



# SETU Nepal

## Annual Report 2018



*We allow each and every woman to live a dignified life, by providing skill training, psychological counselling and empowerment.*

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# 1. Introduction

SETU Nepal is a non-profit organization established in 2001 by young professionals of the country. Initially, the organization had the objective to support imprisoned women, who are most often oppressed by society and deprived of having an education. This makes it nearly impossible for them to get proper skills and hence they cannot lead an independent life nor support their children properly. Working with those marginalized people, SETU realized that also people that are infected or affected by HIV are considered as reprobates in the society and abstained in social activities even among the most educated mass. It is in our effort to work as a bridge to help those marginalized people to re-enter into society and help them lead a meaningful life again. Through Aarati House, SETU's Transit Home, we provide a residential centre to the beneficiaries to rehabilitate them and supply emotional and medical care, as well as livelihood training, so that they can build an independent life and provide a stable future for themselves and their children. Furthermore, each year we give scholarships and stationary to children of HIV positive women and support them for their further studies, if they show a great dedication. Finally we are also involved in school strengthening activities with government schools, such as Day Meal Program, Kitchen Garden set up and teacher trainings, so that the regular attendance and dropout rate will decrease. Our vision is not only to help out our beneficiaries but also to raise awareness and remove the existing stigma in society, in order to create a space of inclusion and acceptance.



## 2. General activities

With the support of ONGD-FNEL, SETU Nepal is running following programs:

Education and training programs  
for mothers with HIV



Temporary shelter in Aarati  
House



Education programs for children



### SETU Nepal in 2018:

-  56 women participated in Livelihood Training
-  20 women participated in small Entrepreneurship Training
-  100 children received education support
-  47 women and 33 children were welcomed in Aarati House

# 3. Livelihood Training

" We teach them first to accept themselves and then inspire others by their stories, in order to create a more accepting world."

## Content

- Teach practical life skills in authentic locations
- Educate about nutrition, hygiene, meditation, gender equality, empowerment
- Distribution of a seed money of 10 000 Nrs.

## Objectives of Income Generating Trainings

- To empower HIV positive mothers/ women and boost their self-esteem
- To create awareness about their rights and responsibilities
- To uplift the life quality of the family affected by HIV
- To create awareness about the significance of nutrition, hygiene and meditation
- To provide financial support in form of seed money to implement the skills gained from the trainings

## Methods

- Group discussions, presentations, role-plays, questions and answers, lectures, brainstorming, games, art, singing and demonstrations

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \boxed{4} & \times & \boxed{14} & = & \boxed{56} \\
 \text{sessions/year} & & \text{women/session} & & \text{women/year}
 \end{array}$$

No. of session	Place of the trainings	Districts of the women
1	Sarvodaya Sewa Ashram in Lamjung District	Nawalparasi and Lamjung
2	Aarati House	Nawalparasi and Tanahu
3	Aarati House	Makanpur, Tanahu and Gorkha
4	Aarati House	Gorkha, Chitwan and Janakpur



“We used to be sad and never question the behaviour of others and our traditions. Now we will start questioning the acts of others and stand up for ourselves.”



“Before the training we did not know which food is needed in our daily lives, but now after this training we are much more aware about the topic of healthy nutrition.”

“I couldn't remember when was the last time I cried. During the training I cried for the first time after a long time and I was feeling so light from within because I was letting my emotions out.”



“I got to know about the importance of Yoga in our day to day life and also its value during the time of our monthly menstrual cycle, I have started practicing it regularly from today on.”

## 4. Small Entrepreneurship Training

### Content

- Provide skills for starting a small scale business
- Distribution of 40 000 Nrs. to kick start a business
- Motivational Training

### Objectives of small Entrepreneurship Trainings

- To motivate illiterate and semi-literate women affected by HIV to become financially independent by way of enterprise initiatives
- To educate semi-literate women affected by HIV and provide practical business and financial literacy knowledge
- To inform semi-literate women of achievable business opportunities and to use the training to kick start their careers

20

women/year



Place of conduct

Family Planning Training Centre, Nawalparasi



## Financial and business literacy training

### Content

- Concepts of income, saving, investment, expenditure and debt
- Concepts of debt management and cash management
- Importance of financial planning and records of transactions
- Concepts of different types of accounts used in financial institutions
- Understanding of the borrowing procedures used in financial institutions

### Goals

- Teach women how to optimize resources
- Face the challenges that occur in managing a businesses (gender roles, patriarchal society, wage gap)

### Method

- Group discussions
- Case studies

### Focus

- **Saving and expenditure**



Should be



In practice



## Participants of small Entrepreneurship Training

It is mostly after small Entrepreneurship Training when one can see the real impact of our programs and the outcome of the hard work of our female entrepreneurs. On the following pictures you can see some of the successful small entrepreneurs of 2018, who have shown an enormous dedication and hardship.



