And what does the Lord require of you? 
To do justice and to love compassion 
And to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8
Dear Readers,

The year 2003-2004 was a year of great change for Nepal, and for the United Mission to Nepal (UMN). The ceasefire between His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMG/N) and the Maoist insurgents, which started in January 2003, broke down in August 2003. Acts of violence, economic blockades and restriction of movement particularly in the Mid Western and Western Regions resulted in great hardship for rural people. Over the ensuing months, the political parties also took to the streets with increasing violence, contributing to the political instability.

For the United Mission to Nepal this has also been a year of change. It was the first year of our new Five Year Strategic Plan. The major work was changing UMN from being an implementing organisation and helping its former projects, programmes and institutions to become independent. Some are continuing, some are being phased out, and most have become Nepali owned and managed. This transition has gone basically according to plan, thanks to the hard work and skill of the various “Transition Teams” and to the commitment of the staff taking over responsibilities in the newly independent organisations as they move into new and exciting futures. But UMN has also laid foundations for its new work based on the Strategic Plan.

An organisational structure has been put in place to support this new work and with an overall “Programme Support Team” we are moving to different geographical parts of Nepal, beginning with Muglu and Sunsari. Here “Cluster Teams” work directly with local partners. Advice and support comes from the “Technical Advisory Team” and the “Capacity Building Team”. Other major components are the Personnel, Finance and Marketing Teams, who ensure that the work has the resources (people, expertise and funding) that are needed.

The establishing of cluster teams in Muglu and Sunsari involved the selection of a Nepali leader and an expatriate counterpart; exploratory visits, relationship building with possible partners and setting up an office, with staff moving to the locality. The clusters work in carefully selected areas: food security, education, women and children, peace and conflict transformation, enterprise development, HIV/AIDS and relief. The technical team advises on these areas, and the capacity building team work with partners to strengthen their organisational skills.

The governance of UMN has also changed. The new Board is smaller, with more Nepali representatives, but Member Bodies still have opportunity for input, though in a different way.

From March to September 2004 we have celebrated UMN’s 50th Anniversary, both in Nepal and overseas. A book, a commemorative postage stamp, calendar, special painting, posters and cards and a video were produced. The highlight was a reception and exhibition, followed by a residential festival. In many other countries there were equally happy reunions of many people linked to UMN and Nepal in the past. Looking back over ‘Fifty Years in God’s Hands’ we saw how our “new” strategic directions were actually laid down as long ago as 1970.

So it has been a year of transition for all working with UMN and a year of preparation for the future. We are grateful to the many people who have contributed and supported us: donors, His Majesty’s Government of Nepal, Member Bodies, staff and prayer partners. We are supremely thankful to God who has led, guided and enabled us.

Jennie Collins
Executive Director
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member Bodies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baptist Missionary Society (BMS World Mission)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church Missionary Society</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Church Mission Society</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Finland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evangelical Free Church of Finland</td>
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<td>Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Gossen Mission</td>
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<td>Presbyterian Church in Ireland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Den norske Tibesmøn (NHAM)</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<td></td>
<td>InterAct</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Multi-national Bodies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

United Kingdom
- Baptist Missionary Society (BMS World Mission)
- Church Missionary Society

Finland
- Evangelical Free Church of Finland
- Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission

Germany
- Gossen Mission

Ireland
- Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service
- Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service

Norway
- Den norske Tibesmøn (NHAM)

Sweden
- InterAct

Multi-national Bodies
- Interserve
Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects in transition</th>
<th>Rs (ml.)</th>
<th>(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>261.1</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Team</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Support Team (UMN’s new work)</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate (Organisational Resourcing)</td>
<td>96.9</td>
<td>25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50th Anniversary Celebration</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>374.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than 70% of UMN donor funding continues to come from Europe. Some is government funding channelled through UMN Member Bodies, but UMN also enjoys strong support from individuals, church groups, and other agencies around the world. Expatriates working with UMN continue to do so at no cost to programme funds, so their services represent an additional donation to the development of Nepal. UMN continues to maintain high standards of financial accountability and effective use of resources, reflected in a high level of trust and appreciation expressed by donors.

