The Ann, Ciara and Niamh Copeland Trust Fund

The Koraput Care Centre, Odisha

Update April 2024

We will beat leprosy together

Introduction

Project	The Koraput Care Centre
Locations Supported by Project Activities	Six districts in Odisha: - Koraput - Nowrangpur - Kalahandi - Nuapada - Sonepur - Bargarh
Project Beneficiaries	People affected by leprosy and LF
Funder	The Ann, Ciara and Niamh Copeland Trust Fund
Reporting Period	April 2023 – March 2024

Celebration of LEPRA Society's Foundation Day at the Koraput Care Centre, February 2023.

1. Project Background

The Koraput Care Centre (KCC) is owned by the Indian government and leased to the Lepra Society. It provides a whole range of in- and out-patient services for local people affected by leprosy and lymphatic filariasis (LF), as well as acting as a base for outreach support to more remote, rural areas. The holistic services provided are fully integrated into the local Ministry of Health, filling vital gaps where there is no other provision, and the staff team work closely with the government's National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) at district and state level.

The KCC supports activities in 18 blocks across six districts in the State of Odisha covering approximately 2.5 million people. With an average annual detection rate of 24.2 new leprosy cases per 100,000 people in these six districts, it is expected to have approximately 600 new cases each year.

Since reopening in Autumn 2021 the team has supported the NLEP in the district by providing disability management services such as Nerve Function Impairment (NFI) / Reaction management, Ulcer Care, facilitating Reconstructive Surgery, as well as providing customised footwear and protective devices.

The KCC is staffed by a team comprising of a consultant medical officer, a nurse, a ward attendant, and other support personnel.

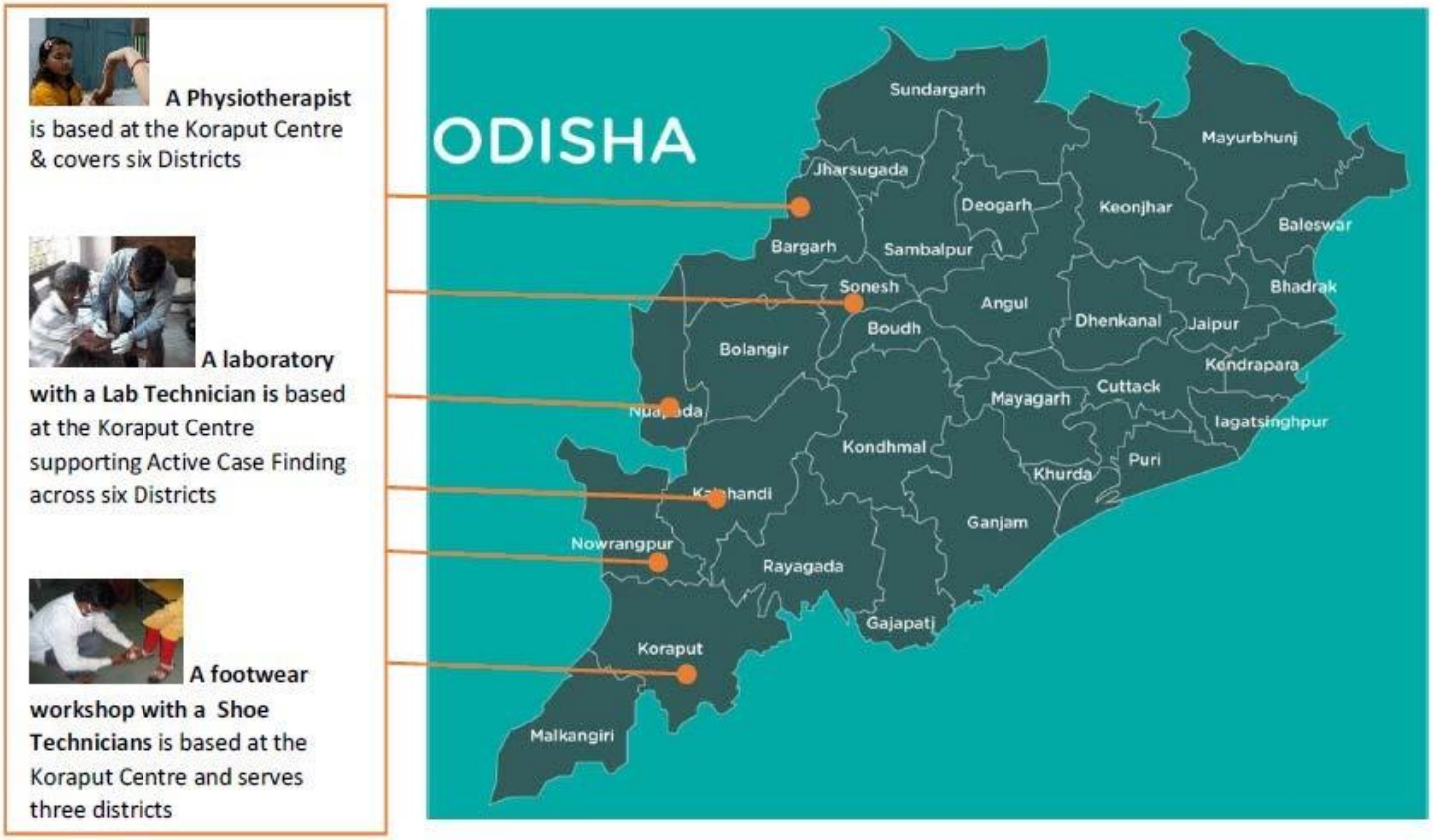
Mr Jimmy Innes, CEO of LEPRA UK. who visited KCC along with the CE of the LEPRA Society, talking with in-patients - 12.03.2024.

