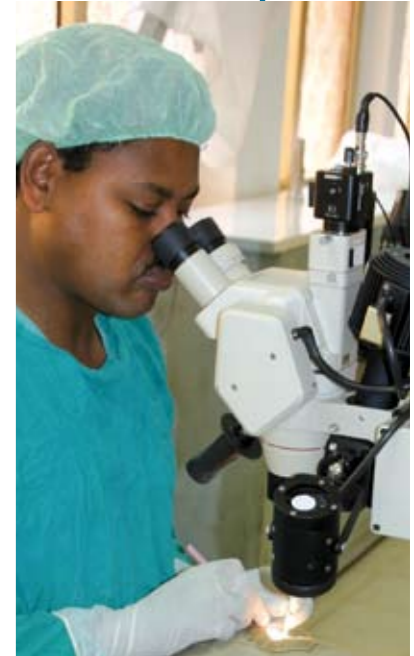
### From the desire to help the less advantaged ...

In 1988 a group of dedicated people met in Vienna to mobilize help for blind and otherwise disabled persons in developing countries, following the ideals of Ernst Jakob Christoffel. Among the first projects of the young organisation were eye care units and rehabilitation programmes in Ethiopia and Kenya.

In 1996 the Austrian Government started to collaborate with LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supporting a training programme for ophthalmologic staff in Kikuyu, Kenya, as part of Austrian Development Cooperation.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Belgium was founded in 1997 under the name of 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 Organisation (WHO). Since 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 the eye clinic in Jimma, Ethiopia, thousands of people are treated each year.*



*Gérard, 6, could not even stand up 3 years ago. He received rehabilitative care in Manga, Burkina Faso. Now he runs around with his makeshift hobbyhorse.*

As part of the implementation of a National Blindness Prevention Programme in Ethiopia in 2000 LIGHT FOR THE WORLD established a much needed eye care department in Jijiga, Somali Region.

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

In 2004, for the first time the European Union supported a programme of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD.

In 2006 the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD had advocated successfully to include International Development Cooperation 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.

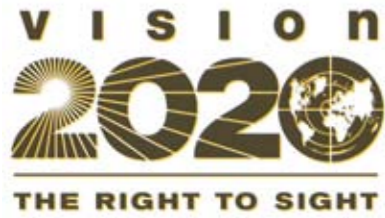
In 2008 a formal agreement of confederation was signed by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Austria, Belgium and Czech Republic in order to strengthen the collaboration in programme countries and to create synergies in raising awareness for the situations of persons with disabilities in developing countries.

bilities 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 disability on European and international level, to optimize the use of resources and to coordinate international experts.

Today LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is one of the leading European NGOs dedicated to the restoration of eyesight, prevention of blindness, rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and promotion of their human rights. Today we support 139 programmes in 20 countries.

## Prevention of blindness



Ten years ago the World Health Organisation (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 marks the halfway point of this global initiative – time to take stock.

**The facts:** 161 million people worldwide are visually impaired, 37 million of them are blind. In addition uncorrected refractive errors account for 8 million blind and 145 million visually impaired people. Cataract is still the most common cause of blindness as people living in poverty generally do not have access to basic eye care. Over 85 % of visually impaired persons live in developing countries.

**The progress:** 'VISION 2020 – The Right to Sight' has had success in keeping the absolute numbers of blind persons at the same level, despite predictions of rising blindness levels with the increase of the world's population. Onchocerciasis is largely controlled. Blinding trachoma affects 40 Million people today, compared to 360 Million people in 1985. Blindness and visual impairment in children caused by Vitamin A deficiency and infectious diseases has decreased significantly. In countries like Ethiopia, where LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has been engaged in this process since the beginning, the success of this co-ordinated and comprehensive approach is visible: compared to the situation 10 years ago the number of eye care professionals has increased four times. Today four universities train eye care staff on various levels, and trachoma is treated effectively in a number of regions.

**The mission:** Still a lot has to be done: In some areas the work has just started, such as in addressing uncorrected refractive errors. 80 % of all blindness in adults 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, non-governmental organisations, professional associations and educational institutions. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in National Blindness Prevention Programmes in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Mozambique, Rwanda, Southern Sudan, Northeast India and Pakistan.

### Major causes of preventable blindness

#### Cataract

Cataract is the most common cause of blindness worldwide and responsible for the loss of vision of 18 million people. Cataract is 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, and some other eye diseases.

The sight of a person blind from cataract can be restored in a surgical procedure that takes about 15 minutes. Under local anesthetic the opaque lens is replaced by an artificial intraocular lens. Having regained their sight, the patients can return home the following day. Cataract surgeries are among the most effective health interventions according to the WHO.

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, 8 million people are already blind or severely visual impaired because of Trachoma. Trachoma is one of the oldest infectious diseases known to mankind, and strongly linked to



*Washanka, 75, can see again after cataract surgery at an outreach camp in Bensa, Ethiopia.*

## Prevention of blindness

poverty. Repeated infections can cause the lid to develop scars, turning the eye lashes inwards and rubbing the cornea. The process of going blind from trachoma is long and very painful. Once sight is lost it cannot be restored again. 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 396,000 people in 2009, and also provides assistance for the eyelid surgery necessary at a more advanced stage of the infection.



*Dr. Muluken examines a patient during an outreach in Ethiopia. She suffers from trachoma and is treated with antibiotics.*

#### 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 North East India and Pakistan, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports child screenings in schools for early identification and treatment and the provision of spectacles. In addition, the programmes address parents and teachers to raise awareness on preventing childhood blindness. In Tanzania, we support a programme for childhood cataract surgeries.

#### Onchocerciasis (River Blindness)

Onchocerciasis is an insect-borne disease caused by a parasite and transmitted by blackflies. The parasite moving into the eye causes 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 blackfly and mass treatments with the drug Mectizan have brought huge success in treating Onchocerciasis. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is involved in South Western Ethiopia in treating 1,450,000 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 the eye clinics often lack equipment to diagnose or treat glaucoma. It is important to train ophthalmologists in this field. In preventing trachoma in developing countries, we are still at the very beginning.

#### Low Vision and uncorrected refractive error

About 124 million people worldwide live with Low Vision. A person with Low Vision has a moderate to severe visual impairment, even after all possible medical intervention was performed. Persons with Low Vision need suitable medical attention, assistive devices and rehabilitation to develop their abilities and manage their daily lives.

Additionally, 153 million people live with uncorrected refractive errors. Without adequate visual aids they have limited access to education and employment opportunities and consequently cannot lead an independent life. In the majority of Africa only 20 % 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 Eyecare Education. A major point is the education of local staff.



