

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Abbreviations & Acronyms

ACL	–	Annual Country Learning
AFO	–	Ankle Foot Orthosis
AIDs	–	Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AK	–	Above Knee
BK	–	Below Knee
CAG	–	Community Advocacy Group
CBR	–	Community-based Rehabilitation
CDR	–	Case Detection Rates
CSOs	–	Civil Society Organizations
CVs	–	Community Volunteers
CYP	–	Children and Young Persons
CYWD	–	Children and Young persons With Disabilities
DFAT	–	Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DPOs	–	Disabled Persons Organizations
DR	–	Drug Resistant
DS	–	Drug Sensitive
DST	–	Drug Susceptibility Testing
FBOs	–	Faith Based Organization
FCT	–	Federal Capital Territory
GC6	–	Grant Cycle 6
Gefsi	–	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GFATM	–	Global Fund for Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GD-2	–	Grade 2 Disability
HF	–	Health Facilities
HIV	–	Human Immune-Deficiency
IDEA	–	Integration, Dignity and Economic Advancement
JONAPWD	–	Joint Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy
KAFO	–	Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis
LF	–	Lymphatic Filariasis
LGA	–	Local Government Area
LMICs	–	Low and Middle-Income Countries
MB	–	Multi-bacillary
MBTX	–	Multi-Bacillary Treatment
MCS	–	Microscopy, Culture and Sensitivity Test
MDR	–	Multi-Drug Resistance
MDT	–	Multi-Drug Therapy
NAD	–	National Association of Dermatologists in Nigeria
NTDs	–	Neglected Tropical Diseases

Abbreviations & Acronyms

NTBLCP	–	National Tuberculosis & Leprosy Control Programme
P4P	–	Private for Profit
PB	–	Pauci-bacillary
PBTX	–	Pauci-Bacillary Treatment
PEP	–	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
PMVs	–	Patent Medicine Vendors
PPM	–	Public Private Mix
Pos	–	Partner Organizations
ReDIP	–	Resilience Building & Disability Inclusion Project
SIDA	–	Swedish International Development Agency
SHGs	–	Self Help Groups
SMC	–	Swedish Mission Council
TB	–	Tuberculosis
TBAs	–	Traditional Birth Attendant
TLM	–	The Leprosy Mission
TPT	–	Tuberculosis Preventive Therapy
WASH	–	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	–	World Health Organization

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Director's Desk

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends, As we reflect on the achievements and challenges of 2023, I am filled with immense gratitude to God for the remarkable strides The Leprosy Mission Nigeria (TLM-Nigeria) has made in our journey towards defeating leprosy and transforming the lives of those affected by this disease. This year, our commitment to the triple goals of zero transmission, zero disabilities, and zero discrimination has been unwavering, and the outcomes have been truly inspiring. In 2023, TLM-Nigeria intensified efforts to halt the transmission of leprosy through early detection and treatment. Our initiatives in Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Niger, Sokoto, and Zamfara states have significantly enhanced the diagnostic, treatment, and referral skills of healthcare professionals. By training community workers, including Patent Medicine Vendors, Traditional Birth Attendants, Traditional Healers, and Community Volunteers, we have extended our reach to the grassroots, ensuring early identification and prompt treatment of leprosy and other skin-related neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). The increase in new case detections, rising from 625 in 2022 to 965 in 2023, highlights the impact of our intensified case-finding activities and community education programs.

Preventing disabilities associated with leprosy has been a cornerstone of our mission. Through rehabilitation and disability management services, including physiotherapy, ulcer care, and assistive technologies, we have restored function and improved the quality of life for many individuals. Our commitment to early detection and comprehensive care has been bolstered by the support of referral hospitals and MDT clinics, ensuring that those affected receive the necessary medical and rehabilitative services.

Our efforts extend beyond medical care to address the social and economic challenges faced by individuals affected by leprosy. We have worked to reduce stigma and promote inclusivity through community dialogues, radio jingles, and establishing integrated skin clinics. The Proskin project, in collaboration with the National Association of Dermatologists, is a pivotal initiative in managing various skin conditions and enhancing community health education. The progress we have made this year would not have been possible without the support of our partners, donors, and dedicated staff. Capacity-building initiatives, such as training healthcare workers in ulcer care management and conducting research in collaboration with international institutions,

have enriched our knowledge base and improved our service delivery.

As we move forward, we remain committed to defeating leprosy and supporting those affected by the disease. The challenges we face are significant, as are the opportunities to make a lasting impact. With our partners' continued support and our team's dedication, we are confident in our ability to achieve our goals and create a future where leprosy is no longer a public health concern.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been a part of this journey. Together, we are making a difference, and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead.



Dr. Sunday Udo

NATIONAL DIRECTOR



Photo Credit: Saminu Msheliza

About us

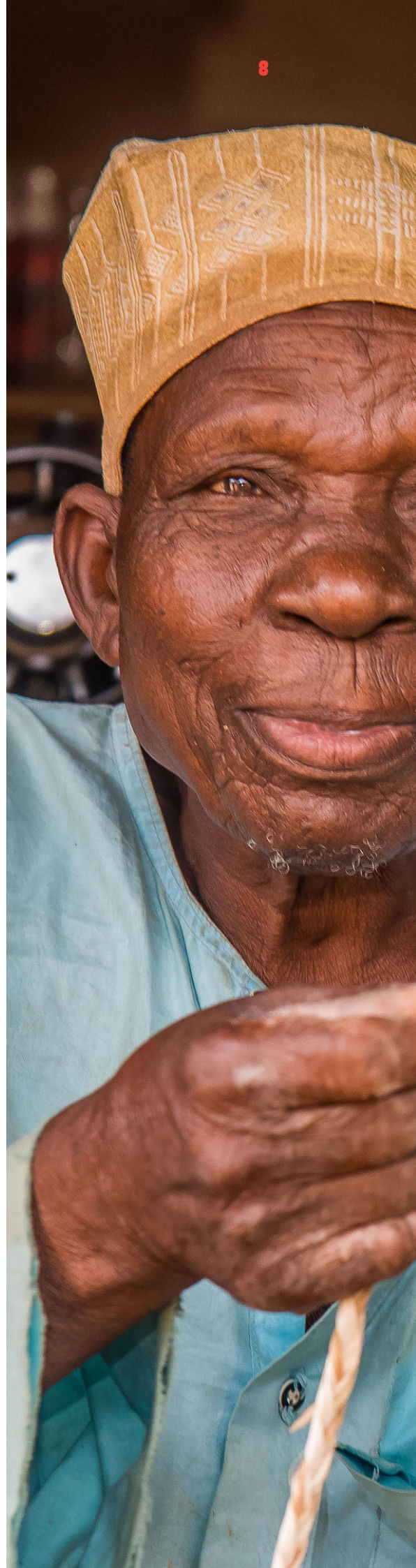
The Leprosy Mission (TLM) is an international Christian organization that supports people affected by leprosy.

TLM Global Fellowship

Founded in 1874, The Leprosy Mission is the oldest and largest leprosy-focused organization in the world. The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship is an international federation of 33 Member countries that have made commitments to one another through the TLM Charter and to certain principles and ways of working.

TLM Nigeria

TLM Nigeria (TLMN) works in collaboration with the Federal, State, and Local Governments through various interventions in the following areas: leprosy, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), tuberculosis, disabilities, stigma, dermatology, mental health, research, gender mainstreaming, and communications. Resources generated or allocated to TLMN are dedicated solely to supporting our programs and activities within Nigeria. This ensures that funds raised are utilized efficiently and effectively to maximize impact and benefit those we are called to serve.