Previously, the KCC operated a 20-bed in-patient care facility. However, due to budgetary constraints, it has been reduced to a 5-bed capacity. Despite this limitation, the number of in-patients consistently exceeds 5. To manage this situation within existing budgets, the project prioritises admitting cases based on need. During the reporting period, the centre admitted complicated cases involving Ulcer (maggot infestation), which required extended stays due to their complexities.

The KCC acts as an annexure project under the District NLEP wing and the district Leprosy Consultant and District Leprosy Supervisor regularly visit to provide technical support. Every quarter the District Coordination meeting takes place at the KCC where all the Block Nodal Leprosy Workers (BNLWs) attend to plan the ongoing NLEP situation at district level and to examine admitted cases to gain knowledge on complication management. 10 pre-operative cases of Reconstructive Surgery (RCS) were carried out at the Koraput Medical College with the surgery and Occupational Therapy costs borne by the Government.

During the reporting period the administration and services of the KCC project ran smoothly with key milestones and targets met without significant delays or setbacks. Resource allocation remained stable throughout the reporting period, ensuring the necessary financial, human, and equipment resources needed for project delivery. Stakeholder engagement maintained a positive trajectory, with consistent support and involvement internally and externally, contributing to project success.

As you will see from the following pages, the Centre has served many people in Koraput District and beyond during the year, providing them with care, treatment, and support that they would otherwise struggle to access. The Centre is a vital project, and so we and the LEPRA Society are committed to ensuring its continuation and long-term sustainability.



Outreach activities from the Koraput Centre in 2023-24

Project Impact: April 2023 to March 2024

- The KCC Out-patient Department (OPD) attended to a total of 515 cases, comprising 389 males, 116 females, and 10 children. The project staff addressed their respective issues by providing counselling and Prevention of Disability services. Upon assessment, it was discovered that 67 cases required Nerve Function Impairment (NFI) & Reaction treatments and were subsequently placed on steroid therapy. Among these, 63 cases have recovered, while 4 cases are still undergoing treatment. Additionally, 114 cases presented with ulcers; they were educated on self-care practices and provided with self-care kits. Out of these cases, 105 individuals' ulcers healed, and 9 cases remain under treatment.

- During the reporting period, a total of 57 Slit Skin smear tests were conducted for challenging diagnosis and classification cases. Among these tests, 25 cases tested positive for skin smears. Clinically and bacteriologically confirming 27 new cases within this positive group, all were classified as Mycobacterium leprae cases (MB). MB case refers to a case of leprosy with more than five skin lesions: or with nerve involvement or with the demonstrated presence of bacilli in a slit-skin smear, irrespective of the number of skin lesions. The centre facilitated the initial doses of Multidrug Therapy (MDT) to all cases and subsequently referred them to the appropriate Primary Health Care Centre / Comm unity Health Care Centre for further treatment.

- 165 cases were admitted for In-patient services at KCC and were provided with appropriate in-patient care and treatment. Among them 50 received physio-care, 6 received NFI, 20 received Reaction treatment and 77 were treated for ulcer complications, and other 12 cases.

- 31 pre-operative cases were mobilised for RCS, with 10 cases operated on during this year. Out of these: 4 operations were carried out at Koraput, 5 at Nabarangpur and 1 in Rayagada district. 7 cases related to hand surgery and 3 to foot surgery.

