



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**

# **BUILDING RESILIENCE: LINKING RELIEF AND REHABILITATION WITH DEVELOPMENT**

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME  
IN NEPAL 2015-2018**

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Emergency Response Programme Nepal was initiated in April 2015 and three years hence is being transferred to the community. This report is the synthesis of SOS Children's Village's emergency responses activities in Nepal, focus group discussions with beneficiaries and members of affected communities and impact through monitoring and in-depth interviews with various stakeholders.

SOS Children's Villages is grateful to Government of Nepal and its various departments, district administration offices, various village development committees and municipalities for their support and cooperation in implementing the programme.

SOS Children's Villages expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the National Board of SOS Children's Villages Nepal, the National Office- Nepal and various Projects of Nepal for providing leadership in implementing the programme as per the Frame of Action. The entire emergency response activities during the relief phase as well as the recovery phase would not have been possible without the active engagement of SOS mothers, youths, volunteers and co-workers.

SOS Children's Villages International Office - Asia is thankful to all the PSAs and donors for financially supporting the Emergency Response Programme in Nepal. Their contributions and commitments helped us address the need of the affected children and their families. It would also like to thank SOS Children's Villages South Korea, Japan, Philippines, Laos and Mongolia for their contribution. SOS Children's Villages deepest gratitude to the President Mr. Siddhartha Kaul for expressing solidarity, commitment and support through his regular visits which motivated the SOS Children's Villages' co-workers, mothers and youths and helped them demonstrate their commitments to the affected children and their families.

SOS Children's Villages is thankful to various national and international media houses for supporting its work in Nepal and the beneficiary communities for their tremendous support and participation in the programme. For the photographs used in this report, SOS Children's Villages would like to give credits to all the co-workers who have supported with photographs.

# FOREWORD

**Siddhartha Kaul,**

*President,*

*SOS Children's Villages International*

SOS Children's Villages has been working in Nepal for the past six decades, but the aftermath of the earthquake was the first time I saw the enthusiasm with which the entire SOS family reached out to the community.

The philosophy of SOS Children's Villages is rooted in the fact that every child deserves a loving family. This is the sentiment which drives us to extend our services to the communities and reach out to protect and safeguard vulnerable children.

We are an integral part of the community and Emergency Response Programme is one, where we work very closely with the people. As neighbours, as part of the community, it is therefore our obligation and duty to assist the community, especially in the time of need. Our core responsibility is to protect our children and to ensure that they are provided with the care of a family. Responding to emergencies and disasters is an additional and important support we provide as responsible neighbours.

The past three years, I have witnessed several acts of compassion and sacrifice -- where our people have gone that extra mile to provide 'higher ground' to the less fortunate. We have strengthened our partnerships with relevant government departments and authorities, like-minded organisations, and experts on the ground. Our youth and mothers showed resilience and enthusiasm, which is noteworthy. Our co-workers worked very hard -- listening to what the villagers want and what they needed, to help build a strong, resilient and confident community.

I am happy with what meets the eyes today. The personal effort of everyone, including the PSAs and donors, contributed to the collective success in achieving what we had set to achieve -- ensure that vulnerable children are safeguarded.



## Shubha Murthi,

*Deputy COO*

*SOS Children's Villages*

The earthquake hit the country of Nepal on April 25, 2015 – unforgettable for the people of Nepal as well as for many others, including me who arrived in chaotic Kathmandu on April 27, 2015.

Personally for me as well as the Asian region, we were in the middle of executing another major emergency operation in the Philippines which had hit Tacloban in November 2013. Nevertheless, the teams at all levels (fund raising associations, Innsbruck office, SOS Nepal along with the regional office in Asia) worked in tandem to achieve the results which can now be experienced.

It is a matter of pride that the mothers, children and co-workers were the first to be at site mobilised by our child / youth clubs, who did an amazing job offering immediate relief. Their determination and enthusiasm brought courage to the rest of us to walk that extra mile during those trying days.

The emergency response was designed to offer immediate relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction over a period of three years. I am happy to share that our objectives have been met with community participation in the entire process, overcoming initial hurdles.

In our experience, emergencies are a time when children and women are worst affected, when families are forced to abandon children. SOS Children's Villages believe in "prevention" of abandonment of children and to this effect have been successful to offer care solutions for vulnerable children.

Over the last three years, SOS Children's Villages touched the lives of 28,377 children through various interventions under the emergency programme.

Learning from our previous Emergency programmes, an integrated approach was followed with a view to ensure community ownership and sustainable livelihood programme. This ensured that children are not separated and can continue to live within their environs. The livelihood programme and the reconstruction of schools brings about a holistic development of the community and prepare them for the future.



All this would not have been possible without the financial support that was received from well-wishers, friends, supporters of SOS Children's Villages. Our co-workers from across the federation who showed strength and determination, my ERP steering committee member Prof B K Masky and children and mothers who showed grit and kept us all motivated throughout. President Siddhartha Kaul's visit to Nepal within the first month of the earthquake brought in focus and motivation for the different teams on the ground. I wish to say **THANK YOU TO ONE AND ALL**.

Last but not least, my THANKS go to the government officials, administration, media, like-minded organisations on the ground and the communities which contributed and partnered with us during the entire duration of the programme.

Let's pledge and do our bit to make sure that  
**NO CHILD SHOULD GROW UP ALONE**



## Dr. Jyoti Ratna Dhakhwa

*President*

*SOS Children's Villages Nepal*

It is remarkable to realize that at times, the worst of the situations bring out the best in us. It has been so for SOS Children's Villages Nepal with the big earthquake of April 25, 2015 in Nepal. We were most fortunate that we did not suffer the loss of life and property. Our SOS Homes, buildings and infrastructure were intact even after the earthquake.

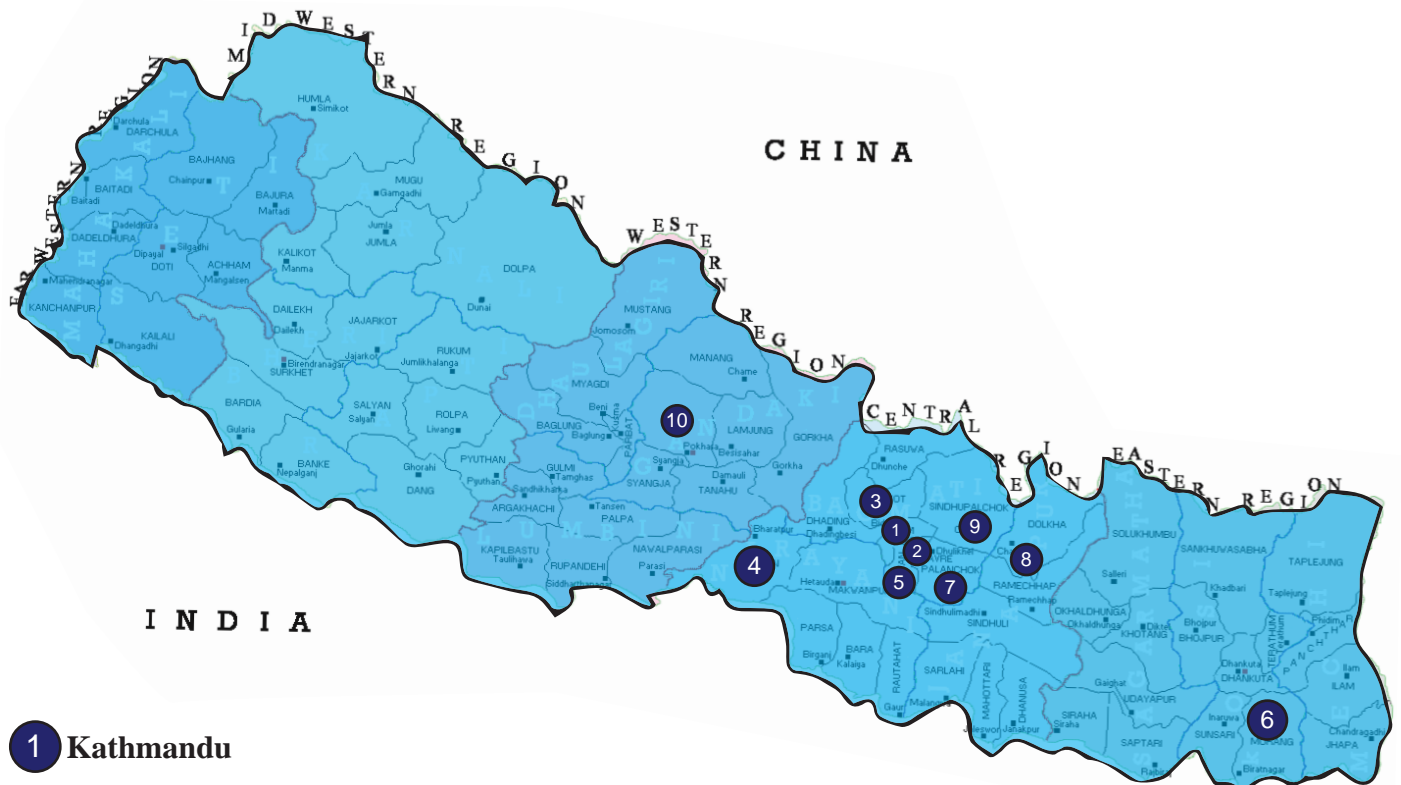
The Earthquake gave us an opportunity to move out of our comfort zone to support the badly affected communities. It was motivating to see the immense sense of volunteerism shown by our young people, SOS mothers, and co-workers. The Emergency Response Programme gave shape to a new form of alternative care as 'Kinship Care' in order to address the plight of children who lost their parents or caregivers during the earthquake.

Considering the dire need, we mobilized all our resources to support the affected children, their parents and their communities. Many challenges emerged for us to carry out the relief work due to the embargo and the delay in the formulation of government policies for the design of the reconstruction of the houses. However, our colleagues from the national office and programme locations were able to implement the programmes successfully.

This natural disaster, however, made us question, realize and improve our level of preparedness for our safety and safer future of our children.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all SOS Promoting and Supporting Associations, Former President Prof. Dr. Bishwa Keshar Maskay, Board Members and General Assembly Members of SOS Children's Villages Nepal, and community people for joining hands and working together in achieving the goals. I express my gratitude to Mr. Siddhartha Kaul, SOS KDI President; Ms. Shubha Murthi, Deputy COO, SOS KDI and IDR Region Asia; and Mr. Rajneesh Jain CVI Representative, for their constant support.

# OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME



## 1 Kathmandu

Jorpati, Sankhu, Makalbari and Thali.

- In **Jorpati** Intervention is through CCS, Livelihood support, Kinship Care, Academic Loss Support, warm clothes, and Education Kit support.
- In **Sankhu** intervention is through CCS, HiB, livelihood support, Kinship care, Repair of School, Academic Loss support, warm clothes and Education kit support.
- In **Makalbari** intervention is through CCS and Academic loss support.
- In **Thali** intervention is with IDP Community through CCS, CBI and with non IDP community through Repair of School and Academic Loss support.

## 2 Bhaktapur

Sundarthali, Dahalgaon and Pokhrealgaon

- In **Sundarthali and Dahalgaon** intervention is through HiB and CBI.
- In **Pokhrealgaon** Intervention is through CCS, HiB, Livelihood support, Kinship care, CBI, warm clothes, Education Kit support and UASC.

## 3 Nuwakot

Chaughada

- Intervention is through CCS, School Repair, warm clothes and Education kit support.

## 4 Chitwan

- Intervention was made during the relief phase only.
- In Bharatpur established and ran one CCS.

## 5 Lalitpur

Harisiddi and Lele-8

- In **Lele** Intervention is through HiB, Livelihood support, warm clothes, and Education Kit.
- In **Harisiddi** intervention is through CCS, HiB, Kinship care, Academic Loss support, warm clothes and Education kit support.

## 6 Sansari

Itahari

- Repaired one school under the scale-up programme

## 7 Kavrepalanchowk

Rayale and Dhulikhel

- **Dhulikhel** intervention was made during relief phase only with establishment of two CCSs.
- In **Rayale** the intervention is made through CCS, HiB, Livelihood Support, kinship care, CBI, School Repair, Academic Loss support, warm clothes Education kit support, repair of government schools, and supporting UASC.

## 8 Dolakha

Laukuridanda

- Intervention is through CCS, HiB, Livelihood Support, kinship care, CBI, School Repair, Academic Loss support, warm clothes, Education kit support and reconstruction of Government Schools, and supporting UASC.

## 9 Sindhupalchowk

Bhimtar ward number 1,6,7,8,9 and Sangachok

- In **Bhimtar** Intervention is through CCS, HiB, Livelihood support, Kinship care, CBI, Repair of schools, Academic Loss Support, warm clothes, Education Kit support, reconstruction of Government Schools and permanent houses.
- In **Sangachowk** intervention is through CCS, HiB, Livelihood support, Kinship care, Repair of schools, Academic Loss Support, warm clothes and Education Kit support.

## 10 Kaski

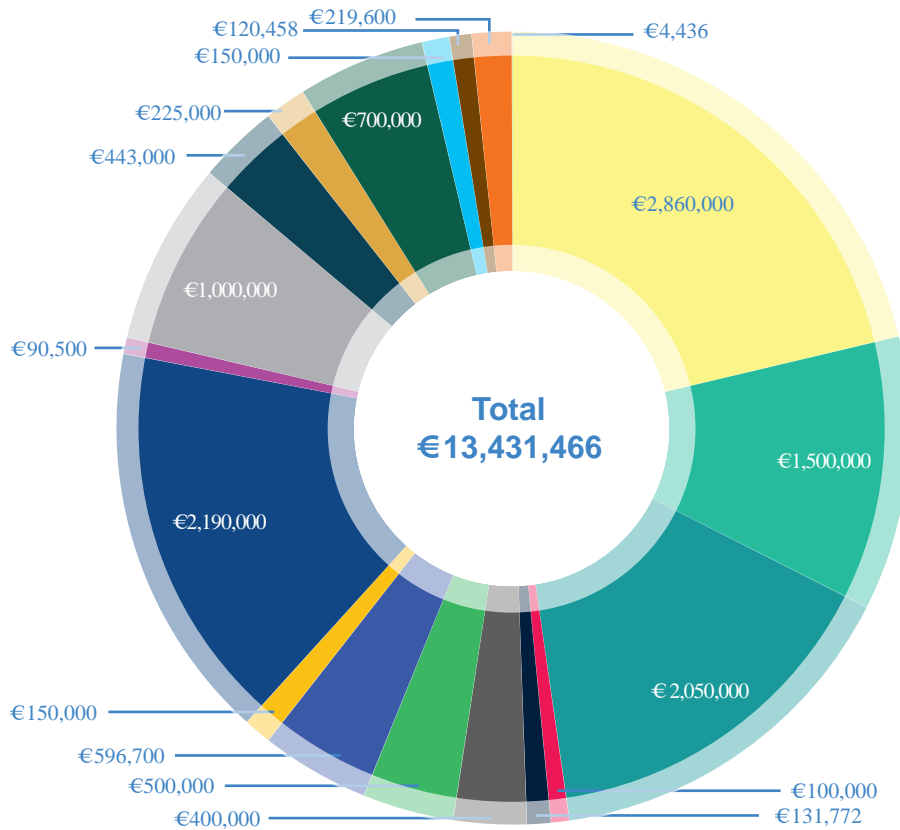
Gandeki

- CCS and UASC.