Mission Statement

To minister to the needs of the people of Nepal in the Name and Spirit of Christ, and to make Christ known by word and life, thereby strengthening the universal Church in its total ministry.

Vision for Nepal

Individuals and communities will be able to secure their basic needs in a sustainable manner through participation in effective and self-reliant Nepali organisations, including Nepali Christian organisations.

UMN considers basic needs to be:

- Security, peace, and harmony resulting from right relationships of human beings with God, with each other, and the environment.
- Human dignity and rights with justice, including religious freedom, and equal opportunity in decision-making.
- Social structures and traditions which encourage initiative, hope, and a commitment to the common good.
- Good health and health practices, sufficient food and water, education, and a sound and just economy which can provide shelter, clothing, and other necessities to all citizens.

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Print

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Mission and Vision were adopted by the UMN Board on 3rd December 2002 as part of the Five Year Strategic Plan 2003-2008.
The year 2003-2004 was the first year of UMN’s Strategic Plan (2003-2008), which calls for UMN to undergo profound change from an organisation operating projects, programmes and institutions, to one that capacity-builds Nepali organisations through partnership. During this first year of the plan, most of UMN’s efforts were spent on carefully planning the implementation of UMN’s previous work to ensure that its future is safe in capable Nepali organisations. UMN’s new work was started, through the appointment of key staff, development of basic frameworks of working in new ways, and the initial steps in establishing clusters, (what UMN calls the geographical centres of UMN’s new work), in Sunsari and Mugu Districts.

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The Programme Support Team and the Transition Team could not function without the hard work of the people who work in the background and whose work annual reports seldom talk about. But perhaps this is a good year to talk about them. They are people in our Marketing Team, our Donor Relations Team, our Finance Team and our Personnel Team. They are the ones who work day in day out to get us the resources that the Programme Support Team and the Transition Team need to do the work up front. They are the reason that those teams were able to go through this awkward first year of Transition when we needed to concentrate our staff and resources on transitioning UMN’s current work, and when our new work was only just getting off the ground. That is not an easy time to find resources.

But UMN is committed to securing its previous work. And, our resource-building staff has placed us in a position that we can. And the future looks good. As of July 2004, the majority of our partners, projects, programmes or institutions that have become independent of UMN have secured promises of funding for a number of years into the future. In addition, through the hard work of members of the Programme Support staff and our resource-building teams listed above, funding for our new work is also becoming available. We thank everyone for their trust and commitment.

Many people find times of change hard. UMN has made a commitment to transition in a careful and compassionate way, and this commitment has been very real for us this year as we have said farewell to some staff, and welcomed others into our new teams. Many of those whose jobs with UMN came to an end this year benefited from UMN's first 'Outplacement Programme'.

Staff are from different cultural backgrounds.
UMN: Securing the Future

Since this was the first year of the new Strategic Plan, which dictated a radical new organisational structure, the year began with the formation of the Programme Support Team (PST), which is the team within UMN that now carries out UMN’s programmes.

The commitment of UMN to change, and to work in new ways in new areas, has led to the relatively unique opportunity for an organisation; that of starting developing new frameworks for the way it works. Thus, one of the first tasks of the PST was to develop definitions of and selection criteria for partnerships, and strategies for working with partner organisations and a framework for secondment of staff to partnership organisations. UMN will partner with non-government organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs) and also with schools, government agencies, companies and institutions.

Over the year the Strategy and Policy Team worked with the PST to find a way to measure our impact; we wanted to work with partners who would have a sustainable impact (that is, an effect that persists after they stopped working with them) on their target beneficiaries of whom at least half had to be poor. We then looked at many poverty tools, and created one, tailored to make it appropriate for Nepal and for the types of partners we would be working with. The tool had to be relatively simple and easy to administer since we are asking our partners to administer it. The tool has just been translated into Nepali and is ready for field-testing.

