

THE LEPROSY MISSION GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP STRATEGY 2025-2030

LEPROSY DEFEATED
LIVES TRANSFORMED

THE
LEPROSY
MISSION 





FOREWORD

This strategy, like all others, reflects the time in which it has been developed. As we have written this together, we have stood in the long shadow of the Covid pandemic, in a time of economic and political turbulence, and as we face the emerging reality of potentially catastrophic damage to our planet.

Amidst that uncertainty and anxiety, this strategy has also been written in The Leprosy Mission's 150th year. This is significant. Between 1874 and today, this Mission has worked amidst world wars, global pandemics, economic depressions, and no end of political turmoil. Through all these challenges, God has sustained this Mission. This is God's Mission, and through all these moments, the people of this Mission have had hope that God would use them to bring unimaginable change.

What has not changed – and will never change – is the glue that underpins everything we do and holds us together as a Fellowship: our shared commitment to Christ. Our Father's love for each person affected by leprosy inspires everything we will do through this strategy. It is through Him that we will reach a world without leprosy.

If you are part of The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship, read this strategy and know that your gifts and talents will be put to the best use. If you partner with or support The Leprosy Mission, read this strategy in the confidence that our skilled teams are dedicated to applying their gifts where they can have the most impact. If you are a person affected by leprosy, read this strategy and know that we will partner, listen, serve, give, and encourage and that we will do so generously, diligently, and cheerfully.

Brent Morgan

International Director
The Leprosy Mission International

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Romans 12: 6–8



THE CHALLENGES WE WILL WORK TO OVERCOME

Leprosy is not only a disease from ancient times, but one that persists in the 21st century and is still devastating the lives of people across the globe today. A person is diagnosed with leprosy every two minutes. In addition, millions more go undiagnosed every year. This is an injustice.

The major challenges

We face many challenges in achieving our vision:

- Limited capacity and expertise to diagnose and manage the disease across all healthcare system levels.
- Inadequate leprosy awareness among the people we serve.
- Lack of a readily available point-of-care diagnostic test.
- Limited capacity of organisations of persons affected by leprosy.
- Entrenched stigma and discrimination faced by persons affected by leprosy in many communities.
- Gaps in our knowledge of leprosy transmission and treatment.
- Limited access of persons affected by leprosy to healthcare services.
- Weak health systems, including the inability to report accurately on transmission.

A changing world

Around the globe, we are witnessing growing disparities within and among nations; government international aid is shifting towards domestic priorities, and international assistance is becoming conditional.

Climate change, conflicts, and increased fragility are having a big impact in our work. In response, defeating leprosy will require us to adopt more agile work practices to ensure that we can address these challenges.

We also need to be clear about who we are and the strengths we bring; together with our partners we are focused on those activities we know are effective, and we collaborate globally on key initiatives (the four breakthrough goals we outline in this strategy) so that we can respond to the challenges above.

WHO WE ARE

The Leprosy Mission’s Global Fellowship

We are an international, Christian, leprosy-focused organisation; a key global player in the fight against leprosy. We are a Global Fellowship comprising Members from 27 different countries. We work together with people from all cultures and beliefs to defeat leprosy and bring about transformation in the lives of persons affected by leprosy. We do this in collaboration with governments, the local church and other faith communities, with organisations of persons affected by leprosy, with NGO Networks, universities, and with other stakeholders.

The Leprosy Mission’s Global Fellowship Charter speaks of Fellowship Members being in ‘covenant relationship’ with one another before God. This covenant embraces parties who belong to one another in God’s love, who live by the rules of the covenant, and keep the discipline of travelling together.

We are committed to go on this journey together – **to minister to those in need of His help** (Mark 6:33-44) and to help each of us deliver this strategy.

God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

1 Corinthians 12: 24-25



Our vision: leprosy defeated, lives transformed

We are striving towards a world in which there is no transmission of leprosy, in which there is no new disability resulting from leprosy, and in which no one will experience the pain of discrimination because of leprosy. We know this will ultimately be fulfilled in the final Kingdom of God.



Our mission

Following Jesus Christ, The Leprosy Mission works with persons affected by leprosy, partners and supporters towards a world where leprosy is defeated and there is healing, dignity, inclusion, and life in all its fullness.

First and foremost, this is God's mission. Individually and collectively, He has called us to this work. This 2025-30 strategy is our attempt to write down what God is calling us to. We commit ourselves afresh to this work, trusting God to guide us, equip us and bring this mission to fruition.

Our Christ-centredness

Being Christ-centred is foundational to who we are, so it is present in all our engagements and partnerships. It is seen in how we serve persons affected by leprosy, work faithfully with our colleagues, and engage humbly with other organisations. As a Christ-centred organisation, we seek God's guidance through prayer at all stages of our work and decision-making.

