

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Celebrating 15 years of glory.....





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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Namaste!

We are delighted to come up with our achievements in 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Obviously last year was not as we expected. It has badly affected our organization. Since the first diagnosed case of COVID-19 in Nepal from March 2020, we couldn't continue our community projects. We had to decide for emergency repatriation of the volunteers and the retirement of 80 percent of our staff at the end of the first quarter. This was a painful moment for us in our 15 years' of existence. Now, the world has already created a COVID-19 vaccine, and hopefully the situation will be under control and we can revive our normal work again sometime during 2021.

Though the situation was not favorable last year, we developed a project to support locals. We conducted 'Participatory Behaviour Change Awareness and Capacity Building of Local Stakeholders & Beneficiaries in Corona (COVID-19) Prevention' campaigns. In total, 1911 households benefited from the campaign. We trained women in making liquid hand wash. Women in Tarkeshwor municipality produced 1,000 liters of soap, and in Okhaldhunga they produced 500 liters of soap. We provided beekeeping training and bee hives with equipment to make 20 Dalit honey entrepreneurs. We also started a micro-irrigation pilot project in the Dalit community – which will make 20 water tanks of 4,000ltrs each. Children, teachers and youth in Okhaldhunga are being trained on computer skills. We organized a strategic planning workshop with local government and

major stakeholders in Okhaldhunga to develop a 5 years' strategic plan. The workshop was successful to make local stakeholders aware about need of strategic planning. We are working with them to develop a strategic plan document. Last year 103 volunteers (75 international and 28 national) worked with us.

We are proud to share that we made a huge achievement on empowering marginalized communities in this 15 years' time period. We could reach 294,278 people through our integrated holistic community development projects. Through our projects, 25,113 women directly benefited from Women's Empowerment projects; 41,029 children benefited from Children's Development projects; 23,644 youth from Youth Empowerment programs; Public health and medical care projects have supported 143,842 people. Environment Conservation programs have supported 49,366 people and disaster risk management supported 32,564 people.

We would like to thank our dedicated staff who delivered projects in the different communities. We would also like to thank the 5000+ national and international volunteers who have supported our organisation over the last 15 years with their skills and knowledge. We would also like to thank our partners and volunteers such as the EU Aid Volunteers who have put their tremendous efforts to carry out research and provide hands on support to the organisation as well as our beneficiaries. We are indebted towards our beneficiaries and local stakeholders. At last but not least, we are very thankful and offer our sincere gratitude to the national and international donors and partners without which we could not accomplish our programs. We look forward to working with you again and strongly believe that together we can achieve even more in the future. We are waiting for the moment the world is immunized with COVID-19 vaccine and we again can open our doors for volunteers and visitors.

Thank you all - keep doing good work.

Kind Regards,
Bhupendra Ghimire
President

THE CONTEXT

- 2 in 10 children cannot afford education.
- 2 in 3 children are deprived of at least one basic need.
- 8 in 10 Nepalese are at risk of natural disaster.
- Nepal's air quality ranked 177th out of 180 countries.
- Nepal is the 4th most vulnerable country due to the impacts of climate change.
- Unsafe water is the 4th leading cause of death.
- 2 in 3 deaths are due to non-communicable diseases.
- 1 in 100 children in Nepal has not received any immunization.
- 4 in 5 women do not have ownership over land or property.
- 1 in 2 women are classified as economically inactive.
- 5.5 million youth have migrated overseas for better jobs.



WHO ARE WE



Our Story

Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN) was founded in 2005 by a group of development workers, educationalists, social activists and other professionals. Since 2007, it has been working in the Northern side of Kathmandu valley and, from 2013, it has extended its action to remote municipalities of Okhaldhunga district. From 2007, it has placed volunteers in a variety of programs, including teaching and training.

Our Identity

Volunteers Initiative Nepal is a non-religious, non-political, non- governmental, and non-profit organization (NGO) with the main purpose of supporting the development of marginalized people living in rural areas of Nepal.

Our Vision

We aim to promote a peaceful, prosperous and equitable society where everybody has access to quality education and health, safe natural environment, basic infrastructures, and financial and economic sustainability.

Our Mission

Our mission is to empower marginalized communities through equitable, inclusive, and holistic/integrated development programs. We aim to enhance the livelihoods of poor and disadvantaged people, with a primary focus on vulnerable women and children living in rural areas of Nepal. To achieve this mission, we are delivering community- based programs through the involvement of local and international volunteers.

Our Core Values

We are accountable: accountability and transparency are central to our actions and use of resources.

We are inclusive: diversity empowers communities and, for this reason, it deserves to be promoted and defended at all levels.

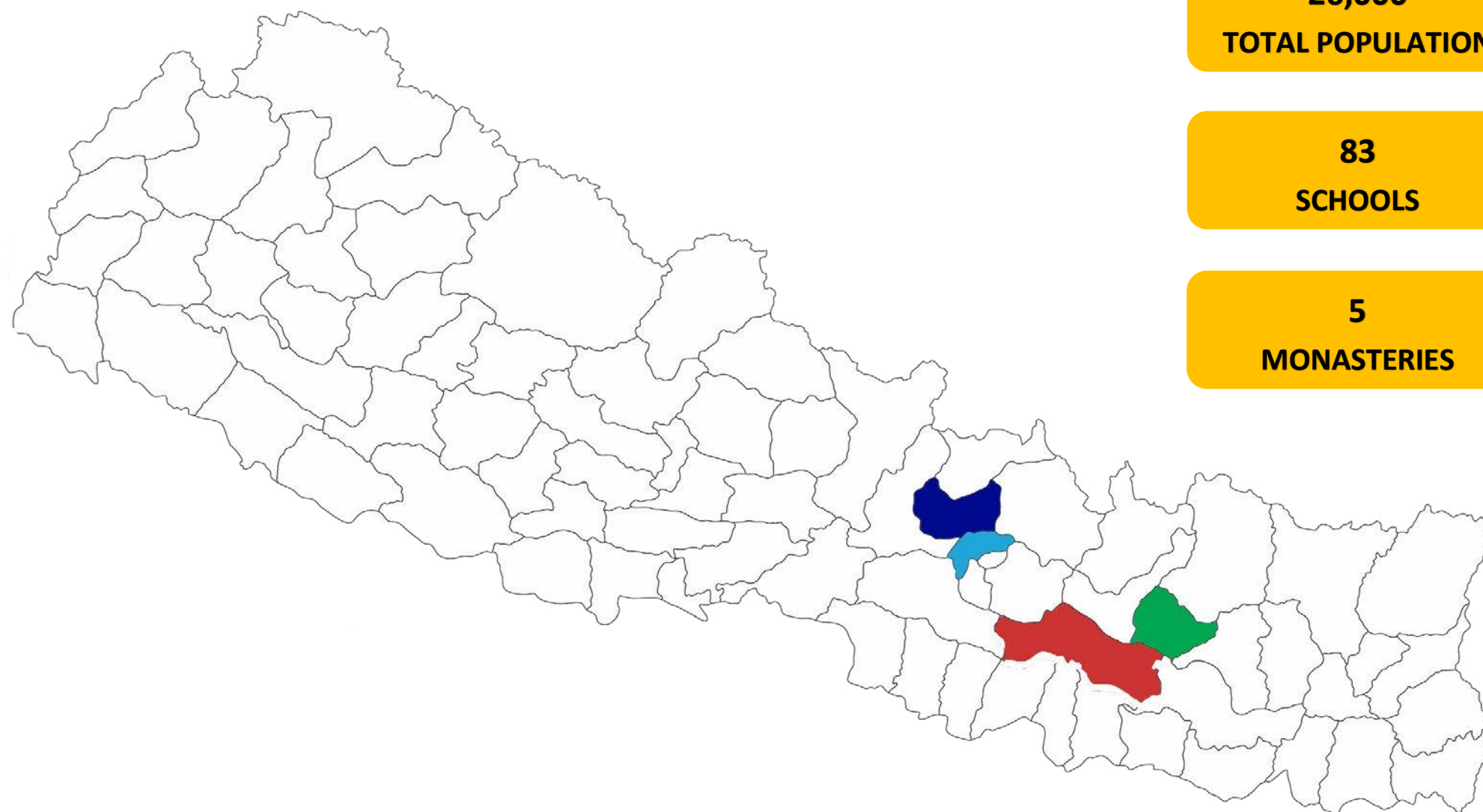
We are impartial: we serve marginalized and disadvantaged people solely on the basis of need and without regard of their cultural, political and social identity

We believe in equality: everybody has the right to be treated with respect and dignity. We focus on balancing and equalizing the opportunities of the most vulnerable people.

We believe in volunteering: solidarity and gratuity make the world a better place. Being a volunteer gives a unique chance to experience mutual cooperation and to exchange knowledge and skills.