Rita Poudel, Nawalparasi  
Fish Farm



Menuka Thanet, Nawalparasi  
Retail Shop



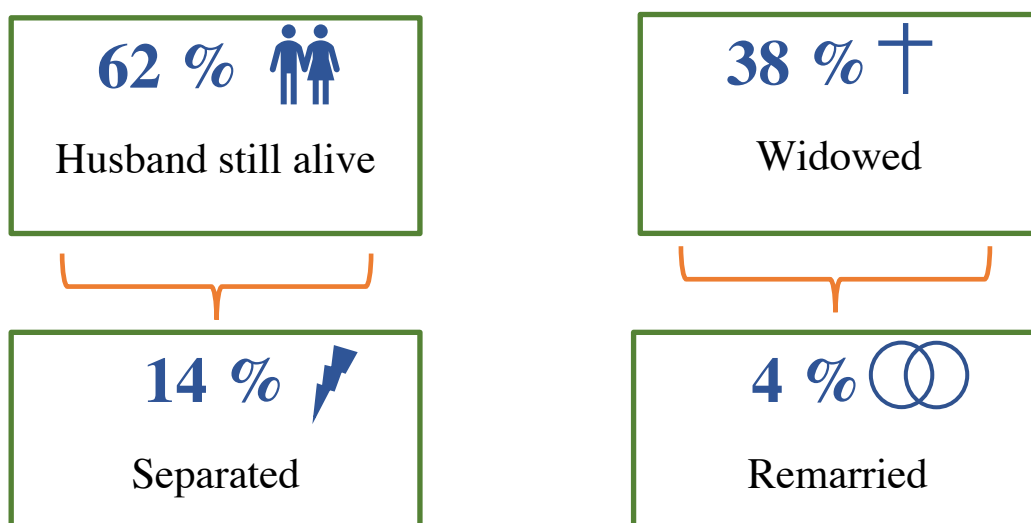
Maya Pandey  
Poultry Farm



Kopila Nepali, Nawalparasi  
Retail Shop

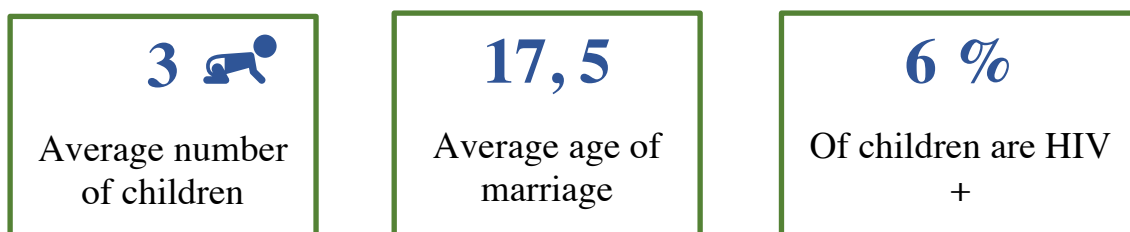
## 5. Findings of the Trainings

We have collected following information about family and literacy status of our participants in the introduction session of our trainings as well as taken our own observations during the trainings and analysed the data.



### Marital status

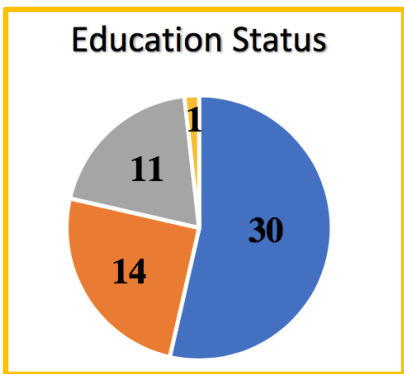
It is not easy for women in Nepalese, especially rural, society to survive after the death of their husband and HIV stands as an additional trauma for them. The majority of them expressed that they are in burden of loan following the treatment of their husband.



**90%**  
HIV transmission  
by husband

*“I left my parents, my family and all of my maternal society for a man (husband) and he gave me a lifetime gift under the form of HIV. This is the most bitter experience of my life, that my husband broke trust of my faith towards him.”*

The main reason for women suffering as a single parent in family is due to male ego, which averts male members of a family from expressing their health status, which has as a consequence that their wives ultimately suffer by discrimination from family and society. A lot of husbands hide the fact that they are ill, due to earlier marriages or affairs and therefore cannot start treatment properly or won't start at all.



**Illiterate**  
**Primary Level**  
**Secondary Level**  
**Higher Education**

**Education and Literacy**

Being illiterate is one of the reasons why women in Nepalese society are prone to getting HIV. Due to being deprived of an education they might not be aware of the illness or how it can be transmitted. Moreover, they lack the information of basic hygiene and methods on how to prevent transmission. Having a primary level is oftentimes not enough to stay safe, as a lot of the women forget what they learnt in school, due to dropping out at an early age and working in households. It is alarming that still a lot of women have been victims of HIV, despite having an education in secondary level and maybe having been informed about the illness and its precautions.



**75 %**

Dalit & Janajati

**25 %**

Brahmin/Chhetri

Most of the participants from the indigenous community (Dalit/Janajati) had lower economic status which means that HIV prevalence is affected by economic background as well as ethnicity of participants.

## 6. Additions to the Trainings



### Exposure Visits



- Visit of communities
- Learn about cultural heritage
- For a lot of women it is the first time that they can explore their surroundings
- Pashupati Temple, zoo, Durbar Square and Narayanhiti (Palace) Museum

### Environment friendly action

- Distribution of fruit plants
- Educate about the importance of healthy nutrition



