Dear friends of Light for the World,

Together we look back on a successful year 2017. Thanks to more than 143,000 donors and supporters we were able to make a difference in this world. In total, we reached 1.3 million people with eye care, rehabilitation and education and fought for the rights of people with disabilities.

- More than 93,000 eye operations (including over 43,700 cataract surgeries) saved eyesight in our projects.
- Over 9,000 children with disabilities accessed inclusive education, more than 33,900 received rehabilitation, enabling them to lead independent and self-sustained lives in the future.
- Our Senior Inclusion Advisor Yetnebersh Nigussie has been awarded the Right Livelihood Award 2017, honoring her achievements in disability inclusion and human rights.
- We distributed close to 13 million doses of medication against trachoma and other infectious causes of blindness.

Looking forward to 2018, we continue to have big ambitions too. All this is only possible due to the dedication and tireless efforts of our local partners, who pour their energy into removing barriers for people living in some of the poorest countries in the world. And we want to thank you, that you too contribute to creating a world, where everybody can take part and no one is left behind.

Karin Krobath  
Chairperson  
Light for the World

Rupert Roniger  
CEO  
Light for the World
Light for the World is a global disability & development organization, breaking down barriers to enrich society and unlock the potential in all of us.

We enable crucial eye health services and empower people with disabilities in some of the poorest regions of the world.

We focus on the poorest and hardest to reach because those are the people who need our help the most. We create change through local people, organisations and governments because we want our impact to last. Light for the World works closely with local partners such as eye clinics, schools, government actors including Disabled People's Organisations.

Our work is made possible with support from donors in countries including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom and USA.

This report covers the activities and impact of the legal entity Light for the World International and its members.
Right Livelihood Award Winner 2017

Our Disability Inclusion Advisor Yetnebersh Nigussie was awarded the Right Livelihood Award, widely referred to as the ‘alternative Nobel’ prize. The award paid tribute to Yetnebersh’s lifelong dedication and work, making her one of Africa’s most influential disability inclusion activists. Yetnebersh has used the recognition to make an impassioned plea to world leaders on the need to invest in children with disabilities, who are so often shut out from school.

Employment initiatives with potential

Light for the World supports livelihood and economic empowerment initiatives in seven countries, to create opportunities for people with disabilities to support themselves and their families. The EmployAble programme in Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda enabled 448 students to attain vocational training, of which 71% had paid employment one year after graduation. The EmployAble report provides tips and tools to inspire and support other NGOs, Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) and vocational training institutes to include people with disabilities in training and employment opportunities.

Education for All

In 2017, together with the IDDC (International Disability and Development Consortium), we launched a global call to action to raise awareness and commit organisations, governments and other stakeholders to invest in inclusive education for children with disabilities. The call received a great response and was signed by more than 200 organisations all around the globe. In our partner countries such as Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, South Sudan, North East India and Papua New Guinea, we supported 20 inclusive education programmes where 9,062 children with disabilities received school education.
Community-based Rehabilitation

Last year, we reached 33,904 children with disabilities through our community-based rehabilitation (CBR) programmes. In addition to individual care and rehabilitation services, we involved parents, communities, media and decision makers with the aim of changing attitudes in all our partner countries. In Mozambique, a country where we have been actively involved in CBR for over a decade, we now support the Ministry of Social Action in developing a nationwide government-led CBR programme. This will transfer ownership to the national government, adding greatly to the sustainability of the programme.

Eye Health Professionals for African Countries

Addressing the dire need for eye care personnel in Sub Saharan Africa is a major focus of our work. In Mozambique we support the training of ophthalmic technicians and ophthalmologists. In Burkina Faso we established the country’s first national ophthalmology training programme in Ouagadougou. In Ethiopia we significantly contributed to increasing the number of eye care staff through two residency training programmes at the University hospitals in Jimma and Gondar. Currently, 63 doctors are pursuing their studies in ophthalmology in African countries on scholarships from Light for the World.

Fight against Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

On our way towards the elimination of trachoma, onchocerciasis and other neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), together with our partners DfID (Department for International Development), USAID, Sightsavers and RTI (Research Triangle Institute), we distributed more than 12 million doses of medication—focussing on the most marginalised people—in Tigray and Oromia region, Ethiopia. In addition, we carried out 30,973 trachoma surgeries in 2017 and we also substantially increased the number of people reached with mass drug administration.
1,319,784 people reached with crucial support including eye health, rehabilitation and education.

On top of this, we provided 12,999,134 doses of medication against trachoma, river blindness and lymphatic filariasis.

1,000,344 EYE CARE SERVICES

33,904 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES REACHED

- 22,006 in Asia/Pacific
- 11,083 in Africa
- 815 in Latin America

9,062 children with disabilities received SCHOOL EDUCATION.
Light for the World partners with organisations and institutions on all levels—local, national, regional and global—to ensure maximum expertise and impact. Our programmes have a strong focus on building local and national capacity, both for specific disability and health issues as well as institutional development. On the international level we collaborate with other major organisations to influence policies.

The geographical focus of our work lies in Africa, followed by Asia, Latin America, the Pacific and Eastern Europe. Our thematic core areas are eyesight, education for all and empowerment of people with disabilities.