*After cataract surgery in Moshi, Tanzania, little Erik, 15 months, gets his eye sight tested.*

## Community Based Rehabilitation

80 % of persons with disabilities live in developing countries. They often have virtually no access to medical attention, education or employment. Additionally, they frequently experience discrimination and social exclusion. 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

The concept of 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 remote areas. Its aim is to provide rehabilitation, equal opportunities, poverty reduction and social inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Community Based Rehabilitation serves an important purpose: family, neighbours and the whole community are included in the process of enhancing the capacities of persons with disabilities as well as in removing barriers in society which limit equal participation.

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. The children gain access to necessary medical treatment and therapeutic appliances. Instead of being taken away to special institutions, they remain part of their family and social environment. Parents, teachers, friends and neighbours experience first-hand how the abilities and qualities of a child with a disability can enrich their daily life.

The rehabilitation workers are also engaged in empowering persons with disabilities and their families to fight discrimination and create a disability-friendly society.

With support from the Austrian Development Cooperation, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is strengthening its Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Mozambique and adjusting them in line with the new comprehensive Guidelines for Community Based Rehabilitation, to be published by WHO in October 2010. Exchange of experiences and knowledge, sharing of Good Practice and developing training material for programme staff are part of this initiative.

In Northeast India, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports Community Based Rehabilitation initiatives in 55 districts, within the framework of a project partnership with the Indian based CBR Forum. The CBR Forum co-ordinates and monitors these initiatives, and provides the training for local organisations. As a result, services are now offered for the first time to children with disabilities in many remote areas and steps towards their inclusion in society are being taken.



*Moussa, 5, lives in Burkina Faso. Born with cerebral palsy, he had severe difficulties moving. With the support of the CBR Programme in Manga, Burkina Faso, he has made great progress in learning to walk.*



*For most of his life, Isael, 6, was not able to stand up. With the support of the CBR Programme in Awassa he trains his legs and learns how to walk. Soon he will go to school with his friends.*

## Inclusive education

It is estimated that over 90 % of children with disabilities in developing countries do not attend 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 the world's largest and most disadvantaged minority. In order to achieve access to primary education for all children - as established in the Millennium Development Goal 2 - urgent action must take place. This includes the construction of accessible school buildings, training of teachers in special education, setting up resource and support structures, and raising awareness among families, communities and decision-makers to remove social barriers.

### Education for everybody

Enrolling children with disabilities in regular schools is widely accepted as a strategy to increase education levels. Inclusive education allows children with disabilities to interact with their peers. By attending a regular school they are not separated from their friends and family but remain within their community. Especially in rural areas lacking special schools, this is the most efficient way to ensure basic education for children with disabilities.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in supporting programmes to promote high quality inclusive education to respond to the needs of children with disabilities adequately. Successful inclusive education uses a child-centred pedagogy, for the benefit of all children attending school. Among the initiatives supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD are pilot schools for inclusive education, training programmes of teachers in special education, resource centres to provide assistance to educational institutions, and specific teaching material 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 international level, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is a member of the 'Global Campaign on Education' and the initiative 'Education for All - Visually Impaired'.

### Child Sponsorship Programme

To ensure support for children with disabilities on a long-term basis, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD started a child sponsorship programme in Austria for children in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Mozambique. A monthly contribution of EUR 25 ensures stable support of the programme and facilitates the planning process.

In 2009, Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes in Burkina Faso reached 5,244 children with disabilities. They received support and education as well as medical care and therapeutic appliances. In Mozambique, a pilot programme in the Sofala province started in 2009 and already supports 92 children with disabilities, helping them to lead a self-sustained and independent life.



*Atala, 9, loves going to school. The girl from Ethiopia is hearing impaired and learns sign language in an inclusive school in Gondar.*



*Victoria, 9, was born with cerebral palsy. With the support of the CBR Programme in Beira, Mozambique, she goes to school and learns how to lead an independent life.*

## Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities ...

### The Millennium Development Goals ...

Following the Millennium Declaration in the year 2000, the International Community put the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) into the centre of its attempt to bring about a change for more than a billion people living in absolute poverty. By the year 2015 eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and 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, shall be achieved.

2010 is an important year to take stock and review the progress that has been made so far. Even before the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on MDGs in September 2010 one finding is evident already: Irrespective on the level of progress made in different regions of the world, persons with disabilities have largely been left out. The lack of inclusion becomes more and more visible. According to World Bank estimates, one in five of the world's poorest persons is disabled. UNESCO estimates that one third of the children without access to primary school education are children with disabilities. Persons with disabilities largely have no access to health programmes and HIV/AIDS initiatives. Further information can be found on [www.IncludeEverybody.org](http://www.IncludeEverybody.org).



*Addis, 35, was born with club feet. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD helped her to start a business. Now she makes a living growing apple trees and sugar canes.*

### ... and the UN Convention

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has taken this issue up in a number of initiatives. In December 2009 the General Assembly of the United Nations has passed the resolution 'Realizing the MDGs for persons with disabilities', and recently the UN Commission for Social Development approved the resolution 'Mainstreaming Disability in the Development Agenda'. Both resolutions call on Member States to enable persons with disabilities to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development, in particular in all efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

On this basis LIGHT FOR THE WORLD will continue to advocate at all levels to end discrimination, stigmatisation and exclusion of persons with disabilities in planning and implementation of programmes to achieve the MDGs. Persons with disabilities shall enjoy equal opportunities and equal rights in international development co-operation. This is a legally binding commitment as stated in Article 32 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force in May 2008.

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



*LIGHT FOR THE WORLD advocates for inclusive education. As a result Yousouf, 14, goes to a regular school in Pakistan with his friends.*

## ... and advocating for inclusive development

### The European Union ...

At the end of 2009 the European Union (EU) decided to ratify the UN Convention – the first to be signed by the EU as a regional integration organization. This milestone in recognising the role of the EU to promote the rights of persons with disabilities needs to be followed by concrete steps on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in EU development co-operation. European initiatives on promoting development for the poorest countries must no longer neglect the rights of persons with disabilities.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in an ongoing dialogue with the European institutions to promote inclusive development. A number of services and funding programmes of the European Union have taken initiatives to provide full access to persons with disabilities. In the EU-Africa Strategy developed over the past years, specific reference is made to persons with disabilities in the areas of education and health of the MDG (Millennium Development Goals) partnership. Projects supported in the frame of EU's 'Investing in People' programme address persons with disabilities as a cross cutting issue.

With the momentum built over the last years, the challenge remains to integrate an inclusive development approach into the new 'EU External Action Service' being set at present in line with the Lisbon Treaty.

### ... and partner countries

All advocacy work on EU and international level for an increasingly inclusive international political framework needs mirroring efforts at partner country level. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is actively engaged in implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in partner countries. We encourage and 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 North East India do not only support individual persons to enjoy their rights. On a structural level, disabled peoples organisations engage in dialogue with broader civil society and government offices at local, regional and national level. This dialogue is a key to achieve a coherent approach for sustainable inclusion of persons with disabilities in national development strategies. 2010 is a key year 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."

