FOREWORD

Dear friends of Light for the World,

With your help we achieved a huge amount in 2016. We worked with our partners to enable crucial eye health services and empower people with disabilities in some of the most underprivileged regions of the world. Our successes included:

• supporting more than 9,000 children with disabilities, most of them in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and North East India, to attend school
• construction of a new eye clinic in Mozambique which will give more than two million people access to eye care
• an initiative to ensure good and affordable spectacles for all Ugandans no matter where they live or what they earn
• our ongoing work, despite the many challenges caused by unrest, to empower women with disabilities in South Sudan living in refugee camps

In total, we reached more than 1.1 million people with eye care, rehabilitation and education programmes in 2016. We enabled more than 100,000 eye surgeries, including more than 52,000 cataract surgeries. We helped advocate for Inclusive Education and the rights of people with disabilities; and we supported capacity building in-country for eye health professionals. On top of this, we gave medication against neglected tropical diseases like trachoma and river blindness to more than ten million people in Ethiopia and beyond.

Behind these statistics you will find stories of individuals whose lives have been forever changed. We are proud of our partners and colleagues whose commitment, skills and passion make this all possible.

Thank you for your generous time and support, helping us to move one step closer to our vision of an inclusive society for all.

Rupert Roniger
CEO
LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

Karin Krobath
Chairperson
LIGHT FOR THE WORLD
OUR APPROACH

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

Light for the World is an international organisation specialising in inclusive development. Our goal is an inclusive society that is open to all and leaves no one behind.

We champion accessible eye care and support Inclusive Education and basic living conditions conducive to a self-determined life, so that people with disabilities can participate with equal rights in society. Light for the World works closely with local partners, eye clinics and Disabled People’s Organisations. This enables us to apply donations in a targeted, sustainable way, to create lasting structures and pave the way to an inclusive society.

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We won’t give up!
We strengthened our fight against NTDs (Neglected Tropical Diseases) with our international partners. In 2016, we provided ten million people with medication against trachoma and river blindness. In addition to eye care and blindness prevention programmes we also support projects for better sanitation, water quality and environmental improvement.

New eye clinic in Mozambique
We are about to open a new eye clinic in Beira! Central Mozambique is set to gain an eye clinic for two million people. It also acts as a training centre for eye care professionals who will provide much-needed care in remote villages and rural regions in central and northern Mozambique.

Affordable spectacles, no matter where you live
In Uganda, we have been working hard to ensure universal access to quality, affordable glasses for all. Since 2008 we have trained 74 ophthalmic clinical officers as refractionists; and in 2016 alone, 9,539 persons received spectacles and other vision aids. The programme in Uganda is going strong and we are now looking at introducing similar interventions on uncorrected refractive errors in Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Ethiopia.
“Nothing about us without us”

Our Senior Inclusion Advisor Yetnerbersh Nigussie was invited to join the High Level Political Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations in June as one of two representatives of persons with disabilities. This is the first time people with disabilities have been included in the forum. She highlights the importance of participation: “We, as persons with disabilities, must be a part of identifying the problems, and a part of building their solutions.”

Every child’s right to learn

We believe that education for all is key to a more equal world. 9,139 children with disabilities received access to education through our programmes in 2016, the majority in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and North East India.

Inclusive business

With support of the Austrian Development Agency our local partner established a brand new social business—a cleaning company—in Sacaba in Bolivia. The company supports the education of teens with disabilities and opens the job market for them.
1,140,525
people reached with crucial support including eye care, rehabilitation and education.

On top of this, we provided 10,134,553 people with medication against trachoma, river blindness and lymphatic filariasis.

958,003
EYE CARE SERVICES

52,015
Cataract surgeries

28,601
Trachoma surgeries

25,366
Other eye surgeries

40,431
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES REACHED

23,087 in Asia/Pacific

16,278 in Africa

1,066 in South America

9,139
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 a maximum of 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 influence policies and collaborate with other major organisations.

The geographical focus of our work lies in Africa, followed by Asia, Latin America, the Pacific and Eastern Europe. Our thematic core areas are prevention of blindness, Inclusive Education, rehabilitation and empowerment of people with disabilities.

**FACTS & NUMBERS**

What we achieved in 2016

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<th>OUR SUPPORTERS</th>
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<td>143,814 donors supported our work</td>
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<td>33 Education Programmes</td>
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<td>56 Rehabilitation and Livelihood Programmes</td>
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<td>27 other projects supporting persons with disabilities and promoting an inclusive society</td>
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Causes of Blindness

Cataract
is the world’s most common cause of blindness, and is responsible for the loss of vision of 20 million people. 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 a small operation, 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 most widespread infectious cause of blindness, responsible for the visual impairment of about 2.2 million people, of whom 1.2 million are irreversibly blind. It causes the inside of the eyelid to scar, turn inward and scratch the cornea, eventually leading to irreversible blindness. In its earlier stages, 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.