- 202 pairs of Customised Grade-II-footwear were supplied, including 124 pairs with podiatry appliances.

- 128 adoptive / protective devices were supplied, with 51 of the recipients being women. These devices prevented further damage and helped the patient maintain balance muscle power.

- During the reporting period, the KCC team facilitated social security support for 24 leprosy persons, getting them pensions under social security scheme. Additionally, the team helped obtain disability certificates for 34 persons.

- Laboratory investigations were carried out for OPD and IP cases as requested by the Medical Officer; Hemoglobin-93, Blood Suger-92, ESR-45, Widal-39, MP-53 and general tests – 191. Among these 15 Malaria Parasite tests were found to be positive.

- There were 16 Co-morbidity cases, 11 LF patients were provided with footwear and one leprosy diabetic case was treated during the reporting period.

- Bed occupancy of KCC IP was 106.5% during this reporting period with an average stay of 13 days for each beneficiary.

Overview of OPD attendances and IPD admissions at the Koraput Care Centre in 2023/24

Activity 2023/2024	2023/2024		Notes
	Annual Target	Achievement	
Out-Patient Services			
Total OPD Attendances * …men …women …children	**500 ***	**515 *** **389** **116** **10**	341 persons were already registered as being affected by leprosy. 157 persons were newly registered as being affected by leprosy / difficult to diagnose
Difficult to diagnose (slit skin smear tests)	80	57	25 were confirmed as leprosy
Ulcer care	80	77	48 men, 32 women 69 cases have since healed
Nerve Function Impairment (NFI) / Reaction management	20	67	67 cases placed on steroid therapy, 63 recovered. 26 more complex cases admitted to IP ward.
Physiotherapy: mobilisation for reconstructive surgery	15	30	These individuals were referred to the local hospital for assessment for reconstructive surgery. 10 operations done.
Physiotherapy: post-operative follow-up	20	36	36 post-operative cases followed-up, including 6 women. In 33 cases surgery has been successful and restored functionality. Remaining 3 cases have poor appearance, but function is good.
Physiotherapy: Eyes Hands Feet disability assessments	300	400	These assessments monitor changes in individuals' level of disability
Socio-economic linkages	20	34	During the reporting period, 34 individuals were linked through the social security scheme and received disability certificates. 24 benefited from the pension scheme, including 5 females. The remaining cases are still in process.
Provision of customized footwear	200	202	202 pairs of G11 MCR footwear distributed, among these 124 pairs made with podiatric appliances. Men – 128, Female – 74.
Provision of adoptive devices	50	128	128 assistive devices supplied to 52 persons including 21 women. These devices help prevent further damage and maintain balance of muscle power.
In-Patient Services			
Total IP Admissions	**180**	**165**	
Complications / ulcer care	50	77	

NFI / Reaction management	40	26	
Pre- / Post-operative care / Physiotherapy	30	50	
Provision of customised footwear / Social & economic rehabilitation / Others	44	12	

* Total number of admissions is less than the sum of the numbers attending OPD activities as patients regularly access more than one service per visit

Real Life Story: Mrs Ghasa Gouda

Mrs. Ghasa Gouda resides in Lulla village, Dasomantapur Block, Koraput District, with her husband, two daughters, and one son. Their family falls under the Below Poverty Line (BPL) category and receives 25 kilograms of rice from the government. They rely on one acre of land for cultivation to sustain their livelihood.

Mrs. Gouda first noticed an ulcer on her left foot and attempted local remedies for two years without improvement. Her health deteriorated gradually, experiencing severe pain in her hands and feet along with fever. Later, nodules appeared on her face and ears. Despite a plantar ulcer on her left foot for six months, she kept silent about it.

Following a visit by the Block Nodal Leprosy Worker (BNLW) and consultation with a LEPRA Physio Technician (PT), Mrs. Gouda was taken to LEPRA Society's KCC on IN February 2024. A skin smear test revealed a positive result, and due to her Erythema nodosum leprosum (ENL) reaction she was admitted for in-patient treatment. (ENL is a complication of leprosy with symptoms that include widespread red painful skin nodules (lumps), as well as flu-like symptoms such as fever, joint pain, lymph node swelling, and a general feeling of unwellness). She commenced Multidrug therapy (MDT) treatment and was prescribed a course of Prednisolone 40 mg.