#### Accessible elections in Tanzania

To strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a coalition of 14 disability organisations called "Inclusive Tanzania Consortium". In 2009 the Inclusive Tanzania Consortium focused strongly on the right to political participation of persons with disabilities. By raising awareness on the need for accessible and barrier-free elections and organising workshops and media campaigns, the Consortium made sure that disabled voters could participate in the 2009 local elections. As a result, in the pilot areas of the project polling stations were made accessible and the number of voters with disabilities increased significantly. Two local politicians with disabilities even won the election and will now act as chairpersons of their city quarters.



*Ribika, 14, on her way to school. With the support of the CBR Programme in Soddo Wolayta the blind girl from Ethiopia receives an education.*

## Partner countries

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has chosen 6 priority countries and 9 more programme countries to focus its work. This ensures optimal cooperation with local partner organisations, government authorities, specialized organisations, experts and facilitates the use of local infrastructure to keep administration costs at a minimum. Wherever possible, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD contributes to the implementation of National Development Strategies such as the National Plans for Prevention of Blindness, or aids in their development.

### Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Mozambique, Rwanda and Southern Sudan

**Ethiopia** is the main priority country of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. In 12 eye clinics all over the country, local ophthalmologists and their staff tend to the needs of a vast part of the mostly rural population. With the Austrian Development Agency, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 5 Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes, to enable children with disabilities to lead a self-sustained life and to empower their families.

In **Burkina Faso**, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 7 Community Based Rehabilitation programmes, together with the Austrian Development Cooperation, to help children with disabilities stand on their own feet in life. In eye care, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD extends its work to the western parts of the country by supporting regional and provincial eye clinics as well as mobile ophthalmologic teams. On national level, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the training of ophthalmologists as well as the coordinated implementation of a national Prevention of Blindness programme.

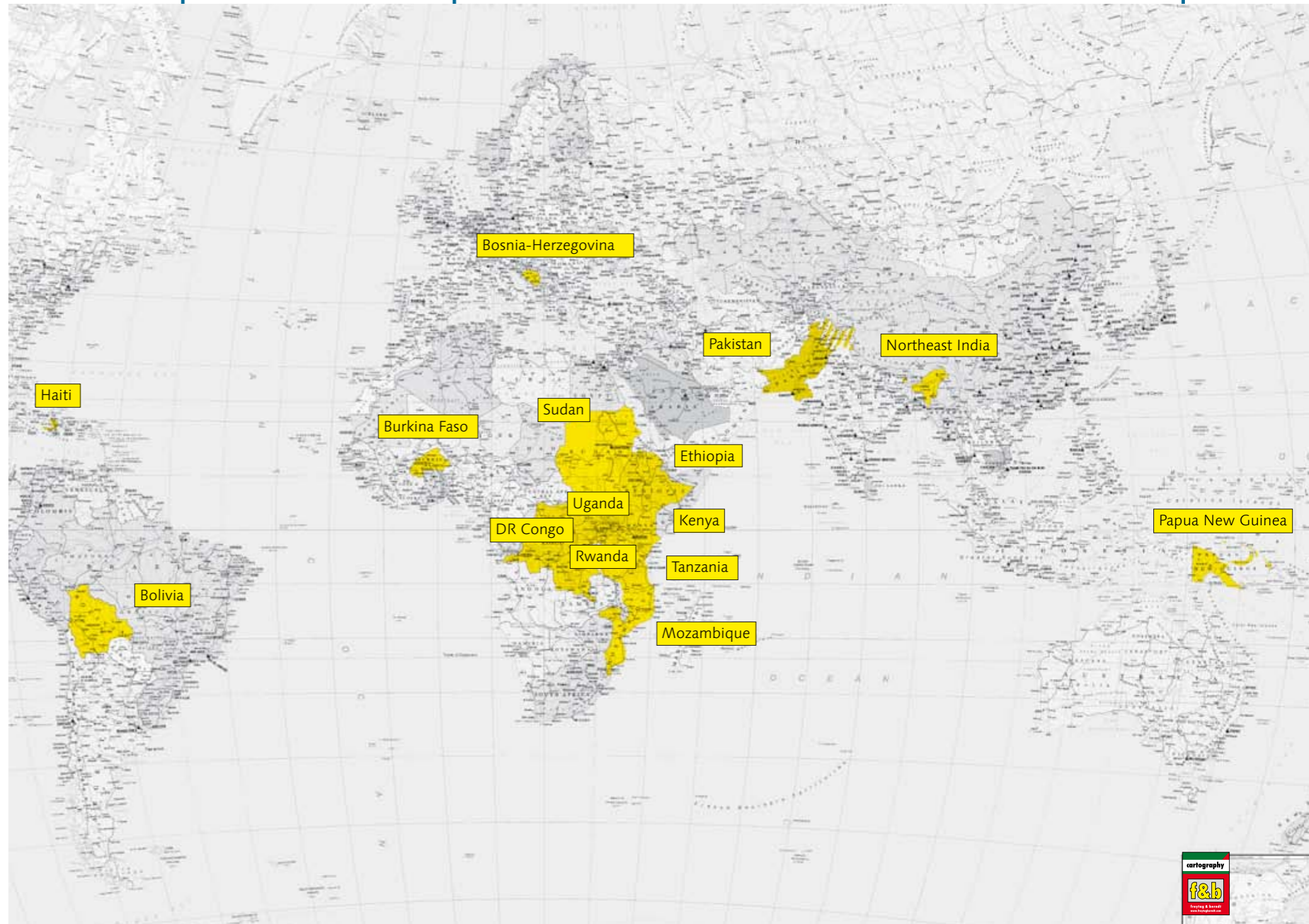
In **DR Congo**, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is developing high quality eye care services in the extremely underserved region of South Congo. Major components of the Vision2020 plan are a newly established cataract tracing programme and the support of a training programme for ophthalmologists at the University of Lubumbashi.

In **Mozambique** our focus is on providing eye care in the central and northern provinces. The eye clinic in Beira, supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD, provides eye care for thousands of people. Additionally, an outreach programme tends to patients in remote areas. A pilot programme for Community Based Rehabilitation and inclusive education of children with disabilities has been launched.

In **Rwanda**, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD's main contribution is in the field of prevention of blindness. The eye department in the district hospital of Kabgayi reaches patients from all over the country and offers treatments not yet available elsewhere in Rwanda. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD also focuses on training eye care professionals and informs the population about treatable eye conditions through community eye care activities.

In **Southern Sudan** LIGHT FOR THE WORLD mainly provides eye care for people in rural areas. We support eye clinics in the far south

## Partner countries



and organize mobile eye care teams to visit regions which otherwise would not receive any help at all. With the Dutch organisation DARK & LIGHT, a programme for including children with disabilities in primary schools has been launched.