Uncorrected refractive errors
About 153 million people are visually impaired, due to causes such as uncorrected refractive errors. In most cases, vision can be restored with spectacles or other vision aids.

Childhood blindness
About 1.4 million children are blind and 12 million visually impaired due to causes like uncorrected refractive errors, Vitamin A deficiency, cataract or injury.
AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS

Comprehensive Eye Care

Light for the World supports eye care services in 14 countries and regions. We develop and implement national eye health plans together with local governments. In 2016, more than 100,000 eye surgeries were conducted in our projects, more than 950,000 people accessed eye care services.

The solution

Big impact through long-term support
80% of all cases of visual impairment can be treated or could have been prevented in the first place. The most efficient way to tackle avoidable blindness in the long-term is to build sustainable and comprehensive health structures. To achieve this, Light for the World cooperates with international, national and local partners. We support local hospitals to carry out mobile services that provide eye care in remote areas. We educate the public about eye health, collaborate with other organisations to improve hygiene and access to water and aim to reach poor and heavily marginalised groups of society. We also support the training of eye care professionals. Since 2005, we have supported 9.3 million people to access eye care services and half a million sight saving cataract operations. Since 2009, a staggering 30 million people received medication against illnesses that can lead to irreversible blindness. We strive to reach even more people in the future.

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<th>DRUG DISTRIBUTION</th>
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<td>Medication against infectious causes of blindness</td>
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<td><strong>2016:</strong> 10,134,553</td>
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**FOCUS TOPICS**
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Every child’s right to learn

An estimated nine out of ten children with disabilities living in developing countries do not have access to education.
Being out of education denies this group the ability to make friends, to learn how to read and write, and to master the skills that are crucial for future employment.

The impact is devastating, not just for tens of millions children and their families, but also for whole societies and their economies.
If we want to change this, we need to change the system.

Light for the World has longstanding experience in delivering Inclusive Education projects. Our main focus lies in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso and North East India. In 2016, our efforts saw a substantial rise in children with disabilities receiving quality education together with their peers. A total of 9,139 children with disabilities across our projects received education.
As important as this support is for the individual child, our involvement also aims for a system-wide change. By training teachers, developing inclusive learning materials and linking Community Based Rehabilitation and education programmes, we are helping change public opinion to ensure support for children and their families.
Due to the active involvement of Light for the World and partner organisations, Inclusive Education has become an integral part of the new education strategy of the governments of Ethiopia and Burkina Faso.
In North East India we joined efforts with other international NGOs (CBM and Liliane Foundation) to improve the quality of education for children with disabilities in public schools.
In the inclusive society we strive to achieve, the right to education must apply to all.
Light for the World is an active member of international networks like the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), working to bring about global change. In 2016, we conducted a study on the cost and benefit of Inclusive Education—#CostingEquity: The case for financing disability Inclusive Education.
Our goal is to build a global alliance to make all education inclusive.
#CostingEquity

The #CostingEquity report was produced by the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)—led by Light for the World, supported by Open Society Foundations and several other leading disability rights and development organisations—who are calling on both governments and donors to urgently take action by increasing investment in education for children with disabilities. The report provides arguments and evidence on why it is a worthy and wise investment from a human-rights base, as well as from a social and economic perspective. Research has proven that the cost of exclusion is significant, with countries losing billions of dollars of potential income when people with disabilities are not educated or working. In several African countries the cost of out-of-school children, many of whom have disabilities, is estimated to be greater than the value of an entire year of GDP growth. With adequate budget and strategic use of existing resources, we will see children and their communities profit, as well as a whole country’s human and economic development.

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**EDUCATION FOR ALL**

Children with disabilities receiving education

2015 ... 7,812

2016 ... 9,139
Equal Rights

Women and girls with disabilities often face additional discrimination and exclusion, not only on account of their disability but also their gender. They are less likely than their male counterparts to have access to a doctor or the opportunity to go to school. They are also more exposed to sexual abuse. Society often perceives them as sexually inactive and therefore “safe” from HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted diseases. They experience stigma and myths such as: nobody will believe a girl with a learning disability, or that a deaf woman cannot communicate the assault. That also leads to parents being afraid of letting their disabled daughters out of the house to receive education or health services or to participate in social events.

