

Annual Report

HOPE and a FUTURE
2015-16



Fullness of life for all, in a transformed Nepali society



Dear Friends,

Welcome to UMN's annual report for the 2015-16 financial year. Like so many others, we at UMN were hoping the past year would bring widespread recovery from the earthquakes of 2015. Instead, reconstruction has been delayed by political instability – most painfully, the disputes over Nepal's constitution that led to the September-February closure of the border with India.

The blockade did not command the headlines or screen time around the world as the earthquakes did; but it affected the entire nation of Nepal, far beyond the quake-affected area. For over four months, prices soared and poor families sold vital assets or spent years' worth of savings to survive. It was a sobering reminder of the impact political conflict can have on people's development.

Throughout, UMN's team and partners have continued working to bring fullness of life through community transformation. Our work goes beyond the merely economic, dealing directly with the underlying problems of power, conflict and broken relationships that keep people trapped in poverty. For example, by rebuilding relationships between communities and police across the Nepal-India border, a UMN partner saw cross-border crime rates fall dramatically in its project areas.



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In quake-affected Dhading district, despite delays during the blockade months, our response programme has rebuilt schools, footpaths, roads, micro-hydroelectric plants and water schemes, as well as training local masons in earthquake-safe building techniques. Our livelihoods work has helped many hundreds of quake-affected households begin farming or raising livestock again, and taught many others the skills for a non-farm job.

I want to express the deepest gratitude to all our stakeholders and partners, particularly the Government of Nepal and our supporting partners around the world who make this work possible. Please pray for the work of UMN in the coming year, and for Nepal on its journey toward a stable constitutional order.

Joel Hafvenstein
JOEL HAFVENSTEIN
Executive Director

Thank you to all who contributed stories and photographs for this Annual Report

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EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY UPDATE



Nepal suffered its worst natural disaster in over 80 years when the 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck central Nepal on 25 April 2015, followed by hundreds of powerful aftershocks. Dhading is one of the worst affected districts and according to the Post Disaster Need Assessment, 81,313 houses were totally damaged and 681 lives were lost.

Immediately after the Phase I 'Emergency Response' programme, UMN distributed seeds and tools in seven target Village Development Committees (VDCs). The aim was to help communities return back to their normal life and to produce vegetables and food in the planting season. Over 7,000 households received the agricultural relief packages. Likewise, 5,700 households in the five northern and southern VDCs received additional winterisation relief packages containing blankets and mattresses just before the winter season, which helped them cope with winter.

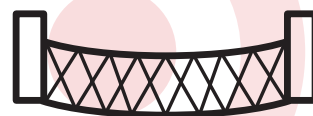
UMN's Phase II programme focuses on restoration and re-construction of communities and their infrastructure in five VDCs of Dhading. The key challenge comes during monsoon which limits field activities and material transportation due to landslides and bad road conditions.

THE FOLLOWING PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE SO FAR:



513

SKILLED MASONS
were trained in earthquake-resilience building construction techniques



6

TRAIL BRIDGES
were repaired



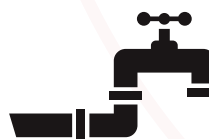
35 km

TRAILS/ROADS
were reinstated, which includes **7 km** of agricultural road repair



5

MICRO HYDRO-POWER PLANTS
were restored and electricity generation has re-started



5

DRINKING WATER
systems were repaired



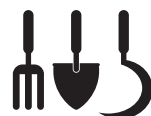
14

TEMPORARY LEARNING CENTRES
were upgraded to permanent school buildings



11

TOILETS
have been built **9** in schools & **2** in health centres



15,644

PEOPLE REACHED
through livelihoods support, and **6,961** people directly attended livelihoods training programmes



1,536

PEOPLE PARTICIPATED
in psychosocial, mental health and good governance activities



KEY PLANS FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR 2016/17:

5 demonstration houses construction and **15 km** road repair in working VDCs

90 school buildings constructed in five working VDCs

31 water schemes and **33** toilets constructed in schools and communities

Awareness raising of **1,650** teachers and students on water, sanitation and hygiene and **1,430** community people in Disaster Risk Reduction preparedness plan

Appropriate livelihoods support to **5,000** community people

Balanced diet preparation training to around **500** mothers

Trauma healing sessions to **600** community people

Child protection, good governance and organisational development activities ongoing in an integrated way



EDUCATION

UMN is working closely with the Ministry of Education, local NGOs and community schools to ensure equitable access to a quality education and a child-friendly teaching environment in schools. UMN has also been focusing on building the capacity of School Management Committees (SMC), teachers and parents, familiarising them with sound education values and principles.

The Multi-Lingual Education (MLE) programme has been a breakthrough in education in ethnic minority areas of Kapilvastu and Rukum where children get to enjoy and understand the lessons in their mother tongue. The support and cooperation of the District Education Offices of these districts have been critical in enabling proper implementation of these programmes. This has helped significantly to reduce early graders dropout because of linguistic barriers. More than 4,000 children are currently benefiting from the programme.

We are currently working in 160 schools in 10 districts of Nepal through child-friendly education programmes. One hundred and fifty teachers received child-friendly teacher training, and 456 SMC and Parent and Teacher Association members were given training on effective implementation of these education systems in their schools.

UMN has supported around 125 Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centres in creating a child-friendly environment in seven districts. ECDs are primarily supported in order to meet ECD guidelines set by the government.

There are 125 child clubs which are actively participating in holistic development programmes and have been successful in influencing the community. As part of enhancing their learning outcomes, projects are designed to involve more children in child club activities. The projects developed by child clubs from some schools in Dhading, Doti and Kapilvastu (as part of the International School Award programme of the British Council Nepal) were found to be effective.



AT A GLANCE

- 125 ECD centres in seven districts are currently running well
- 150 teachers received training in child-friendly education techniques
- 460 scholarships were provided through the education programme: 342 general, 84 for Dalit students; 30 for children with disabilities

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

The Government of Nepal endorsed the "ICT in Education Master Plan (2013-17)" in March 2013. The main objective of the plan is to narrow down the digital gap between children from "have" and "have not" families through development of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) infrastructure, human resources, digital contents and system enhancement.

In order to reduce the gap between rural children and urban children, UMN, in partnership with the District Education Office and MIC Nepal, assisted in the setting up of 30 computer labs in Rukum, Doti and Bajhang districts. Now about 12,500 community school children are able to access computer education and can increase their chances of employment. UMN plans to set up at least 100 more computer labs in other UMN clusters in the future.

UMN expects to transform attitudes on education through the introduction of information and communication technologies and the provision of computer labs in a number of schools in rural Nepal.



SAFE HOUSING FOR GIRLS

The north-east of Mugu is known as the Karan Belt. It is made up of five VDCs: Mangri, Kimri, Pulu, Dolphu and Mugu.

Buddha Higher Secondary School (BHSS) is located in Mangri and is the only source of education for the Karani people. Students have to walk 2-5 hours each day to get to BHSS. Because of this, it is a particular problem for the female students. One option would be to stay in rented rooms close to the school, but they would often have to assist the landlord in daily household chores to help pay for their stay. Families were also concerned that their daughters may not be safe, staying so far away from home. Because of this, many girls were forced to drop out, or found that they fell far behind in their studies.

In partnership with BHSS and the Karani Community Development Centre, UMN arranged for the construction of a girls' hostel close to the school.

Kunchahang Sherpa is from a poor family and has two daughters and two sons. She wasn't able to go to school herself, but would like to see all her children, especially her daughters, get an education. She heard about the girls' hostel in Mangri and was able to send them there. She is happy for this provision and is confident that her girls will study hard and make her proud.

One of her daughters shares that it is a comfortable place to live. It has a fenced-in compound and solar panels have recently been installed, giving much needed electricity.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

This year the Good Governance team has focused on strengthening the systems of our partner organisations. They are setting an example to other Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). Institutionalising transparency and accountability in the organisational system are among some major benchmarks that our partner organisations have set for other CSOs working in the area. All of our partners have conducted internal and external financial audits maintaining high standards of transparency, as well as social audits to ensure social accountability.

Organisational and institutional development of community groups have been our priority this year. Helpful tools like participatory organisational and technical assessment were developed for this. Forty-five partners have assessed their strengths and areas to improve and have grown as mature organisations. Other organisational dimensions – including the technical and cross-cutting areas of UMN – were assessed and action plans were made according to their priority.