### 9 more partner countries

In addition to the six priority countries, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is active in the following countries and regions: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Northeast India, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Haiti, Bolivia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

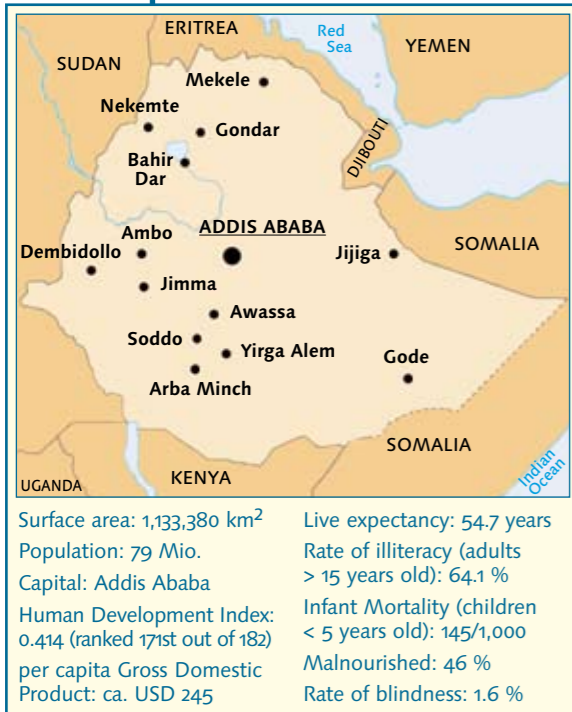
## Ethiopia

### Save eyesight

In the last decade, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD contributed substantially to the improvement of Ethiopia's eye care facilities, especially in rural areas. In 12 eye clinics all over the country, local specialists and their staff tend to the problems of millions of people, treating eye infections and performing surgery.

18,394 cataract surgeries were made possible in programmes supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in 2009. In the context of the National Blindness Prevention Programme, 396,000 people received antibiotics to treat trachoma, an eye infection, and were saved from losing their sight.

In 2009, two new eye departments started their work, in the towns of Arba Minch and Soddo. We also support the training of ophthalmologists at the University clinic of Jimma



### Support for children with disabilities

Especially in rural areas in Ethiopia, there is still great need for rehabilitation, support, education and opportunities to work. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 5 Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes to help children with disabilities develop their skills and facilitate inclusion in their environment. A pilot project started in Ambo in 2009, the only one in this region. 80 children already receive support and medical care in the first year of its existence.

In 2009, a total of 650 children with disabilities received rehabilitation, medical care, education and support in our Ethiopian programmes.

#### Tarekegn - on his own two feet

13 years ago, Tarekegn was born with cerebral palsy and grew up with severe difficulties with movement. He did not learn to sit, eat or dress himself, let alone to walk. His parents cared lovingly for him. They even carried him to school whenever they could spare the time.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD field worker Firehiwot became aware of Tarekegn three years ago and started to train him to ease the tension in his muscles. Soon the exercises showed results, Tarekegn's movements improved and his arms and legs got stronger. His parents were very relieved to see his progress.

Today Tarekegn walks to school every day on his own. "When I grow up, I want to work for Radio Ethiopia", he says.



Tarekegn, 13, has cerebral palsy. 3 years ago he was not able to sit up without help. Now he walks to school on his own.

## Sudan

### Sustainable eye care programmes

The Sudan is slowly recovering from decades of political crisis and civil war. Developing medical infrastructure and a sustainable education system is crucial for the future of this vast country. The exceptionally high blindness rate of 3.2 % in Southern Sudan calls for action. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD organizes ophthalmologic relief flights, helping thousands of people in remote areas to gain access to eye care. Additionally, we help build permanent eye clinics to ensure long-term care for blind and visually impaired persons and help combat blinding diseases like trachoma. At the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supported eye clinic Mapuordit, with a catchment area of 1.8 Million people, an additional ophthalmologic nurse was hired 2009. In Yei, a town in the far South of the country, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is involved in establishing an eye department.

In the last year 1,208 cataract surgeries have been performed in clinics and on outreaches in Southern Sudan in programmes supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD.

### Inclusive education and rehabilitation

Rebuilding the education system is a great challenge, involving both organisation and human resources. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD takes care that children with disabilities are not forgotten in the process. Together with our strategic partner, the Dutch organisation DARK & LIGHT, we support a programme ensuring that everybody has access to education.

Experiences in inclusive education have shown that there is great need for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities as well as of political support. In the year 2010, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD will continue to organise support for persons with disabilities and explore the possibilities of installing a Community Based Rehabilitation pilot programme.



#### Daruka - back into the light

Daruka lives with her daughter and grandchildren in the South East of Sudan. Three years ago she lost her sight. Confined to her hut she spends her days in darkness until one day a relative tells her that she too had been blind and regained sight after she was treated at a LIGHT FOR THE WORLD eye camp. Hope grows in Daruka's heart when she hears that an eye care outreach is again on its way to the region. She walks for six days to get to the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD eye camp. The doctor examines Daruka and tells her that she suffers from cataract and can be cured. Daruka undergoes surgery the next day. When she lifts her eye patch she is really happy: she can see again!

Daruka walks back to her family, happy that she does not need a guide anymore. She plans to cultivate her little field again and grow vegetables to support her family.



Daruka, 60, was blind from cataract for three years. Now she can see again and support her family.

## Democratic Republic of the Congo



Surface area: 2,344,885 km<sup>2</sup>    Live expectancy: 47.7 years  
 Population: 62.4 Mio.    Rate of illiteracy (adults > 15 years old): 32.8 %  
 Capital: Kinshasa    Infant Mortality (children < 5 years old): 196/1,000  
 Human Development Index: 0.386 (ranked 176th out of 182)    Malnourished: 74 %  
 per capita Gross Domestic Product: ca. USD 140    Rate of blindness: 1.2 %

### Restoring eyesight

With 800.000 blind persons (1,2 % of the population), the number of blind or visually impaired people in Congo is amongst the highest in the world. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is active in various regions of the DR Congo in different fields of blindness prevention and rehabilitation.

At the eye and ear department of the Saint Joseph hospital in Kinshasa, about 4,000 volunteers work with blind people and organize guidance for persons in suburban areas. If the blindness is treatable, they refer them to the hospital. No less than 740 children born with cataract have gained sight through surgery since the project was launched.

In the underprivileged South-East of DR Congo, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is setting up a key VISION 2020 programme. With the eye clinic of Sainte Yvonne in Lubumbashi, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD organizes a cataract tracing programme and supports the training of young ophthalmologists at the city university.