Light for the World is strongly aware of this issue. We involve and empower women and girls through our projects and support local women’s Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) to stand up for their rights. We also speak up at national and international level to raise awareness on wider gender and sexuality issues in the context of disability.
GENDER & DISABILITY

From crisis to opportunity

Women’s empowerment in South Sudan’s refugee camps: Sophia Mohammed is an expert in Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) and works for Light for the World in South Sudan.

How is disability and gender an issue in South Sudan?
Female refugees and internally displaced women with disabilities in South Sudan are triple-marginalised through status, disability and gender. Women with disabilities and those who care for a disabled family member are frequently the last ones to arrive in the camps. They are often left behind during the flight because they might be slower and therefore considered a burden. Many women and girls with disabilities are unable to move freely inside or outside of the camps due to a lack of accessibility of sanitary facilities, food distribution and health services, but also because of an increased risk of violence and sexual assault.

Data on the number and gender of people with disabilities in camp Mahad, where I work, was unavailable before Light for the World did an assessment. Now we have numbers: of the 7,200 people living here, 60% are female and 252 are women and girls with disabilities.

We simply cannot accept the persisting exclusion which these women and girls with disabilities face each day.

What does Light for the World do?
Light for the World and other like-minded organisations have focused on those topics which were identified by the women with disabilities in the camp as priorities: adapting cooking places and water points to become accessible, providing personal hygiene items to women and girls with disabilities, offering self-defence training, and giving out information on issues of health, safety and rights. Health services, sanitary facilities and food distribution have also been made accessible. And we started an inclusive women’s sports team.

Why a sports team?
When we started working in camp Mahad, I saw that many young women and girls with disabilities were afraid to speak out or felt insecure with their bodies, so we started an inclusive female sports team. Currently 24 young women and girls with and without disabilities meet every week to play football together. Doing sports is not only hugely beneficial for their physical rehabilitation and general wellbeing, but also helps them to gain confidence in their own abilities and strengths. At the same time, disability becomes more visible in the community and recognition of the youth with disabilities among their peers increases.

This is also due to an educational programme which is part of the sports project. Normally girls and young women would have to be home in the afternoon helping their mothers, but now they stay for one or two more hours to learn.

What are the next steps?
It is vitally important to strengthen women disability networks and to engage them in livelihood activities in order to help women and girls with disabilities in the camp. We also plan to provide training on disability inclusive humanitarian response for other actors in the field.
Sometimes the smallest interventions can lead to the biggest changes. A field worker talks to a mother about her child with disabilities. She introduces exercises to strengthen the child’s physical development. The field worker’s support, the family’s untiring effort and unconditional love makes the neighbours curious. They are amazed, even startled by the abilities of a child they perceived as disabled. Things begin to change: people stop staring, whispering. A child that could not stand without support now runs around with their friends. A deaf girl discusses her homework with her sister in sign language. A young man once thought slow is getting his first job. This is Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR).

Through CBR, a method approved by the WHO, Light for the World works for an inclusive society, where everybody is welcome to take part. We support local partners in their daily field work, work closely with local Disabled People’s Organisations and advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities in education and vocational programmes. Furthermore we talk to governments and the global community to bring about change and to include people with disabilities as active partners in developing programmes.
INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Leave no one behind

Disability rights monitoring

The year 2016 saw the 10th birthday of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which has brought immense progress for the recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities around the world. A high-level event was held at the African Union in Addis Ababa during which Light for the World presented on the importance of CBR services, especially in rural regions. In Austria our senior inclusion advisor, Yetnebersh Nigussie, and the Austrian minister for social affairs, Alois Stöger, discussed together the impact of the Convention.

In 2016, Bolivia, Ethiopia and Uganda for the first time reported to the United Nations on their national implementation of the CRPD. The voices of civil society, including Light for the World partner organisations from Uganda and Bosnia-Herzegovina, were heard during these reviews.

Light for the World Netherlands had reason to celebrate too, as the Dutch government joined the States Parties to the Convention in 2016.

Sustainable Development Goals

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—the world’s international sustainable development agenda for 2030—were introduced in 2016. Light for the World is working to ensure persons with disabilities are included in their implementation on every level, in line with the SDGs’ fundamental principle of leaving no one behind, especially, but not exclusively, concerning SDG3 (good health and well-being), SDG4 (inclusive and equitable quality education) and SDG8 (decent work and economic growth).

We also will be actively involved in the UN High-level Political Forum 2017 to speak out for disability inclusion in the national and global implementation of the SDGs. Among the states reporting on their implementation are Belgium, Bangladesh, Czech Republic, Ethiopia and the Netherlands—countries in which we and our partner organisations are actively involved in policy work for an inclusive society.

