



LEPROSY RESEARCH INITIATIVE



Skin camp in Mozambique, PEP4LEP*. Photo credits to Anne Schoenmakers, NLR

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

CONTENTS

Contents.....	2
1 Foreword	3
2 About the Leprosy Research Initiative	4
3 Promoting, facilitating and funding high-quality leprosy research.....	5
3.1 Research Capacity Strengthening grant cycle in 2025	6
3.2 RESILIENTD Grant cycle in 2025.....	6
3.3 Start of research projects.....	7
3.4 Monitoring of ongoing research projects.....	8
3.5 Geographical distribution research projects.....	8
3.6 Completed projects.....	9
4 Strengthening research capacity	9
4.1 LRI Spring Meeting – ONLINE event.....	9
4.2 Research capacity strengthening grant	10
5 Facilitating translation of research results into policy and practice	11
5.1 Strengthening Our Foundation: Insights from the 2025 External Evaluation	11
5.2 Developing the First Multi-Annual Strategic Plan.....	11
5.3 Advancing leprosy and NTD impact through collaboration	12
5.4 Communications	13
6 Future perspectives	13
7 Our partners in 2025.....	14
8 Our team in 2025.....	14
8.1 Executives Group	14
8.2 Steering Committee.....	14
8.3 Scientific Review Committee	15
8.4 LRI Communications Committee (COCO)	15
8.5 LRI Secretariat.....	16
9 Reviewer acknowledgements.....	16
10 Financial narrative	17
11 Annual accounts.....	19
Colophon.....	38

1 FOREWORD

The Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI), promotes and funds high-quality research, facilitates translation of research findings into policy and practice, and strengthens research capacity in endemic countries. LRI brings together diverse partners who share a common vision: a world free from leprosy.

As we reflect on 2025, we do so with both gratitude and resolve. We continued building on LRI's strong foundation. We advanced research, strengthened our skills, and encouraged collaboration. We also prepared LRI for future financial changes.

In 2025, ten new research projects began their work, and following two competitive grant cycles, we awarded six new grants, including three through the Research Capacity Strengthening grant and three through the RESILIENTD grant, funded by Anesvad Foundation, focused on social determinants of skin Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Sub-Saharan Africa. The tenth LRI Spring Meeting brought together 200 researchers and stakeholders from around the world, a clear sign that our community continues to grow and engage.

This year, we completed our second external evaluation, which affirmed our relevance and offered clear recommendations for evolution. We also made significant progress on starting the development of LRI's first Multi-Annual Strategic Plan, introducing the "Leprosy+" approach and working on updating our research priorities to ensure we remain focused and impactful.

These developments come at a moment when financial constraints require us to be more intentional than ever, encouraging us to plan carefully for the future. In response, we are adopting a biennial rhythm for our grant cycles. LRI from 2026 onwards will alternate between flagship and capacity-strengthening calls. This will create a predictable and sustainable framework for the future, helping LRI continue to support research excellence and develop the next generation of researchers for years to come.

We look forward to further advance in 2026, with a clear strategy, a focused mission, and a belief in a world free of leprosy. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our partners, committee members, researchers, and the wider leprosy research community. Your commitment gives us confidence as we navigate change together.



Linda Hummel | Director

2 ABOUT THE LEPROSY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

The Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI) was launched in 2013 to boost scientific research in leprosy.

Our vision is a world free of leprosy, and we aim to contribute to this vision by:

1. promoting, facilitating and funding high-quality leprosy research;
2. strengthening research capacity in endemic countries, and;
3. facilitating translation of research results into policy and practice.

An established joint research fund combined with an efficient, transparent and rigorous selection procedure and progress monitoring processes ensure scientifically high-quality and sustainable funding. Understanding training needs and providing opportunities for shared learning strengthen capacity in research. Through encouragement and monitoring of dissemination and uptake of study findings, we strive for a positive

impact towards zero transmission, zero disability and zero exclusion.

The LRI is governed and managed by the following bodies:

Executives Group (EG): oversees strategy and is the decision-making authority; consists of the executive directors of the LRI Full Partners.

Steering Committee (SC): provides scientific guidance and reviews submitted letters of intent; consists of the research coordinators of the LRI Partners and an independent Chair.

Scientific Review Committee (SRC): assesses full proposals and project progress; consists of independent scientists.

Secretariat: provides grant management, administration and technical support, and partner management. The secretariat also organises and facilitates capacity strengthening, communication, meetings and events, and is based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Following a priority-setting assessment, LRI stakeholders identified five main research priorities for 2020-2025:



To be eligible for LRI funding, projects should focus on one of these priorities. More details can be found in our [LRI Joint Research Policy 2020-2025](#).

3 PROMOTING, FACILITATING AND FUNDING HIGH-QUALITY LEPROSY RESEARCH

LRI offers three types of research funding opportunities: LRI Flagship grant, Research Capacity Strengthening grant, and RESILIENTD grant.

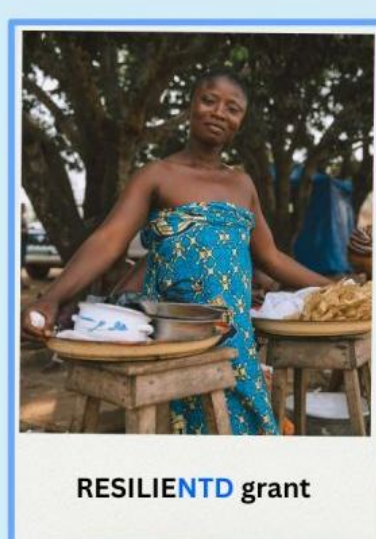
- **The LRI Flagship grant** for research proposals aims to fund and advance leprosy research, driving real-world improvements in the health and wellbeing of populations affected by leprosy.
- **The LRI Research Capacity Strengthening grant** aims to fund innovative short projects led by early-career researchers. These projects are supported by an experienced mentor and are intended to enhance the skills of early-career researchers and foster the development of the next generation of researchers.
- **The RESILIENTD grant**, implemented in collaboration with Anesvad Foundation, funds research on the social determinants of health in the context of skin NTDs, with a focus on endemic countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

LRI launches its call(s) for proposals in early December and uses a two-stage application process. The length of the process depends on the type of grant and provides researchers with the opportunity to improve their proposals and strengthen their capacity through structured and constructive feedback. LRI takes pride in its thorough review process, administratively supported by an online grant management system. This system allows applicants to improve their applications based on feedback from reviewers, resulting in the selection of the most promising proposals for high-quality and impactful leprosy research.

At the end of 2024, two calls for proposals were launched: the Research Capacity Strengthening Grant (budget round 2025) and the RESILIENTD Grant (budget round 2026).



High-impact research advancing leprosy understanding, prevention, and management, including studies linked to other NTDs or related cross-cutting conditions.



Research on social determinants of health within the context of skin NTDs, including leprosy, with an emphasis on Sub-Saharan Africa.

Poster announcing LRI calls for proposals are open.

3.1 RESEARCH CAPACITY STRENGTHENING GRANT CYCLE IN 2025

The Research Capacity Strengthening call is launched every two years to fund innovative short projects lasting less than two years, specifically led by early-career researchers with small-scale funding. The application process differs from typical grants by bypassing the external reviewers (step 4) and proposal rebuttal stage (step 5) to accommodate a shorter timeline.

The submission and review process of applications started with the launch of the call for proposals in December 2024 (step 1), inviting research proposals across all five LRI research priorities. After closing the submission deadline in January 2025, the Steering Committee (SC) met virtually in

March to discuss their review of the 53 Lols (step 2) and selected applicants (10) were invited to submit a full proposal. The Scientific Review Committee (SRC) reviewed these (10) proposals (step 3). The SRC recommended a selection of 5 projects for further discussion and ranking (three) by the SC (step 6).