Activities	Number of beneficiaries	Remarks
Unaccompanied and separated children	53	
Essential Services	3,761	
Child Care Spaces	1,950	From 25 Child Care Spaces
Livelihood	5,137	From 1038 families
Kinship Care Programme	346	
Home in a Box	6,749	1,544 families supported
Cash Based Intervention	4,329	751 household
Academic loss class support	1,421	
Warm clothes and uniform	4,847	
Educational Kits Distribution	4,317	
Private house construction	1,136	284 houses
Repair of government schools	1,786	9 schools
Reconstruction of community school buildings	1,350	3 schools
Reconstruction of Surke Higher Secondary School, Lakuridanda	400	
Reconstruction of Bhimeshwori Higher Secondary School Sindhupalchowk	650	
Reconstruction of Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School, Rayale	300	
Extension of SOS Children's Village, Jorpati	42	

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME IN NEPAL HAS TOUCHED THE LIVES OF 28,377 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

# OVERVIEW OF PSA COMMITMENT

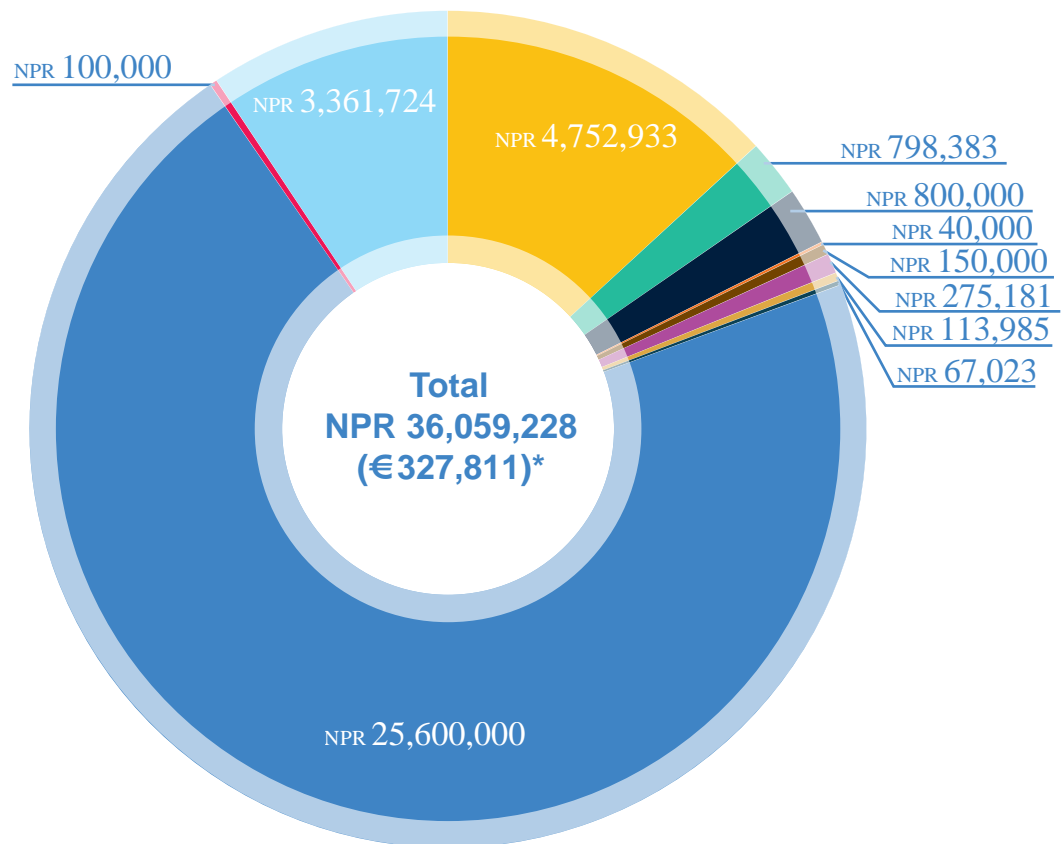


- HGFD
- SOS KDeV
- SOS Norway
- SOS Spain
- SOS Canada
- SOS United Kingdom
- SOS France
- SOS Denmark
- SOS Belgium
- SOS Switzerland
- SOS Iceland
- SOS Austria
- SOS Italy
- SOS Sweden
- SOS Netherlands
- SOS Luxembourg
- SOS Finland
- SOS USA
- SOS Portugal

**Amount received till 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – Euro 9,995,578**



# OVERVIEW OF LOCAL SUPPORT



\*Exchange rate €1 = NPR 110

**OVERVIEW OF EXPENDITURE** (As on March 31, 2018)

Particulars	Amount (NPR)
Unaccompanied and Separated Children	5,007,336
Essential Services	186,918,732
Child Care Spaces	12,924,294
<b>Social Centres</b>	<b>77,408,052</b>
- <i>Livelihood</i>	49,540,410
- <i>Kinship Care</i>	22,120,674
- <i>Community Centre</i>	5,746,968
Home In a Box	39,623,550
Repair of Government Schools (Temporary Learning Centre)	16,335,516
Repair and Reconstruction of SOS Children's Villages Facilities	24,641,898
Assistance to co-workers for houses	13,999,998
Strengthening on Emergency Preparedness	482,334
<b>Reconstruction of Government Schools</b>	<b>176,039,940</b>
- <i>Bhimeshwori HS School, Bhimtar</i>	2,413,518
- <i>Surke HS School, Lakuridanda</i>	87,852,504
- <i>Shanti Niketan HS School, Rayale</i>	25,773,918
<b>Permanent Housing for targeted families</b>	<b>422,779,602</b>
- <i>Houses, Bhimtar</i>	287,527,380
- <i>Houses, Lakuridanda</i>	116,949,522
- <i>Extension of Children's Village Jorpati</i>	18,302,700
Administration overheads, salaries and transportation	33,999,474
Investment, low value investment	32,133,408
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,042,294,134</b>

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT TILL  
31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018 – EURO 9,142,931**

Note:

- Exchange rate considered 114 NPR = 1 Euro
- Excludes Euro 150,000 for regional emergency preparedness.

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME IN NEPAL

A programme designed with a focus on integrated approach adapted from the past learning and mindful of the cultural and social consideration

## Tsunami (Indian Ocean)-2004

- The programme component resulted in a rise in the number of children's villages to address the need of children who lost the parental care only. The need for care of children who have been temporarily separated from their parents due to the emergency was felt.
- Various Social Centre activities to strengthen SOS Children's Villages' commitment to reach out to more children in need of care.
- Design and intervention of shelter support was institutionalized.

## Typhoon Haiyan (Philippines)- 2013

### Essential Services:

This programme component was introduced to help deal with immediate needs of children and their families in the aftermath of the disaster. This is a flexible programme that gives autonomy to member associations to immediately plan actions based on ground reality and changing humanitarian needs. One of the components includes Home-in- Box which contains non-food items as well as food items for the children and family.

### Child Care Space (CCS)

It was realized that this is the best intervention that provides parents/caregivers relief from taking care of their children and helps them concentrate on addressing immediate household needs. This programme helps in mobilizing the community.

### Preparedness

The need of this programme was felt during the intervention period as this will help strengthening the resilience of children in emergencies.

### Social Centre

The programme further proves that this is the best action that fits the recovery phase. All components can easily be linked with development (Linking Relief and Rehabilitation to Development). This includes alternative care through kinship care, and livelihood and community centre activities to uphold child safeguarding.

### Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)

It has been realized that a comprehensive programme is needed to address the needs of UASC who are either temporarily or permanently separated from parental care.

## Nepal ERP Design- 2015

- **Best care solution for every child:** A comprehensive programme component was kept to address the need of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) who were temporarily or permanently separated from the family. The children who were temporarily separated are now reintegrated with their families. In cases where reintegration was not possible, other forms of alternative care were designed. Kinship care is one such form of care and in some cases the children were brought to the SOS Children's Villages for long term care.
- **Essential services** related to the components was kept intact. Home in a box evolved as an independent component, where lifestyle improvement materials based on the requirements of the people were provided.
- **Child Care Spaces (CCS):** Number of CCS was increased as per the need. Some CCS ran for a longer period until schools became functional. The CCS doubled up as day care centres, offering multiple programmes for older children and women. All the CCS engaged women from the community as CCS facilitators, cooks, helpers etc.
- As **SOS Children's Villages' co-workers** suffered serious loss on personal fronts, a component related to their assistance was included.
- A comprehensive **Emergency Preparedness** action was planned and implemented.
- **Reconstruction and repair of community schools** were prioritized as this component ensures uninterrupted education service during emergencies and helps communities recover faster.

- **Beneficiary identification:** Proper research was done to identify the beneficiary communities. SOS Children's Villages identified the communities in Bhimtar and Lakuridanda, as they were socially and economically marginalised. Belonging to backward castes such as Majhi, Danuwar, Tamang etc, they are also discriminated against. This added to the fact that these communities inhabited difficult and inaccessible geographical terrain. Even after two months of the earthquake, these communities had received no aid. Maximum relief activities were taking place in and around the Kathmandu area, which is why SOS Children's Villages decided to address the needs of geographically alienated and backward communities.

There was an economic blockade at India Nepal border in September 2015. There was dearth of supplies (mainly fuel and other household items) in Kathmandu valley. This had compounded the problem but despite that relief operations continued and ERP team managed to procure materials from various part of the valley for 'home in box' which were distributed to the affected families.

*Rajneesh Jain, CVI Representative,  
International Office- Asia*

### Participation in project design, implementation and ownership

In all its action, SOS Children's Villages recognized affected community as principal actors. It involved the affected community right from assessment to project design to implementation, so that the earthquake victims can exercise their right to informed consent. SOS Children's Villages helped the affected community to constitute a committee and actively participate in the process.

*Sukhman Dhanuwar, construction committee, Bhimtar*

"A committee was formed to discuss and identify priorities. In our village, we needed the road to be reconstructed so that other reconstruction work could be carried out. The committee was in charge of overlooking the process as well as managing the reconstruction of the houses."

*He managed 20 workers in his village in Bhimtar.*



In order to make the participation spontaneous, SOS Children's Villages tried to address the pre-existing power differences through facilitating representation from both genders and also from other identifiable vulnerable groups in each location of the intervention.

To achieve a higher level of participation and informed consent, SOS Children's Villages Nepal and the affected community worked together to agree to a set of criteria for beneficiary selection. SOS Children's Villages has made all efforts to communicate these criteria to the intervening communities through mass meetings. Field teams implementing the programme understood that some members of the affected community may not agree to the decision due to lack of information, so the complaint redressal mechanism was communicated to them in the mass meetings, in case they had any issues. Although a written set of complain-handling processes and systems was not set up, efforts were made to listen to the affected communities.

Through the process of participation, SOS Children's Villages identified organic leadership and skills available in the community and tried to mobilize those. Through this effort, it was able to develop effective programming based on sound understanding of the local context and culture. This increased trust and cooperation from all the intervening communities for SOS Children's Villages which, in turn, created a sense of ownership.

**"I am the president of the Committee created with SOS Children's Villages help. My biggest task was to ensure that the villagers realised that all the work which is being done is in their own interest. Hence a lot of negotiating was involved not only with my own community people but also with Government officials."**  
*Jeet Bahadur Tamang, Lakuridanda.*

**"Every family procured and organised the stone required for the foundation of their own homes. During the construction of the homes, someone or the other was always involved."**  
*Rabinder, SOS Youth, Structural Engineer in Lakuridanda*

### **Child right and child protection**

SOS Children's Villages ensured that all the children affected by the earthquake have right to life through its various actions in Emergency Response Programme.

**"We designed special programmes for tracing, identification and reunification of children affected by the earthquake. Our youth played a crucial role in conducting the survey."**

*Shree Shankar Pradhananga, former National Director, SOS Children's Villages Nepal.*

The unidentified and separated children who could not be reunified are provided caring family environment in various Children's Villages across SOS Children's Villages in Nepal.

**ERP gave way to begin a new form of alternative care (e.g. Kinship Care) in order to address the plight of children who lost parents or caregivers in the Earthquake."**

*Ishwori P Sharma, National Director, SOS Children's Villages Nepal*

**"We have reintegrated seven children who were brought to our villages. We understand the importance of children growing up in their own community."** *Gopal Ghimire, ERP SOS Children's Villages Nepal*

While framing its action, SOS Children's Villages respected the views of children and designed its interventions to address their special needs. Thus in its Child Care Spaces, SOS Children's Villages took special care of the nutritional aspects of the children by providing food and refreshments. The health aspects were taken care of by providing regular medical check-ups and medicines. It also addressed the educational needs of the older children through regular informal classes during day time.

## Accountability

SOS Children's Villages is a signatory of the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in disaster relief. Its humanitarian aid is based on the International Humanitarian Law and all its actions are guided by humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence. It has been observed that during the beginning of the Emergency Programme, only senior co-workers were aware about this principles and standards. In order to fulfil its commitment to humanitarian principles and standards and improve its intervention, SOS Children's Villages recruited two professionals with sound humanitarian background.

Similarly, in SOS Children's Villages Nepal professionals with knowledge and capacity of humanitarian interventions were hired to improve compliance with various standards. As a result of this deliberate initiative, the project was able to improve its commitment to agreed humanitarian principles and standards. CSOs has also put all its endeavour to follow Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response as well as Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS).

## Transparency

SOS Children's Villages Nepal had a formal process of communicating project information to the beneficiaries and wider community. The normal practice of communication followed from National Office to Cluster heads to field offices to the beneficiaries and wider communities. There were regular meetings with the committees, where co-workers from clusters also participated and clarified the information with the affected community. In addition to this, the same process was followed during monitoring visits done by co-workers from the national office as well as International Office- Asia. For most interventions, even financial information is shared with the community provided that the organization does not feel any security threat.

There is a structured process of monitoring all the project outcomes, which is done on a regular basis by co-workers from Clusters, National Offices and International Office-Asia. There is also a provision of discussing the outcomes with all involved at certain frequency and if needed the project is open to course corrections.

"I had the dual responsibility of informing and listening to the community and doing justice to the organisation which had appointed me as a community mobilizer. All the information regarding the reconstruction of homes, materials used, time spent etc was shared with the people."

Shyam Bahadur Tamang, community and store keeper, Lakuridanda



During livelihood interventions, it was observed that SOS Children's Villages Nepal adopted more relief kind of approach than programme approach, so workshops for all co-workers were organized and proper training was imparted about the programme approach to livelihood. As an outcome of the training, the perception towards livelihood intervention was changed and, thus, in many communities, SOS Children's Villages was able to induce sustainability features to its intervention. Similarly, SOS Children's Villages had apprehension about Cash Based Intervention (CBI) and the utilization of cash by the beneficiaries, so it planned to monitor the outcomes very closely. This is why SOS Children's Villages was able to achieve the desired outcomes of the cash interventions.

# IMPACT

## Capacity building and knowledge transfer:

SOS Children's Villages, being a child-centric organisation, put a lot of effort in building the capacity and enhancing the knowledge base of co-workers as well as affected communities in various fields related to its interventions. Most of these capacity-building initiatives are less theoretical and more hands-on. It has also been observed that conscious capacity building efforts of SOS Children's Villages helped build confidence of the co-workers and affected communities and motivated them to take action. In addition to this, conscious efforts were made in relation to use of languages and designing every initiative culture-and situation-specific. As a result of awareness and sensitisation within the affected community as well as its newly recruited staffs and volunteers about the special needs of children, the access to basic services has improved.

"I feel that I am much stronger now than before, and would eagerly help in future if such circumstances are to strike again." Sabina Puri, youth from SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

"The trainings I received from SOS Children's Villages Nepal and the practical knowledge has equipped me to deal with children of all age groups especially in tough conditions." Min Kumari Tamang, former CCS facilitator in Lakuridanda

## Child Care programmes driving behaviour and social change

The realization that children form the larger part of the affected community has changed the perception, and the views of children are being respected. The participants who received training on Psychological First Aid (PFA) help in preventing psychological damages among the children and adults in the community.

They helped in dealing with emotions, frightening memories, disorientation and a sense of constant dangers.

The training of the volunteers and community members on child rights and child care space management improved their confidence which further helped in retention and quality delivery of services. This was further passed on to the parents. The positive parenting skills building initiatives for the parents as well as talking about other social evils like child marriage, gender bias etc helped them understand the fallout of these issues.

"We organised innovative methods of making the community talk about the existing social practices which need to be relooked at. The issues were flagged by the Child Club members."

Mamata Rai, ERP Officer, SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

"Children were taught to wash hands before and after eating, and handling shoes at the Child Care Spaces. They passed on this habit to their parents and older siblings. The parents now encourage home cooked food as against junk food."

Geeta Giri, former cook at CCS, Sangachowk.

The communities became aware of vulnerability of their children in certain situations such as malnutrition, exploitation, sexual violence, abduction etc. and helps in preventing various harmful impacts up to certain level. The training on communication skills for the teachers and volunteers of CCS helps in improving information sharing and knowledge dissemination and hence strengthen trust, increases understanding and deepens the level of participation. This has increased affected communities access to aid and services without the fear of discrimination.

### Emergency Response Programme and sustainable development:

The integrated design and implementation of the ERP ensured that a continuous and planned support was provided to the community on all aspects. In the ERP locations, besides the relief support, effort was made to not only bring the community back to normalcy but also ensure their sustainability. Livelihood support, academic loss classes, financial management, saving in cooperatives and skill building was all done in an integrated fashion so that the community not only bounces back but is better skilled and prepared for the future. Habits such as better financial management, resource management and risk mitigation have been inculcated which will have a long lasting effect contributing to the overall development of the community and the country.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal realised the urgency of supporting schools to create a better learning environment and community partnership

### Professional Development Workshop for School Managers and Teachers

(of Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk and Kavre)

Organised by SOS Children's Village Kavre

A professional development workshop was organised at SOS Children's Village Kavre on April 10-11, 2018. This programme was conducted for the chairs, school management committee, school managers and teachers from Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk and Kavre districts where SOS Children's Villages Nepal has been working after the earthquake of April, 2015.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal realized an urgency to support the schools to create a better learning environment and community partnership. In this regard, SOS Children's Village Kavre organized a two-day Professional Development Workshop for the Chairs, school management committees, school managers and teachers.