On a country level, we are working to ensure that Disabled People’s Organisations have the tools to demand active involvement in their governments’ implementation of the targets.

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

We brought together a new platform of international disability NGOs in Ethiopia.

Burkina Faso’s national census in 2017 includes specific and important indicators on people with disabilities.

Our events on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities drew public attention.

The #CostingEquity report on the cost and benefit of Inclusive Education, can be downloaded on our website.
Business Skills

Self-employment in the informal sector is an important survival strategy for people with disabilities, who often lack access to education and formal employment. A small survey conducted by one of our partners of disabled entrepreneurs in Rwanda and Uganda showed that they are highly motivated to make their businesses succeed, but often lack basic entrepreneurial skills, such as bookkeeping or marketing. Lack of access to credit is another barrier. Light for the World seeks partnerships with private sector companies focusing on skills development and empowerment and supports them in making their services accessible and including entrepreneurs with disabilities. Our starting point is East Africa and we will gradually expand to other countries and regions.
Women with disabilities are often considered to be sexually inactive and are therefore denied access to information regarding menstrual hygiene, contraception, safe sex, or counselling and testing for HIV/AIDS and sexual transmitted diseases. This is particularly so for women with intellectual disabilities. In addition, there is little research on the experience of young women and girls with intellectual disabilities with regard to sexual and reproductive health issues. To fill this gap, we supported the Community Based Rehabilitation Network Ethiopia to pilot a project to study the experience of girls with intellectual disabilities with sex education. We published the findings in a brochure; “Her Body, Her Rights” is available in both English and Amharic.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) demands the involvement of persons with disabilities; however, they are often excluded from monitoring processes. The Light for the World project “My Story My Rights” gathered personal stories from 197 persons with disabilities from eight districts in Uganda. Storytellers also completed questionnaires which identified ‘Education’, ‘Work & Employment’, and ‘Healthcare’ as some of the most important issues in their lives. The project results were shared with the UNCRPD Committee in Geneva to support monitoring of the UNCRPD implementation.
### COUNTRY OFFICES
- Burkina Faso: Ouagadougou
- Ethiopia: Addis Ababa
- Cambodia: Phnom Penh
- Mozambique: Beira
- South Sudan: Juba
- DR Congo: Lubumbashi

### COUNTRIES & PROJECTS

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#### EXPENSES PER CONTINENT

- 76% Africa
- 7% Asia
- 6% South America
- 5% International
- 4% Europe
- 2% Pacific
Despite social tensions which led to the declaration of a state of emergency, Light for the World continued its work in eye care programmes and the fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). In the five largest Ethiopian Regions—Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, Somali and Tigray—we supported mobile ophthalmic outreaches and campaigns for mass drug administration to reach even more people than before. This approach proved to be very successful: in 2016 our local partners supplied 4.9 million people with Zithromax and carried out 26,587 eyelid operations to prevent irreversible blindness. In the coming months we will intensify our efforts against trachoma and other NTDs, by providing people in high risk areas with clean water and information about facial hygiene. We also provided an impressive number of 5.2 million people with medication against onchocerciasis (river blindness).

In recognition of the important role that local ophthalmologists play, Light for the World supports two universities to enable young Ethiopian doctors to specialise in ophthalmology. In 2016, twenty students participated in the residential programmes at the universities in Gondar and Jimma. Our goal is to support a minimum of twenty ophthalmologists in training in both institutes, every single year.

“Education for all” is a strong focal point for Light for the World in Ethiopia, where we are able to build on decades of experience in Community Based Rehabilitation and Inclusive Education. By introducing innovative teaching practices, providing accessible learning materials, supplying assistive devices, supporting rehabilitation services and offering intense teacher training, we strengthen local partners and schools. Our cooperation with the regional governments of Amhara and SNNPR, which are now involved in initiatives for disability inclusion, is a sign we are achieving lasting change. Last year 5,331 children with disabilities accessed rehabilitation services and 1,665 received school education.
BURKINA FASO

2,639 children in school

A girl with a physical disability doing her homework under a tree. She is enrolled in her local school, together with her friends.

The eye doctors of tomorrow

In Burkina Faso, the eye health sector is still developing and one of the main challenges is the low number of eye care specialists. For a population of almost 17.4 million inhabitants, the country has just 27 ophthalmologists. Light for the World offers scholarships to medical students for their specialisation in eye care at the renowned IOTA (Institut d’Ophtalmologie Tropicale d’Afrique) in Mali. Three young ophthalmologists graduated in 2016 and started working in Burkina Faso, with a further two currently in training.