Early in the year, the Cluster Areas were decided: the districts of Mugu and Sunsari were to be the first two Clusters. The Programme Support Director and Counterpart initiated exploratory visits to Mugu and Sunsari to begin to establish relationships with community leaders, organisations and government line agencies. When Cluster Leaders and Counterparts were appointed, they joined in the visits. By the end of the year, conflict-sensitive offices had been established in both Mugu and Sunsari with staff in residence at both sites. Towards the end of the year, the Programme Support Director began to make exploratory approaches to contacts in Rukum, which were very positive.

Within the PST, a Capacity Building Team (CBT) is being developed which has the primary responsibility of strengthening partner organisations. During this initial foundation year, while the Clusters are just getting started, the Capacity Building Team (CBT) has been concentrating on the development of a Management Development Training Programme that is separated into individual self-standing modules. It focuses on individual learners, but addresses managerial needs at the organisational level, concentrating on not-for-profit organisations. The Capacity Building Team will also house our Peace and Advocacy Advisors. Placing them in the Capacity Building Team, rather than in the Technical Team, stresses our commitment to providing all partners with capacity building in these areas since we believe that they are needed in all our areas of work.

UMN helped to facilitate a Vision Conference on Integral Mission in March 2004. The conference generated much interest and training materials are now being translated into Nepali. UMN is also facilitating exposure of Nepali organisations to the Micah Network, which, for example, can provide materials to help organisations to move forward towards helping government in accomplishing the Millennium Development Goals.

Ishari, Sunsari - one of the locations of UMN’s new working areas.

Ishari, Sunsari - यु.एन.एन. के नए कार्यक्रम में कार्यस्थलों के एक कार्यक्रम
We celebrated our Golden Jubilee this year in many ways and in many places - both inside Nepal and in several other countries worldwide, which reflects the many countries that have been represented in the UPMN staff over these 50 years. Events were held in Norway, Sweden, Germany, UK, USA, Canada, Holland, Finland, Australia and New Zealand. Many UPMN staff who served in Nepal in past years, were able to meet together, share memories and give thanks for God’s work that has been achieved.

In Nepal, we had celebrations in March in various project locations - Butwal, Tarset, Pokhara, Mug, Kathmandu and Okhaldhunga. To mark the Jubilee, we published a special 2004 Calendar; an Anniversary book in both English and Nepali, a special song was composed and a video was made showing how some people’s lives were changed through contact with UPMN.

Department of Postal Services/Nepal assisted in producing a UPMN commemorative Rs 5 postage stamp, which was officially launched on the morning of 5th March.

Throughout 2004, we have promoted an Anniversary Appeal both within Nepal and internationally. The proceeds from this will be used to help needy people, particularly in their education and also for some relief projects.

The climax of our celebrations was in May when there was a special reception and photo display in the Blue Star Hotel. Many government representatives, Embassy staff, INGO and NGO heads were present and our Chief Guest was Dr. Suresh Raj Sharma, Vice-Chancellor of Kathmandu University.

This was followed by a 4-day Festival in Godavari Village Resort where many ex-UPMN staff, some who had served in Nepal in the 1950s, came from around the world to share, celebrate and give thanks for all that has been achieved. It was a time of interaction with current expatriate and Nepali staff as well and a chance to look ahead to the challenges and opportunities that face UPMN in the coming years.

Happy Birthday to all those who have served in UPMN...

