

Completion Report / Pahar Trust Nepal: Shree Sawakali Secondary School Ref. SG. 009.14

Aims & Objectives: The primary aim was to provide a safe, secure learning environment for the children in this remote Himalayan community. In addition, the school will be used as a cultural & community centre, adult literacy classes will commence in the near future. The school construction was delayed by two key factors, the earthquakes in 2015 & the fuel blockade on the Indian Border. This led to an acute shortage of key building materials throughout the country. There was also no vehicle fuel for nearly six months to transport the materials to nearest collection point for our construction team.

Project Activities: The school was completed by the Pahar Trust Nepal, with the help and cooperation of local villagers in May 2016. The whole school community is delighted with the new facilities. The village cooperation ensured the building costs were kept to the absolute minimum. Their activities included carrying equipment, ground preparation, preparing wood and getting sand, water and cement to the site for the skilled building team. The detailed design and technical drawings helped ensure a high quality, value for money facility was completed.

Timeframe: The project grant was issued in November 2014. Preliminary work commenced immediately. In April 2015 whilst the school was being constructed Nepal suffered two huge earthquakes. Our priority immediately changed to focus on humanitarian work. Once this work was completed we then endured the fuel blockade that caused a significant number of problems to many of our projects in East Nepal, including Sawakali School.

Replication / Progress: Having completed over one hundred projects in Nepal we are constantly learning and modifying designs and projects. We had undertaken earthquake awareness training prior to April 2015 and this was invaluable and ensured the majority of our schools remained virtually undamaged. Our designers have annual professional development opportunities to ensure they are constantly up to date with new initiatives and requirements. This takes place during the monsoon season when it is impossible to construct new schools.

Development Education: Throughout the construction of Sawakali School many trustees have worked in schools, colleges and higher education establishments. This was to keep them fully informed about the construction and to enlighten them about many aspects of Nepalese tradition and culture.

Beneficiaries: The immediate beneficiaries will be the students and staff at Sawakali School (over 450). Secondary beneficiaries will be the families who reside in the hill community. The school will be utilised for many community

activities. They have never had such a quality facility. Over the forthcoming decades the school will benefit thousands of students.

Community Involvement: There was a considerable amount of support from the whole community, both young & old. As already stated they made a huge contribution throughout the whole protracted school construction. It is estimated the community prepared 25 tonnes of aggregate by hand to support our craftsmen.

Liaison with Authorities / Nepalese Government: The Pahar Trust Nepal is a well-established and respected organisation in Nepal. We complement and adhere to the aims and requirements of the Nepalese Government. The Chairman has regular meetings with the Education Ministry to ensure we work in harmony. We have always followed the long term strategic plan of the Ministry of Education. It is stated in their documentation that International Organisations, Aid Agencies and Governments have played a major role in supporting the Nepalese Government to improve children's access to a higher quality of education.

Sustainability: The qualified civil engineers and Pahar Trust Nepal staff carry out an annual inspection of established Trust schools. We are confident that the Sawakali community will cherish the new facility and ensure it is maintained in the best possible condition.

Monitoring & Evaluation: The quality of the construction is evident from the photograph showing the high quality masonry work. The Social Welfare Council of the Nepalese Ministry of Education are delighted with this high quality facility. The school community has a safe, secure, comfortable and well constructed school where children have the opportunity to thrive. The project represents excellent value for money.

Sustainable Development Goals: 4. Quality Education, 1 No Poverty, 3. Good Health & well Being, 5 Gender Equality, 10. Reduced Inequalities & 16. Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions.

Budget: Despite the huge challenges brought by the earthquakes and the fuel blockade this project has still been completed within budget. The project could have been completed earlier however we would have had to pay considerably more for building materials. Once the materials were available at reasonable prices we resumed the construction.

Total From Isle of Man Fund Raising Initiatives: £8,000 Contribution For Sawakali Village Community: £2,200 Grant For Isle of Man International Development: £19,950

Total Cost: £30,150

J. H. Green: Chairman : Pahar Trust Nepal.

25th May 2016