## Overall status of the training participants in 2018

### Most of the participants:

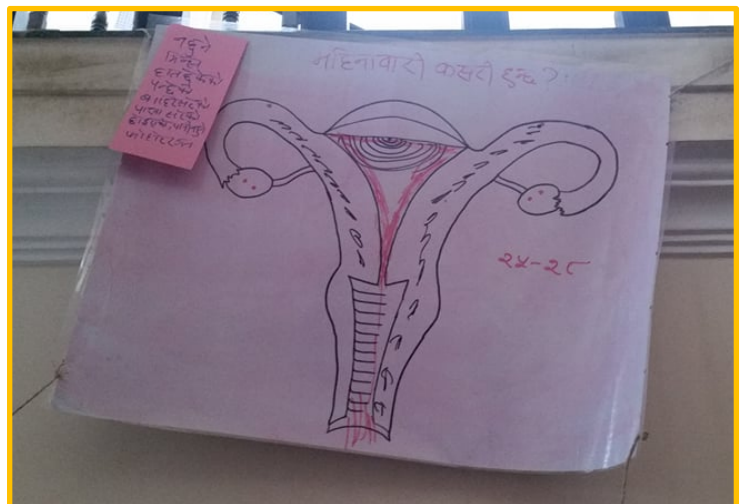
- were **illiterate** or had low academic qualification
- lacked any sort of hard and soft skills required to get involved in any socio-economic activities
- were working as **laborers**
- are from **dalit and janajati** community

### After receiving the livelihood trainings the participants:

- are doing remarkable jobs in bringing up their children
- are getting involved in **socio-economic activities**
- **curious** to learn all this vital knowledge
- loved to involve in **meditation**, during which they had to go in the past mentally and feel every emotion that came up, just until they arrive again in the present
- became **aware about** the natural process of **menstruation** and that is indeed nothing to be ashamed of

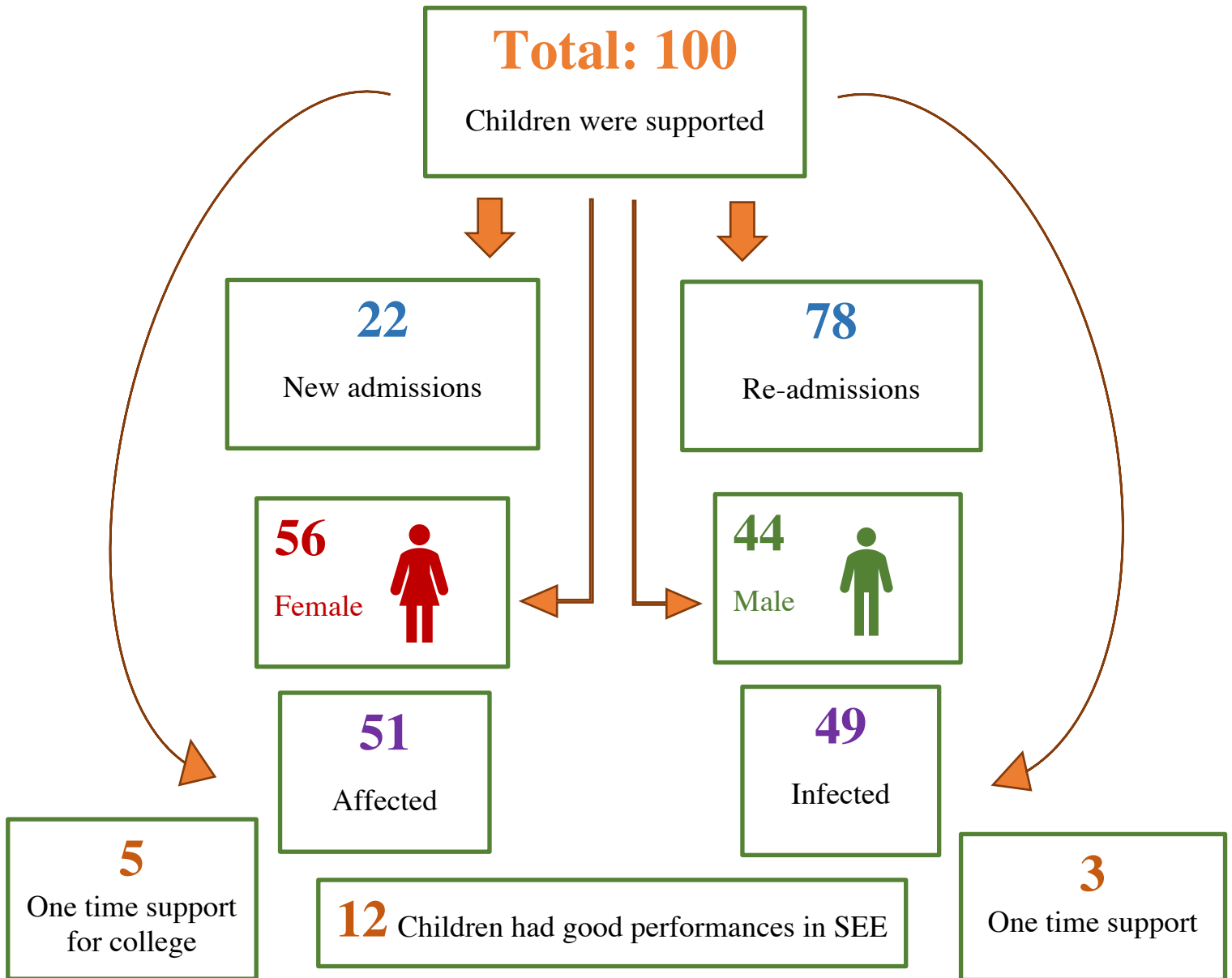
*“It made me emotional when I went to the events of my childhood during meditation, to all the ups and downs and became aware that these moments are in the past and not in the present anymore. I also realized that I shouldn't worry about my situation, which is now so very different.”*



*“I always thought that menstruation is not pure and it is a sin to enter into religious places, the kitchen or to touch a male. But now after the training I do not feel hesitate about it anymore and even entered into the temple while we were in exposure visit.”*