The final decision to accept three proposals for funding was made by the Executives Group (EG) in June (step 7), after which the research groups were informed (See section 3.3 for reference to awarded projects).



Research Capacity Strengthening grant cycle Budget Round 2025

3.2 RESILIENTD GRANT CYCLE IN 2025

In collaboration with Anesvad Foundation, a call for proposals was launched in December 2024: the RESILIENTD grant, with a special focus on social determinants of skin NTDs in Sub-Saharan Africa. The acronym for 'REsearch on SociaL determinants of Leprosy and NTDs' reflects the resilience of communities affected by skin NTDs and the resilience of researchers, donors and the wider public health stakeholders to eliminate NTDs.

The RESILIENTD grant cycle is facilitated by the LRI Secretariat, supported by LRI structures, and funded by Anesvad Foundation. The RESILIENTD call for proposals opened in December 2024.

- **(Step 1).** Following the submission deadline in January 2025, the Steering Committee (SC) convened virtually in March to review the 27 Letters of Intent (Lols)

- **(Step 2)** Shortlisted candidates (nine) were invited to submit full proposals.
- **(Step 3)** Projects were then evaluated by external reviewers.
- **(Step 4)** Applicants received anonymous feedback, allowing them to refine their submissions in a rebuttal proposal.
- **(Step 5)** In the autumn meetings, the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) assessed these rebuttal proposals and recommended a

selection of five projects for funding, which SC members further reviewed and ranked (three).

- **(Step 6)** The final funding decisions were made by Anesvad Foundation,
- **(Step 7)** after which the three selected research teams were notified in March 2026.

We deeply appreciate this strengthened partnership, which bolsters efforts in this vital research area.



RESILIENTD grant cycle Budget Round 2026

3.3 START OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

In addition, ten research projects made their start in 2025 - with a total budget of €1,306,656. The newly started projects were:

Title	Lead applicant <i>Host institution</i>	Country	Budget Duration	Co-funding
Genome-wide association study of leprosy per se and disease recurrence in a high endemic country	Marcelo Távora Mira <i>Pontificia Universidade do Paraná</i>	Brazil, Canada	€ 78,864 30 months	Turing Foundation
Decoding Therapeutic Landscapes: Unravelling the Inverse Genomic Signature of Erythema Nodosum Leprosum (ENL) for Neutrophil-Targeted Interventions	Veronica Schmitz <i>Oswaldo Cruz Foundation</i>	Brazil	€173,238 48 months	Turing Foundation
Working towards mental health Recovery Among Persons affected by leprosy (WRAP)	Bahadır Celiktemu <i>TLM GB</i>	India, Nepal	€225,295 36 months	St. Francis Leprosy Guild
Unveiling the zoonotic dynamics of Leprosy in Brazil: a molecular exploration and surveillance approach	Naiara Sales <i>University of Salford</i>	Brazil	€247,235 36 months	N/A

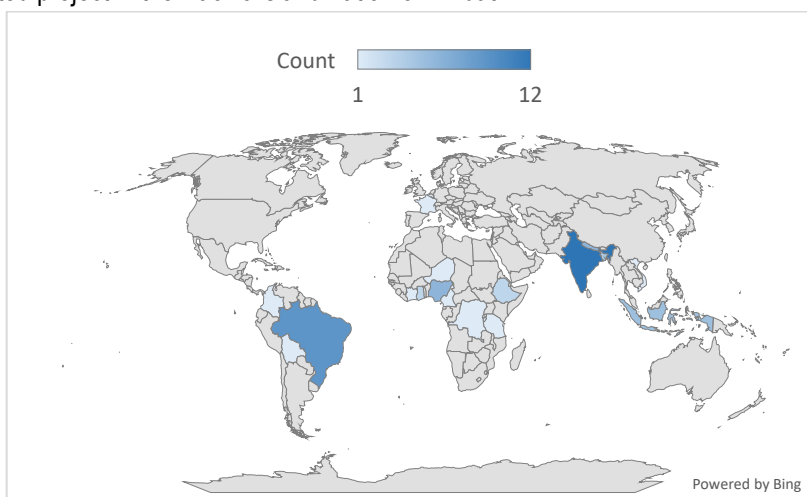
HOPE: Harmonised Model for Optimizing Peer Support Group Effectiveness: Evaluating and Piloting a Model of Peer Support Group Sustainability in Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire	Joy Kim <i>Effect Hope</i>	Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire	€154,051 36 months	N/A
The social determinants of health in people affected by leprosy in Ethiopia – a mixed methods study	Saba Lambert <i>The Leprosy Mission Ethiopia</i>	Ethiopia	€190,080 48 months	N/A
Implementation of a skin Health Programme in a Ghanaian penitentiary	Srikantam <i>Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine</i>	Ghana	€178,400 48 months	N/A
Evaluating the Impact of the DEDIKASI-App on Self-Stigma Prevention and Knowledge Enhancement Among Post- RFT Leprosy Patients in Indonesia.	Ulfah Abqar <i>Tropical Diseases, Infectious Diseases & Herb Research Group Universitas Airlangga</i>	Indonesia	€ 20,000 24 months	N/A
Regional Variations in Social Stigma Toward Leprosy Patients in Bangladesh: A Comprehensive Study	Musfiq Rahman <i>TLMi-Bangladesh</i>	Bangladesh	€ 19,650 21 months	N/A
Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Mascot-Led Communication Strategy for Leprosy Awareness Among School-Going Children in Nepal.	Subin Adhikar <i>TLM Nepali</i>	Nepal	€ 19,843 15 months	N/A

3.4 MONITORING OF ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Grantees submit progress reports twice a year, in March and September, on the basis of which the [funded projects](#) are monitored. The SRC assesses study progress and financial reporting and discusses these in their virtual Spring meeting (April 2025) and Autumn meeting (October 2025), after which they provide recommendations to the EG on continuation of funding. Of the 42 ongoing projects, 17 (40% requested a no-cost extension in 2025), mainly due to unexpected delays, including delays in receiving ethical approvals, project management issues, enrolment challenges, and data analysis and dissemination taking longer than anticipated. After the SRC review, 14 requested extensions were accepted by the EG.

3.5 GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 2025, 42 LRI-funded projects were active in 20 countries across multiple continents. Most projects were concentrated in South Asia, with 12 in India and 6 in Nepal. In Africa, we supported research in in Nigeria (6), Ethiopia (3), Ghana (3), and Tanzania (1), along with individual projects in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Burundi, and the Republic of Congo. Latin America saw major efforts in Brazil (9) and a project in Bolivia (1). We also had a dedicated project in the Pacific island nation of Kiribati.



Map displaying the geographical distribution of LRI-funded ongoing projects for 2025.

3.6 COMPLETED PROJECTS

The following projects have been successfully completed in 2025:

- [707.19.45](#) Assessing the effectiveness of Intensified Extended Contact Survey (IECS) to routine leprosy case detection in Bangladesh
- [708.20.12](#) Informing (generic) approaches to reduce stigma: Capturing culture-specific stigma dynamics by understanding 'What matters most'
- [708.20.17](#) Assessing the effectiveness of family-based approaches aimed at prevention and sustainable self-management of disabilities, impacting the quality of life, mental wellbeing and participation of people with leprosy, podoconiosis and lymphatic filariasis and their families in the Amhara region, Ethiopia
- [FP21\14](#) Improving management of leprosy reactions and quality of life of persons affected
- [FP22\9](#) Identifying drug targets to treat leprosy reactions via genetic susceptibility factors
- [FP22\19](#) How effective is ongoing SDR-PEP implementation under routine programme conditions
- [FP23\100016](#) Evaluation of *M. leprae* specific RPA assay incorporated in mobile suitcase lab for rapid diagnosis of clinical and sub-clinical Leprosy in Bangladesh
- [FP23\100018](#) Personalised footwear for foot ulcers in leprosy by baropodometry through an innovative community engagement model

4 STRENGTHENING RESEARCH CAPACITY

An important objective of LRI is to strengthen the capacity of researchers and organisations, with a focus on those based in leprosy-endemic countries and early career researchers. Several activities in 2025 were organised with the aim of contributing to expanding research knowledge, skills and experience.

