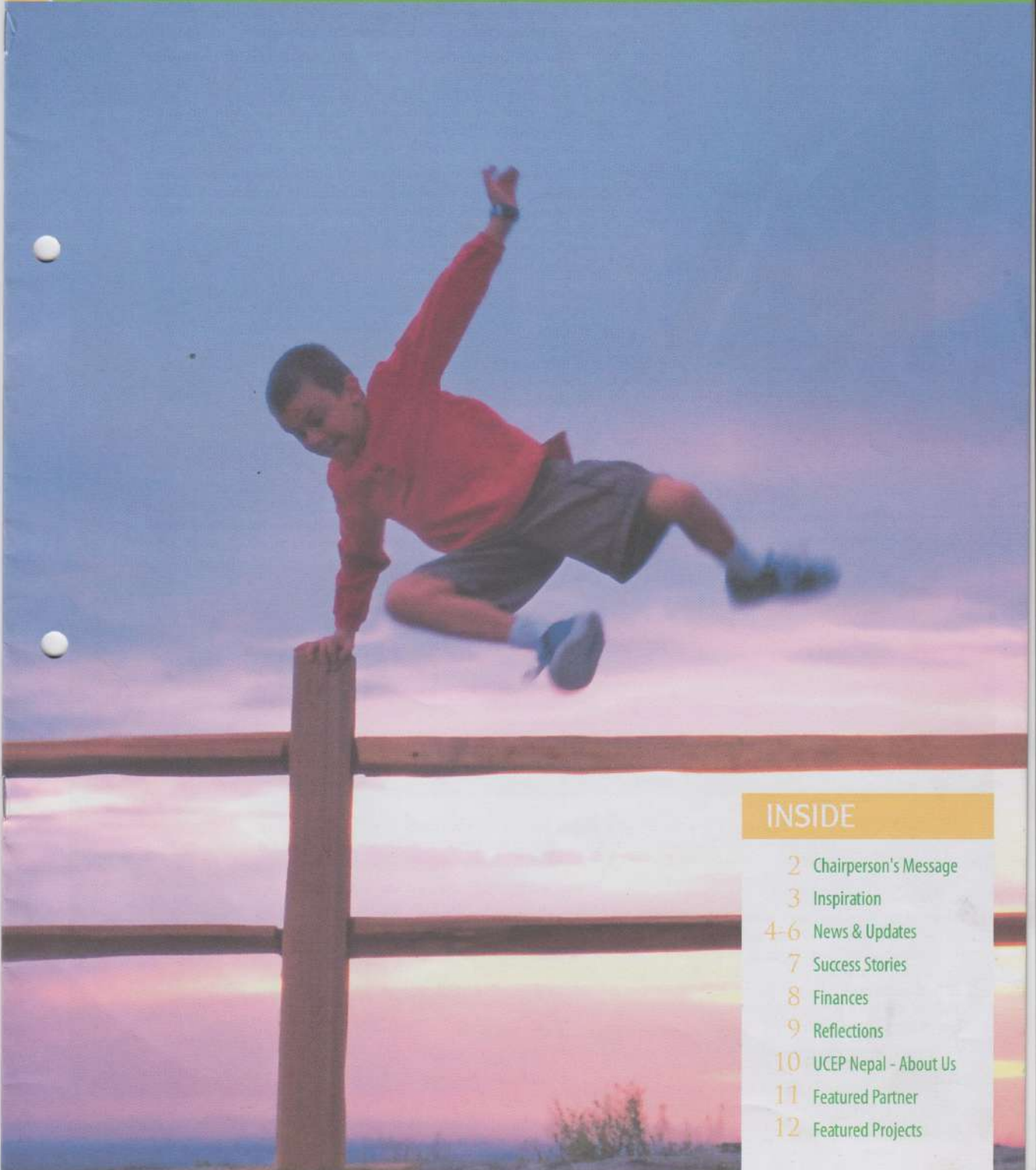




STRIDES

Summer 2010



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CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



We will continue to prepare more of them with the hope that the state will soon have the needed infrastructure and framework for them to be productive and contributing members.

Greetings!

This second issue of 'STRIDES' contributes to the effort of sharing as many developments and events in recent past at UCEP Nepal. We continue to explore new frontiers of partnership to better the lives of disadvantaged youth and children. Over the last few months, significant milestones have been carved, thanks to the participation and contribution of state agencies, local authorities, private companies, academic institutions and the civil society.

Our country has numerous challenges to overcome to become a land of opportunities for all who seek better quality of life and we are at terms with the realization that we also have a stake in its development. At a time, we seek a candidate who aspires to stand on her own feet after acquiring the needed education, training, confidence, and self-respect we inculcate in each of our programs.

The exodus of young talents, in hundreds of thousands, is a stark reminder for all of us on the plight of the generation that will drive the country forward one day. We will continue to prepare more of them with the hope that the state will soon have the needed infrastructure and framework for them to be productive and contributing members.

A notable commendation worth highlighting is the commitment, dedication and spirit of teamwork of the management and technical team at UCEP Nepal. Their expertise, knowledge and skills have transformed the lives of thousands of young aspiring and talented individuals who are going to make all of us proud in the days to come as shining examples of success, both personally and professionally.