**FACTS & NUMBERS**

What we achieved in 2017

Light for the World partners with organisations and institutions on all levels—local, national, regional and global—to ensure maximum expertise and impact. Our programmes have a strong focus on building local and national capacity, both for specific disability and health issues as well as institutional development. On the international level we collaborate with other major organisations to influence policies.

The geographical focus of our work lies in Africa, followed by Asia, Latin America, the Pacific and Eastern Europe. Our thematic core areas are eyesight, education for all and empowerment of people with disabilities.

**OUR SUPPORTERS**

143,258 Donors and
17 Public donors and institutions support our work
20,206 People took part in the Vienna Night Run
1,008 People supported our programmes through participation in Czech charity runs
250 Austrian and Belgian ophthalmologists support Light for the World

**OUR PROGRAMMES**

212 Programmes in
20 Countries & regions
70 Eye Care Programmes
47 Education Programmes
53 Rehabilitation Programmes
42 Other projects supporting persons with disabilities and promoting an inclusive society
Causes of Blindness

Cataract
is the world’s most common cause of blindness, and is responsible for the loss of vision of 12.6 million people and the visual impairment of 56.2 million, the overwhelming majority living in developing countries. This clouding of the lens may occur due to age, injury or be congenital. Cataracts can be treated by replacing the cloudy lens with an artificial one in a 15-minute operation.

Glaucoma
is the second most common cause of blindness. Glaucoma can be treated with medication and alleviated by surgery, but is not curable.

River blindness (onchocerciasis)
is a parasitic disease which causes inflammation and bleeding that leads ultimately to blindness and other disabling effects. River blindness is on the retreat worldwide thanks to the widespread distribution of the drug Mectizan.

Trachoma
is the leading infectious cause of blindness. It causes the inside of the eyelid to scar, turn inward and scratch the cornea, eventually leading to irreversible blindness. Trachoma is treated with antibiotics and is preventable through improved hygiene and sanitation. In its final stage, surgery on the eyelid is the only way to prevent the loss of sight. Worldwide, nearly 128 million people are at risk of losing their sight due to trachoma.

Uncorrected refractive errors
About 124 million people are visually impaired, due to uncorrected refractive errors. In most cases, vision can be restored with spectacles or other vision aids.

Childhood blindness
About 1.4 million children are irreversibly blind and 19 million are visually impaired due to causes like uncorrected refractive errors, Vitamin A deficiency, cataract or injury.
EYESIGHT

Comprehensive Eye Health

253 million people worldwide are blind or visually impaired. 75% of all cases of visual impairment are avoidable. Light for the World has set the ambitious goal to bring eye care to people living in underserved regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The solution

The most efficient way to prevent avoidable blindness is to tackle the problem at its source—and bring sustainable, comprehensive, affordable and high quality eye care to the people. To achieve this, we support eye clinics and local hospitals in their daily work as well as in bringing mobile services to remote areas. We educate the public about eye health, collaborate with other organisations to improve hygiene and access to water and organise the distribution of medication against infectious causes of blindness like trachoma and other neglected tropical diseases. To address the shortage of qualified eye care staff in the countries where we work, we also support training institutions for ophthalmologists, ophthalmic nurses and optometrists and provide aspiring young doctors from our partner countries with scholarships to specialise in ophthalmology. In several countries we support Ministries of Health in implementation of national eye health plans. With this combined strategy we strive to reach as many people as possible. In 2017, 1,000,344 consultations were carried out in our projects, 93,082 eye surgeries saved sight.

In 2018 we are focusing on further improving the quality of eye care, especially by strengthening human resources in eye health. In our fight against Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) that cause visual impairment, we focus on providing much-needed eye lid surgeries for people suffering from the late stages of trachoma in Cabo Delgado (Mozambique) and Tigray (Ethiopia) as well as improving access to clean water and medication.

BLINDNESS AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

253 million people worldwide are visually impaired

Balancer

36 million of them are blind

Balancer

55% are women

Balancer

89% live in low and middle income countries

Balancer

75% of visual impairment is avoidable

Balancer

Light for the World delivers comprehensive eye care and works towards stronger health systems. Our work and that of the wider eye health community has created substantial impact! The prevalence of visual impairment has dropped from 4.58% in 1990 to 3.38% in 2015. Working with partners, we are making a real difference!

Balancer
Every Child’s Right to Learn

Education is crucial to a child’s development. In addition to learning important skills for future employment, they also acquire social skills by interacting with their peers. An estimated third of all children out of school in Sub-Saharan Africa has a disability and is missing out on education and an independent future.

We need to change the system

To significantly change the lives of children with disabilities and make it last for generations to come, we have to open the education system to all, convincing schools, both private and governmental, as well as governments to become fully inclusive.

Light for the World works on every level to give all children the education they deserve. Our main focus lies in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and North East India. We combine our inclusive education and community-based rehabilitation projects, to maximise the efficiency and sustainability of our efforts. We engage in teacher training, develop inclusive learning materials and help change public opinion to ensure support for children and their families.

Due to our involvement, inclusive education has become an integral part of the new education strategy of the governments of Ethiopia and Burkina Faso.

In Mozambique we supported the training of teachers for 47 schools in inclusive education. In Ethiopia 15 schools were supported by Light for the World and our local partner organisations to develop resource centres with inclusive education materials to make it easier to welcome children with disabilities. In total, 9,062 children with disabilities received education in our projects in 2017.