In Mbuji Mayi, the capital of the East Kasai region, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the only well-functioning eye clinic in what can now be considered to be the second largest city in DR Congo. The resident eye surgeon is one of only two specialists in the whole country specialised in cataract surgery on children. To increase their number and effectively help diminishing childhood blindness, students of the University of Lubumbashi will be sent to Mbuji Mayi as part of their training.

In the Katanga region, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is engaged in a school programme providing basic education to blind and visually impaired children and teenagers. The school also promotes inclusive education at primary and secondary education levels, increasing their acceptance and facilitating the inclusion of blind and visually impaired persons into the community.



Enok, 6, was born with severe visual impairment. He had eye surgery. Now he goes to school.

### Enok - into a brighter future

Enok had been suffering from severe low vision ever since he was born. When his parents noticed it, they felt crestfallen. They feared their son would become a near outcast and would not be able to go to school or to find work. Fortunately, they discovered in time that treatment was available. Only two ophthalmologists in DRC are trained to perform eye surgery on children. One of them works at the Saint-Joseph hospital in Kinshasa, supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. At the age of four, Enok underwent eye surgery. Now he can see again! The follow-up care is organized by volunteer community workers. Thanks to their support and guidance, he is now accepted as a full member of his community. These days Enok goes to school with his friends and receives an education.

## Burkina Faso



Surface area: 274,200 km<sup>2</sup>    Live expectancy: 52.7 years  
 Population: 14.8 Mio.    Rate of illiteracy (adults > 15 years old): 71.3 %  
 Capital: Ouagadougou    Infant Mortality (children < 5 years old): 181/1,000  
 Human Development Index: 0.389 (ranked 177th out of 182)    Malnourished: 15 %  
 per capita Gross Domestic Product: ca. USD 430    Rate of blindness: 1.5 %

### Prevention of blindness

Five years ago, blind persons in the East of Burkina Faso still had to depend on mobile eye care teams from the capital or abroad. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD built an eye clinic in Zorgho and thus created a much needed facility for the Eastern regions of Burkina Faso. Today a local ophthalmologist and his team perform surgeries and go on eye care outreaches to remote areas. 1,853 cataract surgeries were performed in Zorgho and on mobile outreaches in 2009.

In order to bring sustainable eye care to the western regions too, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the equipment and development of eye departments in Nouna and Koudougou.

To ensure the longevity of its work, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD cooperates with the Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso to train ophthalmologists and implement the National Programme for the Prevention of Blindness.

### Education for children with disabilities

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 5,244 children with disabilities in 7 Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes. In three school programmes, special education teachers help them to develop their skills and improve their future options. Since 2009, a school for blind and visually impaired children in Ouagadougou and another school for hearing impaired children in Bobo-Dioulasso are also among the programmes supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD.

In 2010 the focus will be in intensifying cooperation and exchanges of experience between the local programmes and to build a network for persons with disabilities.

### Claudine - on her own two legs

Shortly after Claudine's birth her parents notice, that their youngest daughter is different. At age 3, Claudine is not able to sit up, let alone walk. Embarrassed by the comments of their neighbours, they hide their child from prying eyes. But her father does not want to believe that nothing can be done for his sweet little girl. One day he carries her 10 km on foot to a LIGHT FOR THE WORLD rehabilitation centre. Sister Martine, the physiotherapist, starts to exercise with Claudine, strengthens her muscles and helps her to train her legs. Step by step, Claudine learns to sit up, stand up, even walk a short distance on parallel bars a fieldworker build for her. Her mother watches, feeling relieved and proud, as the little girl walks up and down her training device.

Claudine now does more and more each day. In a few years she will walk to the town school on her own little legs.



Claudine, 5, could not even sit up on her own two years ago. Thanks to the Community Based Rehabilitation Programme in Gaoua she learnt how to walk.

## Programme work in other countries

### Mozambique: Prevention of Blindness and rehabilitation

Only 7 ophthalmologists work in Mozambique outside of the capital Maputo. Two of them are stationed at the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supported eye clinic in Beira to help provide access to eye care in the central and northern parts of the country. This is achieved by organizing mobile outreaches, training local eye care staff and building a sustainable medical infrastructure.

A pilot programme for inclusive education was launched in Mangunde. In Beira, a highly successful Community Based Rehabilitation Programme is entering its second year and already tends to more than 100 clients.

### Rwanda: Eye clinic in Kabgayi

In Rwanda, only 10 ophthalmologists serve a population of over 10 Million people. To improve this situation, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has supported the eye department of the district hospital in Kabgayi since 2003. Thanks to the improvement of infrastructure, training of specialists and staff, mobile eye care and continuous support, five times more patients are now being treated. Being the only institution in Rwanda equipped for eye surgery on children, the Kabgayi eye clinic also plays an important role in combating childhood blindness. As there are still no academic studies in ophthalmology in Rwanda, the Kabgayi eye clinic provides practical training during a three month internship to Rwandese doctors who are studying abroad. As a result, the first Rwandese ophthalmologist in the history of the Kabgayi clinic started operating in 2010.



*Paolo, 59, is glad he regained eyesight after cataract surgery. The farmer from Mozambique can support his family again.*

### East Africa: Human Resource Development for eye care in Africa

For a sustainable eye care system training of ophthalmologists and other qualified cadres in eye care is as important as building and equipping eye units. Among the activities in the field of training in priority countries, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports post-graduate training in ophthalmology for medical doctors from African countries through scholarships at the tertiary training institutions in Nairobi (Kenya), Moshi (Tanzania) and Mbarara (Uganda). In the year 2009 5 new students started their term at the University of Nairobi.

### Tanzania: Rehabilitation and eye care

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a programme for people with disabilities in Dar es Salaam that treats people, even if they cannot pay much. In addition to departments for orthopaedics, ophthalmology, and a centre for fistula surgery the hospital is the main base of a Community Based Rehabilitation Programme for various parts of Dar es Salaam. Field workers visit persons with disabilities on a regular basis to help them develop their skills and lead a self-sustained life. To strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities, we support a consortium of 14 disabled persons organisations.

In Moshi, in the Kilimanjaro region, we support a hospital and ophthalmologic training centre specialised in treating eye problems of children. In the year 2009, 243 children received cataract surgery.

### Uganda: Treatment of refractive errors

In Uganda, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD initiated and supports the first nationwide programme for the correction of refractive errors. In cooperation with the Ugandan ministry of health and the ICEE (International Centre for Eye Education), LIGHT FOR THE WORLD trains eye care specialists to treat people with refractive errors and low vision. A training programme for opticians helps



*Manichandra, 5, has a big smile on her face as she learns to walk on parallel bars. This child from Northeast India was born with cerebral palsy.*

## Programme work in other countries

to provide a sustainable supply of high quality spectacles for the population. Local production ensures low cost so that the spectacles are affordable for all.

