A young boy with a hearing aid is the central focus, looking thoughtfully to the side. He is wearing a red and white checkered shirt. In the background, other children in similar shirts have their hands raised, suggesting an active classroom environment. The lighting is warm and natural, highlighting the boy's features and the texture of his clothing.

Bridging the Gap

Leonard Cheshire Disability
International Strategy

**Leonard
Cheshire
Disability**

Disability and Development Gap

Disability is both a cause and consequence of poverty. In societies where increasing education, skills development and civil engagement have brought growing prosperity and fuller participation, people with disabilities are being left behind. Over 400 million disabled people live below the poverty line, surviving on less than a dollar a day.

People with disabilities are often significantly poorer, significantly less likely to reach school or to receive a comparable quality of education, and significantly less likely to secure employment or livelihoods.

The goal for 2020

Our ultimate goal is a society in which every person is equally valued. By 2020 our ambition is to double our impact, enriching the lives and promoting independence for more than 100,000 persons with disabilities across Africa and Asia.



INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

We directly supported 12,000 disabled children and adults last year to access education and employment so they can participate in society on an equal basis with others.

WORLD CLASS RESEARCH

The Leonard Cheshire Disability and Inclusive Development Centre, in partnership with University College London (UCL), undertakes applied qualitative and quantitative research on disability to advance the global evidence base.

INFLUENCING WORK

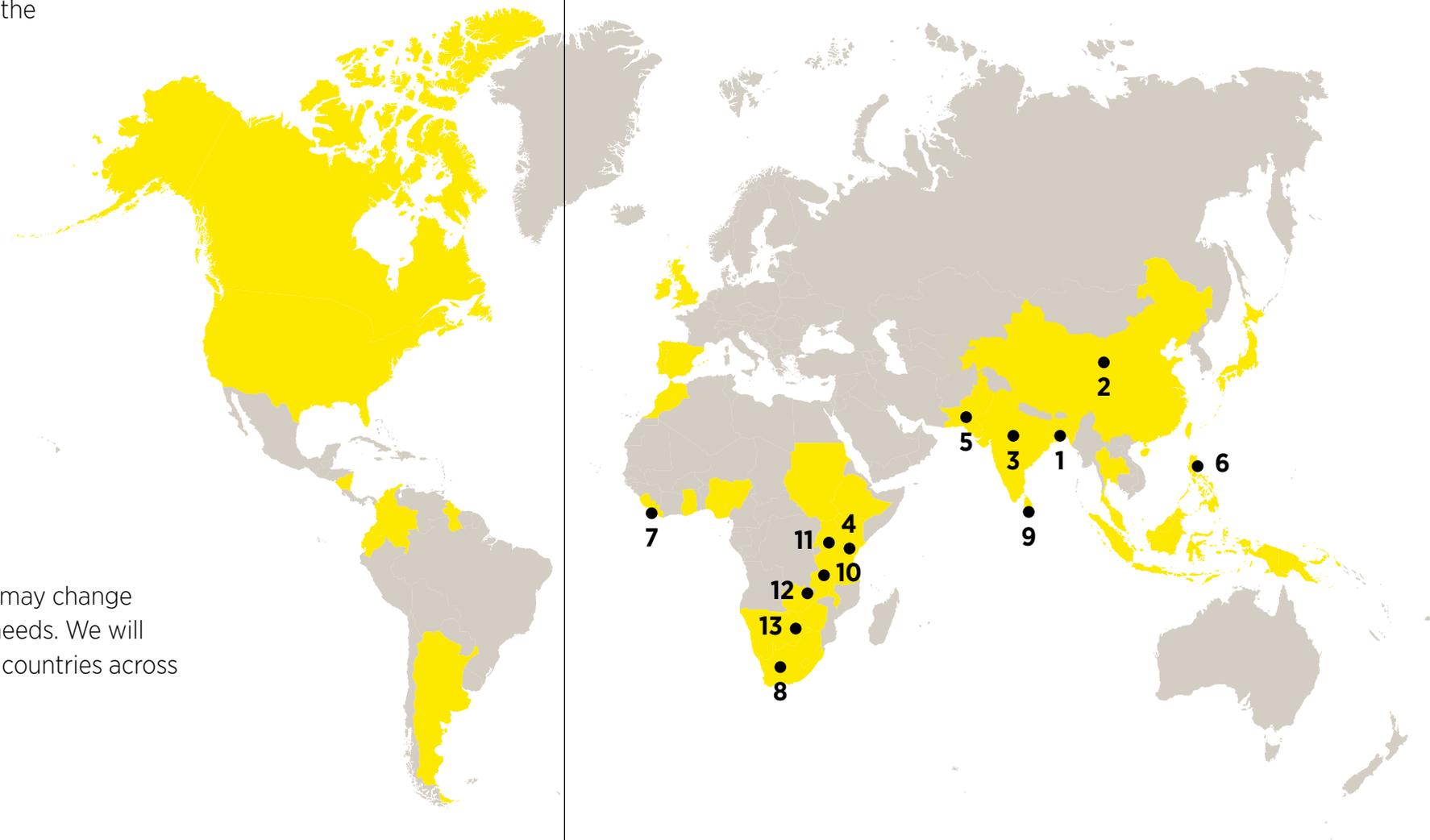
We seek to reduce the disability and development gap by calling upon governments to ratify and implement the UNCRPD for promoting greater inclusion and rights for people with disabilities.