Light for the World is an active member of international networks including the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), working to bring about global change.

In 2018, we are further strengthening our inclusive education work. We are proud to have partnered with UNICEF on a major conference in Burkina Faso towards this aim.

EDUCATION FOR ALL

Children with disabilities receiving education in our programmes (top 5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>3,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>1,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Call to Action on Inclusive Education

Following the #CostingEquity report, funded by the Open Society Foundation, which analysed the importance of education for children with disabilities, and the gap in funding, Light for the World together with the IDDC joined forces with several leading disability rights and development organisations with a global “Call to Action to Invest in Disability-Inclusive Education”. The call urges governments and donors to increase investment in and commitment to education for all children in our world. The response to this initiative was overwhelming: more than 200 organisations, institutions and stakeholders have already joined the call, among them the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Disability Alliance, Global Campaign for Education, Handicap International, Plan International, Sightsavers and CBM. The Call to Action is available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese at www.light-for-the-world.org

Join the Call!
Disability Inclusion Champions

Light for the World’s experts, partners and supporters all around the globe advocate for a truly inclusive society, where everybody has a voice.

We strongly believe in the disability rights motto “Nothing About Us Without Us” and this starts from our own organisation. None of our goals could be achieved without our brilliant colleagues, some of them are featured below.

Yetnebersh Nigussie

Right Livelihood 2017 laureate, Ethiopian lawyer Yetnebersh Nigussie, is Light for the World’s Senior Inclusion Advisor. She is one of Africa’s leading advocates for the rights enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Yetnebersh is passionate about women’s rights. She feels she was only able to escape an early marriage because of her blindness: “After turning blind at five, my mother and grandmother ensured I received an education at my young age, rather than a husband.” Prior to working at Light for the World, she co-founded the Ethiopian Centre for Disability and Development (ECDD), with its overall strategy to make mainstream services such as education, health or livelihood inclusive to persons with disabilities. In 2018, Yetnebersh helps launch ‘Her Abilities’, the first global award honouring women with disabilities and their achievements.

“Focus on our 99 abilities, not our one disability!”

Deborah Oyuu Iyute

Deborah Oyuu Iyute is a social worker and human rights activist in Uganda and a board member of Light for the World. Currently she is working as Programme Officer on Disability/HIV/Aids. Deborah is educated in social work and community development and has a wealth of knowledge in disability issues and international and national legislation in relation to disability and human rights. Deborah is a member of the Deaf Community and active as a board member of the Deaf-Net Centre of Knowledge, of the Forum for African Women Educationalists, and of the World Federation of the Deaf; she is also Vice Chairperson of the Africa Contact Group for Mental Health and Deafness.
FOCUS TOPICS

LIEKE SCHEEWE

Lieke Scheewe is a Light for the World’s Disability Rights Specialist. “At age 10 my parents suggested that I write about the South African anti-Apartheid movement for my school assignment. It made a long lasting impression ... Later, at university, I started making the link between theories of exclusion and my own experience of disability.” Lieke is based in The Netherlands. She promotes inclusion at local level and works at global level for Light for the World, for example, by advocating to make development programmes inclusive.

NAFISA BABOO

Nafisa Baboo is the Senior Inclusive Education Advisor for Light for the World. Over the past 12 years, she has used her life experience as a person with a disability (visual impairment) and professional qualifications to research and advise on inclusive education policies and practices, advocate for the rights of children with disabilities and people with disabilities in general, and train teachers, education officials and communities on aspects of inclusive education. Nafisa is from Cape Town, South Africa and has worked in many countries around the world.

ELIE BAGBILA

Elie Bagbila is the Country Representative of Light for the World in Burkina Faso. Elie says supporting women and children with disabilities, who are often left out of education systems—helps ensure that “every single Burkinabé can be an actor in their country’s development.” The country team has been awarded an honorary distinction by the Minister of Women, National Solidarity and the Family of Burkina Faso.

TOM SHAKESPEARE

Tom Shakespeare is Chair of Light for the World in the UK. He is a sociologist, academic and advocate who has been active in the disability community for more than 20 years. He co-produced the World Report on Disability (2011). In 2017, Tom visited our community-based rehabilitation programmes in Mozambique: “I am so impressed with the quality of our local staff who are really putting every effort into empowering disabled people.”

“Education makes all the difference to disabled children—it repays the investment many times over.”

“At the heart of it all, what is necessary is actually quite simple ... because every child has the right to inclusive and quality education”
Community-based Rehabilitation

Too many people are used to being told what a person with a disability cannot do, instead of focusing on their abilities. If we define a person through their disability alone, this creates a society-wide negative attitude that is harmful to the whole community. Sometimes small interventions can lead to big changes. A field worker talks to a mother about her child with Cerebral Palsy. The field worker’s support and the family’s untiring effort and unconditional love support the child’s development. A child that could not stand without support now runs around with their friends. After working with the local school, a Deaf girl is now able to learn in sign language in class. In collaboration with the local entrepreneurs’ association, young people with disabilities are getting their first jobs. This is community-based rehabilitation (CBR), a method endorsed by the WHO, ILO and UNESCO together with NGOs and community based organisations. In our programmes we support local partners, collaborate with Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) and advocate for inclusion. In 2017, 33,904 children with disabilities received support in our programmes. In 2018, we are strengthening livelihood activities and further the connection between rehabilitation and inclusive education.
EMPOWERMENT

Leave No One Behind

Right Livelihood Award

Established in 1980 by Jakob von Uexkull, the Right Livelihood Award honours and supports courageous people and organisations offering visionary and exemplary solutions to the root causes of global problems. It is also widely referred to as “Alternative Nobel Prize”. In 2017 for the first time in history, a young woman with a disability was among the laureates. Yetnebersh Nigussie is an Ethiopian disability rights activist and Senior Inclusion Advisor at Light for the World. Blind herself, she dedicated her life to advocating for people with disabilities and gender equality. She received the award “for her inspiring work promoting the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities, allowing them to realise their full potential and changing mindsets in our societies”. In her acceptance speech, she drew attention to the difficulties faced by girls with disabilities accessing quality inclusive education: “I describe myself as lucky for having made it to school, but I hope future generations of girls and women with disabilities feel differently. It is their right to be at school, and it always has been. I hope you will consider joining me in their fight to access quality inclusive education, which is your fight too”.

Our work at UN, WHO and EU level

A huge success for our advocacy work is our involvement in the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) at the United Nations in New York. Two civil society speakers from Ethiopia were able to speak in the official review and share information on disability in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Light for the World’s Senior Inclusion Advisor Yetnebersh Nigussie and the disability expert Dag Wakene. We also supported DPOs to participate in the national consultations and ensured wide ranging media coverage of the event. In 2018 we continue to foster national implementation of the SDGs, with a focus on Ethiopia, Burkina Faso and Mozambique, as well as the reporting of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) of Burkina Faso and Mozambique. Another important development was achieved in partnership with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), through a side event on universal eye health at the World Health Assembly 2017. Light for the World mobilised the governments of Austria, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Czech Republic and Mozambique to co-sponsor the event and to actively support the Global Action Plan on Universal Eye Health.

ADVOCACY & CBR HIGHLIGHTS

In Mozambique, CBR has been integrated into the national social protection programmes.

Burkina Faso and Ethiopia included Question Sets from the Washington Group on Disability Statistics in the national census.

Light for the World organized events at and invited partners to the European disability and development week.

A side event on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at the 10th Conference of States Parties, focused on Gender and Disability.
How it works

The innovation zone is the heart of our ‘change model’. We examine the root causes of problems with our target group and work on innovative solutions.

In joint programmes we work together with other development organisations on effective solutions for people with disabilities.

Through training and advice knowledge is shared with other organisations.

Through learning and sharing, lessons learned are documented and proven methods are made available to a wide audience.

Through lobby and advocacy the interests of people with disabilities are represented in political bodies.

The five processes are interlinked and interact closely with each other. Findings from one process influence the activities in others.
People with disabilities often struggle to find employment and provide for themselves and their families. One reason is—because of exclusion from education and apprenticeships—they do not have the chance to develop relevant skills for the job market. Inclusive vocational training where everyone, including people with disabilities, have equal access to education and skill-sharing is the only sustainable way to economic empowerment for marginalised groups.

With the publication “I am EmployAble”, we want to share what we have learned along the way, and encourage governments, NGOs, employers and vocational training institutes to include people with disabilities in training and employment opportunities.

From 2013 to 2017, the Centre for Disability and Development (CDD) in Bangladesh and Light for the World cooperated to improve inclusion and participation of people with disabilities. During those years 32,000 people with disabilities received rehabilitation services. This includes the delivery of assistive devices, physiotherapy and home-based care. We also established two rehabilitation centres on the premises of public hospitals to reach even more people.

These efforts have increased access to mainstream health, education and livelihood activities for people with disabilities. Their quality of life improved, as did participation in social life in their communities.

The lab offers space for collaboration of NGOs, Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs), governments and businesses to develop strategies for effective disability inclusion. Together, the stakeholders design and test practical solutions that promote, foster and sustainably propagate a society inclusive for all. The process not only unites relevant parties, but also develops innovative tools and resources to overcome the barriers that prevent people with disabilities from participating equally in development and society.

We started 5 joint projects with international NGOs providing our knowledge and expertise on disability inclusion in development cooperation.

We developed 6 publications, guidelines and new training curricula, showing evidence of the application of disability inclusion techniques.

45 organisations and institutions are involved in our various learnings platforms and have taken up and applied specific solutions developed by the Lab.
WHERE WE WORK

Think global, act local

COUNTRIES WE WORK IN

MEMBERS
LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

Austria
Belgium
Czech Republic
Germany
The Netherlands
Switzerland
United Kingdom
United States of America

COUNTRY OFFICES

Burkina Faso: Ouagadougou
Cambodia: Phnom Penh
DR Congo: Lubumbashi
Ethiopia: Addis Ababa
Mozambique: Beira
South Sudan: Juba
**OUR PROJECTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Eye Care</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Rehabilitation</th>
<th>Rights</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>34</td>
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<td>Asia &amp; Pacific</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>70</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENSES PER CONTINENT**

- 79% Africa
- 8% Asia
- 8% South America
- 4% International
- 1% Europe
In Burkina Faso we focus on eye health and access to rehabilitation and strive to change the education system to include all children with disabilities.