Mr. Ishwori Sharma, National Director, SOS Children's Villages Nepal considers it an important step towards strengthening the partnership between SOS Children's Villages Nepal and the communities. The collaboration with the schools and other organizations will ensure the improvement of education and which will seep into the community and the country, according to Mr. Sharma.





## Emergency Response Programme draws and contributes to the SOS Care Promise

### We focus on children without adequate parental care

Many children lost their parents to the earthquake. Some lost a single parent, some lost both parents. SOS Children's Villages provided customised care solutions for unaccompanied and separated children. The ERP was designed keeping children in the focus. Care was provided to children in the Child Care Spaces, Kinship Care programme, and where reintegration was not possible, they were brought to the family like care in SOS Children's Villages. Families were supported through livelihood interventions to prevent separation. Schools were repaired and reconstructed to ensure quality education.

### We position the SOS Children's Village as a child care and protection programme

#### 2 Legal frame and local organisation

SOS Children's Villages Nepal being established as per national legislations and local framework and being managed by locals has significant capacity to manage the risk and impact of humanitarian crisis in the country. It is well placed to prevent, prepare for, mitigate and respond to humanitarian crisis.

#### 2 Access to locations and affected communities

SOS Children's Villages Nepal was well placed to reach the inaccessible. This was possible as it is local and connected with the roots through various approaches.

#### 2 Comparative advantage

SOS Children's Villages Nepal is one of the first responder to sudden onset disasters. Their ability to respond in timely manner resulted in reaching the children and their families in time of need. This proves SOS Children's Villages Nepal's build in opportunity for local participation and immediate response. Being local, they have deeper understanding of the histories, cultures, and languages than outsiders. This contextual knowledge increases the designing of the assistance as per local needs and priorities.

### We find the best care option for every child through strong gatekeeping

Emergencies is one of the key reason which contributes to loss of parental care. The ERP is designed to provide the best care solution in the time of chaos. Unaccompanied and Separated Children are brought to the Children's Villages for long term care only when they cannot be integrated with the community. Kinship Care programme is a tailor made solution to ensure children are placed with their next of kin, so that they grow up in their community with traditional customs and beliefs.

### We create a safe environment for children in all our programmes

SOS Children's Villages is best placed to deliver quality care to children and protect their rights with its sustained knowledge and capacity of around 70 years. Thus the ERP programme promotes care and protection in the community through its various child centric contributions. Trainings and orientation were conducted for the facilitators at the CCS. SOS Children's Villages has been accredited and has been granted with Level 1 certification for its current child safeguarding practices. These child safeguarding guidelines and practices were also implemented in the CCS and other programmes.

#### 4 Minimum acceptance and consent-related challenges

SOS Children's Villages respects all religions and cultures, hence the ERP reached out to children in communities irrespective of caste, religion or culture.

### We enhance the integration of SOS families and families at risk in community life

## 6 Contribution of SOS youths and mothers

The SOS youths and mothers were at the forefront during the relief phase. The immediate response was delivered by youth volunteers. SOS mothers and retired mothers contributed at the temporary medical tents, CCS and in organisation of the relief materials. Youths were instrumental in distribution of food, water and other essential services. This shows the level of integration of SOS youth with the community.

## 6 Long-term presence

SOS Children's Villages believe in making long term commitment to have meaningful and sustainable impact. The ERP was designed keeping the needs of the communities in considerations. Community participation at all stages of the programme was encouraged. Short term programme led to design and customisation of mid-term and long term programme based on the need and sustainability.

## 6 Locally adopted service

Apart from the immediate relief activities, SOS Children's Villages also contributes towards rebuilding lives. This is done by providing a sense of normalcy. Livelihood intervention is one of the support provided to bring normalcy in the lives of those impacted. All programme components are tailored to the local context and constantly improved based on sound evidence. SOS Children's Villages believes in providing contextually relevant assistance.

## 6 Local and customised

SOS Children's Villages believes in working with local communities. This resulted in strong partnerships with local providers which in turn ensured uninterrupted service even during the blockade.

## 6 Smooth and timely transition from emergency relief to recovery to development

SOS Children's Villages Nepal was able to facilitate timely transition of the programme to the community.

## We promote education, participation and steps to independent life

The ERP provides an opportunity to work and support the community. In Nepal, SOS youths played an active role during the relief phase. This provided them an opportunity to work closely with the people providing them with hands-on knowledge. This added to the confidence of the SOS youths and further strengthened the ties with the people.

## We partner for supporting services and advocate for quality care

### 9 Support for strong and vibrant partner

SOS Children Villages considered programme participants as a partner, be it the beneficiaries or community-based organisations and constantly supported and handheld them to make the partners strong and vibrant. To ensure quality in all programmes, partnerships were made with local organisations and experts.

### 9 Mutual support network

SOS Children's Villages in Nepal are placed in such a way that they can act as mutual support network along with other partner organisations. This facilitates the immediate response and taking quality care of children amid chaos.

Children, youth and mothers from SOS Children's Village Jorpati showed an extra level of sensitivity to the impacted people. They organised and mobilised themselves to cook and distribute food and water to the people who had taken shelter in a nearby field. Within the first 24 hours of the massive earthquake, the SOS family in Jorpati was on the ground providing assistance and support to children and their families. Children in SOS Children's Village Jorpati are differently-abled which never stood in the way while reaching out to the people.

# YOUTHS & MOTHERS OF SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES WERE A BIG HELP DURING THE NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

During the early days of the earthquake, one of the good practices which should be nurtured was the volunteer works done by SOS youths, mothers and retired mothers. The youth proved to be strong, sincere and very hardworking during the time of need. The pride and motivation with which they extended their support to the communities indicate their enhanced integration.

Programmes	No. of volunteers (youth)	No. of hours	No. of volunteers (mothers and aunts)	No. of hours
<b>Response</b>	50	2,604	27	1,190
<b>Child Care Spaces</b>	26	1,464	18	300
<b>Home In a Box</b>	36	1,080		
<b>Total</b>	112	<b>5,148</b>	45	<b>1,490</b>

*Number of contributing hours of youth and mothers of SOS Children's Villages, Nepal*

## List of works done by the volunteers:

- **Response:** Mass management during the community people taking shelter in SOS Children's Villages, preparation and distribution of food to the community, coordination with the medical assistance team, assistance in the aid distribution, recreational activities for the children, role of big brother and big sister, coordination and work with other response team in the community camps.

- **Child Care Spaces:** Facilitation of the day to day creative and educational activities, the role of elder siblings for the children, help during the cooking process, serving food to the children, and face painting as recreational activities. Help in providing a safe environment for the children.

- **Home in a Box:** Help in the packing and the distribution of the 'Home in a Box'. All administrative arrangements were managed by the youths.

**Sabina Puri** (23) is a graduate of SOS Children's Villages Nepal. At present a student of BBS (Bachelor in Business Management) third Year. She has worked as a sales supervisor in one of the fashion houses. During the earthquake she worked as a volunteer in various SOS activities.

**"I was at home, when suddenly I felt the ground start to shake.**

**People started screaming but we moved to a safe area. That day was the most horrible day in my entire life. I was so scared and frightened, but thank god that my family and I were safe."**

The day after it was a bit quiet, but aftershocks were felt. I knew I was safe and I intended to help those who suffered due to the earthquake. We formed a volunteer group from SOS Children's Village in Kavre and began helping the people who survived the quake.

There were children who were scared and frightened and we tried our best to help them by playing games and helping them recover from the trauma. We gave medicines to those who were injured, provided food, clothes and water so that they were comforted a little. **It was then, that I realized that I can do something for them and for the society. Though it was hard to see them in that condition, I tried my best to make them feel comfortable.**

We worked together with a Chinese rescue team in Dhulikhel. The victims who suffered massive damage, were in a camp. Tents, food and accommodation facilities along with medical attention were being provided at a hospital nearby. We helped them by providing food, water and other essential materials. We were given the task to conduct a survey to check how many were seriously injured, their conditions and submit a report.

I also volunteered at Harisidhhi, Lalitpur to help the SOS Children's Villages' team at the Child Care Space.

"I encountered disaster at very close quarters. However, after I realised my family and I were safe, I did my best to help those in need with all my heart. I feel that I am much stronger now than before, and would eagerly help in future if such circumstances are to strike again."

**Rabindra Khadka** has completed his Bachelor's in Engineering. After the earthquake, he participated in the rescue and rehabilitation programme of SOS Children's Villages, Nepal.



Volunteer in Dhulikhel, Kavre.

"I saw how much the community needed support in this dire time. Their houses had collapsed, their livelihoods were destroyed and they were literally on the ground with nothing but the blue sky as their roof. Heartbreaking as it was, it was also an opportunity to help them.

I saw my use in helping with the construction programme. I stayed and worked with the people in Bhimtar, trained the villagers in masonry so that they can be part of building their own homes and mobilized the community during road building in the village. I was then moved to Lakuridanda in the mountains. That was the first time I experienced a real challenge, the terrain. Set high up in the mountains, the weather was a massive challenge.

But I like challenges, and I have been working for the past fourteen months with the villagers and labourers to oversee the completion of the construction of 107 houses, the school and the community centre."

I have learned a lot, not only working with the community but also in the construction sector. Now, I am confident I would be able to work in adverse weather conditions and in any type of construction-related project.

Like Rabindra, there are others, like the two graduates from SOS Children's Villages: Deepak Ghimire and Sher Bh. Shrestha that have been performing ERP work in Lakuridada. They are one of the hardworking co-workers of ERP.

We would like to remember Badri Dhungana, a youth from SOS Children's Village Kavre who lost his life in a freak accident. He was a field mobilizer in Sangachowk. May his soul rest in peace.

**Padma Adhikari (65)** is a retired mother, currently living in mothers' retirement home in SOS Children's Village. After the earthquake, she worked at the Child Care Space in Bhaktapur.

"It was a fearful sight for all of us in the village when Mother Nature showed her fury. However, when we looked into the fearful eyes of the children, I was determined to be strong and so were the other mothers", recalls Padma.

"On the first day of CCS, I saw small children who were beautiful and lovely. It also reminded me of my first day in SOS Children's Villages. I was busy playing with the children. They loved playing with balloons and drawing with crayons.

What I noticed that day was one or two of the children of age three or four did not smile. Their eyes were sad and later I discovered that they had lost their parents due the earthquake. Their grandparents use to drop and pick them from CCS. It was heart breaking for me to see those children. As much I could, I tried to make them laugh and smile.

It was also very encouraging to see our SOS youths working side by side with us. I also had one of my daughter in the CCS. She was a little girl when she became part of the SOS family and now she was taking care of the others. I felt proud of her and all the youths."

I was assured that the lessons that we tried to teach the children were not in vain. We brought up our children to be strong, kind and compassionate individuals.



SOS Kavre youth volunteers supporting emergency operation.

# MILESTONES ACHIEVED TILL APRIL 2018



**APRIL  
2015**

Humanitarian appeal  
launched

1st Child Care Space set up

**JULY  
2015**

39 Unaccompanied and  
Separated Children admitted in  
4 Children's Villages

Start of Home in a box  
activity



**AUGUST  
2015**

Knitting training in  
Pokhrealgaon



**SEPTEMBER  
2015**

28 beneficiaries under  
Kinship Care



**OCTOBER  
2015**

Winterization support to  
1,050 beneficiaries

**NOVEMBER  
2015**

Cash based support to 103  
families



**DECEMBER  
2015**

TLC\* in construction in 3  
schools completed



**JANUARY  
2016**

3,839 children provided  
education kits



**FEBRUARY  
2016**

Construction of Surke H.S.  
School, Lakuridanda started

TLC construction in 4  
schools completed,  
benefitting 1,015 children.

**MARCH  
2016**

751 beneficiaries received  
cash-based intervention





**MARCH  
2016**

1,421 Grade 9 and 10 students attended extra classes to cover the academic loss

**APRIL  
2016**

TLC construction in 8 schools completed benefitting 1,449 students. Education kits handed over and programme closed, benefitting 4,317 children.



**MAY  
2016**

Construction of Bhimeshwori School started



**JUNE  
2016**

25 Child Care Spaces successfully completed



**JULY  
2016**

9 schools repaired for a total of 1,786 children



**AUGUST  
2016**

1,544 beneficiaries received Home-in-a-boxes



**OCTOBER  
2016**

Beginning of construction of 275 permanent houses



**NOVEMBER  
2016**

Bhimtar Road construction completed



**DECEMBER  
2016**

53 unaccompanied and separated children successfully integrated in the Children's Villages



**JANUARY  
2017**

346 children enrolled in the Kinship Care Programme



**MARCH  
2017**

737 beneficiaries have livelihood support till now.



**MARCH  
2017**

Community training on bee keeping





**MAY 2017**  
Emergency preparedness training to all focal persons

**MAY 2017**  
Construction of Shanti Niketan High School, Rayale started



**JUNE 2017**  
Training on income generation activities delivered




**JUNE 2017**  
Foundation work of extension of SOS Children's Village, Jorpati started



**SEPTEMBER 2017**  
Shree Surke HSS moves to new building

**OCTOBER 2017**  
Training on tunnel vegetable farming



**NOVEMBER 2017**  
Forum theatre exhibition in all locations



**DECEMBER 2017**  
1,038 families supported through livelihood intervention

**FEBRUARY 2018**  
Completion of Water tank Sanothimi



**APRIL 2018**  
Construction of 3 schools completed





# ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND HOME IN A BOX

After the earthquake struck, there was chaos everywhere. The earthquake was followed by strong aftershocks which led to further chaos and prolonged the sense of anxiety.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal ensured that all SOS children, mothers, youth and co-workers were safe. Within the first 24 hours, SOS Children's Villages was on the ground helping those who were impacted. An urgent meeting with co-workers showed that the SOS family, including youths and SOS mothers, was ready to provide help to the affected community. SOS Children's Villages Nepal was able to reach the earthquake affected areas to provide relief in the form of essential services.

Essential Services included tents, foodstuffs, bedsheets, readymade foods like biscuits and noodles.

**3,761** beneficiaries recieved these services.

Food packages including rice, beans, mustard oil and salt were distributed to 1,050 children





6,749 beneficiaries received Home in a Box



Joyful children in a classroom after receiving warm clothes, uniform and stationary kits,

## Warm clothes, uniforms and Educational Kits

Some of the locations where SOS Children's Villages was working were very cold. People had lost all their belongings, including warm clothes. Thus, a need for distribution of warm clothes was identified.



Warm clothes helped them to be regular in school and prevent them from falling prey to the cold.

Kits included:  
Track-suit, shirt, pant/skirt,  
shoes, socks and a jacket.  
**4,847** children, including  
the children in our CCS,  
received the kits.



Educational kits distribution in  
Lakuridanda





Children with education kit support

### List of the goods in Educational Kits:

Bag, pencils, sharpener, pen, ink, ink-pot, hair oil, comb, handkerchief, a dozen of copies, shoe brush and polish, tooth paste and brush, geometric box.

**4,317** kits distributed.

“We lost all our materials in the earthquake. The materials in the educational kit were of a good quality and very useful. I am still using the bags and stationery we received.”

Hira Majhi, Shree Bhimeshwori HSS, Bhimtar



# CHILD CARE SPACES

SOS Children's Villages Nepal started the first Child Care Spaces (CCSs) from the next day (April 26, 2015) of the earthquake. Over the next two months, 25 CCS in 10 districts were set up, benefitting around 2,000 children at any given point of time.

The primary purpose of these spaces was to ensure care and protection and to meet the children's basic necessities. This ensured that the parents could then focus on rebuilding their lives without having to worry about the safety of their children.



District	Location	No. of CCS	Average beneficiaries number
Kathmandu	Jorpati	2	200
	Sankhu	1	75
	Makalbari	1	80
	Thali	1	75
Lalitpur	Harrisiddhi	2	220
Bhaktapur		4	200
Kavrepalanchowk	Rayele	1	90
	Kavre: Dhulikhel	2	140
Sindhupalchowk	Sangachowk	2	170
	Bhimtar 6,7,8	1	80
	Bhimtar 1,9	1	85
Dolkha	Lakuridada	2	200
Nuwakot	Chaughada	1	85
Gandaki		3	180
Bharatpur		1	70
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>1,950</b>

The structures of the CCS were built by the local community, where SOS Children's Villages partnered as technical experts. These structures not only provided the children protection and care but also doubled up as forums where the adults could meet and discuss issues.

Eventually, these structures also hosted weddings, cultural events and served as a meeting point for the people. Apart from that, extra classes for older children and literacy classes for the women were also conducted in the CCS structures.