4.1 LRI SPRING MEETING – ONLINE EVENT

The tenth annual Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI) Spring Meeting was held online on 9-10 April 2025. The meeting attracted significant interest, with registrants from 50 countries. The event was open to all those interested in leprosy research and participation was free of charge. Across the two days, nearly 200 stakeholders attended from diverse backgrounds; including LRI-funded researchers, LRI committee members, partners of LRI, representatives of collaborating organisations, and other attendees with a particular interest in leprosy research.

During the Spring Meeting, the progress and results from ongoing LRI-funded research projects are presented and discussed. The event is also a platform for shared learning and networking.

The programme featured 33 project progress presentations covering all five of LRI's research priorities. In addition to project presentations, the meeting included two keynote addresses: Dr Subbanna Jonnalagada from the WHO Global Leprosy Programme shared recent developments within the programme, while Dr Rie Yotsu (Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine) presented on Teledermatology and Digital Health Solutions for Skin NTDs, highlighting lessons from a scalable innovation journey. The event also included dedicated Q&A sessions and networking opportunities to facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange.

To evaluate participants' perceptions of the meeting, a survey was distributed to all attendees following the event. Of the total participants, 83 completed the survey, yielding a 43% response rate. The 2025 LRI Spring Meeting was considered highly successful by survey respondents, achieving an overall satisfaction rate of 98%. The event successfully attracted a broad audience, with 41% of survey respondents being first-time participants,

and facilitated engagement among researchers and stakeholders. Feedback highlighted the meeting's excellent organisation and its effectiveness in disseminating the latest leprosy research.

A Researcher from an LRI-funded project (presenting) shared: *"This gave me a great opportunity to interact with other people and presenters and learn about the progress other countries have made on leprosy and stigma."*

To enhance future editions, participants recommended creating more structured networking opportunities and broadening attendance to include prospective applicants. Looking ahead, there is a need to balance the accessibility of online formats with the richer engagement and collaboration of in-person interaction.



Poster for promoting registration for the LRI Spring Meeting 2025

4.2 RESEARCH CAPACITY STRENGTHENING GRANT

The Research Capacity Strengthening grant was launched for the first time in December 2022. This grant specifically focuses on capacity strengthening of early-career leprosy researchers across the five LRI priority areas.

At the end of the first grant cycle, two early-career researchers were awarded the Research Capacity Strengthening grant in June 2023 and began their projects. Since then, they have been actively working on their projects which they presented at the LRI Spring Meeting 2024 and 2025 editions.



Dr Suleiman completing the LRI Scientific writing workshop organised in April 2024.

His workshop mentor, Dr Nimer Ortuño Gutierrez, awarding him with a certificate of completion.



Dr Suraj presenting his project at the LRI Spring Meeting and scientific writing workshop in April 2024

In 2024, we prepared for the next round of this grant. (Refer to section 3.1 for further information on the grant cycle process).

5 FACILITATING TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE

LRI considers it important that research results are applicable to interrupt transmission of *M. leprae*, improve leprosy services and/or contribute to the wellbeing of persons affected by leprosy. In order to achieve such impact, we encourage researchers to involve stakeholders in the research development and implementation process and in the dissemination of findings to optimise uptake.

5.1 STRENGTHENING OUR FOUNDATION: INSIGHTS FROM THE 2025 EXTERNAL EVALUATION

In 2025, we completed our second external evaluation, a comprehensive review of LRI's operations and activities from 2019 to 2023. This independent assessment, conducted every five years as mandated by our Joint Policy, serves as a vital health check on our relevance, processes, and impact.

The evaluation focused on two critical areas: the effectiveness of our partnership model and funding base, and the impact of our capacity-strengthening activities. The findings confirm that the LRI is on the right track, but they also point clearly to where we must evolve. The evaluation's recommendations centre on five key themes: (1) Strengthen financial sustainability and diversify the funding base, (2) Improve governance and operational efficiency, (3) Enhance monitoring and learning systems, (4) Expand capacity strengthening and tailor support and (5) Create opportunities for greater engagement by researchers from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

5.2 DEVELOPING THE FIRST MULTI-ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN

Throughout 2025, we have been focused on a pivotal initiative: developing LRI's first Multi-Annual Strategic (MAS) plan. With a shared commitment to ensuring LRI remains future-proof, relevant, and sustainable, LRI's Executive Group initiated a collaborative process to define a clear roadmap for the years ahead.

A working group has been developing the strategic framework, with input gathered from LRI's Steering Committee and funding partners. A key step has been the development of the "Leprosy+" approach. This evolving concept acknowledges the complex realities of leprosy control and intentionally broadens our scope to fund research that leverages synergies with other neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and conditions facing similar challenges. Building on this foundation, we are also working on updating our research priorities.

Looking ahead, our focus in 2026 is on refining and finalising these building blocks. A monitoring & evaluation (M&E) framework is being developed. We are also exploring the launch of our first structured research-to-translation initiative. This dedicated effort aims to ensure our research findings translate from academic papers into tangible impact on policies and practices.

5.3 ADVANCING LEPROSY AND NTD IMPACT THROUGH COLLABORATION

Collaboration remained at the heart of LRI's work, and we were actively involved in and supported important events for the leprosy and NTDs landscape and the Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy (GPZL) Research Acceleration Pillar Group.

The Secretariat represented LRI at several key events throughout the year. In January, we attended the Conference on Neglected Tropical Diseases Research (InCORNTD) in Kigali, Rwanda. In June, we participated in the twelfth European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) Forum, also held in Kigali. In July, we joined the International Leprosy Congress (ILC) in Bali, Indonesia, where LRI hosted a joint booth together with ILEP. Reflecting on the ILC, Ms. Chrysa Menexi from the LRI secretariat shared her perspective on the state of leprosy research:

"The congress brought together more than 1,200 participants (...). As highlighted by Indonesia's Minister of Health, significant progress has been made in developing the knowledge and tools needed to eliminate leprosy. (...) One of the most inspiring aspects of the congress was the strong inclusion of persons affected by leprosy. Their voices reminded us that eliminating leprosy must go hand-in-hand with implementation of research findings to eliminate stigma and continued evidence building for improved management of reactions. Equally encouraging was the growing engagement of early-career researchers. However, there is room for improvement. Continued investment is needed to strengthen research capacity in endemic countries, ensure sustainable funding, and bridge the gap between research findings and policy implementation."



Ms Nicole Dinnissen and Ms Chrysa Menexi at the LRI booth at the International Leprosy Congress (ILC) in Bali (Indonesia) in July 2025.

5.4 COMMUNICATIONS

Research groups reported project publications through progress reports and email, which were then added to the LRI website.

In 2025, the LRI website received around 8,000 visitors. Six newsletters were sent throughout the year, keeping our group of around 1,600 contact subscribers informed about the latest LRI news and updates.

The LRI Communications Committee (COCO), which brings together communication representatives from LRI's full partner organisations, convened in the first quarter of 2025 to discuss LRI communications matters. With their guidance and expertise, we are strengthening our communication efforts and keep our audiences informed about research findings, achievements, opportunities, and new developments.