Progress in Eye Health

In 2017, Light for the World supported seven eye clinics, with medical equipment, consumables, medication and training. A major problem is the substantial shortage of qualified eye health personnel (ophthalmologists, eye nurses and optometrists). In November 2017, we brought together different stakeholders to develop a plan on Human Resources for Eye Health. In Centre-Ouest we started a regional comprehensive eye health project, the first of its kind in Burkina Faso, which is being developed and coordinated by regional and national eye health stakeholders working together. In 2017, 3,854 cataract surgeries were performed in our projects and a total of 51,883 persons received eye care.

Inclusive Education and CBR

We recently started two new inclusive education projects in Kaya and Nouna, which are collaborating closely with community-based rehabilitation projects already in place there. This combined approach has proven to be very successful, because children with disabilities get access to rehabilitation and social inclusion as well as to quality education, giving the potential to transform not only the lives of the children themselves, but also attitudes towards them in the wider community. Additionally, due to our efforts, catholic schools in all 15 dioceses plan to become inclusive.

In 2017, 4,732 children with disabilities received rehabilitation, 3,184 went to school.
In DRC our main line of work is in supporting eye clinics and to reach the dramatically underserved rural population.

**Eye care in eight new districts**

In the South of DRC, Light for the World supports four eye clinics, to make eye care available to the mostly rural population. In 2017, we extended our activities to eight new health districts. Eight nurses received scholarships to train as ophthalmic nurses in Kinshasa.

In the coming years, the Mbuji-Mayi eye hospital will relocate to a new building, offering more space and equipment to better serve the many people in need of treatment. This is another step towards providing eye care in a province with no less than 5.5 million inhabitants.

In 2017, 70,192 patients received treatment in the eye clinics supported by Light for the World. 3,217 cataract surgeries were performed.

**Inclusive Education**

In order to extend inclusive education, Light for the World works hand in hand with the Lubumbashi Catholic Schools Network. The project’s goal is to make sure that children with visual impairments are welcomed in regular schools and can fulfil their maximum educational and social potential. Currently, 142 visually impaired children are attending regular schools and are being followed-up within the inclusive education project. In 2017, the two itinerant teachers in charge of the project received training in Tanzania on inclusive teaching methods. They are now training and raising awareness among school principals, teachers and parents about inclusive education.

**PROVISION OF SPECTACLES AND LOW VISION AIDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>13,321</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**70,192 people treated**
ETHIOPIA

13 Mio doses of medication

**Early Childhood Development**

To ensure children reach their full developmental potential, it is imperative that rehabilitation begins as early as possible. This is why we support training of health extension workers on paediatric physiotherapy and early identification of children with disabilities. Furthermore, we strive to change the—often negative—attitude towards people with disabilities in society. In 2017, 10 new regional and community-based projects on inclusive education were started and we helped develop resource centres for inclusive education in 15 local schools. In 2017, 1,384 children with disabilities went to school, 4,646 received rehabilitation services and support.

**Eye Care for rural Ethiopia**

With a population of 105 Million, but only 150 ophthalmologists, the shortage of eye care specialists is evident in Ethiopia. Among the eight eye clinics supported by Light for the World are the university clinics of Jimma and Gondar, two of only four training centres for ophthalmologists in Ethiopia. Light for the World is currently supporting 38 medical students with scholarships as they pursue their studies, striving to bring a brighter future to their country. 24,928 cataract surgeries have been performed in 2017 and 503,930 people reached with eye care services in clinics and at 551 mobile outreaches to remote areas. To fight neglected tropical diseases, we distributed nearly 13 million doses of medication.

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**MEDICATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS CAUSES OF BLINDNESS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>2,435,331</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>7,702,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10,134,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>12,999,134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**In Ethiopia, we support eye clinics, training of ophthalmologists, rehabilitation and inclusive education. We achieved great results in our fight against NTDs.**
New eye doctors, new hope

Light for the World supports young African ophthalmologists in their studies, to address the chronic shortage of qualified medical staff in rural areas. In 2016 and 2017, five Mozambican ophthalmologists graduated and four started working in previously underserved provinces. We also began supporting an eye clinic in the province Zambezia, where the highly motivated staff already carried out four mobile outreaches, with at least eight planned for 2018. Our new eye clinic in Beira is the main referral centre for more than two million people in central Mozambique. All across Mozambique, our partners conducted 2,314 cataract surgeries. In total we reached 197,989 people with eye care in 2017.

Inclusion in Education and Sport

Teachers who understand the needs and abilities of each child are key to a truly inclusive education system. Light for the World supports teacher training in inclusive education. In 2017, teachers from 33 schools from four districts in Sofala province benefited from targeted training on inclusive education and are now helping children of all abilities in regular schools to get the education they need. 300 children with disabilities went to school in our projects in 2017. With support from the Austrian Ministry of Sports we set up an inclusive sports programme in the Province Manica. With our four community-based rehabilitation programmes we supported 896 children with disabilities in 2017.
Children in an inclusive school in North East India claiming their rights.

