

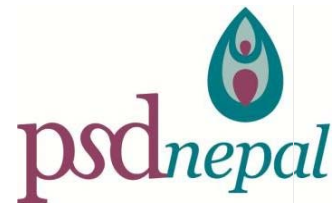
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DAO–KTM, Reg.No. 180/059/60GON–SWCAffiliationNo.13981



PSD Connect

Year 15, No.3, September 2020

Quarterly Newsletter

The PSD Connect is a quarterly e-newsletter published by the Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) Nepal to inform all their partners, previous volunteers, and long-term supporters about our activities and news. PSD Nepal is non-profit social development organization, dedicated to the alleviation of poverty of children and youth of rural Nepal. For more information please visit www.psdnepal.org [photo credit: Jeremy Cohen ©]



A Plastic Story - PSD Nepal - Full Documentary

MESSAGE FROM the EDITOR

Namaste friends!

Once again, with great pleasure, we present you our updated quarterly newsletter. Please read this, Issue 3 from our 15th year of writing, designed to keep you updated with PSD Nepal and our activities, projects and future plans!

Any questions and/or comments regarding the newsletter or about PSD- Nepal are more than welcome. Please also forward this newsletter to any friends who may be interested. We heartily welcome your views, comments, and queries regarding the work of PSD- Nepal! You can send us an email to psdnepal@gmail.com or call us at (+977)-1-4411648

Bishnu H.Bhatta

Latest PSD-Nepal News

We hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health amidst the global coronavirus pandemic. Despite global disruptions, including those that have directly affected the work of PSD, we have continued to serve Nepali communities and help those that need it most. PSD Nepal has been working hard across a number of communities, including Rasuwa, Ilam, Baglung and some orphanages in Kathmandu – and bring you an update today of these projects. Time to pause, time to ponder, time to slow down, time for conversation, and ample time for reflection. We hope if you have a moment, you can relax and read our newsletter and find some positive news in the world.

PSD Nepal is excited to announce the release of a documentary ‘A Plastic Story’.

PSD Plastics was launched in 2017 as the social enterprise arm of PSD Nepal. Working in Langtang National Park, Rasuwa, we have co-created a local partnership of PET plastic waste recycling and upcycling, in tandem with the communities of Langtang Valley. Together with HLP Himalayan Life Plastic in Pokhara, Nepal, around 40,000 PET plastic bottles are collected per month from the high mountain passes of the Langtang National Park - up to 4000m - and transported to Pokhara for recycling - by process of extrusion. Our 2025 vision is to expand this work to all the National Parks of Nepal - to include ACAP, Manaslu, Mustang, Bardiya, Chitwan, and Shivapuri. To get involved, contact us - www.psdnepal.org/connect.

The documentary which focuses on PET plastics but also on water, ice, and waste in the Himalaya, can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/kktRh1Ylbzs> or simply search ‘PSD Nepal: A Plastic Story’

We have also released an info-story on the details of the recycling logistic at altitude, that the PSD Nepal team orchestrates and manages – have a watch online here ! <https://youtu.be/Zdq9t9bdanQ>

Mud Day Appeal, June 29th 2020 – Founded in 2009 – International Mud Day by Bishnu (Director PSD Nepal) and Gillian (former Principle of Bold Park Community School) has been celebrated every year at 29th June (Asad 15th) with people around the world; a day that symbolizes the start of the rice planting period, where all farmers enjoy the completion of the plantation and wish for good production. Children, teachers, and villagers all join us for the celebrations of mud day. It reminds us that getting muddy in the padi fields is not only about diving into water, playing games and having fun – but also about bringing the community together, learning a little more about nature and paying homage to all the hard working farmers. This year the day was hosted on June 29th 2020: International Mud Day 2020 (15th Assad Nepali 2077). The celebration was organized by Bishnu and held at the orphanage of Panchkhal. The event was meticulously planned to ensure that the children had a good time and most importantly were safe. The celebration turned out to be a great experience for both the organizers as well as the participants.