### Northeast India: Rehabilitation and ophthalmologic work

Northeast India is the most underprivileged region of the country, nearly 50 % of the population are illiterate. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports 11 initiatives for Community Based Rehabilitation in rural areas, providing persons with disabilities with educational and health services and helping them to claim their rights.

Inclusive education is an important focus of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. This concerns training of special teachers, support of centres for persons with disabilities and the inclusion of children with disabilities in regular schools.

The rate of blindness in Northeast India of 2.45 % is exceptionally high. 1 million blind persons live in nearly isolated communities. We help five local hospitals to bring eye care to people living in remote areas.

### Pakistan: Prevention of blindness and rehabilitation

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports the National Programme for the Prevention of Blindness by establishing comprehensive eye care services reaching the rural population and training of eye care personnel. Together with the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) a pilot project to screen for and treat refractive errors in schools was started. In the North of Pakistan, we work together with the Dutch organisation DARK & LIGHT to ensure medical attention and education for children with disabilities.

### Papua New Guinea: Rehabilitation and education

Incredibly 60 % of Papua New Guinea's school children were diagnosed with hearing problems. Supported by the European Union, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports a network of Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes. The goal is to prevent further loss of hearing and to help hearing impaired children receive education.

### Haiti: Rebuilding and rehabilitation

After the devastating earthquake in January 2010, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD is rebuilding a rehabilitation facility in Port-au-Prince, which was opened in March 2010. We also support the reestablishment of eyecare, ear, nose and throat services. Both projects are carried out in collaboration with CBM Germany to ensure optimal use of resources.

### Bolivia: Giving a future

Eight rehabilitation and education programmes for children with disabilities are supported under the auspices of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Bolivia. The main goal for 2010 is to implement possibilities for rehabilitation at the community level. Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes have commenced in Sacaba, San Ignacio, El Torno and Cabezas. We also collaborate with the University of Cochabamba in the first MA programme on disability in Bolivia.

### Bosnia-Herzegovina: Integration

In 10 Bosnian communities, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD supports local initiatives on the integration of persons with disabilities. The primary objective is to lobby for inclusive education and to make schools accessible for children with disabilities. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD also cooperates with the blind school in Sarajevo through a training exchange with the Federal Institute for the Blind (Vienna).



*Viviana, 12, finds moving her arms and legs difficult. Thanks to rehabilitative care she receives in the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD rehabilitation programme in San Ignacio, Bolivia, she enjoys a new quality of life.*

Africa 92 projects			
Country	Town/Region	Type of project	
Burkina Faso	Bobo Dioulasso	Education of children with hearing impairment	
	Diebouyou	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme and eye care centre	
	Gaoua	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Garango	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Garango	Inclusive education	
	Kaya	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Koudougou	Eye Clinic	
	Manga	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Nouna	Eye Clinic	
	Ouagadougou	Education of children with hearing impairment	
	Ouagadougou	Education of children with visual impairment	
	Ouagadougou	Advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities	
	Ouagadougou	Diagnostic camps and eye surgery	
	Ouargaye	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Zabre	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme	
	Zorgho	Eye Clinic	
	DR Congo	Kasenga	Education for children with hearing impairments
		Kinshasa	Eye and Ear Clinic
		Kinshasa	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme
		Lubumbashi	Education for children with visual impairment
Lubumbashi		Eye Clinic and Blindness Prevention Programme in South DRC	
Ethiopia	Mbuji-Mayi	Eye Clinic	
	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 goods for the national blindness prevention programme	
	Addis Abeba	Local development programmes for blind and visually impaired persons	
	Addis Abeba	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	
	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	
	Mekelle	Eye Clinic	
	Nekemte	Eye Clinic	
Silti	Distribution of Zithromax to control trachoma		
Wolayta Soddo	Eye Clinic		
Wollega	Programme to eliminate River Blindness (Onchocerciasis)		
Yabello	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme		
Yirga Alem	Eye Clinic with mobile eye care		
Kenya	Kikuyu	Training programme for eye care personnel	
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Training of specialists for the prevention of deafness	
Mozambique	Beira	Eye Clinic with mobile eye care	
	Beira	Education for children with visual impairment	
	Beira	Community Based Rehabilitation programme	
	Beira	Rehabilitation programme for children with mental disabilities	
	Beira	Sports programme for persons with disabilities	
	Lichinga	Eye Clinic	
	Mangunde	Inclusive education for children with disabilities	
	Maputo	Medical goods for Eye Clinic	
	Nahmatanda	Training programme for blind teachers	
	Niassa	Sports programme for persons with disabilities	
	North Mozambique	Outreach programme for cataract surgery	
	Pemba	Eye Clinic	
	Quelimane	Eye Clinic	
	Tete	Eye Clinic	
	Rwanda	Kabgayi	Eye Clinic
		Kibeho	Education for children with a visual impairment
		Masaka	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme
Sudan	Bor	Inclusive education for children with disabilities	
	Khartoum	Eye care programme in refugee camps	
	Mapuordit	Construction of Eye Clinic	
	Mundri	Community Based Rehabilitation programme	
	Mundri	Inclusive education for children with disabilities	
	Nuba	Mobile eye care	
	Upper Nile	Inclusive education for children with disabilities	
	Upper Nile	Blindness Prevention Programme	
	Yei	Inclusive education for children with disabilities	
	Yei	Construction of Eye Clinic	

Country	Town/Region	Type of project
Tanzania	Dar es Salaam	Advocacy for inclusive education for children with disabilities
	Dar es Salaam	Orthopaedic Clinic, Eye Clinic, Community Based Rehabilitation Programme, Fistula surgery & empowerment of women
	Dar es Salaam	Training programme for eye care personnel
	Moshi	Ophthalmological treatment of children
	Moshi	Training programme for eye care specialists
	Mwanga	Empowerment of persons with disabilities
Togo	Lomé	Education for children with visual impairment
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	Deaf school
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 visually impaired and blind children

Asia 33 projects

Afganistan	Kabul	Prevention of Blindness Programme
Northeast India	Arunachal Pradesh	Mobile eye care
	Barapani	School and rehabilitation programme for deaf children
	Bokulgaon	Day Care Centre for children with mental disabilities
	Guwahati	Integration of children with disabilities in schools
	Guwahati	Pilot project for an inclusive health project
	Guwahati	Diagnostic camps and eye surgery
	Guwahati	Mobile eye care
	Meghalaya	Mobile eye care
	Meghalaya	Advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities
	Nagaon	Mobile eye care
	Northeast India	Community Based Rehabilitation programmes in 55 districts
	Northeast India	Law unit for persons with disabilities
	Northeast India	Service centre for blind and visually impaired persons
	Northeast India	Inclusion of persons with disabilities in the job market
	Shillong	Day care centre for children with disabilities
Tura	Training programme for special education teachers	
Williamnager	Inclusive education and vocational training for deaf children	
Nepal	Kathmandu	Education for children with disabilities in 7 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
	Faisalabad	Inclusive education
	Mardan	Emergency eye clinic for refugees
	Northwest province	Blindness prevention programme
	Northwest province	Eye care programme in schools
	Peshawar	Training of eye care specialists
	Skardu	Rehabilitation and inclusion of persons with disabilities
	Swabi	Community based eye care centre
	Papua New Guinea	Bougainville
Kiunga & Daru		Rehabilitation of children and adolescents with disabilities
Papua New Guinea		Education and health programme for deaf children
Sri Lanka	Colombo	Inclusion of persons with disabilities in development programmes