We helped the local bodies to implement provisions of the 'Local Self-Governance Act' that allows meaningful participation of women, children and disadvantaged groups in community development.

Our partner organisations were able to access NRS 7,249,170 (USD 67,972) from the Village Development Committee (VDC) and also get 43 development plans approved which is an evidence of their capacity growth and maturity. We have also worked on improving the relationship between the community and the service providers.

The work with the Karmarong community of Mugu has taken off very well. A listening survey was successfully conducted covering all 572 households. A member from each household is affiliated in 23 community groups, where they meet and discuss issues for common learning. This has led to renovating the shed of a peltric set (for hydro-power) and has also improved the teachers' attendance in schools.

We would like to see our partners grow in their skills and confidence and respond to the needs and issues of their community with enthusiasm.



AT A GLANCE

- 45 partner organisations have been trained in institutionalisation of transparency and social accountability
- 73 partner staff were trained on Group Institutional Development
- 60 Ward Citizen Forum members were able to tap resources from their VDCs for 49 community development plans
- 43 community development plans worth NRP 7,249,170 (USD 67,972) were approved from 6 VDC councils
- All 572 households of Mangri, Kimri and Pulu of Mugu district were involved in the listening survey

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

The good governance programme has helped in strengthening the governance of local service providers. Ward Citizen Forum members and the social mobilisers of six VDCs were trained in the participatory planning process. Communities were mobilised as per the provisions of the Local Self-Governance Act.



I BECAME AN EFFECTIVE FACILITATOR

My name is Rupa Rana. I have been working on the Ward Citizen Forum and as a social mobiliser of the Poverty Alleviation Fund, a government-funded project in Dhaubadhi VDC, Nawalparasi. These two roles have given me the opportunity to work closely with social and development related activities in my community.

The Local Governance Act 1998 has provisions to develop plans from the settlement level with full participation of local communities. But in practice, there was no collection of plans from the settlement level. Plans that came in were just from pockets of local influential leaders.

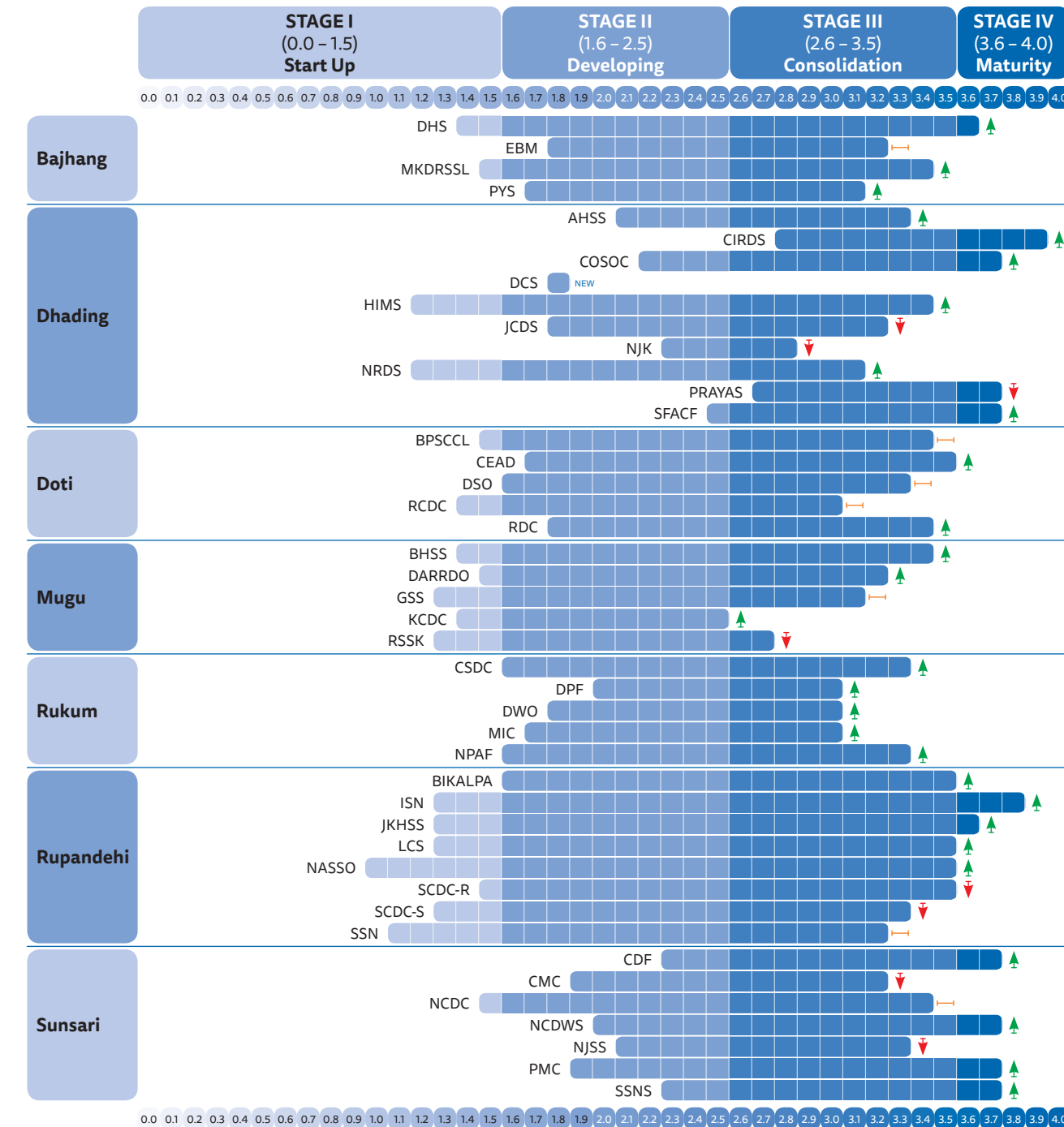
The community people would come to me and ask me why the VDC does not allocate budget and plans for our community, which was a genuine concern. It made me sad to see some settlements never receive any allocations from the

VDC budget, and they were never part of the development process.

This year, I got an opportunity to receive training about the Participatory Planning Process (PPP) facilitated by Isai Samaj Nepal, a UMN partner. The training has equipped me to deal with the planning process, and has built my confidence to teach the community people about this important issue.

I have helped them to understand the process and have made them aware of the VDC council and the ward-level gathering. The training has helped people to identify their problems and make plans based on their actual needs and issues. A member from each household participated in the planning workshop. I felt very happy to help them understand their roles as citizens in the planning process, and now they have been successful in getting the VDC budget for their community development plans.

PARTNERS ORGANISATIONAL GROWTH (from the beginning of partnership to Dec 2015)



This year we changed the way partner evaluations were conducted and this has resulted in some partners capacity to drop slightly. See page 40 for full names of Cluster Partners



There are six components under UMN's health programme: HIV and AIDS; water sanitation and hygiene (WASH); nutrition; adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH); mental health; and health system strengthening focusing on safe motherhood including family planning.

This year we have worked on strengthening and managing the local health facilities through Health Facility Operation and Management Committee (HFOMC) and have ensured quality health care service delivery. Eighteen local HFOMCs received training to help them realise their roles.

We continue to work closely with various community groups such as the health mother groups, self-reliant groups, Male as Partner (MAP), peer educators and satisfied family planning users groups. Fifteen hundred women's group members received kitchen gardening and basic nutrition orientation sessions. UMN has mobilised Christian communities and local churches for HIV prevention, care and support-related work in Rupandehi and Sunsari districts and has engaged Christian adolescents from various churches to deliver Family Life Education on Christian Perspective (FLECP) among Christian adolescents. The Peer Education Programme and FLECP have been able to reach out to 6,649 young people.

UMN has also been able to provide various useful training programmes on family planning, safe motherhood, basic mental health & ASRH, which helped to expand these services at rural health facilities. Also, six birthing centres in Doti, Bajhang and Rukum were given equipment and materials to help them start basic obstetric care services. Ten Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, from local health facilities of Dhading, Rukum, Bajhang and Doti were sent to United Mission Hospital Tansen to participate in a 60-day Skilled Birth Attendant course.

The Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth centres continue in Doti, Rupandehi and Rukum districts to address malnutrition among children under five.

AT A GLANCE

- **6,649** adolescents were reached through the Peer Education Programme and received training on HIV and AIDS and ASRH
- **1,523** women's group members received kitchen gardening and basic nutrition orientation sessions.
- **100** malnourished children were enrolled in eight PD Hearth centres in Doti, Rukum and Rupandehi districts.
- **175** people received HIV counselling, testing and referral services for treatment. **60** people living with HIV and AIDS are receiving home-based care and **47** have received vocational skill development training
- **599** mentally ill cases have been given treatment and care through **16** local health facilities. **6** severely mentally ill patients from these district have been referred to higher centres so far
- **17** health workers from Dhading, Rukum and Bajhang have received training on long-acting reversible contraception and have also been given the necessary equipment for this service also

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

UMN played a significant role in organising the first national conference on Adolescent Health and Development together with other national level INGOs and government stakeholders. The conference brought together ASRH working organisations, policy makers, practitioners, researchers, adolescent and youth representatives, and the media from across the country and the region to discuss ways to advance the agendas for adolescent health.

UMN, along with the National Health Training Centre, have given training on mental health to all local health facility staff of Rupandehi. UMN had the privilege of providing the facilitators for this training.



EAGER TO TEACH

A resident of Doti, Bimala Kumari Shahi is a student in Grade 9 at Mahakali Secondary School. She became a peer educator after participating in the training programme on ASRH. There she learned many things, including information about menstruation and Improved Washable Pads (IWP). This was very fruitful, as she had many queries and problems regarding menstruation and had always been too embarrassed to talk about it with family or friends.

She was shown the procedures to prepare the washable pads and was excited and impressed by the training. She said,

"I have been using the IWP, which is easy to make, cheap, and decreases the risk of leaking. I can now explain to other students about menstruation, menstrual hygiene, and teach them how to make pads. I found it very effective. Everyone around me is happy to learn about it. Nowadays my mother also uses this pad and I feel happy that I was able to teach her about this. This kind of training programme should also be conducted in other schools and far-away villages in the community."

Girls in her school are much more confident now and plan to keep a stock of IWPs in the school.



INTEGRAL MISSION

The **Integral Mission (IM) team** in UMN promotes a development model that is able to create a sense of hope and confidence in the poorest people living in poverty (PPLP) in communities.

The IM work builds the capacity within a target community and helps them identify local resources to address their needs. IM activities have resulted in a meaningful growth of *Sangsangai* facilitators. The IM *Sangsangai* project works to mobilise the church in giving a new future to the community. Pastor Ujjwal Thakuri in Dhading is amazed to see Sunita Bayalkoti (17), one of his church members, confidently lead a drinking water project in her village. The pastor says that her involvement in, and exposure to, the *Sangsangai* programme has enabled her to achieve a level of confidence to give such leadership. Ujjwal and Sunita were both involved in installing a sustainable water system in their village which used to suffer badly during the dry season. A water tap and reserve tank were also installed in Nawalparasi (see page 15).

Other areas of IM work involve envisioning young leaders, empowering women and educating children from PPLP families. Thirty five women in Bajhang have begun to meet in two groups which were initiated by a local church. Most of these women come from Dalit families (so called low caste). To meet and share experiences in a group, learn different skills and also get involved in a monthly saving scheme is an exciting and a new concept for these women. Thanks go to the initiative and leadership of the local church and the facility of the worship room to have their group's meetings.



AT A GLANCE

- ➔ **850** people were involved in different training programmes which has directly benefited **825** people
- ➔ **165** Christian youth increased their understanding and confidence in IM concepts and in leading their groups
- ➔ **48** *Sangsangai* facilitators are facilitating the development of **436** people through **24** groups
- ➔ A new IM curriculum is being implemented by three new theological institutions and **35** teachers are being trained in its use
- ➔ **30** Children Affected by AIDS (CABA) supported with educational materials for the academic year 2016-17



HAND-IN-HAND WITH THE COMMUNITY

Dedgaun Atmiki Church was established six years ago in Dedgaun village in north Nawalparasi. Located in a remote region of the district, one has to cross many hills and rivers to get to this small church led by Laxmi Thada. The congregation of about 50 members was content to stay within the four walls of the church, with not much interaction with the community.

The villagers hated them and didn't like their new faith. The church also saw them as enemies and kept themselves away from any interaction or social activity with them.

ISN and UMN took the concept of Integral Mission and *Sangsangai* to this church which helped them to do a Bible study and learn about loving their neighbours, taking care of their environment and being stewards of God's creation. It made them realise their responsibilities towards their community and the neighbourhood. Their perspectives towards fellow villagers began to change.

As a result of the *Sangsangai* training, the church decided to get involved in the construction work of a public drinking water tap and a much needed reserve tank. The church was able to give good leadership and free labour for this work. They were also able to get some funds for it from the VDC, and the rest of the amount was shared between the community and the church.

The installation of the water tap has provided safe drinking water for 24 households during the dry season and brought the community and the church together and it has also opened doors to go hand-in-hand and live in peace.



LEARNING, POLICY & STRATEGY



The Learning, Policy and Strategy (LPS) Team is mainly responsible for three functions: (i) to ensure that learning is captured and used effectively, (ii) to ensure UMN's cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed, and (iii) to make sure the implementation of the strategy is monitored regularly. From the evaluation of several projects, it is clear that a systematic and thorough study of the problem or issue is absolutely crucial for designing appropriate interventions and strategies. However, its importance is often underplayed and the complex issues are approached using simple solutions.

Human trafficking is one of the worst forms of social evil and a complex issue to understand. According to research, people who are underprivileged, low in educational status, socially marginalised, and in poor economic condition are highly vulnerable to trafficking. However the determinants vary from context to context. The LPS team conducted research on causes and the process of trafficking in Nawalparasi district. Community people, trafficking survivors and victims and relevant stakeholders were consulted for the study. While the research is yet to be completed, preliminary findings have been helpful in understanding the problem at a deeper level and developing strategies to counter the issue. A project is being developed in response to the findings and will aim at preventing human trafficking, particularly trafficking for sexual exploitation.

In addition to research, the LPS team also conducted evaluations, baseline studies and training. The evaluations have helped in identifying learning for corrective actions and for designing new projects. Gender and Development training has not only provided UMN and partner-staff skills and confidence for their effort against inequality but also a perspective of gender justice in personal and work life. The baseline and the end-line studies have enabled us to assess the effectiveness and impact of UMN's interventions towards creating together a hope and a future for the oppressed and the poor.



AT A GLANCE

- Altogether **14** evaluations (**6** partnerships and **8** project) were completed
- Baseline surveys of **8** projects and research on **4** different issues related to projects were carried out
- **27** partners received training about Gender and Development, Environment and Climate Change
- Beneficiary data for UMN projects from all the clusters was collected and consolidated. UMN's total direct beneficiaries for the financial year 2015-16 are **106,507** (**64,744**  and **41,763** )



RALLY TO SUPPORT ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

"No one can own anyone," "Truth be told, humans should not be sold," were two of the slogans displayed on placards in a rally held on 5 September in support of abolishing human trafficking. The rally was open for all to participate and about 1800 people joined in to support this noble cause.

The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare had organised the rally on the occasion of the 10th National Anti-Human Trafficking Day 2016 in Nepal. It was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of Supreme Court Sushila Karki who was also the chief guest of the programme.

Ensuring rights by identifying the vulnerable and downtrodden segments of society is one of the missions of UMN. Since trafficking also comes under the focus area of UMN, its staff joined in solidarity to support the rally. It was also a good opportunity to coordinate with national level stakeholders.

UMN's Gender Advisor Hazel Wong, who participated in the rally, shares "Treating girls and women not as equal human beings to boys and men made it possible for the existence of the supply and demand market of human trafficking. Serious effort to fight gender inequality has to be made."

Kabin Maharjan, Research and Learning Advisor at UMN who organised the participation of UMN colleagues in the rally says "Everyone is a stakeholder in anti-human trafficking. It is not just the women and children ministry or NGOs that should fight it. Everyone can and needs to contribute to prevent and eradicate this issue."