# 7. Education Program

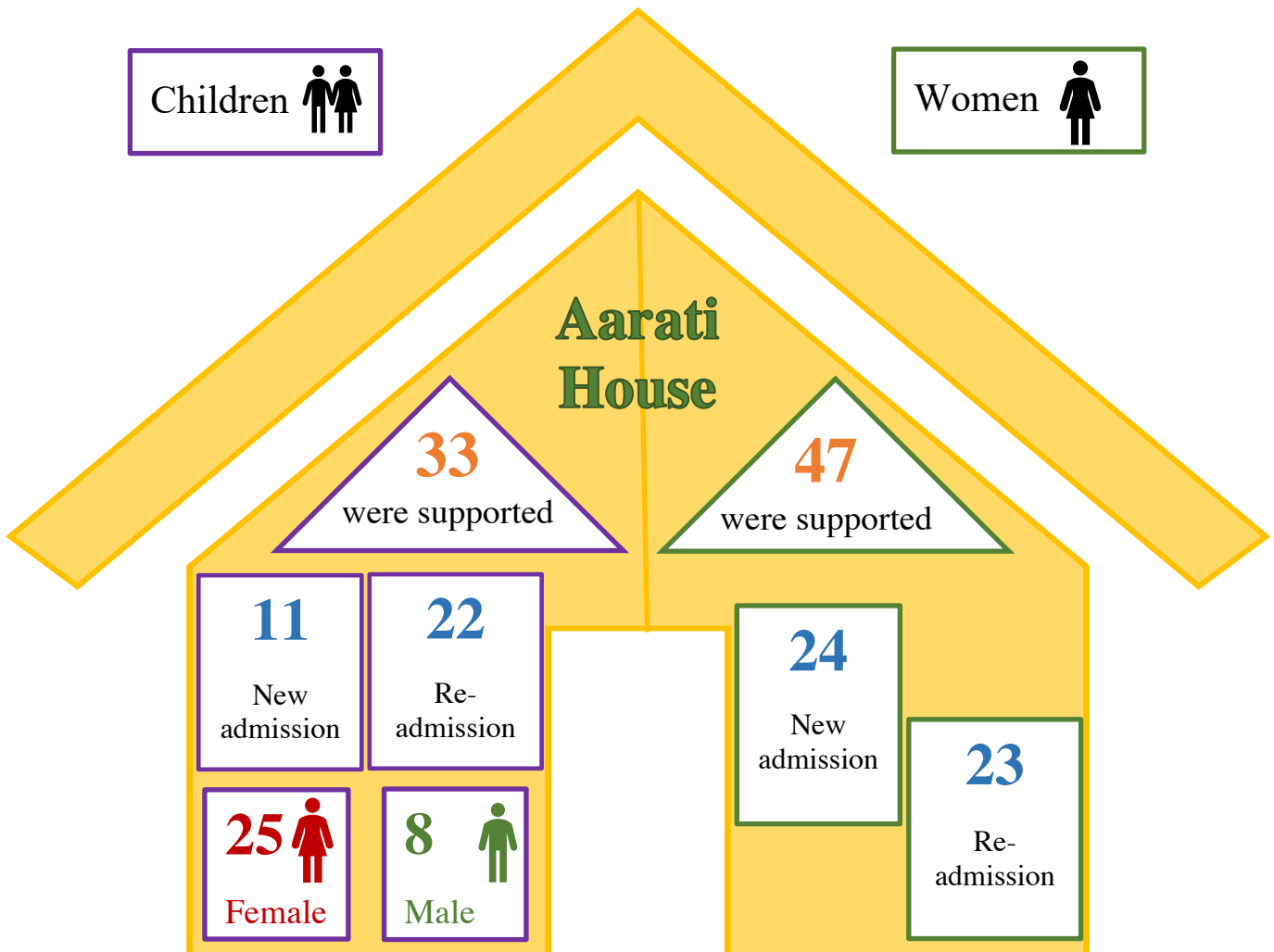


Each year, SETU Nepal is supporting 100 children for their education, by paying school fees as well as providing them the necessary school supplies like school bags and stationery. We try to support these children throughout their whole school level if they show the necessary motivation and dedication. If we observe a lack of interest coming from one of the students or if they fail in two academic years, we will discontinue the support and reintroduce new children that show more potential and interest. Furthermore, if other organizations are willing to support a few of our students, we are happy to let those organization take over the support, so that we can include needy children instead.  

## 8. Aarati House

Aarati House, SETU Nepal's transit home, has been established to provide temporary housing to mothers and children living with HIV. In order to give those women and their children an education, we provide them with a safe learning and social environment to address their social, mental and physical health needs. We have found that this environment allows for a safe rehabilitation before sponsorship and alternative living arrangements are made during the process. In spite of being a temporary transit home, Aarati House is at the moment a home to 8 children who are staying there continuously as they don't have place to go to after the death of their parents. Here they get proper care, nurturing and formal education. It is due to these children that Aarati House became a warm Aarati Home.

### Health and wellbeing



# Events and festival Celebrations

Including cultural aspects in our activities carries a great value to us, even more because traditions are very unique and interesting among all the various cultures in the world. We believe preserving culture can promote the development in the best ways possible. Thus, we are always concerned about transferring our cultural values and traditions to the children that are staying in Aarati House.