Europe 4 projects

Bosnia-Herzegovina	National	Community integration of persons with disabilities
	Sarajevo	Blind school
	Sarajevo	Learning materials for children with disabilities
	Zenica	Training programme for women with disabilities

Latin America 10 projects

Bolivia	Cabezas & El Torno	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme
	Cochabamba	School and Community Based Rehabilitation programme for blind children and children with multiple disabilities
	Concepcion	Pre-school and school for children with disabilities
	Sacaba	Community Based Rehabilitation Programme
	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
	Trinidad	Deaf school
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

total	139 projects	status 1 March 2010
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## Building Awareness ...

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD considers it an important part of its mission to inform donors and supporters in Europe about the project work, to raise awareness on the situation and the rights of persons who are blind or otherwise disabled in developing countries. We try to achieve this by means of educational work in schools and communities, slide shows about our work, sport events and cultural activities. By this we strive to bring people from around the world closer together and create better understanding of the needs as well as the potential of persons with disabilities.

The following events are examples of our work in 2009.

### Open the eyes of 1,000 children

'Ouvrir les yeux de 1.000 enfants aveugles en Afrique' ('Open the eyes of 1,000 blind children in Africa'), that is the goal LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Belgium set for its end of year campaign in 2009. The focal point: Enok, a little boy from DR Congo, born with cataract, who regained sight in a programme supported by LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. His story illustrates how it is possible to give children in Africa their sight back with a small gesture. Enok's story was spread across Belgium through direct mailing and newspapers, radio and TV commercials. On World Sight Day 2009, the newspaper *Le Soir* launched a campaign on its website with the message 'a simple mouse click can open the children's eyes'.

In the course of this campaign LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Belgium also organised several special events in the dark. At the campaign launch three brass bands played blindfolded in the centre of Brussels. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Belgium also organised a 'Blindnote', a concert in the dark, with several big names from the world music scene.

### Building awareness in schools and communities

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD takes part in the Global Campaign for Education, to promote the right of every child to go to school. In 2009, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD participated in the "Big Read" event, where schoolchildren, politicians, VIPs and countless supporters read stories to call attention to the fact that 770 million people worldwide are illiterate.

An effective way to increase solidarity and understanding is to create awareness of the educational situation of blind persons and persons with other disabilities and to compare their situation in Europe and in developing countries and then to discuss their abilities and their rights.

In 2009, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Austria was engaged in educational work in 19 schools to sensitize children for the situation of persons with disabilities in developing countries. 18 presentations in parish halls and community centres were given to inform donors and interested persons about our work and achievements.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Austria cooperated with "Dialogue in the Dark", an exhibition where the daily life of blind persons can be experienced. For the first time a room depicting the life of blind persons in Africa was added.



Three brass bands played in the centre of Brussels equipped with eye patches. They were "in the dark" as they launched the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD event "Blindnote".



How does it feel to be blind? Children in Austria learn about the daily life of blind persons in a LIGHT FOR THE WORLD awareness-raising workshop at their school.

## ... Creating Understanding

Sport is a great way to encourage persons with disabilities to discover their strengths, build self-esteem and show society what they are capable of. In addition, barrier-free events promote an inclusive society.

### Prague 1/2 marathon 2009

On 28th March 2009 the Prague International marathon, which is well renowned and in its 15th year, took place and started with the race of half marathon race.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Czech Republic used this opportunity to invited the brilliant blind runner Francis Thuo Karanja who is from Kenya and a silver medal winner at the Paralympics in Beijing 2008 as well as Goodwill Ambassador of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD.

Over 5,000 people took part in the race and news of it was broadcast on all the major TV channels in the country. It drew a lot of attention not only



Francis Karanja, blind athlete from Kenya, achieved a time of 01:12:02 at the 15th Half Marathon in Prague, guided by his brother James.

to the presence of the blind athlete but also to the situation of persons with disabilities in underprivileged countries. His participation was a highlight of the 15th Prague half marathon and was also covered by the main press conference.

Francis ran a time of 1:12:02 which was a great achievement for him on an unknown track and in very different conditions from Kenya - the temperature was about 10°C in Prague. Francis' main message was and will continue to be to encourage more persons with disabilities not to give up and to try to give them hope for their future lives.

### Vienna Night Run 2009

On October 14th 2009, the Vienna Night Run took place for the third time. 13,686 participants made their way around Vienna's historic Ringstraße, starting at 8pm and running through nightfall, symbolic of losing eyesight. 5 Euro of each



2009 saw the first barrier-free Vienna Night Run. A whole team of wheelchair users from Prague participated in LIGHT FOR THE WORLD T-shirts.

participant's entrance fee was donated to LIGHT FOR THE WORLD. This made it possible to restore eye sight of 2,281 people in developing countries.

"We are proud that we were able to double the number of participants and therefore double donations this year," says Hannes Menitz, CEO of sportmedia and organizer of the event. Politicians, professional athletes and other VIPs attended the Vienna Night Run, Austrian president Dr. Heinz Fischer himself giving the starting signal. The event was covered by all the major media.

Special guests for the run were the two blind athletes Henry Wanyoike and Francis Karanja, both from Kenya. In cooperation with the Austrian Federation of Disability Sport the Vienna Night Run 2009 was barrier-free for the first time, allowing wheelchair users to participate as well.



Rupert Roniger (CEO, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Austria) and Chris Lohner (Goodwill Ambassador) receive the donation of the entry fees for the Vienna Night Run from Hannes Menitz (CEO sportmedia).

## What was achieved in 2009

Our work in support of blind and partially sighted people and of persons with other disabilities was further expanded and developed in 2009:

### Allocation of funds

Allocation in EUR	
Programmes and projects including advocacy	8,598,698
Project information and educational work	2,299,650
Public relations	374,047
Donation processing and services to donors	278,532
Administration	584,137
Free reserve Allocation	79,036
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,214,100</b>

The sum of all the LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Confederation expenditures in 2009 amounts to EUR 12,214,100.

Over 70 % of the expenditures were used for project work and enabled us to conduct 139 projects. Our support reached over 600,000 people in 20 countries who are blind, have eye diseases or other disabilities.