COVID-19 story from Baglung

The main objective of the project was to conduct awareness programs within communities highly affected by COVID-19. PSD believes that if we want to be able to respond to things in a clear way, we must have a clear understanding of what we’re talking about and the steps we are taking. It is especially important, in regions that have limited access to news and media with lesser resources, to carry out such programs. Our goal was to help the people of the community

understand the impact of Covid-19 and ways to prevent it. We also wanted to explain the reasons behind social distancing, maintaining hygiene and also learning to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19.

The issues were addressed through these programs are:

- ≈ *What is COVID-19?*
- ≈ *How is it transmitted?*
- ≈ *What are its symptoms?*
- ≈ *What preventive measures can be taken to reduce the change of corona-virus?*
- ≈ *How can we save oneself and others from COVID-19?*
- ≈ *How to wash your hands properly with soap (6 ways to wash hand)?*
- ≈ *Awareness about the responsibilities to the people in quarantine.*
- ≈ *Inform people about social distancing and its necessity.*
- ≈ *Explaining the implementation of lockdown.*
- ≈ *Encouraging people to provide security to senior citizens, pregnant women and other ill people.*

There are more than 1,000 people that were reached through these awareness activities in the villages of Kathekhola Rural Municipality, ward No. 2. Baglung.

In addition to awareness programs, PSD Nepal supplied kits to many community members. The distribution kits contained: Mask, Soap, hand sanitizer, Nail cutter, Sanitary Pad, Comb, Paracetamol, brufen, De-cold, OSR, tooth brush, tooth paste, mattress (foam), gloves, bucket, mug, broom, hand mike (to run awareness activities) etc. 586 households have been provided with the distribution kits in Kathekhola Rural Municipality, Ward No. 2.

The people who are quarantined are very happy and praised PSD Nepal for its support with resources useful during their quarantine. The chairman of Rural Municipality Mr. Amar Thapa also gave huge thanks to PSD and their donors for the generous support in this difficult time. PSD are working hard to address the next steps of the programs, including monitoring these activities and reassessing the ways we can help the community with what they need, and addressing unemployment increases.

We are very thankful to the entire team of BVDA (Bristol Volunteer Dev. Abroad) who funded this awareness project.



COVID-19 Awareness story from - Ilam

PSD also did a program in Harkare, Ilam. Harkare has also been impacted by COVID-19 immensely. There are 45 people in quarantine in Harkate and out of them 6 were infected in Harkate. In the Suryodaya Rural Municipality, another 10 were infected by COVID-19. Fortunately, there have been no deaths till today. However the incoming migrant workers from different countries returning home might disrupt the momentum. For that reason the community has to be prepared for managing the incoming villagers and strictly following quarantine and isolation guidelines. As was the case in Baglung, PSD provided awareness programs and distribution kits to aid these communities.

We are very thankful to the entire team of HeiSDA who funded this awareness project.



Covid-19: Support for Children at Siphah and Panchkhal Home of Bal Mandir

Siphah Home is a government-run home in the Kathmandu district of Nepal. Home to over 80 unparented children (of which 10 are special needs), aged from 1 to 18 years old, the home is host to a large residential building and accompanying school building. Siphah is described as a Child Protection Home, for unparented children with parents who are facing jail sentences, in particular. Similarly Samajkalyan Children Home also another home of Bal Mandir where around 30 children staying at the moment. We have provided both home we provided the children with food supply, sports equipment and other necessities. The Shipal Home and Panchkhal home were extremely thankful for the support and the children loved their new stationary as well as different sports goods. We are endlessly grateful for donors.

Materials given in Siphah:



In Panchkhal:



Vote of Thanks

PSD Nepal would like to express its thanks to all those who have contributed in one way or the other to make our projects & programmes successful. We have accommodated 1,175+ volunteers in 15 years!

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