Mrs Gouda also received specialised MCR footwear, regular dressings, medication, and counselling and training in Soaking Scrubbing Oiling (SSO) techniques.

Physiotherapy exercises were also part of her treatment regimen. After the ENL Reaction subsided and her ulcer healed, she was discharged in April 2024.

With continued counselling, treatment, and support, Mrs. Gouda's condition has significantly improved. Her ulcer has healed, and the ENL Reaction subsided, leading to a remarkable change in her well-being and outlook.

She has expressed her gratitude to the LEPRA team for providing her with a new lease on life and restoring her happiness and health.

2. Future Plans

Lepra is committed to strengthening the local health system and to securing a long-term sustainable solution for the KCC.

The project will continue its regular activities, with the Field Coordinator and Physio Therpapist actively participating in Block Level DPMR Clinics. They will communicate with the Block Nodal Leprosy Worker to refer more needy cases from Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, and Rayagada Districts to KCC for integrated services. Additionally, the project will focus on linking persons affected by leprosy to the Social Security Scheme and providing customized footwear at the centre and doorstep.

Lepra remains committed to ensuring the continuity of out-patient and in-patient services at the KCC. With the generous support of The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust, we are providing the funding required to maintain its operation as an affiliate of the District Leprosy Office. This means that the IPD can continue to host five patients at any one time, but there remains an ambition for the facility to increase to 20 beds when it I adopted by the local hospital, and government funding is secured.

Photo with post-operative cases - August 2023

Pre-Operative (Hydro) Exercises carried out by patients – July 2023

Post operative exercise demonstration by project PT - August 2023

Ulcer Dressing carried out at KCC – January 2024

3. Expenditure Report for 2022/23

The cost of running the Koraput Centre in 2023/24 was approximately 5% over-budget at £13,838 for the year, against a budget of £13,203. This is primarily on account of increased staffing due to the bed occupancy rate being in excess of 100% (budgeted at 80% occupancy). Please see Annex 1 for a summary breakdown of expenditure in 2023/24 and how the £5,000 donation received from The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust in July 2023 was allocated accordingly.

4. Budget for 2024/25

The confirmed total budget for the Koraput Centre for the 2024/25 financial year is £14,580. Please see Annex 2 for a full breakdown of the forecast costs. This is more than last year's budget due to salary inflation.

5. Allocation of The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust Fund's Restricted Donation

As per the wishes of The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust to support the in-patient services at the Koraput Centre, if a donation is forthcoming in 2024/25, we propose to allocate the full amount to the costs of staffing the IPD and providing patient supplies. At the end of the year, we will be happy to report back on expenditure against the budget.

Lepra has committed to fulfilling any financial shortfalls in this project, thereby ensuring that the IPD remains open to provide its vital work. We will continue engaging the government with our future plans for the IPD, including our request for public funding and increasing capacity at the Centre. As a result, if the financial needs of the Koraput Care Centre change, please be assured that Lepra will be in contact with The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust Fund to ensure that their fundraising achievements are recognised and deployed efficiently and effectively.

THANK YOU

The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust Fund
has been a great, and very valued supporter of the Koraput Centre over the years.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support in 2023/24
for people affected by leprosy in Odisha State.

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, the Koraput Centre, or our wider work, please do not hesitate to get in touch as we would be more than happy to discuss them with you.

Together, we will beat leprosy.

Anti-Leprosy Day activities 2024 at the KCC with in-patients and staff

Annex 1 – Expenditure Report for the Koraput Centre, April 2023 – March 2024
(Based on GBP £1 = INR 103.83)

Expenditure Heads	Budget (£)	Actual Spend (£)	Copeland Trust Contribution (£)
(A) HR COSTS			
Nurse-1no.	1,940	9,741.19	5,000
Medical Officer-1no.	1,600		
Admin Support-1no.	2,210		
Cook-1no.	1,420		
Ward Attendant-1no.	1,290		
Sanitisation Support Staff-1no.	740		
Staff Welfare	1,097	1,583.00	
(A) Sub-Total	**10,297**	**11,324.19**	**5,000**
(B) PATIENT SUPPLIES			
Assistive Devices	30	1,998.39	
Self-care Kit	390		
Other Medical supplies	50		
Patient transportation	50		
Diet for IP ward Patients	1,460		
Maintenance of ward	120		
(B) Sub-Total	**2,100**	**1,998.39**	**0**
(C) PATIENT RECORDS			
Printing of IP ward & OPD Forms, etc.	50	0	
(C) Sub-Total	**50**	**0**	**0**
(D) IEC ACTIVITIES			
Awareness Camps / Coordination Meetings with Govt. & Stakeholders	240	16.56	
(D) Sub-Total	**240**	**16.56**	**0**
(E) MONITORING & EVALUATION			
Monitoring & Coordination Meetings	60	28.89	
(E) Sub-Total	**60**	**28.89**	**0**

