

**Partnership for Sustainable Development–Nepal**

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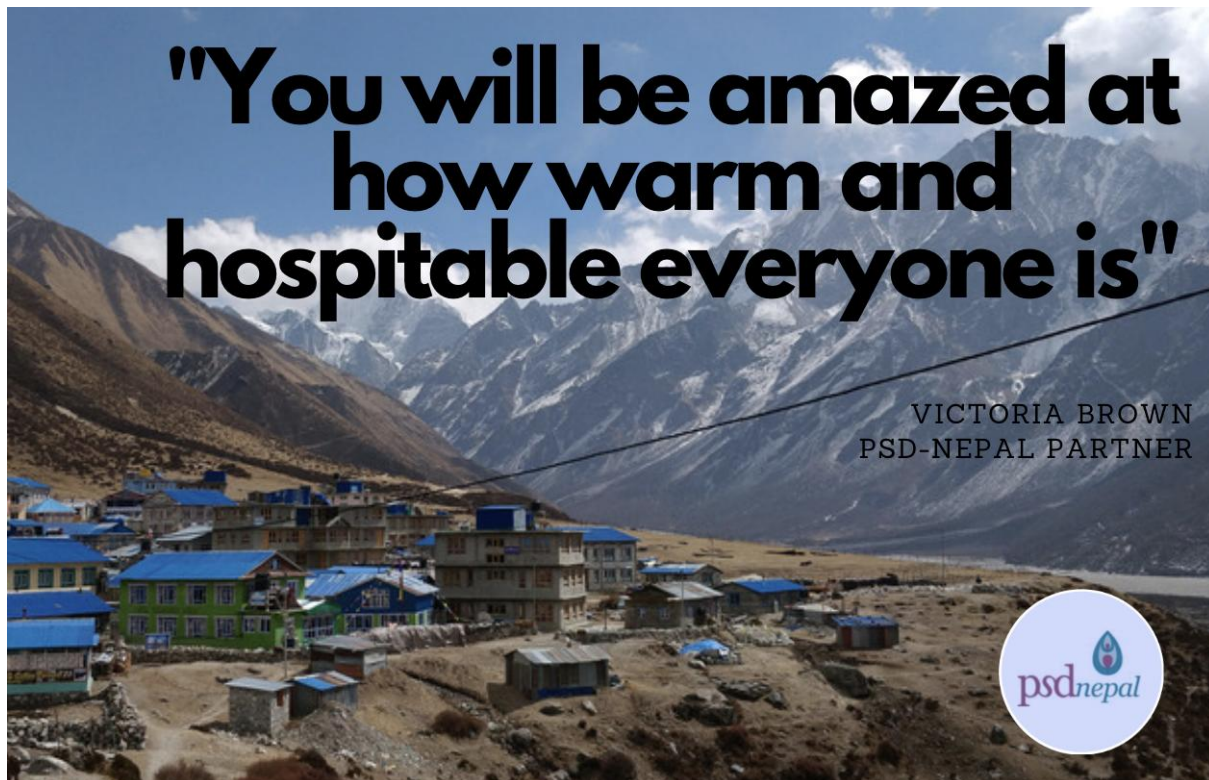


**PSDConnect**

**QuarterlyNewsletter**

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](http://www.psdnepal.org) [photo credit: Jeremy Cohen ©]

**Year 16, No. 1, March, 2021**



**MESSAGE FROM the EDITOR**

Namaste friends!

Once again, with great pleasure, we present you our updated quarterly newsletter. Please read this, Issue 1 from our 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:psdnepal@gmail.com) or call us at (+977)-1-4411648

Bishnu H.Bhatta

## LatestPSD-NepalNews

Until now in Nepal 2,77,309 people are infected by COVID 19, where 3,330 died and 1,493 active cases are recorded. It has been one year since the lockdown, currently Nepal is fully open including all public places, and it was in 6 month of full lockdown and 6 month of partial lockdown. However, in current context the cases are increasing day by day. We hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health amidst the global coronavirus pandemic. Even amidst the global pandemic, including those that have directly affected the work of PSD, we have tried to continue to serve Nepali communities and help those that need it most.

### Ilam School Awareness Program

On February 2021, PSD conducted a program to distribute the hygiene kit as well as raise awareness against COVID 19 in the schools of Ilam in support HeiSDA – (Heidelberg Sustainable Development Abroad). PSD chose Ilam to start with our project because Ilam is considered to be one of the rural places of Nepal which lacks basic facilities, and proper information flow in regards the global pandemic. As the government announced re-opening of schools around the country, it was extremely important to raise awareness regarding COVID 19 to control the spread of the virus in vulnerable areas like Ilam. The objective behind this program was to help the students, teachers, parents and other staffs understand the impact of Covid-19 and ways to prevent it. Further teach them the reasons behind social distancing, maintaining hygiene and also guide them to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19. The program concluded with the distribution of the hygiene kit. The program impacted 4 schools and one woman's cooperatives of Suryodaya Municipality based in Ilam.