WHERE WE WORK

Since 2007, we have been working in disadvantaged rural areas of Nepal with a focus on community development. Till 2020, we have implemented programs in the northern side of Kathmandu Valley and in remote municipalities of Okhaldhunga District. We have placed volunteers in variety of programs, including teaching and training.



6
WARDS

26,000
TOTAL POPULATION

83
SCHOOLS

5
MONASTERIES

KATHMANDU DISTRICT

Tarakeshwor Municipality

- Kavresthali
- Jitpurphedi
- Goldhunga

Budhanilkantha Municipality

- Progressive Eng. Sec. School

Kathmandu Metropolitan City

- Nepal Rastra School

NUWAKOT DISTRICT

Kakani Municipality

- Okharpauwa

OKHALDHUNGA DISTRICT

Siddhicharan Municipality

- Taluwa
- Thulachap

Chisankhu Gadi Rural Municipality

- Bhadaure

SINDHULI DISTRICT

Kamalamai Municipality

- Shree Navajyoti Deaf Sec. School

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS



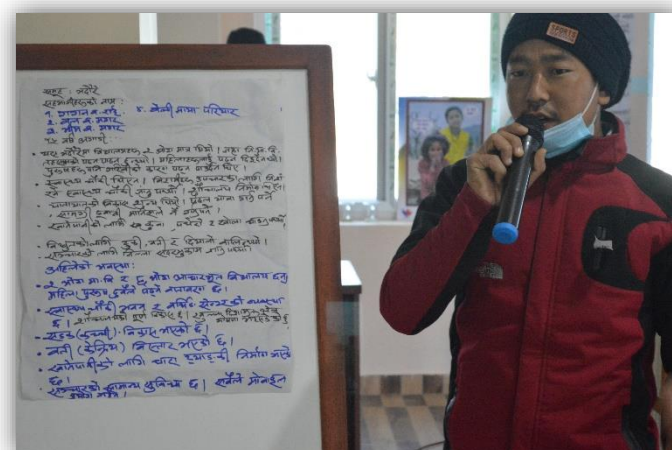
FOR WOMEN, WITH WOMEN

The Women's Empowerment Program is essential for the social and economic development. We have been working with and for the most marginalised women to improve their quality of life and uplift their social and economic status, through income generation activities, formal and informal education, and social awareness workshops.



FOR CHILDREN, WITH CHILDREN

The primary goal of the Children's Development Program is to enhance the holistic development (physical, cognitive, social and psychological) of children aged 3 to 15 and to support the basic education of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. It aims to promote children's rights through access to both education, and school- or community-based Children's Clubs.



FOR YOUTH, WITH YOUTH

The Youth Empowerment Program aims to empower socially and economically youth aged 16 to 30 by means of educational, life skills and entrepreneurship development projects, and to involve them in community development initiatives through Youth Clubs' formation.



FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The Public Health and Medical Care Program is designed to address the rural communities' needs in terms of health and health education. Our organization has been working with Health Posts - part of the Public Health Department - for the improvement of health indicators in the local context through public health initiatives, diseases treatment and prevention, and research.



FOR EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

The goal of the Disaster Risk Reduction Program is to minimize the risk of natural disaster and provide relief and safety to vulnerable communities. After the devastating earthquake of 2015, we have been mobilizing volunteers and we have provided financial support and materials for the reconstruction of the houses at our various project locations.



FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

The Environment and Conservation Program aims to conserve, promote and protect the natural environment and the indigenous knowledge, and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution in order to enhance health, safety and welfare of this and future generations of Nepal.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020

Participatory Behaviour Change Awareness and Capacity Building of Local Stakeholders & Beneficiaries in Corona (COVID-19) Prevention Campaign, 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, VIN conducted a prevention campaign in Siddhicharan Municipality of Okhaldhunga and Tarakeshwor Municipality of Kathmandu district. A total of 64 campaigns were conducted, with a maximum of 3 campaigns per day. There were 25-30 participants in each session strictly following government advised COVID-19 prevention protocols. In total, 1911 households benefited from the campaign.

Most of our community people do not have access to accurate information due to unreliable sources - people are seen following harmful practices many times. Hence, the campaign was conducted to ensure healthy behaviour in preventing COVID-19. The general objective of the campaign was to make people aware on COVID-19 and build up their capacity to prevent the infection. The campaign was conducted in four steps:

- First, we had a coordination meeting and presented the model of campaign to the key stakeholders.
- Second, we had community awareness with group of women and Dalit.
- Third, we donated COVID-19 prevention materials to health centres, ward offices, security offices and the participants.
- Finally, we trained the active women group to make liquid hand-wash for future demand.

Outcomes

- Observers were very keen to learn and practise the preventive measures to keep themselves safe from the viral infection.
- Increased awareness about COVID-19 diseases among the participants.
- Participants realized the need, and committed to practice social and physical distancing. Familiarity with the 6-steps hand-washing technique.
- People recognized the importance of locally available herbs and nutritious food that could boost their immunity that might be helpful for COVID 19 prevention.
- The differences between PCR testing and RDT testing was clarified to all.
- After the session, participants were very thankful towards VIN for carrying out the campaign and spreading mindfulness among people.



The following issues were discussed in the session:

- Origin of COVID-19
- Current context of pandemic.
- Major symptoms of COVID-19
- How does COVID-19 transmit?
- How is the disease confirmed?
- What is COVID-19 diagnosed?
- How is it treated?
- Availability of test and isolation centre in Government hospitals.
- How to protect yourself from the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Why is social and physical distancing necessary?
- How to wash our hands properly?
- How to increase immunity power?
- Q & A session

Liquid Hand-wash Making Training

Women in Siddhicharan Municipality of Okhaldhunga and Tarakeshwor Municipality of Kathmandu district were provided with skill-based training on preparing liquid hand-wash. The training focused the members of women groups and from Dalit communities. A total of twenty-seven women received liquid hand wash making training.

Women from Jitpurphedi produced 1000 litres liquid hand wash to supply in public hand wash stations of Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur. They used sodium laurel sulphate (SLS) 200 litres, glycerol 40 litres, gypsum salt 50 kg, neem powder 500 gm, sky blue colour 5 gm, rose sent 1000 ml and water about 750 litres to produce 1000 litres of liquid hand wash.

The liquid hand-wash produced by these women would be sold commercially. Additionally, it would be made available for the community people at a very low cost. Women engaging in this venture would be able to produce the product and earn some amount of money. This would in turn empower the women by giving them an additional skill as well as financial independence.



Strategic Planning Workshop

VIN facilitated five days strategic planning workshop in Okhaldhunga focusing the stakeholders of three wards of a municipality and village municipalities to develop strategic plan for five years. The workshop was held collaborating with consultants. Altogether 35 participants were present representing local governments, political parties, principals, social leaders, youth, women, farmers, Dalit and others. The workshop was based on learning and developing content for the strategic plan. Our focus was on developing capacity of local stakeholders to formulate short and long term plan.

Important contents of the sessions were mainly plan and process, national plan and sustainable development, development trend in local context, problem identifications, development sector or strategic issues identification, SWOT (strength, weakness, opportunities and threats) analysis, strategic plan framework -Vision, mission, core values, goal, objectives, action plan – activities, timeframe, indicators and responsible, resource identification, stakeholder's analysis, log frame, monitoring and evaluation and budgeting. The sessions were conducted with presentations, group works, group presentations, games and content display. We were able to draft the strategic plan of three wards.

In Nepal after national revolution, development process is more decentralized and local governments are authorized to develop the communities. Mostly political leaders with less development backgrounds are elected. It seems there is lack of vision for well planned development. The development plan and its execution are far behind to meet the national goals. We organized five days strategic planning workshop to address the gap in developing visionary plan. Kedar Babu Basnet, Ward President of Siddhicharan Municipality says, ***"I found this workshop useful in making visionary plan. This has supported us in thinking a step ahead and organize our long term and short term plan. I would like to thank the organizer and facilitators for this wonderful workshop."***



Bee-Keeping Workshop for Dalit Community in Okhaldhunga

Professional bee-keeping workshop was conducted for Dalit community of Siddhicharan Municipality ward 1 and 2 in Okhaldhunga, Everest Region of Nepal. The five days' workshop focused on rendering specific skill sets to the participants with the aim of making them a professional bee-keeper. The goal of the workshop was to promote entrepreneurship among the marginalized communities in Okhaldhunga.



Computer Training for Children

Volunteers Initiative Nepal has been conducting computer training for school-going children in Okhaldhunga. Okhaldhunga is an under-developed remote area in Nepal untouched by information and technology. Therefore, children and youth in Okhaldhunga are not familiar with computer and its uses. Henceforth, to address this gap between the children and youths of Okhaldhunga, VIN organised computer training workshop for children.