The caregivers and facilitators of CCSs were handpicked by SOS Children's Villages from the community. The women in the villages showed interest in helping in the CCS. Youths and students from the villages were also keen to work as facilitators as they saw it an opportunity to obtain expertise. After an initial training of two days, the women from the community started working in the CCS. The trainings were a regular feature to ensure the best care and interest of the children.

## Aspects of Care in SOS Children's Villages' Child Care Spaces

**Recreational activities:** To give a sense of normalcy to the children and to make them feel safe, they were engaged in recreational activities. Singing, dancing, playing, group creative activities, drawings and paintings and rhymes were a regular feature of the CCS.

Experience in the CCS showed that the children felt protected. It helped them build resilience, healing their trauma.

Rhythm Giri was one of the 2,000 attendees of the CCS set up in Sangachowk. He remembers singing, dancing and making friends in the CCS. His friends Jessica, Pratigya and Bishnu also have happy memories from the CCS days.



## Food and Nutrition Support to children

To ensure that proper nutrition is provided to the children in the CCS, three meals prepared by women from the community were provided daily. To ensure their nutrition is maintained, take-away food was also provided to the children every evening when they went back home from a CCS. These children were also provided with food packets to support them during festival times as CCS remained shut.



Children enjoying a meal at the CCS, Lakuridada

The food provided at the CCS was very healthy. Before the CCS, the parents would give their children junk food as tiffin without knowing its harmful effects. After attending the CCS, parents understood the nutritional value of home-cooked food. Since then, they send home-cooked food as school tiffin." May Giri, cook at the CCS, now helper at Sangachowk School



"I was assured as the CCS facilitators are from the same community as my family and me. This made me trust them that my child was being well taken care of. The food habits and the local food packets that were being provided was evidence."

Gyanu Maya Tamang, who sent her 1 year old daughter and 9 years old son to the CCS in Lakuridanda



### Health checkups

To ensure good health, regular health checkups were done. Some CCSs conducted health camps for the children. Children who had health-related problems were taken to the health posts and hospitals for needful treatment. It was a regular feature in all CCSs. Immunization programmes were also organised in some CCS by inviting doctors from the local health centres.

### Sanitation and social lessons

Certain habits such as washing hands before and after a meal, after going to the toilets, brushing one's teeth, washing hands after touching shoes etc. were inculcated. The impact was clearly visible as they took these habits back home to their parents and other siblings. The children were also taught customary things like greeting, playing in a group, being polite and sensitive to everyone, waiting in a que, keeping all the materials in their places while winding up etc.

The habits of washing hands, brushing teeth and keeping oneself clean were well endorsed by the children, who in turn trained their parents and older siblings.



“They used to come to the CCS with dirty clothes, but eventually parents became aware and sent their children clean and in tidy clothes,”

Rammaya Tamang, CCS facilitator from Lakuridanda said





## Child protection

Orientation programmes mostly focused on child right and participation issues. The programme was to let children know about child rights, how to safeguard oneself from abuse and exploitation and child participation in schools and community.

School children were interactive and participated in the discussions on the current practices in school and community with regards to the child safeguarding. They also learnt about how to get help if their or others' safety is compromised. The orientation also became specific on Nepalese Act and policy on child protection.

In the Child Care Spaces set up by SOS Children's Villages Nepal, children were safe and well cared for as the facilitators were trained on caregiving skills, effective communication and child protection. To provide the quality care to the CCS children, SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised regular trainings focusing on positive parenting skills, child safeguarding etc in locations where the CCS were running. This brought about a positive impact and now the children and youth are aware about how to safeguard and protect themselves.

The stationary items provided by SOS Children's Villages helped the children bounce back to normalcy.



Children singing and dancing at a CCS



## Child Care Spaces as a hub

The CCS not only promoted the care and protection of the children but also helped their parents to look for work. The adults had to clear the debris, get back into their livelihood, rebuild their homes, which they could do without having to worry about their children.

**“We could start taking out our things from debris leaving the children in CCS all the day,” Shaily Danuwar, mother of one of the CCS child in Bhimtar said.**



Apart from that, the CCS also served as forum or a platform for communities to come together and share ideas. The CCS structures served multiple purposes, where the community used it as a wedding hall, for customary celebrations, social festivals and to hold community discussions.

### Emergency Medical facilities

One of the immediate identified priority was to support earthquake affected children and their families. One of the key relief activities implemented immediately after the earthquake was the establishment of ‘Emergency Medical Treatment Camp’ under essential services component. The camp was set up at Dhulikhel, a town near SOS Children’s Village Kavre.

SOS Children’s Villages Nepal offered to set up an emergency medical treatment camp to the Chief District Officer.

Arrangements for the medical camp were made; SOS Children’s Villages Nepal offered blankets and three meals a day. Doctors and paramedics provided follow-up treatment and the Nepal Army took care of security issues.

Severely injured patients remained in the hospital, while the camp took care of the ones with broken arms, legs and other external injuries. Before the medical camp was completely functional by late April 26<sup>th</sup> afternoon, there were already 140 injured patients and their attendant relatives. Stoves and utensils were transported from Children’s Village in Kavre.

The SOS Children’s Villages Nepal’s mothers, co-workers, children (above 13 years of age) and youths volunteered to help in the emergency medical camp by rotation. They cooked, attended to the children and the elderly, and listened to their stories of pain and suffering. They also supported the doctors and paramedics to carry their duties.



4,600 impacted people, attended the camp for 24 days. Most of them were children and women.

### Assistance to make up for the academic loss

The earthquake had affected the study of schooling children since schools were destroyed and remained closed for about two months. It was hard to cope with the loss of school study for these affected children. They were in need of additional coaching. Considering the need, extra classes for the students of government schools in the morning and evening classes at the CCSs were organized. It helped them cope with the education and recover the academic loss caused by the earthquake. These students were also provided with meals during coaching classes.

## CONTINUITY AMIDST CHAOS: THE ACADEMIC LOSS PROGRAMME

SOS Children's Villages Nepal's programme, to cover the loss of academic days, was successful in ensuring that children continue with their studies even at a time of chaos.

"The 2015 Earthquake caused great damage in our village. School remained closed for many days. It was tough to prepare for grade 10 or SLC(School Leaving Certificate) exams. The Academic loss support programme helped us recover the missed classes," remarked Rabin Tamang, who took the classes that SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised to ensure that the studies continue the way they were supposed to. After the earthquake, schools were closed for more than one and half months.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal introduced extra classes for the grade 9 and 10 school students as their final examinations were approaching (refer to table on page number 15). The classes were started in the 1st week of December 2015 in most districts and continued till March 31, 2016. Extra classes to cover the academic loss benefited 1,421 students for their upcoming examination. Students were able to cope and bridge their knowledge gap.

Students' results after SOS Nepal's intervention has shown improvement in each school. "Mr Hari Keshar Chapagain, teacher of Shree Shanti Niketan School, Kavre gives full credit to these classes for achieving 100% pass results in 2016. "In 2014, the pass percentage of our school was 94% and in 2013, 93%." The headmaster of Setidevi School, Bhimtar said "students were weak in English and Math before the classes. The extra classes helped them contribute more time in studies, improve in these subjects and resulted in big improvements."

"SOS Nepal provided us extra classes which were very helpful for our studies. It is a great help for an economically poor student", says Amar Tamang, a grade 10 student in Rayale.

S.N.	LOCATION	DISTRICT	START OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF DAYS	AVERAGE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
1	Bhagyodaya School	Kathmandu	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov '15	20	160
2	Khagendra Nawojeevan Jorpati	Kathmandu	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec '15	8	105
3	Camunda H.S.S, Jorpati	Jorpati, Kathmandu	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	105
4	Bhalchandra S.S, Rayale	Rayale, Kavre	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	65
5	Shanti Niketan	Rayale	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	175
6	Jana Jagriti Sangachowk	Sangachowk, Kavre	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	160
7	Surke H.S.S, Lakuridanda	Lakuridanda, Kavre	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	128
8	Bhimeshwori H.S.S, Bhimtar	Bhimtar, Kavre	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	100
9	Setidevi S.S, Bhimtar	Bhimtar, Kavre	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	90
10	Harisiddhi H.S.S	Lalitpur	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	235
11	Bachhala School	Rayale	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec '15	13	98

Table showing the locations where the classes were run

### Child Clubs Activities around Social Issues

In all locations, Child Clubs were formed or revitalised by SOS Nepal to sensitise the child right and child protection issues among children in community and school. Trainings were provided to child club members on child protection issues, child participation, entitlements and abuse. Child clubs organised various activities in the respective schools for the development of children.

### Against Child Marriage, Gender Inequality and Alcoholism: Forum Theater “ Babari”

#### Background

In August 2016, SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised a two days training on “Roles and Responsibility of Child Clubs” for the different Child Clubs in the ERP locations. 24 members of Child Clubs from the ten different locations participated in the training. It was in one of these training sessions that a child club member shared prevalence of alcoholism and child marriage in her village. She spoke about a larger number of her friends getting married at a young age facing many physical and psychological challenges in later days.

Early marriage, better known as child marriage, is defined as marriage carried below the age of 18 years.

Early marriage affects millions of children throughout the world. It is widely practiced in the countries of South Asia, where every year millions of girls- preteens and teens- become the wives of older men. Young girls are married when they are still children and as a result are denied fundamental human rights.

In the context of Nepal, child marriage and gender inequality, especially at home, is an existing reality. In the highly hierarchical Nepali society, unequal power relations based on gender, caste, class and ethnic origin prevail. These are manifested in the form of oppression and violence against weaker groups. It is found that, because of social taboos reported cases of child marriage and gender discrimination represent only a very small proportion.

Ignorance of parents, illiteracy and social taboos are responsible for the gender discrimination and child marriage. Following the ancestral culture blindly also plays a vital role. These result in the psychological and mental short-term and long-term effect, especially for girls.

SOS Children's Villages used forum theatre as a tool to discuss this issue with the community.



Child Club members discussing various issues

### Forum theatre as a tool of participative training

This brought a strong sense of raising awareness within the community in the ERP locations. As this is a deep-rooted cultural issue, alternative forms of education had to be used. SOS Children's Villages Nepal decided to engage with the community to talk about these grave issues using 'forum theatre'. Forum theatre is a well-known participatory method of theatre art to run a dialogue in social and political issues. It is a tool which is participatory in nature. In the traditional form of drama or street drama, the actors perform and the audiences watch the performance. However, in a forum theater the audience are the active participants.

This drama does not give solutions to the situation considering the problem belongs to the community, however, it urges the community to solve it themselves. In between the performance, the forum opens for all and the audiences speak what they want to do in that problematic situation.

"We considered the forum theatre to be an effective tool, which would prod and help the community to feel responsible for themselves. This would also let them express their views on similar kinds of problems in their society as they know their society better than any outsider," said Mamata Rai, coordinator ERP

Forum theatre in Rayale



### Subjects discussed through this method

In order to raise awareness on effects of child marriage, gender equality and alcoholism, SOS Children's Villages Nepal, along with a theater group, decided to come up with a forum theatre script. One of the basic aim of the forum theater was to raise awareness among the communities and communities come forward for addressing the issue.

**Sanita** is 17 years old and studying in grade XII was one of the participant in the forum theatre.

"After watching the forum theater, I am more determined to achieve my educational goals. Though there are many things which appear alluring, especially when some of my friends want to get married. They ask me to get married too. But I don't want to suffer as the character Babari\*."



After she completes her graduation, Sanita wishes to work in the banking sector and be independent.

An impact assessment showed that the forum theatre has made some noticeable positive changes in the community. Previously, people used to drink alcohol almost as many times as tea, however a dip in the intake has been noticed.

"The villagers are now conscious of the ills of drinking alcohol. They have started to shy away from drinking. This change has been noticed after the forum theatre performance,"

says Uttam Karki, field officer in Lakuridanda.

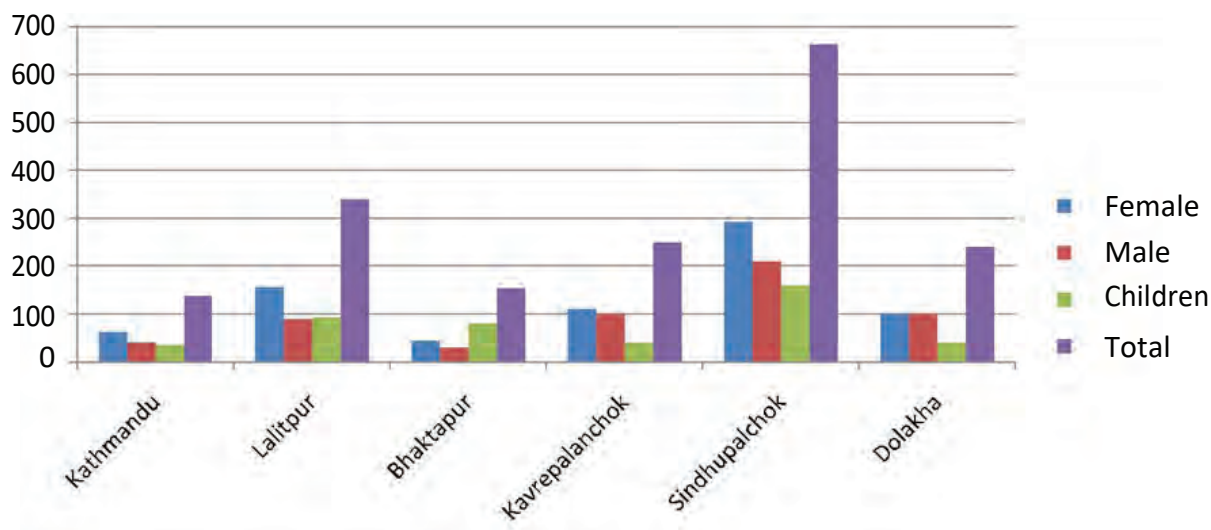


*\*Babari from the script.*

**Activities details:** Number of performance: **10** | Number of districts: **6** | Audience : **1,784**

### Programme details:

#### Audience according to gender, age and districts



#### Adult literacy classes

The communities where SOS Children's Villages implemented its ERP are socially and economically backward. Most of the women in these villages are not educated. The parents visiting the CCS voiced a demand for classes to support them. This would add to their parenting aspects. SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised adult literacy classes in Sangachok in Sindhupalchok District and Lakuridanda in Dolakha District.

Three batches were organised at the CCS at these two locations. Almost all the participants were women. The participation was active and regular.

Facilitators made each class interesting and informative with discussions and their participation. After this programme, the participants were able to read and write simple sentences along with basic addition and subtraction. They were able to read and write Nepali and English alphabets and simple words.

The classes helped in boosting the confidence of community women to lead their livelihood activities; now they do not have to depend on others for calculations. Participants are able to understand their children's educational activities and guide them. The attendees now have become more conscious of their children's performance with added confidence to interact with school teachers.

The classes also trained the participants to maintain cleanliness and hygiene of children. Literacy classes became a forum for the women to share their ideas, learning and difficulties. It gave them a place for refreshment and energising time.

The classes gave the attendees self-confidence and a sense of achievement. These women now could understand income and expenditure. This brought in them a sense of self respect, they are able to now save, and have become a part of family decision making process.

"I am able to carry out monetary transactions easily. Now I can call myself a literate person as I can read and write."

Masali Tamang (35)

"I used to feel embarrassed in front of my grandchildren but, as I can read and write now, I feel confident and self-assured".

Fursang Dolmo Tamang (35)

## Youth Cooperatives

The CCS is also a forum which encourages the local community to gather together and discuss various things. This is where the youth of Bhimtar came up with the idea of saving money in a cooperative, which SOS Children's Villages supported.

The community often had no money saved for a child's health, education or any type of emergency. The nine youth club members saw this as an opportunity. They convinced the families to save money for the children, as SOS Children's Villages Nepal was covering their cost of food and basic needs through the CCS.

Initially, savings were made in the name of 25 children on a monthly basis with a minimum amount of NPR

100. **Now there are 70 children who have funds in their name.**

The youth club members who run the Bodhi Sattva Agricultural Cooperative.

The youth club runs the cooperative. The money collected is available for the families in need to borrow. The need and the amount is vetted by the club members. An amount of NPR 200,000 is always kept aside as seed amount. The members get an interest of 11% per annum on their savings. Those borrowing from it are required to return the amount within six months at an interest of 17%. Currently, a total amount of NPR 4,800,000 has been collected. Bank accounts in the name of the children have been opened and all the transactions follow the government norms.

The community is slowly imbibing a culture of saving and financial management, which would equip them better for a rainy day.

"The villagers do not know anything about saving. We are a farmer community and usually spend all the money that we earn."

That is how Bodhi Sattva Agricultural Cooperative was established.

