

The Ann, Ciara and Niamh Copeland Trust Fund

The Koraput Centre, Odisha

Update May 2022



Introduction

Project	The Koraput Centre	 <p><i>Post-operative care is given at the Koraput Centre - here, the nurse applies a new dressing for a man who has undergone reconstructive surgery on his clawed hand</i></p>
Locations Supported by Project Activities	Six districts in Odisha: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Koraput- Nowrangpur- Kalahandi- Nuapada- Sonapur- Bargarh	
Project Beneficiaries	People affected by leprosy and LF	
Funder	The Ann, Ciara and Niamh Copeland Trust Fund	
Reporting Period	April 2021 – March 2022	

1. Project Background

The Koraput Centre is leased from the Government by Lepra, and services are fully integrated into the local Ministry of Health, filling vital gaps where there is no other provision.

Operational challenges led to the closure of the Centre to in-patients and out-patients at the end of March 2020. However, in recognition of a clear and pressing need, Lepra restored these services in Autumn 2021, opening an in-patient department (IPD) with capacity to host up to five persons at any one time. The IPD and out-patients department (OPD) are now staffed by a team comprising of a consultant medical officer, a nurse, a ward attendant, and support staff.

The Centre also houses a laboratory with a lab technician, a footwear facility employing a designated shoe technician, and a physiotherapy technician. As well as now providing support to the OPD and IPD, they continue to deliver outreach activities for people affected by leprosy in 17 blocks across six districts in the State of Odisha, India, covering approximately 2.5 million people (see Figure 1). With an average annual detection rate of 24.2 new leprosy cases per 100,000 people in the six districts, it is expected to have at least 605 new cases each year.