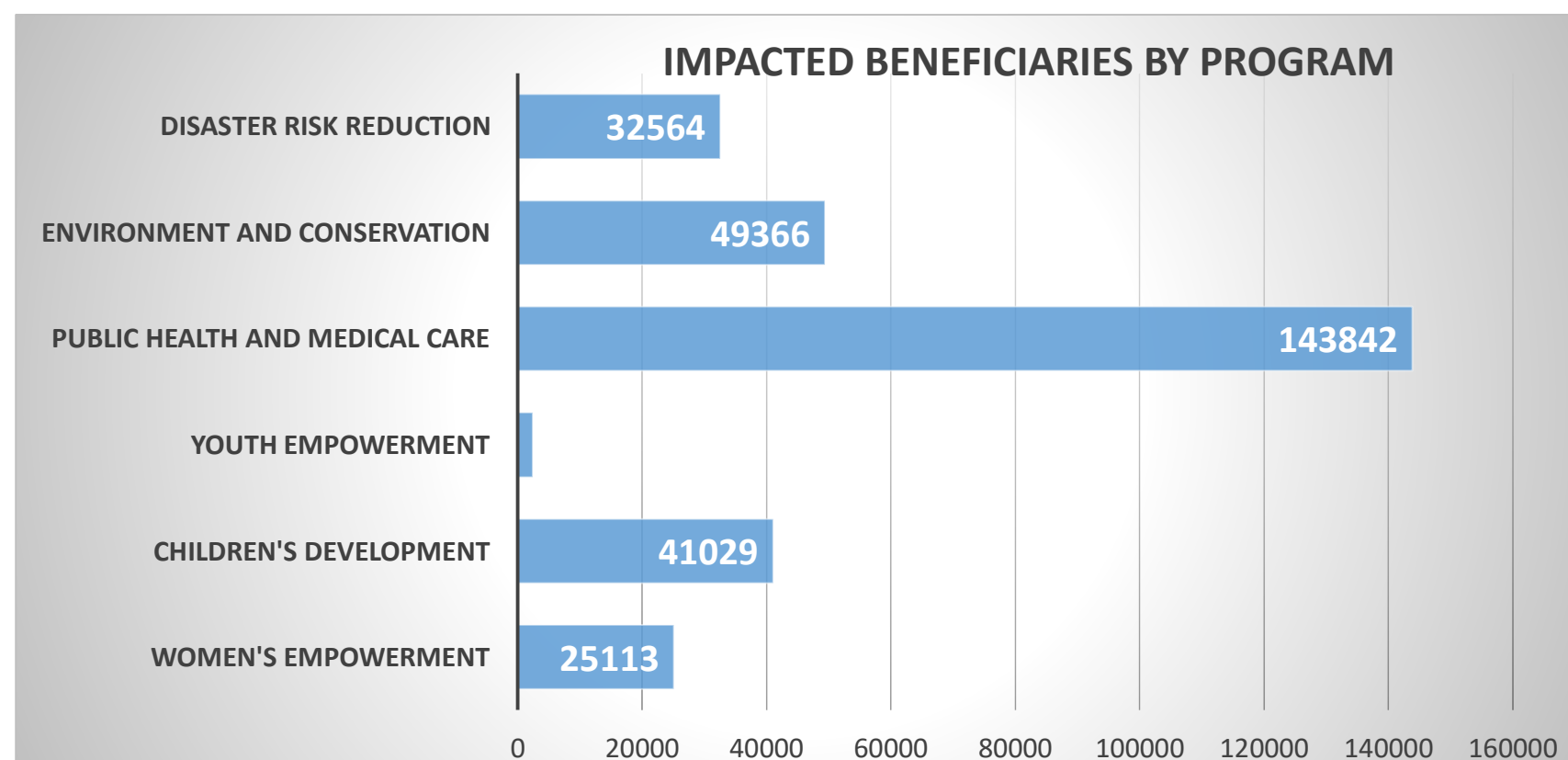
Under basic computer training, children are made familiar with the most commonly used programs in a computer such as MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint. As most of them have never seen or used a computer before, they are also given typing practise and creative activities such as paint. After they have successfully completed basic-level training, a certification is provided. Thereafter, they can also get involved in intermediate/ advanced level training.



ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020

In these 15 years of work, we are proud to serve a total of **294,278 people** by implementing women's empowerment, children's development, youth empowerment, public health and medical and disaster risk reduction programmes. The total number of beneficiaries benefited by these six programmes have been summarized in the chart below.

- Women Empowerment Program: 25,113 women
- Children's Development Program: 41,029 children
- Youth Empowerment Program: 2,364 youth
- Public Health and Medical Care Program: 1,43,842 beneficiaries
- Environment and Conservation Program: 49,366 beneficiaries
- Disaster Risk Reduction Program: 32,564 beneficiaries



FOR WOMEN, WITH WOMEN

The Women's Empowerment Program is essential for the social and economic development of the areas where our organization is working. We have been working with and for the most marginalised women to improve their quality of life and uplift their social and economic status, through income generation activities, formal and informal education, and social awareness workshops.



BACKGROUND

Nepali women are born into a patriarchal society that consider Women's Rights secondary to those of men. Married early, with little or no education, no land rights or independent income, women are a voiceless section of society. They are highly dependent on men for their welfare. They bear the continued weight of socio-cultural discrimination and violence against them.

INTRODUCTION

The Women's Empowerment Program is essential for the social and economic development. The program has been implemented for 13 years in Jitpurphedi, 4 in Kavresthali and 12 in Okhaldhunga district. We have been working with and for the most marginalised women to empower women socially and economically through education, life skills and income generation initiatives. The goal of the program is to empower women socially and economically through education, life skills and income generation initiatives. This program aims at meeting three objectives,

Ensure women's economic freedom, through the establishment of a Micro Credit system. This system is run through cooperatives, registered and certified by the Nepal government. It provides saving opportunities and small loans to women who want to engage in business or start a business of their own. So far, three cooperatives sponsored by us are active on the territory: Jitpurphedi Women Agriculture Co-operative Limited, Taluwa Women Multipurpose Cooperative Limited, and Shree Saraswoti Women Agriculture Cooperative Limited. These cooperatives were formed and are fully run by local women groups. The beneficiaries of this project are local women from 20 to 59 years old, and those who were married under legal age (20 years old). The cooperatives contribute to give their members more control over their savings and thus uplifting their living standards and life possibilities. Besides, they promote cooperation among their members.

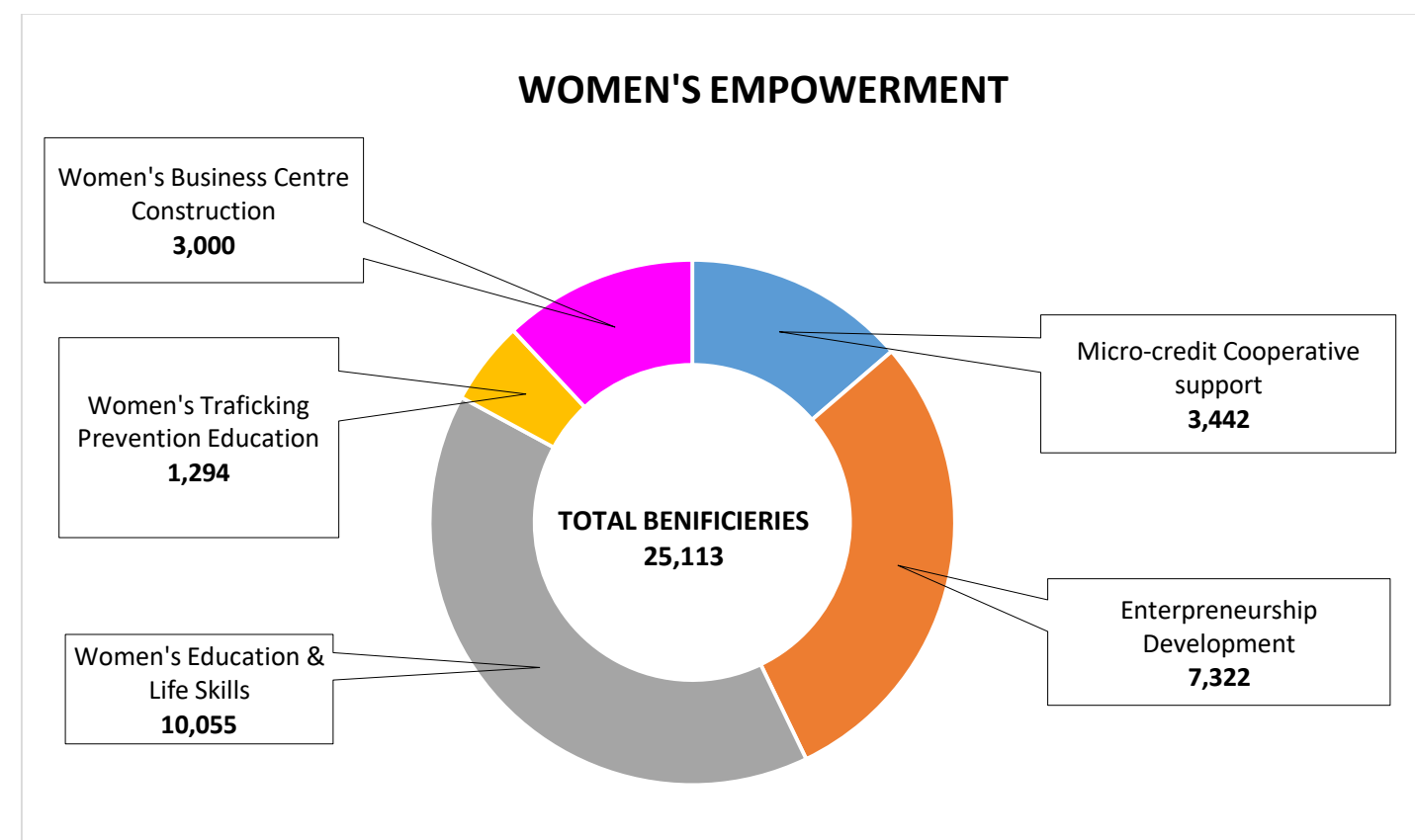
Develop women as entrepreneurs, through the Women Entrepreneurship Development project, which includes agriculture and non-agriculture related income-generation activities. It aims at motivating women to become entrepreneurs, with the goal of upgrading their living standards, and to develop their community as a whole. In order to meet the above-mentioned