The [LRI LinkedIn channel](#) has been an essential platform for keeping our audience up-to-date with LRI developments and activities, with a regular posting schedule. Through this platform, we disseminate updates and engage a network of individuals committed to eliminating leprosy. Since its launch, the channel has gained over 1,200 followers.

6 FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

A key priority is laying the groundwork for a sustainable and focused future. The second external evaluation of LRI, covering 2019-2023, was completed, with recommendations now informing our discussions on financial sustainability, governance, and engagement of researchers from low- and middle-income countries. We are making significant progress on our first Multi-Annual Strategic (MAS) Plan, refining the "Leprosy+" approach and updating LRI's research priorities. In 2026, our focus will be on finalising the MAS, developing a Monitoring & Evaluation framework, and exploring the launch of our first structured research-to-translation initiative. The full MAS and M&E framework, including updated research priorities, is expected to be presented for approval by the EG by mid-2026, positioning the LRI for a more focused, strategic, and impactful future.

As we look to the future, we are taking proactive and thoughtful steps to ensure long-term sustainability. A key element of this forward-looking approach, as of 2026, is the introduction of a biennial rhythm for our grant cycles, alternating between our Flagship research calls and the Research Capacity Strengthening call. Additionally, as part of this forward-looking approach, we are adapting our meeting rhythm to balance meaningful engagement with financial realities, moving to in-person Spring Meetings once every three years. By doing so, LRI remains dedicated to helping the next generation of researchers. Strengthening their skills remains a key part of our work.

To improve on the way LRI captures and supports research impact, we will welcome an intern to assist in revising our application, progress, and final report templates. This work will result in updated reporting tools and a best-practice guide, ensuring that the way we collect information from grantees reflects the priorities of our new strategic plan. We are also planning a workshop on Research Dissemination and Policy Translation, to be held in the autumn of 2026 in collaboration with the Steering Committee, bringing together LRI supported researchers to explore how LRI-funded work can more effectively translate into policy and practice.

We are also proud of a joint call for proposals with Global Health EDCTP3 for 2026. This partnership supports the acceleration of the development of efficient ways to address the prevention of both tuberculosis (TB) and leprosy simultaneously targeting adults and children in sub-Saharan Africa, an important opportunity for integrated TB and leprosy post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) approaches. LRI will co-fund project(s) that

incorporate leprosy-focused PEP research, including integrated PEP implementation or evaluation of a uniform PEP regimen for both diseases.

We also look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy's research pillar to advance high-quality leprosy research.

With a full programme of research underway, new grants awarded, and foundational work progressing on our strategic plan, we are optimistic about the year ahead and grateful for the continued commitment of our partners and research community.

7 OUR PARTNERS IN 2025

In 2025, LRI comprised the following Partners:



We are grateful for the additional financial support that is provided to LRI by the following organisations:



Interested to become a Partner of LRI and contribute to boosting scientific research in leprosy?

Contact us at info@leprosyresearch.org

8 OUR TEAM IN 2025

8.1 EXECUTIVES GROUP

Ms Linda Hummel	CEO, NLR (Director)
Mr Joachim Beringer	CEO, GLRA
Mr Brent Morgan	Director, TLMI
Mr Bill Simmons	President/CEO, Hope Rises International (rotating Chair)
Mr Iñigo Lasa	Director General, Anesvad Foundation

8.2 STEERING COMMITTEE

Prof. Jan Hendrik Richardus	Emeritus Professor of Infectious Diseases and Public Health (retired), Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam (Chair)
Dr Wim H. van Brakel (until October)	Medical Director, NLR
Dr Liesbeth Mieras (from October)	Medical Advisor and Research Coordinator, NLR

Dr Christa Kasang (until October)	Research Coordinator, GLRA
Ms Srilekha Penna (from October)	Global Health and Research Advisor, GLRA
Ms Jannine Ebenso	Head of Quality Assurance, TLMI
Dr Sunil Anand	Regional Director for Asia, Hope Rises International
Dr Lucrecia Acosta Soto	Associate Professor, University of Michael Hernandez de Elche
Dr Anna Giné March	Head of Research, Anesvad Foundation
Dr Peter Steinmann	Public Health Specialist and Epidemiologist, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
Dr Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo	Founder Director & Technical Adviser, African Institute for health and Development (AIHD)
Dr Doris Wairimu Njomo	Senior Principal research Scientist-Social and Behavioral Studies, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)
Prof. Uche Veronica Amazigo	Founder/CEO of Pan-African Community Initiative on Education and Health (PACIEH)

8.3 SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE

Dr Richard W. Truman (Chair)	Former Chief of the Laboratory Research Branch of the National Hansen's Disease Program / Principal Investigator of the Leprosy Research Support program of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Disease, USA
Prof Dr Françoise Portaels	Professor Emeritus, Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp, Belgium
Prof Dr Patricia D. Dets	Full Professor and Head of the Department of Social Medicine, Postgraduate Programme in Infectious Diseases, Federal University of Espirito Santo, Brazil
Prof Dr Paul Fine	Professor Emeritus of Communicable Disease Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
Dr Ad P. Koets	Senior Scientist and Head of the National Reference Laboratory for Mycobacterial Infections and Tuberculosis at Wageningen Bioveterinary Research (WBVR), the Netherlands
Dr Cassandra White	Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, Georgia State University
Dr Kathryn M. Dupnik	Assistant Professor of Medicine in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology and Immunology at Weill Cornell Medicine, as well as faculty in the Center for Global Health, USA.
Dr Frederik J. Slim	Rehabilitation Specialist and Staff Member, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine Rivierenland Hospital, Tiel, the Netherlands.
Prof Dr Carl Kendall (from October)	Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at Tulane University Department of Social, Behavioral and Population Sciences Visiting Professor Federal University of Ceará Vice-Leader GEDESSA (Research Group in Social Inequalities and Health)
Prof. Dr Isabelle Aujoulat (from October until December)	Professor Université Catholique de Louvain

8.4 LRI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (COCO)

Mr Stephen Labib (until July)	International Communication Advisor, NLR
Mr Guillermo Maceiras	Strategic communication, Anesvad Foundation
Ms Sarah Hesshaus	Vice President of Business Process & Communications, ALM
Ms Jessica Mussro	Communications Manager, ALM
Mr Tim Burton	Global Communications Lead, TLMI
Mr Subhojit Goswami	Senior Program Manager - Advocacy & Communications, TLM India
Ms Johanna Schultheiß	Press and Public Relations Officer, GLRA
Ms Larissa Brodziak	Online Fundraiser, GLRA

8.5 LRI SECRETARIAT

Dr Suzan Trienekens (until May)	Coordinator
Dr Liesbeth Mieras (from May until September)	Interim Coordinator
Ms Ísis Umbelino-Walker (from September)	Coordinator
Ms Nicole Dinnissen	Programme Officer
Ms Chrysa Menexi	Support Officer

9 REVIEWER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all our external reviewers who dedicated their time to the peer review of the full proposals of the RESILIENTD grants in 2025:

ALMUDENA MARÍ SÁEZ

APPIAH SETH CHRISTOPHER

BOGNAN VALENTIN KONÉ

BRONWEN GILLESPIE

CAROLIN GUNESCH

CHRISTINE FENENGA

HANNAH KUPER

JOSE ANTONIO RUIZ POSTIGO

MATILDA ABERESE-AKO

PAULA BRANDÃO

ROSALIND MCCOLLUM

TAIWO JAMES OBINDO

10 FINANCIAL NARRATIVE

Summary Budget LRI 2026

Income:	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025
Income from contributors	798,000	868,752
Other income	650,000	465,219
Income in return of goods and services	75,000	72,674
Sum of income	1,523,000	1,406,645
Expenses:	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025
Research project costs	1,493,000	1,086,513
Running costs	299,000	265,404
Sum of expenses	1,792,000	1,351,917
Financial income	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025
	0	16,961
Result	-269,000	71,689

Outlook 2026

LRI will receive a contribution of €798,000 from partners, an amount of €650,000 for co-financed projects and an amount of €75,000 in return of goods and services. Looking forward, we expect the expenditures to increase to €1,792,000 due to an expected increase in project activities mainly due to the new RESILIENTD projects.