Swasthani brata katha



Maghe Sakranti



Holi

2018



Teej



Krishna Janmastami

Rakshya Bandhan



Dashain

Tihar



Christmas Day

2019



# Extra-curricular activities

## Life Skill through Fun

- 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> January & 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> January

### For Children:

- that are sponsored for their education
- from different parts of the country
- residing in Aarati House

### Content:

- Home decoration, art therapy, motivational speech, defence against sexual abuse, creative writing, and knowledge café

### Outcome:

- Improvement of the interaction between our residential children and that of our beneficiaries with the outsiders



## Positive Action combined with Positive Thinking"

- 18<sup>th</sup> July
- For SEE students (Grade 10 completed)
- Make children good human beings rather than good academicians in the turning point of their lives

# Fund raising activities

## 1-rupee Campaign (*KhutrukkeAbhiyan*)

### Concept:

- 1 rupee per day per member of a family

### Reason:

- Raise fund for activities that are not run under ONGD-FNEL
- For Child Education Movement and school strengthening programs (Day Meal Program, School Kitchen Gardening, Parenting Education, ...)

### Six months after we started

- More than 80 families including around 300 members have committed
- We have collected more than 50,000 Nrs. so far
- Enabled us to complete Day Meal Program in one school in southern Lalitpur and also initiate it in two additional schools located in Nakhipot, Lalitpur and Uttarpani, Makwanpur
- *“Even a small contribution is precious and if everybody gives a little bit, things add up and we make a change.”*
- Generous well-wishers: **Mr. Achyut Ballav Pant**





### Contribution from Volunteers

- Three volunteers : **Shreyansh Khetan, Shreyams Raj Dahal and Rivindo Bandara**
- Students from a British School
- Organized a fund raising event in their school
- Raised 12,600 Rupees



We want to give a **special thanks** to the following well-wishers, who have already supported us multiple times throughout the years and are still supporting SETU, always giving how much they can provide.

**Jennifer Lee**

**Geneviève Antille**

**Peter Leach**

**Sonam Sherpa**

**Jennifer Thompson**

**Kay Bixby**

### New year's card making

- The children of SETU Nepal made 200 New year's cards for ONGD-FNEL
- During the whole activity the children were so happy and motivated
- Great experience for us to see how much talent and creativity they have
- They learnt more about Christmas, the traditions and decorations
- Good way for fundraising
- We hope to continue this idea and involve the mothers or former beneficiaries in handy crafting for fundraising



## International visits



*“The students of Redmaid’s High School had the most profound experience visiting SETU Nepal - an incredible organization helping women re-entering society after imprisonment or other kinds of deprivation or exclusion. It was a deeply moving cultural and educational experience. Thank you.”*

*-Linda Cruse*

- Students from Redmaids’ High School, United Kingdom, visited SETU Nepal
- For gathering information regarding people living with HIV
- We organized a program to give them an insight into our culture with Sarees and Henna

## Coordination with other NGOs

- In March, one of our beneficiaries Sukamaya Gurung had serious health issues
- We had appealed financial support
- NFPN supported Nrs. 10000 for her treatment and we were able to cover all her treatment and recovery fees

## 9. Cash/Kind support

A huge thank you to ...

- **Sanjay Rimal** for 18,815.00 Nrs.
- **Ram Dev Pandey** for 1000.00
- **Anu Sapkota** for 5000.00

**Mrs. Bhawana** and **Mrs. Nisha Neupane** for donating a huge amount of food such as rice, dahl and potatoes to the children of SETU Nepal



Our volunteer **Lee Duhr** for donating coloured pencils, markers, rulers, note pads, bags as well as small games and miniature figures to the children of Aarati House

**Mr. Oozam Pradhanang** for giving stationary such as pencils, crayons and notebooks to the children of Aarati House





## Case history

Ningma Dolmo Gole (eight years old) and Unnati Gole (two years old) are two sisters that came to Aarati house in summer 2018 together with their two brothers. The four children have been rescued from Dolakha district after having lost their parents and being left alone. Their father died shortly before their rescue due to being HIV positive and also their mother suffered a horrible death a few days after. Apparently, the mother was coming home from the farm with her youngest daughter Unnati and sat down beside the road to take some rest and died while breastfeeding her daughter, as a consequence of different opportunistic infections. The children suffered a lot under this tragedy and became victims of discrimination because they are all infected by HIV, except the oldest daughter. They didn't have any caretakers and it was at that moment that they were referred to SETU Nepal by District Child Welfare. The four siblings have been staying in the Transit Home and received ART. Once the treatment had been started properly and a good shelter has been found for the two boys, they were transferred to the organisation *Saana Haatharu Nepalas*, which works for child vulnerability, as SETU Nepal only has provisions for female children. Ningma and Unnati are staying in Aarati House with the others children of SETU. Fortunately, a very generous well-wisher has sponsored Unnati's nutrition for a year and Ningma has been provided an education. Both siblings have been included warmly into the family of SETU.



A huge thank you to **Mr. Anjan Pandey**, who has donated Nrs. 20,000 for the nurturing of Unnati Gole.

We hope to get continuous support for both of the children in the future and are looking forward to facing the challenge of trying to find the right helping hand for them so that they can receive the best suitable care.