objective and to create a friendly marketing environment to start a business, different activities are offered in the frame of this project: support in the development of business plans, marketing strategies and products design, entrepreneurship workshops, vocational training, and motivational speeches.

Educate women on their rights and empower them socially, through the Education and Life Skills project. This project includes English, Math and Computer literacy classes, trafficking prevention, health and sanitation campaigns, and soft skills workshops. Workshops address different types of useful topics, such as: domestic violence awareness, identity awareness and self-esteem, communication, leadership and team building. Additionally, in the frame of this project, social events are organized for the women to get together, build stronger bonds, and improve their social skills. Overall, through the Education and Life Skills project, we aim at helping the women to adjust and adapt to the present environment and social changes, and to make them aware of their active role in the community



ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020



CHALLENGES

The achievements and outputs of our Women Empowerment Program were different according to the location of its implementation, the human and material resources available and the beneficiary's availability and response to it. The major challenges faced are the following:

Geographical difficulties: Okhaldhunga district is a very remote and poor district, and it's definitely hard to find a market for the products. Besides, for the same reason, there is lack of personnel from our office which makes any activity harder to be organized and implemented.

Governmental policies: In 2019 the government stopped the registration of new cooperatives in Tarakeshwor. This external decision affected in particular the newly formed groups of women in Kavresthali, currently running as informal groups and not as cooperatives, which makes the implementation of the micro-credit system harder.

Busy schedule of the women: The everyday life of the women in these rural villages is very busy, among taking care of the households, the family, the farm, working in the field, often they do not have time to participate in classes, workshops or training. The participation is in general very much irregular and unpredictable, it is hard to engage them in regular and long-lasting projects and, consequently, to monitor their progress.

FOR CHILDREN, WITH CHILDREN

The primary goal of the Children's Development Program is to enhance the holistic development (physical, cognitive, social and psychological) of children aged 3 to 15 and to support the basic education of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. It aims then to promote 6 to 15 years old children's rights through access to both education, and school- or community-based Children's Clubs.



BACKGROUND

Nepal being one of the poorest countries with over one-fourth population living under poverty line, child rights are often overlooked. Instead of sending children to school, parents rather make them to do household chores. The two main reason for this is poverty and lack of awareness. And when they are barely a teenager they are forced into marriage. Uneducated and unaware these children lack the skills they require to sustain a healthy life. Many children end up on streets begging while significant number of them are sold abroad either into labour or sex trade. Children by nature, are the most vulnerable section of population in Nepal always at a constant threat for survival.

INTRODUCTION

The primary goal of the Children's Development Program is to enhance the holistic development (physical, cognitive, social and psychological) of children aged 3 to 15 and to support the basic education of those coming from disadvantaged backgrounds. Our second goal is to promote 6 to 15 years old children's rights through access to both education and school- or community-based Children's Clubs. To reach these goals, we run three main child-related projects:

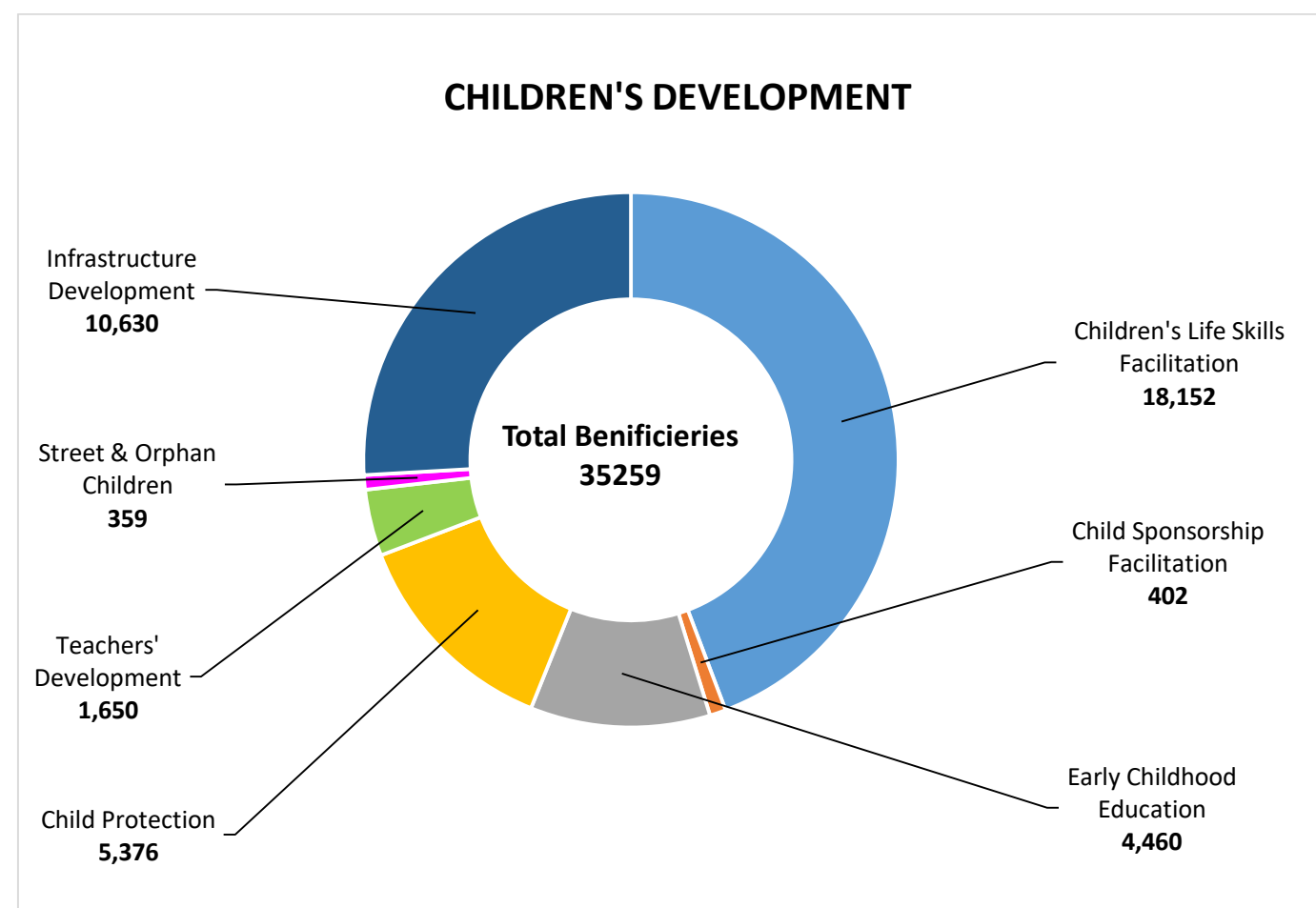
Children's Club Project: the objective of this project is to have all children aged 6 to 15 years to exercise their basic rights through extracurricular activities which teach them important life skills and give them a platform to explore their talents and talk about child-related issues. Under this project, we are organising summer and winter camps. Their objective is to involve children during their vacation period to promote their innate talent and creativity for their overall development such as physical, mental & socio-emotional. Parents who are busy and could not provide sufficient time for their children during vacation, might send their children to such type camps.

