

**REPORT 2021*****The Foundation's humanitarian activities in Himalayan communities continued during 2021***

In 2021, due to the pandemic, it was not possible for volunteers of the Foundation to visit Nepal for the second year. For the Foundation a very important strength during this difficult period was the fact that over the years — thanks also to the precious figure of the founder Lama Gangchen Rinpoche and his tireless efforts to help others over years — we have been able to build a strong network of volunteers, monks and local collaborators, whose reliability and availability in 2021 made it possible to continue almost all the projects that were underway.

The only project that we were not able to continue in 2021 was the Chapakhori Water project. The Italian experts from Italy were only able to go to Nepal in March 2022 together with other volunteers of the Foundation.

In Kathmandu there are vast areas of extreme poverty where, even before the pandemic, people earned a living with temporary jobs, paid by the day, or by begging in the streets of the city and at tourist sites. The lockdown, effecting many activities and in particular tourism, has made the situation increasingly desperate for them. Many families, with no opportunity for work in the city, have returned to their villages of origin: but, even here the situation has become extremely difficult due to the scarcity of food and other resources. In times like these, it is even more important for us to provide help to the most disadvantaged communities and the poorest families who often have no access to basic necessities such as clean water and healthcare, and who are unable to provide care and education for their children.

GANGCHEN SAMLING SCHOOL

In Nepal, due to the pandemic, schools were closed and reopened several times during 2021.

Gangchen Samling School was one of the few schools able to offer distance ‘online’ learning to students, thanks to donated smartphones and the incredible work of the teachers in contacting and training students in very difficult conditions. In this way the classes were able to continue for the 500 students, studying in kindergarten to class 10.

Most of these students come from very poor families living in the outskirts of Kathmandu who, thanks to the long distance adoption project, are able to realise their dream of offering a high-quality education to their children.



LONG DISTANCE ADOPTIONS

The long-distance adoption project continues to be at the heart of the Foundation's activities, enabling hundreds of children and young people to receive an education.

In 2021, the project also continued to aid elderly, sick and disabled people who are without support or a livelihood. There are also many young monks taken in by monasteries for their studies and helped through this project: they are often without a family, or their parents — exhausted by financial difficulties — have asked for shelter for their children whom they are unable to support.



Name-Ayush Wipra
My name is Ayush Wipra
I am good in class 3B
I am 10 years old
Hi I am 10 years old
My exam is Tuesday
My village name is Neelpur
My school name is C.S.
My sister name is Sonika Wipra
My sister name is Anjali Wipra
My mother name is Usha Wipra
My father name is Lekha Wipra
My father is far
My brother name is Farhan & Ravi
My favorite cartoon is Ben 10
My favorite model is Star Wars, Blue
My hobby name is Robotics, Play
Thank you Springer



MONASTERY PROJECT NEW BUILDING

In 2021, work continued on the construction of a new building to provide classrooms, dormitories and bathrooms for the young guests of Sed Gyued Monastery in Kathmandu.

After the devastating 2015 earthquake, and also during the serious economic hardships during and after the pandemic lockdowns, the monastery has played an important role in supporting the local community, both spiritually and materially. In particular, it is providing a home for many poor children who have been orphaned or whose families are no longer able to care for them. Requests for help and shelter continue and today the monastery is home to more than 100 children in need.

The children follow the curriculum of the Nepalese government and are taught by qualified external teachers. This means anyone who decides to leave the monastery in the future will have received, in addition to a non-formal peace education according to Buddhist principles, an education that will enable them to enter the world of work. In December 2021, the construction reached the 3rd and final floor, and was completed in early 2022: the new classrooms have already been inaugurated and are in use!

Once again in 2021, the long-distance adoption of young monks enabled monasteries to meet the costs for their basic needs and education: around 90 children were 'adopted' in Sed Gyued and Phelgyeling monasteries in Kathmandu, and in Serpom Monastery in South India.



 Con il contributo 8x1000
dell'unione buddhista italiana

*With the contribution of the 8x1000
Italian Buddhist Union*

EMERGENCY PROJECT FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Many families, having lost all opportunities for work in the city due to the pandemic, have returned to their villages of origin: but even here the situation has become extremely difficult due to the scarcity of food resources.

In 2021, the Foundation presented to the 8x1000 Italian Buddhist Union a project for the distribution of basic foodstuffs to a number of villages in Nepal, as well as to some structures in Kathmandu that host particularly fragile and vulnerable people (children with disabilities, orphans and the elderly) and to particularly

struggling families in the capital. The project was aimed at helping them to survive in the drama of the Covid period.

The project was approved by the Italian Buddhist Union, who finance 70 per cent of the total cost of the project, and in late 2021 we were able to purchase tonnes of rice, flour, dried lentils, oil, salt and soap.