Initiators of the Bodhi Satva Agricultural Cooperative





# BEST CARE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY CHILD

Many children lost their parents in devastation caused by the earthquake. Some of them lost a single parent, some both their parents. There were cases where children with one parent were not in a position to provide adequate care to them. Children were found at risk, as they did not have any guardian who could provide them with proper care. They were found at risk of neglect, trafficking and abuse and were in need of family like care at that time of chaos.

The risk of trafficking of women and children were very high, therefore the anti-trafficking systems of Nepal Government were very strong. Though there were many children who lost parental care, SOS Children's Villages Nepal took 53 children in the family-like care.

These children were recommended by the local government. At present 46 children are in care of five SOS Children's Villages in Nepal. Seven children have already been reintegrated in the community as all children should grow up with their traditional customs and values.

## Reintegrated children under Kinship Care Programme

Location	Reintegrated children number
Kavre	17
Harisiddhi, Lalitpur	11
Sangachowk	81
Bhimtar 1,9	21
Lakuridanda	60
Jorpati	23
Bhimtar 6,7,8	10
Bhaktapur	45
Lele	6
Rayale	14
	<b>288</b>

SOS Children's Villages Nepal took 53 children in the family like care



At present, 46 children are in care at five SOS Children's Villages in Nepal



Seven children have already been reintegrated with their families



Keeping up with the same spirit that every child should grow up in their traditional environment, SOS Children's Villages Nepal initiated the **Kinship Care Programme**

## Children under kinship care programme:

Location	Number of beneficiaries
Kavre	27
Harisiddhi, Lalitpur	11
Sangachowk	98
Bhimtar 1,9	21
Lakuridanda	67
Jorpati	32
Bhimtar 6,7,8	13
Bhaktapur	52
Lele	7
Rayale	18
	<b>346</b>

The earthquake brought many families into an emergency situation. Through the Kinship Care programme, SOS Children's Villages Nepal started supporting vulnerable and at risk children under the care of single parent, kin or extended family.

Through the provision of Kinship Care, 346 children in difficulty have received care, safe environment and quality education. The programme also ensured that they are out of the risk of trafficking during the emergency period.

Kinship Care programme is an innovation in alternative care models in the emergency situation. Though initiated as part of the emergency response programme, it now is a stand-alone programme with 58 children enrolled for long-term care. SOS Children's Villages Nepal has also extended this programme in other project locations.



Devimaya Nepali, Child caregiver

## The benefits and features of Kinship Care Programme

- The child is not uprooted from the community.
- The child grows up in familiar environment, which takes the stress off the child's holistic development.
- Friends and relatives in the same community help the child to overcome trauma.
- The child is better protected.
- The properties and assets of the parents are better managed and transferred in the child's name.
- There is continuation, of education in the same school.
- The compensation if any received, from the Government would not be missed by the child.

## Good practices in designing and implementing the Kinship Care Programme

- Active participation of community committee in beneficiary selection process and monitoring.
- Preparation of a Child Development Plan and Family Development Plan with the help of SOS Children's Villages co-workers, guardians and school teachers.
- Reporting of child safeguarding issues to local government agency through engagement in the process of enrollment in Kinship Care Programme.
- Guardians and caregivers are trained on positive parenting skills and child protection.
- Regular monitoring of the children to ensure their protection.
- Regular monitoring of the children educational development in schools.
- Child health and hygiene is also regularly monitored.



Children getting a health check-up

## Impact

- As an alternative care model, children continue to grow up with their extended families and in their own community in the Kinship Care Programme. This provides the possibility of holistic development of the child.
- This prevents them from entering institutional care. Living with their kin, they get proper care.
- Regular monitoring by SOS Children's Villages also increases the ownership and accountability among school teachers. Regularity in school attendance has been noticed. Our regular follow up to the parents and school teachers helped to make them regular in school and improved in studies.

### Sunita Mahat, Kinship Caregivers

Location: Jammunae, Dolakha

Ujwol and Udikshya lost their parents in the earthquake of 2015. Currently, they are in the care of Sunita Mahat along with their old grandmother.



- Project strengthens the community child protection network and ensures larger participation of community in the project area. They are aware of child protection and child trafficking along with child care.
- The financial burden on the care givers is eased through the programmes which enables them to focus on quality care for the children. The children themselves have become more confident and understand that they are not putting any kind of pressure on their kin.
- The Child Development Plan helps monitoring the development of the child in a systematic way. This helps timely intervention and course correction according to the identified needs of the child.

"I had never thought that the responsibility of my whole family would come on me. At present, I work as a teacher and earn a living which is enough for myself. The support from SOS Children's Villages for my nephews helps me take care of their education and provide nutritional food. My nephew loves eating eggs."



# LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME UNDER ERP IN NEPAL

Emergencies is one of the key reasons which lead to abandonment of children by families. This is due to the fact that families lose all their possessions including livelihood. SOS Children's Villages, to prevent such cases provided livelihood support so that the communities are not forced to abandon their children

The livelihood programme supported communities in recovering from the massive shock they had received. One of the main consideration was the sustainability and community ownership of the programme.

The earthquake and the aftershocks resulted in massive loss of life and property. People suffered massive damage to their livelihood as well, which made it difficult for them to come out of the situation. Most of the families could not restart their livelihood immediately as they had lost it in the earthquake and had the fear of disaster.

More than 5,000 individuals from 1,038 families through the Livelihood Programme

Livelihood Programmes	Location	Families
1	Sindhupalchowk-Sangachowk	320
2	Falame - Rayale VDC,	51
3	Lakuridanda	79
4	Changunarayan , Bhaktapur	68
5	Bhimtar 1, 6, 7, 8 & 9	361
6	Lele, Patan	80
7	Pokhrelgaon, Bhaktapur	4
8	Sankhu/Jorpati, Kathmandu	75
Total		1,038

It was very essential to bring back the livelihood of the people to bring them back to normalcy both economically and psychologically. It was important that the support provided to them would bring in ownership from the community to be able to sustain the livelihoods. SOS Children's Villages Nepal supported more than 5,000 individuals from 1,038 families through their livelihood programme.

## Process and design of the programme

SOS Children's Villages Nepal constituted village committees and had several consultations in respective locations. Field workers sat with community people, assessed their skill, interest and capacity to start their livelihood. SOS Nepal did not encourage a new intervention. Families were supported for their income-generation activity from which they could restart their life and livelihood right after the devastation. To address their needs that came out from the community, SOS Children's Villages Nepal started various activities to address different needs of different groups of people.



Livelihood beneficiaries at Sankhu

Restoration of life and livelihood (CBI)		Beneficiaries
S. No	Locations	
1	Falame - Rayale VDC	94
2	Lakuridanda, Dolakha	108
3	Sundarthali, Bhaktapur	81
4	Dahalgaon , Bhaktapur	203
5	Pokharel, Changunarayan - 3	49
6	Thali, Kathmandu	54
7	Bhimtar 6, 7 & 8, Sindhupalchowk	162
	<b>Total</b>	<b>751</b>

S.No	Livestock Insurance	Benieficiaries
1	Sindhupalchowk-Sangachowk	277
2	Falame - Rayale	28
3	Lakuridanda	113
4	Bhaktapur	235
5	Bhimtar	89
6	Lalitpur	46
7	Jorpati	22
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>810</b>

### Cash Based Intervention beneficiaries

S.No	Livelihood Category	Nr.
1	Poultry	74
2	Goat Rearing	236
3	Cow Rearing	43
4	Buffalo Rearing	221
5	Vegetable Farming	44
6	Grocery Shop	13
7	Piggery	6
8	Tailoring	32
9	Cosmetic Shop	26
10	Vegetable Vending	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>714</b>

## PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Community committees to implement the livelihood programme in each location, generated a united feeling among people. These forums encouraged discussions and collective decision-making

Community committees recommended the beneficiaries' list to SOS Children's Villages Nepal. Beneficiaries opened their individual bank accounts. After the approval from SOS Children's Villages Nepal, all transactions were made through the bank only. Beneficiaries spent that amount according to their plan, which was made in consultation with an SOS field worker.

## IMPACT

After the devastation, the priority was on survival due to which quality child care related investments were compromised. After the livelihood interventions made by SOS Children's Villages Nepal, the community were able to fend for themselves and their lives started to move towards normalcy. As the income level of the families stabilised, they were oriented on positive child care and started investing into quality care.

Support amount was provided to them through banks which educated them on banking. The villagers did not save any money, a habit of saving has been inculcated through the programme, especially in shop and hotel supported beneficiaries. Financial security through the banking is an option that the community is now aware of.

In most livelihood interventions, women were the primary beneficiary. Hence, women in the family have become independent after the livelihood interventions as they have started earning themselves. Children's health has improved as parents provide better food.

**"Before the entry of SOS in our village, we did not know about the concept of a cooperative,"** said Shyam Sundar Dhimal, the Cooperative Manager.

Through the livelihood programme, linkages with Government programmes such as vet department, agriculture department and education department were established and strengthened. Appreciation of the departments and administrative body has been received by SOS Children's Villages Nepal.



The programme led to the initiation of agricultural cooperatives, which are also a financial management tool. They also became aware of efficient financial management through banking, family budgeting, saving etc.

The programme was designed with the community. To ensure that the community was completely agreeable to all the components and that they agreed that it was meant for them, adequate steps were taken. To ensure a collective decision-making process, committees were established and are functional.

Most of the communities that SOS Children's Villages worked with are agricultural farmers. The programme enabled reduced market dependency for seeds and fertilizers, through training.

"As the committee President, I had a very tough role. I had to ensure that everything was done in the best interest of my people without harming the organisation. Often, I was left to negotiate very tough terms with the Government and sometimes even with my own villagers. I am happy that now everyone is happy and they can see the results."

Jeet Bahardur Tamang, Lakuridanda



# THE BEE KEEPERS IN SANGACHOWK

Sixty earthquake affected families from three villages in Sangachowk district, were provided ten days training on bee keeping. Households from this community showed interest in bee farming as a group. SOS Children's Villages entered into a partnership with IsraAid and HoneyAID for providing this intervention.

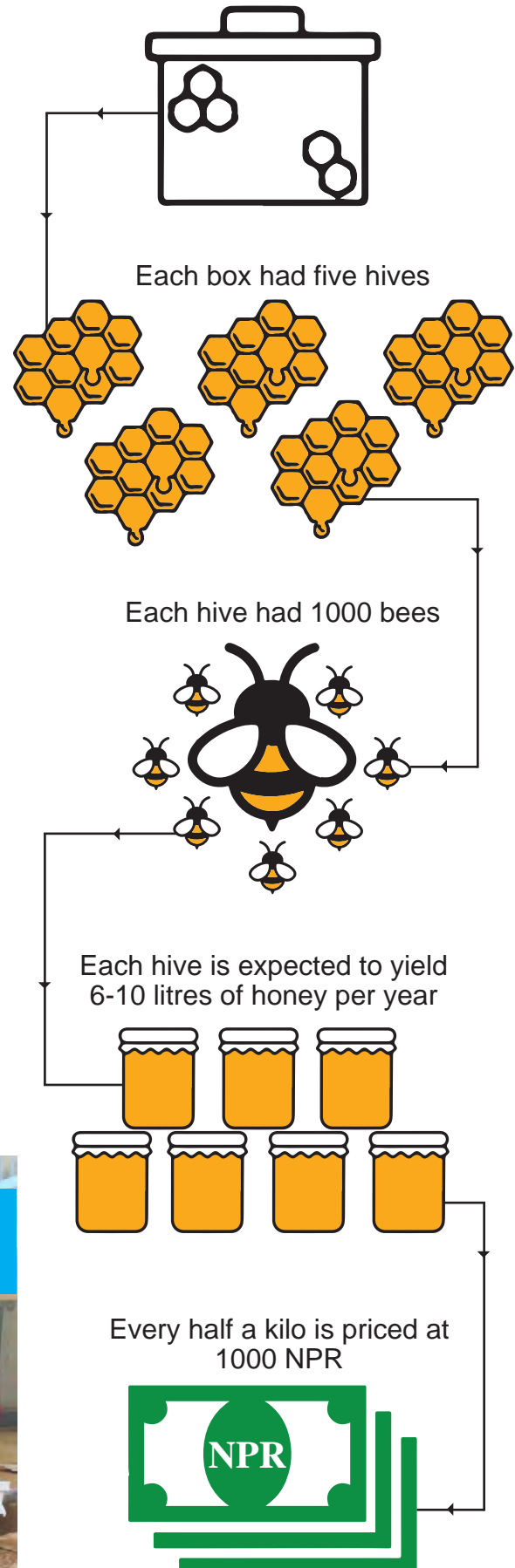
Two technical experts from IsraAID conducted group consultations and assessing the potentiality for bee keeping in the location. Two groups of thirty beneficiaries were formed, who were further split into more groups. The group also selected team leaders for managing the training.

The training focused on the characteristics of bees, how to take care of them, benefit of bee keeping for good environment and good vegetation, able to identify and use beehives and other beekeeping equipment. The symptoms of pesticide poisoning in bees and precaution to be taken and pesticide safely was also covered.

Two honey harvesting machines have been provided to both groups. Team leaders were responsible to find difficulties or risks from their group members and communicate to SOS Children's Villages Nepal and HoneyAID to get support in time of need. HoneyAID provides technical support to groups and individuals throughout the year, when bees are sick, extension of bee hives and in other time of need.



Each beneficiary received a smoker, bee wax foundation and a box with bees.





**Prahlad Giri's** father Sher Bahadur Giri received the training given by SOS Children's Villages and IsraAID. Now Prahlad takes care of the bees.

**"We have used the honey for our domestic purpose, as we suffered a big loss of bees."**

Bees are sensitive to their environment; the slightest shift can cause a loss in their numbers.

**Chandra Bahadur Giri** from the same village, however, has expanded his hives. Chandra had some experience in handling bees before the training, with this training he got more confident of keeping the bees safe. Now he provides support to other bee keepers in his village so that they can keep their bees safe.

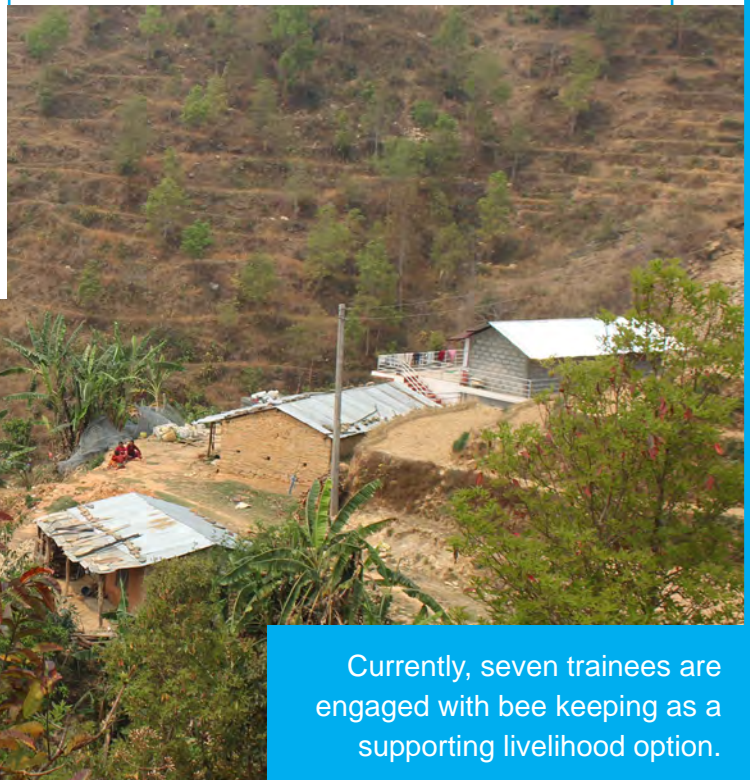


Chandra Bahadur Giri provides support to other bee keepers in his village



Prahlad Giri lost one bee hive, however is tending to the four hives with care.