PEACEBUILDING

The world continues to witness conflict and violence all around. The Global Peace Index 2016 shows that the world has become less peaceful by 2.4%. UMN has been playing a small – but not by any means an insignificant role – in far-flung local communities and the outbacks of Nepal to do what we can in the process of increasing peace in Nepal.

'Conflict Sensitivity' remains a major cross-cutting theme. We have encouraged our partners and programmes to review their projects through the 'Do No Harm' lens. Four of our clusters conducted an annual review of conflict policies and 'Safe and Effective Development in Conflict' analysis.

UMN continues to implement disability projects in six clusters. Out of the six partners that work in the area of disability, four organisations are run by people living with disabilities. A sharing and learning workshop between the partners was conducted in Kathmandu. This gave them an excellent opportunity to learn from one another's experience. Six special schools have improved their teaching standards. Fifty-nine children with disabilities have higher levels of confidence and are participating fruitfully in social activities.

'Combating Traditional Practices that are Harmful to Women and Girls' focuses on gender attitudes and behaviour changes for gender equality. Altogether 50 groups have been formed to achieve our dream of community transformation in this area. Our focus during the year has been strengthening and mobilising the groups. This is done in a participatory way with practical activities.

UMN concluded a five-year Integrated Peacebuilding Project in December 2015 and started a new phase from January 2016 onwards. We have been able to improve relationships among divided groups in the community after successful training programmes on conflict-handling and reconciliation skills. We have also seen a marked reduction in cross-border crimes, gender-based violence and caste and diversity based discrimination in our project working areas.



AT A GLANCE

- ➔ 15 youth leaders from different faith groups have been trained in action learning process
- ➔ 77 children living with disabilities have received medical treatment
- ➔ 6 schools have adopted inclusive learning and teaching environment with special trained teachers
- ➔ Combating the Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP) project in Bajhang has been providing educational materials to 64 needy students
- ➔ 7 child clubs are actively involved in resolving disputes in schools
- ➔ 352 women, 274 men, 109 boys and 82 girls participated in gender awareness activities



NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

The decreased cross-border crimes, the resolution of local disputes and social harmony among parties at odds with one another have made an impact in the wider-level society. UMN continues to engage in national level campaigns on disability rights, Men Engage Alliance, anti-human trafficking and Peace Day celebration. UMN is also partnering with Micah Nepal to establish a mediation process at a national level.



ON THE GO!

My name is Ujur Sardar and I am 31 years old. Twelve years ago my life changed in a sudden and a dramatic way. I fell off a building during construction work and ended up with a serious spinal cord injury. My family couldn't afford to pay for my treatment, so this left me confined to one room, lying on the bed forever, helpless and filled with darkness. My family earns from daily wages and we don't have our own agricultural land.

A year ago, my life changed again. My younger sister brought home a leaflet which got me connected with this organisation called Nepal Chelibeti Disabled Women Society (NCDWS), a partner organisation of UMN in Sunsari. Staff from NCDWS came home to assess my physical condition. These kind

people encouraged me and gave me a wheelchair, built a ramp outside my house to make it disabled-friendly and also provided me with some financial support to help me start a small enterprise. We now have a small grocery store and we rear goats as well.

Now that I have a wheelchair, I feel I have overcome my sadness and fears I had for myself and my family. My life is hugely different to what it was a year ago. After all these years, I can sit on my porch again and feel the sunshine. I can go around the neighbourhood and visit other families. I felt I was rediscovering and reconnecting with the world again. Thank you UMN, my disability won't stop me from living a fulfilling life again.



SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

The blockade of the Nepal/India border disrupted the supply of essential commodities into the country for six months and affected the entire economy and stability of the country in an unprecedented way. The livelihoods of people in UMN project areas were not spared.

However, we managed to complete most of our livelihood activities planned for the year. We have tried to maintain a balance between the three aspects of sustainable livelihood work i.e. economy, society and environment.

Economically, a mid-term evaluation showed that the group savings were several-fold more than the initial target. With technical support from our side, the increased fund of the group will help in initiating several small-level start-ups.

Socially, through our group approach we have been able to inform and share different issues of social interest. This sharing has been successful, especially in helping and empowering women in the communities. We were also able to help people from vulnerable groups like people living with disabilities, people living with HIV and AIDS and single women to start up micro-enterprises. More than 1,000 disaster survivors (fire, flood and landslide) have received relief materials this year.

We conducted an exclusive assessment of the environmental effects of our projects. Although not included at the design stage, there will be regular monitoring in the future. We have continued to promote eco-friendly technologies under various programmes.

We have been able to widen the geographical working locations of Disaster Management and Food Security programmes. We continue to widen and strengthen our knowledge with exposure and exchange visits at local, national and international levels.



AT A GLANCE

- Relief support for small-scale disasters worth NPR **1,546,328** (USD 14,499) was provided to **1,147** people, including **96** men, **711** women, **340** children, and **9** people with disability
- 1,657** new improved cooking stoves installed. To date the number of ICS installed under various programmes of UMN is **8,540**
- 2** new milk collection centres in Bajhang and Morang have benefitted **120** farmers
- 7.25** hectares of land in Doti and **26.5** hectares of land in Nawalparasi and Rupandehi were brought under irrigation
- 49** farmers from Nawalparasi (**9**) and Rupandehi (**40**) have bought insurance on their livestock
- 3** gabion walls to help control river flow constructed in the banks of Rohini and Ghoda rivers of Rupandehi have directly benefited **600** households



NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

The Government of Nepal has made a commitment to make all Nepali homes smoke-free by 2017. To join hands in this national pledge, UMN have been promoting indoor cooking stoves for the past several years. This year, two VDCs, one each in Nawalparasi and Bajhang, were declared as 'indoor smoke-free VDCs'.



ANJANA'S FLOURISHING BUSINESS

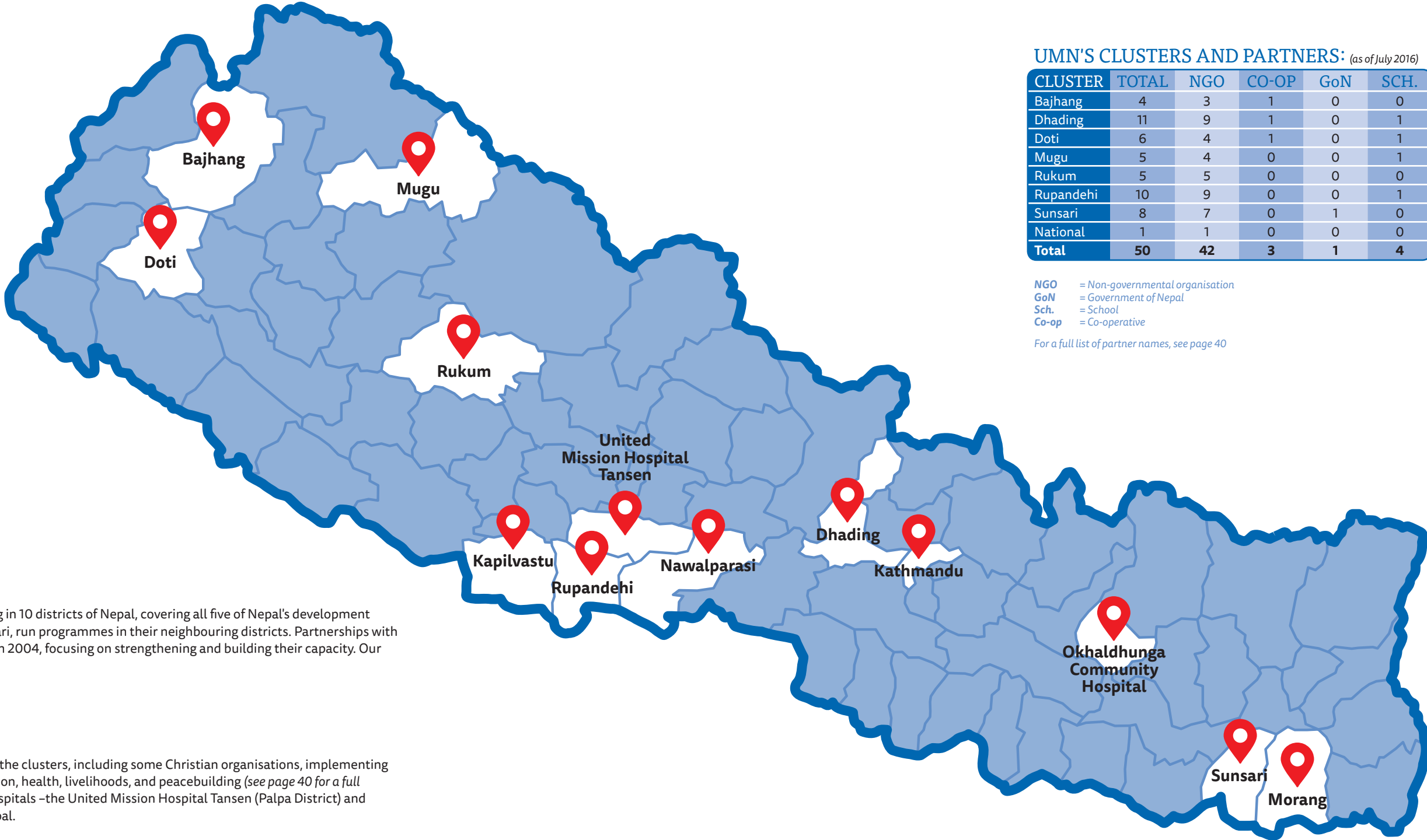
Anjana Tamang from Daunnedevi, Rupandehi has been engaged in a pig-rearing business for the last two years. She worked hard but never made a profit. Apart from coping with the failure, Anjana also had to live with her husband's disapproval of the failing business. She repeatedly thought about dropping it but when she saw her neighbours doing well with the same business, she was determined to continue. Everytime her husband discouraged her from continuing the business, Anjana pleaded him to trust her and allow her to continue.

