

Number 20, September 2006

UMN News



United Mission to Nepal





Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Nepal.

Jennie is out of Nepal for two months, so I have the opportunity to write to you.

From a political point of view, the last few months have been quite confusing. The emotional "high" in May, when the amazing people's movement brought in sweeping changes, led to dissatisfaction when the high expectations were not able to be fulfilled as quickly as people wanted. Nevertheless, there are a lot of positive developments. The Maoists are no longer underground, there is a commitment to work towards a new Constitution and Nepal has been declared a secular state, which means that all religions will be regarded equally. Travel throughout the country is so much easier and the regular bandhs (strikes) no longer happen. There is still much to do, however, and the recent involvement of the UN may be a helpful move forward.

UMN has now set up its fifth Cluster, based in Rukum district which is right in the middle of the Maoist heartland. We are excited about the possibilities there. Along with this we continue to recruit new Nepali staff to fulfil our commitments in all five clusters. We are grateful for all these new members of the UMN family and all the skills they bring.

We are still involved in various institutions around the country, mainly through the secondment of expatriates and it is good to see the impact that UMNers are able to have by working and living as "salt and light" in their

communities. So much good has been achieved over so many years by so many people in these places. It is proving hard to get suitable and timely government decisions for the transition of the three hospitals- Tansen, Okhaldhunga and Patan. The political changes have slowed things significantly.

Integral Mission is featured in this UMNNews and this is something that we want to more intentionally focus on. We believe that God is interested in whole people; that is their physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs. We trust that through UMN's involvement, people and communities will understand their value before God, and be transformed.

As you read through this issue of UMNNews, join me in thanking God for His blessings to us in Nepal. There are many unresolved issues, many uncertainties, many people hurting right across the country and many things that we would like to see different. However, He has called us and placed us in UMN at this special time for a purpose. A big thank you to all of you who have been faithfully praying for Nepal and for UMN.

We look to God for wisdom in an ongoing uncertain situation.

"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault".

Give thanks to our generous God!

DSM Conkey

David McConkey
Acting Executive Director

IN THIS ISSUE

Tallighuira	3
'We have conducted many trainings but the situation of the poor does not change...'	4
'Empowered community and enabled local government forge ahead'	5
Laxmi	6
Sita	7
Serving the whole person	8
A community making a difference...	9
UMN news in brief	10
Programme update	11
Transition update	12
Join us	14

TALLIGHUIRA

...A model Dalit village

In the recent past, women from the remote village of Tallighuira hid inside their houses whenever outsiders visited their village...dirty children, impassable village paths, characterized the way of life of the people from Tallighuira a village in one of the remotest districts in Nepal, Mugu.

UN's partner the National Dalit Development Forum (NDDF) has been working in this challenging area among the Dalits in Tallighuira to address some of their common problems like poor nutritional habits, a lack of education and a very high infant mortality rate.

Today there are significant improvements in this tiny and remote village of Tallighuira – women are no longer afraid to talk to outsiders visiting their village and when a problem arises in the household, the members of the household come together to resolve it peaceably.

In addition every household has a garden where they try to grow supplementary crops like vegetables and each family tries to prepare a balanced diet meal. Households also have a smokeless stove and a solar system panel for light.

To improve their general welfare, the people of Tallighuira have adopted an agro-livestock farming system to raise additional income for their families, traditional birth attendants have been taught and are now practising safe delivery practices, households are setting