The local church is a special partner. Encouraging and equipping the local church to be an instrument of change within communities is a great opportunity and privilege.

Our values

As followers of Jesus Christ, we value **compassion, justice, integrity, inclusion, humility, and collaboration.**

We have added collaboration to our values because of the priority and investment we place on working with organisations of persons affected by leprosy, communities, governments, health systems, and other organisations to achieve our vision.

We welcome staff, partners and supporters who share these values to join us in this important calling.



Our distinctive strengths

It will take many organisations and governments working together to defeat leprosy. There are four distinctive strengths The Leprosy Mission’s Global Fellowship brings to this calling:

- 1 Our Christian identity enables us to mobilise churches to fundraise and serve their local communities.
- 2 Our global scale, yet community presence, empowers us to collaborate with United Nations agencies, international networks, governments, locally led organisations, churches, and especially organisations of persons affected by leprosy.
- 3 Our medical and research expertise and infrastructure alongside our community presence enables us to develop, trial, and implement innovations in leprosy transmission, treatment and care.
- 4 Our leprosy focus and work alongside persons affected by leprosy enables us to work with local leaders and communities to find solutions to even the most entrenched challenges.

Our people

We are committed to our people, our staff, and our volunteers, as they are the foundation of our success. We do this by:

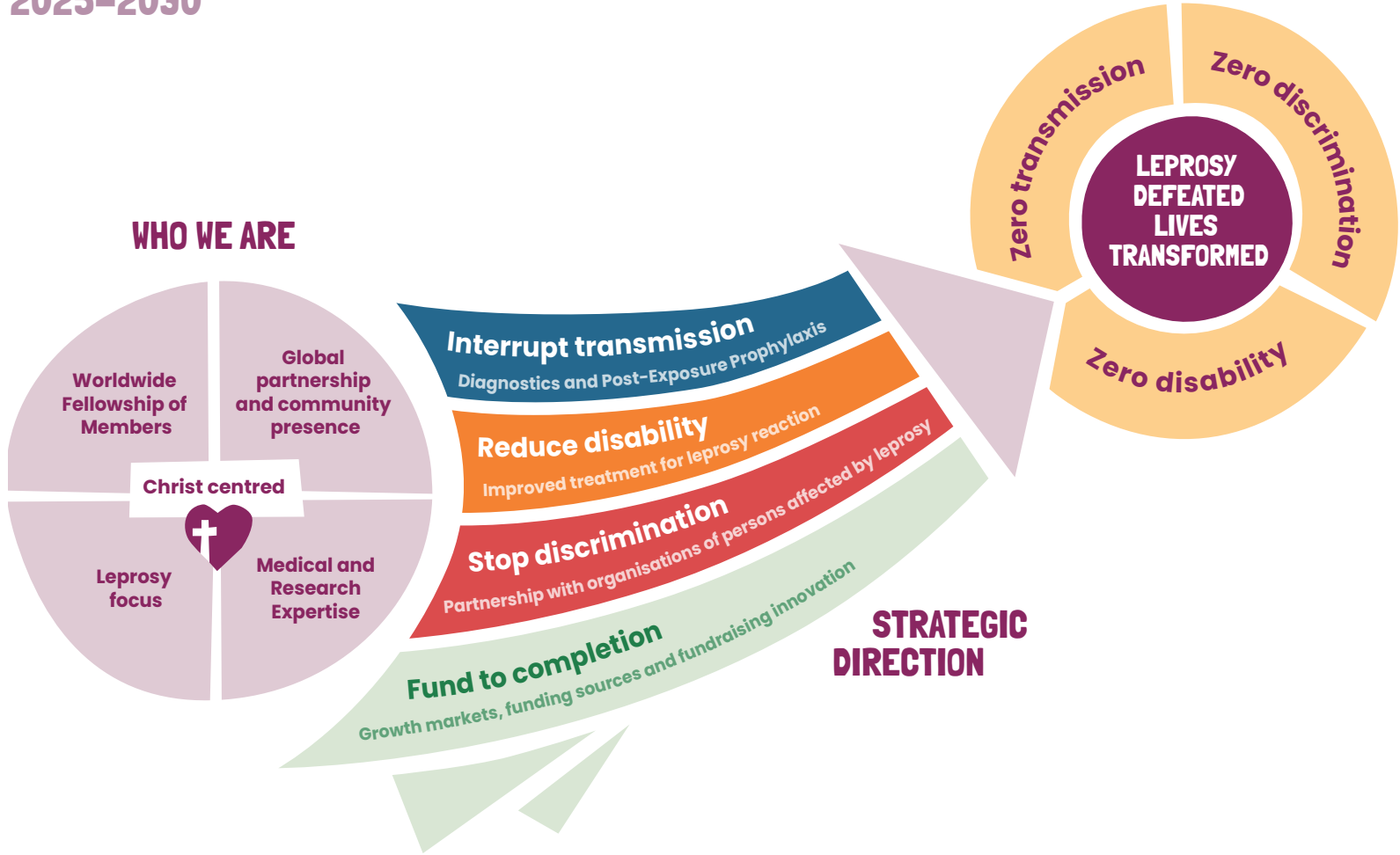
- Nurturing and enabling a culture and environment that is people-focused.
- Prioritising safeguarding, safety and security, and inner wellbeing.
- Promoting staff engagement, inclusion, and diversity.
- Investing in leadership development at all levels and equipping staff with appropriate skills and knowledge, including leprosy capabilities.