OUR VISION

Nigeria is an inclusive society where leprosy is defeated, and people affected by leprosy and disabilities live life in all its fullness.



OUR MISSION

Following Jesus Christ, The Leprosy Mission seeks to bring about transformation, breaking the chains of leprosy, and empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness.



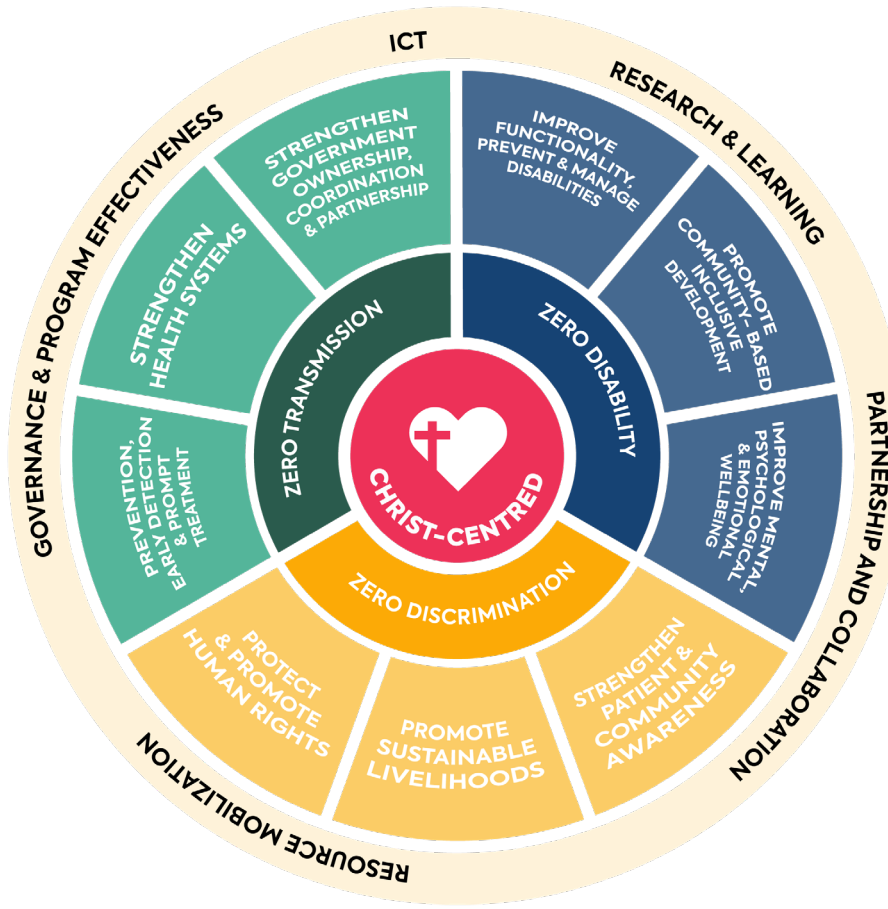
OUR VALUES

Because we follow Jesus Christ, we value compassion, justice, integrity, inclusion and humility.

COMMITMENTS

- Uphold the statements of The Leprosy Mission Fellowship's identity and purpose.
- Contribute to the enrichment of the life of The Leprosy Mission Fellowship.
- Take responsibility to strengthen the unity of The Leprosy Mission Fellowship.
- Work within Leprosy Mission Fellowship's accountability structures
- Observe financial stewardship principles.

Our Country Strategy

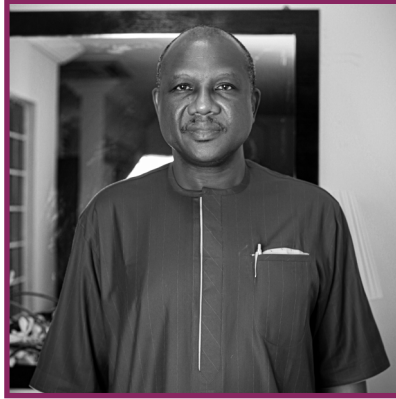


Current Thematic Areas

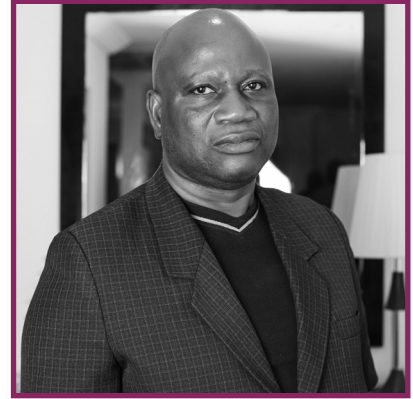
Our Board



Mrs. Andem-Rabana Nella (SAN)
Board Chairperson



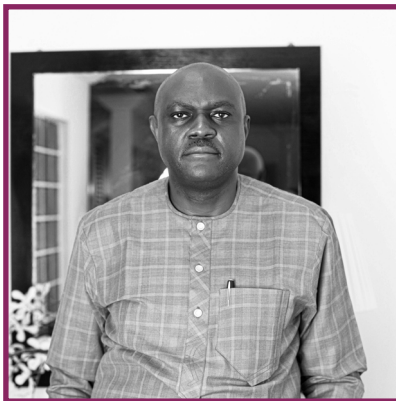
Mr. Ayuba Paiko Adamu
Secretary



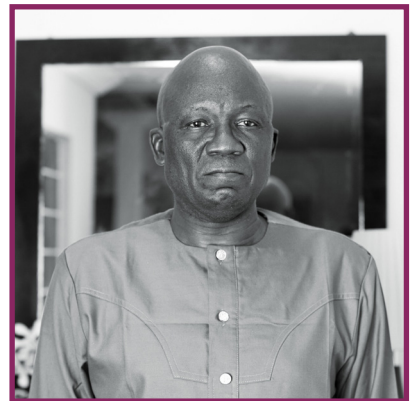
Mr. Michael O. Alafin
Treasurer



Dr. (Mrs). Maduekwe Catherine C
Member



Dr. Odubanjo Mobolaji Oladoyin
Member



Dr. Akande Wakeel Alani
Member



Brent Morgan (TLMI)
Member



Prof. Ekanem Ikpi Braide (OFR)
Ex-Officio

2023 Project Portfolio



Project	Type	Location	Duration	Funder
<p>RIGHT CALL 1:</p> <p>Transforming the Treatment and Prevention of Leprosy and Buruli ulcers in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).</p>	Research	FCT, Niger	Jan. 2019 – Nov. 2024	 <p>Department of Health & Social Care</p>
<p>READY4PEP:</p> <p>Preparing Mozambique and Nigeria for PEP – working towards zero transmission of leprosy.</p>	Zero Transmission	Kebbi, Niger	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	 <p>SINT ANTONIUS STICHTING NETHERLANDS</p>
<p>WHEELS THAT HEAL:</p> <p>Providing Mobile Health Services to Marginalised Communities, in Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria.</p>	Health Systems	FCT	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023	 <p>Isle of Man Government <small>Erillaght Ellan Vannin</small></p>
<p>OPEN MINDS:</p> <p>Children & young people overcoming mental health problems caused by skin NTDs in Nigeria.</p>	Mental Health	FCT (Yangoji), Kebbi (Bagudo, Suru) Sokoto (Amanawa, Kebbe)	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	 <p>COMIC RELIEF</p>
<p>CASE FINDING:</p> <p>Strengthening Leprosy & LF Case Finding towards Zero transmission in Kebbi & Sokoto States, Nigeria</p>	Zero Transmission	Kebbi (Bagudo, Suru) Sokoto(Dange Shuni)	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2024	 <p>The Leprosy Mission England and Wales</p>
<p>CASE FINDING:</p> <p>Accelerating Integrated Leprosy & LF Case Finding towards Zero transmission in Kogi and Kwara States, Nigeria.</p>	Zero Transmission	Kogi (Ankpa, Igalamela)Kwara (Irepodun, Baruten)	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2024	 <p>The Leprosy Mission Northern Ireland</p>
<p>CASE FINDING:</p> <p>Enabling Integrated Leprosy & LF Case Finding in Niger State, Nigeria.</p>	Zero Transmission	Niger (Chanchaga, Rijau)	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023	 <p>The Leprosy Mission Scotland</p>
<p>NTD:</p> <p>Strengthening Integrated NTD Control in Zamfara State</p>	Zero Transmission	Zamfara (Gusau, Bundugu, Maru, Maradun, Talata Mafara, Anka, Kaura Namoda, Tsafe)	Jul. 2019 – Mar. 2024	 <p>Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</p>

Project	Type	Location	Duration	Funder
<p>GLOBAL FUND PUBLIC-PRIVATE MIX GRANT:</p> <p>Scaling Up Services for TB Prevention and Control.</p>	Strengthening Health Systems	Kogi, Niger, Sokoto, Kaduna, Nasarawa	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	
<p>REDIP:</p> <p>Reducing the Burden of Leprosy Disabilities in 5 States of Nigeria.</p>	Zero Disabilities	FCT, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Niger, Sokoto	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023	
<p>ORTHOPAEDIC PROJECT PHASE II:</p> <p>Improving access to quality care for leprosy affected persons and people with disabilities through provision of assistive technologies.</p>	Zero Disabilities	Niger	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023	
<p>IDEA:</p> <p>Promoting integration, dignity and economic advancement of persons affected by leprosy in Nigeria</p>	Zero Discrimination	FCT	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023	
<p>INCLUSION FIRST: Contributing towards an inclusive Nigerian society where households are empowered and social structures strengthened to eliminate all barriers to holistic disability inclusion.</p>	Zero Disability	Across all states in Nigeria	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	
<p>INTEGRAL MISSION:</p> <p>Strengthening TLM Nigeria Partner Churches for integral Mission.</p>	Christ Centeredness	Kebbi, Niger, Sokoto, Zamfara	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	
<p>FARINCIKI: Achieving inner peace, wholeness and happiness for people affected by leprosy and disability and their family members in Nigeria.</p>	Zero Disability	FCT, Sokoto, Kebbi, Niger	Jan. 2023 – Dec. 2026	
<p>PRO SKIN: Promoting excellence in integrating the prevention and management of leprosy and other skin conditions in Nigeria</p>	Christ Centeredness	Kebbi, Niger, Sokoto, Zamfara	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023	

2023 Project Portfolio



Project Output 2023

Our project outputs for 2023 are structured around the triple zeros – **zero transmission, zero disabilities, and zero discrimination.**

Leprosy

965 New cases

7% Child proportion

6% Grade 2 Disability

34% increase in leprosy cases found

Ophthalmology

04 Hospitals supported

41 Persons Supported with ophthalmological management and care

08 Eye surgeries

Skin NTDs

1147 persons supported

To receive treatment for various skin conditions during skin camps in TLMN-supported states.

Community Health & Development

326 General Healthcare Workers trained on diagnosis and management of leprosy & NTDs.







263 CVs, PMVs, TH & TBAs trained on identification and referral of leprosy & NTDs.

80 Laboratory Staff trained on slit skin smear procedures.

Zero Transmission



The Leprosy Mission Nigeria made substantial progress in the prevention of impairment and disability associated with leprosy and disabilities in the year 2023. TLMN implemented various strategies and initiatives aimed at providing comprehensive care and rehabilitation services and these are the summary of the results.

	98 Prosthetic Limbs		2849 persons recieved subsidized drugs
	908 Assistive & Protective Devices		276 persons with adverse drug reactions treated.
	520 Patients on Admission supported with Feeding		399 persons recieved ulcer care materials

Zero Disability

ADVOCACY



124

State Leaders of IDEA & JONAPWD

trained on leadership, & conflict management & succession planning



60

state assembly members

trained on disability issues & National Disability Rights & Law



302

DPOs/CSOs/CAG

trained on advocacy and disability inclusive development.



56

million listeners sensitized

leprosy, disabilities and anti-discrimination laws.



15

million listeners sensitized

on prevention and early detection of leprosy/NTDs

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT



165

community members & SHGs

trained and supported with business startup items



143

agric extension workers

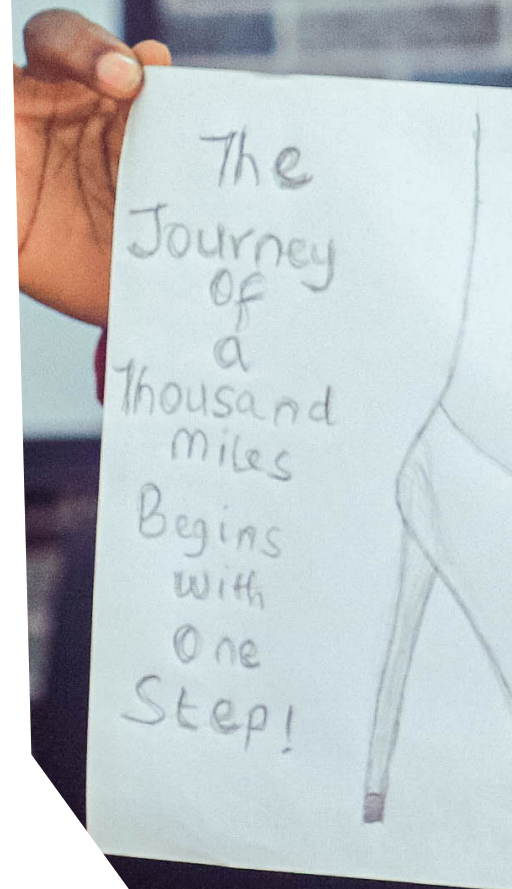
trained on climate-resilient agriculture, conventional farming practices



5

Solar Powered Boreholes

serving 8509 people with clean water



Zero Discrimination



Danjuma's Story

Danjuma Muhammed, is a 45-year-old pastor from Anamawa Zuru. Despite facing physical challenges due to leprosy, Danjuma has always had a strong desire to enhance his computer skills, as he believes it would greatly benefit his pastoral work. However, due to a lack of basic computer knowledge, he found it difficult to operate the computer effectively.

In the past, Danjuma attempted to learn computer skills by enrolling in a free computer class alongside other individuals. However, the large number of participants made it challenging for him to receive personalized attention and learn at his own pace. Despite his earnest desire to learn, the lack of funds prevented him from enrolling in a comprehensive computer training program.

Fortunately, the opportunity for vocational training emerged through TLMN ReDIP Project, and Danjuma eagerly chose computer training as his field of study. He enrolled in the program and successfully completed the training course. This newfound knowledge has brought immense joy to Danjuma, as he now feels equipped to integrate computer skills into his pastoral work and fulfill his role as the secretary of persons with disabilities in Anamawa Zuru.