In the first months of 2022, the distribution of food continued with the support of local volunteers and monks from Sed Gyued and Phelgyeling monasteries, who helped to identify the villages in greatest need and deliver the aid to them.



EDUCATION FOR ALL

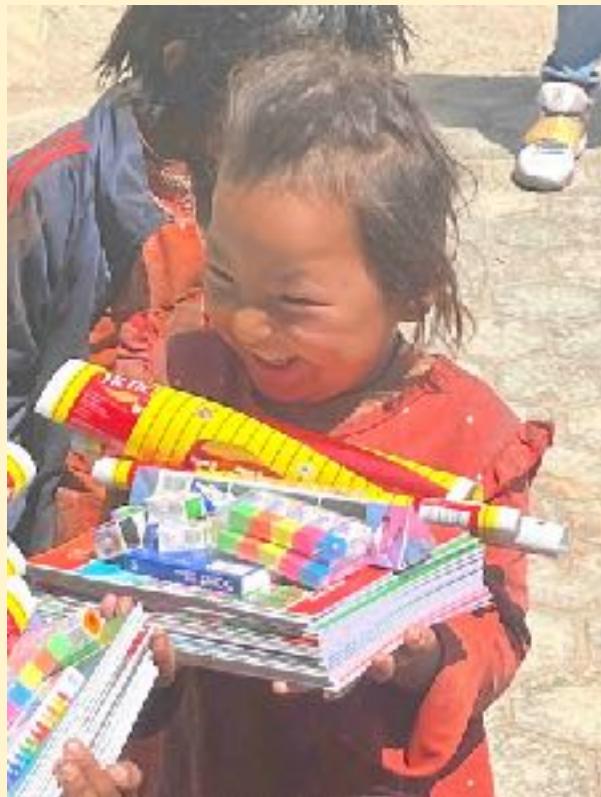


Support continued for children studying in several simple village schools — for the families of these children the purchase of school materials is an unattainable luxury.

Exercise books, pens, pencils, book covers, coloured pencils, sharpeners, erasers (enough for one year) were donated to around 700 children, encouraging them to attend school and have the tools necessary to receive a basic education.

In Kathmandu, the children without families of the Hope Foundation and Jorpati Orphanage, those staying at the Sed Gyued Monastery and the children of the Disabled Rehabilitation Home also received school materials for one year.

In 2021 the Foundation once again covered all maintenance costs, including teachers' salaries, of the primary school in the village Shikhpur where 70 children study.



FURTHER EDUCATION



In 2021, 78 students took courses in higher education. Of these, 23 in college (classes 11 and 12th) and the other 55 studying towards a Bachelor degree.

The pandemic delayed the end of courses and final exams, but all the students were able to continue their studies thanks to the help they received.

The preferred courses in this year were mainly in the social sciences and humanities, which open the doors to teaching or social work professions. It is a source of great joy and satisfaction to see so many young people from very poor families reach, thanks to their commitment and the help received over so many years, un hoped-for goals such as a degree and the necessary qualification to find a professional job!



Class 10 students from Gangchen Samling School, supported by the Foundation, before the Secondary Education Exam

EMERGENCY FUND



Thanks to our friends in Nepal and the generosity of our supporters, this year the Foundation's aid once again reached a number of particularly vulnerable people: the elderly, infirm and disabled, who are alone and in extremely difficult conditions because of the pandemic.

Once again, a supply of basic medicines for the year were sent to the dispensary offering medical care to a number of remote villages in the Makwanpur district. This dispensary is the only medical facility for approximately 8000 people.



CHAPAKHORI WATER PROJECT



In 2021, it was not possible due to the pandemic to travel to Nepal from Italy to complete the project. As soon as the borders opened in early 2022, the Italian engineer and geologist in charge of the project were finally able to reach the village.

The situation of the new water sources opened at the end of 2019 — located by drilling at the base of the hill — was excellent, with an increased flow of water. Unfortunately, the company that carried out the work in 2019, probably as a result of the lockdowns over the Covid period, is now unable to guarantee its services.

Thanks to contacts at the University of Kathmandu, another company has been found and soon work will start again. It is planned to complete the work in the post-monsoon period (October-November 2022) with the installation of the pumps that will take the water directly to the village. The costs of raw materials in Nepal (especially iron and steel, and therefore pipes and so on) have unfortunately skyrocketed compared to the pre-covid period, but fortunately the machinery (pumps and electric panel) had already been purchased in Italy and shipped to Nepal in March 2020.



 Con il contributo 8x1000
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THANK YOU !

***“Generosity is the best investment”* Lama Gangchen Rinpoche**