We will continue to build a culture and organisational environment that is healthy, resilient, and performance-oriented.

We will continue to promote organisational development and support effective local governance.



TLM GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP STRATEGY
2025–2030





OUR DIRECTION OF TRAVEL

Our aspirational goals

Following the review of our previous strategy, we have a renewed commitment to the triple-zero goals: zero transmission, zero disability and zero discrimination. All three of these areas are critical, and none can be achieved without the others. Therefore, we have aspirational goals for each area. By 2035 in the countries where we work;

Leprosy transmission will be interrupted¹



Persons affected by leprosy will have prompt and appropriate access to services to prevent and manage leprosy disabilities



Persons affected by leprosy will be included in society and will have equal access to their full rights and entitlements



To achieve these three aspirational goals, all Members are committed to raising funds and have a responsibility to ensure that we will have sufficient and sustainable funding



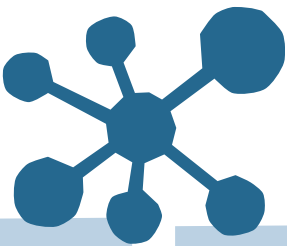
¹ Interruption of transmission is defined as an epidemiological state where there is no more local transmission of *M. leprae*, evidenced by zero new autochthonous cases among children for at least five consecutive years.

WHAT OUR MEMBERS WILL FOCUS ON FROM 2025 TO 2030

We are a Fellowship of Members with different strengths and working in different contexts. While the TLM Global Fellowship does not mandate how each Member is to use their resources, through our collective expertise and experience, we have identified initiatives that we know will make the difference in achieving the vision. As Members develop their national-level strategies and plans, we expect each other to prioritise some of the following initiatives.



Initiatives for zero transmission



Engaging persons affected by leprosy, communities, and healthcare professionals in active case finding and screening of close contacts

Partnering with governments and other organisations to roll out leprosy chemoprophylaxis

Developing and administering field-friendly diagnostic tests for early detection of leprosy

Enabling the strengthening of health systems so that leprosy is prevented or detected early and treated quickly

Employing best practices in monitoring & evaluation techniques and improving leprosy data collection

In collaboration with the government, determine the leprosy burden and map leprosy and leprosy services in the countries where we work

Increasing awareness of leprosy and advocating for quality leprosy services relevant to the needs of persons affected by leprosy

Working with the Church and faith-based organisations to raise awareness of transmission and spot early signs of leprosy

Collaborating (within and outside The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship) to develop evidence-based tools to interrupt the transmission of leprosy

Creating learning platforms to develop preferred practices of interrupting the transmission of leprosy

Retaining and building expertise in leprosy

Initiatives for zero disability

Working with local and national governments, other service providers, and persons affected by leprosy to ensure;



Persons affected by leprosy have access to health and rehabilitation services

Health practitioners have the necessary expertise to manage leprosy complications

Our programmes follow best practice in treatment of leprosy complications and rehabilitation of leprosy-related impairments

Data and evidence are collected and used to determine existing provision of services and to increase services for complications and disability management.

Strengthen health education to ensure that patients adhere to the long treatment protocol and know what complications to look out for

Our staff, volunteers, and persons affected by leprosy know how to support inner wellbeing

Persons affected by leprosy in the communities where we work can be referred, where appropriate, to mental health services

Community-level physical and emotional care for persons affected by leprosy is provided. This includes building the capacity of organisations of persons affected by leprosy

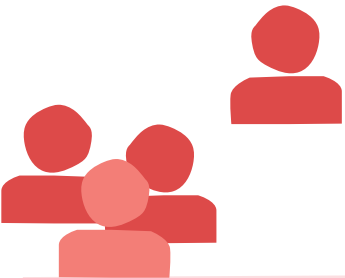
The Church and faith-based organisations welcome persons affected by leprosy into their communities and support their health and rehabilitation services



Initiatives for zero discrimination

Supporting and partnering with organisations of persons affected with leprosy and leprosy affected communities to;