Danjuma's dedication to learning computer skills demonstrates his commitment to personal and professional growth. With his enhanced computer knowledge, he envisions using technology as a tool to support his pastoral responsibilities and effectively communicate with his congregation. Additionally, Danjuma's role as the secretary of persons with disabilities allows him to utilize his computer skills in advocating for the rights and well-being of the disabled community in Anamawa Zuru. The vocational training program has not only empowered Danjuma to pursue his passion for computer literacy but has also opened up new possibilities for him to make a positive impact within his community.





Photo Credit
Emmanuel Yakubu

Zero Transmission

01 | LEPROSY

In 2023, The Leprosy Mission Nigeria made significant progress towards achieving zero transmission of leprosy and improving the well-being of individuals and communities affected by the disease. TLM Nigeria's initiatives covered several key areas, including:

CAPACITY BUILDING, EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT: In 2023, TLM Nigeria prioritized early identification and prompt treatment of leprosy, supporting Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Niger, Sokoto, and Zamfara States to improve the diagnostic, treatment, and referral skills of healthcare professionals. Training was provided to community workers, including Patent Medicine Vendors, Traditional Birth Attendants, Traditional Healers, and Community Volunteers, to recognize symptoms of leprosy, LF, and other skin-NTDs and refer patients accordingly. Community education on leprosy indicators and screening programs, such as skin camps, were conducted to detect these conditions. Active case finding was complemented by contact tracing to the households of identified leprosy patients.

ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE SERVICES: TLM Nigeria improved leprosy services and general healthcare access by supporting referral hospitals in Chanchaga (Niger), Holley Memorial Hospital Ochadamu (Kogi), and Infectious Disease Hospital (Sokoto), along with MDT clinics across various states. TLMN established a strong referral system between leprosy treatment centers, general healthcare

facilities, and community health workers, ensuring high-quality healthcare for affected individuals.

REHABILITATION AND DISABILITY MANAGEMENT:

TLM Nigeria focused on rehabilitation and disability management for those affected by leprosy, providing physiotherapy, ulcer care, assistive technologies, and eye surgeries. These services aim to restore function and improve the quality of life for individuals with leprosy-related disabilities. Additionally, the rehabilitation programs emphasized social and economic empowerment to facilitate reintegration into society and active community engagement.

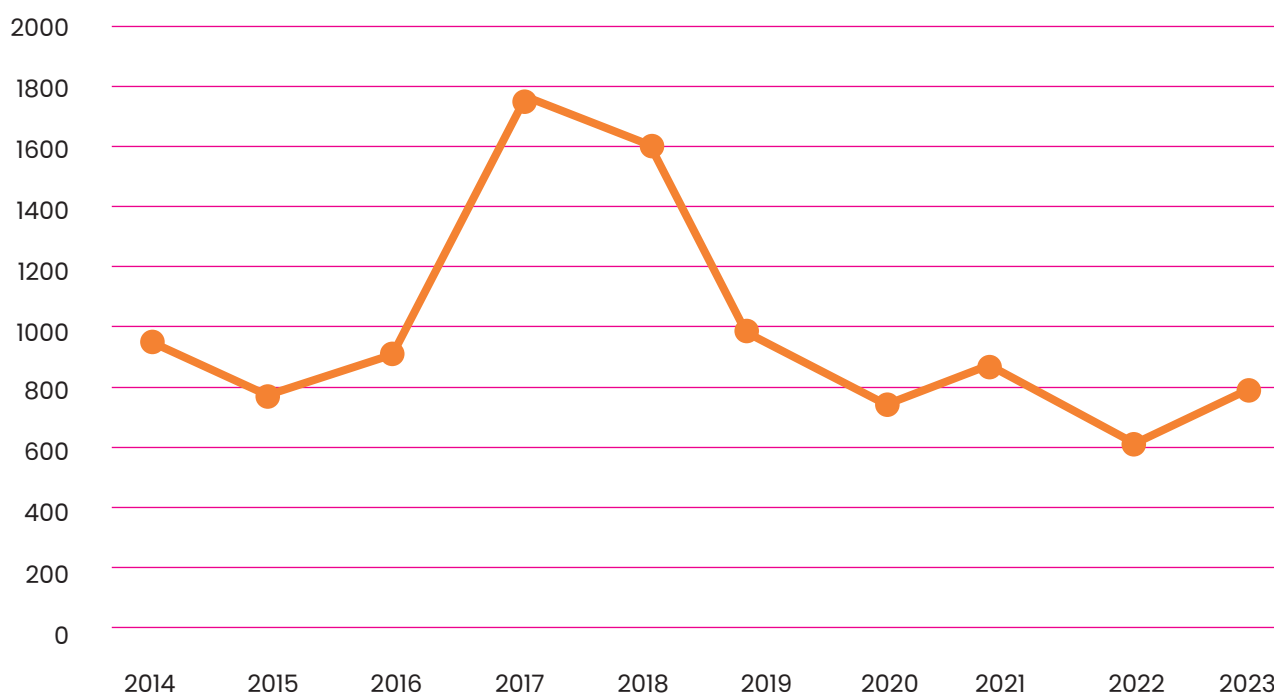
The following table highlights notable accomplishments during the 2023 review period, showcasing TLM-Nigeria's endeavors to reduce the transmission of leprosy as a public health concern and enhance the well-being of individuals affected by leprosy.

Trend of essential leprosy indicators in TLM-Nigeria assisted States 2013 – 2022

Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Population	27,086,215	28,252,586	28,920,123	37,896,848	38,882,166	48,253,099	49,941,957	51,890,230	53,254,686	55,168,033
Reg. Cases	825	1,277	1,354	1,292	1,340	1,340	1,067	2,398	2,393	2,452
Prevalence Rate	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4
New Cases	922	791	907	1733	1606	985	712	905	625	965
CDR	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
% Child	11%	11%	7%	6%	1.9%	5.8%	6.7%	6.6%	3.7%	7.0%
%GD2 Disability	10%	10%	13%	11%	9.7%	15.8%	4.1%	3.6%	3.04%	6.0%
%MB	91%	91%	95%	92%	97%	93%	98.9%	89.8%	94.7%	93%
%MBTX Completion	95.5%	94.87%	97%	98%	84.2%	95.11%	56.4%	22.6%	84%	88%
%PBTX Completion	100%	99.96%	96%	100%	100%	98.88%	68%	40.6%	100%	94%

In 2023, TLM Nigeria detected 965 new leprosy cases in nine supported states, a 34% increase from 625 in 2022 due to intensified case finding. Early detection rose in several states, and child cases increased from 3.7% to 7.0% due to school awareness campaigns. The percentage of GD-2 disability rose to 6% from 3.04% in 2022. MB treatment completion improved to 88%, while PB completion decreased to 94%.