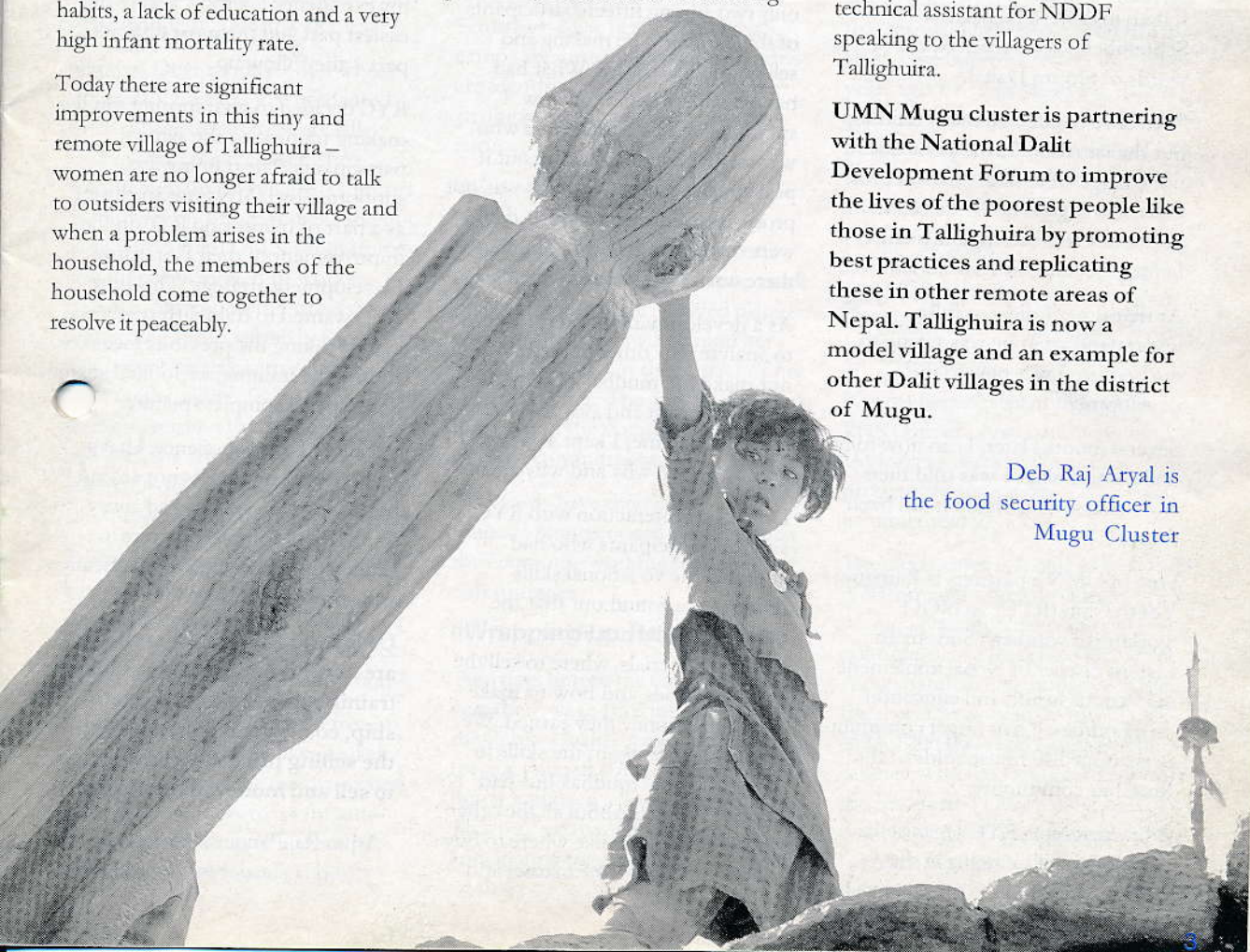
aside a regular saving for future income generation investments, parenting education and non formal education classes are being conducted for adults and school dropout children.


'We have arrived to this height through the efforts of the NDDF' says a villager. 'But a lot still needs to be done in order for us to achieve our dream' the villager adds.

"UMN is building our capacity to make your dream a success" Nanda Nepali the food security junior technical assistant for NDDF speaking to the villagers of Tallighuira.

UMN Mugu cluster is partnering with the National Dalit Development Forum to improve the lives of the poorest people like those in Tallighuira by promoting best practices and replicating these in other remote areas of Nepal. Tallighuira is now a model village and an example for other Dalit villages in the district of Mugu.

Deb Raj Aryal is
the food security officer in
Mugu Cluster





'We have conducted many trainings but the situation of the poor does not change...'

During a visit to the Department of Cottage and Small Scale Industries in Itahari in eastern Nepal, last September, I was struck by the words of Shyam Dahal.

"We have conducted many trainings but the situation of the poor does not change". He said. "In order for these trainings to be effective, we need to look at a complete picture before the training". He added.

At that time, I did not fully understand what he was saying to me because I was new to the development field.

Several months later, I can now fully understand what I was told then and what a valuable tip it has been for me!

One of UMN's partners is Ramgunj Youth Club (RYC) an NGO working in southern Sunsari an eastern district of Nepal implementing various health and education programmes. Their target community is about 140 households in the Musahar community.