## 10. Volunteer placements

- Puja Thanet
- Rakshya Acharya
- Arun Prakash Ghimire
- Lee Duhr
- Aakanshya Aryal

### Activities

- Report and proposal writing
- Making various documentations
- Education support for the children
- Participation in IG Trainings and field visits
- Involvement with children

## 11. Nutrition and school strengthening Programs

### Day Meal Program

- Four year program that ensures that children get a healthy meal every day in school due to partial financial participation of their parents, the school and SETU Nepal
- Every year the amount paid by the parents increases and the amount provided by SETU decreases just until the program is completely hand over to the parents and the school
- Goal : Active participation of the community and healthy food for students
- Extension of school Day Meal Program as a part of the regular schedule
- Initiation in Buddha Bhagwan Secondary School





## School Gardening

- To minimize the possibilities of malnutrition, we have started creating awareness about school gardening, trying to raise the awareness of children so that they themselves can become advocates for healthy nutrition in their own home
- Teach children about the importance of nutritious food in a practical rather than theoretic way
- Provides more nutritious fresh supplies than the food bought at the market
- Amplification after the successful conduction and output of the program
- We expect to conduct it in another parts in the future



*(Note: Nutrition and school strengthening programs are run beyond the support of ONGD-FNEL and through the circulation of SETU Nepal's funds generated by different sources available.)*

## 12. Monitoring and Evaluation of our Initiatives

### Reasons:

We conduct monitoring, follow up visits and finally the evaluation after each of our initiatives, which we believe is intrinsic to our success. This includes client care, repayment of loans, evaluation of academic performance and more. It serves as a chance to know about our efficiency and the laggings behind any activities in respective areas of operation, which helps to improve performance in future through realization of weaknesses as well.

### Ways of monitoring:

Every year we do monitoring through field visits, where we meet our beneficiaries and observe their performances. This year our field visits have been conducted in December, where we monitored the activities of our beneficiaries, met with local organizations, had a meeting about the introduction of Day Meal Program and did various home visits to get even more insights into the lives of the people that we support.

### Key factors:

- The appropriate use of funding for women in business
- Academic performance by the children under support
- The need for technical, social and emotional support
- The potential discrimination at play, whether societal or familial
- Other contemporary issues that are in need of urgent addressing

## New kitchen supplies for Lumbini plus community care centre

- The care centre provides health support to people that are HIV positive and it is a place, where people with the same medical backgrounds can come together
- Could need some improvements, regarding their kitchen supplies
- Financial support from SETU Nepal
- A few weeks after our visits they contacted us, showing which utensils they had purchased



## Social audit of 2074/75

- Objective to overview the social responsibilities fulfilled by SETU Nepal in the fiscal year 2074/75
- Participants: all the accountable authorities, beneficiaries and the stakeholders
- Provided opportunities to share experiences and challenges faced in years long hardship in the social sector and it acted also as a platform to receive the feedback and suggestions
- Positive impression: SETU Nepal is doing the work as its name (as a bridge)



## 13. Future plans

### **Continuing our present activities:**

- Income Generating and Entrepreneurship Training, providing health support and residential stay at Aarati House and giving education support to children
- Ensure that our monitoring and evaluating activities are precise and that our information is always up to date
- Keep our school strengthening programs running: Day Meal Program, One Rupee Campaign, Kitchen Gardening, Teacher Trainings,...

### **Start a few initiatives in the future:**

- Buying land for keeping cows and selling goods like milk
- Involve some husbands, that show a supportive side to their wives by coming up with a specialized training for them
- Involve some of our beneficiaries in handicraft making, by engaging them in skill related trainings and later selling their productions

## 14. Conclusion

### **The regular activities of SETU can be outlined as followed:**

- Four sessions of Livelihood Training
- One session of Entrepreneurship Training
- Education support to children affected by HIV
- Health service including nutritional and psychological counselling to our beneficiaries
- Celebration of social events and festivals
- Field visits for monitoring

### **The additional programs can be further outlined as below:**

- Conduction of "*Life Skill Through Fun*" for children of two age groups
- Distribution of plants to the individual participants of Livelihood Training
- Initiation of school Day Meal Program in Buddha Bhagwan Secondary School
- Initiation of 1 Rupee Campaign for Child Education Movement
- Fund raising activity by volunteers
- Fund raising by making New year's cards for ONGD-FNEL

## **What have been your main learnings/realizations from the project?**

After participating in our Livelihood Trainings our beneficiaries receive a seed money of 10 000 Nrs. to start their business. In our eyes, the seed money is a great support for the women in order to help them initiate a business and spark their motivation. We think it is an important part of our training and vital for our women so that they can start an independent life. We are really grateful for receiving financial support in that aspect, which enables us to run our trainings in a way that our participants benefit in the most effective way. Over the years we found out that the amount of money that we provide as a seed money is not always sufficient to cover all the costs of a business. However, instead of seeing this as an issue, we observed that it is quite a good learning experience for our beneficiaries, since we provide them the “seed” but they still have to grow themselves and have to find out how they can work in the most productive way. We see it as an indirect benefit for them, as they have to invest their own efforts and money and as such require more responsibility and knowledge about how businesses work.

**Learning/realization: Seed money oftentimes not sufficient but great learning experience for beneficiaries**

During the year and especially during our field visits, where we get deeper insights into the lives of our beneficiaries, we have observed that some husbands do a really nice job in supporting their wives, being our beneficiaries, in their work. We at SETU Nepal think that this is really productive and that if a wife and her husband work together they can be even more successful on a financial but also on an emotional level. If their relationship is built upon trust and mutual support it is not only fruitful for their business but also overall for their family. We want to promote and reward such couples and thought of involving some of the husbands, so that they can be informed about our work and can support their wives even more and in the best possible way. Furthermore, the husbands could also be involved in the business and bring in own ideas and initiatives. We would like to initiate and conduct specialized trainings for the husbands, that are different from our usual Livelihood Trainings and maybe tie them up in vocational trainings afterwards.