LRI is facing declining contributions from various partners to the joint fund. Starting in 2026, the contribution of full member Anesvad Foundation will decrease, associate member Effect Hope will discontinue its funding, and a group of core partners (including NLR, TLMI, and Hope Rises International) will continue to contribute structurally. GLRA has indicated that it will reduce its contribution in the coming years, as will Hope Rises International, while full members NLR and TLMI will keep their contributions stable. In 2024, due to budget cuts, NLR had already reduced its annual contribution from €350,000 to €150,000 by 2025.

The increase of "Other income" is due to the extra funding from Anesvad Foundation for the RESILIENTD projects.

Project expenses remain the largest item (approximately 80% of expenditures).

Financial results 2025

In 2025 LRI received a total contribution from partners of €868,752 and in addition to this an amount of €465,219 was received from co-funding partners towards specific research projects and running costs. The freely available funds consist of cash held in the bank account and amount to €2,672,374 as per 31 December 2025.

The total expenses arrived at €1,351,917. The surplus for 2025 to €71,689 will be allocated to LRI's earmarked reserves. This increases the total earmarked reserves from €1,327,640 to €1,399,329. The earmarked reserves are formed in accordance with LRI policy, please refer to the section notes accompanying the annual accounts for 2025 for further clarification.

11 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Date: 24 June 2026

CONTENTS

I. Balance sheet as at 31 December 2025	21
II. Statement of Income and Expenses 2025	22
III a. Notes accompanying the Annual Accounts 2025	23
III b. Notes to Balance sheet 2025	26
III c. Notes to the Income and Expenditure 2025	29
IV Independent auditor's report	32
V Annexes.....	33
annex V.1 Overview of research projects	34
annex V.2 Budget LRI 2026	35
annex V.3 Multi Annual Budget LRI 2026-2028	36
annex V.4 Board and Executives Group of LRI.....	37

I. BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

amounts in €

Notes	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
ASSETS		
2. Current assets		
Accounts receivables	-	-
Balances and accounts from NLR	-	40,434
Other receivables and amounts paid in advance	29,783	3,736
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>2,672,374</u>	<u>1,998,288</u>
Total assets	<u>2,702,157</u>	<u>2,042,458</u>
LIABILITIES		
3. Reserves		
Earmarked reserves	<u>1,399,329</u>	<u>1,327,640</u>
	1,399,329	1,327,640
4. Short-term liabilities		
Anesvad Foundation	1,067,106	400,000
Balances and accounts from NLR	44,419	-
Other payables and amounts received in advance	<u>191,303</u>	<u>314,818</u>
	1,302,828	714,818
Total liabilities	<u>2,702,157</u>	<u>2,042,458</u>

II. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES 2025

amounts in €

Notes	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Actuals 2024
5. INCOME			
Income from contributors	868,753	870,600	1,099,243
Other income	465,219	640,196	292,440
Income in return of goods and services	72,673	79,000	86,877
Total income	1,406,645	1,589,796	1,478,560
6. EXPENSES			
Research project costs	1,086,513	1,569,602	1,199,654
Staff costs, housing and office costs	233,303	261,970	257,848
Other operating expenses	32,101	46,470	34,800
Total expenses	1,351,917	1,878,042	1,492,302
7. Financial income	16,961	-	-
Result of income and expenses	71,689	-288,246	-13,742

III A. NOTES ACCOMPANYING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025

General and accounting policies

These are the annual accounts of 2025 of the Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI). The year 2025 started on January 1st and ended December 31st LRI has been registered since June 1st 2015 as a foundation under Dutch law. LRI is registered at the Chamber of Commerce no. 63431874.

General note on the accounting policies

The annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with Guideline C for small non-profit organisations (Dutch: Richtlijn C1 Kleine organisaties zonder winststreven) as published by the Dutch Accounting Standards Board (Raad voor de Jaarverslaggeving) and revised in 2024.

Activities

The LRI is a leprosy research funding and capacity strengthening organisation. Partners of the LRI contribute to a joint fund, which is managed by the LRI and reserved for research that is exclusively or strongly related to leprosy. An efficient, transparent and scientifically sound and rigorous selection process assures a transparent selection of research proposals as well as a scientifically high-quality monitoring mechanism of research projects. A comprehensive explanation of our mission and goals and a detailed account of the content of our work can be found in our annual report.

The LRI work proceedings and work activities.

The LRI fully delegated its work proceedings and activities to Leprastichting (NLR). The Supervisory Board of NLR supervises the proceedings and activities as reported by the NLR Director.

Registered address

The registered and actual address of the LRI is Wibautstraat 137k, 1097 DN in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Accounting period

The annual accounts have been drawn up for an accounting period of one year. The financial year is equal to the calendar year. The annual accounts have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting.

Accounting policies for the valuation of assets and liabilities and the determination of the result

All amounts in the annual accounts are in € or a multiple of €1,000 or rounded to the nearest amount in €. The amounts are compared to the part for research activities and objectives from the formal LRI budget for 2025 (approved by the Supervisory Board in January 2025).

The annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the principle of continuity.

Income from funding and the allocation of funds

Each LRI full partner has committed an annual contribution to the LRI joint fund for research projects and contributes an equal share to LRI running costs. Associate partners and co-financiers contribute to specific projects and/or to the running costs. The income from full partners, associate partners and co-financiers are recognised in the year to which the item of income relates and are allocated to the year in question on an actual cost basis.

The income is shown gross, before any deduction of associated costs, unless otherwise stated. Necessary costs to realise certain benefits, are presented in the statement of income and expenses as expense.

Grant commitments

The grant commitments are recognised as conditional commitments. The LRI receives from the grantees two progress reports annually, including scientific progress regarding the research project and financial statements: a semi-annual report and an annual report. The semi-annual report must be submitted each year on September 1st. The deadline for submission of the annual report is March 1st.

The amounts that are expected to be settled in future years are accounted for, insofar as expenditures are appropriate within the condition, are included as short-term liabilities. The LRI does not hold any long-term liabilities.

Accounts receivable

Receivables are initially valued at the fair value of the consideration to be received, including transaction costs if material.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and bank balances that represent the balance of the bank account held for the Secretariat of the LRI, in the Netherlands and are immediately accessible. The LRI does not have any borrowings or loans. The LRI does not invest, nor does it make use of any financial instruments.

General note on the balance sheet and statement of income and expenses

In general, assets and liabilities are stated at the amounts at which they were acquired or incurred, or at current value. If not specifically stated otherwise, they are recognised at the amounts at which they were acquired or incurred. The balance sheet and statement of income and expenses include references to the notes. Notes to the line items of the balance sheet and the statement of income and expenses have been numbered in the financial statements.

Foreign currency

The annual accounts are presented in €. Transactions in foreign currency are converted to € at the exchange rate of the transaction date.