Where we will work

We will focus our work in the following countries:

1. BANGLADESH
2. CHINA
3. INDIA
4. KENYA
5. PAKISTAN
6. THE PHILIPPINES
7. SIERRA LEONE
8. SOUTH AFRICA
9. SRI LANKA
10. TANZANIA
11. UGANDA
12. ZAMBIA
13. ZIMBABWE

The countries we work in may change over time depending on needs. We will never exceed a total of 15 countries across Africa and Asia.



Our targets

TARGET 1

Developing Models of Inclusion

We will develop new models of inclusion that respond to the specific and unique challenges in countries where we work, and which are replicable and sustainable. We will address sustainability through working with governments and within existing local structures, to promote inclusion.



By 2020, we will have achieved the following:

Education

Over 15,000 young children with disabilities will be supported into inclusive education.

Environments

Innovative models of inclusion to address the challenges around learning environments beyond primary education will be developed.

Livelihoods

Over 90,000 persons with disabilities will have access to appropriate and sustainable livelihoods opportunities.

Involvement

Greater meaningful involvement and participation of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of our interventions.

Our targets

TARGET 2

Influencing policy for greater inclusion and rights for persons with disabilities

We advocate for inclusion on a global scale, calling upon governments to implement the UNCRPD so that changes take place which improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities.



By 2020, we will have achieved the following:

Public Awareness

Raised public awareness about disability.

Inclusion

Promoted the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the upcoming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UN Ratification

Supported the ratification and “twin-track” approach of the UNCRPD.

Policy debates

Engaged in relevant policy debates on issues relating to disability, education and livelihoods, in particular where they impact on the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Our targets

TARGET 3

Undertaking research on poverty and disability

Going forward, we want our research to support a genuinely transformative global agenda including the SDGs. Our learning will provide a solid evidence base for Leonard Cheshire Disability's programming and policy work across Africa and Asia.



By 2020, we will have achieved the following:

Data

Increased the data available for inclusive sustainable development to better understand and inform the demand in the international arena for innovation, value for money and demonstrable sustainability.

Outputs

Increased our research outputs/publications to provide solid evidence for Leonard Cheshire Disability's influencing and future programming.

Statistics

Supported global efforts towards robust and comparable disability statistics, which will help to assure disability inclusion at all levels.

Our targets

TARGET 4

Promoting youth leadership amongst young persons with disabilities

A whole generation of young persons with disabilities is emerging with a strong passion and determination to show to the world what they can achieve. As this group moves into adulthood, we are seeing more and more persons with disabilities having the potential to rise to prominence within their communities, countries and on the international stage.



By 2020, we will have achieved the following:

Skills

Developed young leaders, in countries of operations, to have the skills, confidence and networks to advocate for change in their own communities and countries.

Networks

Ensured young persons with disabilities are part of the wider youth networks and platforms in their own communities and countries, engaging in debates and decisions that affect their lives.

Our targets

TARGET 5

Contributing to a stronger disability movement

Leonard Cheshire Disability will work with a broad range of development, academic and resource partners and stakeholders to ensure greater collaboration and progress towards global development policies and targets. Our key partners will include the Cheshire Global Alliance, local partner organisations and Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), national and local governments, private sector and donor agencies, academic institutions, UN agencies and INGOs.



By 2020, we will have achieved the following:

Collaboration

Consolidated collaboration with a broad range of development partners to implement our inclusive development strategies.

Partnership

Adopted an effective and improved approach to partnership.

Global Alliance

Supported our Global Alliance network to strengthen its voice and capabilities to respond to issues relating to disability in country and/or regional context.



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