I would like to thank them all for their energy and drive to champion the mission for which UCEP Nepal was established 32 years ago. Its realization, I am sure, will also be cherished and sought by all of us with more vigor and passion.

Once again, I would like to thank all our partners and well-wishers and look forward to sharing more to develop programs to transform the lives of the younger generation.

With best regards,

Ram Krishna Nirala
Chairperson

EDITORIAL

This second issue of UCEP Nepal's newsletter features glimpses of events, program highlights, and success stories from its multifaceted initiatives to enhance prospects of a dignified life of disadvantaged youth and children. The ideals of the founder, Late Lindsay Allan Cheyne of New Zealand, having founded UCEP Bangladesh in 1972 and later in Nepal in 1978, continues to remain pristine and relevant to this day. Support from various sectors and individuals are a testimony that the lofty ideals have not withered with the passage of time.

On its quest for improving programs on education, training, and child protection, UCEP Nepal finds encouragement on occasionally sprouts of inspiration, genius, and support

amidst intimidating challenges. A few such notable ones of the recent past are covered in greater details in this issue.

Efforts have been made to cover a range of topics that personify the organization with as many contributions on, about, and from the youth and children as well as the staff members.

We look forward to your contributions and suggestions on improving it in the coming one.

Sincerely

Suraj Dahal, Editor-in-Chief
General Secretary



Nepal's first 'President with UCEP Nepal'

Tuesday, December 29, 2009 (2066 Poush 14)

Rt. Honorable President of Democratic Republic of Nepal, Dr. Ram Baran Yadav visited UCEP and interacted with children and youth of UCEP Nepal. The President's warm response to children's queries along with his friendliness during snack with them was noteworthy highlight of the program "President with UCEP Nepal". He was greeted with the National Anthem and a welcome song prepared by the children themselves.

On the very occasion, President Dr. Yadav inaugurated a 3-month General Automobile Mechanic Training partnered with Skill for Employment Project (SEP) of CTEVT, to provide Market Oriented Short Term skill to 400 youths at premises of UCEP - Nepal in Sano Thimi, Bhaktapur as well as one in Butawal and Panauti.

On the occasion, Immediate Past Chairperson, Mr. Govinda Adhikari, highlighted the role of UCEP in protecting and promoting the rights of children. Chairperson, Mr. Ram Krishna Nirala, briefly articulate his views on the scope of technical education and vocational



training for the development of our country and approaches of UCEP to provide quality education to the underprivileged children. He expressed gratitude to the Rt. Honorable President for his generous presence and kind words to encourage and inspire the future of this nation.

Keshav Suwal Awarded

Another notable highlight was the presentation of 'Dr. Lindsay Allan Cheyne Pinnacle of Excellence in Service Award', founded to honor commendable contribution of individuals and organization to champion the mission of UCEP. Mr. Keshav Suwal, Training Coordinator, was awarded this honor by the Rt. Honorable President amidst the formal program for his 18 years of tireless service at the organization. We are very thankful to him for not only giving back the prize amount to the organization but also adding on top of it his one month's salary.



Collective Birthday Celebrated

September 14, 2009 (2066 Bhadra 29)

On the occasion of National Children's Day 2066, children residing at Bal Sudhar Griha and UCEP Nepal hostel celebrated collective birthday on Bhadra 29, 2066 (September 14, 2009) at its premises. They performed a cultural program with songs, dances, small drama and caricature. 13 children participated in a poem competition focusing on child rights.



Collective Birthday Cake

It was a formal program with speakers highlighting the importance of child rights emphasizing rights of children to education and vocational training to establish a dignified country.

UCEP Nepal's Annual General Assembly was conducted at the same day. It approved budget, planning and policies for the year 2066/067.

Social Audit of UCEP Programs

December 31, 2009 (2066 Poush 16)

Social Audit is one of the regular features of UCEP Nepal conducted towards the end of each year since 2007. The program evaluates activities implemented throughout the year in terms of targets achieved, their qualities and outcomes. It is evaluated in presence of and by all concerned stakeholders such as members from Executive Board, representatives from partner GOs, INGOs and NGOs, media representatives, graduate trainees, current trainees and all the staff members.

Facilitated by the Executive Director, Mr. Rajeshwor Devkota, it commenced with formal opening followed by presentations on programs, financial overview and discussion. Valuable suggestions were received on improving the representation of women, more frequent interaction with the graduate trainees, inclusion of trainees from wider training programs, reaching wider potential trainees by partnering with other entities, effectiveness of job placement, addition of market oriented trainings, incorporation of additional components into existing curricula, etc.

Important issues like gender inclusion, foreign employment, and vocational training in formal academic curricula were also briefly discussed. Representative from Department of Education extended cooperation to disseminate information regarding the trainings offered by UCEP through their publicity mechanism to reach youth living in remote parts of Nepal.

Chairperson of UCEP Nepal, Mr. Ram Krishna Nirala, thanked everyone for their invaluable presence and recommendations and reiterated the remarkable contribution activities like this one can have to improve the effectiveness of programs to be implemented in the coming years.