**Bolivia**

Light for the World has been at the forefront of community-based rehabilitation in Bolivia since 1995. Over the years, we established five CBR projects, changing the lives of children and adults with disabilities in cities as well as rural areas. 815 children with disabilities and their families received rehabilitation, support and social inclusion in 2017. Our partners also organised training on inclusion for members of other organisations, to achieve greater sustainability and to spread their knowledge throughout Bolivia. Light for the World supports more than 100 schools and education centres in Bolivia, the vast majority of them focusing on inclusive education for children of all abilities. Additionally we plan to train trainers from all nine districts of Bolivia in inclusive education. In 2017, 740 children with disabilities went to school or accessed education services in our CBR programmes.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina**

Inclusion of people with disabilities is at the core of our projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Following 10 years of collaboration and with support from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), our local partner MOZAIK has made 123 of their 177 projects fully disability inclusive. Also with ADA support, we produced a manual for health staff on disability and inclusion, enabling them to better understand the needs of people with disabilities. In inclusive education, our partner managed to place five special needs teachers in mainstream schools. In total, 14,544 people with disabilities received support in our projects in 2017.
Further Countries & Regions

Light for the World works to prevent blindness and promote eye health for all, to ensure children with disabilities receive quality, inclusive education and to advocate for the health and rights of people with disabilities in their societies and within development efforts. In addition to our geographical focus on Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo we tackle inclusion issues in several other countries and regions in Africa, Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Europe.

Cambodia

We have been active in Cambodia since early 2000, with partners in eye health, CBR and inclusive education. Since then Light for the World with its Disability Inclusion Lab has become known as a strong resource on coordination, facilitation and training on disability inclusion and respected ally to the disability movement. We work on inclusive employment and entrepreneurship, support for women with disabilities, and design innovative livelihood solutions in agriculture and regular employment. In December 2017, with financial support from AVAST endowment fund, the Pursat Region witnessed the grand opening of its first high-level vocational training centre open to everyone regardless of their physical disability.

East Africa

In Tanzania and Uganda we work to improve the livelihoods of young people with disabilities through mainstream programmes and interventions. Light for the World proposes disability mainstreaming as one of the approaches that has the greatest potential to have a large-scale and sustainable impact for people living with disabilities. The project is funded through the UK Big Lottery Fund. In eye care, we support young doctors from our partner countries in their studies to become ophthalmologists, by providing them with scholarships to the University of Nairobi, Kenya.
India

In the provinces of North East India, Light for the World through its local partners engages in combining CBR and inclusive education programmes and support disability rights initiatives, with the goal of maximising the inclusion process.

Four new CBR projects were started in 2017, acting at the same time as Resource Centres for Inclusive Education. Since the participating schools are all at different levels of inclusion, the “Special Schools Initiative” was started in June to offer individual support to special schools on their way to becoming inclusive. Initial links with government schools have already been established and are being strengthened in 2018.

We also successfully advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. Our long-term partner Shishu Sarothi, through their Disability Law Unit (DLU), gives legal support to people with disabilities. In 2017, 1,709 children with disabilities accessed education in our projects, 6,723 received rehabilitation services in our CBR programmes.

In total, we reached 46,276 people with our programme work in 2017, with rehabilitation, education, eye health and other support.

Indonesia

In Indonesia we support a local DPO in their aim to make health services inclusive of people with disabilities, facilitating an agreement with local health workers to conduct home visits for patients who cannot come to the clinic. This project sparked a development: the local government agreed to also monitor inclusion and act in other areas, like social involvement, economy, education and development initiatives.

Papua New Guinea

In Papua New Guinea, 3.6 million people have ear problems and hearing problems, often caused by malaria, middle ear inflammation or other untreated diseases. Light for the World supports projects for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, reaching people all over the country with community-based rehabilitation and inclusive education. We have been actively involved in developing and encouraging the use of sign language, training teachers and advocating for it to become an official language. 2018 will see the publication of the very first sign language dictionary in Papua New Guinea.
Papua New Guinea. In 2017, 25,186 people benefitted from our work, 15,643 of them hard of hearing or deaf.

**Rwanda**

In order to deal with the critical shortage of skilled ophthalmologists and eye nurses in Rwanda, the Kabgayi eye clinic, a partner of Light for the World, regularly held mobile surgical clinics at other hospitals. The more complicated cases were referred to the hospital in Kabgayi. In 2017, 27,091 people received eye care, 2,712 cataract operations have been performed.

**South Sudan**

During the ongoing violence, an additional 200,000 people were forced to flee their homes in 2017, bringing the total of displaced people to 2.4 million. Among them are a considerable percentage of people with disabilities. For more than 10 years we have worked in South Sudan on community-based rehabilitation, inclusive education and eye health. In 2016 we started interventions on inclusive humanitarian aid and inclusive vocational training and employment. We also provide training to other organisations and institutions on how to make their humanitarian aid programmes inclusive. We continue to support our partners, even in difficult times. In 2017, 27,110 people accessed rehabilitation or eye care services, 304 children with disabilities received education.

**Tanzania**

In 2017, Light for the World extended its field of activity. In addition to the support for two hospitals in Dar es Salaam and Moshi, we now also work with two hospitals in Ifakara and Songea. Our goal is to open eye units in those two hospitals where the most common eye diseases can be treated, making eye care accessible to the population of these regions. We are also supporting the training of an ophthalmologist for each clinic. In 2017, 365 cataract surgeries on children were performed, 26,545 people received eye care.