One day she visited her friend Phul Kumari Gurung, a member of the Milijuli self-reliant group and came to know about a training programme that BIKALPA (a UMN partner) provides.

Anjana was motivated to join the group and she finally did this year. She also got a chance to participate in pig-shed management training. Following the training programme, she was pleased to get a shed and pig from BIKALPA.

With the improved shed and new knowledge on pig farming she began to reap profits. Anjana is making enough income to support herself and her family. Having seen this her husband also helps her in cleaning and feeding the piglets. With the initial investment of NPR 130,000 (USD 1,219), a profit of NPR 50,000 (USD 468) was made in the first year. She is very happy to see her business flourish and is hopeful for a better future for the family.

WHERE WE WORK

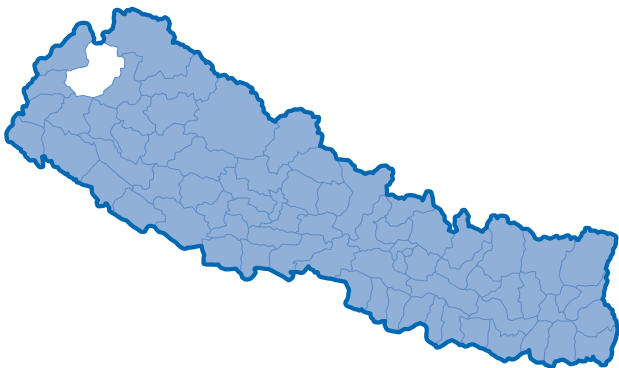


UMN currently has seven cluster offices working in 10 districts of Nepal, covering all five of Nepal's development regions. Two of our clusters, Rupandehi and Sunsari, run programmes in their neighbouring districts. Partnerships with local Nepali organisations in the clusters started in 2004, focusing on strengthening and building their capacity. Our local partnerships at the district level include:

- NGOs
- Local government
- Schools
- Co-operatives

Currently, UMN partners with 46 organisations in the clusters, including some Christian organisations, implementing a range of community projects focused on education, health, livelihoods, and peacebuilding (see page 40 for a full list of partners). UMN also continues to run two hospitals –the United Mission Hospital Tansen (Palpa District) and Okhaldhunga Community Hospital in eastern Nepal.

BAJHANG




UMN started work in Bajhang in 2008 with local NGO and government partners. This year we carried out nine projects with three NGO partners and one co-operative.

This year four communities have been declared an 'Alcohol Free Community', which is an achievement deserving of celebration in the peacebuilding sector. One VDC in the district has been declared an 'indoor smoke-free kitchen' VDC and has also contributed to re-forestation by planting 3,895 saplings in landslide-prone areas.

Forty farmers are regularly selling milk at the milk-collection centre and this has enabled them to start a small-scale saving scheme. One hundred and thirty-four women have taken advantage of child-delivery service facilities at local health centres which were provided with birthing-centre equipment.

We continue to take forward our strategic plan of 2015-20 in order to give hope and fullness of life to the people of Bajhang.

**Chhaupadi is a social tradition in the western part of Nepal for Hindu women which prohibits a woman from participating in normal family activities during menstruation because they are considered impure. The women are kept out of the house and have to live in a shed.*

**AT A GLANCE**

POPULATION:
195,159


UMN BENEFICIARIES:
8,676

UMN WORKING AREAS:
19 VDCs, **1** Municipality

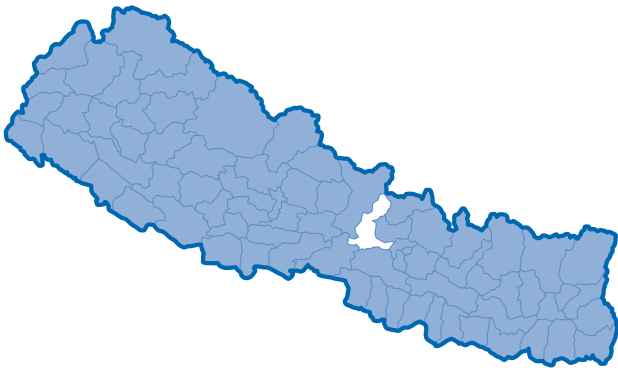
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Violence and discrimination against women; alcohol abuse; discrimination against people with disabilities; Chhaupadi*; climate change; food insecurity and drought; environmental degradation; seasonal migration; poor nutrition; HIV and AIDS; lack of access to family planning.

UMN PARTNERS:
3 NGOs, **1** Co-operative

TYPE OF WORK:
Awareness and training; group empowerment and mobilisation; capacity building; media mobilisation; special education; advocacy and networking; organisational development; educational support.

**BAJHANG**

DHADING




UMN has been working in Dhading with 11 partner organisations in 24 VDCs and one municipality area. We are currently running 13 different projects and we are pleased to report that we have observed some significant progress in this work.

Health facilities in six VDCs have improved and services for intrauterine contraceptive device, implant and skilled birth attendant have been strengthened. It is very encouraging to see 240 people receive mental health care and counselling services. Mental health issues are otherwise seen as shameful in society and so the patients themselves or the society at large regard the suffering as not deserving of any medical attention.

Eight children living with disabilities received treatment and scholarship support this year, giving them back a dignified life and better education. Successful mobilisation of 133 groups have increased people's access and awareness to government services.

We have focused in strengthening our partner organisations programme and organisational capacity. All our partners have been regularly organising social audits and have been following the good policies and practices that they have developed. Learning achievements in schools have gone up by 12.5% in the lower secondary level which was achieved with the help of child-friendly education systems.

**AT A GLANCE**

POPULATION:
334,300


UMN BENEFICIARIES:
8,870

UMN WORKING AREAS:
24 VDCs, **1** Municipality

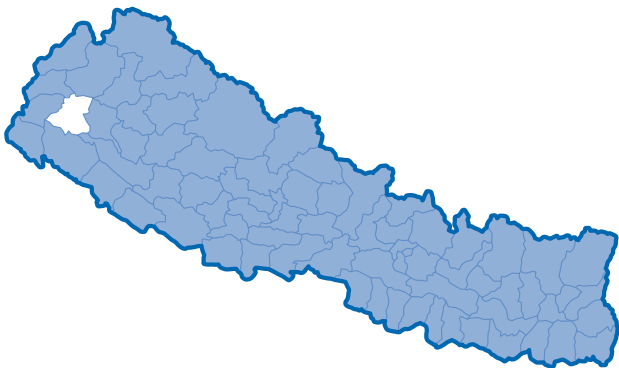
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Need for organic farming, tools, technology and mechanisation; poor health facilities; lack of access to quality education; child labour; early marriage; human trafficking; lack of WASH; HIV and AIDS; climate change; vulnerability to disasters.