**Learning/realization: Some husbands are really supportive and thus they should be involved in some activities of SETU to engage them even more**



Since women have various responsibilities at home, we have found that residential training that is held in another district than their home district ensures their presence and commitment. If the trainings would be conducted in their home districts, they would most likely not attend the trainings on time or would leave early because their mind would be occupied with the chores that are waiting at home. So we think it is much more productive if we conduct our trainings in districts that are further away, outside the boundaries of their community, so that we can be sure that the beneficiaries involve entirely in our trainings, without having to think about anything else. Furthermore, since they are away from their everyday life, they have the chance to be vulnerable and really explore and feel the pain that their community and even their family puts on them. In this way they can start to heal in the most effective way. Finally, they can have interactions with women from other districts, that have dealt with similar problems in the past, which also facilitates their healing process. Plus they have the chance to explore and visit a part of the country, which they have probably not seen before, since they rarely get the opportunity to leave their home.

**Learning/realization: Attendance of participation is ensured, due to conducting training in other districts than their home districts**

We have observed that a lot of our beneficiaries have various skills such as making handicrafts and producing goods, such as honey, ginger powder and candy, which should be stimulated in our eyes. They could stand as role models since they would be female entrepreneurs from marginalized communities and as such they could motivate other people to break free from the stereotypes, that society puts on them. Furthermore, their skills would be put into practice, which not only had a therapeutic effect and would give them a feeling of proudness, since they are pursuing their passion, but they could also improve their talent. Finally, it would be a great way for fundraising, where marginalized women could help other women and children from the same background. The handicrafts or products made could be sold, where a part of the benefit would go to the “creators” themselves and the rest would be used for the activities of SETU Nepal such as child education or health treatments. It would be a great use of the additional skills that our beneficiaries have, that would otherwise not be emphasized. We hope that in the future, we could continue this idea and start such an initiative. However the challenge would be to find a market place, as the community is oftentimes not enough educated about HIV infection and believes in stigmas about the illness and therefore doesn't want to purchase products made by people with that health status.

This is also the reason why a lot of women are not disclosed in their communities, because they are in fear of discrimination. An idea would be to connect them with other women and describe the market as “produced by women in need” or by “women from vulnerable backgrounds”. Furthermore, it would be really convenient to have a place/market, where we could easily sell our products nationally and internationally. In that way, we could reach a bigger amount of people, which not only would raise the fund but it would also help to spread our ideas and visions further. The idea is that we ourselves could reach fund for our activities and as such help even more people and spread our philosophies, by involving our beneficiaries in trainings for making handicrafts and other various productions of goods.

**Learning/realization: Selling handicrafts of participants could be a great way of raising fund and as well promoting our work**

We are conscious that compared to other organizations, respectively to the number of total women and children that are infected or affected by HIV, SETU Nepal supports only a small part of the affected people. However, we believe in the concept of “quality over quantity”; we first want to ensure that our beneficiaries receive the most fruitful help and after we are sure that everybody is supported effectively, we can think about increasing the number of beneficiaries. Instead of working “horizontally” and trying to help as many people as possible, just to fulfil the concept of supporting a person, we rather try to work “vertically” and try to uplift our participants in the best possible way, before trying to include new women. In the aspect of our transit home, the number of residential children is also smaller, because we want to make sure that they not only receive good support for their education, but also the best emotional care. We believe that they will be the mothers of the future and have an important role in a family and so we believe they deserve the best care now so that they can bloom later.

**Learning/realization: Qualitative results will multiply through less beneficiaries because we can focus completely on them**

## What were the biggest challenges and how did you cope with it?

Although our programs run well, struggles come along the way, that we have to face in order to improve. As for example the admission of HIV infected and affected children in schools pose difficulties, due to still existing stigmas. Although we usually want to solve problems by raising awareness and trying to educate people, in this case it wasn't enough to ensure acceptance from the school.

As such our current way for coping with this hurdle is to follow the mandate of the school as per their wishes in a financial point of view, to ensure that our children get a good quality education. As such we get no discount for the school transportation cost, although 6 of our children are picked up from the same station. Furthermore, we always provide the necessary stationary as per demand as well as pay immediately any expenses that occur such as for extracurricular activities. Although this may not be the most cooperative way of coping with that issue, our main goal is that our children receive a good education and we hope that we can raise the awareness of the school, by showing them that our children have the same potential and abilities just like everybody else, because they are defined by so much more than their health status.

At the same time, the financial support that we receive for the education of children only covers the expenses of government school, which usually doesn't provide qualitative education. This is the reason why we try to involve the majority of the children in private schools since they provide a quality education to the students, however they have high tuition fees. For children, that are still living with their parents we usually want to raise the awareness of the parents and suggest them to also invest in the education of children, so that they can attend private school and receive a good education. In spite of that we try to strengthen government schools, as for example by Day Meal Program because the majority of children, especially from rural and vulnerable areas, attend government schools and we think they also deserve the right to have a good education; their education should not be defined by whether they can afford private schools or not. So we hope that in the future government schools can also be a place, where children receive quality education, but as for now we cannot take the risk in the education of the children of our transit home, which is why we send them to private schools. We do have individual sponsors for our children, however they oftentimes don't support the children 100%, meaning that they sometimes only give one time support. We at SETU Nepal always try to find individual support for our children and we found that people are more likely to sponsor if they have more information about the child.

In this way we always put together books with pictures to give our sponsor a real insight of whom they can help and which effects they have. At the same time we are raising fund for the education of children with our One Rupee Campaign for our school strengthening program.