The Koraput Centre IPD Lepra staff team

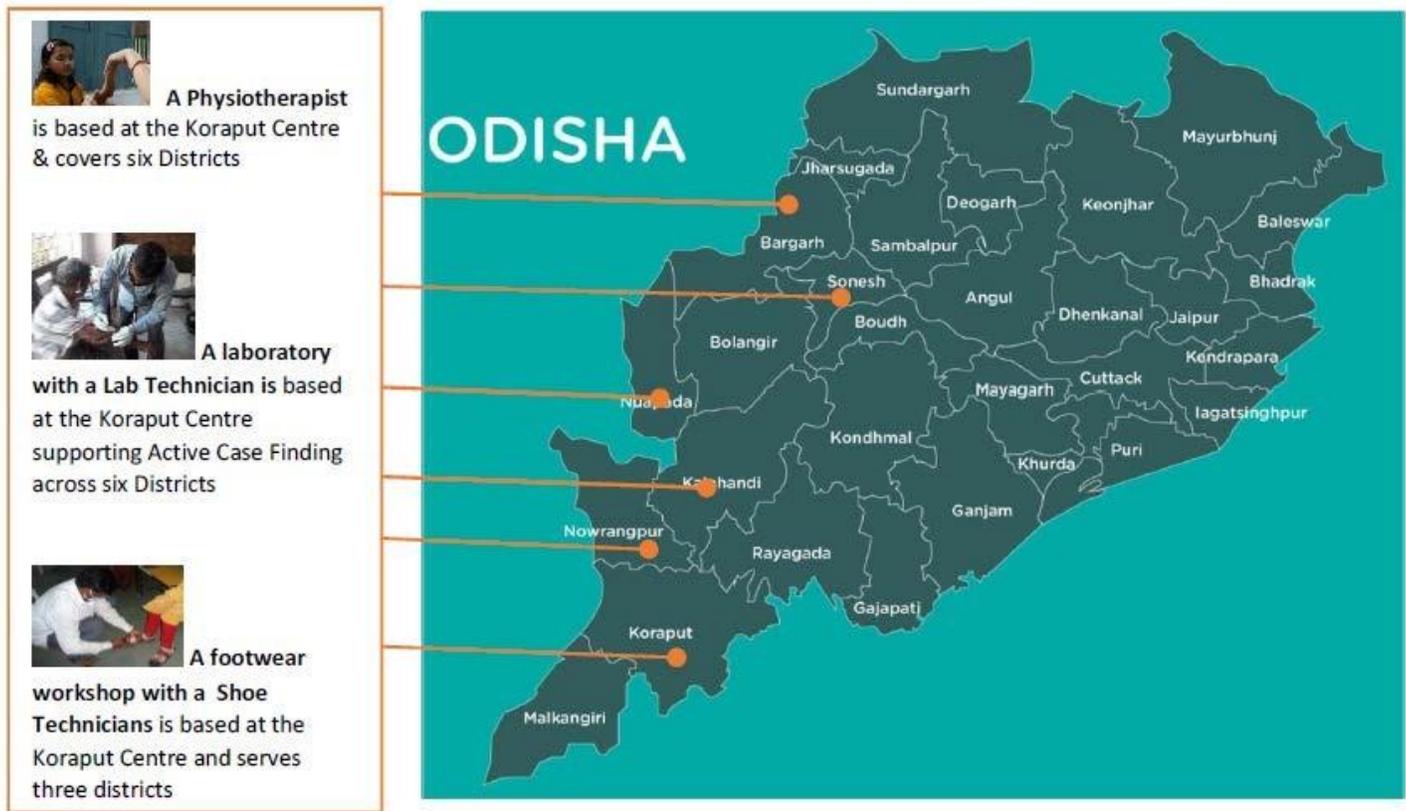


Figure 1: Outreach activities from the Koraput Centre in 2021-22

2. Project Impact: April 2021 to March 2022

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Outreach activities	Yellow											
Out-patient services						Maroon						
In-patient services							Teal	Teal	Teal	Teal	Teal	Teal

Figure 2: Timeline of services delivered from the Koraput Centre in 2021-22

Despite the challenges and restrictions posed by COVID-19 during 2021/22, the Koraput Centre continued to deliver vital services to support people affected by leprosy and lymphatic filariasis (LF). Staff based at the Centre travelled around Koraput and the surrounding districts throughout the year, providing outreach services where they were most needed. The re-opening of the out-patient and in-patient departments at the Centre in Autumn 2021, further improved access to healthcare for people affected by leprosy and LF, most especially for individuals requiring treatment for complications and pre- and post-operative support.

Please see Table 1 (on page 5) for an overview of the services provided by the Koraput Centre during the year. Some particular highlights include the following:

- When the OPD re-opened at the beginning of September 2021, the aim was to support a minimum of 180 people who would drop in to access support for their needs. It is fantastic to report that in total, **242 people accessed the services at the OPD**, including three children.
- **85 people were admitted to the IPD between 2nd October 2021 and 31st March 2022**, demonstrating just how important it was for this facility to re-open. The vast majority of them (64) were from Koraput District itself, but the Centre serves a much wider area, with people travelling from further afield to access the care they needed – 11

came from Nabarangpur, four from Malkangiri, four from Rayagada, and two from Kalahandi. Individuals were admitted for a variety of reasons, including for complicated ulcer care, management of inflammatory reactions, and pre- and post-operative care. (Reconstructive surgery is carried out at Nabarangpur District HQ Hospital about 60 km away, but patients are then cared for at the Koraput Centre whilst they recover.) Arun and Tamanna's stories (on pages 4 and 5) show the real difference that being able to access treatment at the Koraput Centre's IPD has made to individuals when they need specialist clinical support.



A lady's foot ulcer is dressed by the nurse, 2nd Oct 2021

- Clinical treatment is not the only service that is delivered at the Koraput Centre, as it also acts as a hub for providing more holistic support for people affected by leprosy and disability. A variety of meetings were held at the Centre during the year, including **two livelihood skills training courses which were attended by 34 women**. They learnt how to make soft toys and incense sticks which they are now able to produce in their own homes to generate an income. **Two forum meetings were also held, at which 25 people affected by leprosy participated** to advocate for their needs and rights with local stakeholders.
- Whenever possible, Lepira staff ensure that those they are supporting are linked to government social security schemes. Many people affected by leprosy are entitled to a disability pension of 500 Indian rupees per month, and / or housing benefit, both of which can make a huge difference to a person's quality of life. Of those who attended the Koraput Centre during the year, **Lepira assisted 35 people to access social security entitlements** which they had not previously been claiming.
- The laboratory at the Centre provides confirmatory testing to support the diagnosis of leprosy across the six districts. In total, **the lab technician conducted 196 diagnostic tests** over the course of the year, close to the annual target of 200. This is a fantastic achievement given that about three quarters of these tests were done in the latter half of the year on account of COVID-19 disrupting travel and couriering of samples to the Centre. Of the 196 tests conducted, 51 were returned as positive, with those individuals referred to their local Primary or Community Health Centre to start multi-drug therapy (MDT) treatment. This will cure them of the disease and prevent them from being infectious.
- The physiotherapy technician provides support to out-patients and in-patients at the Centre, and also conducts self-care camps and 'Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation' (DPMR) clinics at the local government-run District Hospitals. In total, **the technician provided 279 physio sessions, including support for 93 people who were undergoing reconstructive surgery**. Physio is vital to enabling people to retain and recover the mobility of their