We also support a training course in ophthalmology at the University of Ouagadougou with equipment and materials. This is the first residency training in Burkina Faso on national level, greatly reducing the cost and barriers to study ophthalmology. The Ministry of Health understands importance of strengthening human resources in eye health on the national level. Our goal is to give medical students from Burkina Faso the opportunity to study in their home country, and to increase the number of ophthalmologists and thus increase the number of eye care specialists, especially in rural areas.

In addition to building human resources, we also continue to support eye clinics in their daily work. Our partners treated 62,889 people in 2016 and carried out 5,361 cataract operations.

Towards an inclusive society

For more than 20 years, Light for the World and local partners have been actively involved in Community Based Rehabilitation. In 2016 we supported 14 rehabilitation programmes and reached 12,817 children and adults with disabilities. To guarantee lasting change, one important step is to link our rehabilitation programmes with Inclusive Education initiatives. We have developed training materials for CBR workers, called “Roads to Inclusion”, five CBR programmes are already using the materials, which can easily be adjusted to the specific needs of any organisation or programme.

In 2017 we are joining forces with UNICEF to further develop our CBR programmes in the country.
With the opening of our new Invicta Eye Clinic in Beira in 2017, we are taking a big step towards providing affordable and accessible eye care for people in central Mozambique. The old clinic has become too small to accommodate and treat the huge number of patients seeking help. The new clinic, with resources to reach two million people in the region, also operates as a training centre for eye care staff, since human resource development is a major issue outside the capital.

Light for the World has supported the training of ophthalmic technicians and since 2005 their number in the country increased from 19 to 184 (57 trained with support from Light for the World).

In the coming year we will take the first steps to engage in local residency training in ophthalmology, to increase the number of eye care specialists in the country. It is our goal that by 2020, young Mozambican doctors who want to specialize in ophthalmology can do so in their home country.

In 2016, our partners conducted 1,426 cataract operations and 790 eyelid operations to treat advanced trachoma, on site as well as during mobile outreaches to remote areas. In total we were able to reach 183,902 people in 2016.

Light for the World partners with sports organisations for persons with disabilities as part of its wider Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) and inclusive development work. We support people to access rehabilitation, education and livelihood programmes and to connect to self-help groups. Recently Mozambique’s central government has expressed interest in implementing CBR as part of their national social programme and to include CBR as part of the training of social workers at all levels across the whole country. In 2016, 329 children and young adults with disabilities in Mozambique benefitted from Inclusive Education and vocational training and 716 children received CBR services.
Uncorrected refractive errors are the biggest cause of visual impairment. As many as 153 million people with uncorrected refractive errors for distance vision worldwide could be easily helped with a pair of spectacles. But in many countries screening facilities and spectacle dispensing services are few and far between and often limited to urban centres.

In 2008, Light for the World started a pilot programme NIURE (National Intervention on Uncorrected Refractive Errors), together with the Australian NGO BHVI, with the aim of providing affordable quality, locally produced spectacles to all Ugandans who need them. In the following eight years, our local partners trained optometrists and other eye care staff, organised school screenings and awareness campaigns and developed a sustainable system of optical workshops throughout the country.

An essential part of our strategy is school eye health. A child whose sight problems are not addressed can be seriously hindered in their education and intellectual development. We train teachers to recognise if their students have vision problems and establish “vision corridors” at schools: sight tests painted on walls where students and teachers can easily test their eyesight and determine if it is necessary to visit an optometrist. In 2016, 36,269 children were screened and 1,166 received much needed clinically viable spectacles. Light for the World’s NIURE programme is considered an essential contribution not only to the eye health of the people of Uganda but also as a best practice example. In 2018 the central coordination will be handed over to the Ugandan Ministry of Health and Makerere University and we will move on to implement the system in Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Ethiopia.

In the last eight years a total of 12,302 spectacles have been produced, 113,808 refraction tests conducted and 128,668 school children screened. 14 optometrists are currently being trained at Makerere University.

“Vision corridor” at a school in Uganda. Pupils and teachers can do a first vision check themselves, to determine if they should see a doctor.
In Bolivia, Light for the World is at the forefront in implementing CBR programmes to give people with disabilities access to rehabilitation and health services. Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) not only offers therapy at home for children and adults with disabilities, but also allows family, neighbours and friends to participate in the process. The result: people with disabilities are no longer hidden in institutions, but are perceived as part of society. In 2016, 1,066 children with disabilities accessed services in our 8 rehabilitation projects.