Early Childhood Development Project: the objective of the Early Childhood Development Education project is to increase access of 3 to 5 years old children to quality early education.

School Attendance Project: this project aims at increasing access of children aged 6 to 15 to quality education. Under this project, we are running the following programs: teaching, teachers development, school infrastructure development, and sponsorship.



ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020



CHALLENGES

Lack of sponsors: Our biggest challenge is now to find more sponsors to offer these children a chance to access quality education.

Adults don't support Children's Clubs: schools put more emphasis on formal education than on extracurricular activities. Teachers and school management committees do not take ownership of Children's Clubs and see them as something imposed by organizations. As a result, Children's Clubs sometimes receive very little to no support from adults to guide them and ensure the Children's Clubs are active.

High drop-out rates: Despite continuous counselling, numerous students drop-out before the completion of 10th grade. Most of them either have household responsibilities or financial burdens.

FOR YOUTH, WITH YOUTH

The Youth Empowerment Program aims to empower socially and economically youth aged 16 to 30 by means of educational, life skills and entrepreneurship development projects, and to involve them in community development initiatives through Youth Clubs' formation.



BACKGROUND

Nepal has little to offer its youth and every day, more than a thousand migrate with the hope of better pay overseas. Lack of skills alongside shortage of employment has left thousands of youth in distress and poverty. Having a large section of youth population, Nepal is unable to absorb their skills and energy into labour market. The economic growth of a country and increment of living standards is directly related youth empowerment. Youth empowerment is achieved by encouraging youth rights and youth activism. Hence, the potential of youth in Nepal is remains untapped. There is an immense need to empower youths of today for a better tomorrow

INTRODUCTION

The Youth Empowerment Program aims to empower socially and economically youth aged 16 to 30 by means of educational, life skills and entrepreneurship development projects, and to involve them in community development initiatives. The program includes a variety of projects having the following objectives:

- To educate youths on their rights and life skills through trainings workshop and campaigns
- To develop youth friendly societies through youth clubs, capacity development and employment opportunities
- To ensure youth participation in community development activities

CHALLENGES

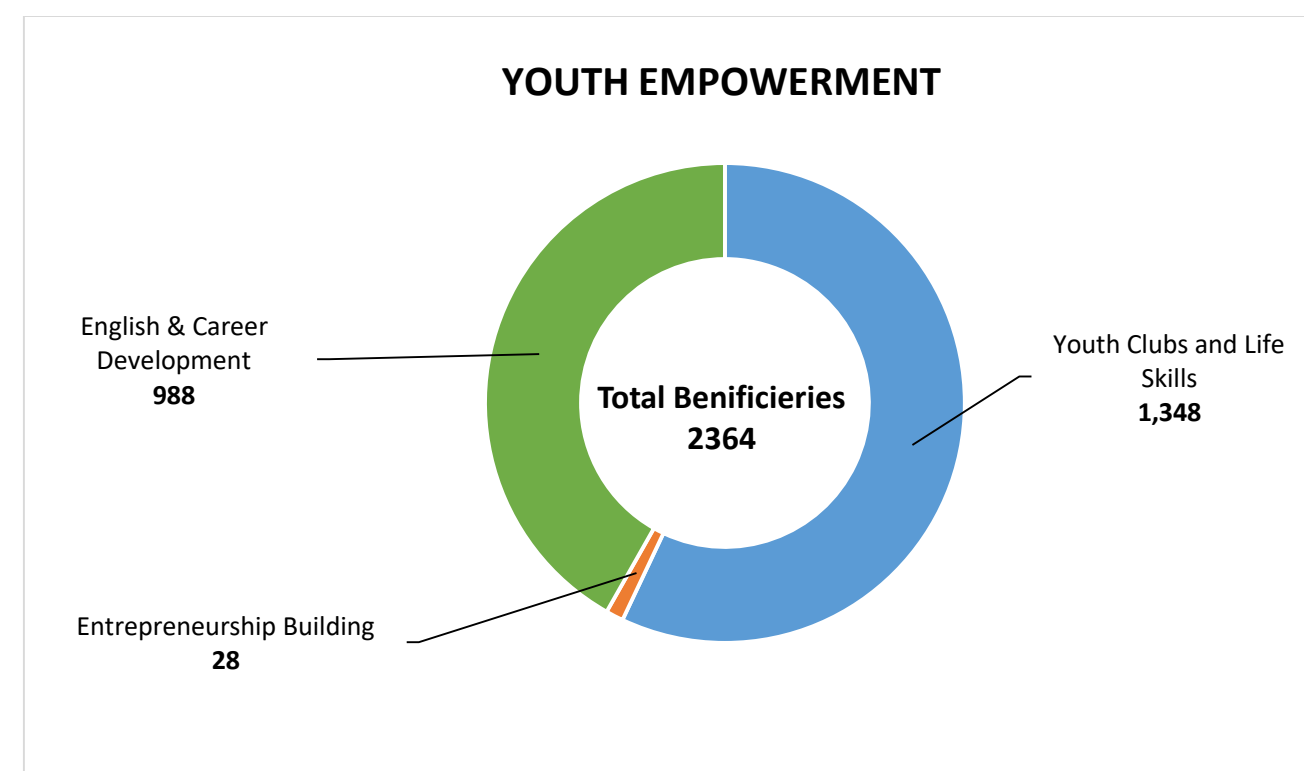
Lack of equality, employment oriented education, inaccessibility to vocational skills and technology.

Absence of youth friendly investment or business prospects, and environment of entrepreneurship.

Unemployment or under-employment still serves as a major challenge for Nepali youths all over the country.



ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020





FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The Public Health and Medical Care Program is designed to address the rural communities' needs in terms of health and health education. Our organization has been working with community health centers for the improvement of health indicators in the local context. The goal of our program is to promote healthy communities.

BACKGROUND

Nepal is a poor country with more than 45% of the population under the poverty line. They do not have access to basic health facilities, water and sanitation. In many Terai parts of Nepal open-defecation is still practised. People do not hesitate to dump their household waste in rivers or on the sides of busy roads. Most of us are yet to realise the importance of sanitation for a healthy body and mind. Similarly, rural parts of Nepal are not equipped with appropriate health facilities. Most of the times one general doctor is seen performing all medicine related concerns along with inexperienced nurse. In case a patient needs complex medical attention, they have to travel long distance. Most of the patients do not even make it to the hospital. Henceforth, ensuring public health and access to medical care is a huge challenge in Nepal.

INTRODUCTION

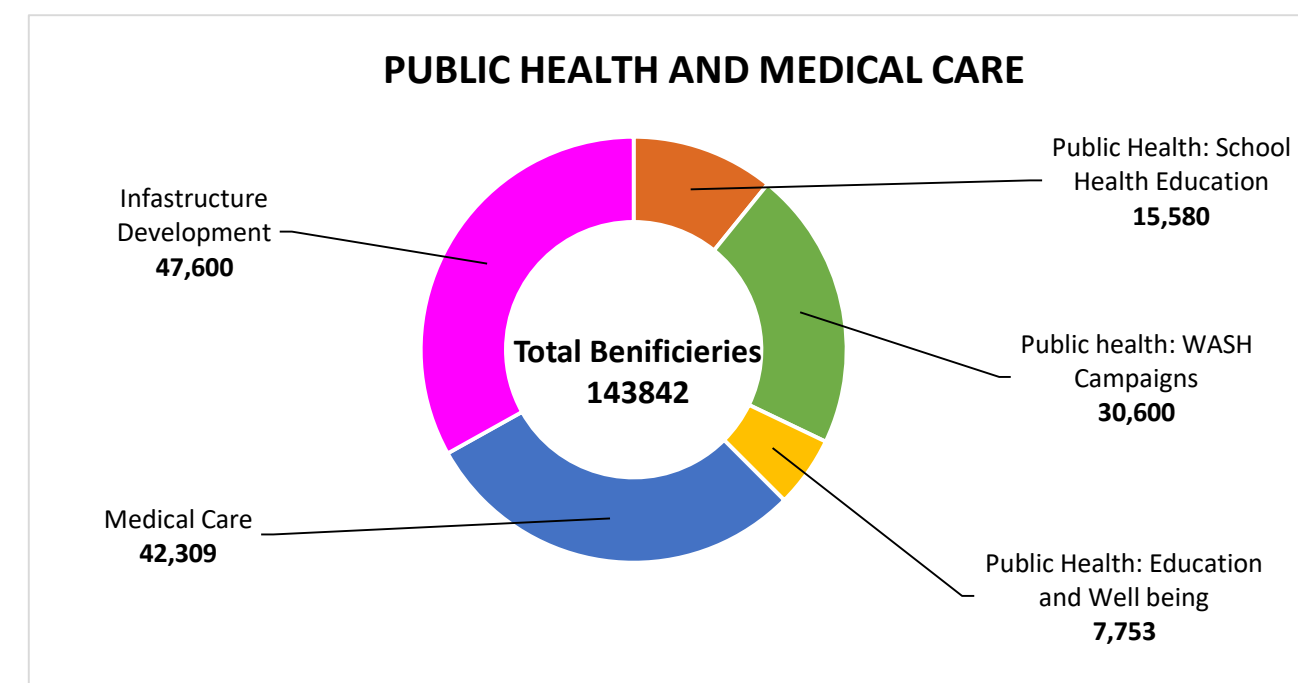
The Public Health and Medical Care Program is designed to address the communities' needs in terms of health and health education. Our organization has been working with community health centres for the improvement of health indicators in the local context. The goal of Public Health and Medical Care Program is to promote healthy communities.