**Challenge: Difficulty in admission of HIV positive children**

**Coping: Follow wishes of the school and hoping to remove the stigma gradually**

Furthermore, there are some children that want to come to SETU Nepal, but it is not possible for us to support them all, since we first want to focus on the children that are in Aarti House right now. However, we give our best to help to children by tying them up with other organization or supporting them in their family.

**Challenge: Children want to come to SETU but we cannot give them full support**

**Coping: Help them partially**

Another challenging factor has been that we don't have our own vehicle and as such have to rely on a rented car for taking children to hospital for health check-ups and to conduct our monitoring and evaluation activities. For instance to conduct our field visits we have to hire a van, which not only costs a lot of money but it is not always possible reaching all the communities with it. We cannot afford to hire the suitable car. Furthermore, we have to pay transportation charges so that our children can attend school, which is not always reliable. Compared to having our own car, the cost is relatively high and we think that those expenses could be used in other parts of our organization. We hope that in the future we can get support for purchasing a proper vehicle, that is our own.

**Challenge: No proper vehicle Coping: Appeal for own car, planning to look for a school close to SETU, so that we don't need transportation in this part**

Going in the same direction, we live in a rented place, which costs us a huge amount of money each month. So we hope that in the future, we can own our own building and can use the money of the rent for our activities.

**Challenge: No proper place Coping: Planning to buy a land and appeal for construction**

As a school strengthening program, we initiated Day Meal Program a few years ago, which should ensure that children receive a nutritious meal everyday with financial involvement of their parents. Sometimes, we see that parents are not willing to involve and to counterpart this problem, we conduct individual visits to make them aware about the importance of good nutrition. So we have found out, that real confrontation oftentimes helps changing the opinion of a person and as such motivate them to involve in our programs or activities. Although, this is not part of the program of ONGD FNEL, we wanted to include it in the report, since we have seen good results. Furthermore, individual visits can also been made in other parts of our projects, where we observe lack of interest of the parents for example in school education.

**Challenge: Not always involvement Coping: Raise awareness by visits, through other parents and through local government representative**



## Do you consider the results achieved during the project sustainable?

SETU Nepal offers cyclical support for women and children, which means that the beneficiaries that have been supported directly, impact other people indirectly along the way and hence SETU Nepal can reach a greater amount of people, which is not only a very productive but also a sustainable way of working. By empowering women and mothers with livelihood trainings and providing them start-up funds for their businesses, along with the business acumen to run a successful business, we give them the necessary tools and skills to live their life not only independently but also successfully. If the women show remarkable dedication and motivation they are then chosen for entrepreneurship trainings to further expand their businesses by receiving additional financial support. In return they have to pay back the money during a period of two years, which will then be used by the participants of future trainings and as such more people can be trained, without having to add additional financial support. Furthermore successful women can talk about their experiences and their achievements in order to motivate future beneficiaries and in this way former participants share their knowledge freely to the next group of women.

By providing livelihood support to mothers, we are paving a better future not only for the mothers themselves but also for their children. By learning good business skills, along with health and mental wellbeing, we are helping those women to be the best possible mothers they can be. It ensures that the mothers get more involved in the lives of their children in a financial as well as an emotional way. By giving them the necessary skills to run an independent life, they can support the education of their children and by giving them the necessary knowledge about nutrition and emotional and physical care they can ensure that their children will grow and develop in a healthy way. The children themselves receive support under the form of scholarships and should they perform well and the mother shows a commitment in the education of her child, SETU Nepal offers to cover one third of the fees (as a one-time support) for children after their school level. In this way it is sure that the children have a secure future and the children and women can influence and motivate themselves mutually. To conclude SETU Nepal provides the necessary skills and knowledge and the beneficiaries spread the awareness and as such our work goes outside of the frame of our organization and people that are not even linked to SETU Nepal can benefit from it.

**Sustainability: Cyclical support**

Another sustainable campaign of SETU Nepal, that we started in summer 2018, is our One rupee's campaign. In Nepal, almost 80% of the total number of students at secondary level are enrolled in government schools out of which only 30%-50% students pass their SEE examination, which reflects the quality of education provided at government schools. In government schools students in primary levels are deprived of much needed necessities such as separated restrooms, adequate teachers, primary school curriculum, use of local teaching materials, parental support to school, 90+ student attendance and pass rates and regular school supervision by DEO, which is also considered as the main reason for school dropouts.

Since children are the future of society and of the country, we have to ensure that they get a valuable education in a lot of different aspects so that they can become good citizens. We believe that powerful teaching and learning methods at primary schools could be the best way in ensuring this. This is only possible by strengthening the government schools which are attended by the majority of the students, where they may get an education but the quality is probably suffering. Due to these reasons we decided to initiate our school strengthening program "One Rupee Campaign", where each member of a family will give one rupee per day during a certain amount of time, in order to provide quality education to the children of our nation.

During the period of six months, we have reached many joining hands for our campaign. More than 80 families including around 300 members have committed to our initiative on a long term basis. Furthermore, various organizations and their staffs have also found interest and joined the movement. With the contribution of those helping hands we have collected more than 50,000 Nrs. so far, which will be used for child education in government schools. The fund collected from this huge crowd of people, enabled us to complete day meal program in one school in southern Lalitpur and also initiate it in two additional schools located in Nakhipot, Lalitpur and Uttarpuni, Makwanpur. The One Rupee Campaign shows that even a small contribution is precious and if everybody gives a little bit, things add up and we make a change. Thus we are really glad with this fruitful achievement and look forward to meeting many more new faces that will join our movement in the future.

**Sustainability: Small contributions from a lot of different people**