To better connect projects and partner organisations all over the country, we recently supported the establishment of a national CBR network. Together with the Bolivian Ministry of Health and with the feedback of Light for the World experts, a National CBR Plan has been jointly elaborated. Our partners are now more visible at national and regional levels. In the coming years, we will support our partners to further implement programmes and policies on rehabilitation, Inclusive Education, and promoting gender equality and child protection.

Light for the World has many years of experience in improving the learning environment for all children in Bolivia. Since 2013 we have published an Inclusive Education manual, organised training sessions for teachers, developed teaching materials and devices and provided input on accessible infrastructure. Other organisations, teachers and Disabled People’s Organisation (DPOs) across the country have expressed interest in our materials and techniques and we continue to work on strengthening the link between CBR and education for all. 449 children with disabilities in Bolivia received education through our support in 2016, giving them a chance of a promising future.
Legal support for 8,222 people

Disability rights
People with disabilities face discrimination and exclusion on a daily basis. To pave the way for an inclusive society it is vitally important to ensure that everybody has the same rights, be it in the workplace, in education, health care, public spaces or other matters.

In North East India, a region characterised by high social and political complexity and populated by more than 200 different ethnic groups, Light for the World raises awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities among persons with disabilities themselves, and within wider society. By bringing together local DPOs, government officials and other stakeholders we attempt to change society as a whole.

Sometimes good intentions and raising awareness is not enough. The Disability Law Unit, supported by Light for the World since 2006, offers legal advice against discrimination, for example, if an employer pays a person who has a disability a lower wage or refuses to give them a salary. The Disability Law Unit also supports its clients in filing lawsuits and during the legal proceedings at court. 725 people benefitted from the programme in 2016.

In total we reached 62,776 people in 2016, 8,222 received legal or administrative support.

CBR and inclusive society
North East India has several remote and hard-to-reach regions, making comprehensive eye and rehabilitation services a challenge. The best practice of provision in these circumstances is through Community Based Rehabilitation. 6,863 children with disabilities benefitted from our CBR projects in 2016, 512 more than in the previous year. Another step towards a self-determined future is access to quality education. Over the previous years, our collaboration with private schools has proven successful in establishing Inclusive Education. 1,660 children with disabilities in North East India received an education in 2016 with our support. We now move on to focus on the public school sector.
AROUND THE WORLD

Other Countries

Bosnia-Herzegovina
To contribute to the inclusion of people with disabilities, Light for the World has worked to ensure a more equal distribution of municipal resources to make them accessible for everyone. With its new “All Inclusive Strategy” our local partner works with youth groups and trains them in social entrepreneurship. In order to raise awareness for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, one of our partners carried out a country-wide, inspiring media campaign. The renowned physicist Stephen Hawking acted as testimonial. Both projects are sponsored by the Austrian Development Agency. 2,920 people in Bosnia-Herzegovina benefitted from our programmes in 2016.

DR Congo
2016 saw the opening of a new eye hospital in Kolwezi, capital of the Lualaba province, operational since the beginning of May 2016 and is the fourth ophthalmic clinic supported by Light for the World in this country. It will allow the treatment of a greater number of patients in a region in dire need of eye care. In 2016 the hospital already performed 15,458 consultations and 651 eye operations. Local eye health specialists are being trained on site to address the shortage of ophthalmologists and other skilled personnel. In 2016, a total of 60,643 people received eye care services in all four clinics supported by Light for the World and 2,852 cataract surgeries were performed.

South Sudan
The ongoing humanitarian crisis continues to make our work in South Sudan challenging. Light for the World trains its partners, Community Based Rehabilitation workers, members of other NGOs and UN agencies in disability inclusive emergency aid and shares its experiences with other international and local partners. 15,452 people received rehabilitation services and accessed inclusive projects in 2016. Our partners also launched the first south sudanese sign language dictionary, containing 200 basic signs of everyday topics such as family, education, food and drinks, as well as cities and state names. Over the past three years, Light for the World coordinated the process of recording the new official sign language together with local and international actors. Representatives of the Deaf Communities were at the heart of the process. The dictionary is a historic milestone. Our goal is to expand this collection of signs and codification continuously and to capture other areas of life. 320 people who are deaf or hard of hearing benefitted from our programme work in 2016.

Tanzania
Light for the World’s focus in Tanzania is on the prevention and treatment of childhood blindness. Our partners conduct sight-saving operations, and support children who are blind or visually impaired to access education. In 2016, 1,308 children with eye problems received a sight-saving operation and 386 blind and visually impaired children went to school.

Pakistan
After ten years involvement in Skardu in the Gilgit Baltistan Province our partner organisation is handing over the Community Based Rehabilitation and inclusion work to the local Disabled People’s Organisation. This is a huge success for sustainable development in this region. To date we have reached 68,702 persons in total and 163 children accessed school education in our projects in Pakistan.

