

Country Focus: Ethiopia

FACTFILE:

- Ethiopia is Africa's fourth largest and second most populous country
- Agriculture is the foundation of the Ethiopian economy, employing 80% of the country's 77 million people



About TLM Ethiopia

TLM's work in Ethiopia was, until last year, done solely through partners: ENAPAL (The Ethiopian National Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy) and ALERT (The All-Africa Leprosy, Tuberculosis, Rehabilitation and Research Training Centre).

ENAPAL works through over 63 local associations and regional branches. Over 15,000 people affected by leprosy are members of ENAPAL.

ALERT is the main hospital in Ethiopia providing specialist medical care for leprosy, including reconstructive surgery, eye surgery and treatment of complex leprosy cases. It is also an international training centre.

Almost 5,000 new cases of leprosy are diagnosed in Ethiopia every year. An estimated 30,000 people are living with permanent leprosy-related disability.

TLM employed a new 'country leader' in 2011, with plans to establish an office and become officially registered as an NGO (non-governmental organisation).

Key events in 2012

Most of ALERT's international leprosy courses are scheduled between September and November.



Top: Anne Roberts (centre) with members of ENAPAL at a World Leprosy Day rally

Above: Cattle fattening project in Ethiopia

Prayer points

- Praise God for the appointment of Mrs Wubitu Abere in July 2011 as the first TLM country leader for Ethiopia.
- Pray that Wubitu will be able to successfully register TLM as an NGO with Ethiopia's Charities and Societies Authority.
- Pray for God's leading as a country strategic plan is developed.
- Pray that Anne Roberts (physiotherapist) will have a positive, lasting impact on the quality of leprosy care and training at ALERT.
- Praise God for the new project started in 2011 in collaboration with ENAPAL, providing sponsored accommodation for leprosy patients who travel long distances to receive expert medical care at ALERT and would otherwise sleep on the streets or nearby church grounds.
- Pray for ENAPAL as they implement their third five-year strategic plan beginning this year. Pray that everyone will have the same understanding of ENAPAL's vision, goals and objectives.
- Pray that the government will grant ENAPAL some land. Pray for funding to construct their own national offices, which can also be used for income generating activities.

Key staff

Mrs Wubitu Abere – TLM Country Leader
Ms Anne Roberts – Physiotherapist Advisor seconded to ALERT

Country Focus: South Korea and Singapore

'Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.'

Hebrews 10:23-24



About TLM Singapore

In Singapore there is a support group that raises financial support for TLM, encourages people to pray for the work and raises awareness in Singapore of leprosy and The Leprosy Mission. The support group was established in 2004.

About TLM South Korea

Although there are very few new cases of leprosy detected each year in South Korea, there are still many elderly people living with leprosy-related disability. Some continue to live in leprosy rehabilitation villages, isolated from mainstream communities. TLM South Korea provides support to these elderly people and also raises financial and prayer support within South Korea for TLM's work.

Top: Dr Nan Hee Kim (left) and Mr Jaewoong Choi, representatives of TLM South Korea, at the International Assembly in 2011

FACTFILE:

- South Korea is a crowded country with 1,256 citizens for every square mile
- Singapore is the fifth richest country in the world

Prayer points

South Korea

- Pray that support work will expand to reach more leprosy villages so that social rehabilitation work and economic support can be provided.
- Pray for a strong relationship with SungJaw-won, a leprosy colony, and the Evergreen nursing home for leprosy-affected people. Pray that TLM South Korea will be able to provide economic and medical support.
- Pray for wisdom and health for TLM Korea Board members and all of TLM Korea staff as they give their time to working with leprosy-affected people.

Singapore

- Remember the members of the TLM support group in Singapore. May they be encouraged by the power of prayer as they meet together and find opportunities to share more widely about TLM's ministry.
- Pray for the chairman of the Board, Rev Dr George Seow, that he will have wisdom as he develops the support work in Singapore.

Senior staff

South Korea

Dr Nan Hee Kim – Director of TLM South Korea

Mr Jaewoong Choi – Co-ordinator

Singapore

Rev Dr George Seow – Chairman of the Board

Country Focus: Canada, Ireland and American Leprosy Missions (ALM)

'I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.'

Psalm 89:1



TLM Canada: Born 120 years ago in Guelph, Ontario, TLM Canada provides care and support to leprosy-affected people in many parts of the world, including: Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Nigeria.

TLM Ireland uses its skills to work with leprosy-affected people as well as targeting a range of other diseases and developmental issues, aiming to reduce poverty, stigma, oppression, marginalisation, prejudice and injustice. TLM Ireland partners with governments, local communities, international agencies and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

American Leprosy Missions (ALM):

Founded in 1906, ALM is the oldest and largest non-profit organisation in the United States dedicated to restoring the lives of people affected by leprosy and related conditions worldwide. They serve more than 300,000 people in 15 countries in Africa, Asia and South America.