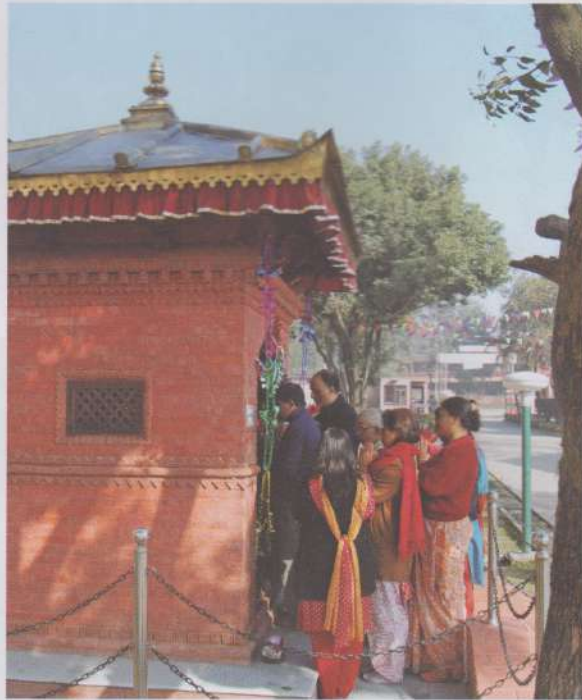
Saraswati Puja at UCEP Premises

January 20, 2010 (2066 Magh 6)

Saraswati, the Goddess of Knowledge, is worshiped every year on 5th of Magh month of Vedic calendar popularly known as Basanta Panchami. UCEP worshipped Goddess Saraswati, at Saraswati temple in its premises, constructed with the generous benevolence of its Life Member, Mr. Purna Bhakta Poudel, to fulfill our quest for knowledge and to pray for the success of the staff members for their professional undertakings, instructors for their deliveries and satisfaction, and training graduates for employment in their respective trades. All the trainees participated in the puja with great enthusiasm and made their wishes.

Intelligence, consciousness, cosmic knowledge, creativity, education, enlightenment, music, arts, and power are symbolized by Goddess Saraswati. We worship her not only for "secular knowledge", but for "divine knowledge" essential to achieve 'moksha'.

During the worship, Ramesh Nath Joshi delivered 'prabachan' to the attendees on the meaning of education and knowledge, their forms and about the duties and responsibilities of a learner. His teachings were very enlightening, inspirational and educational to everyone present.



Praying for knowledge

New Technology at General Mechanic Trade

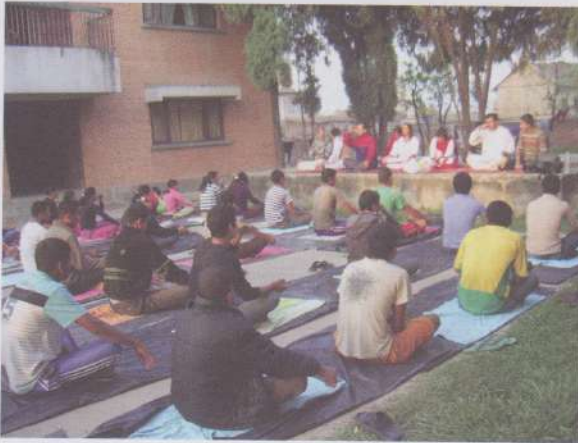
Sano Thimi Technical School can now serve interested trainees to be skilled at a new and very much demanded trade of TIG MIG MAC welding training with the latest equipment and materials from this year. Welding of stainless steel is a booming enterprise in the metal fabrication sector. The skills in this technology will assist the graduates to have wider option for employment within the country as well as abroad.

Yoga for Health

March 22, 2010 (2066 Chaitra 9)

Yoga training session was conducted for a week (March 22 - 26) by Rajendra Shrestha and his supporting team in early mornings for 2 hours at UCEP premises for the residential trainees. They learnt about popular positions and their importance. Health aspects as well as special nutrition facts were shared with them for better living. All of the trainees were able to perform the exercises individually after the training.

UCEP Nepal and the trainees have a lot to thank Mr. Rajendra Shrestha and his team. After all, health is wealth!



Practicing yoga

Extension of Bal Sudhar Griha

August 4, 2010 (2067 Shrawan 19)

Extended Bal Sudhar Griha building (Annex) was inaugurated by Honorable Judge Khil Raj Regmi on August 4, 2010. It will accommodate 40 juvenile delinquents with programs on education, health, vocational training and income generation. The inauguration program was conducted at the presence of Secretary of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Mr. Mahendra Shrestha senior government officials and representatives of I/NGOs.

Speakers at the program highlighted on the contribution of UCEP Nepal to support the government in child protection sector and managing the first and the only Juvenile Correction Home in Nepal.



Inauguration program

ENOC Lubricants' Big Heart

June 3, 2010 (2067 Jestha 20)

On the 3rd of June, UCEP had the pleasure of hosting representatives from ENOC Lubricants. Among the visitors was the General Manager, Mohammad El Sadek, who came all the way from Dubai; Ranjan Guha, the Sales Supervisor of ENOC Lubricants South Asia; Madan Ohja as well as other staff members of ENOC Lubricants Nepal.