**"One of the biggest challenges faced by the bee keepers was the pesticides sprayed by the neighbours,"** reflects Keshav Prasad Joshi, former field officer-ERP, now Kinship Care In-charge in Sangachowk. **"The neighbours would spray their fields in the day, which affected the bees severely."**



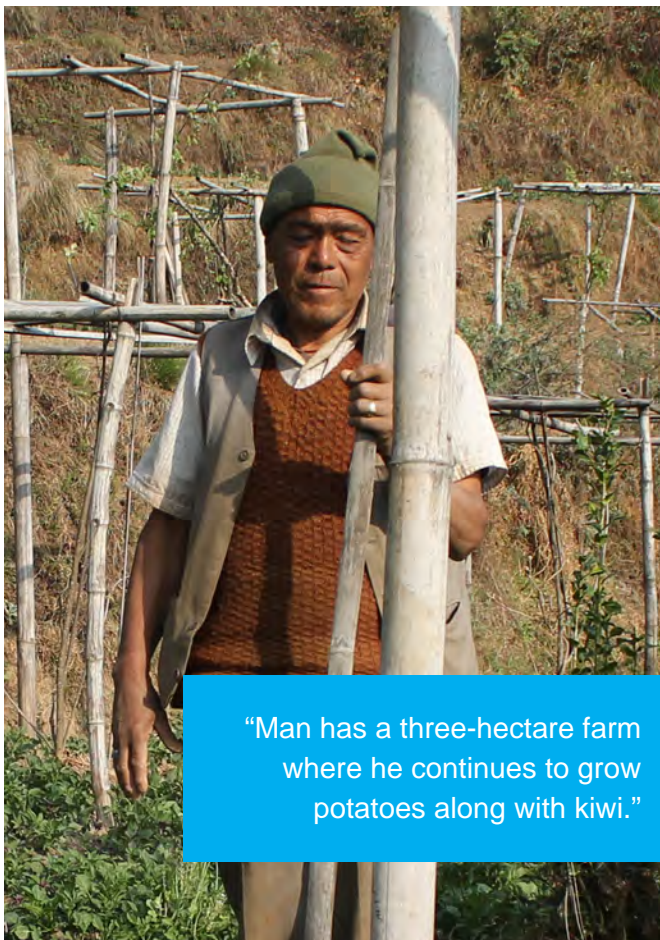
Currently, seven trainees are engaged with bee keeping as a supporting livelihood option.

# KIWI FARM IN THE MOUNTAINS

SOS Children's Villages Nepal provided cash based intervention to the identified beneficiaries for livelihood and housing support.

**Man Bahadur Mannandhar** from Lakuridanda, Dolakha district is one of the 108 recipient in the district. A potato farmer by profession, Man invested in a kiwi farm. He had visited the government district's agriculture farm, and was interested in growing kiwi. So when SOS Children's Villages offered the cash intervention, Man knew what he wanted to do with the money.

Man has a three-hectare farm where he continues to grow potatoes along with kiwi. As there is no irrigation, he tried to channelize some water from the nearby spring in the mountain to water his fields. He spent almost the entire amount in setting up a kiwi nursery and kiwi plantation in the end of 2015. He had to get the officials to help him set up the plantations properly.

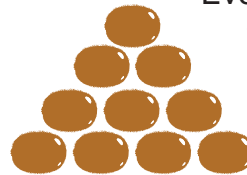


"Man has a three-hectare farm where he continues to grow potatoes along with kiwi."

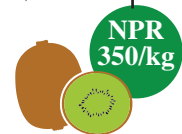
He planted 60 saplings of which four he lost



Every plant is expected to bear 10-15 kgs of kiwi per year



Each kg of kiwi is sold at NPR 350



It usually takes three years for a good harvest, Man can earn up to NPR 252,000 in a year.



Till the time he gets a full harvest, Man has been providing saplings to the Agriculture Department from his kiwi nursery



“One of the challenges of growing kiwi is that it needs a lot of water. Since I am dependent on rain water, it had impacted the harvest last year. This year, I have tried to provide water from a nearby spring.” Man is very positive about the kiwi harvest, “this will add substantially to my income.”



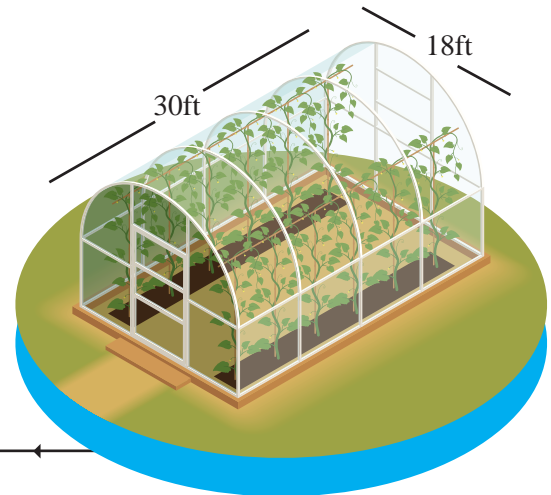
Man is very positive about the kiwi harvest

# TUNNEL FARMING TRAINING AND SET UP SUPPORT

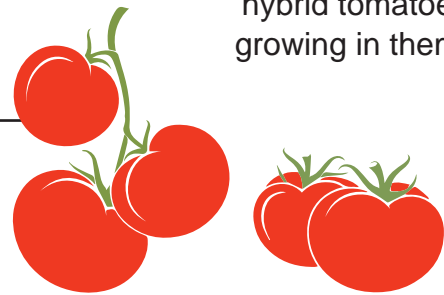
Greenhouse farming, locally known as tunnel farming is an effective and lucrative form of growing unseasonal vegetables. Based on similar principles of greenhouse farming, the local Nepali version is done in a tunnel shaped farm. Drip irrigation is done in these set ups to ensure that water is used optimally and effectively, especially important for an arid area like Bhimtar.

SOS Children's Villages provided training to eight people in Bhimtar in December 2016. In 2017, visits were organized to understand and see this form of farming in neighbouring villages, so that the trainees get exposure and confidence to begin on their own. SOS Children's Villages provided the infrastructure and the trainees were divided into two groups. These groups started tunnel farming in December 2017.

Each tunnel is 30 X 18 feet in dimension and each group has two tunnels.



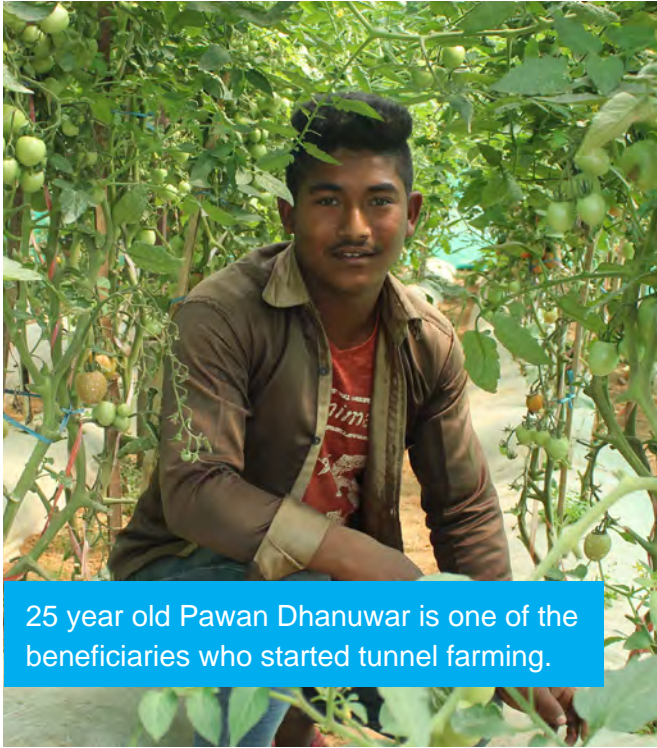
Each tunnel has 150 hybrid tomatoes growing in them.



SOS Children's Villages provided training to eight people in Bhimtar on tunnel farming.

25 year old **Pawan Dhanuwar** is one of the beneficiaries who started tunnel farming. He lives in the village with his one year old daughter and nine family members.

“I saw people in the neighbouring villages do tunnel farming. I always liked vegetable farming and I estimated the earnings to be higher in this form of farming,” says Pawan.

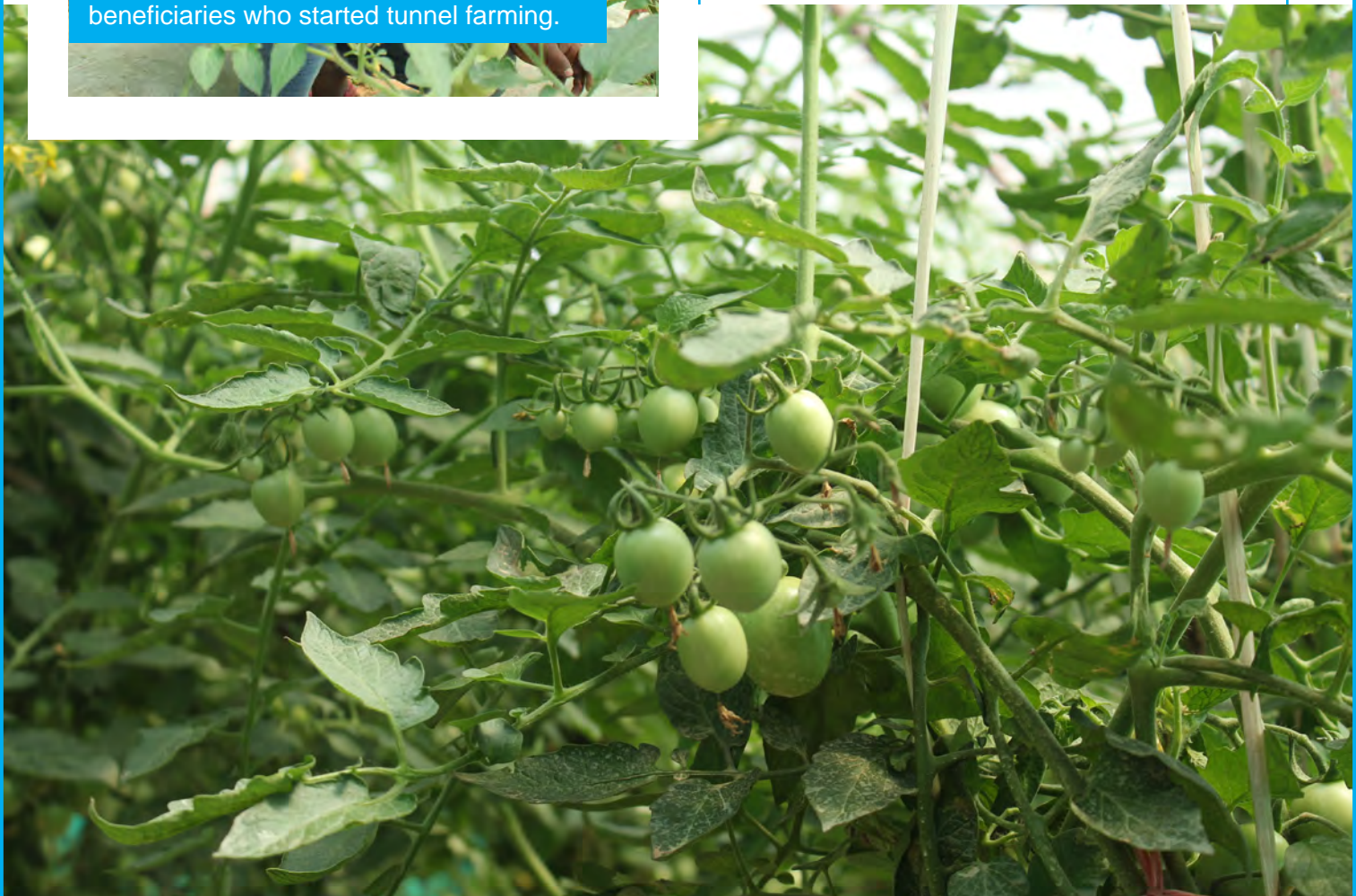


25 year old Pawan Dhanuwar is one of the beneficiaries who started tunnel farming.

Each tunnel has 150 hybrid tomatoes growing in them. They are to be harvested in the coming summer and he and his group member are hopeful. “The tomatoes that we planted have a better yield. This variety cannot be planted in the open and uses very little pesticide.”

In the future, he wants to expand to five tunnels, and he has planned to create a plastic pond to harvest rain water. He would have liked further support from SOS Children’s Villages for marketing their produce as there are very few farmers now, and their link to markets is very weak.

When asked, what would he have done if SOS Children’s Villages hadn’t provided the training. “I would have left my family and gone to Kathmandu, to become a daily wage construction laborer. Now, I can stay in my village with my family,” said a smiling Pawan.



# VETERINARY TRAINING

SOS Children's Villages conducted three a months-long veterinary training to those who were interested as part of the ERP Livelihood Programme. The training was conducted in Kathmandu and was attended by 10 people.

## Why Veterinary Training?

The communities which SOS Children's Villages Nepal worked with during ERP, reared cattle. Almost every family in the village had buffalos or goats. However, if the animals got sick or injured they had to be taken to town for treatment. There was no vet in the vicinity who would help with minor illness. Seeing this, SOS Children's Villages offered veterinary training to the community to make it easy for the villagers by offering a local solution.

As a part of ERP livelihood activity, many beneficiaries opted for livestock based livelihood support, thus, to provide these beneficiaries easy access to vet care, the training was imparted.

23 years old **Purnamaya Dhanuwar** is now a trained veterinary practitioner. The villagers in Bhimtar come to her for minor treatment. With the training, she earns 10,000 to 12,000 NPR per month and contributes to the household expenses.

Purnamaya belongs to a community where women rarely work outside their homes and farms. She is a trend setter in the village. Taking inspiration from her, village girls have taken special training and are now taking up jobs.

She has also managed to bring a change in the way the villagers keep the animal sheds. She had advised them to keep the sheds clean, which will ensure that they are protected from diseases. "They have now started to follow my advice, and are seeing the results themselves." She is training her brother in law, who takes care of services while she is away.

The earnings have allowed her to start saving for the future. She has opened an account in a cooperative where she has already saved upto 100,000 for her five-month old baby's education. She seems positive about the prospect of opening a big clinic, where her boy might also want to work.

Now I do not need to ask or seek approval when I want to buy groceries or vegetables. I can make my own decision and my own



Purnamaya Dhanuwar is now a trained veterinary practitioner

Purnamaya wants to upgrade her skills and learn more about veterinary techniques and is happy to pay for the training



She now earns 10,000 to 12,000 NPR per month

# LIVESTOCK INSURANCE ESTABLISHING RISK TRANSFER MECHANISMS

SOS Children's Villages wanted to ensure that people bounce back to normalcy. For that, it provided livelihood support to the identified communities. The people were given support to restart their lost livelihoods, of which they had some knowledge. It was observed that livestock rearing was a popular option. They had lost their animals in the earthquake and wanted to continue with the same occupation.

However, SOS Children's Villages Nepal added the measure of insuring the animals. This was to transfer the risk of any damage caused to the livelihood to an external agency. Hence, SOS Children's Villages Nepal made compulsory to do the insurance of supported livestock to transfer the risk to the insurance company and make farmer safer from losses.

The community had never insured their livestock before. These communities are economically backward, most earning less than 1 Euro per day. To them, it was an additional burden as insurance of livestock in Nepal was not very popular. Initially, the villagers were not ready to insure the livestock thinking that it's a waste of money.

After many consultations, organized orientations from experts on the importance of livestock insurance and how it helps to transfer the risk, they finally they agreed. SOS Children's Villages paid the first years premium, and thereafter the villagers would have to pay every year. Field workers of SOS Children's Villages regularly supported and guided the villagers to get the insured amount back if any livestock animal died.

**Balkrishna Acharya**, resident of Boadgaun, Bhimtar said, "Many people are doing the insurance of their own purchased animals, they have renewed their insurance policy twice after SOS Children's Villages Nepal did." SOS Children's Villages Nepal only started insuring the animals supported by livelihood programme.

**Balkrishna Acharya, resident of Boadgaun, Bhimtar is one of the beneficiaries who has successfully claimed insurance.**





**Nimsang Tawang** lives with her parents, two brothers and a sister in Dolakha, Lakuridanda. The parents are farmers and have one buffalo and one calf now. With the livelihood support from SOS Children's Villages, they had two buffalo's, both of whom were insured. The first premium of NPR 450 per buffalo was paid by SOS Children's Villages, however, they continued to pay the premium.



The Tawang family recovered NPR 27,000 from the insurance company

The family lost one of the buffaloes, and they filed the claim. They received NPR 27,000 from the insurance company. They put some more money in it and bought another buffalo for NPR 50,000. They had a calf from the buffalo and insured both. After a year they sold the calf for NPR 16,000 and the buffalo for NPR 40,000 to build one of their sons a house.

Not all the villagers understood the timeliness of filing the insurance claim. Phursang Dolma Tamang reared goats, which were insured. Unfortunately, she lost five goats from the total seven goats to a disease. However, the claim was not filed on time due to which she suffered a loss.



# UNCONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMME

As part of the livelihood project, SOS Children's Villages Nepal provided unconditional cash transfer programme support to the earthquake victims to help them restart their livelihood and take care of other essential needs.

**Salina** was provided livelihood support. With this support, she has started a grocery shop in Sankhu. It was small in the beginning. The profit was reinvested for expanding the shop. Now, her shop is bigger.

She states, "with this support, I became motivated to establish a shop." She further says, "Currently, I am earning NPR 2,500 to NPR 3,000 from daily business and the profit is around NPR 500 to 1000 per day."

Salina has started to save in a cooperative. Now that the shop is doing well, her husband has left the work and supports her fulltime in the shop.