UMN PARTNERS:
8 NGOs, **1** Government School, **1** Co-operative

TYPE OF WORK:
Community health; family planning; mental health; nutrition; adolescent sexual and reproductive health; disability awareness and empowerment; child disability physical treatment; food security; child-centred community development; integral mission; education improvement; good governance.

**DHADING**

DOTI




UMN has been working in Doti since 2008 and is currently working alongside five local partner organisations. Community mobilisation through group formation and capacity building of these groups is our approach to implement projects in the community.

Almost 80% of households here have seasonal male migrants to India for 5-6 months a year, which accounts for high HIV prevalence in Doti. We have been directly involved through referral support for 94 people living with HIV and education support for 50 children affected by AIDS.

Food scarcity is a stark reality here as most of the population are marginal farmers. These poor farmers depend on their fields as their primary food and livelihood source. This winter passed without any rainfall, which meant winter crops could not be harvested at all. We have successfully completed a food security project in three VDCs this year.

We have phased out our partnership with a school (RHSS) after a fruitful period of seven years. It gives us joy to see our former partners grow into mature, reputable organisations. This school not only has child-friendly and inclusive education (with 72 deaf students) but has also been recognised with the International Standard Award (ISA).

**AT A GLANCE**

POPULATION:
211,746

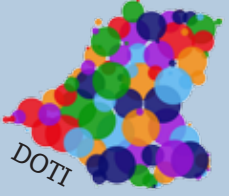
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
17,727

UMN WORKING AREAS:
22 VDCs, **1** Municipality

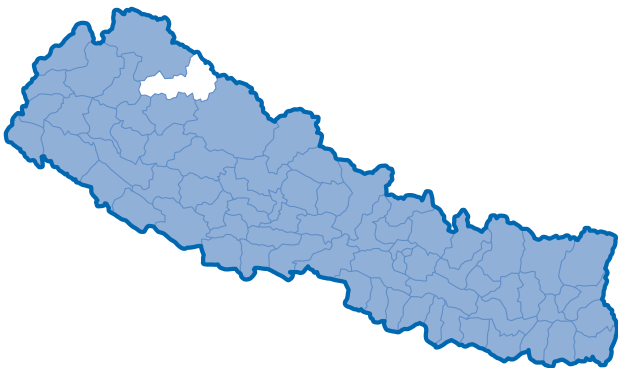
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Lack of employment opportunities, resulting in high seasonal migration; socio-economic inequalities based on gender and caste; limited access to health, nutritious food and quality education; low agricultural productivity; poor rural infrastructure; vulnerability to natural disasters.

UMN PARTNERS:
4 NGOs, **1** Co-operative

TYPE OF WORK:
Food sovereignty and agricultural improvement; mental health, community health and adolescent sexual and reproductive health; support and empowerment for people with disabilities; livelihoods improvement; nutrition; quality education.

**DOTI**

MUGU




UMN has continued to train schools in child-friendly education systems which has made a big difference in the early years drop-out rate. Renovation of the girls' hostel in Mangri with stone walls and an iron fence has been completed. A solar power system in the school and the hostel has also been installed. This hostel has allowed girls (currently 40), to stay away from home while attending secondary schools.

The Dalit Girls' Scholarship Programme has given hope to the so-called low caste girls in Mugu. A Dalit girl who completed her education through UMN's scholarship support has recently secured permanent employment as a staff nurse in a government hospital in Surkhet. We see this as a great achievement and would like to see more girls get a better future through the scholarship programme.

Mugu was declared an open defecation-free zone, and Karkiwda and Shreenagar VDCs are declared as full immunisation zones. More and more women in Mugu are using antenatal services and having safe deliveries. UMN has been helping with the renovation of the placenta pit at the Mangri Health Post.

This year, 10 child clubs have been registered at the District Child Welfare Board. These child clubs publish a monthly wall magazine and have been playing a significant role in influencing their families and bringing positive changes. They are also aware of the child rights and protection, as a result of which child marriage has been reduced in the community.

**AT A GLANCE**

POPULATION:
55,286


UMN BENEFICIARIES:
8,046

UMN WORKING AREAS:
11 VDCs

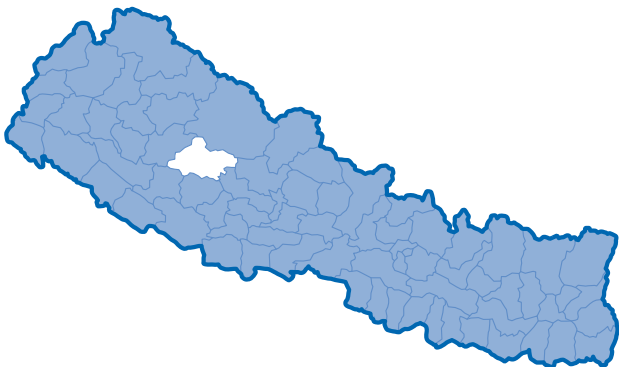
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Lack of access to health services; poor quality education; food insecurity

UMN PARTNERS:
4 NGOs, **1** Government School

TYPE OF WORK:
Nutrition, sanitation and family planning; adolescent sexual and reproductive health; support for girls' education (including Dalit Girls' Scholarships); support for child-friendly education and special education; community empowerment.

**MUGU**

RUKUM



This year, we carried out 13 projects through five partner organisations and one co-operative. These projects seek to address the needs of the poorest people living in poverty, who are the special focus of UMN. Three projects were handed to community-based organisations this year. Some new projects were launched in remote and marginalised VDCs, which will add some additional challenges because of their geographical remoteness.

Eight schools of Kankri village – where child-friendly teaching is practised through multi-lingual education – have been running smoothly and show encouraging signs of improvement. The school attendee rate and the learning achievement rate has gone up remarkably.

More than 2,500 students from 10 schools in a remote area have received computer labs for digital literacy. The majority of these students have never seen a computer before. Now we see them learning happily through computer education. The District Education Office line agencies and the other schools have appreciated this initiative.

District Vegetable Seed Co-operative of Rukum is the umbrella of 12 vegetable-seed producing co-operatives, which has taken over the vegetable-seed promotion programme funded by UMN in Rukum. Farmers are more involved in value-chain marketing and are working together to build the quality of seed production and the marketing of seeds.

AT A GLANCE
POPULATION:
230,000
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
10,300
UMN WORKING AREAS:
20 VDCs, **1** Municipality
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Poverty and inequality; food insecurity; lack of quality education; lack of awareness of child rights; early marriage; poor nutrition; disability; inadequate physical infrastructure.
UMN PARTNERS:
5 NGOs (**1** Christian faith-based organisation)
TYPE OF WORK:
Livelihoods and food security; HIV and AIDS; multi-lingual education; community health and adolescent sexual and reproductive health; disability; mental health; integral mission; disaster management and climate change.

SUNSARI & MORANG



We have been serving in Sunsari and Morang for the last 11 years. This year we implemented 10 projects with eight partner organisations, through which 26,278 households benefited directly. A total of 182 self-reliant groups (especially women and farmers) were formed. They have developed deeper confidence and have been improving in their income generation activities.

Sixty People Living with HIV and AIDS (PLHIV) have received treatment, nutrition, income generation support and the much-needed home visits and counselling. Social stigma towards PLHIV in society is gradually decreasing. Sixty child clubs sharpen the skills and capacity in child rights and social issues in society. Their voices have been heard and noticed in the VDC and DDC offices as a result of which they were able to tap some resources for their activities.

This year our office was again flooded during the heavy rains in the monsoon season. We have moved to a new space which is in a safer location.

AT A GLANCE
SUNSARI:
POPULATION:
763,500
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
13,694
UMN WORKING AREAS:
10 VDCs, **1** Municipality, **1** Sub-metropolitan
UMN PARTNERS:
5 NGOs (**1** Christian)
KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Cross-border crimes; human trafficking; HIV transmission; high migration rates; densely-populated areas with high levels of poverty (324,500 people living in extreme poverty); marriage breakdown; addiction; industrial pollution and poor waste management.
TYPE OF WORK:
Peacebuilding through inter-faith network; strengthening local peace committees to reduce cross-border crimes; child-centred community development; empowerment of people with disabilities and advocacy for their rights; HIV prevention, support and care; increasing income through commercial agriculture and vocational training; improvement of health facilities, nutrition, and WASH.