**Uganda**

For the first time 10 optometry students received scholarships from the Government of Uganda ensuring acceptance of this new Bachelor’s Degree course. This will have a positive influence in getting this new profession regulated as part of public service. Optometrists will play a leading role in supervision for uncorrected refractive errors, school eye health, low vision services and blindness preventive diagnostics as well as referrals. Light for the World has financed the coordination and provided substantial funds for its infrastructure including a state-of-the-art teaching lab in partnership with ZEISS. Our project, the National Intervention for Uncorrected Refractive Errors (NIURE), with the goal of supplying people in Uganda with affordable and high-quality glasses, took a major step towards becoming self-sufficient and is already being used as a best-practice example for similar initiatives in other countries. 53,900 refractions have been carried out by NIURE trained refractionists, 2,756 people received subsidised spectacles and 34,805 school children were screened for vision problems in 2017. Our goal for 2018 and beyond is the full integration of the programme within the Government health care system.
**What do we do**

Our vision is an inclusive society for all where no one is left behind and all people participate equally in the cultural, social, political and economic environment.

Our mission is to contribute to a world in which people with disabilities fully exercise their rights. We break down barriers to enrich society and unlock the potential in all of us. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities guides us. People with disabilities living in poverty are among the most excluded groups in society. They are at the centre of our work and they drive the change.

We started out as specialist organisations in eye care and rehabilitation and over the past decades we have broadened our sphere of activities. Throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and the Pacific region, our teams and partners work on initiatives in eye health and blindness prevention, quality inclusive education, livelihood and economic empowerment, community-based rehabilitation as a multi-sectoral strategy, Disability inclusion focused on changing systems and organisations and disability rights.

We also team up with development organisations to help them become inclusive, and support disability organisations to ensure their messages are heard.

**How do we work**

Light for the World encourages new forms of international cooperation. We are helping policymakers and activists to develop systems and policies promoting the values of inclusion, both nationally and internationally. We are also part of powerful international coalitions, such as the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), and have partnered with renowned foundations and institutional donors. Our programmatic approach is based on our Theory of Change, supporting local partners to implement a combination of disability-specific actions, targeted actions in the mainstream, access to programmes and social change processes.
Who we are

Light for the World aims to realise an inclusive society. The legal entities in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States are members of Light for the World International. The governing bodies of Light for the World International are the Assembly of Members and the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees decides on strategy, appoints the CEO and approves the annual budget and annual work plan.

The Assembly of Members meets once a year and decides on vision, mission and appoints the Board of Trustees.

The International Team implements the strategy, collaborates with local, national and international partners and works to bring about change towards an inclusive society.
**FINANCIAL RESULTS**

Every donation counts

### SOURCES OF INCOME 2017

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Euro</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations in Cash and Sponsoring</td>
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<td>Public, Government Funding</td>
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<td>Bequests</td>
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<td>Donations in kind</td>
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<td>other income</td>
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<td>Project Support Alliance Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### AREAS OF EXPENSES 2017

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<th>Area</th>
<th>Euro</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Programme Work incl. Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information on Programme Work, Public Relations and Donor Administration</td>
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<td>Administration and Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Allocation to Reserves</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Those are the consolidated financial results of the legal entity Light for the World and its members. For further information on the financial figures of the different legal entities please download the national reports at www.light-for-the-world.org.

High quality and transparency throughout all of our work is important to us, because we feel passionate about achieving the maximum possible impact from every single donation we receive. This has been enhanced by the transparency and Anti-Corruption Policy adopted by Light for the World in 2014. We are producing a biennial anti-corruption report, which is available on request.

The member organisations of Light for the World have their accounts audited by independent external auditors. The 2017 accounts were audited by IBD Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH (Austria), BVBA Clybouw Bedrijfsrevisoren (Belgium), Deloitte CZ (Czech Republic), by Honold Treuhand AG (Switzerland), WiTh accountants (The Netherlands), Independent Examiners LTD (UK) and respective reviewed by Campbell Hörmann PartG (Germany). Light for the World has been granted quality seals in several countries.

Donations to Light for the World are tax deductible in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the USA.
30 years ago, Light for the World started as a small charity organisation in Austria. Today, we are an internationally recognised disability and development organisation whose vision is an inclusive society.

In 212 projects we work with partners around the world, preventing blindness and promoting eye health for all, ensuring children with disabilities receive quality, inclusive education, and advocating for the health and rights of people with disabilities in their societies and within development effort. In 30 years, we reached more than 12.6 Million people with eye care, made 700,000 cataract operations possible and supported more than 444,800 children with disabilities with rehabilitation and to lead independent, self-sustained lives.

We thank all who contributed to these successes, together we are stronger.

And we believe that together we will get to a future where every child, every woman, every man can unleash her or his potentials to enrich society and contribute to an inclusive world.

Every person has potential and talents. For 30 years now, Light for the World works on supporting everybody—regardless of their abilities—to develop their potential and to take part in society. Happy anniversary and a big thank you to all who made all this possible!

Andreas Onea
Paralympic Athlete

For 30 years, Light for the World has been implementing the human rights to health, education, and inclusion with a lot of dedication. By developing eye care, rehabilitation, and inclusive education structures, they support people with disabilities on their way to better, independent lives. My heartfelt thanks go to Light for the World and all their supporters, who make this important work possible. Best wishes on your milestone anniversary!