Reserves

The LRI ensures that contributions are used for the intended cause. If more funds are allocated to a specific research project than the reported expenditure in that particular year for that project, the LRI will allocate the surplus amount to the same project in the remaining grant period. If, upon completion, the actual expenditures of a specific project are lower than the grant awarded, the remaining budget will be deposited in the joint fund. The (earmarked) reserves are the result of income and expenses and are held in accordance with budgets for grant awards and for the running costs of the LRI for future years.

Reserves and investments

The result of 2025 is added to the earmarked reserves. The earmarked reserves are used for active and new grant awards as well as running costs to ensure the sustainability of the LRI with a horizon of three years. The LRI holds no investments.

Management of the LRI and remuneration of Supervisory Board and Executives Group

The LRI is managed by the Director of NLR, implementing the decisions of the LRI Executives Group and supervised by the Supervisory Board of NLR. No remuneration was paid to the Supervisory Board members and Director of NLR, and no loans, advances or guarantees were given.

Events after the reporting period

In these accounts, no significant events after the reporting period occurred which should be included.

Publication

This report is available on www.leprosyresearch.org. The 2025 annual report and the annual accounts are available in a digital format primarily for environmental reasons. A (free of charge) printed copy can be obtained on request.

III B. NOTES TO BALANCE SHEET 2025

In the notes to the balance sheet variances between 2024 and 2025 are elaborated upon further.

1. Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are used for the main activities and entirely held for operational management. The LRI holds no tangible fixed assets and therefore this is not valued in 2024 and 2025.

2. Current assets

This item includes all receivables which are due within one year, amounts paid in advance and cash and cash equivalents.

	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
	in €	in €
Balances and accounts from NLR	-	40,434
Other receivables and amounts paid in advance	29,783	3,736
Cash and cash equivalents	2,672,374	1,998,288
	2,702,157	2,042,458

The Cash and cash equivalents balance increased by €674,086 during the financial year. This includes €2.6 million held in the bank's savings account. The balance of the savings account includes a total amount received in advance of €1,222,582. €1,067,106 from Anesvad Foundation and € 155,476 from other partners (see item 4 of the balance sheet). The balance of cash and cash equivalents are available immediately.

3. Reserves

The LRI ensures that contributions are used for the intended cause. If more funds are allocated to a specific research project than the reported expenditure in that particular year for that project, the LRI will allocate the surplus amount to the same project in the remaining grant period. If, upon completion, the actual expenditures of a specific project are lower than the grant award, the remaining budget will be deposited in the joint fund. The (earmarked) reserves are the result of income and expenses and are held in accordance with budgets for grant awards and for the running costs of the LRI for future years.

The LRI's reserves are as follows:

	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
	in €	in €
Earmarked reserves	1,399,329	1,327,640

General notes on the reserves

For the budget of 2025, a deficit of €288,000 was accounted. Several of the research projects have experienced delay in progress. Reasons include delays in ethical approvals, project management issues, enrolment challenges and data analysis and dissemination taking longer than anticipated. Following review by the Scientific Review Committee, the LRI Executives Group has accepted requests from projects for no-cost extensions to continue activities related to the grant award.

The positive result of 2025 arrived at €71,689 and is added to the earmarked reserves of the LRI.

While partners contribute to the joint fund, associate partners and co-financers contribute to specific projects. Some of the funds received in 2025 for specific projects remained unspent. These have been re-allocated to the 2026 budget. The LRI holds no continuity reserve.

	Earmarked reserves
	in €
Balance as per 1 January 2025	1,327,640
- Movements	-
- Withdrawals and additions	71,689
Balance as per 31 December 2025	1,399,329

4. Short term liabilities

Anesvad Foundation

All current liabilities fall due in maximum four years from date of signature. The fair value of the current liabilities approximates the book value due to its short-term character.

	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
	in €	in €
Anesvad Foundation	1,067,106	400,000
Balances and accounts from NLR	44,419	-
Other payables and amounts received in advance	191,354	314,818
	1,302,879	714,818

In collaboration with Anesvad Foundation, a new call for proposals was launched in December 2023 for projects commencing in 2025: the RESILIENTD grant, which has a special focus on the social determinants of skin NTDs in Sub-Saharan Africa. The RESILIENTD grant is facilitated by the LRI Secretariat, supported by LRI structures, and funded by Anesvad Foundation. Anesvad Foundation provides the LRI with annual funding for this grant over 4 budget rounds. The maximum budget for the 2025 and 2026 rounds is €800,000 per round. From 2027 onwards, it will be a maximum of €600,000 per round, including salary and running costs. Unspent budget from

the previous rounds can be added to the next round.

Anesvad Foundation RESILIENTD	
	in €
Balance as per 1 January 2025	400,000
Received	800,000
Paid instalments rewarded grands	-132,894
	1,067,106

A total of €677,469 of the funds received from Anesvad Foundation have not yet been awarded to a RESILIENTD project.

Balances and accounts from NLR

The current account balance with NLR represents short-term liability arising from operational transactions. The balance is unsecured, bears no interest unless otherwise agreed, and is repayable on demand.

Other payables and amounts received in advance

Accounts payable mainly consist of amounts due for audit and project costs that have not yet been invoiced in 2025. The amounts received in advance are also included under this item, representing unspent funds from contributors towards research projects.

Other payables and amounts received in advance	
	in €
Received in advance other partners	155,425
Other payables	35,878
	191,303

Commitments not included in the balance sheet

The off-balance-sheet project commitments as of 31 December 2025 amount to €1,428,162.

Events after balance sheet date

No events have occurred between the balance sheet date and the date on which the Supervisory Board adopted the annual accounts, which would affect the 2025 annual accounts or the condition of the LRI at the end of the financial year or thereafter.

III C. NOTES TO THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2025

5. Income

Each LRI full partner has committed an annual contribution of a minimum of €100,000 to the joint the LRI research fund and contributes an equal share to the LRI running costs. In 2025, the full partners were: Hope Rises International (formerly American Leprosy Missions (ALM)), German Leprosy and Tuberculosis Relief Association (GLRA/DAHW), The Leprosy Mission (TLM) International, Anesvad Foundation, and NLR. Associate partners, in 2025 these were Damien Foundation and Effect Hope contributed a chosen contribution less than €100,000 to the joint fund and did not contribute to the running costs. The breakdown of the total income is as follows:

	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Actuals 2024
	in €	in €	in €
Income from contributors			
Hope Rises International	139,260	139,200	143,700
GLRA/DAHW	189,200	189,200	193,700
TLM International	139,200	139,200	143,700
Anesvad Foundation	200,000	200,000	200,000
NLR	150,000	150,000	350,000
Damien Foundation	20,000	20,000	35,000
Effect Hope	31,093	33,000	33,143
Other income			
Turing Foundation	254,398	365,521	209,152
Other amounts from partners	57,927	102,957	73,288
Anesvad Foundation (RESILIENTD)	132,894	151,718	-
Other amounts	20,000	20,000	10,000
Income in return of goods and services			
Others	72,673	79,000	86,877
	1,406,645	1,589,796	1,478,560

The total amount of income available for allocation in line with the objectives for 2025 arrived at €1,406,645.

The actuals of the total income in 2025 were 12% lower than budgeted.

The earmarked contribution from Turing Foundation amounts to €254,398. Additionally, Turing Foundation contributed €20,000 towards running costs. For 2025 LRI received an earmarked contribution of €57,927 from St Francis Leprosy Guild. The amount of €72,673 under the item Income and return of goods and services related to the contribution of the Anesvad Foundation and the contribution of the Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy (GPZL) towards the running costs of the LRI (mainly salary costs).

6. Expenses

Research

The expenses mainly consisted of funding research projects costs in line with the active grant awards. A total of 45 projects are presented in Annex 1. Of these, 42 projects were ongoing in 2025. Detailed expenditure per project is included in Annex 1. Three of the listed projects were completed in 2024; however, refund transactions related to two of these three projects were recorded in 2025. The final payment for the third project was recorded in 2024.