MORANG:
POPULATION:
965,370
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
12,584
UMN WORKING AREAS:
4 VDCs, **5** Municipalities
UMN PARTNERS:
2 NGOs, **1** Government organisation

KAPILVASTU, RUPANDEHI & NAWALPARASI

This year, our districts were badly hit by political protests and general strikes, which made it hard for us to implement the projects that we had looked forward to starting. The Nepal/India border blockade and fuel crisis, and all forms of political unrest made work very difficult. Our three working districts are located in the Terai areas close to the Indian border.

This year we implemented 14 different projects in all six UMN technical areas, in partnership with 10 local partner organisations. Directly benefiting from these projects were 24,868 of the poorest people living in poverty (PPLP). We also welcomed two new NGO partners in Kapilvastu.

A three-year Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) project has been launched in Nawalparasi district, and three projects (Community Carbon Offset (C2O), Uttam Aahar (Best Food Nutrition) and Multi-lingual Education) were phased out from mid-July 2016. The Uttam Aahar project has been running through 18 Self-Reliant Groups with 418 members in two VDCs of Rupandehi.

The C2O project mostly focused on carbon off-setting and emission by supporting community on Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS), plantation, bio-briquette and awareness raising on climate-change impacts and environment.

The practice of kitchen gardening and various nutritious food training has empowered people and brought greater awareness about food-intake practices. People have begun to prepare and consume a balanced diet. Multi-lingual education (teaching in mother tongue) continues in five primary-level schools of Kapilvastu. We have been helping to make books available in Tharu and Awadhi languages, which has helped to decrease the student dropout rate, empower parents, build the capacity of teachers and the quality of learning in a child-friendly environment.



AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:

571,940

UMN BENEFICIARIES:

2,015

UMN WORKING AREAS:

9 VDCs

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

Lack of quality child-friendly education; child marriage; malnutrition; gender-based violence; poor WASH facilities; poor child and maternal health facilities; poor income/livelihoods and irrigations systems.

UMN PARTNERS:

2 NGOs, 1 Government School

TYPE OF WORK:

Multi-lingual, child-friendly and opportunity education; integrated peacebuilding; adolescent sexual and reproductive health and family planning; inter-faith networks; WASH.

KAPILVASTU



AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:

880,200

UMN BENEFICIARIES:

11,567

UMN WORKING AREAS:

6 VDCs, 3 Municipalities

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

HIV and AIDS; human trafficking; child marriage; malnutrition; gender-based violence; poor WASH facilities; poor income/livelihoods; climate change and environmental degradation.

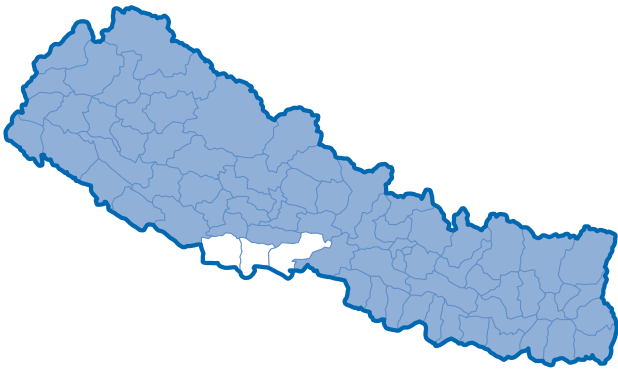
UMN PARTNERS:

4 NGOs (2 Christian faith-based organisations)

TYPE OF WORK:

Livelihoods (livestock and vegetables), climate change and disaster preparedness; HIV and AIDS interventions; mental health; nutrition; WASH.

RUPANDEHI



AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:

643,508

UMN BENEFICIARIES:

10,466

UMN WORKING AREAS:

10 VDCs, 1 Municipality

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

Human trafficking; HIV and AIDS; lack of quality child-friendly education; gender-based violence; high migration; poor WASH facilities; poor income/livelihoods; climate change and environmental degradation.

UMN PARTNERS:

3 NGOs (1 Christian faith-based organisation)

TYPE OF WORK:

Child-friendly and adult education; integral mission in churches; good governance; disaster preparedness and climate change; livelihoods (dairy and livestock); HIV and AIDS support; community health.

NAWALPARASI

HOSPITAL SERVICES OFFICE

HSO continued its central logistic support to the hospitals. It also liaised with line ministries of the Government of Nepal and other partners. Five-year strategic plans for the hospitals were formulated.

UNITED MISSION HOSPITAL TANSEN

The National Tuberculosis Centre has declared UMHT as a multi-drug resistant TB treatment sub-centre. Another new development in UMHT was the completion of the one million litre capacity underground rainwater collection tank and the construction of an oxygen generating plant.

The Community Health Department (CHD) conducted regular clinics for children below five years-of-age in the town clinic. It also ran two satellite Mother and Child Health Clinics in two health posts. These activities were carried out in co-ordination with the District Health Officer (DHO).

CDH also managed safer motherhood projects in two remote VDCs and a Nutritional Rehabilitation unit. CHD worked in close co-ordination with the DHO in health awareness-raising programmes, including broadcasting of health-related talks through various local FM radio stations. It also provided treatment to a total of 4,912 children below the age of five and 3,999 pregnant mothers had antenatal check-ups at the town clinic.

Besides the daily on-the-job teaching/learning activities, the hospital conducted a Medical Doctorate in General Practice, a three year post-graduate residency course under the Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University and NAMS (National Academy of Medical Sciences). The hospital also continued the one year Anaesthetist Technician Course under the National Health Training Centre. We also conducted a Proficiency Level course in Nursing and Laboratory Technician under the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training. Besides these accredited pre-service courses we also conducted our regular in-house courses such as Skill Birth Attendant course and Mid-Level Practicum Course. The Diploma in Pastoral Healing Ministry course continued this reporting year as well.

IMPORTANT STATISTICS: (2014/15 in brackets)

ITEM	UMHT	OCH
Beds	169 <small>(169)</small>	50 <small>(32)*</small>
Bed Occupancy	83% <small>(81%)</small>	153% <small>(152%)</small>
Out Patient Dept.	98,338 <small>(96,900)</small>	32,420 <small>(30,763)</small>
In Patient Dept.	12,728 <small>(12,498)</small>	4,847 <small>(5,133)</small>
Surgery	7,672 <small>(7,121)</small>	2,088 <small>(1,796)</small>
Delivery	2,296 <small>(2,367)</small>	874 <small>(866)</small>
Emergency	15,380 <small>(15,308)</small>	2,686 <small>(1,471)</small>
Total Income	NRP 350,610,207 <small>(NRP 327,850,681)</small>	NRP 69,433,381 <small>(NRP 52,410,785)</small>
Total Expenditure	NRP 350,610,207 <small>(NRP 427,449,952)</small>	NRP 65,087,263 <small>(NRP 54,765,923)</small>
Free Care	NRP 19,145,504 <small>(NRP 17,685,815)</small>	NRP 17,032,081 <small>(NRP 13,943,831)</small>

**50 beds from March 2016*

As an attempt to provide medical care for all, direct free care worth NPR 19,145,504 (USD 179,517) was provided this year. Besides this, many patients received free orthopaedic implants. We are grateful to our many donors for making this possible. We were also able to provide Anti-Retro Viral treatment, TB and Leprosy medicines and some heart medicines free of cost from the Government of Nepal. We also provided free food to all inpatient children admitted to the children ward.

OKHALDHUNGA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Both curative and public health services continued in Okhaldhunga Community Hospital. Statistics showed an increase in all the curative services provided by the hospital. Free treatment for children under three years-of-age and those weighing less than 12 kg, the nutritional rehabilitation centre and the waiting centre for high risk mothers continued this year, thereby helping severely malnourished children and high risk mothers. The solar panels which were installed last year have helped to reduce the cost of fuel by almost 50% this year.

OCH has been a training site for MDGP residents during their district posting. From this year the Mid-Level Practicum, a refresher course for paramedics, has been started in partnership with the Nick Simons Institute. Besides these, regular on-the-job training for Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and teaching activities for the staff has continued normally.



WE HAVE MOVED IN!