A few years ago, RYC organised a vocational skills training in the weaving of a mudha - a local Nepali

stool to increase the households' meagre income. After the training only two among fifteen participants of the training were making and selling mudhas. Why? What had happened? I wanted to know. I spoke to the two participants who were selling mudhas to find out if perhaps the mudha business was not profitable but I was told that they were making some profit and that there was a big market for mudhas.

As a development worker, I wanted to analyse why other participants did not make the mudhas despite the potential profit and available market. During this time, I kept asking the question why, why and why again?

During my interaction with RYC and the participants who had attended the vocational skills training, we found out that the participants did not know where to buy raw materials, where to sell the finished goods and how to make use of the money they earned. We had only given them the skills in 'how to make' mudhas but had neglected to talk about all the other important aspects like where to buy the raw materials, the market and

saving the profits for future investment. Giving the training in my experience is almost always the easiest part and the most difficult part – the follow up.

RYC decided to give another mudha making training to the same participants. The training was supported by UMN Sunsari cluster as a part of mentoring RYC in the improvement of their Enterprise Development strategy. This time RYC wanted to train differently and avoid making the previous mistakes. Before the training, we looked at and developed a complete picture.

Because of this experience, I have realised that training is not an end but a means to an end and always to think of the complete picture in order to make training more effective and sustainable.

UMN and Ramgunj Youth Club are now giving practical skills training in basic entrepreneurship, cost calculation, deciding the selling price, how and where to sell and money management.

Arjun Raj Pandey is the cluster team leader for Sunsari Cluster



“EMPOWERED COMMUNITY AND ENABLED LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORGE AHEAD”

The final months of the Yala Urban Health Programme (YUHP) have held many special moments and generated some wonderful quotable quotes...

Narayan Devi a mother of 4 whose eldest daughter has just graduated from college began to be socially aware when, as a teenager, she volunteered in her village to support immunisation programmes. She got a job with a rural UMN programme and then was moved to work in Lalitpur. She found the streets damp, filled with rubbish, the children often sick with diarrhoea,

I coughs, skin infections, the women conservative not wanting to talk with the stranger who was knocking on their door, even though she was a married woman.

Today, Naryan has become a much loved and respected counsellor, support and guide to the Ward Health Implementation Committees in Wards (electoral areas) no.17 and 4.

The streets are now rubbish free, almost all the children have had all their vaccinations, the factory owners allow their workers to go for ante-natal check-ups and to attend the Alcoholics Anonymous support

group meeting, local health care professionals give their time to treat poor patients in the ward clinic on Saturdays, basic health screening camps are ensuring health problems are identified quickly and there is a strong positive sense of volunteerism.

Wards 4 and 17 had special gifts for Narayan Devi when she went on behalf of YUHP to distribute our tokens of love and appreciation to all their volunteers. She received plaques and scarves which will remind her and all who visit of the impact of her years of service. The gifts YUHP gave will remind the volunteers of their years of commitment.

The wards have their clinics, their trained volunteers and confidence as they continue working with their communities.

“Wrapping-up Rejoicings”

Two days before the end of the fiscal year there was a final interaction with the Public Health Section (PHS) in the city council. They commented that it had been a ‘long farewell’. This was a day we had been anticipating together for four years.

We were sitting in their new offices which included a training room, store room and excellent administrative set-up. There was a total of 16 staff. I was awed to reflect that nine years ago there was nothing. Eight years ago I was pleading for space to put one small desk in someone else’s office. In 1997 the city council annual health care budget was NRs. 20,000 (about USD 280) and nothing on salaries. In 2006 they spent NRs.900,000 (USD 13,000) on health care in addition paying 15 salaries.

Karuna Bajracharya, the dynamic PHS Officer’s final comment was, ‘As long as there is a health programme in this city YUHP will be remembered.’

The city council is fragile as is all local government in Nepal yet there is a strong commitment to see the work continued to at least the same level and expanded. The budget for the fiscal year beginning 17 July 2006 is NRs. 1200,000 (USD 16,000) plus salaries, which is enough to support the transferred DOTS clinic and pay two HIV/AIDS peer educators and outreach workers.

“Laughter and tears after a nine year partnership”

The last two months were a kaleidoscope of picnics, songs, poems, dances, tears and gifts.....YUHP presented tokens of appreciation to all who have encouraged, supported, volunteered and contributed to the programme over the last 8 years, including the 45 staff who have worked in YUHP. A total of 600 plates with the YUHP logo and a short Nepali message of appreciation and 130 small wooden stands with an embossed YUHP logo were distributed. The Ward Health Implementation Committees showered us with silver picture frames, delicately carved wooden frames, statues, brass containers, shawls and scarves. All items that will

be treasured and used in the days to come. Much as we appreciated the gifts we needed no mementos as the communities and colleagues in the city council will always be in our hearts.

Together we have shared

- ♦ challenges: managing the logistics for the measles eradication campaign and regular Vitamin A days
- ♦ struggles: the constantly changing local political leadership, Maoist threats, strikes and street bombs
- ♦ campaigns: together we have mobilised and marched for safe motherhood, on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS, or to protest child labour

- ♦ training: Tole Health Promoters, student nurses, student social works
- ♦ encouragement: Ward Health Implementation Committees
- ♦ supporting the marginalised: factory workers
- ♦ joys: weddings, festivals, new babies
- ♦ sorrows: the serious illness, accidents and the death of a colleague

The communities and the Ward Health Implementation Committees are confident that despite political uncertainty they will continue the work they have begun.

Christine Preston is the
Deputy Programme Director
Based in Kathmandu

LAXMI

Laxmi is from a village called Siluwa. She was admitted to hospital at the end of November 2004 and was not discharged until the beginning of May 2005.

Her mother and sister brought her to the hospital after she became ill and she was diagnosed as having cellulitis and a chest infection. Cellulitis is an infection of the skin and underlying tissues, which in her case had spread quite widely. She had to undergo eleven separate surgical procedures and have many physiotherapy treatments. In the beginning the doctor thought Laxmi's leg would have to be amputated due to the severity of the infection but later managed to contain the infection. Eventually her leg was saved.

Laxmi's home situation is far from easy with her husband working in India and 3 children to take care of.



They live in a rural and remote village and it is always very difficult to cover the family finances with the meagre salary that the husband earns from India. Consequently Laxmi has to support the family by farming the small piece of land that they own and stitching clothes.

It was beyond Laxmi's means to pay her hospital bill and so with the help of our Medical Assistance Fund, Laxmi's medical bills were paid. In addition our pastoral care

department also provided food for her and her attendant throughout their stay.

The Medical Assistance fund was set up to assist patients like Laxmi and it was a joyous day when Laxmi was able to walk out of the hospital, with her leg saved and to know that she would be able to care for her family again.

Rachel Karrach is Director
of Tansen Misison Hospital



"I found out that the mother had not been allowed to eat any green vegetables for fear that the child would get cold... "

SITA

Sita Malla was a school going teenager and 15 years old when she got married to Binod Kumar Malla, a well-off member of the community, a journalist and community medical assistant.

A few months later Sita was pregnant and due to deliver her first child during the biggest Nepali festival of Dashain. In this period many people return to their village homes to celebrate this festival with family members and most of the facilities including hospitals remain closed and hardly any transport is available.

It was during this big holiday that Sita started experiencing labour pains. For two days her family did not take her to the hospital and a village shaman was called to

administer treatment. But with her condition worsening by the day, I was called and asked by her family to find out what the problem was.

After examining Sita, I found it was a case of false labour and that complications had occurred due to her tender age. She was lethargic and not in a condition to deliver the child. The hospital was closed at the time and there was no helicopter service to take her to Surkhet, the nearest place with proper health facilities.

Out of options, I took some bottles of saline and medicines and tried to deliver the baby. It took a gruelling eight hours but the delivery was successful and a healthy male baby was born that evening. No other complications occurred.

When I returned a few days later to find out how the mother and child were faring, I found out that the mother had not been allowed to eat any green vegetables for fear that the child would get cold if the mother ate any vegetables. This was a harsh reminder again of the traditional beliefs that we encounter daily in our work.

Sita's story is an example of the general belief system of the people of Mugu – An older and respectable member of the society marries an underage girl, the treatment of the local shamans is still more valued than hospital treatment. In addition, the after delivery traditions and beliefs which promote high infant and maternal mortality rate for example mothers kept away from the house after delivery some times in cow sheds still leads to a big percentage of deaths because of infection.

Sar Maya is the Women and Children's Officer in Mugu Cluster.

SERVING THE WHOLE PERSON

First steps

Four years ago, the pastors and leaders of the eight congregations in Itahari, a town in the eastern part of Nepal, started monthly meetings for prayer, fellowship and mutual encouragement. Later this became Itahari Christian Society.

Various united activities like women's fellowship meetings and occasional youth/special celebration events took place from time to time.

Together the pastors and leaders decided to register this fellowship as a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO) and following the visit of the UMN's Programme Director in 2004 they began to explore this option seriously. They realised the need to form a team with a clear vision and commitment with a purpose - to work within their own congregations, addressing the most pressing needs.



Integral mission is a vision to see the church in Nepal minister to the needs of their communities in a holistic way—ministering to the physical and spiritual needs

HIV/AIDS is a big challenge at present in Sunsari and the churches decided that providing HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support to the community would be a first step. This resulted in the formation of Nawa Jeewan Samaj Sewa (NJSS) an NGO in Sunsari covering nine electoral areas and eight congregations of Itahari municipality.

Working with UMN and others

Partnering with UMN, Nawa Jeewan Samaj Sewa (NJSS) is successfully transitioning from an informal network to a sustainable, well

functioning, independent organisation. UMN has been continuously involved in building the organisational capacity of NJSS for the last one and half years.

With their capacity built, NJSS is putting to use its networking and cooperation skills with other I/NGOs and donor agencies as well as its grants writing skills. Recently, NJSS was awarded a \$6250 grant by World Vision for its Child Rights programme for a period of six months.

First Integral Mission Workshop in Eastern Nepal

With the support of UMN Sunsari cluster, NJSS organised the first

Integral Mission Conference at Elohim Church in Dharan inviting all church and organisation leaders from the eastern part of Nepal.

The purpose of the workshop was to empower the Christian Community in eastern Nepal for integral mission so that they will be able to respond to the community needs both spiritual and physical and for the Christian community to have a wider understanding of integral mission and its practice.

The participants...in their own words...

"The concept of integral mission is now clear to us."

"We have been inspired by this workshop. Social work is only a part of it, in truth the physical, social and spiritual are inseparable for the fullness of ministry to take place."

"It has helped us to know and see the lack in our ministry."

"The workshop brought key pastors and leaders in one place."

"This is the first such Christian programme where all speakers were Nepali. This means that the Nepali Christian community is growing both in quality and quantity."

Arjun Raj Pandey is the cluster team leader for Sunsari Cluster



A COMMUNITY MAKING A DIFFERENCE...

Community comes forward to implement Safe Motherhood Plan

It has been estimated that in Nepal, a woman dies every two hours from pregnancy related causes and for every maternal death it is estimated that another 30-40 women suffer from disabilities. The major factors for the high maternal deaths include overall poor health of women and lack of access to quality maternal health care services, particularly in rural areas. Other problems are difficult terrain, and poorly developed transportation and communication systems.

The Ministry of Health endorsed "Safe Motherhood" as a priority in its 1991 health policy viewing this as a major challenge.

UMN is supporting the implementation of the Safe Motherhood Plan at district level in Mugu and Rupandehi districts. This is part of Department for International Development (DFID)

funded support to the Safe Motherhood Programme in Nepal. As a part of this programme, we committed to upgrade the Primary Health Care Centre in Rupandehi to provide 24 hours basic emergency obstetrics care service.

A needs assessment of the health facility along with the community was carried out and later a five day workshop was conducted with about 50 participants from the community, the facility staff and the Facility Management Committee.

From this workshop an action plan for one year was drawn out to improve the facility.

A few months later, this community in Rupandehi has already implemented their first Action Plan by cleaning the facility compound and digging a waste disposal pit. People from the community show

up early around 8:00 am in the morning and clean the facility.

The cooperation between the community and the facility is overwhelming. Previously there was no such coordination and cooperation between them. They blamed each other for mismanagement. Now they work together hand in hand and this was an initiative taken solely by the community.

With the launching of the Safe Motherhood Programme, there has been some progress in the coverage of maternity care services and UMN is supporting its implementation at the district level, encouraging the community to be involved in the process.

**Maureen Darlang is a Technical
Advisor for Women and Children
Based in Kathmandu**

UMN NEWS IN BRIEF



Kathmandu Tutorial Group burying time capsule

Memorandum of Understanding signed between UMN and HDCS

Human Development and Community Services (HDCS) and UMN in pursuit of a lasting and sustainable future for the UMN hospitals in Tansen and Okhaldhunga signed a Memorandum of Understanding in June 2006.

Both hospitals currently remain UMN hospitals, as per the request of the Government of Nepal but UMN has requested HDCS to manage the running of the two hospitals on behalf of UMN, according to the traditional UMN mission, vision and values.

UMN will continue to offer financial support to HDCS as per the agreed 3 year Transition Plan budget and UMN will also continue to recruit and send expatriate personnel to the two hospitals.

Memorandum of Understanding signed between UMN and GBS

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between UMN and Gandaki Boarding School (GBS) / Gandaki College of Engineering and Science (GCES) Public Education Trust in May 2006. With the signing of this agreement, UMN will continue to second appropriate personnel to GCES until 15th July 2008. UMN is actively seeking new staff for GCES.

New medical wards at United Mission Hospital Tansen

UMN Executive Director Jennie Collins inaugurated the new Burns, Paediatrics and Orthopaedics wards in United Mission Hospital Tansen in June 2006. The hospital has been meeting the needs of patients from all over Western Nepal and adjoining India for the past fifty years.

Katmandu Tutorial Group buries time capsule

The closure of Kathmandu tutorial group was marked by the burial of a time capsule in the UMN gardens at Thapathali in Nepal.

The time capsule consisted of several memory items including photographs, children's works, newspaper clippings and stationery that the children have used over the years.

Kathmandu tutorial group was started in 1988 to tutor the children of UMN expatriate staff.

UMN cluster in Rukum

UMN began work in yet another cluster in May 2006 in the district of Rukum in Mid western Nepal. This is the fifth UMN cluster.

UMN Celebration 2006

All UMN staff gathered in Kathmandu in May for a time of sharing experiences, tracing UMN's past, present and future and also to celebrate the efforts and work of all who have contributed to the vision.

Memorandum of Understanding signed between UMN and BPKIHS

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between UMN and B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (BPKIHS) in March 2006.

Under this agreement UMN will continue to second the two existing appointees to BPKIHS as long as they are willing and available to be seconded.

PROGRAMME UPDATE

Despite geographical and socio-political constraints the Rukum cluster has been started. There are currently 74 members in Programme Team of whom 70% are in the clusters and 39% are women.

Six Areas of Work strategic plans are in the final stages of revision and a concept paper has been developed for Integral Mission. The vision of Integral Mission is to empower the Christian community in Nepal to respond to the holistic needs of the people in their local communities.

A partner organisation in Sunsari has been involved in promoting Integral Mission. With the support of resource persons from Micah Network Nepal this partner has carried out two Integral Mission workshops for church leaders including women leaders in eastern Nepal. After these workshops there was a great sense of anticipation and optimism that they

could begin working with their local communities in these new ways.

Areas of Work have been identified and prioritised in all clusters. In **Mugu** and **Sunsari** some partners are very encouraged as they have been able to access funds from other funding organisations because of their increased organisational and technical capacity. **Dhading Cluster** has signed potential partnership agreements with five organisations and is exploring their strengths whilst planning how they will work with their target communities.

Rupandehi Cluster has six potential partners preparing to work with them in Enterprise Development, Women and Children, Education and HIV/AIDS. **Rukum Cluster** which started in May 2006 is building relationships, welcoming visits from Technical Advisors and seeking to identify potential partners.

Many partner organisations have participated in advocacy and peace workshops and some of them have already integrated advocacy and peace in their work by for example, giving priority for scholarship to girls from 'low caste' families.

A UMN national partner Children at Risk Nepal (Carnet) is formulating policy related to child protection and has planned a national dissemination campaign to Christian organisations.

With the support of Dhading cluster another national partner, People Energy and Environment Development Association (PEEDA) is exploring the possibility of a joint partnership with one of UMN's local partners in Dhading to implement a pro-poor hydro power project in Dhading.

Shaha B. Gurung is the
Programme Team Director,
Based in Kathmandu



A participatory technical
assessment in
Rupandehi Cluster

TRANSITION UPDATE

Getting there...

The legalisation process of Butwal Technical Institute (BTI) is still on going but there is difficulty in finding an appropriate organisation that allows full autonomy. More recently the Development Committee Order including operational policy (By-laws) of the BTI were finalised. Institute of Technology and Industrial Development (ITID) board principally agreed with this governance concept however at this time the board has been asked to allow other stakeholders to give their comments and suggestions. Full autonomy of the institution has always been the main basis of choosing the governance model.

Progress...

Jhimruk Industrial Development Company (JIDCO) has been successfully operating and accomplishing its programme activities, providing good outcome and impact in the targeted communities. A contract has been offered to JIDCO and BPC (Butwal Power Company) by NORAD (Norwegian Development Cooperation) to launch a five year "Jhimruk Downstream Mitigation Project" (JDMP). JIDCO has accepted the project. The transfer of UMN's JIDCO shares to BTI and People, Energy and Environment Development Association (PEEDA) has been delayed until BTI has a legal status.

Hospitals...

When the partnership agreement between UMN and Human Development Community Services (HDSC) was signed on 23rd September 2004, it was expected that both Tansen and

Okhaldhunga Hospitals would be transferred to HDSC by July 2005. It has been almost two years since that partnership agreement was signed by UMN and HDSC and the delay has been largely a result of the slow government decision making process regarding a handover. UMN and HDSC signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 30 June 2006 replacing the old agreement. This new agreement empowers and clarifies the roles of HDSC in how these two hospitals will be run on behalf of UMN. This MoU will again be reviewed when a formal signing of agreement between HDSC and Government of Nepal (GoN) has taken place.

Transition of Patan Hospital also faces the same challenge. Because of a lack of response from the GoN, the Hospital Board could not meet in the past 12 months. Most recently, the Ministry of Health (MoH) appointed a new Chairperson to the Board which is definitely a step forward in addressing the issues that require the Board's

approval. There have been positive indications from MoH that soon a new independent governing structure is going to be approved by GoN.

The transition of Tansen Nursing School (TNS) has also been delayed due to the lack of clarity in the status of Council of Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) with whom UMN signed the partnership agreement to run the school. There is a positive response from the GoN Ministry of Education that the existing partnership agreement would be extended for the period that TNS will have proper legal status and will be able to get free visas for the expatriate Nursing Tutors.

Utilising surplus funds...

Nutrition Promotion and Consultancy Service (NPCS) has decided to use remaining surplus funds of about NRs. 16 Lakh (USD 22,000) in a 3 year community nutrition programme in Kavre district.

MOU signing by UMN and HDSC



Sakriya Sewa Samaj (SSS) invested its surplus funds from UMN a sum of NRs. 8 Lakh (about USD 11,000) to support an HIV/AIDS prevention, home based care programme in five Terai districts in the western region. The project closed in July 2006.

Recruiting...

UMN is seeking expatriate appointees to fill the positions of lecturers and a donor relations officer at Gandaki College of Engineering & Science (GCES).

The process of transforming Oral Health Programme (OHP) into a dental school is under way. A concept to run the school under Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training has been submitted to the Nick Simon Institute (NSI) and positive feedback has been received from NSI. Consequently, OHP is currently looking for a consultant whose main responsibility will be to carry out a feasibility study and curriculum development. All expenses regarding the consultancy will be paid by the Nick Simon Institute.

From October 2006 to March 2007 there will be no UMN expatriate appointees at BP Koirala Institute of Health Science (BPKIHS). One will return from April 2007.

Kathmandu University School of Medical Science and Dhulikhel Medical Institute will each have one expatriate appointee from August 2006.

**Umesh Lama is the Acting
Transition Team Leader
Based in Kathmandu**

CURRENT UMN OPPORTUNITIES IN NEPAL

**Do you know anyone who would like to MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the developing world?
Here are a few of the opportunities in UMN right now:**

ADVOCACY ADVISOR:

- ♦ Will integrate advocacy efforts into all aspects of UMN's activities.
- ♦ Will work closely with a Nepali who could take on the role within 2-4 years.
- ♦ Has qualifications and extensive experience in Advocacy e.g., community mobilisation, human rights, or at the legal and the policy level.

DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS:

- ♦ Will provide expertise and mentoring in the areas of Organisational Development, Capacity Building and all aspects of Community Development.
- ♦ Has development qualifications and extensive experience in Process Development and cross-cultural/developing country programme activities.

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:

- ♦ Will provide leadership within the organisation for all issues related to personnel.
- ♦ Has professional qualifications and experience in: Recruitment, Employee Involvement, HRD, Performance Management, Remuneration and Organisational Development.

FINANCE PROFESSIONAL:

- ♦ Will provide leadership for all financial work within UMN.
- ♦ Will coordinate corporate financial planning, budgeting, accounting and reporting
- ♦ Will be responsible for organisational internal controls and financial policies.
- ♦ Has relevant financial/accounting qualifications and experience.

PASTORAL CARE WORKER:

- ♦ Will support expatriates in adjustment to life in Nepal and in ongoing spiritual and emotional development.
- ♦ Will mentor the Nepali Pastoral Care Worker.
- ♦ Has training and extensive experience in counselling/pastoral care, preferably with cross-cultural experience.

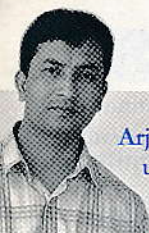
DOCTORS:

Urgent need for surgeons in Tansen Hospital and Paediatrician in Patan Hospital.

TEACHERS:

Urgent need for a primary teacher in Tansen tutorial group in January 2007.

JOIN US



Arjun Raj Pandey was the first cluster leader under the UMN transitioning process.

He is the cluster team leader for Sunsari cluster in Eastern Nepal.

I joined UMN at the peak of the transition process and as the first Cluster Leader I felt the responsibility of trying to trace UMN's history for another fifty years. My professional background was different although I did have some social development experience.

At this point, I accepted God's calling to work in UMN. I prayed for His guidance and wisdom and started my work with much courage.

We consequently undertook our responsibilities with much seriousness and started building relationship with district government agencies, I/NGOs, institutes and several organisations formally and informally in the district.

After nearly two years the size of the team and number of partners has increased significantly. We have dreamed and worked so hard for our partners in Sunsari with the hope that they will be strengthened to achieve their mission and vision and meet the basic needs of communities in an effective and efficient way.



Prakash Raj Bagale is the cluster team leader for Rukum in Western Nepal. Rukum cluster officially started its work in May 2006.

In 1990 I was shot by a bullet that passed through my stomach and I had to stay in custody for two months. I was fighting for the restoration of democracy in the country. And although we got democracy in 1990, the condition did not improve – the leaders were busy slinging mud at each other and vying for top positions. At the time, I came to the knowledge that no one is sinless and only Jesus is sinless.

Since then, I always aim to live for the Lord and walk according to His will.

I worked at Ramghat church in Pokhara for 12 years as a pastor, evangelist and social worker. Formally and non-formally I served people who were in need and taught them ways of income generation, conducted teacher trainings and tried to fulfill the social needs of the people in that community.

The remoteness and the ailing situation of Rukum inspired me to work there. There is limited access to hospitals, no medicines, poor hygiene and sanitation as well as a lack of education for the marginalized. My desire is to work for such people.

Marianne Karsgaard

I have just returned to my home in Scotland after four and a half years working with UMN in Kathmandu.

Having volunteered as a secondary school teacher of English to go anywhere in Asia with the Church of Scotland, I later came to work in Nepal as a primary school teacher for expatriate's children and this has been a most satisfying way to complete my working life.

Some years back, I worked in Pakistan at Murree Christian School, a school for expatriate's children. At the time, many of the children I taught were thousands of miles away from their own countries and homes and consequently suffered from a lot of psychological issues. Because of this, it has been my goal to offer children as normal a school experience as possible, deliberately focusing on acceptance, security, routine and the basics. In return I have received from them trust, affection and lots of fun!

I have relished being part of UMN over these years and have the greatest respect for its vision, hard work and achievements, both practical and spiritual. May God bless everyone now developing its new initiatives, and call others to join in!



Brian Darling

I arrived in Nepal in 2002, with my wife Carole and daughter Katie. Since then my family has grown considerably, with John being born in Nepal in 2003 and twins Alasdair and

Richard being born in the UK in 2004. When I first came to Nepal, I worked with Hydro Consult (P) Ltd (HCPL) in a capacity building role to strengthen its technical capability.

Last November I moved to an NGO called People, Energy, and Environment Development Association (PEEDA) which is one of UMN's national partners and I am working with the team there on the Pro-Poor Hydropower Pilot Project.

I like the concept of this project because it is looking to give the local people living beside a river the majority ownership of a commercial hydropower company. They will gain the wealth from their river rather than those rich Kathmandu or foreign investors who tend to own most of the private hydropower projects here in Nepal. We're still at the phase of testing the concept – but should the pilot be successful you will see the poor of Nepal greatly benefited by hydropower on the rivers they live beside.

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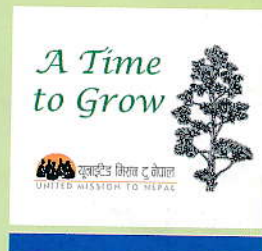
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