ENOC Lubricants had contributed to paint the roofs of the workshops at UCEP premises. A formal program was conducted to convey the appreciation for their generosity towards the trainees. The program started with a short welcome note followed by a presentation by Madan Ohja about lubrication system to the trainees of the Automobile Mechanic Trade. It was greatly appreciated by the trainees as they learnt about different types, qualities, and purposes of lubricants. Suraj Dahal, General Secretary of UCEP Nepal, briefly highlighted the mission and challenges of the organization. He thanked ENOC Lubricants for harboring similar values and for assisting the future of the nation to become skillful.



Mohammad El Sadek, General Manager of ENOC Lubricants

Memorabilia Tokens were presented by the trainees to the donating guests. Mohammed El Sadek delivered an impressive speech of acceptance afterwards and shared with the trainees that he started out in similar ways as the present trainees and after hard work and perseverance is now the General Manager of ENOC. He believed that the trainees have the potential to give further back not only to Nepal but elsewhere as well if they are skillful and hardworking.

He appreciated their commitment and presented all the trainees a T-Shirt. At the end of the formal program, a group photo was taken.

Again on August 30, 2010 ENOC Lubricant's authorized agency in Nepal, Nepal Elver Trading Pvt Ltd, provided two sets of inverters worth NRs. 26,000.00 for hostels of boys and girls.

Renovation of Thimi premises

August 1, 2010 (2067 Shrawan 16)

With the financial support of NRs. 1,000,000.00 from Shangri-La Home and facilitation of Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB), the building and its premises at Thimi of UCEP Nepal is renovated. This facility was earlier serving as a center for Non Formal Education and residential quarters for some of the trainees and staff members.

Major tasks of excavation and filling as well as stone mason work for the compound wall including brick work, fencing, painting, etc have been completed.

It will serve as an annex to increase the capacity of Juvenile Correction Home (Bal Sudhar Griha) which was originally built for 50 but has been housing more than 80. Moreover, as this is the only correctional center in the country, referrals of admission of children from courts and administration offices had to be turned down due to lack of space, hence every year, more than 100 children are forced to be placed at adult prisons.

Now, with this facility, soon to house more than 40 additional children will offer the residents a chance to live in a safe, caring and child-friendly facility where they will have opportunities to study and prepare for a better future.

Ambe Cement Contributes for Renovation

Ambe Cement Pvt. Ltd. contributed NRs. 125,000 to renovate theory classrooms of Sano Thimi Technical School. Five classrooms now are well plastered and painted with five sets of desk-benches and white boards. We heartily thank the company for joining hands in our endeavor of imparting vocational training skills to needy youths.



Hari Neupane's Support for Resource Center

Mr. Hari Neupane, Managing Director of Ambe Cement Pvt. Ltd. contributed NRs. 50,000 to develop a Resource Center for the trainees. Now, they have an opportunity to read newspapers, educational journals, magazines and books at hostel and trades. It is in the process of collecting and augmenting appropriate technical education and vocational training volumes for the targeted beneficiaries.

Farewell and Congratulations

We extend deepest gratitude to **Chhini Bahadur Nepali** for his invaluable contribution to UCEP - Nepal throughout his Twelve (12) years of relentless service at the Printing trade. We welcome his decision to retire. He will always be a part of our family.

We congratulate **Raju Karki**, our former Account Officer, for joining Aide et Action as Administration cum Finance Officer. Aide et Action is an International NGO working in the education and vocational skills sector. He was with us from 17th October 2005 to 12th April 2010 and will be remembered as a competent professional with utmost dedication and commitment towards improving the lives of children and youth who needed support. We wish him every success in his future endeavors.

We greatly benefitted from **Rajin Thapa's** contribution as a very respected and dedicated teacher at Bal Sudhar Griha from 16th July 2009 to 13th April 2010. He will be remembered by all of us, especially the children and youth he was so fond of. We wish him great success.

We are also very indebted to **Kishor Adhikari** who was with us from 14th Feb 2006 to 28th August 2010 and served as the Administration cum Account Assistant. All of us appreciate his cooperation in his 4.5 years of service. We also wish him every success in his future pursuits.

We congratulate **Bebis Shakya**, Assistant Designer at Offset Printing Press trade who has recently started new job at a printing press in Lalitpur. His contribution at the trade will always be remembered. We wish him all the best.

We congratulate **Bishal Poudel** for receiving full scholarship at University of Technology, Sweden at Department of Telecommunication Engineering. He was instructor at Electronics trade from 19th August 2008 to 27th July 2009 at our technical school. Our best wishes are always with him.

Ramesh Basukala deserves special commendation and gratitude

for joining a permanent government job at Government of Nepal, Department of Printing as a Printing Press Operator. He was with us from 18th October 2002 to 8th August 2009 as an Assistant Instructor. He has our very warm wishes for his new undertaking.

We also extend warm wishes to **Prabin Shrestha** for having recently joined Khwopa Engineering College as a Laboratory Assistant in Mechanical Department. He was with us from 28th May 1996 to 13th Feb 1999 in the Motorcycle Mechanic Trade.

Welcome

It is our privilege to welcome **Rajid Sainju** in the position of Program Officer. He has joined us from November 2009.

In the same spirit, we are also glad to welcome on board **Sushmira Sharma** as a volunteer at Bal Sudhar Griha. She has been helping the children from 22nd March 2010. She is a Clinical Psychologist by education and training. We are optimistic that her support will help the children to be more socially respectable and responsible in the future.