Two livelihood skills training sessions were delivered for women affected by leprosy in February and March 2022



The physio technician supports patients who have undergone / are going to have reconstructive surgery. Here, she is providing a physiotherapy session for a man who has recently had surgery to correct "foot drop"

hands and feet when they have been affected by nerve damage. This can make all the difference to ensuring someone is able to continue their everyday activities, such as working, cooking and getting out and about in their community.

- The shoe technician at the Centre custom-makes specialised footwear on site. These shoes are so important to people affected by leprosy as they help to prevent and manage disabilities in their feet. Once made, Lepra's field coordinators distribute the shoes during their visits. The shoe technician worked tirelessly throughout the year, in total **producing 1,800 pairs of shoes** for people with Grade II disability.

Real life story: Arun

Arun is 37 years old and, together with his wife, runs a grocery shop in the town of Jeypore in Koraput District.

Arun was diagnosed with leprosy when he was just 7 years old after he felt tingling sensations and numbness in both his hands and one of his feet. After completing two years of MDT, he was cured. However, when he was 12, he developed a swelling in his leg. After visiting a doctor and a Lepra health clinic, he and his family found out that he had contracted lymphatic filariasis (LF). Sadly there is no cure for LF, so since then, Arun has taken medication every six months to control the disease.

In March 2022, Arun sought help at the Koraput Referral Centre as his left leg and foot had become considerably swollen and infected, and his right foot was showing signs of developing the same problem. He and his family were so worried about what was happening and initially didn't know what to do until they remembered Lepra's facility at Koraput, which Arun had previously visited years ago.

Arun was admitted to the IPD on 22nd March and stayed for two days. He was seen by the consultant doctor and Lepra's head physiotherapist who recognised that he was suffering from a complication caused by leprosy damage and LF.

They taught him on how to care for his legs and feet, soaking them every day for 30 minutes, keeping them clean, and applying iodine solution to any wounds. They also advised him on the medication he should take and provided him with an ulcer care kit that he could use in his self-care, and some special shoes, custom-made to his feet.

Whilst late diagnosis meant that Arun had developed a serious disability, thankfully, the medical team at the Koraput Centre are confident that with proper care, his leg will recover. In the meantime, they will continue to follow-up with Arun so that he gets the treatment and support he and his family needs.

Thanks to the Koraput Centre, Arun's future is now looking brighter and his family are so happy to see his improvement.



Real life story: Tamanna

Tamanna is a 22-year-old student and lives in Nabarangpur District with her parents and three brothers.

She first visited the Koraput Centre in 2017 when she was diagnosed and treated for leprosy. After completing a full course of MDT, she was cured. However, in December 2021, Tamanna returned to the Koraput Centre as she had developed a difficult ulcer and her right hand had started to claw. She stayed at the Centre for 15 days, during which time the nurse attended to her ulcer, dressing it daily, and taught her how to practise self-care to help it heal. The Centre's physiotherapist also taught her some exercises to prevent her hand from clawing. Tamanna was worried about the impact that having been affected by leprosy would have on her life, but with counselling support from Lepra, she started to feel more optimistic.

By the end of her stay at the Koraput Centre, Tamanna's ulcer was much improved and she was able to return home. She was very thankful to all the Lepra staff for their care and support through her difficult time. She is now just about to start training to become a leprosy physio technician through another of Lepra's projects!