"Although the support from SOS Children's Village Nepal was small, but I am very happy with this help I feel now I have a business for lifetime."



"SOS Children's Villages Nepal provided me with NPR 40,000. I used it to set a chicken poultry farm with 100 chickens. I sold the farm and earned NPR 240,000. I invested that money in setting up a shop. Now, I earn NPR 12,000-15,000 per month."

Ganga Lakshmi Saha Tamang  
Sangachowk

**Pema Gyalpo Tamang**  
*Lakuridada*

With NPR 23,000 provided for livelihood support, I bought goats and insurance for the goats.

Now, I have nine goats. I was also able to recover money from insurance when my goats died. I invested that money in my farm and fishery.



**Bina Shrestha,**  
*Shankhu,*  
Support amount: NPR 50,000

"Now I don't have to do laborious work in the farm. This work is easier, I can earn more than I used to," said Bina. She added, "I am very grateful to SOS Nepal. I am very happy with it." Now Bina is very happy with her two children. Both are going to school.



37 years old **Radha Giri** used to have a small tailoring set up in Sangachowk before the earthquake struck. All her equipment was damaged in the earthquake and the aftershocks. In June 2015, SOS Children's Villages supported Radha to recover her lost livelihood. NPR 35,000 was provided to her, through a bank transfer. The procurement of the equipment was closely monitored and supervised by the SOS Children's Villages's field officer in Sangachowk.

Today, Radha runs her own tailoring set up. Due to the growing business, she has hired another person whom she has trained. Radha has also trained four girls from her village, who are now employed in other shops.

The business enables Radha to earn about NPR 20,000-25,000 every month as against NPR 10,000. One of the big difference is that now she runs her shop more professionally, and is continuously planning to reinvest and expand.

"I usually save NPR 200-300 every day, which I reinvest in my business. Earlier my set up was not organized, now it is an organized shop. I also provide my customers fabrics which they can buy and get it stitched at my shop," said Radha.

**"Without the support from SOS Children's Villages, I would not have been able to restart my business," said Radha thankfully**

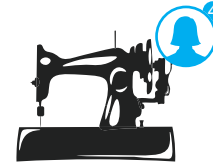
NPR 35,000 was provided to Radha, through a bank transfer



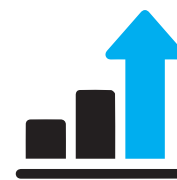
Due to the growing business, she has hired another person whom she has trained



Radha has also trained four girls from her village, who are now employed in other shops



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# RENOVATION AND RECONSTRUCTION TO ENSURE BUILD BACK BETTER

SOS Children's Villages Nepal worked with SOS Children's Villages International Office, Asia and Mistry Architects to see through the repair and reconstruction aspect of the ERP. Ensuring earthquake-resistant structures was the prime focus of this project component.

## STRUCTURAL AND DESIGN MITIGATION MEASURES USED IN CONSTRUCTION

- **The NBC (National Building Code)** was the basis for designing earthquake-resistant structures. Foundations were designed after checking the soil-bearing capacity (SBC) of the sites, the soil at various locations having its own inherent strength.
- **Safety:** Load calculations beyond the anticipated was factored in for all structures. The structural drawings prepared were then approved by the local authorities.

- **The steel bars** used for the corner pillars are without any segregation points or joints making them stronger.

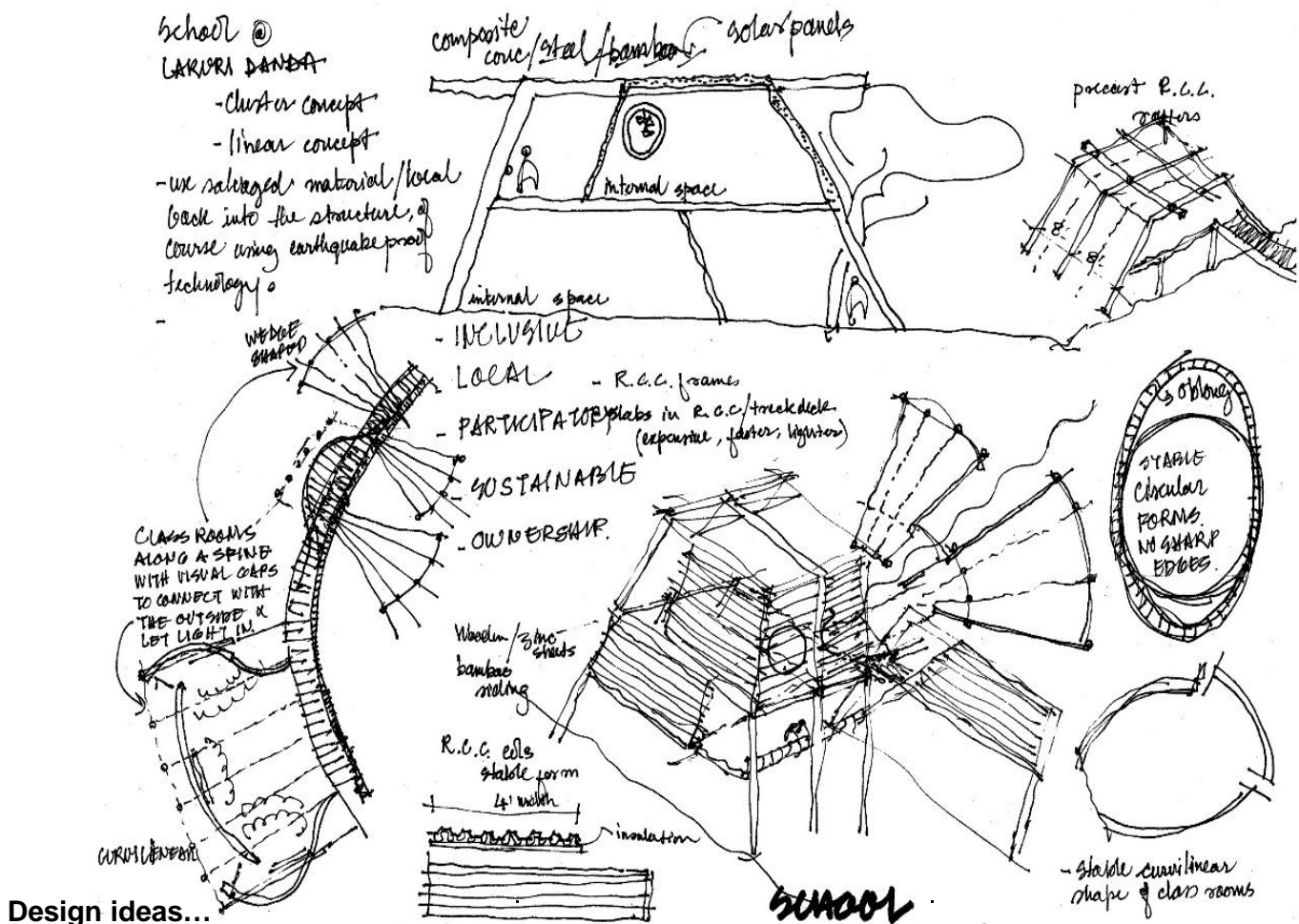
- **Connections and ties of the structure** done at plinth level, sill level, lintel level and finally at the roof slabs.

- **For the stability and strength of structures of schools**, steel rods are used in between brick masonry and Chinese bricks have been used for further strength.

- **On the design itself**, a stable form that can resist earthquakes and tremors for the building was explored.

- **If buildings had a large footprint** spread out across the site such as for the schools, separation of blocks are done and expansion joints provided at these separation points.

- **The environmental considerations** taken in the construction includes **rainwater harvesting structures in schools**. All class rooms have been built to enable **natural light** and **ventilation**. **LED lights** have been used. **Solar panels** are used in the Shanti Niketan School.



## Mistry Architects

SOS Children's Villages has been associated with Mistry Architects for the past 25 years. They have been instrumental in designing and building a number of children's villages in Asia. SOS Children's Villages had worked with Mistry Architects during the rebuilding and rehabilitation project after the Tsunami in 2004.

Mistry Architects and their team utilises the natural elements in their designs. They are known for being environmentally conscious and use techniques to ensure minimum footprint. Mistry Architects also has expertise in large-scale construction projects.

## REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS

Schools reconstructed by SOS Children's Villages

- **Surke Higher Secondary School Lakuridanda, Dolkha**
- **Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School Rayale, Kavre**
- **Bhimeshwori Higher Secondary School, Sindhupalchowk**

Schools repaired and renovated by SOS Children's Villages

- **Bachhala L. S. School, Sindhupalchowk**
- **Paropar L. School, Sindhupalchowk**
- **Kanya P. School, Nuwakot**
- **Chalantar P. School, Kathmandu**
- **Shankhu P. school, Kathmandu**
- **Janajagriti Lower Secondary School, Sunsari**
- **Surke Higher Secondary School Lakuridanda, Dolkha**
- **Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School Rayale, Kavre**
- **Bhimeshwori Higher Secondary School, Sindhupalchowk**

SOS Children's Villages repaired and reconstructed **nine schools**. To ensure the safety of children, especially during earthquakes and other disasters was the driving factor behind the repair and reconstruction of the schools.

Various mitigation components have been incorporated to make the structures child safe.

### Making the schools child-safe

The requirements laid out by the schools' boards necessitated that one builds **Ground+1** structures. This allowed for a large enough playground for the children.

The **classes** built now skirt the periphery of the site leaving a large central playground.

The **playgrounds** are within view of all classrooms and administration.

**Interaction spaces** allow comfortable congregation of students without overcrowding. All classrooms and multipurpose spaces are naturally ventilated.

In the hotter regions, **cross ventilation** for the classrooms is ensured.

High handrails, non-slippery floors, ramps to negotiate level differences, furniture and toilet fittings at child-friendly heights are some of the design essentials incorporated.

Doors and windows are easily operable.

An **extra door** has been provided in each classroom for use in case of an emergency.

For a **local flavour**, colorful traditional door knobs, prayer wheels, art and sculpture have been added. Hand imprints of the school kids adorn class room doors.

One of the schools sits atop a hill and the other is in the valley with the land moving upward around it. For both the schools, **the periphery** of the site is secured so that children do not venture beyond to unstable areas of the land.

### Surke Higher Secondary School

Surke Higher Secondary School, the only government school catering to Jigan, Phuilbari, Lakuridanda, and Kharidhunga villages in Dholaka district, was badly damaged due to the earthquake.

Located high up in the mountains, both the terrain and weather made this part of the country highly inaccessible.

**400 children** attend this school

SOS Children's Villages found that this area remained untouched by the aid agencies. This district is also inhabited by socially, culturally and economically backward communities. To ensure that the children do not suffer, SOS Children's Villages repaired and reconstructed the school. Temporary learning centres were established where classes could continue unhampered until the children were moved into the new building.



After earthquake



After reconstruction by  
SOS Children's Villages

**Surke Higher Secondary School**

“The school is now child friendly and environment friendly. There are many open facets, classrooms are warmer and the size of the classrooms is bigger. The number of gender segregated toilets are sufficient for all the students. The students are very happy in the school. The villagers like the school building a lot and I think it will be easier for me to convince them to send their children to this government-run school instead of private schools.”

Jaya Bahadu Shrestha, Principal, Surke High Secondary School, Lakuridanda



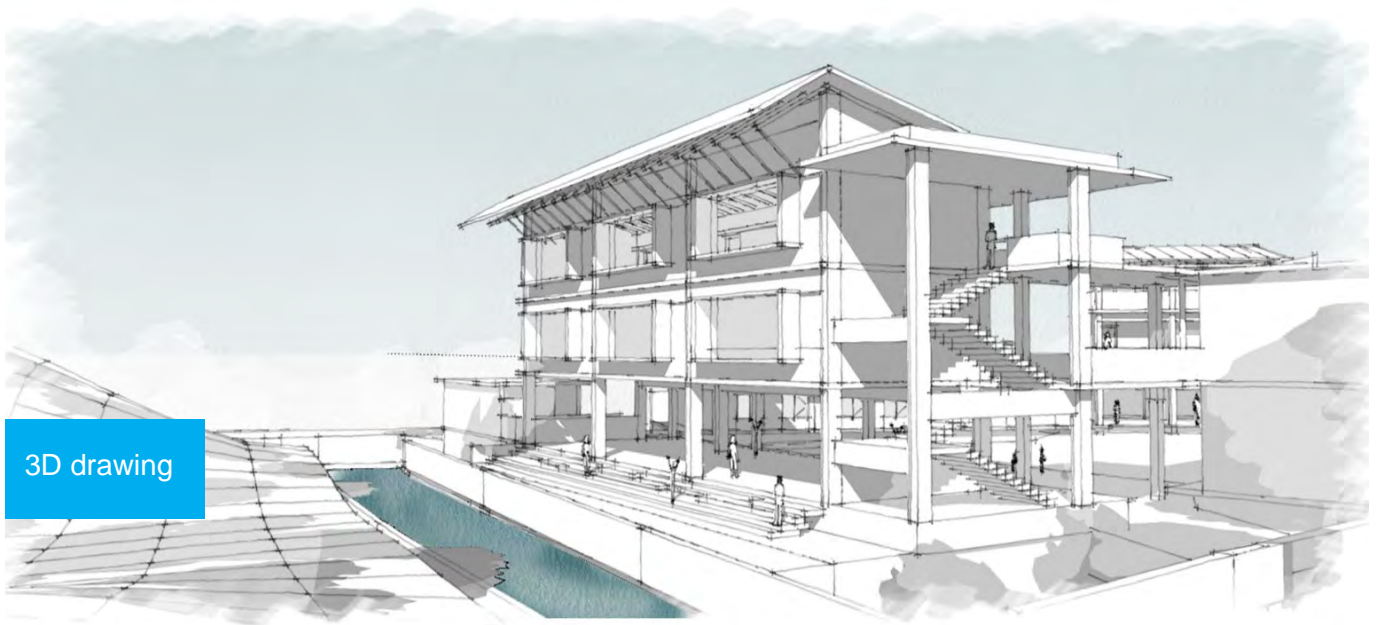


### Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School

It was observed that the Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School in Rayale had a majority of girl students. This is because the community thought that boys deserved better education, hence they were sent outside this small village.

SOS Children's Villages wanted to ensure that quality education is provided to the girl students attending this school. In addition to building the school structure, partnership with Hermann Gmeiner School, Kavre is envisaged in the form of sharing of infrastructure and knowledge. A bus is being gifted to the school to see this through.

**300 children** attend the Shanti Niketan Higher Secondary School



**Bhimeshwori High Secondary School, Sindhupalchowk**



After earthquake

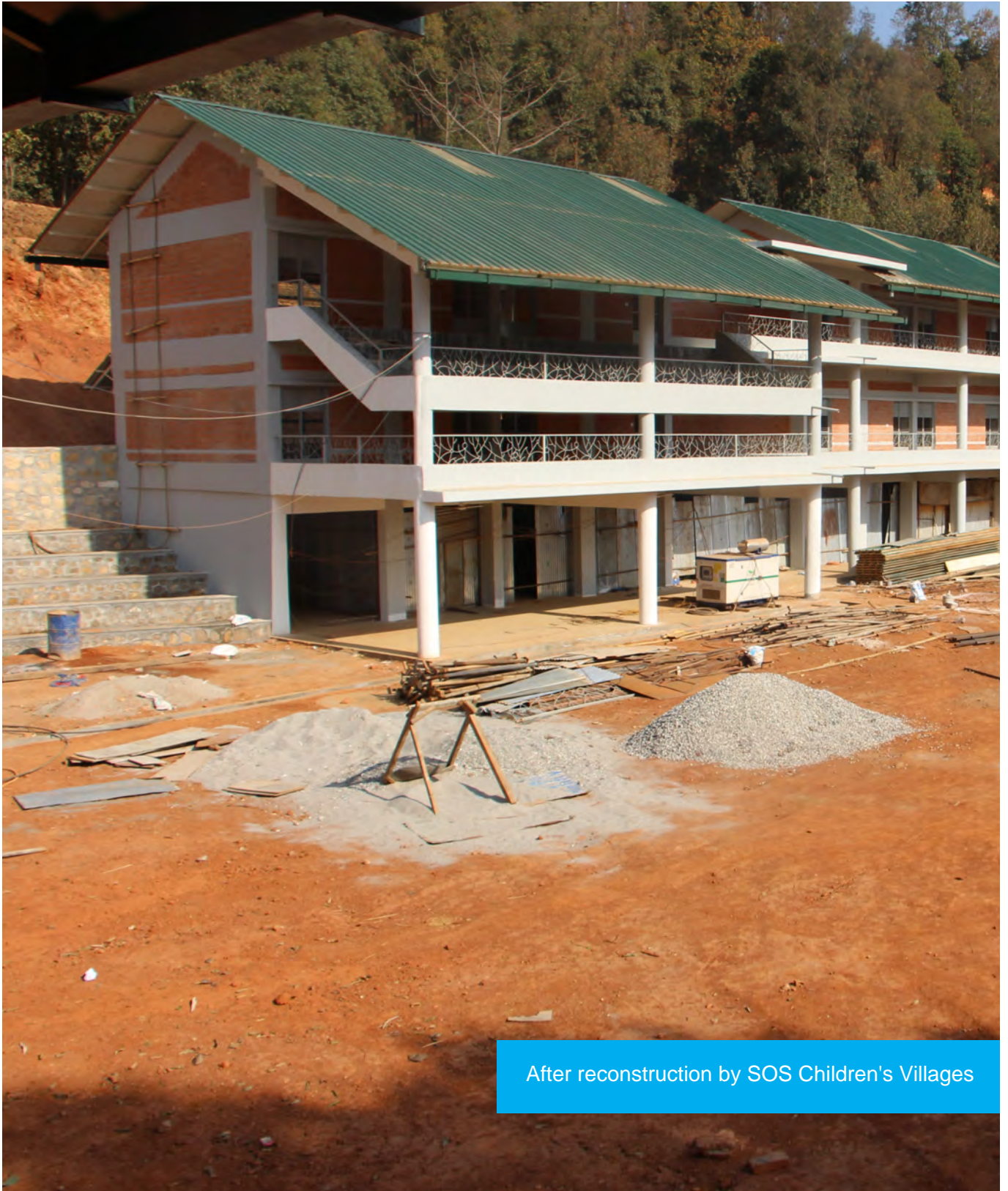


After earthquake

Bhimeshwori Higher Secondary School in Sangachowk was badly damaged. This school catered to the children in all the wards in Bhimtar and Nawalpur. Being socially and economically backward, the collapse of the school building meant that education of these children would be deeply hampered.