UMMN 50th anniversary stamp

Kathmandu, Dec 9th, 2004

Nepal, 1954-2004

1500kgs

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UMN: Concentrating its way of Working
यूनियन: कार्य गरेको तत्कालिन केन्द्रित

UMN's Strategic Direction 10 mandates that UMN will become "...more focused" and "...involved in fewer areas of work." UMN has selected some areas of work to focus on. The selection of these seven Areas of Work was based on our first four Strategic Directions (addressing root causes of poverty, addressing injustice, peace and conflict transformation and relief), input from our stakeholders, and the needs of Nepal. The areas of work are: Food Security, Women and Children, HIV/AIDS, Education, Enterprise Development, Peace and Conflict Transformation, and Relief.

यू.एम.एन. र राजनीतिक विश्वास १० ले यू.एम.एन. "...बेहद केन्द्रित" तथा "...थर्यो कार्यक्षेत्रहरूको सामान्य" बन्नुहुने भएकर अधिकार लिएको छ। यू.एम.एन.ले आफ्नो ध्यान केन्द्रित गरेका हुनका निम्नलिखित बेहिसक्षेत्रहरूको लागि ठाउँ तथा राजनीतिक विश्वास (परिवहनको मूल कारणलाई सम्बन्धजन्य गर्न, जनाकारवाद लागि सम्बन्धजन्य गर्न, राष्ट्रिय र इलाकी सम्बन्धका संघर्षको सम्बन्ध र साने नेपालको आवश्यकताहरूको आधारमा गरिएको छ। यी कार्यक्षेत्रहरू प्रमुखकर ठाउँ : खाद्य सुरक्षा, महिलाहरू र बालविकास, शिक्षा, राजनीतिक तथा सामाजिक, हाइटिज, जिल्लाहरू र इलाकाहरूको संघर्षको सम्बन्ध र साने नेपालको आवश्यकताहरूको आधारमा गरिएको छ।
Within the Programme Support Team (PST), the Technical Advisory Team (TAT) has the responsibility of providing technical support to partners in the areas of work. In the past year, the TAT was formed and areas of work are being developed, starting in this first year with Food Security, Women and Children, Education and Peace and Conflict Transformation. In each of these areas of work, a Working Group was formed outside the formal organisational structure of UMMN to assist the relevant Technical Advisors in their work.

Food Security

Our Food and Security Advisors were heavily involved in a major Food Security and Hunger Survey that was sponsored by Bread for the World (BROT) and Church World Service, Germany (BEE) and carried out by UMMN. This survey, carried out in the districts of Mugu, Sunari and Dhading, found that about half of the people in the areas surveyed were hungry. The conflict is having a significant effect on food security. Conflict displaces people and affects the food distribution and production system, and development activities related to food security. This is particularly true in Mugu District.

The Food Security Advisors visited both Mugu and Sunari districts to make need assessments. Over the year, since the Food Security Survey, the conflict has worsened in Mugu. Interventions there are mostly conflict-related and related to agriculture. In Sunari, fewer people are land-dependent; rather they need jobs.

Our Food Security Advisors have also networked with other organisations interested in advocacy issues such as seed biodiversity and conservation of traditional seeds.

Women and Children

During the past year, members of the Women and Children team have visited both Mugu and Sunari on exploratory visits to assist in needs assessments. In Mugu, rapid assessment showed opportunities in training of local health care workers and improving health care services, particularly access, and providing community awareness on nutrition, health and gender issues. The effects of the conflict on a remote district are telling: poor nutrition and poor health care are an ugly consequence, and the women and children suffer the most.

UMMN is also facilitating the formation of a community-based organisation of the physically-challenged, who have benefited from UMMN’s Children’s Rehabilitation Fund. After several children received reconstructive surgery from this programme, parents came to know each other and by word-of-mouth told others about the programme. Now they are forming a group to raise local awareness and advocate for disabled children.

In Sunari, there is the possibility of partnering with Christian organisations that are working with adolescents and children at risk, particularly street children. The situation here is different from Mugu. Sunari is more urban than Mugu, and so here the problems of girl trafficking and HIV/AIDS are more common.