Expenditure Heads	Budget (£)	Actual Spend (£)	Copeland Trust Contribution (£)
(F) OFFICE UTILITIES & EXPENSES			
Upkeep & Maintenance of Ward	120	311.00	0
Electricity Expenses	180		
Telephone Expenses	36	158.97	0
Printing, Courier & Photocopy	60		
Office Utility & Misc.	60		
(F) Sub-Total	**456**	**469.97**	**0**
TOTAL (A + B + C + D + E + F)	**13,203**	**13,838.00**	**5,000**
Human Resource Costs (A)	**10,297**	**11,324.19**	**5,000**
Non HR costs (B + C + D + E + F)	**2,906**	**2,513.81**	**0**

Annex 2 – Budget for 2024/25

Confirmed Budget for the Koraput Centre, April 2024 – March 2025

(Based on GBP £1 = INR 100)

Budget Heads	Total (£)	Particulars
(A) HR COSTS		
Nurse-1no.	2,120	One Nurse @ ~ Rs.17,663/pm
Medical Officer-1no.	2,400	Consultancy service (part-time) @ Rs.20,000/pm
Admin Support-1no.	2,405	One Admin Support @ ~ Rs.20,045/pm
Cook-1no.	1,548	One Cook @ ~ Rs.12,898/pm
Ward Attendants-1nos.	1,405	One Ward Attendant @ ~ Rs.11,708/pm
Sanitisation Support Staff-1no.	720	One Sanitisation Support Staff @ ~ Rs.6,000/pm
Staff Welfare	1,196	
(A) Sub-Total	**11,794**	
(B) PATIENT SUPPLIES		
Assistive Devices	30	60 Patients provided with adoptive devices, material cost @ Rs.100/each (i.e. 60 units X Rs.50)
Self-care Kit	390	260 persons will be provided with self-care kits @ Rs.200/per Kit (i.e. 260 unit X Rs.150)
Other Medical supplies	50	Purchase of laboratory materials: surgical blades, ulcer dressings, slit skin smear slides, etc.
Patient transportation	50	Local transportation costs given to needy cases
Diet for IP ward Patients	1,460	Diet for IP Ward Patients of 5 bed occupancy @ 80% X 365 days @ Rs.100/patient (i.e. 5 bed X 80% occupancy X 365 days X Rs.100)
Maintenance of ward, washing linen & other supplies etc. (other than food)	120	Maintenance cost of ward, washing linen etc. @ Rs.1,000/month
(B) Sub-Total	**2,100**	
(C) PATIENT RECORDS		
Printing of IP ward & OPD Forms, etc.	50	Printing of IP Ward and OPD Forms, Assessment Forms, IP Patients Files, etc.
(C) Sub-Total	**50**	
(D) IEC ACTIVITIES		
Awareness Camps	120	Per 1no. Awareness Camps organised at Field level @ Rs.2,000/per camp (i.e. Rs.2000 X 6 camps)
(D) Sub-Total	**120**	

Budget Heads	Total (£)	Particulars
(E) MONITORING & EVALUATION		
Monitoring & Coordination Meetings	60	Co-ordination meeting with Govt & stakeholders every quarter @Rs.1,500/meeting (i.e. Rs.1500 X 4 meetings)
(E) Sub-Total	**60**	
(F) OFFICE UTILITIES & EXPENSES		
Upkeep & Maintenance of Ward	120	Upkeep & Maintenance of Ward @ Rs.1,000/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.1,000 X 12 months)
Electricity Expenses	180	Electricity expenses @ Rs.1,500/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.1,500 X 12 months)
Telephone Expenses	36	Telephone expenses @ Rs.300/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.400 X 12 months)
Printing, Courier & Photocopy	60	Printing, Courier & Photocopy expenses @ Rs.500/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.500 X 12 months)
Office Utility & Misc.	60	Office Utility & Misc. expenses @ Rs.500/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.500 X 12 months)
(F) Sub-Total	**456**	
TOTAL BUDGET	**14,580**	**(A + B + C + D + E + F)**
Human Resource costs (A)	**11,794**	
All other costs (B + C + D + E + F)	**2,786**	