Public Health Initiative: It focuses on health, hygiene and sanitation education, support for building hygienic toilets and trash collecting bin, organizing health clinic and outreach camps, conducting school health and community campaigns for healthy lifestyle, prevention of diseases, provision of quality health and ensuring safe drinking water.

Medical Care Initiative: It is an integrated program with the purpose of preventing disease, improving life expectancy, treating the diseases and promoting human health through organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals.

ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020



CHALLENGES

Lack of volunteers and equipment: we need to involve more skilled and competent volunteers in our program.

Collaboration with other non-governmental organizations: in order to enhance our action locally and to exchange knowledge and skills.



FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The goal of the Disaster Risk Reduction Program is to minimize the risk of natural disaster and provide relief and safety to vulnerable communities. After the devastating earthquake of 2015, we have been mobilizing volunteers and we have provided financial support and materials for the reconstruction of the houses at our various project locations.

BACKGROUND

Nepal is a hub for calamities and disasters. Most common and frequent natural disasters in Nepal are flood, landslide, earthquake, windstorms, forest fire, thunderbolt, cold waves, drought and avalanche. Apart from this Nepal also suffers from several human induced disasters like fire, soil erosions, epidemics and more. Unplanned settlement, environmental degradation and low level of adherence to construction codes have further jeopardised the people. More people in Nepal are killed by calamities compared to any other country in South Asia. Loss of life and property place people at a high risk of physical, mental and emotional damage. Hence, it is essential to aware people beforehand so that they are mindful about the consequence a disaster brings. A disaster cannot be prevented, but we sure can control its effect over ourselves and others

INTRODUCTION

We have been mobilizing volunteers for the reconstruction of earthquake hit houses at our various project locations. In addition, we provide financial support and materials per the needs of family. The goal of this program is to minimize the risk of natural disaster and provide relief and safety to vulnerable communities. The objectives of this program are as follows:

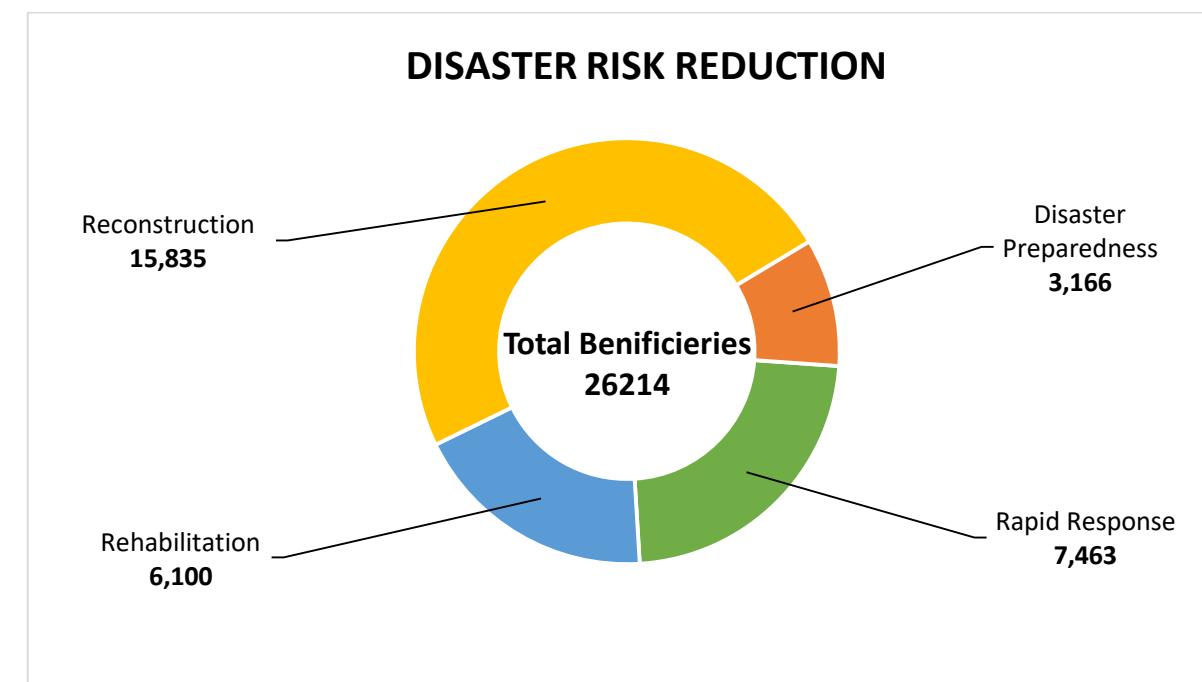
- Educate Communities on Disaster Risk Reduction, Response, Mitigation and Preparedness.
- Promote and ensure disaster resilient infrastructure.
- Develop skill and involve affected people in entrepreneurship

CHALLENGES

Untimely delivery of construction material: families are unable to buy materials on time. They will get money by instalment method from the government by step by step work.

Difficulty to follow the plans: due to the lack of financial resources and of workers and volunteers, the estimated deadline is often postponed.

ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020





FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

The Environment and Conservation Program aims to conserve, promote and protect the natural environment and the indigenous knowledge, and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution in order to enhance health, safety and welfare of this and future generations of Nepal.

BACKGROUND

Nepal is increasingly at risk to climate change jeopardising the lives of thousands of people. Our forests are being encroached, biodiversity disappearing and natural resources are getting more and more polluted day by day. Rainfall patterns are changing leading to drought in some places and flooding in others. Landslides and soil erosions are washing away fertile lands. Excessive use of pesticides and insecticides has both decreased soil quality, and rivers waters are no longer safe to drink. Unmanaged waste disposal is creating sanitation problems and increasing the deaths caused due to communicable diseases. Additionally, without intervention and positive leadership, Nepal's people remain ignorant of such environmental issues.

INTRODUCTION

The Environment and Conservation Program aims to conserve, promote and protect the natural environment and the local cultures, and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution in order to enhance health, safety and welfare of this and future generations of Nepal. The program has the following objectives:

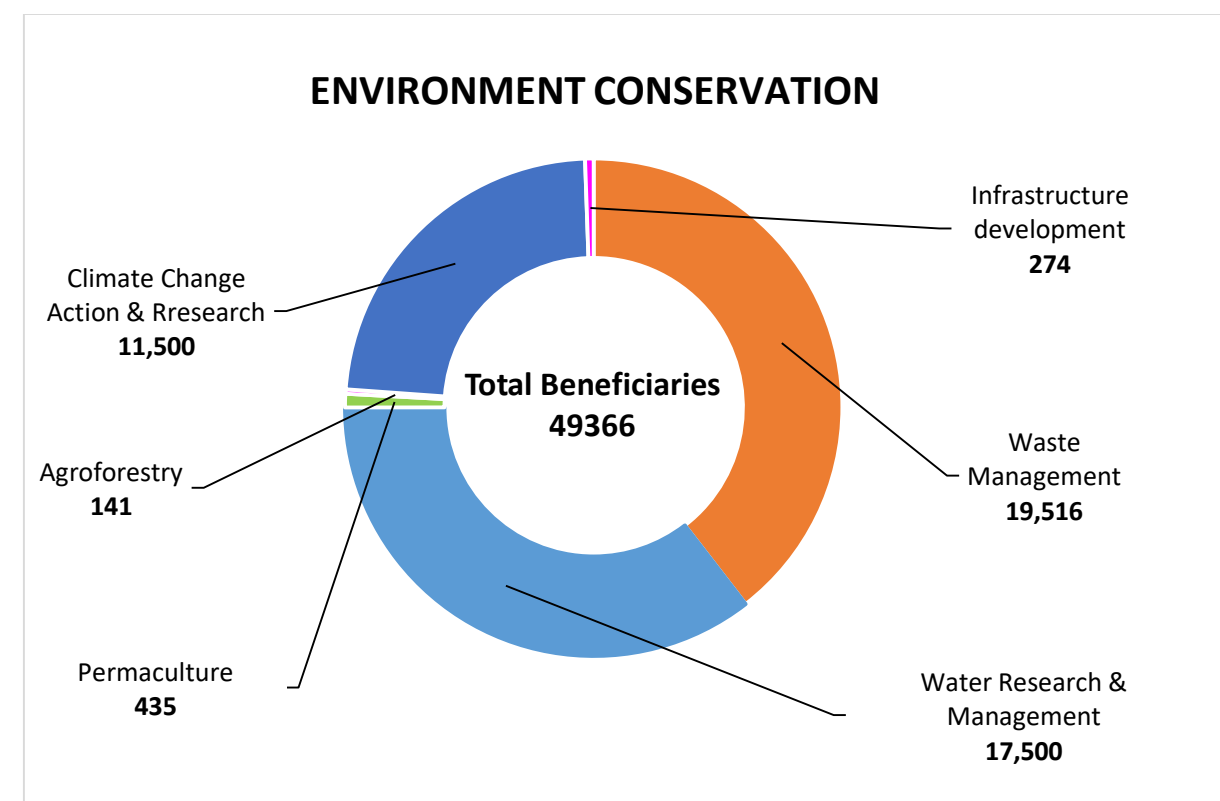
- Identify common environmental problems and climate change associated factors
- Prevent and control water, land and air pollution and develop best practices for environment conservation, protection and promotion
- Educate on protection and conservation of natural and cultural heritage sites