Cambodia
Light for the World has supported programmes in Cambodia for 20 years, but has only recently set up a local office there. We work with local
and international NGOs, DPOs, UN agencies and the government on projects including Leadership Training for Women with Disabilities, Disability Inclusion in Road Safety with the Cambodian Red Cross, advocacy and access to employment. Linked into networks like the National Employability Committee and the NGO CBR network, we are bringing people and organisations together to promote positive change.

In 2016, we worked with more than 50 organisations specialising in the disability and inclusion fields.

**Papua New Guinea**

Papua New Guinea has one of the world’s highest rates of hearing problems: 3.6 million people have hearing problems, often caused by malaria, middle ear inflammation or other untreated diseases. Many villages are hard to reach and access to proper health care is a challenge. In addition to Community Based Rehabilitation, Inclusive Education programmes and eye health programmes we have supported the development of a sign language that can be used throughout the country.

Following the huge success of governmental recognition of the sign language as a national language in 2015, we are now supporting the training of teachers and sign language interpreters. In 2016, 28,565 people benefitted from our work, 15,821 of them hard of hearing or deaf.

A child in the Democratic Republic of Congo with congenital cataract, waiting for surgery.
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. 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 decade 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 voices 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 is a non-governmental organisation with the aim to realise an inclusive society, where everybody can play an active role, regardless of their ability, ethnicity, beliefs, age, wealth, gender or sexual orientation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Switzerland</th>
<th>Czech Republic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Offices</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

International Team
We value every donation

**SOURCES OF INCOME 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations in Cash and Sponsoring</td>
<td>14,123,384</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Support Alliance Partners</td>
<td>4,197,766</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations, Trusts</td>
<td>3,098,781</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>1,724,820</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public, Government Funding</td>
<td>1,677,557</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations in kind</td>
<td>893,843</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other income</td>
<td>107,292</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,823,443</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AREAS OF EXPENSES 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme Work incl. Advocacy</td>
<td>19,462,648</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information on Programme Work, Public Relations and Donor Administration</td>
<td>4,843,834</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration and Infrastructure</td>
<td>1,203,452</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation to Reserves</td>
<td>313,509</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,823,443</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We work hard to ensure quality and transparency throughout all of our work 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 implement measures designed to ensure transparency, simplify integrity and prevent corruption: the drawing-up of a code of conduct, anti-corruption clauses in our partner contracts, awareness-raising and training of staff in our own and partner organisations, candid internal and external communication of the subject, and the setting-up of a whistleblowing hotline.

We are producing an annual anti-corruption report, which is available on request.

For further information on the financial figures of the different legal entities please download the national reports at www.light-for-the-world.org

### RELIABILITY

Light for the World in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom have their accounts audited by independent external auditors. The 2016 accounts were audited by IBD Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH (formerly IB Interbilanz Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH; Austria), burg. bvba Clybouw bedrijfsrevisoren (Belgium), Deloitte CZ (Czech Republic) and WITh accountants (The Netherlands). Light for the World has been granted quality seals in the respective countries.

We have established an internal quality management system within the organisation as well as with our project partners.

**Donations to Light for the World are tax deductible in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.**
WHO WE WORK WITH

People who change the world

At a time when people with disabilities were largely excluded from education and society in Cambodia, Phalla Neang became the country’s very first Braille teacher. Today she is the school’s head and runs a national programme for blind and deaf students, 72 integrated and inclusive classes, and nationwide advocacy campaigns.

Imelda Nannyondo is a senior refractionist in Uganda with a great passion for her job. In a tireless effort to improve the situation for hundreds of Ugandan children in rural areas, she carries out refractions and information campaigns in health centres, schools and remote villages. She feels she really makes a difference to children and their education.

Marieke Boersma is a physiotherapist and medical anthropologist and has lived and worked in Ethiopia since 2002. With her deep understanding of field work as a therapist as well as years of experience in strategic planning and Community Based Rehabilitation, she works as a trainer and advisor for different partners in the field and is passionate about protecting children against violence.
After a stroke at the age of 21, Henry Wanyoike lost his sight—and with it, he felt, all hope. The support he received in a Light for the World rehabilitation project in his home country Kenya inspired in him a new lease of life. He went on to break world records in running, becoming one of the most renowned blind athletes globally. Today Wanyoike is actively involved in rehabilitation and education programmes in Kenya and acts as Goodwill Ambassador for Light for the World.