Showing trend of new leprosy cases in TLMN assisted States from 2014 – 2023



Zero Transmission

02 | OPHTHALMOLOGY

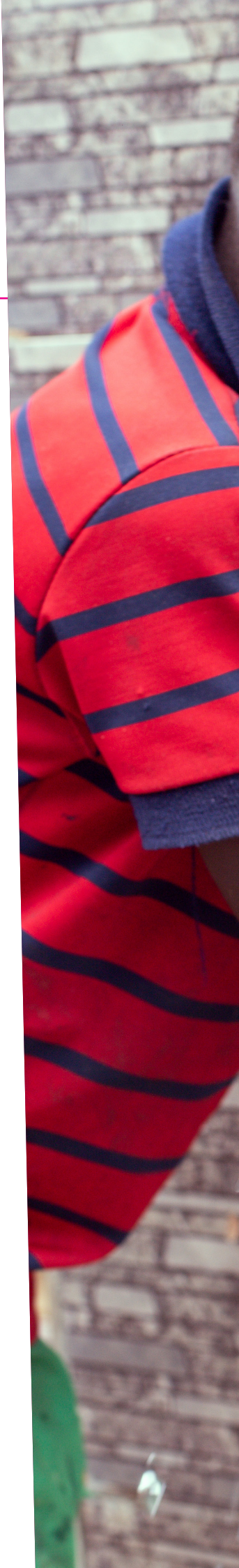
In 2023, 41 individuals received support for various eye treatments, and 8 patients received assistance for eye surgery.

03 | DERMATOLOGY

In 2023, 1,147 people received support for various skin conditions during skin camps in TLMN-supported states. The Proskin project, launched in June 2023, achieved a significant milestone with baseline survey assessments in FCT, Niger, Sokoto, and Kebbi. Insights from these assessments will guide future interventions and measure changes over time. A significant achievement is the near-completion of the lab registration, demonstrating our commitment to operational excellence and regulatory compliance. The Proskin project has also established a valuable partnership with the National Association of Dermatologists in Nigeria (NAD). This collaboration has enhanced our understanding of skin NTDs and enriched project planning through regular communication and knowledge-sharing sessions.

04 | COMMUNITY HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

TLMN provided health education on leprosy, LF, and NTDs, emphasizing early detection through community dialogues and radio jingles reaching over 15 million listeners. The WASH campaign improved health by enhancing access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education. Five solar-powered boreholes were installed, serving 8,509 people in FCT, Niger, Kogi, Kebbi, and Zamfara States, addressing water scarcity and freeing time for education and income-generating activities.





Zero Disability

The Leprosy Mission Nigeria (TLMN) has made significant progress in reducing impairments and disabilities associated with leprosy through various initiatives:

EARLY DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS: TLMN's community-based screening, training, and awareness campaigns ensured early detection and treatment, reducing the burden of leprosy and preventing physical deformities.

ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE SERVICES: TLM Nigeria supported leprosy referral centers and MDT clinics to offer comprehensive care, including wound management, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation services to prevent or minimize disabilities. Access to diagnostic facilities and trained healthcare personnel is crucial for early detection and disability prevention.

DISABILITY PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION: TLM Nigeria prioritizes disability prevention by focusing on wound care and physiotherapy. In 2023, assistive technologies, including custom-made footwear, protective shoes, and prosthetic and orthotic devices, were provided to individuals affected by leprosy. These interventions aimed to restore physical function, enhance mobility, and improve the overall quality of life for those with leprosy-related disabilities.

CAPACITY BUILDING: TLM Nigeria conducted ulcer care management training for healthcare workers and affected individuals through self-care groups. This ensures healthcare workers have the skills to manage ulcers effectively, leading to improved patient outcomes and healthcare delivery. Individuals affected by leprosy can now recognize early signs of ulcers, preventing complications like infection and tissue damage, thus reducing the disability burden caused by ulcers.

RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION: TLM Nigeria collaborates with research institutions and partners to enhance understanding of ulcer management in leprosy and handling impairments associated with the disease. The aim is to enrich existing knowledge, contributing to improved leprosy care and disability management. Through the RIGHT CALL 1 project, titled "Transforming the Treatment and Prevention of Leprosy and Buruli Ulcers in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)," TLM Nigeria is conducting a Randomized Control Trial of Raw, Unadulterated African Honey for Ulcer Healing in Leprosy.

01 | PREVENTION OF IMPAIRMENT AND DISABILITY

The prevention of disability project which is supported by The Leprosy Mission Spain is targeted at reducing the occurrence of disability through adequate medical management of the complications of leprosy and rehabilitation of persons affected by leprosy who have developed a disability. This project is directly implemented across five states in Nigeria – Niger, Kogi, Kwara, Sokoto and FCT Abuja – to support and strengthen the activities of the government in tackling leprosy and its consequences by providing additional manpower, medical supplies and expertise in the management of leprosy and its complications. In summary, the funding support received from TLM Spain was used to provide:



Medical Management of Leprosy Cases



Feeding for patients on admission.



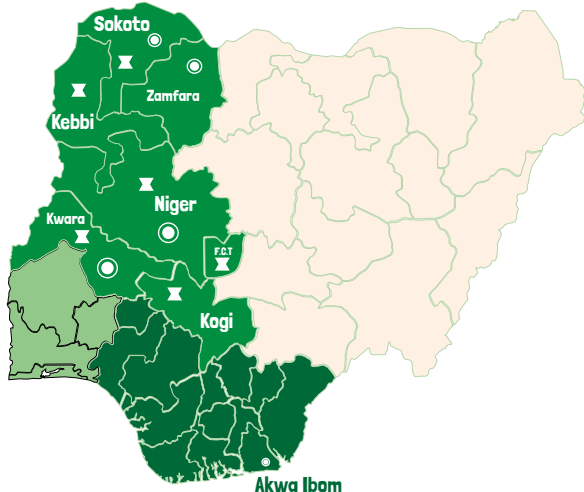
Free Self-Care & Ulcer Care Materials



Surgical procedures for persons affected by Leprosy



Prosthetic Limb rehab for Amputees affected by leprosy



REGIONAL INSIGHT

The map shows the States in 2023 where TLM Nigeria directly supports the fight against leprosy and its consequences in Akwa Ibom, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Niger, Sokoto and Zamfara and the Federal Capital Territory Abuja.

- Supported States with referral hospitals
- Supported States

Activity Description	Adults		Children		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Feeding for leprosy patients on admission	193	271	35	21	520
Subsidized essential drugs for leprosy patients	1295	976	292	286	2849
Patients with reactions treated	124	138	9	5	276
Ulcer care materials for management of ulcers	179	205	3	12	399
Eye surgery support to leprosy patients	24	12	0	0	36
Prosthetic limbs	15	27	0	0	42
Assistive devices	129	102	3	7	241
Total	1959	1731	342	331	4363



Niger State Commissioner of Tertiary Healthcare, Dr. Bello Tukur, commissioning the renovated referral hospital in Chanchaga

02 | COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

An increase in Hepatitis B infections among people affected by leprosy in the Chanchaga Leprosy community in Minna, Niger state, prompted an urgent response. TLM Nigeria, funded by TLM Spain, mobilized public health professionals to screen the community. Of 108 tested, 7 were confirmed positive. Vaccination plans are underway for uninfected members to curb the virus's spread. Those infected are receiving care to manage the disease. The breakdown of the 108 screened include Adults: Male – 15, Female – 43; Children: Male – 23, Female – 27. The 7 confirmed cases are made up of Adult: Male 1, Female 6.

03 | SUPPORT TO THE CHANCHAGA REFERRAL HOSPITAL

TLM Nigeria has been a key supporter of the Chanchaga Leprosy Referral Hospital in Minna, Niger state. This major referral hospital handles leprosy ulcers and receives cases from across the country. Due to increased patient influx from the Northwest and the ongoing HELP study, two old rooms were renovated to accommodate 10 more patients and installed with new beds, mattresses, pillows, and side cupboards, enhancing healthcare access for those affected by leprosy. A new disaggregated toilet was also constructed. This intervention was funded by TLM Australia / DFAT via the Integrated NTD and Disability Project in Zamfara.