We also welcome **Bhabin Ranabhat** for being appointed the Account Officer from 19th March 2010. He had been working with us at Bal Sudhar Griha as a Warden. We are very assured of his commitment and dedication to direct the organization towards sustainability.

It is also our pleasure to welcome **Shreeranj Poudel** as a Hostel Warden at Bal Sudhar Griha. He has joined us from 2nd April 2010. We are optimistic that his contribution towards better management of the center will help the children to grow and develop to become contributing members of society.

From the beneficiaries of Education for Youth, Youth for Peace and Development (EYYPD), an Operation Day (OD) program, supported by Save the Children in Nepal.

Devendra BK, Purandhara, Dang



"Before I came to UCEP Nepal for Automobile Mechanic training, I was working in a restaurant in India for two years with close acquaintance of my village. I was really concerned about my future as I did not have much education and did not have any skills to receive offers for better jobs. I especially felt insecure to return to Nepal because there weren't much job opportunities for someone like me who did not have any specific skills and I did not know anyone who could help me.

However, after mustering much courage and optimism I came back and through my old school friend came in contact with Dalit NGO Coordination Committee (DNGOCC), a local social organization operating in my region. It was in the process of identifying candidates to be recommended for training at Sano Thimi Technical School of UCEP Nepal. To be selected and trained as an Automobile Mechanic was an opportunity I had not even conceived earlier.

I was fortunate to leave my village to learn technical skills as not many people from my community and caste receive such an opportunity. Later, after successfully completing the training, I was offered a position as a supportive driver and helper in the Automobile Mechanic trade. Now, I am working as a driving instructor for a driving institute.

I greatly appreciated the time I had to develop myself during the training. The immense support from my instructors and counselors made me what I am today. Besides education, I learned to be independent. I think now I am in a position to achieve anything in life. I am truly grateful to have received a chance of a lifetime."

Laxmi Buda, Jumla

"I come from Jumla. I was referred for training to UCEP Nepal through Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC), a NGO working in our community. It was making announcements through community radio for interested candidates to apply for vocational training programs at Sano Thimi Technical School of UCEP Nepal. My community members helped me to get in contact with them. I had applied for Printing trade and was selected.

Here I am learning how to be a disciplined individual and to respect one's work. All my friends have the same feeling. The instructors of our trade are really nice as well. I like working in the trade a lot as there are a lot of job orders. I have acquired various techniques and learned how to operate different tools while working in our trade. I consider myself fortunate for being provided with such a golden opportunity. I wish I could stay here for more than half a year.

The training will help me a lot for my future. After completing training, I would like to go back to my home. I know it is difficult to earn sufficient money there but I hope that with the help of placement support I will find screen printing and metal itching work there. Being employed will help me pay for my needs and not be a dependent on my family."

Encouragement from Anita Bal

Anita, 25, a resident of Sindhupalchowk, used to be a farmer by profession. Anita is the fifth daughter of the family that had 6 daughters and 3 sons. Anita's mother used to be busy taking care of her 80 years old father who is suffering from asthma. Growing up with all these difficulties, one of Anita's next-door neighbors one day informed her about sewing training at Sano Thimi Technical School. Immediately after Anita heard about our technical school, she rushed to Kathmandu and because of her interest later decided to join Motorcycle Mechanics training.

Anita's nature is to readily accept the challenges which is evident when she says, "I had never seen women Motorcycle Mechanic, and therefore, I decided to be one, although my initial plan of coming to the technical School was to learn sewing."

After a six months training she headed to Raju Workshop, Putalisadak for her practical work and On-the-Job Training. Immediately upon graduation she decided to open her own workshop. Speaking while cleaning a motorcycle with a water current at 'Century One Motorcycle Workshop', "One should prioritize honesty before money." Although launching her own



motorcycle workshop was her own desire, initially it was harder for her to deal with chemicals and lift heavy items, a work assumed unsuitable for woman. Her own family members did not support her then. They did not want their daughter to live alone so far away from their house. Nevertheless, the proper guidance of the instructors and counselors at UCEP helped her to become a hardworking and dignified woman. Their constant motivation helped her to start a workshop and achieve success with it.

Reflecting back on her initial days at the workshop she says, "I barely had time to eat. Weekends used to be even busier. Many people came from pretty far off places to see a woman working in the workshop." Her work has always been praiseworthy and, therefore, was not difficult for her to find the customers. At times Anita is frustrated when many customers look for a male mechanic and are not convinced that she can do the same job equally efficiently.

It is only after Anita uses the terminology learnt at the technical school that customers are convinced that she too is a Motorcycle Mechanic after all. There are no more doubts for regular customers of Anita. She is even better than most of the male mechanics. Her punctuality, honesty and devotion towards her work are worth imitating.

Anita aims to produce many more women mechanics like her. She wants to expand vocational training to all rural districts and villages of Nepal and solve the problem of unemployment. She believes that if each individual is provided with certain kind of training, the acquired skills can be applied to generate employment within our own country.

Presently, Anita is praised by her parents and all people the around her. She is an example and a source of motivation for many underprivileged children of Nepal. Besides taking care of her sick parents and running her family smoothly, presently, Anita is able to save around NRs. 8 - 10,000 every month.