The topics covered in the two hour long awareness program included; What is COVID-19?, how is it transmitted, what are its symptoms, what preventive measures can be taken to reduce the chain 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), how to keep social distance and why is it important? A mock session was conducted to show the correct method of hand washing, wearing mask, using hand sanitizer, social distancing and toilet usage. The sanitation and hygiene kit which was distributed among the beneficiaries included buckets, mugs, cleaning brushes, soaps, harpic (cleaning disinfectant) for toilet, and gloves, hand sanitizer for each classes, towel for each classes, digital weighing machine, clothes mask for all students and teachers, digital thermo-meter and water tank (for hand washing station). 705 students, 27 teachers, 265 parents and 32 cooperative members attended the awareness program and got the hygiene kit. PSD would like to present deepest gratitude towards HeiSDA -**Heidelberg Sustainable Development Abroad** for covering the entire expense of the project and helping to create an impact together in Nepal.



## **Bee keeping project**

PSD is grateful to inform about its Bee Keeping project which aims to impact 20 families. Nepal has massive opportunities in bee keeping business because of the richness of honeybee's species and the pasture diversity availability. Bee keeping contributes in Nepal's economy as well as boosts the rural and marginalized landless farmers. Bee keeping also plays important role in pollination which helps to maintain the natural biodiversity from the Terai to the high Himalayans. Nepalese honey has high demands in international markets due to its species. Bee keeping business can be established with low investments which can help the landless and marginalized or poor people of Nepal to earn. Bee keeping is a potential business to alleviate poverty in context to Nepal. PSD Nepal initiated this project to contribute in Sustainable Development Goal no. 1. *No Poverty*. The project includes training program to the families who lives in below poverty line and due to their educational and social background these people are provided with no opportunities to establish a better standard of living. According to our research, these micro credit projects are considered to be a successful tool to break the cycle of poverty and uplift a family living standard. With the help of training and providing necessary capital, these families can generate handful income to become financially secure. The project plans to incorporate women only because they are the one who get fewer opportunities. The project aims to train 20 women and provide them with the initial capital to kick start their businesses. The project also promises to provide any kind of technical support for 12 month to 20 women. The initial work of the project including training has already completed, the bee hive shall be distributed in early April, 2021.

## **Off season vegetable farming project**

Off season vegetable project is another business concept which can help to improve the diet as well as household income of the Nepalese farmers. Off season farming can be done by following the same management practices as ordinary vegetable production by giving extra attention to temperature and moisture. With less labor cost off season vegetable can provide good income to the women and also insure the efficient use of land by building tunnels which can help to protect the crops from extreme climate. This technique helps farmers enjoy crop diversification and give food security and extra income to enhance their living standard. Accepting tunnel farming can provide farmers the liberty to cultivate crop throughout the year and not only depend upon the seasonal farming. Similar to bee keeping project, off season vegetable project's initial work has been achieved. We are in process getting fund in collaboration with Bristol Volunteers Development Abroad - UK and shall be initiated after securing the funding. We are grateful to get support in past months from Bristol Volunteer Development Abroad – UK for our Bee Keeping and off season vegetable farming project.

## **PSD Internship**

PSD recently opened a position for a three month internship where Ms. Dollie Shah got recruited as an Intern. Dollie is a recent BBA graduate who was looking for an opportunity for her both professional personal growth while she found PSD as a place to grow, PSD also happily accepted her as a family and she has been currently involved in the enhancement of various projects that PSD is working on.

## **New Partnership**

PSD joined hands with Objectif Science International (OSI) to work in collaboration for our plastic project. We have been raising crowd funds together for plastic removable project as well as we are in process of grant writing from different foundation.



### **PSD Nepal is excited to remind you of our short 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. Our 2025 vision is to expand this work to all the National Parks of Nepal. It has planned to make an environmental resource sites and segregation house of waste at different new locations for education on PET & waste in Langtang National Park. Similarly, the project includes training on solid waste management and awareness activities. The visualized result of the project is to train people to produce compost with the help of home organic waste to utilize the waste materials into productive purpose, supplement plant requirement of organic and plant nutrients, covert home waste into compost to reduce pollution and reduce daily generated wastes.

Please check our YouTube video which informs about why we should work on recycling plastic at 4000m <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zdqqt9bdanQ&feature=youtu.be>

### **VoteofThanks**

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!

### **Newsubscribers**

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