SOS Children's Villages has hence rebuilt this school.

**640 children** attend this school on a daily basis



After reconstruction by SOS Children's Villages

## Schools repaired and renovated by SOS Children's Villages Paropar L. School, Sindhupalchowk



## SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE IN JORPATI

SOS Children's Village in Jorpati, formally inaugurated in 1982, is home to 42 differently-abled children. The village is located in a complex which is shared by six like-minded organisations and a hospital catering to the needs of differently-abled.

The children and mothers of the village were instrumental in providing relief to the impacted people who had nowhere to go and had gathered in a vacant field nearby. The services extended to the people who had lost everything was commendable and heart-warming.

SOS Children's Village Jorpati joined hands with Nepal Orthopedic Hospital to establish a temporary shelter for the injured people. With the help of social workers, they were able to create space for more than 1,000 impacted people within its surrounding. Three time meals a day for children and elderly people, and medical support for the injured and sick people was provided with the support of mothers, children and co-workers.

For the parents and guardians who were not in a position to provide care to their children with special needs, family like care for short-term period was offered. **Four children** have been brought to SOS Children's Village Jorpati. Now these children are growing up in a safe environment.

### Extension and renovation

A need was identified for construction of a physiotherapy room, one additional family house and an office. There was also a requirement for renovation of a portion of the existing infrastructure as per the current need.

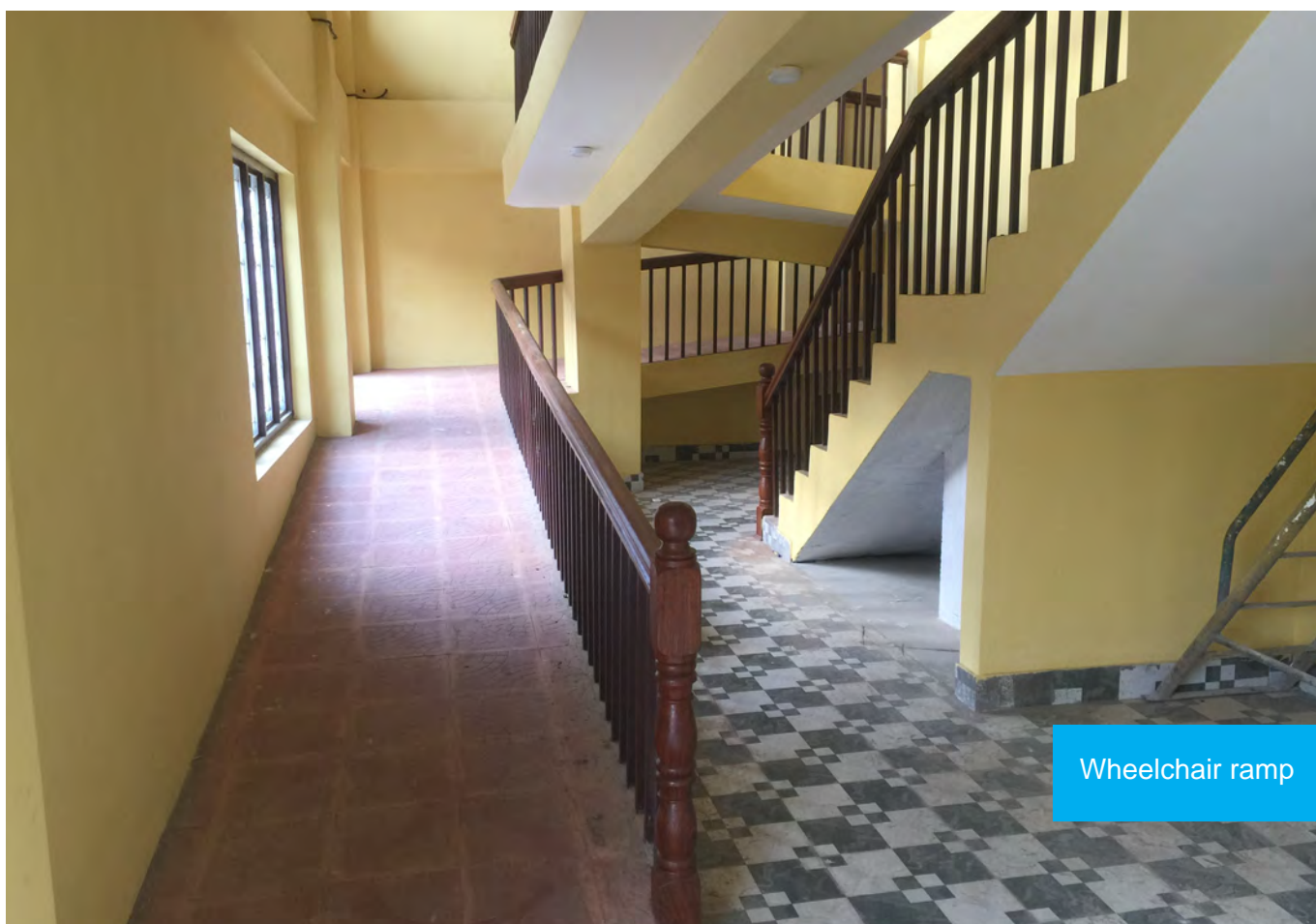
The extension and renovation of the children's village was done keeping in mind the needs of the differently-abled children. Construction quality and specifications are similar to the existing houses so that new building blends with old existing buildings. However, the structure of the new building is more earthquake resilient than the previous load bearing wall structures. Installation of solar panels on the roof of the houses is one of the green measure to reduce the energy requirements from the main grid lines.

Construction of a physiotherapy room, one additional family house and an office.

Renovation of a portion of existing infrastructure.

View of the new building





# HOUSING

In Nepal, where SOS Children's Villages is implementing the Emergency Response Programme, the houses were made of stones-and-mud, which were weak. As a result, almost all the houses collapsed due to the earthquake.

No minimum building standards existed before the April 2015 earthquake, which left 600,000 people homeless. The post-earthquake construction regulations still fall short of the earthquake-resistant designs proposed by SOS Children's Villages Nepal. It proposed to help build the homes of 320 families.

While the initial cost of earthquake-and storm-resistant buildings may be higher, there is a long-term saving in terms of general maintenance and disaster-related repairs. SOS Children's Villages has managed to keep initial construction costs equal or below international averages.

## Features:

The cement and brick model is approved by the National Reconstruction Authority, Government of Nepal.

**"We trained and encouraged the villagers to build and participate in building their own homes. This was done to increase the ownership, a major learning from the ERP in Tacloban, Philippines."**

Ashish Bansal, Deputy Director Construction, SOS Children's Villages, International Office Asia

Each individual home is a two room unit with a verandah for community interaction. A kitchen space is provided from the outside as is their way of living, with a "chulha"(stove).

This possibility for expansion was one of the most important consideration of the design. The staircase provided allows one to reach a flat terrace, to be used for drying food grains etc. The house is designed to take an additional floor so the villagers could add another floor or use it for storage of material after covering it.

In places like Bhimtar, where a provision of toilets has not been the norm, toilets and washing areas have been provided. A septic tank, provision for individual water outlets and electrical points have also been constructed. Apart from this, community water points are located throughout the community layout.



Community water points built

One of the challenges was faced that, the villagers owned parcels of land and to identify boundaries within the mayhem was an uphill task.

**The approval for 177 houses in Bhimtar and 107 houses in Lakuridanda was given to SOS Children's Villages by Nepal Reconstruction Authority (NRA).**



Difficult terrain

“Over the two years, we saw grit and will power in the villagers. The terrain was difficult, language and working conditions were new. We were thrown out of our comfort zone most often. We never gave up, this same grit & determination along with dollops of patience was our learning.”

Shahrukh Mistry, Architect, Mistry Architects.



SOS Children's Villages assisted the villagers to rebuild their homes





# MASON TRAINING

The homes of the beneficiaries in the identified locations were completely destroyed. SOS Children's Villages offered to rebuild their homes on the land they possessed.

However, SOS Children's Villages wanted to ensure that the community participated in the construction of their own homes. To ensure that, it discussed the plan with the villagers, constituted a committee, and committee heads who were to oversee the entire process.

To ensure transfer of knowledge, SOS Children's Villages identified the interested people for masonry training.

**"The challenge was to listen to the community as a community member while maintaining my accountability to the organisation which has appointed me with trust."**

Shyam Bahadur Tawang, construction store keeper and community mobiliser, Lakuridanda.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal provided mason training to the community before the construction began. The training was able to capacitate the local community and enhance the technical skills of trainees for the construction of earthquake-resistant buildings.

Construction was carried out through owner driven model instead of engaging a builder.

**"Before, I used to work in building stone-and-mud house and these houses collapsed during the earthquake. After two months training by SOS Children's Villages, I gained the knowledge and skills to use modern tools and techniques in the construction of houses. This will help to build our houses stronger."**

Harka Raj Danuwar of Bhimtar, Sindhupalchowk, who has completed the two months Mason training provided by SOS.



Houses being built by the community after attending the training

# BHIMTAR ROAD CONSTRUCTION



Before the road construction



During construction



Road after completion

One of the main transit street, leading to a village was in a bad condition. This road was being used by the people as the main road for travelling and transportation. It was damaged and was often waterlogged.

Puddles and narrow ways had created hindrance for the locals to move from one place to another even within the village. The condition worsened during monsoons and people faced a lot of problem in commuting.

SOS Children's Villages obtained an open contract from the Nepal Government which permitted it to mine the required amount of stone for the road construction.

Using traditional knowledge and local materials, SOS Children's Villages Nepal oversaw the construction of a new road. The road was made by the community and they are in charge of its maintenance. This also promoted cash for work, which helped the villagers further.

**The road is 1,080 metre long and was completed in three month in November 2016.**

Euro 44,336 was utilised for the construction. After the construction of road, people have easy access to move from one place to another. Children can travel easily towards their schools. The road construction has helped in safe movement of the villagers, and accelerated the house construction with easy transportation of construction materials.



# THANK YOU!

## SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES NEPAL

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**Prof Dr. Bishwa Keshar Maskay**  
Former President of board

**Ishwori P Sharma**  
National Director

**Shankar Pradhananga**  
Former National Director

**Rabin Nepali**  
Village Director, SOS Children's  
Village Jorpati

**Khagendra Nepal**  
Project Director

**Vijay Jung Rana**  
Project Director

**Bhagat Kumar Shrestha**  
Project Director

**Bhola Nath Paudel**  
Project Director

**Kabindra Shah**

**Khil B Thapa**

**Udaya Raj Aryal**  
Director, NTC

**Gopal Prasad Ghimire**  
Programme Manager

**Mamata Rai**  
Assistant Programme Manager

**Ramesh Tamrakar**  
Former ERP Coordinator

**Balkrishna Acharya**  
Field Mobiliser

**Nween Singh Raikhola**  
Field Officer

**Tej Raj Gurmacchan**  
Accountant- Bhimtar

**Saru Maharjan**  
Accountant - National Office

**Pradeep Shakya**  
Accountant - National Office

**Deepak Ghimire**  
Accountant –Lakuridanda

**Bharat Acharya**  
Project Manager – Construction

**Shyam Sundar Subedi**  
Site In Charge – Bhimtar

**Rabindra Khadka**  
Site In Charge – Lakuridanda

**Ganesh Sedhain**  
Assistant Civil Engineer

**Nawaraj Bhatta**  
Assistant Civil Engineer

**Anendra Danuwar**  
Assistant Field Officer –  
Construction

**Rajan Pokhrel**  
Field Supervisor

**Sudharshan Dahal**  
Field Mobiliser – Construction

**Shyam Bahadur Tamang**  
Field Mobiliser – Construction

**Sulav Raj Upreti**  
Field Officer – Jorpati

**Pusker Kafle**  
Field Officer – Bhimtar

**Uttam Karki**  
Field Officer - Lakuridanda

**Keshav Joshi**  
Field Officer – Sangachowk

**Ravi K Rimal**  
Field Mobiliser- Rayale

**Sher B Shrestha**  
Field Mobiliser – Lakuridanda

**Sangeev Pokhrel**  
Field Mobiliser – Jorpati

**Krishna Pokhrel**  
Field Mobiliser- Bhaktapur

**Shiva Humagain**  
Field Mobiliser – Rayale

**Binod Giri**  
Field Mobiliser – Sangachowk

**Late Badri Humagain**  
Field Mobiliser – Sangachowk

**Ravina KC**  
Field Mobiliser – Bhimtar

**Amit Kunwar**  
Driver

**Niraj Thapa**  
Driver

**Leela Bahadur Thami**  
Driver

## SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INDIA

---

### **Sumanta Kar**

Deputy National Director,  
Integrated Child Care

## SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL OFFICE - ASIA

---

### **Rajneesh Jain**

CVI Representative

### **Fazleh Borkat Manik Shah Mazumder**

Programme Advisor-FSP & ERPP

### **Ashish Bansal**

Deputy Director - Construction

### **Neha Chawla**

Former, Coordinator - ERP

### **Special thanks to:**

---

### **Siddhartha Kaul,**

President, SOS Children's Villages

### **Shubha Murthi**

Deputy COO, SOS Children's Villages

### **Members of the Board and General Assembly**

### **Jim Emerson**

### **SOS mothers, retired mothers and youth**

### **Global Emergency Response Department**

SOS Children's Villages

### **PSAs, Donors and Friends:**

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SOS Children's Villages Japan

## REPORT CREDITS

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### Project Lead:

Shubha Murthi,  
Deputy COO, SOS Children's Villages

Rajneesh Jain,  
CVI Representative, SOS Children's Villages  
International Office – Asia

Fazleh Borkat Manik Shah Mazumder,  
Programme Advisor-FSP & ERPP, SOS Children's  
Villages International Office – Asia

### Writers

Ishwori Sharma,  
National Director- SOS Children's Villages Nepal

Gopal Ghimire,  
Programme Manager – Emergency Response  
Programme, SOS Children's Villages Nepal

Mamata Rai,  
Coordinator - Emergency Response Programme, SOS  
Children's Villages Nepal

Fazleh Borkat Manik Shah Mazumder, Programme  
Advisor-FSP & ERPP, SOS Children's Villages  
International Office – Asia

Papia Samajdar,  
Communications Specialist, SOS Children's Villages  
International Office – Asia

### Content Manager

Papia Samajdar,  
Communications Specialist, SOS Children's Villages  
International Office – Asia

### Inputs from

Shubha Murthi,  
Deputy COO, SOS Children's Villages

Rajneesh Jain,  
CVI Representative, SOS Children's Villages  
International Office – Asia

Ashish Bansal,  
Deputy Director – Construction, SOS Children's  
Villages International Office – Asia

Anup Tiwari,  
Director – Fund Development and Communications,  
SOS Children's Villages International Office – Asia

Archana Singh,  
Coordinator – Finance & Controlling, SOS Children's  
Villages International Office – Asia

Hitesh Jhangiani,  
Member Support Advisor  
SOS Children's Villages International Office – Asia



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**

A loving home for every child