The focus of our work lies in Africa: With over 64.8

% of direct project support we currently fund 92 projects. Our six priority countries are Ethiopia (24 projects), Burkina Faso (16 projects), Mozambique (14 projects), DR Congo (6 projects), Southern Sudan (10 projects) and Rwanda (3 projects). 27.11 % of direct project support is directed to Asia and the Pacific (33 projects), and 2.81 % to Latin America (10 projects).

55 of the projects we support are focused on the prevention of blindness and eye care, while 58 projects are concerned with rehabilitation and integration of persons with disabilities in developing countries.

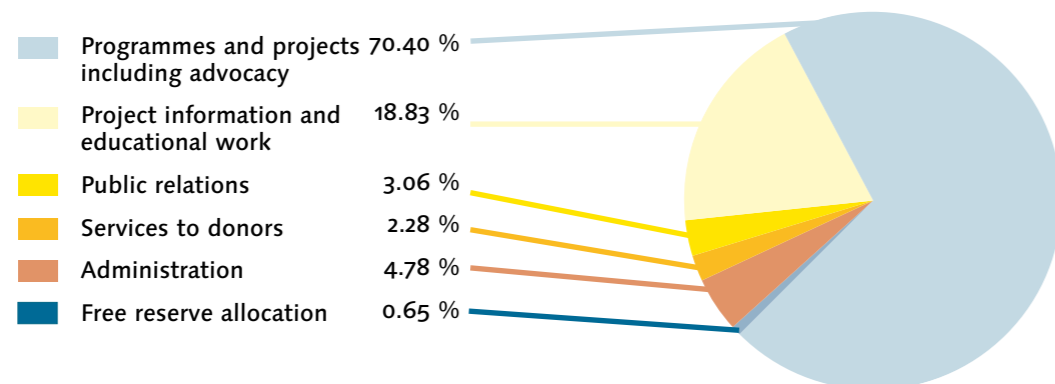
In 2009, about 7 % of project expenditures was used for the coordination of our projects. 3 % was used for advocacy work to establish the needs and rights of persons with disabilities and persons at risk of becoming disabled as a principle of European and international development cooperation.

18.83 % 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).

3.06 % was spent for public relations work, e.g. press releases, events and reports about the project work. Sponsorship and the voluntary commitment of many people made exhibitions, charity events and information evenings for people interested in the work of LIGHT FOR THE WORLD possible.

2.28 % was used for donor relations management (e.g. donation processing, database work) in 2009 and 4.78 % for administration.

0.65 % of total expenditure was allocated as reserves.



## What was achieved in 2009

### Sources of our funding

Funding Sources in EUR	
Donations	10,223,618
Bequests	272,578
Foundations	402,448
Public / Government funding	1,043,349
Other	51,124
Interest income	220,982
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,214,100</b>

The overall income of the confederation LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in 2009 amounts to EUR 12,214,100. 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 83,70 % of total revenues.

Income from donations account for EUR 10.2 million in 2009, EUR 279,552 thereof were donations in-kind. Bequests reached a total of EUR 272,578 in 2009.

We received in total EUR 1,043,349 from public institutions in 2009.



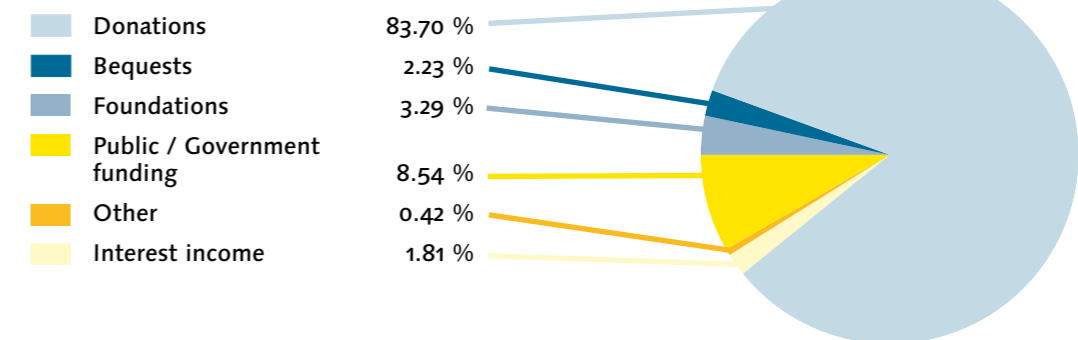
The European Union funded programmes for persons with disabilities in Tanzania and Papua New Guinea and for Prevention of Blindness in Eastern and Southern Africa with a total amount of EUR 290,568.



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 had their accounts audited by external auditors. The accounts 2009 were audited in Austria by Hübner & Hübner Wirtschaftsprüfung Gesellschaft m.b.H., 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 2009, based on the external audit of the internal control system. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD in Belgium and the Czech Republic follow similar quality standards.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD has developed an intensive the collaboration with the Dutch NGO **DARK & LIGHT**. The organisations work together in capacity building as well as project development. LIGHT FOR THE WORLD Austria has taken the lead in programme implementation in Ethiopia and Pakistan and **DARK & LIGHT** has taken the lead in Sudan and Nepal.

### MEMBERSHIPS, PLATFORMS & ALLIANCES

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

### CO-FINANCING AND PUBLIC SOURCES

#### **European Union**

East Africa – Promoting Quality Ophthalmology in East Africa (EACO)  
Europe – TRIALOG project to raise awareness of development issues in the enlarged EU  
Papua New Guinea - Access to Education and Health Systems for hearing impaired children  
Tanzania - Orthopaedic Clinic for persons with disabilities, Eye Clinic and CBR Programme  
Southern Africa - Human Resource Development for Prevention of Blindness in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe

#### **Austrian Development Agency**

Burkina Faso - Community Based Rehabilitation Programme  
Ethiopia - Community Based Rehabilitation Programme  
Mozambique - Community Based Rehabilitation Programme  
Bosnia-Herzegovina - Community integration of persons with disabilities  
Papua New Guinea - Access to Education and Health Systems for hearing impaired children

#### **The Federal Province of Upper Austria**

Kenya - Scholarship for training of an ophthalmologist

#### **The Federal Province of Lower Austria**

Burkina Faso - Community Based Rehabilitation Programme in Diebougou  
Ethiopia - Distribution of Zithromax to combat trachoma

#### **The Federal Province of Vienna**

Bosnia-Herzegovina - Vocational training for women with disabilities  
Tanzania - Rehabilitation of Women with Fistula

#### **Czech Development Agency**

Capacity building  
Ethiopia - Community based rehabilitation Programme in Gondar

#### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic**

Ethiopia - Braille books for the central library for blind persons  
Ethiopia - Rehabilitation and integration of deaf children

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