The Niger State Commissioner of Health was on ground to commission the newly constructed

toilet and renovated wards and had expressed gratitude for the support. In his words:

On behalf of the Niger State Governor, I extend sincere gratitude to TLM Nigeria, The Leprosy Mission Australia, and the Government of Australia for their dedication to individuals affected by leprosy. The newly transformed wards and toilets will significantly enhance services at the referral center, aligning with the government's efforts to provide excellent healthcare. We appreciate TLM Nigeria's ongoing support, including regular medical supplies, which ensures quality care for leprosy patients. We look forward to continued collaboration for the benefit of those affected by leprosy, ensuring everyone has access to quality healthcare."

04 | MANAGEMENT OF LEPROSY REACTIONS

Leprosy reactions are acute flare-ups of symptoms occurring during or after treatment. These reactions manifest as painful skin nodules, rashes, skin ulcers, and swelling of digits and face in affected individuals. If left untreated, reactions can lead to disabilities, especially if they occur during or after multidrug therapy (MDT). Complications may include muscle weakness, extensive loss of sensation, and inability to close eyelids.

05 | ULCER CARE

Foot ulcer is the most common complication due to leprosy. It occurs as a result of the damage to the peripheral nerves which result in loss of sensation to the extremities, thus patients may experience skin lesions which they may not be aware of and can degenerate rapidly resulting in foot ulcers which are sometimes infected as at time of reporting to a health facility. Foot care has been one of the cardinal approach to maintaining a healthy population among person affected by leprosy through the self-care groups which are targeted at group/community care for persons affected by leprosy with foot ulcers, this entails proper washing of the foot with disinfected water, application of Vaseline oil on the foot to prevent dryness, dressing for present ulcer(s) as well as the use of bilateral axillary crutches to prevent weight bearing on the affected foot. At the hospital level, ulcer care is more extensive and coordinated medically through series of medical laboratory tests, use of antibiotics for infected ulcers, bi-weekly dressing changes, debridement and close monitoring by trained medical practitioners.

All patients admitted for ulcer care went through laboratory culture tests – wound MCS – to analyse their resistance and sensitivity to specific antibiotic drugs before drug prescriptions were made and supervised by the medical advisor in charge of leprosy cases at the referral hospitals.



06 | PHYSIOTHERAPY

Physiotherapy services were provided to 101 individuals at referral hospitals, focusing on improving physical function and mobility. Tailored treatment plans included exercises, manual therapy, and modalities like heat or cold therapy as well as education on proper body mechanics and posture aimed to prevent injury. These interventions empowered individuals to regain independence, enhance their quality of life, and meet their functional goals.

07 | ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

A total of 1,429 individuals received various assistive and protective technologies. 1,020 (71%) were provided free to persons affected by leprosy, while 409 (29%) were offered to paying clients who accessed the services at the workshop. Further details on the distribution of devices are presented in the table below:

Type of Device	Leprosy Patients	General Patients	Total
AK Prosthesis (Modular)	28	34	62
BK Prosthesis (Modular)	62	49	111
Below Elbow Prosthesis	1	3	4
Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO)	5	15	20
Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis (KAFO)	2	13	15
Protective Sandals	576	127	703
Spinal brace	0	2	2
Shoe Raise	4	22	26
Molded Shoe	36	0	36
Foot Drop Strap	7	0	7
Crutches	277	89	366
Walking Stick	3	21	24
Wheelchair	5	16	21
Prosthetic Socket Repair	12	9	21
Orthosis Repair	2	9	11
Total	1020	409	1429

08 | TLM AUSTRALIA SPONSORED DISABILITY OUTREACH

The TLMN Orthopaedic workshop in collaboration with TLM Australia and TLM Sweden and the popular Human Rights Radio/Television Station based in Abuja conducted a disability outreach with beneficiaries who are indigent amputees coming from communities in Kebbi, Niger, Nasarawa, Plateau and Zamfara States. The flag off programme was attended by the Australian Deputy High Commissioner – Matthew Mechan, the Swedish Ambassador – Annika Hahn-Englund, the Executive Secretary National Commission for Persons with Disabilities – Dr. James Lahu, the Secretary TLMN Board of Trustees – Adamu Ayuba Paiko, the host of Human Rights Radio/Television – Ordinary President Ahmed Isah, the National Director TLM Nigeria – Dr. Sunday Udo and other key dignitaries. During the disability outreach event, TLMN’s technical team conducted initial assessments and cast-taking. From a pool of over 400 registered amputees, 69 beneficiaries were shortlisted to receive bespoke prosthetic limbs free of charge.



Andrew Newmarch (International Programs Manager, TLM Australia)



Annika Hahn – Englund (Swedish Ambassador), Matthew Mechan (Deputy High Commissioner at Australian High Commission Nigeria)



Ordinary President Ahmed Isah (CEO Human Rights Radio & TV)



Foot Stump Assessment

09 | INCLUSION FIRST PROGRAM

TLMN in collaboration with the Liliane Foundation and 16 Partner Organizations (POs) provided support to a total of 986 children and young persons with disabilities (CYWD) who were direct beneficiaries and 1023 indirect beneficiaries made up of care givers and service providers. The inclusion first project is focused on contributing towards an inclusive Nigerian society where households are empowered and social structures strengthened to eliminate all barriers to holistic disability inclusion.



16 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

St Louise Inclusive School, Festus Fajemilo Foundation, Servants of Charity – House of Providence Special School, Dawn Syndrome Foundation of Nigeria, Hope Center for Inclusive Education, The Engraced Ones, St. Vincent School for Inclusive Education, Open Doors, Catholic diocese of Abakaliki, Elim CVTC, St. Louis Community Based Rehabilitation, RECDOT Centre, CHARIS Healthcare and Community Support Initiative, St. Joseph Inclusive Model School, HHCJ Rehabilitation Center, DRAC, Hopeville Rehabilitation Center, SECHILD Center, Jela Development Initiatives (JDI), Our Lady of Fatima, St. Bernadette Nursery & Primary School, Mariam Homes

986 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

1023 INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES



1048 CHILDREN
HAVE IMPROVED ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES ACROSS 14 STATES



608 HEALTH CARE WORKERS
HAVE IMPROVED CAPACITY TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

739 CYWD
RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SPECIALIZED EDUCATION

578 PARENTS
OF CYWD'S RECEIVED VARIOUS LEVELS OF VOCATIONAL TRAININGS



Photo Credit Saminu Msheliza

Zero Discrimination

01 | CAMPAIGNS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The Leprosy Mission Nigeria has made significant progress in combating disability and leprosy-related discrimination through the following targeted initiatives:

SENSITIZATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS: TLM Nigeria organized campaigns to educate communities about leprosy and skin NTD's, focusing on its causes, transmission, prevention, myths & misconceptions. These efforts aim to reduce stigma and discrimination by fostering understanding and compassion for those affected. This intervention seeks to create an environment where individuals with leprosy and skin NTDs are treated with dignity and respect. The campaigns involve engaging local leaders and utilizing various media channels to reach a broad audience, ensuring the message is clear and widely disseminated in local languages.

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES: A total of 687 individuals affected by leprosy and disability as well as their families were supported to acquire vocational skills for income generation. The training included shoemaking, bag making, baking, computer skills, tailoring, welding, furniture making, bead making, makeup, and driving. Participants received business start-up materials to facilitate their economic independence, boosting their self-confidence and helping them overcome discrimination.

COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION: Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) programs were implemented across 7 States to promote the social inclusion of individuals affected by leprosy and disabilities. Focusing on inclusivity, independence, and improved quality of life, the CBR intervention is helping to reduce stigma and ensuring access to essential services and societal participation. By engaging the community, these programs is also fostering social cohesion and sustainable development, addressing the specific needs of people with disabilities.

ADVOCACY AND COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS: To combat discrimination and uphold the rights of individuals affected by leprosy and disabilities we collaborated with IDEA, JONAPWD, DPOs,

government bodies, civil society groups, and other stakeholders, to influence policies and practices that marginalize these individuals and communities. These efforts aimed to create an inclusive society where the rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of disability or health status, are respected and protected.

CAPACITY BUILDING: In 2023, TLM Nigeria with funding support from SMC/Sida and TLM Sweden under the ReDIP project, organised capacity-building initiatives for community leaders of IDEA, JONAPWD, and other relevant stakeholders to enhance their skills in advocacy, policy influencing, and human rights as outlined in existing legislations and conventions. By equipping these key stakeholders with the necessary tools and knowledge, the capacities of the communities to better challenge discriminatory practices and advocate for the rights of individuals affected by leprosy and disabilities were strengthened to promote inclusion towards a more equitable and inclusive society.



Be kind.







02 | SAFEGUARDING

The development of a TLMN safeguarding manual for communities was a crucial step in protecting children and vulnerable adults. This comprehensive guide helps community members, organizations, and institutions create safe environments to prevent abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The manual aims to raise awareness of safeguarding issues and promote accountability, ensuring everyone is responsible for the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults. Additionally, communities received training on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) to promote gender equality in decision-making, integrate GESI principles in projects, ensure equal access to resources, and foster an inclusive work environment. A broadscale safeguarding refresher training was conducted for a total of 48 staff and 44 safeguarding leads from partner organizations of The Leprosy Mission Nigeria.

03 | INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

TLM Nigeria participated in marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, themed “United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities,” across all TLMN supported states. Each state in collaboration with IDEA, JONAPWD and CSOs organized unique initiatives to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities and their participation in society, emphasizing collective efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For example, in Kogi State, a public lecture was held, and a road walk with anti-discriminatory messages which led to bank directors committing to constructing ramps across the bank branches in the State. In Sokoto State, a town hall meeting resulted in the Governor pledging to increase monthly stipends for beneficiaries. In Kebbi State, TLMN supported a school for persons with special needs with sandals, socks, and books. In addition, Radio discussions were conducted across the supported states, reaching an estimated 56,794,631 listeners with information about the rights of persons with disabilities and anti-discriminatory laws, as well as ways to address social concerns related to disability.



Dr. Bunmi Oluloto, Country Leader TLM Niger



Participants



Glenn Larsen, Country Leader TLM Norway

2023 Annual Co

The Annual Country Learning (ACL) event by The Lep 8-10, 2023, at Ibetoto Hotel in Abuja. The objectives of and lessons learnt in the period under review, disc emerging needs and promote mutual accountabili participants attended the ACL, including representa IDEA, JONAPWD, TLM Sweden, TLM Norway, TLM Niger, with the TLMN board of trustees meeting, allowing present prosthetic limbs to 22 beneficiaries.



Johan Bäckrud (Country Director, TLM Sweden) Ms. Anna Lena Maria Hansson (SIDA) Thandi Moyo (Program Coordinator TLM Sweden) Victoria Pfeiffer C



s of the 2023 ACL



Dr. Mrs. Catherine Maduekwe (Member BOT) & Thandi Moyo (Program Coordinator of The Leprosy Mission Sweden)

Country Learning

The Country Learning Mission Nigeria (TLMN) took place from November 2023. The ACL was to reflect on projects, outputs, outcomes, discuss burning issues affecting the programmes, assess capacity and relationship building among partners. Over 45 participants from TLMN, the Federal Ministry of Health, NTBLCP, Liliiane Foundation, and SMC/SIDA. The event coincided with board members to interact with ACL participants and



(Sida)





Mental Health

We launched a new mental health project called '*Farinciki*' translated from the Hausa language to mean 'inner well-being'. The goal of the project is to ensure that people affected by leprosy and disabilities have improved mental health and wellbeing.

The project seeks to achieve;

- Improved partnership, momentum, and advocacy efforts between government, NGOs and people affected to influence the National Assembly to pass the Mental Health Bill as an Act.
- A highly functioning and effective referral system with skilled and compassionate Community First Aiders and Mental Health Professionals in supported states as well as increased
- Sustained awareness for community members regarding truths about mental health helping to reduce their negative viewpoints and discrimination of people affected.

The project is being implemented in FCT, Kebbi, Sokoto and Niger with the selection and training of community actors which includes Grandmothers, Adult & CYP Peer counsellors and Community First Aiders. A total of 35 grandmothers, 102 Adult and CYP Peer counsellors, and 7 Community first aiders were trained across the 4 states to support implementation and engagements in the supported communities.



1684

Community Members
reached with information on mental health.



152

Health & Social Workers
reached with information on mental health.



158

Teachers
reached with information on mental health.



World Mental Health Day

In the Commemoration of World Mental Health Day 2023, TLMN engaged with the general public on leprosy and mental health to raise awareness and reduce stigma via radio programs. The program was dedicated to discussing the theme of the year which was, "Mental Health

is a Universal Human Right," and fostering conversations that encouraged individuals with mental health issues to seek help. The team also visited the School for the Deaf, Kuje to create awareness and promote open discussions about mental health. The visit offered a platform for about

624 students to express their thoughts and concerns. It was a step towards creating a more inclusive and compassionate community, where individuals are empowered to build resilience to address their mental wellbeing.



Children of School of the Deaf Kuje

Photo Credit Christine Bestman

Tuberculosis

The Leprosy Mission Nigeria is a sub-recipient of the GF GC6 Project, providing technical oversight to 7 States. The overarching aim of the GF GC6 PPM grant is to scale up access to TB services through the private sector. Specifically, the strategy targets five service delivery categories including private-for-profit facilities (P4P), Faith based Organizations (FBOs), Community Pharmacies (CPs), Patent Medicine Vendors (PMVs) and Stand-alone laboratories. Strategies were informed by an analysis of current state of engagement of these facility types and notification trends.

TB is among Nigeria's top priorities, and the country is one of 14 countries that are listed in all three of the World Health Organization's (WHO) global lists of high burden countries for TB, TB/HIV and multi-drug resistant (MDR)-TB. Nigeria also has the second largest burden of TB/HIV co-infection on the African continent and the second highest under-five and maternal mortality rate in the world.

The Goal of the GF GC6 Project is to increase the TB PPM contribution to the National TB case notification from 14% in 2019 to 35% in 2023 and to increase the DST coverage from 58% in 2019 to 75% by 2023. TLMN is responsible for the implementation of the GF-PPM Project in 7 states (Jigawa, Kaduna, Kebbi, Kogi, Nasarawa, Niger, and Sokoto States), as well as coordinates and Supports sputum shipment in the entire 19 northern states.