CHALLENGES

Deforestation: People in rural areas use firewood as a main source of energy causing loss of biodiversity.

Plastic pollution: Plastic products are widely used all over Nepal and many times an alternative is not available.

ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF 2020



A woman with dark hair in a braid, wearing a green long-sleeved shirt and glasses, stands with her back to the camera, gesturing towards a group of people. The group, consisting of about ten individuals of various ethnicities, is seated around a long black table in a room with light-colored walls and a wooden floor. Some people are looking at the speaker, while others look towards the camera. There are several brown mugs on the table. In the background, there is a white double door and a small colorful flag hanging on the wall.

AN OVERVIEW OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

In 2020, we welcomed 103 local and international volunteers in our organisation. Thanks to their passionate and skilled work, we have implemented activities within the six main and other additional programs. Working with our volunteers is an exceptional chance of mutual learning and intercultural exchange.

The Volunteering Program

Our organization has been providing safe and supported volunteering opportunities to volunteers from Nepal and abroad since 2007. Volunteers contribute to the delivery of our programs in education, health and environment, basic infrastructure and economy, and are the backbone to organisation. We have diverse volunteering programmes to get involved. We offer:

- Long and Mid Term Volunteering opportunities for individuals, ranging from two weeks to four months.
- Group Camps whereby a group of people who already know each other deliver activities for one week or more.
- Work Camps, whereby a group of individuals work together for two weeks delivering sessions.
- Family Volunteering, whereby we arrange appropriate activities for all members.

We offer volunteering opportunities for national and international people who are interested in experiencing the culture of Nepal and gain new skills. We support volunteers from pre-departure to in country induction. Once on placement, we provide ongoing supervision to volunteers. This includes field visits, monthly meetings and other logistical support.



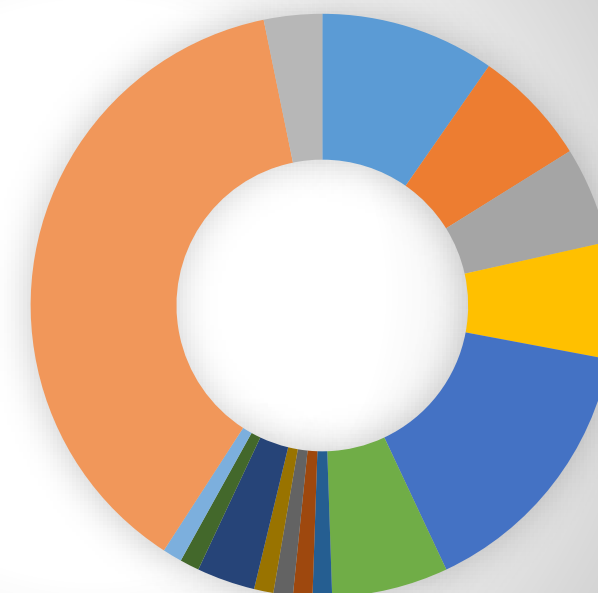
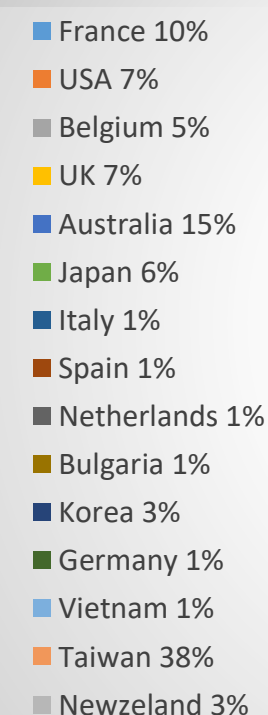
Our Volunteers in 2020

Our goal is to increase the volunteer workforce by 15% annually and, at the same time, we focus on professional volunteers who can share their knowledge and expertise.

Compared to previous years, VIN was able to host very limited number of volunteers in 2020. We were able to welcome volunteers to Nepal only in the months of January, February and March as COVID-19 became very rampant from April 2020 along with travel restrictions. VIN hosted a total of 75 international volunteers and 28 local volunteers in the year 2020.

	Male	Female	Total
LMTV	14	16	30
Work Camp	4	6	10
Group Camp	13	22	35
Limited Resource Teacher's Training (LRTT)	7	11	18

International Volunteers by Country



PLANS FOR 2021

DALIT – SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION (MICRO- IRRIGATION PROJECT)

Target population – 304 Dalit households in Taluwa, Thulachap and Bhadaure of Okhaldhunga