UMMN is also strengthening District Hospitals by providing on site training to remote District Hospital Doctors and other staff, specifically to improve skills that will reduce maternal mortality. Specifically surgical and other assessment skills are being upgraded. Now that repeat visits are being made, and

One life saved in Okhaldhunga Hospital

Sharib, a six-week old boy weighing only 2 kg was carried by his mother and grandfather for three days and he arrived at the hospital on the verge of death. His mother just wanted medicine, but she was persuaded to stay and after a few days Sharib was diagnosed with an intestinal disease, which blocked the passage of food. Only an operation would save his life. Mother wanted to return home immediately, fearing an operation for the weak little boy. The hospital staff explained the two ways, one leading to certain death, the other with hope and assured her of the cost being met by the medical assistance fund. At last she agreed, the operation was much prayed for, and soon Sharib was sucking his mother’s milk and he began to put on weight. His mother learnt that sometimes you risk to gain something.

- Kristen Bohler

(Photograph: Sharib when he arrived - Sharib after treatment)
उन्हें निर्देशित किया गया कि उन्हें दो नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा। उन्हें निर्देशित किया गया कि उन्हें दो नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

नवीन निर्देशित किया गया कि उन्हें दो नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

रेखा के तीनों दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा। रेखा के तीनों दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

अग्रिम निर्देशित किया गया कि उन्हें दो नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

रेखा के तीनों दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा। रेखा के तीनों दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

अग्रिम निर्देशित किया गया कि उन्हें दो नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।

रेखा के तीनों दृष्टिकोण से देखना होगा।
A tale of poverty

Girishkumar’s wife

Naina Singh B.K. lives in remote Mugu district with his wife and 4 children. He has no land, only a small hut. He has no animals. He does not even own cooking utensils. He works other people’s land, and everyone in the family collects firewood from the forest to sell in the bazaar. But the market price isn’t good, and he is always worried what will happen if he is unable to work. His son is still very young. The family needs six manas of rice (about 3 kg) a day, but he only earns enough, at the best for four manas a day. “How can we live like this? I’m like a frog in a well. All day we only think about getting enough to eat. I can’t even think about educating my children,” he says.

Everyone in the family has cracked skin, as the climate in Mugu is very harsh. Sometimes the cracks bleed, but they can’t stop working. “The day we stop working, we have no food. We can manage, but the children cry at night with hunger. The pain we feel when they cry is worse than when our feet bleed.” B.K. and his family cry out for the many poor, lower caste people who live in Karnali Zone, where there is no chance of employment and no help or support.

-Umesh Lama

A song from a small village in remote Mugu

"I have written many songs. Some were printed in a new book by MEPF. I wrote about changes in my family, our village and our Cheli class in Pina. Now we all brush our teeth, bath twice a week, keep our clothes clean, for feminine hygiene, have toilets and kitchen gardens. We send our younger sisters to school, teach our mothers about nutrition and safe motherhood, and our fathers about animal care. We are no longer shy. We sang and danced on International Women’s Day and at UMTF’s 50th year anniversary celebrations. We can use and count money for shopping. Twenty of us had 3 months knitting training and are able to knit complicated patterns and earn some money. We will join Pina Women’s Group and get married only after we are 18. We will have only 2 children and give them the opportunity to study. This is just a start – our opportunity for learning has come at last! My song is called “Pina village then and now.”

- Submitted by Kripa Kiranjivan

The time has come for Mugu women to learn new skills
Hope restored by rehabilitation work in Mugu

Rehabilitation for physically handicapped people has been one of the Mygu Education project. Twenty young people from poor families from this district which is only linked to roads by an unreliable plane or helicopter service received treatment.