2,035,444

persons screened
for Tuberculosis

429,857

presumptive cases
identified

43,926

diagnosed with
Drug Sensitive TB

109

diagnosed with
Drug Resistant TB

>90%

treatment success
rate for all forms of TB



Achievements

- Training and formal engagement of about 480 FBOs and P4Ps, with engagement of over 4800 PMVs, CPs, TBAs, THs across 7 states for TB case finding and management.
- Supported client screening, presumptive TB identification, sample transportation to testing sites, patient diagnosis and treatment, as well as patient follow up on treatment in supported sites.
- Supported TB preventive measures through contact investigation and placement of eligible clients on TPT.
- Supported the state and National TB program.

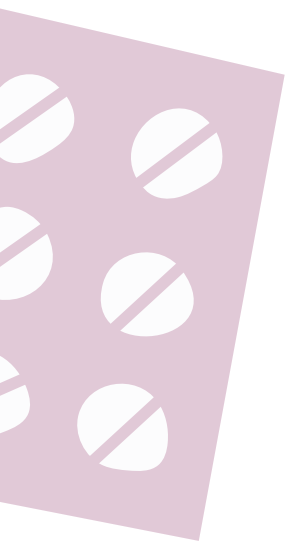




Photo Credit: Saminu Msheliza

2023 Tuberculosis Data in TLMN supported States

	Number of persons screened for TB	Number of presumptive TB cases identified	Total number of TB cases diagnosed (DS-TB)	Total number of TB cases diagnosed (DR-TB)
Kaduna	115,354	125,664	11,253	4
Kogi	718,603	9,323	1,485	15
Nasarawa	241,463	36,686	3,214	3
Niger	76,573	44,616	4,608	36
Sokoto	154,891	178,341	20,009	8
Jigawa	313,406	10,993	1,357	7
Kebbi	415,154	24,234	2,000	36
Total	2,035,444	429,857	43,926	109



2023 Finance Report

In this brief Recap of Our Financial Journey in 2023. We reflect on the past year, and extend our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated supporters, partners and donors who have made our mission possible. In 2023, our commitment to positive change was unwavering, and we're thrilled to share the financial summary that underscores the impact of our collective efforts.

Through the generosity of our partners, The TLM Global Fellowship, donors and individuals, we achieved a total revenue that surpassed our expectations. The contributions received not only sustained our initiatives but also allowed us to expand our reach and touch more lives than ever before.

Every naira spent was a testament to our responsible stewardship. We ensured that resources were channeled efficiently into our programs, operations, and growth strategies. This careful allocation enabled us to maximize our impact and uphold the trust placed in us.

As we move forward, guided by our values and the knowledge that positive change is attainable through collaborative efforts, we are excited

Revenue

Grant Through TLM Global Fellowship	932,470,310.00
Grant Through Global Funds	1,476,271,962.00
Lilliane Foundation	282,868,195.00
Other Grants & Donations	212,431,676.00
Total Revenue	2,904,042,143

Expenditure

Operating Cost	1,979,773,266.00
Special Project Cost	289,881,209.00
Staff Cost	407,161,240.49
Admin Cost	96,354,337.00
Total Expenditure	2,773,170,052.00

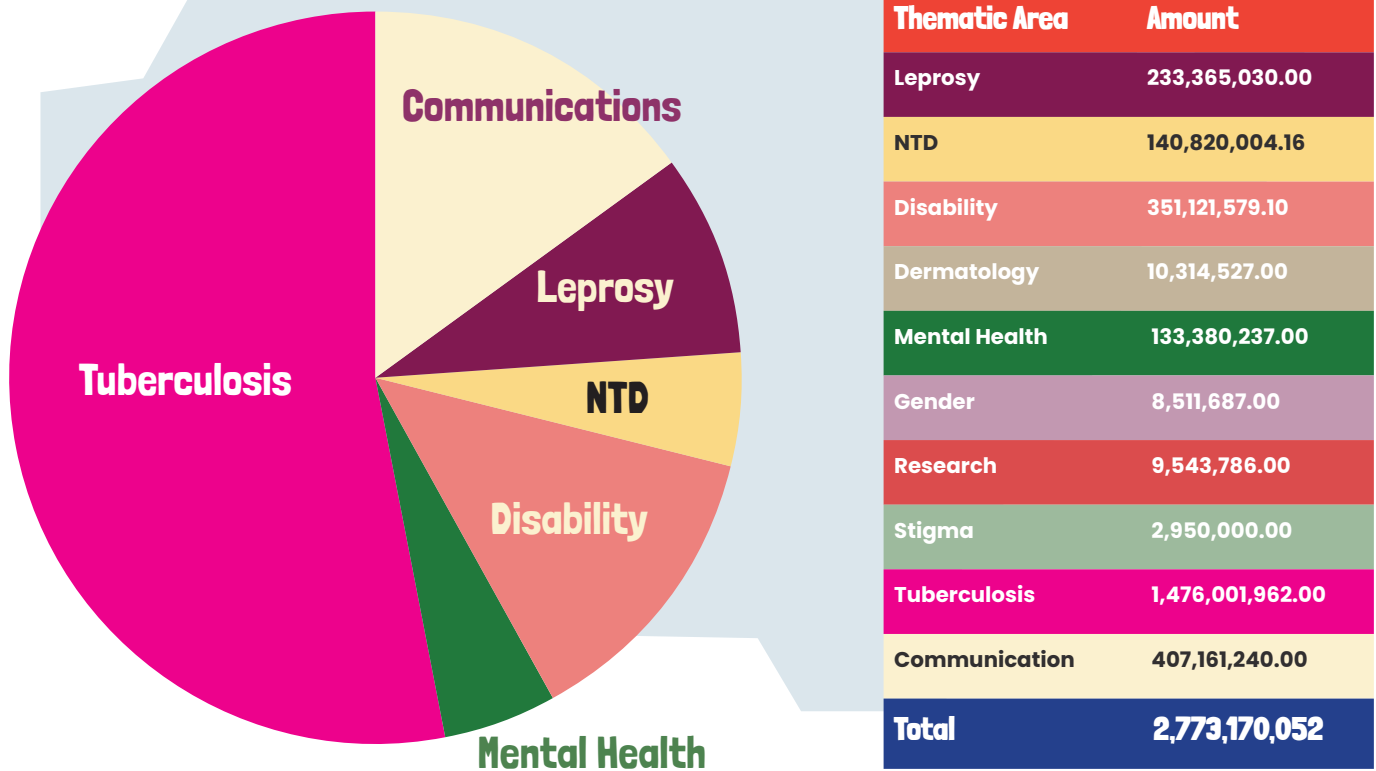
Assets & Liabilities

Non-Current Assets	340,711,085.00
Current Assets	975,940,371.00
Net Assets	1,316,651,456.00

Current Liabilities

Total Net Assets	197,665,261.00
Total Liabilities	1,118,986,195.00
Net Assets	1,316,651,456.00

Expenditure According to Thematic Areas



about the opportunities that lie ahead. None of our achievements would have been possible without the collective support of our volunteers, donors, and advocates. Together, we continue to create a brighter future and empower those in need.

In the pursuit of our mission, every penny invested brought us a step closer to positive change, and in 2023 with unwavering dedication and a meticulous approach, we allocated resources to various areas, amplifying our efforts and maximizing our reach. Each figure mentioned above represents more than just a monetary value; it symbolizes hope, progress, and a commitment to a brighter future. The impact of these expenditures is a testament to the collective dedication of our team, supporters, and partners.

At the time of compiling this report, projects related to dermatology were still in their developmental phases. Consequently, there have been no expenditures recorded for these projects thus far.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our resolve to continue channeling resources where they matter most, guided by our mission and the unwavering belief in the power of positive change."

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