	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Actuals 2024
	in €	in €	in €
Research			
Research projects costs	1,056,496	1,499,102	1,040,350
Other projects costs	30,017	70,500	159,304
	1,086,513	1,569,602	1,199,654

The LRI spent a total of €1,086,513 on project funding in 2025. The actual project costs were 69% of the budgeted project costs. The difference is mainly due to the premature termination of funding, due to requested and approved no-cost extensions, instalments were transferred later than originally planned or postponed to 2026. These extensions shift planned expenditures into future years but do not increase total grant commitments. Furthermore, for some research projects that ended in 2025, actual expenses were lower than anticipated, resulting in a lower final payment. Lastly, several newly granted research projects began activities in the second half of 2025, while the budget had been estimated for the full calendar year.

Running costs

The LRI running costs consist of staff costs for the LRI Secretariat staff, housing expenses and other operating expenses that cannot be directly allocated to the projects. The actuals of staff costs were 13% lower than budgeted and the housing and office expenses of 2025 were in accordance with the budget, other operating expenses were 31% below budget.

	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Actuals 2024
	in €	in €	in €
Running costs			
Staff costs	199,133	227,800	225,598
Housing and office costs	34,170	34,170	32,250
Other operating costs	32,101	46,470	34,800
	265,404	308,440	292,648

	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Actuals 2024
	in €	in €	in €
Staff expenses			
Wages and salaries	158.314	180.800	175.163
Social security costs	24.277	28.000	29.150
Pension contributions	16.425	19.000	19.886
Other personnel costs	117	-	1.399
	199.133	227.800	225.598

In 2025 on average 2.5 FTEs (2024: 2.8 FTEs) were employed in the Secretariat of the LRI in Amsterdam. The LRI had no staff employed abroad during 2025.

The LRI has no staff members on its payroll; all staff are employed by the NLR and the expenditure is charged to the LRI. For the LRI Secretariat staff, the NLR standard terms, benefits, and conditions of employment apply.

The total staff costs of the LRI for 2025 amount to €199,133 and consist of wages and salaries, pension costs (insured with Pensioenfonds Zorg en Welzijn), social security charges and other personnel costs.

7. Financial income

In previous years an amount of €1 million has been temporarily deposited in the account of NLR as part of the LRI's cash management. In December 2024, this amount was returned to a savings account of the LRI. As a result of this repayment, the LRI now records an interest income in 2025, as the related cash balance is again held on an interest-bearing savings account.

IV INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: the supervisory board and the management of Stichting Leprosy Research Initiative.

A. Report on the audit of the financial statements 2025 included in the annual report.

Our opinion

We have audited the financial statements 2025 of Stichting Leprosy Research Initiative based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Stichting Leprosy Research Initiative at 31 December 2025 and of its result for 2025 in accordance with the 'RJ-Richtlijn C1 Kleine organisaties zonder winststreven' (Guideline for annual reporting C1 'Small not-for-profit organisations') of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board).

The financial statements comprise:

1. the balance sheet as at 31 December 2025;
2. the statement of income and expenditure for 2025; and
3. the notes comprising a summary of the accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for our opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report.

We are independent of Stichting Leprosy Research Initiative in accordance with the Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore, we have complied with the Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics).

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Wamberg Offices
Wamberg 37
1083 CW Amsterdam
Postbus 53028
1007 RA Amsterdam
Telefoon 020 571 23 45

E-mail info@dubois.nl
www.dubois.nl
KvK nummer 34374865



B. Report on the other information included in the annual report.

The annual report contains other information, in addition to the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

The other information consists of:

- the Management Board's report;
- Annex V-1: Overview of projects ongoing in 2025;
- Annex V-2: Budget LRI 2026;
- Annex V-3: Multi Annual Budget LRI 2026-2028;
- Annex V-4: Board and Executives Group of LRI.

Based on the following procedures performed, we conclude that the other information is consistent with the financial statements and does not contain material misstatements.

We have read the other information. Based on our knowledge and understanding obtained through our audit of the financial statements or otherwise, we have considered whether the other information contains material misstatements.

By performing these procedures, we comply with the requirements of the Dutch Standard 720. The scope of the procedures performed is substantially less than the scope of those performed in our audit of the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the other information, including the Management Board's report in accordance with Guideline for annual reporting 'RJ-Richtlijn C1 Kleine organisaties zonder winststreven' (Guideline for annual reporting C1 'Small not-for-profit organisations').

C. Description of responsibilities regarding the financial statements

Responsibilities of the supervisory board and the management for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Guideline for annual reporting 'RJ-Richtlijn C1 Kleine organisaties zonder winststreven' (Guideline for annual reporting C1 'Small not-for-profit organisations'). Furthermore, management is responsible for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

As part of the preparation of the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. Based on the financial reporting framework mentioned, management should prepare the financial statements using the going concern basis of accounting, unless management either intends to liquidate the foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management should disclose events and circumstances that may cast significant doubt on the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern in the financial statements.

The supervisory board is responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objective is to plan and perform the audit engagement in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence for our opinion.

Our audit has been performed with a high, but not absolute, level of assurance, which means we may not detect all material errors and fraud during our audit.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. The materiality affects the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and the evaluation of the effect of identified misstatements on our opinion.

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the audit, in accordance with Dutch Standards on Auditing, ethical requirements and independence requirements.

Our audit included, among others:

- identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, designing and performing audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control;
- evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- concluding on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause a foundation to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures; and
- evaluating whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



We communicate with the supervisory board and the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant findings in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Amsterdam, 25 June 2026