Kathmandu: half of the children were debtors and without hope. Hans Devi B.K. is one of these. Hans Devi was born in Lamka village 20 years ago. About 4 years ago her right leg was infected and this turned into a severe and chronic osteomyelitis (decaying of bones). She was with doctors, received treatment, and her leg did not get better. Finally through UMN support, Hans Devi had the abbreviated leg amputated and she was fitted with an artificial leg. Now she is supported through the UMN Scholarship programme. Smiling and beautiful with hope for the future, Hans Devi wants to become a teacher.
UMN: Having a National Impact

Although UMN intends to decentralise and work in partnership in Clusters, it continues to have an impact at the national level.

A UMN Scholarship student says...

"We used to live in an extended family. One day a landslide destroyed our land. Then we moved to Kathmandu for work and food. My father worked in a small shop and my mother in a factory. When I was studying in class four my father married another woman and went to stay with her. My mother lost her job. I was about to be expelled for not paying fees. Then someone referred to UMN. Through AGNW I received a girl’s scholarship. I was able to complete my School Leaving Certificate Examination successfully. Now I am in class twelve. I am grateful to UMN for the support I receive to complete my high school. Thank you UMN."

- Submitted by Bipl Kumari Gurung

"I would like to thank UMN for its support. I am happy to see that UMN is doing a great job in helping children. I would recommend UMN to all my friends and family."
UMN Oral Health Programme: Contributing to National Policy

The Ministry of Health Nepal now has an Oral Health Focal Point, and the UMN Oral Health Programme (OHF) has the privilege of helping to establish new plans for improving oral health across the whole country.

A national infection control policy along with videos and training packages and training programmes for dentists, dental assistants and health workers are all in place. OHF helped produce these along with other local and international partners.

Even more exciting has been OHF’s task implementing the Focal Point’s aim of a nation-wide survey of oral health. A team of eleven dental examiners and assistants surveyed people from Dhangadhi to Jhapa, Smalikot to Simvar. This will help to guide future national policy. But also coming from the finding of the survey there is evidence that OHF’s advocacy project of fluoridating toothpaste five years ago is now having an impact on the oral health of Nepal. After years of increasing tooth decay there is now a decline, with the resulting saving in dental treatment costs and the improved quality of life.

God is good and faithful; praise Him for opportunities to improve the lives of so many people across the country.

- Robert Yet

Nepal’s health authorities and NGOs have made great strides in improving dental care in recent years. UMN has been instrumental in these efforts, and has contributed significantly to the development of new plans for improving oral health across the whole country. The Ministry of Health Nepal is now implementing a national infection control policy, and has partnered with OHF to guide future national policy. The results of a national survey conducted by the survey team are encouraging, with evidence of a decline in tooth decay, thanks to OHF’s advocacy project to fluoridate toothpaste. This is a significant achievement for Nepal’s oral health, and a testament to the hard work of NGOs and health authorities alike.
During 2003-2004 UMN continued to work through Nepali organisations as well as in its own projects. There are six new NGOs that have evolved from CDHP Makwanpur, the Mental Health Programme, Oral Health Programme, Sakriya Unit (HIV/AIDS) and Rural Development Centre. During 2003-2004 they successfully implemented UMN devised plans in these areas using funding accessed by UMN.

Let us learn from History!

In February - March 1 visited several schools in Syangja where class 12 students were teaching different subjects as part of their teaching practice.

Ragnhild Nystrom training teachers

One day I visited the school in Sepat and saw a young lady student teach a history lesson about Ancient Greece to class 6 and 7. She made the students read the whole text in the book and then she asked some questions to find out whether they understood or not. The usual method is to ask one question after every sentence and thus the students listen rather than their understanding. Afterwards I talked to her and told her I thought she had done very well in saving the questions to the end. She explained that up to the day before she had been following the usual way of asking questions, but that day the headmaster of Sepat school had been listening to her lesson and he had told her that it might be better if she tried to ask the questions at the end. I was overjoyed to hear that! Not only had she changed the way that teaching is about making the students understand, rather than just repeating the same facts, he had also taken the time to observe a class taught by a female class 12 student and to give her advice on how to improve her teaching. On top of that, she was brave enough to try out, what was probably to her a completely new way of teaching. If that’s not success and “lives being changed” I don’t know what is!