Table 1: Overview of OPD attendances, IPD admissions and other activities at the Koraput Centre in 2021/22

Activity 2021/2022	2021/2022	
	Annual Target	Achievement
Out-Patient Services (commenced 1st September 2021)		
Total OPD Attendances	180	242
Difficult to diagnose	35	33
Ulcer care	42	70
Nerve Function Impairment (NFI) / Reaction management	30	29
Physiotherapy	25	39
Socio-economic linkages	21	35
Provision of customized footwear	27	37
Provision of adaptive devices	30	36
In-Patient Services (commenced 2nd October 2021)		
Total IP Admissions	82	85
Complications / ulcer care	25	39
NFI / Reaction management	20	11
Pre- / Post-operative care	15	18
Provision of customized footwear / Social & economic rehabilitation / Others	22	17
Other Activities		
Production of customised footwear	1,800	1,800
Distribution of adaptive devices	350	327
Slit skin smear diagnostic tests	200	196
Patients supported through DPMR at govt clinics by Koraput-based Lepra staff	720	780

Patients treated by physio in community / as out-patients for pre- / post-operative RCS follow-up	25	93
Skills development training sessions	2 sessions	34 attendees
Awareness / Self-care camps delivered by Koraput Centre staff at Primary / Community Health Centres	5	3 awareness camps - 1,511 people screened for leprosy and 4 suspected cases detected; 5 self-care camps - 98 people attended and received treatment

3. Future Plans

Lepra continues in its commitment to strengthen the local health system and to secure a long-term sustainable solution for the Koraput Centre. As reported in the last update, the ultimate aim is that the Centre will be incorporated into the Government-run District Hospital who will take overall responsibility to fulfil the requirements of the Clinical Establishment Act, including staffing and clinical oversight. In doing so, this will further embed care for people affected by leprosy into the local public health system. Lepra would continue to support other core services: physiotherapists, a shoe technician, a lab technician and if necessary, non-staffing costs of the in-patient ward.



Post-operative hydratherapy session in the sunshine

At the time of the last update report (October 2021), the local government was considering an application that had been made in April 2021 by LEPRAs Society for public funding for the Koraput Centre. Unfortunately, due to changes in local government officials, this proposal is no further forward. Lepra is still actively working towards the ultimate aim of securing government funding for the Centre, and to this end, our State Coordinator continues to engage local officials on a regular basis.

In the meantime, Lepra is committed to ensuring the continuity of both out-patient and in-patient services at the Centre and so together with the generous support of The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust, we are providing the funding required. For now, 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 to meet local needs if government funding is secured.

4. Expenditure Report for 2021/22

The total cost of running the IPD and associated services at the Koraput Centre in 2021/22 was £11,253. This is broken down into £9,604 for the IPD alone, and £1,649 for staffing and equipping the clinical laboratory and shoe workshop. These latter two services provide support for the broader Swabhiman project (covering six districts), as well as for in- and out-patients at the Koraput Centre itself.

Please see Annex 1 for a full expenditure breakdown and how the £8,761 donation received from The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust in 2021/22 was allocated accordingly.

5. Budget for 2022/23

The confirmed total budget for the IPD at the Koraput Centre for the 2022/23 financial year is £11,840. Please see Annex 2 for a full breakdown of the forecast costs.

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

As per the wishes of The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust to prioritise in-patient services at the Koraput Centre, if a donation is forthcoming in 2022/23, we propose to allocate the full amount to the costs of running the IPD. 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 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

**A huge and very heartfelt thank you to the trustees and supporters of
The Ann, Ciara & Niamh Copeland Trust Fund
for your dedication to supporting people affected by leprosy and the Koraput Centre over many years.
We are so grateful for your generous support and partnership
in helping us achieve what we did in 2021/22.**

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.



A group of men who were in-patients at the Koraput Centre, at their leisure. You can see the man on the left has recently had reconstructive surgery on his hand.

ANNEX 1

Expenditure Report for the Koraput Centre IPD 2021/22 (re-opened Oct 2021)

(Based on GBP £1 = INR 100)

Expenditure Heads	Budget (£)	Actual Spend (£)	Copeland Trust Contribution (£)
(A) HR COSTS			
Nurse-1no.	720	720	720
Physio-Technician-1no.	1,080	3,075	2,629
Medical Officer-1no.	1,200	1,200	1,200
Admin Support-1no.	720	928	720
Cook-1no.	480	480	480
Ward Attendants-2nos.	840	444	420
Sanitisation Support Staff-1no.	360	366	360
(A) Sub-Total	5,400	7,213	6,529
(B) PATIENT SUPPLIES			
Assistive Devices	30	86	30
Self-care Kit	240	354	240
Other Medical supplies	30	31	30
Patient transportation	40	46	40
Diet for IP ward Patients	732	741	732
Maintenance of ward	30	59	30
(B) Sub-Total	1,102	1,317	1,102
(C) PATIENT RECORDS			
Printing of IP ward & OPD Forms, etc.	30	151	110
(C) Sub-Total	30	151	110
(D) IEC ACTIVITIES			
Awareness Camp	120	47	40
(D) Sub-Total	120	47	40
(E) REHABILITATION & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT			
Provide support & Training to IP ward patients	500	306	300
(E) Sub-Total	500	306	300