Dubois & Co. Registeraccountants

J.J.M. Huijbregts RA

A. Koek RA

V ANNEXES

annex V-1 Overview of projects ongoing in 2025		ACTUALS 2025	BUDGET 2025
Ongoing research projects			
704.16.71	ENLIST MTX - two randomised controlled trials in ENL	€ -28.885	€ 22.661
707.19.20	UGM/Implementation Dapsone Hypersensitivity Syndrome, Indonesia/ Nepal	€ 9.484	€ 12.822
707.19.45	DF/Assessing the effectiveness of IECS, Bangladesh	€ 16.535	€ 21.000
707.19.21	BLP/Clofazimine for MB cases at high risk of ENL, Bangladesh/India		€ 19.562
707.19.64	ALM/LepVax		€ 82.500
708.20.04	Oxford Univ./Efficacy and Tolerability of Adjunct Metformin in Multidrug Treatment, Indonesia	€ 32.830	€ 32.830
708.20.09	ICMR/Molecular Mechanisms of Immunomodulation Imparted by MIP vaccine	€ -8.172	€ -
708.20.12	VU/Informing (generic) approaches to reduce stigma	€ 11.255	€ 26.937
708.20.14	Leprosy Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in PEP Setting, Tanzania (LARS)		€ 14.034
708.20.17	ENAPAL/ Assessing long-term outcomes & sustainability of family-based approaches, Ethiopia	€ 15.644	€ 20.321
FP21\14	VU/Improving management of leprosy reactions and quality of life of persons affected	€ 2.988	€ 8.411
FP21\20	NLR IO/Testing an App supported delivery system for Leprosy Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) services	€ 26.718	€ 26.718
FP21\10	LUMC/Point-of-care immunodiagnostic tests	€ 68.620	€ 68.620
FP22\17	TLM Trust India/Comparison of removable device & total contact cast for healing of ulcer		€ 4.457
FP22\6	TLM Niger/Understanding & Reducing Leprosy-Related Stigma Among Healthcare Workers, Niger	€ 29.893	€ 49.877
FP22\21	PLF/ COMBINE: Leprosy elimination by community screening & mass chemoprophylaxis, Kiribati	€ 50.023	€ 50.023
FP22\9	RI-MUHC/Identifying drug targets to treat leprosy reactions via genetic susceptibility factors		€ 13.338
FP22\19	NLR Nepal/How effective is ongoing SDR-PEP implementation under routine programme conditions	€ 14.380	€ 14.380
FP22\15	RedAid Nigeria/Audio & written interventions to improve the perception, knowledge & attitudes towards leprosy		€ 14.334
FP23\100016	ICDDR,B/Evaluation of Mycobacterium leprae specific RPA assay	€ 6.000	€ 6.000
FP23\100011	NRC-Myc/Setting an EQA programme for enhancing capacity building	€ 15.000	€ 16.000
FP23\100019	TLM Trust India/Addressing healing after multi-drug treatment	€ 18.352	€ 26.743
FP23\100017	ICMT/Evaluation of five transcriptomic biomarkers for leprosy	€ 76.006	€ 76.006
FP23\100009	ALM/The role of persons affected as agents of change in their community	€ 12.682	€ 22.698
FP23\100004	NLR India/Compassion training for reducing stigma & improving quality of care	€ 6.720	€ 7.320
FP23\100018	Lepira India/Personalised footwear for foot ulcers in leprosy by baropodometry		€ 11.867
FP23_CS\5	LTR/Collaborative co-design to optimize evidence-based and contextual general health worker training	€ 4.002	€ 4.002
FP23_CS\6	INF/Thermographic assessment of autonomic innervation in Leprosy	€ 1.394	€ 1.394
FP24\11	Erq Maed/Addressing Leprosy Trauma through the Traumatic Stress Relief Programme	€ 54.115	€ 54.115
FP24\19	NLR India/Basic Psychological Support through peer supporters for leprosy & LF		€ 93.433
FP24\21	TLM Nigeria/Capacity Building for Leprosy	€ 50.276	€ 50.270
FP24\13	UFMG/Seeking for immunological susceptibility markers for leprosy	€ 50.436	€ 50.436
FP24\8	ALM/Use of handheld ultrasound for the early detection of leprosy	€ 36.274	€ 36.274
FP24\10	ITM/Role of Drug-resistance and M. lepromatosis in African leprosy transmission	€ 35.894	€ 35.894
FP24\12	Lepira Society/Leprosy transmission through WASH and One Health approach	€ 70.968	€ 70.968
Subtotal Research projects		€ 679.432	€ 1.066.245
709.00.20	SRC/LRI spring & autumn meetings	€ 7.004	€ 30.000
706.18.99	LRI Workshops	€ -	€ -
709.00.21	Publication costs	€ 2.317	€ 6.000
707.19.91	ILC	€ 8.817	€ 22.000
709.00.22	External audit	€ 11.879	€ 12.500
709.00.23	Internships	€ -	€ -
Subtotal Other projects		€ 30.017	€ 70.500
A) Total projects costs		€ 709.449	€ 1.136.745
FP25\10	PUCP/Genome-wide association study of leprosy per se and disease recurrence	€ 70.978	€ 70.977
FP25\12	TLM-GB/Working towards mental health Recovery Among Persons affected by leprosy	€ 53.389	€ 72.676
FP25\19	UoS/Investigating Leprosy as a zoonotic disease in Brazil	€ 55.116	€ 53.599
FP25\25	Oswaldo Cruz/ENL Genomic Signature and Neutrophil Interventions	€ 44.054	€ 53.887
CS_FP25.12	TLM Bangladesh/Regional Leprosy Stigma in Bangladesh	€ 6.550	€ 10.000
CS_FP25.13	TLM Nepal/Effectiveness of mascot-led leprosy awareness program	€ 12.645	€ 10.000
CS_FP25.8	Universitas Airlangga/DEKASI-App for Post-RFT Leprosy Patients in Indonesia	€ 1.438	€ 10.000
B) Total new research projects 2025		€ 244.170	€ 281.139
NTD.FP25\102	Effect Hope/Harmonised Model for Optimizing Peer Support Group Effectiveness	€ 41.114	€ 49.488
NTD.FP25\105	TLMI- Ethiopia/SDH in people affected by leprosy in Ethiopia	€ 46.780	€ 52.880
NTD.FP25\108	KCCR/Skin Health Programme in a Penitentiary (SHEPP)	€ 45.000	€ 49.350
C) New RESILIENTD projects 2025		€ 132.894	€ 151.718
D) Total research projects		€ 1.086.513	€ 1.569.602

annex V-2

Budget LRI 2026

amounts x €1,000

	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025
Income			
Income from contributors			
Hope Rises International	150	139	139
Damien Foundation	20	20	20
Effect Hope	0	31	33
St Francis Leprosy Guild	23		
GLRA/DAHW	195	189	189
TLM International	150	139	139
Anesvad Foundation	110	200	253
NLR	150	150	150
Other income			
Turing Foundation	210	254	366
Income for co-financed projects	68	68	103
Anesvad Foundation (RESILIENTD projects)	352	133	152
Other amounts	20	20	20
Income in return of goods and services	75	73	26
Sum of income	1,523	1,416	1,590

	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025
Expenses			
Research projects costs	1,433	1,095	1,499
Other projects costs	60	30	71
	1,493	1,125	1,570
Running costs	299	275	308
	299	275	308
Sum of expenses	1,792	1,400	1,878

	Budget 2026	Actuals 2025	Budget 2025
Financial income			
Bank interest	0	17	0

Result	-269	33	-288
---------------	-------------	-----------	-------------

annex V-3

Multi Annual Budget LRI 2026-2028

amounts x €1,000

	Budget 2026	Projection 2027	Projection 2028
Income:			
Income from contributors	798	633	633
Other income	650	690	649
Income in return of goods and services	75	75	76
Sum of income	1.523	1.398	1.358

	Budget 2026	Projection 2027	Projection 2028
Expenses:			
Research projects costs	1.433	1.194	725
Other projects costs	60	147	96
	1.493	1.341	821
Running costs	299	312	326
	299	312	326
Sum of expenses	1.792	1.653	1.147

	Budget 2026	Projection 2027	Projection 2028
Financial income	0	0	0
Result	-269	-255	211

annex V-4 Board and Executives Group of LRI

Board of Directors

	From	Until
Nederlandse Stichting voor Leprabestrijding	01/06/2015	-

Executives Group

The LRI Executives Group (EG) consists of the Executive Directors of the LRI partners.

Ms L. Hummel

Chief Executive Officer; NLR (Chair) 01/01/2021

Mr B. Simmons

President/Chief Executive Officer; Hope Rises International

Mr J. Beringer

Chief Executive Officer; German Leprosy Relief Association

Mr B. Morgan

Director; The Leprosy Mission International

Mr I. Lasa

General Director; Anesvad Foundation



LEPROSY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

COLOPHON

Publication: June 2026

The Annual Report of the Leprosy Research Initiative is published on: leprosyresearch.org/about-us/achievements

Cover photo: Skin camp in Mozambique, PEP4LEP*. Photo credits to Anne Schoenmakers, NLR
**The PEP4LEP project is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by the European Union (grant number RIA2017NIM-1839-PEP4LEP). This project also received funding from the Leprosy Research Initiative under LRI grant number 707.19.58.*

Postal address:

P.O. Box 95005
1090 HA Amsterdam

Visiting address:

Wibautstraat 137k
1097 DN Amsterdam

Web:

www.leprosyresearch.org

Email:

info@leprosyresearch.org