- Ragnhild Nystrom

Nepal’s capability to maintain its existing power generating infrastructure, Himaal Hydro and General Construction Ltd has had one secondee capacity building the company by mentoring senior management, and Hydro-Consult Private Ltd had two technical experts in an attempt to enhance its sustainability.

Liquidation of Butwal Plywood Factory & effectively complete except that one shareholder refuses to accept their share capital payment. The closure of Developing and Consulting Services will be completed when the remaining funds are disbursed. This will probably be to Butwal Technical Institute once its future is secured.

Gandaki High School Boarding School (GBS) continues to make an outstanding contribution to education in Nepal. UMN secondee and Principal Dr. PV Chandy left in April 2004 after seven years of service. His contribution to building up academic standards has led to the exceptional examination results this year. Nearly all students in examination years passed with distinction or in the first division. Four students finished
The Rural Development Centre continued to deliver high-quality training in the area of community and rural development. Over the year they delivered a total of 942 trainee days including 49% for women, meeting or exceeding their targets. About 66% of these trainings were delivered to poor rural farmers of which 26% were educational trainings. Eight new training courses were developed and delivered over the last year and, moving towards sustainability, 28% of recurring expenditure was covered from local income sources.

Laltipur Nursing Campus (LNC) continued to train post-basic Bachelor of Nursing students and had 100% success results, with two students from Profficiency Certificate level securing first and second position, and one BN student was first among Tribhuvan University Nursing Campuses. LNC became an independent institution in December 2003, managed by an independent Board and affiliated with IOM. LNC became fully independent of UMN with the transfer of assets in July 2004, but UMN will continue capacity building work with them over the next year.

At the end of 2003-2004, some projects were concluded as part of their long-term plans. Capacity building support to the NGO Community Development Services was completed and Ramirez Community Development Project closed. Lamjung Community Health Programme (LCHP) finished its work this year. In this final year they completed the training of female community health volunteers, traditional birth attendants, village animal health workers and basic care and maintenance volunteers who look after the village drinking water system. Remaining assets were transferred to local organisations. Mugum Education Project (MEP) concentrated on empowering groups, including building the management capacity of two local NGOs. Mugum language literacy primers were published. An evaluation showed that MEP has been effective in reducing poverty, community participation in all types of work has increased, and awareness in preventive health care in the areas of sanitation, health and hygiene, drinking water, nutrition, and use of smokeless stoves has been raised.

The Community Development and Health Programme (CDHP) completed the transition of its long-standing project work. The Centre for Community Development Nepal (CCDN) implemented the Makwanpur programme to improve health posts. A community drug scheme for mental and oral health was initiated, and home delivery cases were handled by trained Traditional Birth Attendants. Mothers benefited from nutrition clinics and NPE activities. Community development activities included clean drinking water supply, kitchen gardens and income generation activities. In Laltipur District, the handover of health posts to the government was completed. Chapagaun Teaching Health Post was successfully transferred to the Districts Development Committee, governed by a community board and managed by the local Christian NGO Shanti Nepal. This completed the work of CDHP, which was closed as a UMN project in July 2004.

UMN’s Mental Health Programme was jointly implemented by UMN and the Centre for Mental Health and Counselling - Nepal. The Western Region Community Mental Health Programme was evaluated and similar programmes were started in Makwanpur and Bhaktapur Districts. Tsansen hospital was developed as a referral point through support to their psychiatric out-patients department. The Human Resource Development Unit partnered with Tribhuvan University Institute of Medicine (IOM) to contribute training in MD-Psychiatry and M.Phil courses. Clinical psychology programmes, teaching, and supervision in child-guidance clinics have continued.