Dr. Alexander Van der Bellen
Federal President of the Republic of Austria

To help someone is a great feeling! It is very touching for me to witness the immense joy of someone who can see again after cataract surgery. In the name of all patients I thank all the people in Austria who help saving eyesight since 30 years. With your support you enable people in Africa to live independent lives and to look ahead full of hope. And that is just incredible. Thank you!

Chris Lohner
Goodwill Ambassador
Czech runner Ondřej Zmeškal was born blind. That does not deter him from running over a dozen marathons a year. In early 2018, he completed the Great Chinese Wall race. He sees eyesight as a huge gift and supports affordable and comprehensive eye care by running for Light for the World Czech Republic. In his understanding “everyone can help and contribute to a good cause.” In 2017 he raised enough money to help more than 600 people in Africa to receive ophthalmic treatment and regain their sight.

In June 2017, our dear colleague Ton ten Hove passed away. He managed Light for the World Netherlands, previously Dark & Light, for many years and significantly contributed to forming and shaping the growth of the organisation. He was guided by his passion for disability inclusive development and his motto, “On your own you work faster, but together you go ahead”. The rehabilitation of blind children and adults concerned him, and he worked hard to realise ophthalmic activities in countries where it was most needed. Ton ten Hove will be remembered as an inspiring and highly respected colleague.

Therese Kafando is head of the Centre for Integrated Education and Training of the Deaf and Hearing (CEFISE) in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Her mission is creating an environment in which children — regardless of gender, background, or disability — can learn together in the same classroom. She feels proud that the centre now educates 3,800 pupils, including around 500 children with disabilities. They also support other schools in Burkina Faso in becoming inclusive.

Cristóvão Daniel Matsinhe is a newly graduated ophthalmologist from Mozambique. With a postgraduate scholarship from Light for the World, he completed his studies in ophthalmology in Tanzania and now provides eye care services in the Light for the World supported clinic in Pemba. He is passionate about contributing to the improvement of people’s lives. His dream is to acquire the necessary surgical skills to treat cornea and glaucoma, become the first ophthalmologist in Mozambique with this subspecialty.
WHO WE WORK WITH

A BIG THANK YOU!

**Partners and supporters**

Africa Action e.V. | Air Liquide Foundatio


**Memberships, Platforms & Alliances**

Our Local Partners

BOLIVIA
CENAID | EIFODEC | ETI | FASCO | FASSIV | IDEPSO | IIMS | Ojos del Mundo | ASHICO | CBR Network

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
MyRight | DUGA

BURKINA FASO
ABAPE | CCI Handicap | CEFISE | CHR Koudougou | CHR Ouahigouya | CHR Banfora | CHR Kaya | CHUSS | CHUYO | CHUP-CIG | Morija Centre Kaya | COZ | DDEC Manga | DRS Centre Ouest | JSF | INFTS | DLM-PNMT | PROFOS | MFSNF | SP-COMUD | MENA | SG OCADES Caritas Burkina | SED OCADES Diébougou, Gaoua, Kaya, Koupèla, Manga, Nouna, Tenkodogo | REJCPH | SNEC | SBO | SOB | UNABPAM/EJA | UNAFEHB | ReNOh | UFR/SDS/DES | CN-EPT | INSS

CAMBODIA
DDSP | CRC | CDMD | Essential Personnel Cambodia | Epic Arts

DR OF CONGO
COSY | COR | CLOM | COSJ | CODILU | Nuru

ETHIOPIA
ADV | Apostolic Vicariate of Nekemte | Amhara Region Education Bureau | Amhara National Regional State Health Bureau | Berhan Leheitsanat | British Council Ethiopia | Cheshire Services Ethiopia | College of Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Gondar | East Wollega Zonal Health Office | Education Bureau of Addis Ababa City Administration | Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development | Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus—Development and Social Services Commission | FENAPD | GPD | GTM | HEFD | HPDO | Horo Guduru Wollega Zonal Health Office | Jimma University | Kellem Wellega Zonal Health Office | Kotobe Metropolitan University | Oromia Regional Health Bureau | SNNPR Agency for Labor and Social Affairs | SNNPR Regional Health Bureau | SNNPR Regional Education Bureau | Somali Regional State Health Bureau | Tigray Regional Health Bureau | VCBRA | West Shewa Zonal Health Office | West Wollega Zonal Health Office | Wolaita Sodo University College of Health Science and Medicine | Yesus Menna Education Support for the Deaf | RSDA | Yirgalem Hospital

INDONESIA
PRY

KENYA
UDPK | ADDA

MOZAMBIQUE
ADEMO Sofala | ADPPD Mozambique | ADPPD Sofala and Manica | AMAVIDA | COMUSANAS | KHUPEDZANA | HC Beira | ESMABAMA | FAMOD | ICS Beira | MGCA | MISAU | OREBACOM | DPGCAS Sofala | DPS Sofala, Tete, Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Zambezia | PNDHI Young Africa Mozambique

PAKISTAN
CHIP | ALP | CHEF

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Callan Services National Unit (CSNU), Bougainville, Western Province | Fred Hollow Foundation New Zealand

RWANDA
HVP Rwamagana | KEU | REC & IC/ Kabbage

SOUTH SUDAN
ECSS | SEM | Rumbek Hospital

TANZANIA
CCBRT | KCMC | SFRH | SJMH | TSB

UGANDA
Ministry of Health of Uganda | Makerere University | Entebbe General Referral Hospital | Ruharo Eye Care Centre