



Students'  
Philanthropic  
Foundation



Foto: Sebastian Bernhold / Bild stammt aus einem ähnlichen Projekt in Nepal.

Project

# SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS IN NEPAL

## Measures:

- safe, barrier-free classrooms
- service training for teachers
- adapted learning materials
- training in disaster management

THE PROJECT SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING  
GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:



## PROJECT REGION

Karnali

## PROJECT DURATION

May 2019 - August 2022

## BUDGET

1,897,143€

## GOAL

-Children get access  
to **quality education**  
in safe and inclusive  
schools

## MEASURES

- Construction measures for safe, **barrier-free classrooms**
- Provision of **learning materials** and equipment
- Improvement of **water and sanitation**
- **Promotion of reading** with parental involvement
- **Mobile education** for children in remote communities
- **Training** for teachers
- Promotion of **equal rights**
- **Disaster management** Training

## The Current Situation

The province of Karnali in the west of Nepal is one of the poorest regions of the country. The area is very mountainous and has little infrastructure. Especially in winter, the long distances to school are a significant problem. As a result, an above-average number of children in Karnali do not go to school. The reasons

for this also include child marriage and child labor. Girls in particular are at risk of dropping out of school prematurely because they are often married off at a young age. According to UNICEF, 37 percent of girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 17 are affected.

Although basic education is compulsory in Nepal until eighth grade and even free of charge up to tenth grade, only 76 percent of children attend school. Many girls stay away from school during their menstruation due to social taboos that prohibit them from attending classes during this time, and because there are no girls' toilets for them. Children with disabilities also face special challenges as most schools are not designed to meet their needs.

One third of them do not go to school.

## Our Goals and Actions

Through this project, girls and boys from the districts of Jumla, Dolpa and Kalikot in the province of Karnali will have equal access to quality education. Depending on their needs, we will renovate school buildings and classrooms and build separate toilets for girls. In addition, we are setting up barrier-free classrooms so that children with disabilities can also attend classes. We will also train teachers and parents on topics such as equality and inclusive education.



Nothing should stop girls from going to school.

In total we are implementing measures at 80 preschools and elementary schools in eight communities in the districts of Jumla, Dolpa and Kalikot.

## Safe and Inclusive Schools

In close consultation with the local government, we are undertaking construction at six schools to make them disaster-proof, barrier-free and child-friendly. Up to four new classrooms will be built at the schools. They will receive learning materials and furniture and will become model schools for safe, inclusive and equal learning.

Depending on requirements, we will additionally improve sanitary and water facilities, build playgrounds and install separate sex toilets at up to 80 schools.

## Promoting Reading

Being able to read is of central importance in life and is the basic prerequisite for successful learning. In the project regions, however, many parents cannot read and write properly. To counteract this, we carry out targeted measures to promote reading and set up reading groups and small book libraries. At all schools, we set up books and organize more than 300 events to promote reading. The parents of the children are specifically involved in the process. Radio programs, in which the children actively participate, also provide information on the importance of reading.

## Training for Teachers

Teachers have a significant influence on whether children enjoy going to school and whether or not they enjoy learning. To help teachers

and strengthen their competencies, we conduct trainings on child-friendly and inclusive teaching method, in which up to 240 teachers take part. 320 teachers and members of the school management also attend training courses on safe schools and disaster prevention. They then practice with the children how to behave in an emergency, such as an earthquake.

## Getting Children Back to School

The aim of the project is to enable all children to attend school. Together with the authorities, we identify girls and boys who do not go to school. Trained teachers carry out home visits to discuss the causes with parents and look for solutions. Children with disabilities, who do not attend school are also visited at home. They receive advice and support and adapted learning materials as needed. To enable children in remote villages to attend school, we set up two mobile classes for the winter months.

## Promoting Equality - Preventing Exclusion

In schools and communities, we encourage children, parents and teachers to actively promote gender equality. We educate them about the consequences of early marriage, child labor, and other harmful practices that prevent children from attending school. This also includes breaking the taboo around menstruation. This is because a widespread tradition in Nepal forbids women from taking part in family and community life during menstruation. In some cases, they are not allowed in schools or temples, as they are considered unclean during this period. To counteract this stigmatization, we promote education and dialog on this topic in the communities.



## SUNIL CAN LAUGH AGAIN

At the age of eleven, Sunil already had to start working: Cutting grass and hay for the cattle. One day he cut his right hand deeply. The injury was so severe that he lost his hand. From then on Sunil spent most of his time at home and fell into a deep depression.

Then an earthquake destroyed the family home. Plan provided emergency relief and set up temporary classrooms and a shelter for children. There, Sunil took part in games again for the first time. There he also learned that his disability should not prevent him from achieving his aspirations.

"When I heard how important education was, I decided to go back to school," Sunil recalls. "I made a lot of new friends there." Recently he received an ID card from the district government. With it, he can now take advantage of government services for children with disabilities.

## EXAMPLE OF PROJECT EXPENSES

- 55 €** cost of a reading contest including materials and prizes
- 79 €** needed for the production of a radio report on the topic of reading
- 158 €** cost of a campaign against child labor
- 237 €** cost of a reading corner in schools
- 316 €** cost of a for a three-day workshop on topics of hygiene and menstruation

## HELP THROUGH A DONATION

### Students' Philanthropic Foundation Bank für Sozialwirtschaft

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