The Nutrition Programme played a vital role in supporting national nutrition strategies through developing teaching materials, training and technical assistance to HM/GN, INGOs and NGOs. 1216 community people received training in Tanahun and Dhanush: of the children in the programme 66% in Tanahun and 58% in Dhading increased their reference weight for age. 81 mothers received nutrition training in Laltipur and a community nutrition initiative at Bhaktapur has started.

The UPM, Sakya Lhunzhun Lhakpa Sinyu Shari Sari (SSS) in 2003. They implemented the Sakya Unit activities during the year, developing their role as the lead agency in counselling training. They prepared a manual for counselling which was endorsed by the government for national use. SSS also provided training in Home Based Care and other areas, and produced a video "Sarsho" promoting AIDS awareness, which is being broadcast on the national television network.

A successful new start - दृष्टि नैसर्गिक बनो कविता

Mental health services are very few in Nepal, and then only in Kathmandu and other centres. UMN’s mental health programme pioneered many of these services and related training, so when UMN’s future plans were explained, the programme staff were eager to form their own organisation. With around 12% of the population suffering from mental illness – that’s 3 million people – they understood the desperate need for on-going work. So, the Centre for Mental Health and Counselling – Nepal (CMC – N) was started. It was registered in May 2003, and in July 2004 became fully independent. Already this young organisation has become well known and in demand. It is involved in community mental health programmes and trainings in different parts of the country; in a school survey to increase treatment of children; in counselling training and supervision for other organisations such as leprosy hospit and in trauma counselling. The latter is more and more important as conflict continues, and CMC provides services as well as training workers of other organisations. Building on their firm UMN foundations, CMC is going from strength to strength in its service to the suffering people of Nepal.

Martina Bognert

Successful growth of new organisations
A. Current UMN implemented Programmes, Projects and Institutions

- Yu-Ekakha, a deaf education programme in Mahottari
- Jhirmuk Industrial Development Centre, Pvt. Ltd., Panchchhy
- School Partnership Programme, Spanga
- British Technical Institute, Rupandehi
- Oral Health Programme, Kathmandu
- Scholarship Programme, Kathmandu
- Disaster Preparedness Programme, Kathmandu
- Yala Urban Health Programme, Lalitpur
- Okhaldunga Community Hospital, Okhaldhunga

B. UMN Projects, completed in 2003 – 04

- Nepal 2003-04 economic growth and poverty alleviation
- Primary School Education Project, Pashupatinath
- Community Health Programme, Lamjung
- Manakamana Maternal and Child Health
- Development Projects, Kathmandu
- Rural Child Development Project, Rampur
- Dhaulagiri Community Development Project, Rampur

C. UMN Projects, that became partners in 2003-04

- Nepal 2003-04 economic growth and poverty alleviation
- Primary School Education Project, Pashupatinath
- Community Health Programme, Lamjung
- Manakamana Maternal and Child Health
- Development Projects, Kathmandu
- Rural Child Development Project, Rampur

D. UMN partners (formerly UMN projects)

- Youth in Empowerment Sector - Nepal, ACham Child Welfare Society
- SAHAS Programme, Kathmandu
- Animal Health Training and Consultancy Services, Kathko
- Amp Pipal Hospital, Birgunj
- Resources Identification and Management, Siddhartha
- Health and Family Planning
- Community Health Programme, Lamjung
- Manakamana Maternal and Child Health
- Development Projects, Kathmandu
- Rural Child Development Project, Rampur

E. Other Current UMN Partners

- Nepal Support Group for Children's Rights
- Independent Society for Surkhet, Surkhet
- Enstar Project A2, Kathmandu
- Gondal College of Engineering and Science, Kasik
- Banjars Rural Health and Development
- Tansen Nursing School, Palpa
- Womens' Health, Kathmandu
- Nepal Permaculture Group, Kathmandu
- Nepal Bible Ashram, Kathmandu
- People, Energy and Environment Development Association, Kathmandu
- Sagarmatha Youth Revival Front Nepal, Kathmandu