FINANCES FY 2066/067

Income

SN	Particular	Nrs.
1	Education Programs and Scholarship Support	
1.1	NFE and Scholarships	815,000.00
2	Internal Resources	
2.1	Income from Regular Training Programs	1,617,650.00
2.2	Internal Resource Mobilization	
A)	Offset Printing Trade	2,119,714.40
B)	General Mechanic Trade	61,125.00
2.3	Sponsorship Program	
A)	Hands In Outrich	455,000.00
B)	Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association	1,410,936.00
C)	Save the Children in Nepal (EYYPD)	2,642,215.00
E)	Voice of Children	119,420.00
2.4	Package Programs	
A)	Remote Area Development Committee	260,250.00
B)	Ministry of Youth and Sports	260,000.00
E)	Ministry of Women, Children & Social Welfare	450,000.00
F)	NAAA	368,479.36
G)	Alliance Nepal	471,400.00
H)	Maddhyapur Municipality Thimi, Bhaktapur	411,600.00
D)	Other	3,508,663.00
2.5	Other Income (Membership fee, Admission fee, Scrap etc.)	948,457.39
3	Skill for Employment Project (SEP)	5,385,543.90
4	Save the Children in Nepal (EYYPD)	2,860,044.15
5	Bal Sudhar Griha	3,209,142.60
6	UNDP	1,000,000.00
		28,374,640.80

Executive Board

Ram Krishna Nirala - Chairperson
 Dr. Tulsi Bhattarai - Vice Chairperson
 Suraj Dahal - General Secretary
 Narendra Kumar Gurung - Treasurer
 Lokesh Raj Dali - Member
 Binod Nath Acharya - Member
 Kamal Khanal - Member
 Krishneshwori Hada - Member
 Kiran Silapakar - Member
 Hari Babu Tiwari - Member

Expenses

SN	Particular	Nrs.
1	Salary & Allowances	5,213,693.56
2	Service	-
2.1	Water & Electricity	358,530.18
2.2	Telephone	76,896.99
2.3	Advertisement	76,789.19
2.4	Audit Fee	20,900.00
3	Repair & Maintenance	498,705.00
4	Consumable Materials	-
4.1	Stationary & Educational Materials for Training	352,057.81
4.2	Newspaper & Books	42,314.00
4.3	Fuel/Transportation	1,088,056.94
4.4	Uniform & Dress	163,191.00
4.5	Hostel Supplies	14,776.00
4.6	Sanitation & Personal Hygiene	2,298.00
4.7	Medicine	23,628.00
4.8	Boarding expenses for residentials trainees (Meals)	2,257,623.00
5	Production Cost for Income Generating Programs	1,239,500.00
6	Child Right & Advocacy Program	10,700.00
7	HRD For Trainer	6,000.00
8	Present & Gift	11,500.00
9	Program Monitoring & Evaluation	49,590.50
10	Depreciation	1,783,525.53
11	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	253,205.14
12	Non Formal Education Support	508,220.00
13	Workshop & Ingeraction Program	8,300.00
14	UNDP Supported Training	1,111,325.36
15	SEP Supported Training	5,006,408.00
16	Contingencies and Emergency	187,269.00
17	Kaa Pocekt Money	192,000.00
18	Save the Children in Nepal Supporting Training	2,750,520.35
19	Bal Sudhar Griha	2,968,793.82
20	Interest Expenses	215,834.45
		26,492,151.82

Autonomous Programs of UCEP

Bal Sudhar Griha (Child Improvement Home)

This program was initiated by UCEP and is administering it since its inception in 2001 under the aegis of the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. Children who are in conflict with the law are referred to this center; earlier they were sentenced to adult prisons. It has an agreement with Ministry of Home, Department of Prison Management to care for these children and provide them education, training, other support and counseling services.

Sano Thimi Technical School

Sano Thimi Technical School (STTS) is an autonomous subsidiary of UCEP established in 1983. It is also the pioneer organization that focuses on individuals who have minimum academic qualification for vocational training producing the much needed semi-skilled manpower for key industries.



Iris shared the world of architects

March 10, 2010 (2066 Falgun 26)



We would like to thank Ms. Iris Mabel Cornejo Malpartida who was placed as a volunteer by Volunteer Forum Nepal from the January 11 till March 10, 2010. She spent her semester break here, assisting in the draftsmanship trade.

In her home country

Peru, she is studying Architecture and Urbanism since three and a half years. She shared the latest that she had studied by involving the trainees and instructors. Moreover, she helped in upgrading the curriculum and was involved in a discussion with a Nepali architect.

On her last day, Iris was giving an extremely inspiring, two hours presentation about the history of architecture from early days until now. She explained about all important architectural episodes and began her speech with fundamental architectural beginnings in Egypt, Greece and Rome. She also introduced topics on Byzantium, Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo, Neo Classic, Art Nouveau, Organic, hi tech and sustainable buildings. She ended her presentation with famous buildings all around the world, including buildings in India, built by Le Corbusier.