Top: Rev Peter Derrick, CEO of TLM Canada

Prayer points

- Thank God that TLM Canada has designed a special curriculum on leprosy that will be used by over 700,000 students in Christian schools. Pray for their plans to roll out the programme to secular schools.
- Pray that God will stir the hearts of Canada's youth, opening their eyes to see the thousands of children, women and men whose lives are affected by leprosy every day.
- Pray for TLM Canada's international programmes team as they work with multiple international partners in a diverse range of countries. Pray for continued good co-operation and partnership.
- Pray for the efforts of the TLM Canada development team as they reach out to engage donors and raise funds for the work with those affected by leprosy.
- Pray for Ken Gibson, CEO of TLM Ireland, that he will be effective in raising awareness of leprosy and the needs of leprosy-affected people.
- Pray for God's wisdom and guidance as the ALM staff and Board seek to strengthen and grow ALM's work.
- Pray that ALM will have increased financial and prayer resources for programmes and projects.

Senior staff

ALM

Mr Bill Simmons – President and CEO

TLM Canada

Rev Peter Derrick – CEO

TLM Ireland

Rev Ken Gibson – CEO

Country Focus: Thailand and Sri Lanka

FACTFILE:

- The population of Sri Lanka is 21 million
- Thailand is the only country in south-east Asia to have escaped colonial rule



Prayer points

- Somchai Obboon retired as director of McKean Rehabilitation Centre in April 2012. Pray that God will lead the selection of new leadership. Ask for clarity of vision, and guidance for those making the decisions.
- Pray for the new staff with Christian vision at McKean who will maintain quality Christian services.
- Pray for improved leprosy awareness in district hospitals, and improved systems for referral of needy leprosy patients to specialist services under the national health plan. New patients tell of going to many doctors for three years before getting a correct diagnosis.
- People in ethnic minority groups have settled in Thailand. Others come fleeing fighting in neighbouring countries. They have no citizenship or rights in the national health plan. Pray for McKean's leprosy work among marginalised and disadvantaged people.
- Pray for the goat rearing project in Sri Lanka, that it will help to alleviate poverty and make a tangible difference to people's lives.
- Thank God for the micro-finance project in Sri Lanka. Pray that those in real need will receive a good level of support to enable them to establish a small business that will support them and their family.

Key staff

Thailand

Heather Smith – TLM representative

Sri Lanka

Dr Jeyakumar Daniel – TLM representative

About TLM's work in Thailand

TLM supports the ministry to leprosy patients in Thailand through partnership with McKean Rehabilitation Centre, founded in 1908, a service centre of The Church of Christ in Thailand. McKean offers care to leprosy patients, physically disabled people, and those needing aged-care. TLM supports some of the leprosy services including community-based leprosy case finding and treatment and prevention of disability among marginalised and disadvantaged people groups in outer areas.

About TLM's work in Sri Lanka

TLM works with project partners in Sri Lanka to improve the quality of life of leprosy- and disability-affected people. In Colombo, Batticaloa and Galle TLM supports a micro-finance project. Vulnerable people are given small loans to help them establish small businesses such as carpentry, fishing, or bicycle repairs. In Jaffna and other towns, TLM has helped to establish a goat-rearing project. The goats are distributed on a revolving loan basis – once a beneficiary's goat has had kids, these are passed on to another set of beneficiaries.

TLM also supports community savings groups and a Catch Them Young scheme which provides sponsorship for children through school.

Top: The International Board visit Jamnian Lakwong's farm in Thailand. Jamnian (left) is a former Wellesley Bailey Award winner and a nationally renowned organic farmer

Global Operations

'Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.'

Romans 12:10-11



About TLM's global operations

The Operations team primarily supports implementing country leaders and their teams and is led by Alan Gray, the director for operations and finance. Most of the team are based at TLM's international office in London, but some work remotely in other countries around the world. This is a challenging and busy time for the team as they get to grips with the changes brought about by the new Global Fellowship.

Key events in 2012

- **June** – Operations Meeting
- **July** – Global Support Meeting with staff whose responsibilities include HR, Finance and TLM Connect (TLM's intranet).

Top: Country Leaders meeting with the Global Operations team in London

Prayer points

- Pray for Alan Gray, director for operations and finance, as he leads the Operations team. Pray for him in this challenging role, especially with the changes taking place as a result of Global Fellowship.
- Give thanks for the Global Support Meeting that takes place at the start of July, with a focus on finance, HR and TLM Connect issues. Pray for a productive meeting and safe travel for participants.
- For some members of the Operations team the second half of the year is often a busy time for country visits particularly relating to Annual Country Learning meetings. Pray for safety and good health as they travel.
- Members of the Operations team regularly have meetings by Skype or telephone. Give thanks that in most countries this is possible and pray for improvements where communication is currently difficult.
- The Operations team meets twice a year: once with the supporting and implementing country programme staff, and once on their own. Pray that these meetings are Christ-centred and approached with humility and open hearts.

The Operations team members

Alan Gray – Director for Operations and Finance
 Gladstone Worthington – Head of Finance
 Clara Volpi – Country Support Facilitator
 Rey Coloma – Country Support Facilitator, Philippines
 Anna Foxley – Institutional Funding Advisor
 Stephanie De Jong – Operations Co-ordinator
 Cindy Norfor – Global Support Co-ordinator, Singapore
 Elvis Rashirai – Global Support Co-ordinator, South Africa
 Piet Both – Country Development Director, Netherlands
 Rajeev Pallakke – Database Co-ordinator, India