- Increase awareness of leprosy and its social determinants (poverty, poor nutrition, weak immunity, unsafe sanitation)
- Address discrimination locally
- Develop champions and ambassadors
- Engage with the media
- Run local, national and global campaigns
- Partner with the church and faith-based organisations to advocate for persons affected by leprosy, and ensure they have their lives transformed in a holistic way



- Facilitate inclusive education, vocational skills and employment opportunities for those affected by leprosy
- Build alliances of organisations of persons affected by leprosy and mainstream groups, including disability and other rights-based organisations and movements
- Influence the formulation and implementation of policies favouring the inclusion of persons affected by leprosy in partnership with organisations of persons affected by leprosy
- Advocate for the repeal of laws and policies that discriminate against persons affected by leprosy

- Lobby for strong UN resolutions and policies against discrimination based on leprosy and other Neglected Tropical Diseases
- Use technology to share information with hard-to-reach communities to target attitudes and practices that discriminate
- Create learning platforms to develop preferred practices to end discrimination against leprosy



Initiatives for securing funds

With our deliberately aspirational goals of Zero Transmission, Zero Disability, and Zero Discrimination, it will be every Members' responsibility to prioritise fundraising collaboration, strategic partnerships and thematic linkages.

By 2030, the TLM Global Fellowship will increase its income to £60m (+50% vs 2023 base) and will fund TLM's four breakthrough areas to completion.

To reach these targets, all Members will:

- Mobilise faith communities to champion fundraising endeavours
- Build lasting relationships and engagement with their donors
- Diversify income streams
- Invest in growth markets (existing and new)
- Be more innovative in fundraising

To develop a culture and environment where fundraising can flourish to maximise our impact, Members will invest in these fundraising game changers:

- A Fundraising Task Force that will drive the TLM Global Fellowship fundraising forward and will lead on the implementation of the fundraising breakthrough
- Increased agility in project design, fundraising structures and relationships to align with funding opportunities, particularly institutional funders.
- Embedded fundraising needs in Members' strategy and plans. This includes building capacity in Implementing Countries to deliver the data and media (photos, stories, videos) we need to demonstrate our impact.
- Members will work together on the four breakthrough areas.



FOUR BREAKTHROUGH AREAS TO WORK ON TOGETHER FROM 2025 TO 2030

To succeed in our mission to defeat leprosy and transform lives, our Members will work together on four significant breakthroughs, which will be collectively funded.

These breakthrough areas are to:

- 1 Research, develop, and implement evidence-based tools to interrupt the transmission of leprosy, especially early diagnostic tests and post-exposure prophylaxis.** 
- 2 Research, develop, and implement appropriate treatment regimens to address leprosy-related complications, especially treating leprosy reactions.** 
- 3 Partner with, support and connect organisations of persons affected by leprosy to achieve greater inclusion and the reduction of discrimination.** 
- 4 Identify and invest in growth markets (existing and new), funding sources and fundraising innovation to help achieve the income target (£60m by 2030) and ensure that the TLM Global Fellowship breakthroughs are funded to completion.** 

OUR WAYS OF WORKING

To maximise the likelihood of having a sustainable impact, the TLM Global Fellowship strives to always deliberately focus on four ways of working:

Collaboration and Partnership

Together with persons affected by leprosy, we mobilise stakeholders at local, national and global level to plan, implement, and review our operations to ensure ownership and sustainability. This includes integrating approaches in our operations, especially with the other NTDs and disability programmes.

Programmatic Innovation

We mobilise local knowledge by implementing new ideas that add impact to the work we do with our stakeholders.

Applied Research

We invest in research dissemination and ensure that field clinicians, health personnel, partners and communities will apply learning and research findings in our local programmes.

Advocacy

Advocacy at local, national, and global level contributes to successful partnership, innovation, and research; it amplifies the voices of persons affected by leprosy; and supports the successful implementation of the TLM Global Fellowship’s four breakthrough areas by contributing to policy change.



CONCLUSION

We believe that if The Leprosy Mission remains true to Christ’s call and our Fellowship, if each Member focuses its initiatives on those things we know to be effective, if together we work on breakthroughs aligned to our global strengths, then, by the grace of God, we will see leprosy defeated and lives transformed.

ANNEX – GLOBAL KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Interrupt transmission

- Number of TLM countries with no autochthonous child cases for >5 years
- Number of autochthonous new child cases in TLM countries

Access to disability services

- Number of centres providing leprosy complication and disability management services
- Number of our clients affected by leprosy who are treated for leprosy complications

Ending leprosy discrimination

- Number of discriminatory laws remaining

Sufficient and sustainable funding

- Funds raised and ROI
- Number of Active, Regular, and New Donors
- Funds and ROI achieved via investment in growth markets, Insitutional Funding & Innovation



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