The aim of her presentation was that the trainees got a chance to look beyond their own nose. She set an emphasis on architecture, since a lot of draftsmen and women are working together with architects. Therefore, it would be important that they know something about architecture and that they are competitive with other draftsmen and women. All trainees from draftsmanship, as well as teachers and other staff participated. Everybody was very impressed and overwhelmed by the presentation.

Everybody learned a lot through the presentation. We will also remember Iris for her great support and cooperation at UCEP. For her future we wish Iris all the best and hope she will be a very successful architect.

Reflections from Takashi: Volunteer from JICA

April 2, 2010 (2066 Chaitra 20)

Mr. Takashi Mikita served as a volunteer at UCEP Nepal for 2 years from March 2008 to 2010. He was placed through JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) which aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as sound development of Japanese and global economy by supporting the socioeconomic development, recovery or economic stability of developing regions.



Takashi was working as an engineer for a few years before he decided to come to Nepal and help the automobile mechanic trade of UCEP with his skills and knowledge. During his tenure here, he brought old cars from JICA for the trade and knowledge of new technologies, which he could pass to the trainees, as well as to the teachers.

He was of a tremendous resource to the trade, as he separated the automobile trade into categories, which made things easier; worked on electric systems, new technology, cleaned and worked on the old engines.

He believes that Nepal and Japan have differences due to equipment, technique and planning methods, but there are also a lot of similarities. In his opinion, the students of the automobile mechanic trade were genuine and showed interest as they were motivated to gain knowledge of different aspects. They and the instructors were always engaged to do things and learn. After learning, the students were always able to explain mechanisms by themselves.

He was happy to have students, whom he could work with. This was a new experience for him, as he only worked as an engineer in Japan before. When Takashi is back in his country, he will work as an airplane mechanic, so that he can work both for exports and imports. He likes Nepal very much, its culture and food, so he is already thinking about coming back for vacations. We thank him and wish him all the best for his future!

UCEP through the eyes of Johanna Tueckmantel

August 2, 2010 (2067 Shrawan 17)

I joined UCEP in October 2009 in order to work here as a "weltwaerts": volunteer for one year, placed by the German Development Service. My main task is to support the staff and become more skilled at documentation. Since, I have learnt a lot and was not only involved with documentation and much time spent on computers, I also am working on a Global Partnership, participating in meetings, organizing and taking part in events, etc. It is a very exciting and fascinatingly challenging for me to act in an intercultural

context and to discover how a NGO is operating in Nepal. The organization's work shows how significant it is to find the resources for underprivileged children, to support those and to weaken their frailties. UCEP

Nepal uses its best available methods to lead deprived children into a normal, independent life. With the knowledge of their vocational training in different trades, youths are provided with tools, which they can use throughout their whole life and which is important for being gainfully employed.

During the last months, I found out, that there are a lot of things, which seem to be even similar like in my country. Nevertheless, there are also a lot of procedures I can learn from. Those will be very helpful for my prospective work and studies in Germany. Most of all, I like the friendly, respectful and welcoming behavior among colleagues and trainees. I am very grateful to all my colleagues here, who have made my time in Nepal a pleasant and easy one and who are always there for helping me with everything.



UCEP NEPAL - ABOUT US

Background

Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs (UCEP) Nepal is a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) founded in 1978 by Dr. Lindsay Alan Cheyne a New Zealander, to enhance the living condition of underprivileged, disadvantaged and working children by providing them opportunities for education and job oriented technical and vocational training. Initially, it was established as an extension of UCEP-Bangladesh that was established in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1972, an independent and autonomous organization in Nepal since 1992 registered at District Administration Office, Bhaktapur under the Institution Registration Act 2034 and is affiliated with the Social Welfare Council.



UCEP-Nepal is dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of children firmly believing that all children and youths especially underprivileged and disadvantaged must be provided opportunities for education and skill training to be gainfully employed or self employed for them to lead an independent and dignified life.

It is situated at Sanothimi, Bhaktapur, where its technical school with state-of-the-art workshops and other facilities.

Vision

UCEP-Nepal envisions a society where right to education, technical skills and employment prospects of disadvantaged children and

youths are fully guaranteed.

Mission

To enable underprivileged and disadvantaged children and youths to lead an independent and dignified life by being employed upon completing quality education and technical and vocational training.

Objectives

- Provide counseling, life skills and non-formal education to underprivileged & disadvantaged children and youths.
- Impart marketable technical education and vocational training to underprivileged children and youths to make them self-reliant and enable them to lead an independent and dignified life.
- Assist and support training graduates in finding gainful employment.
- Raise awareness among children and youths about their rights, democratic norms and social values.
- Advocate and raise awareness on the rights of child through advocacy and social mobilization.

Target Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are children and youth from marginalized communities who have little formal education and individuals seeking technical skills for a livelihood and self-employment. Girls and women are also encouraged in non-conventional employment sectors as mechanics and machine operators.

Candidates from every background from around the country are provided opportunities. Most of the vulnerable youth were earlier child labors, street children, domestic workers, girls at risk of different forms of exploitations, conflict victims, internally displaced people, children associated with armed forces and armed groups who have discontinued formal education for socioeconomic and other reasons.

Technical Education & Vocational Training (TEVT)

Sano Thimi Technical School (STTS), an autonomous subsidiary established in 1983, provides Technical Education and Vocational

Sano Thimi Technical School (STTS) Short Term Training Course

Trade/ Training	Training Duration		No. of Trainee	Agency/ Program	Gender		Placement
	No of days	From To			Male	Female	
Offset Printing Press	6 Months	2066/03/01 2066/08/30	17	EYYPD	8	9	7
Electric	6 Months	2066/03/01	5	PISWIN	5	0	5
Micro Hidro Operator	1 Month	206701/30 2/28/2067	17	RADC	17	0	17
Welder			14	UNDP	14	0	On going
House Wiring			10	UNDP	10	0	2 placement
Indian Cook			55	UNDP	50	5	On going
Driving			18	UNDP	18	0	On going
Motorcycle Mechanic			15	UNDP	15	0	On going
Plumbing			2	UNDP	2	0	On going
Motorcycle Mechanic	6 Months	2066/09/17 2067/03/16	17	Madhyapur Thimi Municipality	17	0	10
Electric	6 Months	2066/09/17 2067/03/16	17	Madhyapur Thimi Municipality	17	0	11
Plumbing	6 Months	2066/09/17 2067/03/16	9	Madhyapur Thimi Municipality	9	0	5
Screen Print	6 Months	2066/09/17 2067/03/16	9	Madhyapur Thimi Municipality			3
General Auto Mechanic				Skill for Employment			
General Auto Mechanic							
General Auto Mechanic							
TOTAL			205	182	14		

FEATURED PROJECTS

Education for Youths, Youths for Peace and Development Project

For 2009/010, 65 trainees from 20 districts enrolled and 63 of them successfully completed vocational training from Sano Thimi Technical School of UCEP Nepal under the Education for Youths, Youths for Peace and Development (EYYPD) project implemented in partnership with Save the Children in Nepal (SCiN). The graduates are being placed for jobs in their respective training.

A new batch of 25 trainees has commenced training from August. Under this project, 302 underprivileged youths have successfully graduated in vocational training and more than 80% have been placed in jobs.

Aide et Action

On June 3, 2010 UCEP Nepal signed an agreement with Aide et Action (AeA), a registered INGO in Nepal, for a vocational training project targeting unemployed youths in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts. The project focuses to impart marketable vocational training to the youths from marginalized community especially from slum areas around the valley.

Aide et Action Nepal is an international development organization which was established in France, now having its headquarter in Geneva, has programs in 26 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean on educational issues.

NAAA Nepal

UCEP Nepal and NAAA Nepal have signed an agreement on February 26, 2010 to support services at Bal Sudhar Griha and community development in the outskirts of Kathmandu valley. They focus on the life improving opportunities for women and children and juveniles delinquents. Services include providing better counseling, skill and entrepreneurship development, medical and educational services.

Network for Aid, Assistance and Acceptance (NAAA) is a registered INGO that has been supporting in Nepal especially on juvenile justice system, right of children and improving living condition of poor families in general and women in particular.

Remote Area Development Committee (RADC)

UCEP Nepal conducted Micro-Hydro Operator training for 17 trainees from Karnali zone from April 13 to May 12, 2010. The objective of the training was to impart hands-on skill about how to operate micro-hydro stations in remote areas. It was financed by Government of Nepal, Ministry of Local Development (MLD), Remote Area Development Committee.

JCV Operator Training with Morang Auto Works

UCEP Nepal has signed an agreement with Morang Auto Works (MAW) to operate One month JCB (heavy construction equipment) operator training in partnership at its premises. It is a very novel and highly demanded skill in the booming construction industry.

The soon to commence training will offer scholarship to 2 candidates of a batch of 20 trainees.

Morang Auto Works is a leading automobile and engineering company. For the last 50 years, it has been representing international companies such as YAMAHA, SKODA, ESCORTS, JCB, Ingersoll-Rand, Mettler Toledo and Greaves in Nepal for sale of their products and services.



Skill for Employment Project (SEP)

UCEP implemented 390 hours (3 months) Market Oriented Short Term (MOST) vocational training program with SEP of Council of Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) beginning of this year on General Automobile Mechanic for 400 youths. It is being imparted at 3 training centers: Sano Thimi Technical School, Butwal Auto Engineering Association, and Banepa Technical Institute. 120 trainees completed training in the first cycle and 140 in the second. Presently, 140 are enrolled for the third cycle which will be concluded in October. Those who have completed their training are either working or seeking job placements.

The budget of the training package about NRs. 90,00,000.00.

SEP aims to reduce poverty and stabilize economy by increasing self-employment and by increasing engagement in wage and foreign employment in technical jobs.



BE INVOLVED ...

Strides - this Newsletter - is yours just as much as it is ours! We encourage all our readers and well-wishers to provide us with suggestions so that we can make it more useful. We look forward to your involvement. You can also contribute by sending pictures and articles. They can be hand-delivered to our office, posted or emailed.

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Rajeshwor Devkota - Executive Director
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UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (UCEP)-NEPAL

Upward mobility through the light of education, training, and gainful employment.

Sanothimi, Bhaktapur - GPO Box: 1286, Kathmandu
Tel: +977-1-6630388, 6631279 - Fax: +977-1-6631294 - Email: info@ucep.org.np - www.ucep.org.np