Introduction

After the devastating earthquake of April 2015, United World Schools, Nepal amplified its efforts in Nepal to ensure that communities that were already vulnerable and recovering from post-conflict trauma were able to quickly recover from a natural disaster of such a large scale. Therefore, the immediate efforts were focused on supporting local communities in establishing temporary learning centers, with a promise to construct earthquake resistant and stable schools in the long term. Therefore, United World Schools, Nepal worked throughout the year in the aftermath of the earthquake in assessing the damage, and studying the ways in which such schools could be constructed in an effective yet sustainable manner. We completed the construction of six schools within the year. At present, our focus has then shifted on improving the software of the schools to ensure good quality education that can turn the community into a force for economic development. Therefore, we have conducted a series of training for teachers, school leaders and local partners in order to build capacity and ensure that future leadership of the project can be transferred through the transfer of knowledge and skills.
Report in summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of schools constructed</th>
<th>Number of students in school</th>
<th>Number of trainings conducted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>2</td>
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Background:

United World Schools Nepal is a charity dedicated to improving educational opportunities for the poor and marginalized children of Nepal. By investing in girls’ education from marginalized communities, UWS helps empower young women, creating better prospects for their families and futures.

Established in 2014, the organization currently operates 6 schools in Sankhuwasabha district of Eastern Nepal in collaboration with respective communities and the Nepali Government, so far transforming 900 children’s lives, with more planned. Its mission is to teach the unreached in providing education to over 5000 children that have been denied access to quality education.

UWS Nepal works with local communities and the government to build and run schools at low cost, delivering value for money for donors, with great impact where it is needed most. Partnering the new UWS Nepal community schools in poor remote regions with affluent OECD schools is the nucleus of our success and provides sustainability.

United World Schools Nepal is committed to providing education to out of school children and enhancing the quality of schooling in community governed government funded schools around the world and practices absolute neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of education to all people in need.
UWS Nepal assists communities to build and run schools to provide primary education. Throughout the construction and operation process, it ensures the local authorities are informed about and supportive of the programme. Not only the government, the organization also makes sure that the local community is informed about and supports the programme. This includes engaging the key stakeholders in the village, detailing the benefits of the work, laying out the timeline of the programme, setting out the requirements of the community and the long term plan for a school’s sustainability. Having identified suitable communities, planning begins for the construction of the school. This includes engaging both local suppliers and contractors, and working with the community to design a suitable structure. Teams identify suitable teachers, where possible from the local authority and community, and map out their training and professional development.

As school operation eases, UWS works with the district and national education departments and ministries to improve education standards in each UWS constructed and supported schools. In non-school construction settings, our focus is teacher development. UWS partners with other organizations to design and implement our training programs every six months. In particular, United World Schools continues to rigorously measure its education objectives and achievements in literacy, graduation rates, teacher quality and educational infrastructure.

At present it has schools in the village of Mude, Guranse, Wana, Sewalung, Baga, and Madamsing. By 2020, UWS Nepal is striving to enroll 5000 children in primary education, of which 2000 will graduate having completed the full course of primary education. UWS Nepal supplements core teaching with appropriate and complementary life and vocational skills through art, sport, and music and logic programs. Independent learning skills are fostered and nurtured through the UWS Nepal self-learning centers and classroom libraries. UWS' Nepal holistic approach to education and quality learning ensures that all children have the necessary basic skills to enter employment within their community or continue on to secondary education.

**Vision**

United World Schools, Nepal envisions the provision of quality education in areas of the country which has not been reached to ensure increased literacy, and holistic growth of the children while empowering them to be the stewards of their own destiny.

We aim to provide innovative, advanced and culturally sensitive education through the construction and management of schools that can foster a positive learning environment for children to become truly global citizens.
Objectives

We hope to achieve this vision through the following objectives:

- By constructing and managing state-of-the-art facility for children to feel safe and encouraged to study;
- By training teachers and management committee of the schools to foster greater involvement of the school authorities in the development of the children;
- By providing resources that further encourages children to learn in a culturally, environmentally, and globally immersive manner;
- By formulating a curriculum that makes the student globally aware and socially conscious of the various issues through interactive learning methods;
- By introducing advanced technologies of learning that allows for greater innovation in the classroom and greater engagement between the lessons in class and real life examples;
- By supporting the schools in formulating financial sustainability in the long run through the establishing innovative methods of financial model to support the financing of the schools in the future.

List of schools constructed in 2015-2016 (Sankhuwasabha district):
- Modern Makalu Community Academy (Mude)
- Hangmarani Primary School (Guranse)
- Amarsahid Primary School (Madamsingh)
- Singhadevi Primary School (Devitar)
- Sewalung Primary School (Malbanse)
- Gupteswor Lower Secondary School (Hoase)

Evaluation of first year programs

- Successes:
  - Timely completion of construction
  - Community support in the construction and finishing phase
  - Strong sense of enthusiasm from the community to improve the quality of education
  - Greater focus on co-creation which ensured greater community engagement
Enthusiastic support from local Resource Persons (RP), District Education Office (DEO) and National Government including Social Welfare Council.

**Challenges:**

- Geographic distance of schools slowing part of construction phase
- The weather, especially during the monsoon season which slowed the construction and the ability to reach certain parts for a few weeks
- Political instability during the September 2016 political riots across the nation which made it difficult to acquire and transport resources

**Future steps:**

- 7 more schools to be constructed
- 900 students to be reached
- Gulmi to be added along with Sankhuwasabha
- Training for teachers on Montessori education system
- Bags distributed to all students
- Painting of classrooms and schools
- Establishment of innovation hub with a focus on creating an interactive library space along with a space

**Acknowledgements:**

- District Education Office, Sankhuwasabha
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Progress in images: