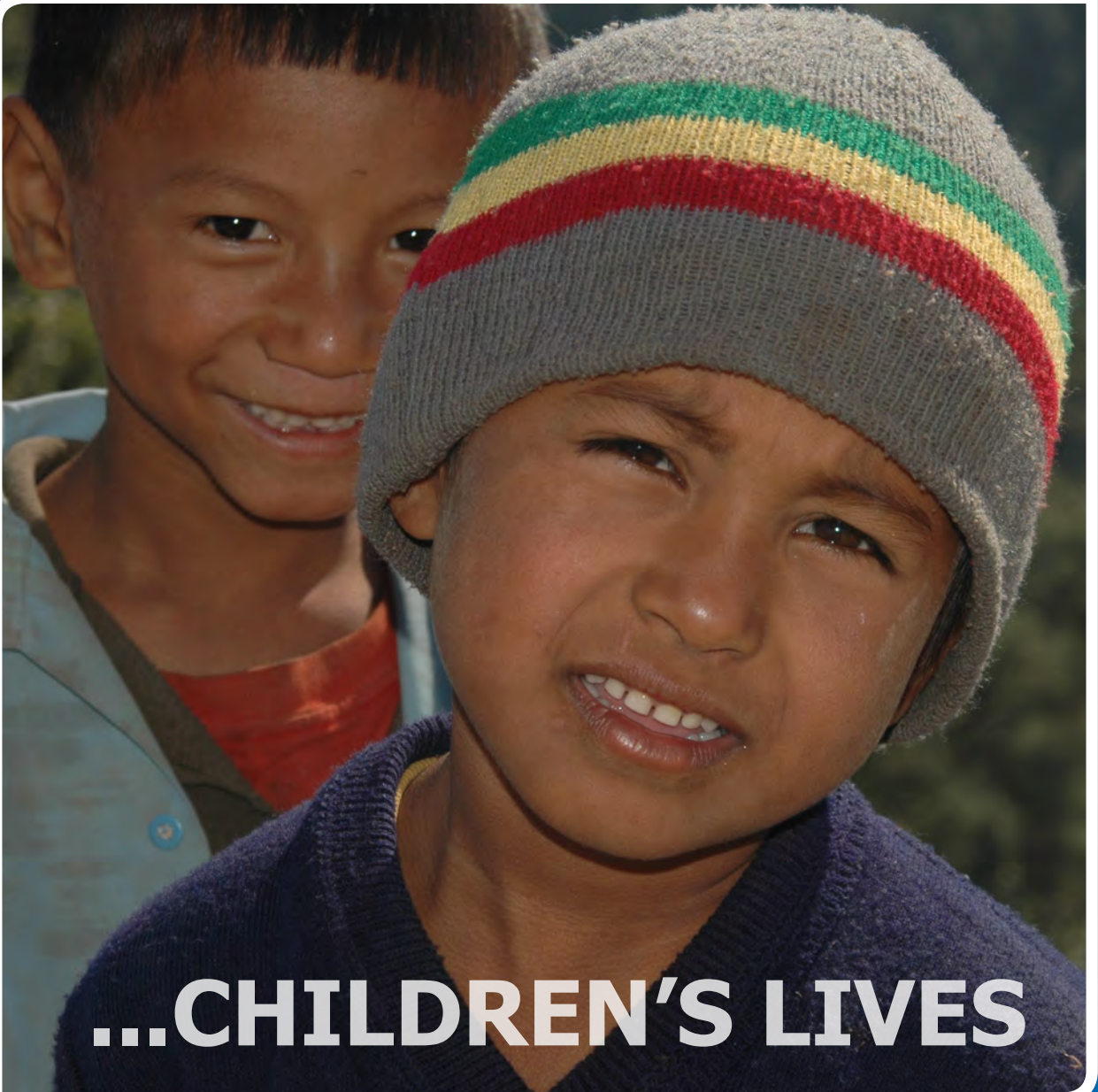




# UMN News

Issue 34 | February 2012

Transforming...



...CHILDREN'S LIVES



## Dear Friends,

Welcome to *UMNews*, the first for 2012. This year, we'll be focusing on the four "cross-cutting issues" identified in our Strategic Plan – issues that are relevant to the whole of UMN. In both the work that we do, and how we operate as an organisation, we need to consider these issues. The four issues that we have identified are gender, climate change, conflict and children. In this *UMNews*, our focus is on children.

Why children? Surely it is more effective to focus our work on adults, who have influence in society and their communities? We disagree. Children are the future of our communities, and of society as a whole. We work to bring about not just material changes, but changes in fundamental attitudes and beliefs, developed primarily when in the young. Only in this way will the roots of poverty be effectively be tackled in the long term. Only then can individuals and communities move towards the fullness of life that God intends for all of us.

It is not only a matter of effectiveness – it is also a matter of conviction. Our inspiration comes from the love and teaching of Jesus. Attitudes to children in Jesus' time was not so different from what we find today. Many children, rather than being valued, are at best ignored, and at worst exploited. Their participation and involvement is seen as unnecessary. Yet Jesus spent time with children, not out of duty but because he enjoyed their company and valued them. This challenged the prevailing culture of his day, as it does today. He challenged us to be more like them – in our faith and trust in him.

I hope that, through this edition of *UMNews*, you will be encouraged and inspired by the changes being made in the lives of children across Nepal, through the work of UMN and its partners. Changes that will not only impact on this generation, but on future generations as well, as adults who, having been valued themselves, will be better able to value the children in their own communities in the future. But I also hope that you will join with us to reflect on how we treat children in our own families and communities, and follow Jesus' example in treating them as people of infinite value, who are made in God's image.

  
**Mark Galpin**  
Executive Director

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Editorial Team: Vijeta Manaen and Lyn Jackson  
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# EACH DROP COUNTS!

She is hungry because her parents can't afford to feed her enough.

She is sick because clean water or basic medical care is not available to her.

She is illiterate because her parents can't afford to send her to school.

And above all, she is lonely. Parents have no time to think beyond their daily struggles.

Children are most at the mercy of the cycle of poverty. The cycle goes down the line to subsequent generations. It is almost impossible for a child to pull him or herself out of the cycle. The scars of poverty are imprinted early on in the mind of the child, affects their abilities and thinking and self esteem for the rest of their lives.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them...."

God purposely created us so that we may enjoy life in all its fullness. The life and experience of many millions of children in Nepal are

far removed from that divine intention, threatened with poverty, oppression, sickness and injustice.

So how is UMN working to remove the hindrances that keep the children from experiencing to life, as Jesus wanted?

In many exciting ways:

- by providing treatment and education to physically impaired children;
- by giving educational opportunities to those who can't afford school;
- by training teachers and encouraging child-friendly educational practices;
- by giving special care, counseling and education to children living with HIV.

A drop in the ocean – this is how we often see our work in UMN. The challenge remains to make each drop count in the name and spirit of Jesus.

Hari Krishna from Mugu (one of the most remote and isolated districts in Nepal) is a good

example. Although blind, he runs his finger over the braille dots and sees a future. Everyday he shakes hands a little more firmly with the world, a world that would not exist for him otherwise - if you and I did not care.

**Vijeta Manaen**  
Communications Advisor

- More than 50,000 children die annually in Nepal, with malnutrition as the underlying cause in more than 60% of those deaths
- Only 35% of the population have access to adequate sanitation facilities
- 31% of children aged 5 to 14 are involved in some sort of child labour
- Almost a third of children of school age are not attending school

Data source - UNICEF



# CHILD CENTRED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE

Baptist World Aid Australia (BWAA) has been supporting development programs aimed specifically at children for over 30 years. Initially, many of these programs focussed on children's education alone and assisted with paying school fees or housing children in cities where they could receive higher quality education. Over time however, our understanding of the needs of children and what we learned from working with children in many different contexts led to the development of a new approach called Child Centred Community Development (CCCD).

Today, the CCCD Program is aimed at participatory development which improves the overall well-being, rights and life opportunities of children in poor communities. The main difference is that children are understood as part of families and communities, and programmes

work with all sectors of society so that their ability to care for and protect their own children is enhanced. Through completing in depth community assessment, all projects identify the root causes of child poverty, and work with communities to develop sustainable solutions.

In CCCD programs, an important focus is on involving children directly in identifying their needs and participating in the solutions. This builds children's capacity, and gives them dignity and value. However, the aim is to transform the whole community – their attitudes, practices and capacities – in all areas which relate to children. When the project is finished, all CCCD communities should be places where:

- Children are able to grow up healthy;
- Children are able to learn and

develop;

- Children are able to feel safe; and
- Children are making a meaningful contribution to the development of their community.

The CCCD Program is currently being implemented in eight countries, by 11 different partner organisations, one of which is United Mission to Nepal (UMN).

UMN and BWAA have been in partnership for nearly five years, in community development programmes focused on health and livelihoods in several UMN cluster areas. The values and approaches of the two organisations are closely aligned, and I have great respect for the work of a high-quality organisation making a real difference in the lives of the most poor and marginalised. When

BWAA was looking for new partners through which to expand our CCCD work, UMN was among the first organisations we approached.

The first CCCD project of UMN is in Dhading District to the west of Kathmandu. It is a very mountainous area, home to a large proportion of ethnic minority people. BWAA first visited Dhading during the community assessment phase back in October 2010. The CCCD project in Dhading is a large scale, long term, multi-sectoral project. It involves working with women's self-reliant groups, child clubs, teachers and school management committees, as well as local government. The project aims to:

- Raise awareness about children's rights;
- Fight discrimination against marginalised groups of children, such as ethnic Chepang, girls, and children living with a disability;
- Address child protection issues (including child labour and birth registration);
- Improve school attendance and quality of education (making classrooms more child-friendly, including introducing mother tongue curriculum to assist ethnic minority children);
- Increase adult women's literacy;
- Enhance household income and food security; and
- Widen access to adequate water and sanitation.

After only a few years, the project is already starting to see changes against some of the indicators, and is demonstrating in practice some innovative approaches to achieving change for children. One which really encourages me is the child-to-child model of running children's clubs. In the UMN child clubs I have visited, children are not simply

passive attendees. Instead, they are being equipped to design and implement changes in their school and community. One child club had run an enrolment campaign targeting out of school children. They also spoke at an interaction day with teachers and school management committee, where they advocated for a code of conduct to be developed and monitored to improve teachers' attendance and focus on teaching and learning, rather than playing cards. It is inspiring when we start to see beyond children as victims of poverty to seeing children as part of the solution.

In March, UMN will be hosting an exposure visit for other BWAA partner organisations who are also implementing CCCD projects. This is a chance to showcase the innovative practice in Dhading, so that where appropriate this can be replicated in other contexts. Community development workers from Philippines, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Malawi and Uganda will participate.

Following the successful start to the Dhading Project, BWAA has also approved funding for UMN to begin implementing CCCD in two other districts through the Sunsari Cluster. In January 2012, I visited Nepal to witness the UMN and staff

of their partner organisation (CMC) undertaking community consultation as part of the project assessment and design phase. What I was impressed with most was seeing the way UMN staff work alongside local partner staff, to guide them and build their capacity. The community consultation was extremely participatory and valued local knowledge and community strengths, while focussing on practical steps needed to bring about change. At the end of this process, I could see an already strong partnership between the staff and community, providing the foundation for UMN to begin the project with a high level of participation.

In developing countries, children are so often unseen, unnoticed, and unable to enjoy a childhood of freedom where their potential is nurtured. UMN's Child Centred Community Development projects are a light in this darkness, helping to alleviate the poverty of communities and households so that children can thrive. I look forward to seeing the aims of these projects come to fruition.

*Felicity Weaver Norris  
Senior Programme Officer,  
Baptist World Aid Australia*





# CHILD-FRIENDLY EDUCATION IN ACTION

**How can teaching and learning changes release the potential of children as citizens of the New Nepal?**

What are your earliest memories of school? Rows of desks, anchored to the floor, facing the blackboard? Or a colourful, vibrant classroom, full of books and toys and learning opportunities?

When I first came to Nepal in 1999, in most government schools, it wasn't unusual to find 70 or more small children packed into dark, dirty classrooms, perched on benches much too big for them, struggling to learn from a couple of tattered textbooks shared across the row. They chanted meaninglessly from the blackboard while a harried teacher kept order with a big stick.

The results were high drop-out rates, poor achievement levels, bored, unmotivated teachers and disinterested children. Beyond that, though, the system bred students who learned without question, and who lacked confidence, creativity and initiative. A massive waste of human potential!

Now, child-friendly classrooms, though still rare, are becoming more and more common, even in remote districts. The environments are comfortable and colourful, stocked with teaching aids that children can use and displaying children's work on the walls. But much more importantly, teachers are being trained to teach with children's needs in mind. Songs, games, discussions and group work are replacing rote learning; children are being taught to think, to ask questions and to form opinions.

It's such a joy to see classrooms where children are happy and engaged, and where teachers are keen and creative. If children are the key resource of the future, then investment in child-friendly education will certainly show an excellent return.



## CHILD-FRIENDLY CLASSROOM



A good education begins early, in a well-equipped Early Childhood Development Centre. This teacher [NAME?] in Sunsari has provided a stimulating environment for her young charges.



UMN's partnership with Opportunity Education International has provided high quality teaching aids to help children in Mugu learn about their world, and beyond!



The physical environment of the classroom makes a big difference. This classroom in Doti seats children comfortably in a group, and the walls are covered with colourful charts and teaching aids.



Games provide an opportunity for children to practice what they've learned, and have fun at the same time. These children in Rupandehi are learning about parts of the body.

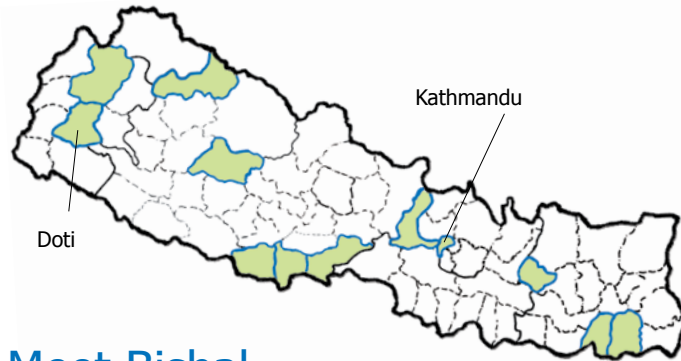


A good education can give a child the opportunity to **break free from poverty** and **create a secure future.**



In a child-friendly classroom, children are **treated with dignity**, and learn to **respect themselves and others.**

# CLUSTER CONNECTION



## Meet Bishal

**The Bible says:** "Caring for the poor is lending to the LORD, and you will be well repaid." (Proverbs 19:17)

Right after graduation in 2004, God's calling to me was to serve the poor people of Nepal. I did that by working in World Vision as a Community Development Coordinator for six years. In May 2010, I got the opportunity to work with UMN as Cluster Team Leader for Doti, a far western district of Nepal. With hardly any experience of village life and having never been to Doti before, this was a difficult decision to make. But I accepted this challenge as an opportunity for growth and a chance to serve the most needy people of Doti.

I have adjusted to the challenges because of God's guidance, and the support of my line manager and my team members. I have been repaid by his blessings in my personal, family and work life.

Being a team leader, mentoring, coaching and managing my co-workers are my everyday work. We work with six partners in 13 Village Development Communities.

"Children are gifts from God". There are many poor and vulnerable children in Doti.

- 59.2% of the children are chronically undernourished
- 0.075% of the children are infected by HIV and AIDS
- 50.2% of the children are deprived from education
- 35.5% child births attended by the skilled health workers
- Incidence of diarrhea per 1000 children under 5 years is 247

Please pray for our efforts as we try to overcome these situations and bring hope by working through our partners in Doti.

I thank God for all our supporters and donors for making it possible for us to serve these children and their communities through UMN.

**Bishal Babu Shrestha**  
Cluster Team Leader



Doti
Region: Hilly, Far-western
Population: 207,066
Life Expectancy: 58.39 years
Human Development Index (HDI): 0.304
Human Poverty Index (HPI): 53.4%
UMN Team Leader: Bishal Babu Shrestha
Number of staff: 10
Number of partners: 6

### Development Needs:

- Care and support for people living with HIV and AIDS (specially nutrition);
- Livelihoods and food security;
- Child-friendly (student-centered) teaching and learning environments in schools, and quality education;
- Awareness (advocacy) about disability, gender discrimination, domestic violence and sanitation.



### Please pray:

- Pray for Bishal and his family, as they are often separated. His wife Jyoti has just given birth to their second son.
- Pray for the children of Doti who are living with HIV. Pray that support, including appropriate medication, will be available.
- Pray for the peer educators, as they work with their friends and school-mates, to improve health and hygiene. Pray especially for girls, who face problems at school during menstruation.

## Laxmi Bhusal

Doti is third in the far west of Nepal in terms of HIV and AIDS prevalence. Currently, 823 people in Doti are infected with HIV and AIDS. About 270 are taking anti-retroviral therapy (ART). More than 43 children are infected with HIV and AIDS.

Laxmi Bhul, aged 9 and orphan, lives with her relatives. Her father, who worked in India, came back with the virus and transferred it to her mother many years ago. Laxmi, who studies in Grade 4, was recently identified by a mobile VCT(?) camp in her village.

UMN is working for CABA (full) in partnership with CEAD Nepal. Support groups of people living with HIV have been formed in Khirsan village. The members meet monthly, share problems and challenges, and are also engaged in saving and credit programmes. Key roles of a support group are to welcome newly-identified people to the group, and to support and care for each other.

Among other things, UMN provides goats to support groups in Khirsan to help generate income. So far, there are 12 goats obtained by breeding. Laxmi, who is a member of a group, will soon receive goats through her group. She is quite healthy, so she is not on ART. We hope that she will be able to continue her education, and get the support she needs from the community and her relatives.



Laxmi recently got a new winter coat as a gift from CEAD Nepal. Each staff member at the UMN headquarters contributed a small amount to a fund for the children of Doti on World Aids Day, with which winter clothes for HIV infected children in DOTi were purchased. The children were thrilled with their new warm clothes.

**Prem Singh Sintan**  
Doti Cluster

## Changing practice, changing behaviour

We all know about sanitation and hygiene, but unless knowledge results in changes in behaviour and action in our communities, all our effort goes in vain.

In 2010-11, UMN trained 61 peer educators, both boys and girls from Grades 7-10, from three different schools, in Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH). One of the important issues they chose to work on was improving sanitation and hygiene.

The peer educators learnt proper hand-washing with soap, brushing teeth and cutting nails. They have been sharing this knowledge with their friends and families, particularly with their mothers. Every morning during assembly, they take turns to check the nails and uniform of every student. To promote menstrual hygiene, each school received a box of sanitary pads, which they sell cheaply so that girls can resupply as needed. We have heard many reports of how a girl feels if she suddenly has her first or monthly menstruation in school without having sanitary pads available.

The Government of Nepal and UNICEF have been promoting the School Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education programme since 2000. It has been very successful, but there still are loopholes. Some schools have toilets, but many are kept locked for use only by the staff. Some even have separate toilets for girls and boys, but with no water, no place to dispose of soiled sanitary pads, no hand washing facilities and no safe drinking water. With the support of District Education Office in Doti, Rampur Higher Secondary School (a UMN partner) has built a toilet with piped-in water, and soiled sanitary pads go directly into an incinerator. The Child Club of Saraswati Higher Secondary School volunteered their labor to bring a water pipe to their community.

These are just two small steps which schools have initiated with the help and support of the peer educators and UMN. Children and young people are powerful agents of change. If children learn hygiene practices from an early age, they can help others in their families and communities to change their behavior. This will lead to a healthier life for everyone.

**Nalome Rongong**  
Senior Programme Officer-Health



## Internship...

UMN runs an internship programme every year for Christian young people. We have been blessed with a vibrant and an energetic group of interns all through 2011. Please pray for God's guidance in leading them in the right direction as they finish their time with UMN this month. Pray also for the new group of interns, beginning their programme in February.



## Christmas Appeal

We want to thank our friends around the world who have warmly responded to UMN's Christmas Appeal 2011. Their generous gifts have enabled many people to earn their own living through income generation programmes. So far, we have received about XX individual donations, totaling XXX. Thank you for becoming a star!



## Waterloo visit

It's a long way from Waterloo School in Portsmouth (UK) to Rampur Higher Secondary School in Doti, but recently two intrepid primary teachers from England made the journey. Their trip was designed to develop the partnership between the two schools, supported by the British Council. Deborah McComb and Deirdre Bell thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and are looking forward to hosting UMN's Education Officer from Doti and a teacher from the school on their visit to Waterloo in May.



## UMN at large



Those UMN T-shirts turn up all over the place! Simeon Lapworth displays his on a beach in Senegal, West Africa. If you have a photo of someone wearing a UMN T-shirt in some identifiable or exotic location, please send it in – we could have a gallery on the website!



## OKHALDHUNGA JUBILEE

In March this year, people from around the world will converge on Okhaldhunga in eastern Nepal. Fifty years ago, Dr Jimmy Dick and his team of four medical personnel tramped for seven days through the hills to establish the first UMN medical work in Okhaldhunga. This grew from the initial dispensary to include Community Health clinics, a community health programme, and a community development programme.

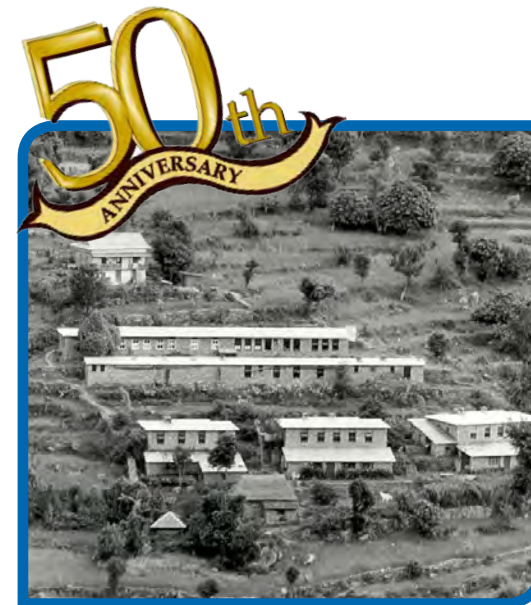
Now providing wide-ranging preventative and curative health services across the district, Okhaldhunga Community Hospital has begun an ambitious building programme that will see its capacity extended into the future. UMN is proud to join with the people of Okhaldhunga and the current hospital team in remembering the contributions of the pioneers, celebrating the achievements of 50 years of service, and looking forward with confidence to an exciting future.

For details about the Jubilee, visit

[www.umn.org.np/new/okhaldhunga\\_hospital.php](http://www.umn.org.np/new/okhaldhunga_hospital.php)

or email [tuk.harijan@gmail.com](mailto:tuk.harijan@gmail.com)

If you would like to make a donation to the hospital construction, please use one of the methods on page 14, but mark your donation clearly "Okhaldhunga Building Appeal".



## Who's Who?

Astrid Smith  
Education Advisor

Astrid: When I told the children I was teaching in the Netherlands that we would move to Nepal, they were horrified. This might have had something to do with the documentary we just watched on water and cleanliness in Nepal. However the main question these Dutch children asked was: "How do your children feel about this?" Of course we had spoken at length with our children about moving to Nepal and they were fine with it. Before coming to Nepal, we have lived and worked in Indonesia. There we were involved in teaching forestry at a university, training teachers, and small scale development projects in post-tsunami Aceh. We started out living in a fairly large town and later moved to a small village, but the international context was always there. Both our children grew up in this context and felt at ease with it. Now we were going to live in the capital of another country. Three years later, let's listen to what Stephan (age) and Elseline (age) have to say about their experiences in Nepal:

Stephan: "Before I came to Nepal, I thought that Indonesia had the noisiest traffic and the most littered streets, but I was wrong. The streets here in Nepal seemed worse to me than in Indonesia, people were honking like the world was going to end and they had to get out of the valley for it. Some people who have lived here almost their whole life say that you will get used to all the honking. So far I have been in Nepal for three years and I'm still not used to it."

When I leave Nepal, for some strange reason, I am going to miss all the honking and the slow internet and the loooong power cuts, because when I go back to The Netherlands, everything there is just too perfect. Here people complain about something that is worth complaining about, but in The Netherlands people complain about things I would see as normal."

Elseline: "I really like living abroad because then you learn things you don't learn if you just stay in your home country. Sometimes it is difficult, but most of the time it is fun."

When we first came to Nepal, we really had to get used to it. We were used to hot, sunny, clean, near-to-the-sea, Indonesia, and Nepal was nowhere near it. Now I am used to it."



Nico, Stephan, Astrid and Elseline Smith



# JOIN US

UMN's work to ensure that all Nepalis, including children, can live an abundant life, depends largely on our staff teams of Nepali and expatriate professionals. There are many opportunities to serve in Nepal with UMN, sharing skills and demonstrating God's loving concern for all people, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable. On this page, we list just two of our most urgent needs.

If you are interested in any of the positions below, or if you would like to ask about other opportunities for expatriates within UMN, please contact Anne Penn at [expat.recruitment@umn.org.np](mailto:expat.recruitment@umn.org.np) to learn more. Please send your CV or resumé with your email.

All advisor posts involve mentoring, coaching and training Nepali staff and partners.

## PEACE BUILDING ADVISOR

*(Kathmandu-based with travel to other areas)*

Nepal had undergone a decade-long armed conflict based on political ideologies. Now, post-conflict needs must be addressed, and a peaceful, harmonious society nurtured. UMN's Peacebuilding Team wants to help people to develop new and creative responses, particularly to post-conflict needs. We also want to ensure that our peacebuilding approach continues to be embedded within the whole organisation. Experience in conflict transformation (at policy or community level), economic recovery, rehabilitation of conflict-affected people, or experience working with trauma, gender or social inclusion would be necessary for this post.

## HEALTH ADVISOR

*(Kathmandu-based with travel to other areas)*

Addressing health is an essential component in tackling poverty. Poverty and health are inextricably linked. Our Health Team seeks to improve the health of people living in Nepal primarily through community health programmes and working in collaboration with the government health system to strengthen community health services. The Health Advisor will need experience in community health (focusing on nutrition, sanitation hygiene or mental health), public health or promotion of maternal and new-born health.

### All Advisor posts involve mentoring, coaching and training Nepali staff and partners

*NOTE: Expatriate team members do not receive a salary or remuneration of any kind from UMN directly, but are self-supported volunteers or supported by a sending mission or church in their home country that provides for their financial needs during their assignment.*



## EDUCATION ADVISOR

*(Kathmandu-based with travel to other areas)*

Education is one of the key ways in which the barriers of poverty and disadvantage can be broken down. Children and adults in Nepal are hungry to learn, but so many miss out. UMN's Education Team needs an advisor with creativity and vision. This role entails working to ensure people have access to relevant and quality educational opportunities, and involves working with parents, teachers and school management committees, encouraging them to establish child-friendly learning environments. Experience in practical and alternative education or non-formal education in a cross-cultural setting would be helpful.

## ACCOUNTANT/FINANCE ADVISOR

*(Kathmandu-based)*

*(Might suit someone taking early retirement)*

Sound financial practices are essential for UMN, in order to properly manage the funds entrusted to us. We need to be accountable to our supporters, our Board and the Government of Nepal. A suitably-qualified and experienced accountant or financial manager is needed to work with our well-qualified team of Nepali professionals. Experience in the not-for-profit sector would be helpful.



# PRAY

Nepal continually ranks as one of the poorest countries in the world, and the numbers of deprived children continue to grow dramatically. We don't need to search hard to find needy children in Nepal. Children living with disabilities, malnourished children and children with very little basic care and security are found everywhere in Nepal. Please pray over these issues raised by our Cluster Team Leaders.

## RUKUM



Kaushila was very worried about the weight and poor growth of her son Raju. At three years of age, his weight was less than 9 kilos. He looked pale, and his belly was big and bloated. This malnourished boy was admitted to the PD Hearth Centre\* being run in that community with support from UMN's Rukum Cluster. In three months, he recovered significantly and at the end of five months, when he graduated from the centre, his weight was 14.5 kilos.

Raju represents 21,490 children who are malnourished in Rukum District. A recent report from the District Health Office shows the cases of malnourished children are more in the areas where household food insecurity is higher and mothers are heavily loaded with domestic chores.

\* A PD Hearth centre is a fire-place where nourishing, locally-available foods are prepared by mothers and served to malnourished children for 15 days per month.

Please pray

- for under-nourished children in the remote corners of Rukum
- for the programmes that are run through UMN partners to improve the health and food security of Rukum
- for the Health Team of UMN as they tackle challenging health issues in remote areas across Nepal.

**Durga Upadhaya**  
Rukum Cluster Team Leader

## MUGU



Fourteen-year-old Purnima Hamal's job was to help in the house, like all other daughters. She was walking up the stairs with a water pot, but then slipped, fell and broke her shoulders.

Poverty and ignorance took Purnima to the traditional healer. This did not help. Two months later, the infection had spread lower to her arms and the pain was unbearable. Her parents brought her to the UMN office in Mugu, pleading for help. Purnima was desperate for relief from pain, to be able to use her hand again, to be able to continue her studies. After some consultation, she was sent to Kathmandu for treatment.

Purnima is now back in Mugu after three months of intensive treatment and physio-therapy. She is happy to be back with her friends in school. "I am very thankful to UMN for giving me my life back. I will always remember the love and support I have received from UMN. I now I have more love for people living with disability," says Purnima.

Prayer Points:

- Please pray for the rehabilitation and treatment work of UMN in Mugu and also for good health and well-being of children living with disability.
- Also please pray that the local people in the community will become more aware about the rights and issues of people with disabilities, and that the discrimination, ill-treatment and stigma against them will be reduced.
- Please pray for the strengthening of the inclusive education system in government schools, so that children with disabilities will be able to receive a quality

**Paul Chhetri**  
UMN Mugu Cluster



# GIVE

Poor, struggling communities in Nepal have many unfortunate children that have very little access to basic care and critical resources. Your gift can save and improve lives of these precious little ones. You can designate the kind of work you want to support, like

- children living with HIV and AIDS (p 9);
  - child friendly teacher's training (pp 6-7); or
  - rehabilitation and nutrition programmes (p 13),
- or direct your gift to a particular cluster, like Doti (pp 8-9).

Please indicate your preference when you donate. All undesignated gifts will be used as needed.

## DONATE ONLINE

[www.umn.org.np](http://www.umn.org.np)

Give via credit or debit card from anywhere in the world. *For UK donors, this site offers tax-efficient giving.*

## INTERNET BANKING & MONEY TRANSFER

Set up a payment or monthly standing order to transfer funds.

### UK & EUROPEAN CURRENCIES

Pay to: **United Mission to Nepal**

Sort Code: **60-91-99**

Account Number: 10078177 (Sterling account)  
10615512 (Euro account)

### US & NEPAL CURRENCIES

Transfer or wire to:

**Standard Chartered Bank Nepal Ltd.**

**PO Box 3990, Nayabaneswar, Kathmandu, Nepal**

Account Number:

Swift Code: SCBLNPKA

01-0488798-51 (USD account)

01-0488798-01 (NRS account)

## MAIL DONATIONS

### Post directly to Nepal

Make a cheque to *United Mission to Nepal* in Euros, Sterling, Australian, Canadian or USD

Mail to:

Finance Team (34), UMN

PO Box 126

Kathmandu, Nepal



# TELL OTHERS

One reason I love working in the Communications Department at UMN is that, almost every single day, encouraging stories of how people's lives are changing come across my desk. A woman joining a self-help group, a man better able to feed his family, a child with a disability able to access education, a teacher learning new ways to engage his students, a church serving the poor in their community... there's a real sense that God is at work through UMN.

We try to share these stories through our publications, through our website, and through the publications of our supporting partners. You could help us, by becoming a UMN Ambassador. You could undertake to give out copies of UMNews to people in your church or fellowship group, encourage your friends to pray for UMN, or raise money for a UMN project. What you choose to do is completely up to you! We'll send you information and ideas, but you decide what you can manage, in your own context.

At the moment, we are particularly keen to recruit some Ambassadors in North America and Australia, but if you're in the UK or Europe, we'd love to hear from you as well. If you'd like to know more, please visit the UMN Website ([www.umn.org.np](http://www.umn.org.np)) and go to UMN Ambassadors. You can sign up on-line, or contact me on [lyn.jackson@umn.org.np](mailto:lyn.jackson@umn.org.np)

I look forward to hearing from you!

**Lyn Jackson**

*Communications Director*

## Tsering Minjam's Request

Tsering Minjam comes from a Tibetan tribe, high in the Himalayas in northern Nepal. She is one of the few girls from her community attending secondary school. There's only one secondary school in the area, in Mangri village, three days' walk from her home. Most parents won't allow their girls to live so far away, so they miss the chance to complete their education. Tsering lives with twelve other girls in a rented room in Mangri. They say it's not very safe, and not very comfortable. But they are determined to continue to learn. Tsering wants to be a nurse, and help sick people in her village.

Recently, UMN and Mangri High School agreed to work together to provide a girls' hostel for the school. Local people are keen to help, and have promised to provide the land. UMN will fund the building and equipping of the hostel.

Tsering says, **"Perhaps I'll have graduated by the time the building is completed, but I am excited for my younger sisters from far places. I hope many will come for schooling. Please make a safe place for them to study."**



### This month's challenge

Tell others about UMN's work with children.

- Share "Tsering Minjam's Request" with your church or fellowship group.
- Put a prayer point for UMN's education work in remote areas in your church's prayer list.
- Take up a collection to help with the establishment of the girls' hostel in Mugu.

Visit the UMN Ambassadors page on the UMN website for more Telling Others ideas.

## TAX - EFFICIENT GIVING

### United States

Make cheque payable to  
*"Hospitals Revitalisation Programme  
UMCOR #982168"*  
with a note that it is for UMN.

Mail to:

Cherian Thomas, MD  
Executive Secretary, Health and Welfare  
Global Ministries U.M.C.  
475 Riverside Drive, Room 330  
New York, NY 10115

### Australia

Mail to:

Mrs. Marlene Stewart  
Finance Officer  
PO Box 231, Bayswater VIC 3153  
17/653 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater, Australia

Make cheque payable to  
"Interserve" with a note that it is for UMN.

## OTHER OPTIONS

### Contact [fin@umn.org.np](mailto:fin@umn.org.np)

- For advice on leaving a bequest to UMN
- For instructions for UK tax-efficient giving by post
- To designate your gift for a certain cluster or area of work

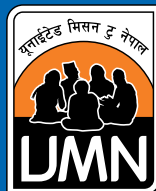
### Urgent Need

At the moment, UMN's Rehabilitation Programme for children with disabilities needs additional funding. This programme identifies and assesses children with disabilities, arranges for treatment for them, and helps the community to better support them. It costs an average of USD500 to provide these services for just one child.





Praise him, kings and all peoples,  
Princes and all other rulers;  
Girls and young men,  
Old people and children too.  
Let them all praise the name of the Lord!  
Psalm 148:1-13



UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

PO Box 126, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Phone: +977 1 4228118, 4268900  
Fax: +977 1 4225559  
communications@umn.org.np  
www.umn.org.np