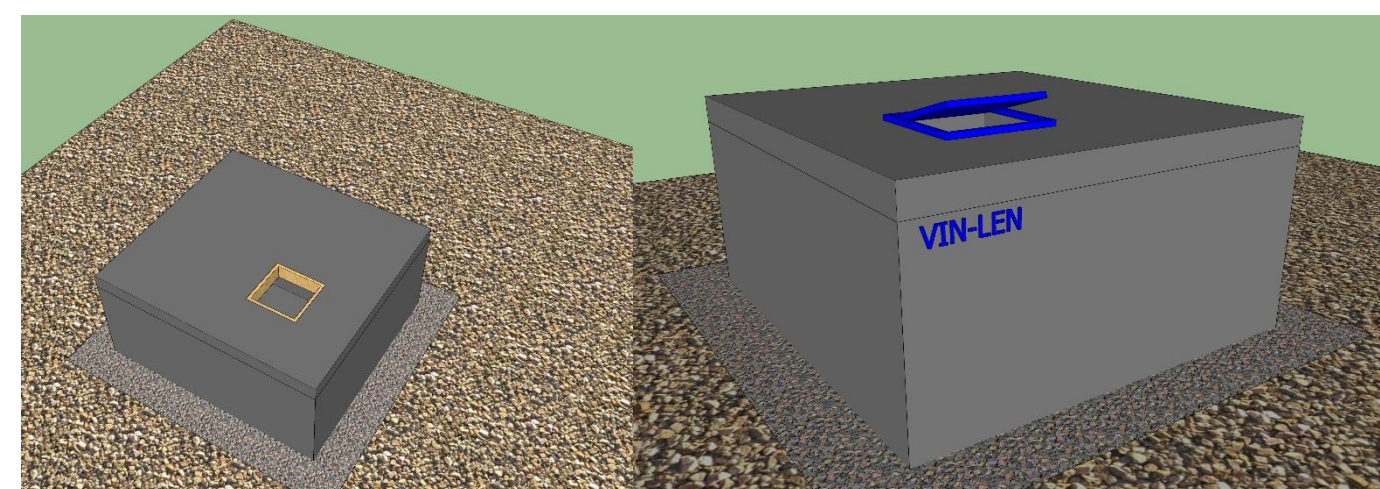
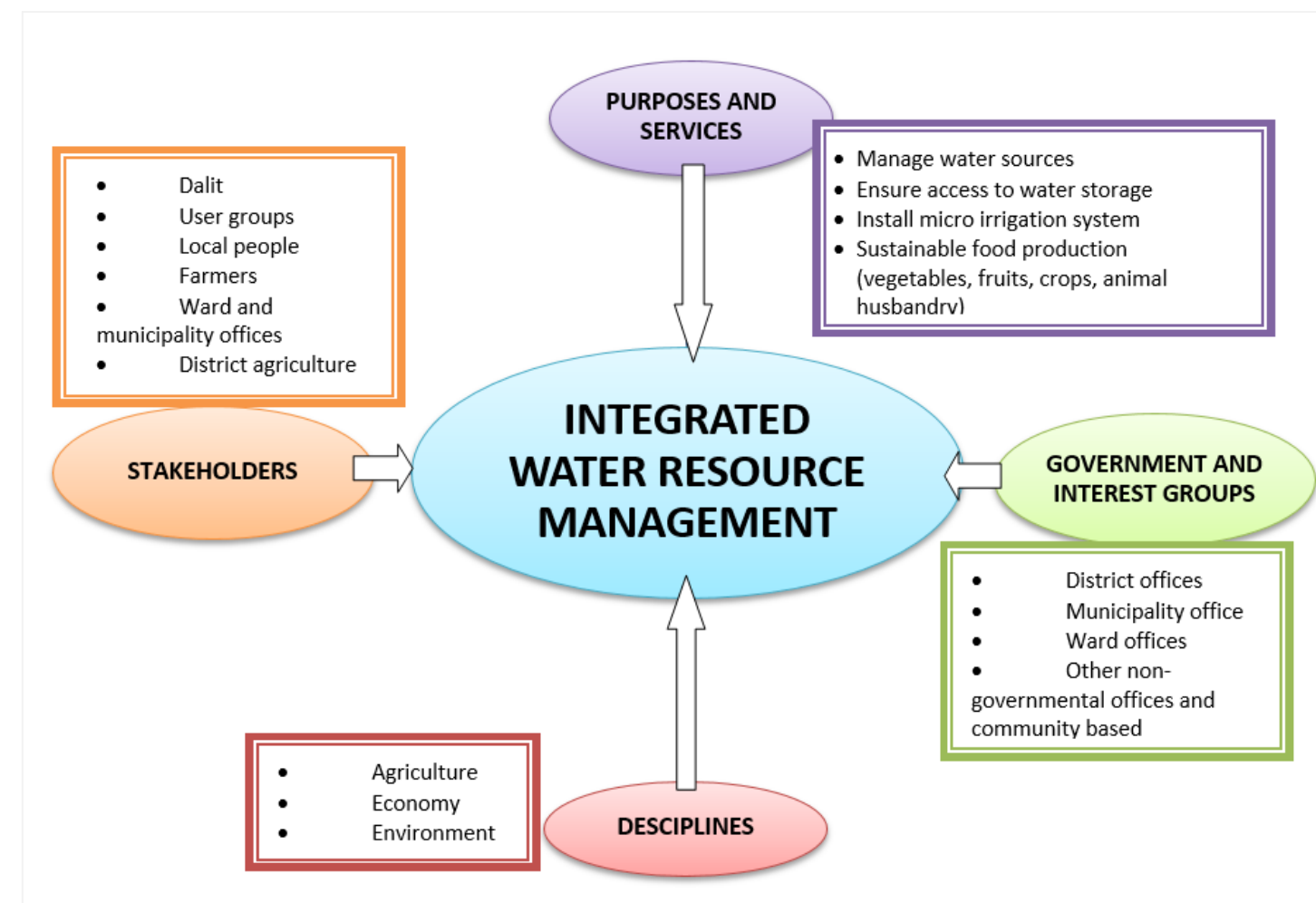
This project ensures sustainable food production among Dalit by managing local water resources for micro irrigation project. The project will support regular nutrition supply and increasing socio economic status of Dalit in Okhaldhunga. This project support Dalit: To make water collection chamber close to their houses where they can store water from multiple sources;

- Train farmers for the optimum use of water;
- Train techniques of micro irrigation system;
- Establish a base for socio entrepreneurship and micro enterprises.

The project ensures availability of water throughout the year and supports farmer in growing vegetables. In addition, the project is linked up with permaculture and agroforestry projects to ensure the sustainable food production.

Our strategy to implement this project is in three phases of five years. In first phase of one year, we do pilot project with 20 beneficiaries. In Second phase of three years, we will extend project to other 285 beneficiaries in yearly basis. In last or third phase we will focus on follow up, monitoring evaluation and strengthen the capacity of local groups for the sustainability of the project.

In this project, we want to construct a reinforce RCC water storage tank of 4000 litres capacity for the micro irrigation purpose. The tank is filled by the water from different sources such as pond, river, stream, springs and community tap that is available nearby. Also there will be rain water harvesting system in place. In some drought area they can collect only the rain water. The storage tank's outlet is connected to pipeline system link with drip irrigation or sprinkles for the micro irrigation to the kitchen garden or through watering can. This will support farmers to grow vegetables on kitchen garden throughout the year with small quantity of water. The project will be implemented on multiple phases with tracking on progress.



3 D design of the water tank

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

We have a plan to form new groups of women, orient them about importance of groups and their responsibility, orient soft skills for their capacity build up, connect them through cooperatives, build up the capacity of cooperative staff, conduct entrepreneurship trainings in Okhaldhunga. In 2021, we will be uniting women from Taluwa, Thulachap and Bhadaure through cooperatives.

CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT

We have a plan to form a 20 child clubs in schools at Okhaldhunga. We will orient child club members about club management, child rights and extracurricular activities. Children will be trained on computer and e learning.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

We have a plan to do youth need assessment. We will form 10 youth clubs. We will orient youth about soft skills. We will support youth to develop activities and collaborate the plan with local government. Train local youth for community development and involve them in development activities as a volunteer.

DALIT ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We will be mentoring beekeeping and handicraft production. Collaborate with local government for entrepreneurship development project.

NARATIKA COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

Promote the available services of NTCLC. Continue computer classes and e-learning. Start library. Run child centre.

STRATEGIC PLAN OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We will do a baseline survey. Guide local key stakeholders to develop 10 years' strategic plan of the community.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2020

The financial statement 2020 is based on the Nepalese fiscal year that follows the Nepali calendar going from July 2019 to June 2020. The statement is the result of an analysis conducted on our official audit documents.

Currency	NRP, Nepalese Rupee
Total Income	40,596,168.55 NRP
Total Expenditure	37,219,339.70 NRP

Funds that we have raises and how we spent them

Total income

External Source	26,524,275.12 NRP
Internal Source	14,071,893.43 NRP
TOTAL	40,596,168.55 NRP

Where Our Money Comes From

Multiple Donors	26,524,275.12 NRP
Program Fee/Donation	4,862,720.79 NRP
Fund Raising	477,897.61 NRP
Others	8,731,275.03 NRP

Expenditure by Program

Women's Empowerment	7,617,599.33 NRP
Children's Development	3,173,302.09 NRP
Disaster Risk Reduction	1,798,735.33 NRP
Youth Empowerment	1,038,401.33 NRP
Public Health & Medical Care	2,637,550.33 NRP
Environment Conservation	2,889,948.33 NRP

Expenditure by Sector

Community Learning Centre	8,810,859.58 NRP
Administration and Overhead Costs	2,793,676.42 NRP
Volunteer Program	4,874,418.32 NRP
Depreciation	1,584,848.62 NRP
TOTAL	37,219,339.70 NRP

KEY PEOPLE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Board of Directors

Bhupendra Ghimire
Founder President

Shantiram Khatiwada
Vice President

Dinesh Khatiwada
Secretary General

Narayan Kaji Ghimire
Treasurer

Loknath Neupane
Member

Surendra Kumar Bogati
Member

Richa Ghimire
Member

Management Staff

Bhupendra Ghimire
Founder and Executive Director

Dinesh Khatiwada
Volunteer Manager

Laxmi Prasad Ghimire
Program Manager

Coordination Staff

Deepak Ghimire
Local Facilitator (Reconstruction)

Sailendra Bajgain
District Program Coordinator (Okhaldunga)

Uttar Kumar Shrestha
Program Officer (Okhaldunga)

Sirjana Thapa Magar
Cooperative Manager (Okhaldunga)

Sharmila Karki Katwal
Cooperative Manager (Okhaldunga)

Office and Administrative Staff

Shradha Bhatta
Communication Officer

Manita Basnet
Office Accountant

Support Staff

Shantiram Khatiwada
Lawyer

Surendra Man Joshi
IT Consultant

Keshab Katwal
Driver

Narayani Maharjan
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Organisation Registration Number

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all our partners, donors and well-wishers for their continuous support and contribution towards VIN and its vision. Also, our deepest appreciation to all our staffs for their tireless efforts.

Our Donors in 2020

- Friends of VIN, Netherlands
- Friends of VIN, USA
- Association CAZALLA
- Association ADICE
- Better World
- Partners in Sustainable Learning (PiSL)
- Limited Resource Teacher Training (LRTT)
- Obzer Art
- Camp Counselors, USA
- Globalong
- VYA
- Learning English Laughter
- FOCSIV
- CCIVS
- Funds for NGO
- Step 4 Lead Project

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