(cont'd)

Expenditure Heads	Budget (£)	Actual Spend (£)	Copeland Trust Contribution (£)
(F) MONITORING, EVALUATION & CO-ORDINATION			
Co-ordination meeting with Govt & stakeholder	90	120	90
(F) Sub-Total	90	120	90
(G) OFFICE UTILITIES & EXPENSES			
Upkeep & Maintenance of Ward	90	100	90
Electricity Expenses	180	158	150
Telephone Expenses	30	31	30
Printing, Courier & Photocopy	30	33	30
Office Utility & Misc.	60	128	90
(G) Sub-Total	390	450	390
(H) ASSOCIATED SERVICES: HR COSTS			
Lab Technician-1no.	1,459	678	-
Shoe Technician-1no.	1,189	553	200
(H) Sub-Total	2,648	1,231	200
(I) ASSOCIATED SERVICES: PATIENT SUPPLIES			
Microcellular rubber footwear	1,882	418	-
(I) Sub-Total	1,882	418	-
TOTAL (A + B + C + D + E + F + G + H + I)	12,162	11,253	8,761
Koraput IPD direct costs (A + B + C + D + E + F + G)	7,632	9,604	8,561
Associated services (H + I)	4,530	1,649	200
Human Resource Costs (A + H)	8,048	8,444	6,729
Non HR costs (B + C + D + E + F + G + I)	4,114	2,809	2,032

Annex 2

Confirmed Budget for the IPD at Lepra Koraput Referral Centre, April 2022 – March 2023

(Based on GBP £1 = INR 100)

Budget Heads	Total (£)	Particulars
(A) HR COSTS		
Nurse-1no.	1,440	One Nurse @ Rs.12,000/pm
Medical Officer-1no.	2,400	Consultancy service-part-time @ Rs.20,000/pm
Admin Support-1no.	1,680	One Admin Support @ Rs.14,000/pm
Cook-1no.	960	One Cook @ Rs.8,000/pm
Ward Attendants-1nos.	840	One Ward Attendant @ Rs.7,000/pm
Sanitisation Support Staff-1no.	720	One Sanitisation Support Staff @ Rs.6,000/pm
Staff Welfare	902	
(A) Sub-Total	8,912	
(B) PATIENT SUPPLIES		
Assistive Devices	30	30 Patients provided with adoptive devices, material cost @ Rs.100/each (i.e. 30 units X Rs.100)
Self-care Kit	480	240 persons will be provided with self-care kits @ Rs.200/per Kit (i.e. 240 unit X Rs.200)
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)	50	Maintenance cost of ward, washing linen etc.
(B) Sub-Total	2,150	
(C) PATIENT RECORDS		
Printing of IP ward & OPD Forms, etc.	40	Printing of IP Ward and OPD Forms, Assessment Forms, IP Patients Files, etc.
(C) Sub-Total	40	
(D) IEC ACTIVITIES		
Awareness Camps	240	Per month 1no. Awareness Camps organised at Field level @ Rs.2,000/per camp (i.e. Rs.2000 X 12 months)
(D) Sub-Total	240	

(cont'd)

Budget Heads	Total (£)	Particulars
(E) 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	240	Electricity expenses @ Rs.2,000/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.2,000 X 12 months)
Telephone Expenses	48	Telephone expenses @ Rs.400/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.400 X 12 months)
Printing, Courier & Photocopy	30	Printing, Courier & Photocopy expenses @ Rs.250/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.250 X 12 months)
Office Utility & Misc.	60	Office Utility & Misc. expenses @ Rs.500/pm for 12 months (i.e. Rs.500 X 12 months)
(E) Sub-Total	498	
TOTAL BUDGET	11,840	(A + B + C + D + E)
Human Resource costs (A)	8,912	
All other costs (B + C + D + E)	2,928	