With the support of Light for the World, Minata Kaba studies at the Institute of Tropical Ophthalmology (IOTA) in Bamako, Mali. She is in her fourth year. She appreciates the practice and looks forward to her future as an ophthalmologist. Her goal is to contribute to the improvement of health services for the rural population in her home country Burkina Faso.

Ise Bosch is a German philanthropist who is dedicated to gender empowerment. Co-founder of the foundation filia.die frauenstiftung and chair of the Dreilinden gGmbH, Ise Bosch advocates for the responsible and sustainable use of wealth. While visiting our projects in Burkina Faso in 2016 she stated that there is no better or more sensible investment for a child’s, as well as a country’s future, than in Inclusive Education.

The new Kolwezi Mwangaza eye clinic in the Democratic Republic of Congo opened its doors in May 2016. Doctor Socrate Kapalu and Sister Esther have been appointed as medical director and administrative manager. They both feel honoured by the confidence put in them. With their help, the hospital will be able to treat and restore the eyesight of many patients who desperately need it.
WHO WE WORK WITH

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS!

Partners and supporters

Africa Action e.V. | Avast Foundation | Biano Stiftung | Brien Holden Vision Institute | CAMMAC Stiftung | CBM | CROMA-Pharma | Dr. Silvia Bopp Stiftung | Edukans | Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung | Eva Mayr-Stihl Stiftung | Firma Kindler | Fondation L’OCCITANE | Fondation Pro Victimis | Fondation Yvonne Anthoni | Helen Keller International | Het Schild


Austrian Development Cooperation | Belgian Development Cooperation | Czech Development Cooperation | European Union | Federal Province of Lower Austria | Federal Province of Upper Austria | Federal Province of Vienna | Federal Province of Tyrol | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands | Ministry of Sports in Austria | Provincie Vlaams-Brabant | Provincie West-Vlaanderen | Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI)

Memberships, Platforms & Alliances

Our Local Partners

BANGLADESH

CDD

BOLIVIA

CENAID | EIFODEC | ETI | FASCO | FASSIV | IDEPSSO | IIMS | Ojos del Mundo | MyRight | ADD

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

MyRight | Mozaik | DUGA

BURKINA FASO

ABAPE | CCI Handicap | CEFISE | CHR Koudougou | CHR Ouahigouya | CHUSS | CHUYO | CHUP-CDG | CM Laba | Morija Centre Kaya | COZ | CMA Nouna | CM Fada | DRS Centre Ouest | IJSF | DLM-PNMT | PROFOS | MFSNF | SP-COMUD | MENA | SG OCADES Caritas Burkina | SED OCADES Diebougou, Gaoua, Kaya, Koupéla, Manga, Nouna, Tenkodogo | RéJICOPH | SNEC | SBO | SOB | UNABPAM/EJA | UNAFEHB | ReNOH | UFR/SDS/DES | CN-EPT | INSS | Schiphra | CHR Kaya | Kongoussi

CAMBODIA

ABC | DDSP | Krousar Thmey

DR OF CONGO

COSY | COR | CLOM | COSJ | CODILU

ETHIOPIA

ADV | Apostolic Vicariate of Nekemte | Amhara Region Education Bureau | Amhara National Regional State Health Bureau | Basic Education Network Ethiopia | Berhan Lehetsanat | CBR Network Ethiopia | Cheshire Services Ethiopia | College of Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Gondar | East Wollega Zone Finance and Economic Department | Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development | Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus - Development and Social Services Commission | FENAPD | GPDI | GTM | HEIDA | HPDO | Horo Guduru Wollega Zone Finance and Economic Department | Jimma University | Kellem Wollega Zone Health Department | 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 | VCERA | West Shewa Zone Health Office | West Wollega Zone Finance and Economic Development Office | Wolaita Soddo University College of Health Science and Medicine | Yesus Menna Education Support for the Deaf | RSDA | Yirgalem Hospital

INDIA

Bosco Reach Out | Ramakrishna Mission Hospital | Vision 2020 India | Operation Eye Sight Universal | Bethany Society | Shishu Sarothi | Society of Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel | Society for the Welfare of the Disabled | Franciscan Clarist Congregation | Cherry Blossoms Society | Ferrando Speech and Hearing Centre | Manipur North Economic Development Association | CBR Forum

INDONESIA

PRY

KENYA

University of Nairobi | ADDA

MOZAMBIQUE

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

NEPAL

KFN

PAKISTAN

CHIP | STEP | ALP

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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

RWANDA

HVP Rwamagana | KEU

SOUTH SUDAN

ECCSS&S | SEM | Rumbek Primary Eye Clinic

TANZANIA

CCBRT | KCMC | TSB

UGANDA

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