Six years ago we understood the need to extend and upgrade Okhaldunga Community Hospital. There were two particular experiences that triggered these thoughts and are still strongly with us:

- A small girl suffering from a very serious lung disease was admitted for three weeks to our tiny "Intensive Care Room." Three times during that period, patients died in neighbouring beds just half a metre away. Those who tried to resuscitate them, without success, almost had to climb into her bed to do so. To see death in such dramatic circumstances was distressing for her, and we felt that we were unable to give her the proper treatment she rightfully deserved. We felt the need for more space urgently, and this feeling has grown ever since.
- It is cold here in the winter, and the hospital didn't have any heating system. Several times we didn't have a safe and warm place to treat malnourished children admitted with pneumonia in the winter cold. We are convinced that more of them would have survived if we had been able to treat them in warm surroundings. Some may literally have frozen to death, others have died because hypothermia made their little bodies less resistant to infections.



Such experiences created dreams, which developed into plans, and then finally to extensive building works. And now we are there! We moved into our new, sturdy building on Wednesday 27 April 2016!

In our new building, there is more space than before, a larger "Intensive Care Room", heating in the paediatric and several other rooms, and a central system for extra oxygen supply!

Friends of Okhaldhunga have made this feat possible.

BOARD

The overall governance and direction for UMN is the responsibility of the UMN Board of Trustees, who are elected by the supporting partner organisations. This is a skill-based board and its focus has continued to be the governing of the organisation through Carver Policy Governance, and strengthening the financial governance through the Board Audit Committee. The General Assembly which was postponed due to the earthquake in April 2015 was held this year in May.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

UMN's Leadership Team is led by the Executive Director and now consists of eight members, after some changes in membership of the Leadership Team. In August, three new members joined the Leadership Team: Madhu Thapa (LPS Team Leader), Bal Kumari Gurung (Peacebuilding Team Leader) and Peter Lockwood (Programme Advisor). Two members – Lyn Jackson and Jerry Clewett – left UMN after completing their terms in May and June 2016 respectively. This year Mark Galpin completed his term as Executive Director on 10 June and the board appointed Joel Hafvenstein as the new Executive Director of UMN. The major focus of the Leadership Team was on the implementation of the new strategic plan 2015-20. The team continued to meet formally every two months and weekly for prayers and updates.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our quarterly newsletter *UMNews* continues to receive positive response from our friends around the world. The special 50th issue of *UMNews* in February 2016 was indeed a highlight for us. The in-house development of the *UMNews* iPad app was particularly pleasing, allowing for extra content to be included over the print version.

This year we were kept quite busy providing up-to-date information, stories, photographs and video clips following the April/May earthquakes of last year.

The number of Facebook followers is now over 7,000. Online donations continues to be significant.

A major change in the Communications Team was the handover of leadership from Lyn Jackson to Vijeta Shrestha, as Lyn left after six years as Communications Director.

ITS

This year, the ITS Team migrated UMN's e-mail service to Microsoft Office 365 Cloud system. We were able to get free e-mail service from Microsoft and also genuine Microsoft Office packages at a charitable price. With this, our critical e-mail system is now highly reliable and secure.

We have completed the installation and upgrading of our solar power backup system in Thapathali and Cluster offices. With this we have massively reduced our dependency on fuel generators and hence contributed towards the reduction of organisational carbon footprint.

FUNDING AND FINANCE

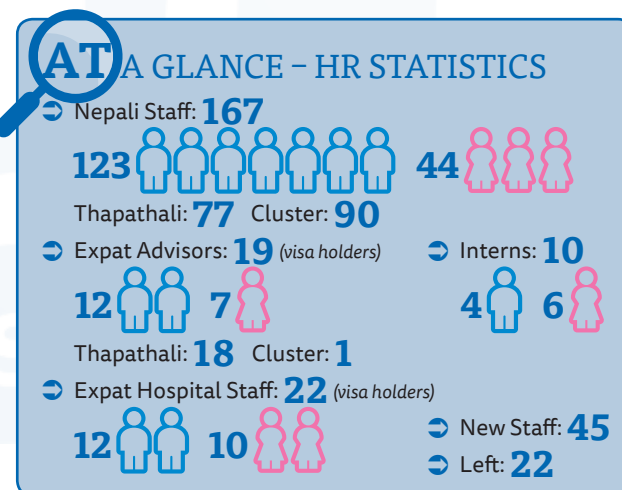
Due to changes in the bank's policy, we switched from Standard Chartered Bank in Jersey to Lloyds Bank in the UK.

We have been able to raise the funding needed for the earthquake recovery work that we are undertaking in Dhading.

We have also been exploring new/upgraded financial software for improving the financial recording and monitoring of our expenses.

HUMAN RESOURCES & SITE MANAGEMENT

This year many DDRP staff and expatriate staff were recruited. We continued to provide logistics support to cluster teams and to Thapathali HQ, and have helped to arrange various business events, meetings, conferences and celebrations.



CROSS CUTTING DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

GENDER

As gender shapes our self-concept and how we relate with others, it is crucial for everyone to acquire a gender lens for self-reflection and examination of our behaviour. This is to see whether our attitudes and actions are promoting equality between women and men or reinforcing unequal gender status quo which is a persistent root cause of poverty and suffering. A participatory process has therefore been used during this year for staff and partners to go through awareness-raising and increased common learning. Fifteen focused group discussions and seven participatory gender and development workshops were completed. To facilitate ownership, the next step also includes the formulation of the first gender-mainstreaming action plans by each staff team. In the communities where we work, there will be community participatory gender equality facilitators' capacity building with partners so that gender equality work can be integrated into our transformational development processes through the community groups.

CONFLICT

UMN is committed to using the conflict sensitivity policy in all aspects of its work. Conflict sensitivity is analysed with our cluster and partner staff through tools like 'Do No Harm' and 'Safe and Effective Development in Conflict'. Staff and partners are encouraged to practice this policy during the annual planning and reporting period. It is also used during the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects to ensure smooth running of programmes and to minimise conflict issues.

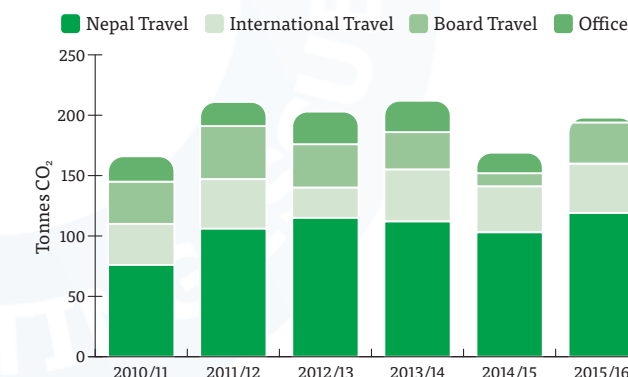
UMN partners have taken interest and ownership to include the conflict sensitivity approach in their organisations and programmes. Some partners have developed their own policies and have been applying them. The UMN Disaster Response Team in Dhading was trained to identify potential risks during relief response programmes and find ways to prevent new conflict issues on time, as well as to address the concerns raised. The application of conflict sensitivity policy has helped to maintain a good working relationship among stakeholders, prevent risks and address emerging conflicts.

ENVIRONMENT

The initiative to mainstreaming 'environment and climate change' as a cross cutting issue continues in UMN. Having attended the climate change basics and adaptation orientation, two thirds of the partners (out of 39) have started formulating an environment and climate change policy and annual operational plans at their organisations. The community group facilitators are now equipped with basic knowledge on climate change and adaptation, and are able to facilitate sessions on this subject with community groups. There is a high level of environment and climate change adaptation awareness among the UMN cluster based staff. They are able to use the Environment Assessment tool in order to ensure that all UMN-supported community-based projects are environmentally sensitive.

UMN's carbon footprint report 2015/16 shows an increase from 169 tons of CO₂ in 2014/15 to 198 tons this year. Board travel has increased as we had two board meetings this fiscal year as scheduled. In addition to that some board members had to visit Nepal in September 2015 and March 2016 for the Executive Director recruitment process. Nepal travel has also slightly increased as there has been more frequent travel associated with earthquake response interventions, and also we had more travel for baseline surveys this year.

UMN CARBON FOOTPRINT



In the year ending 15 July 2016, UMN's consolidated income was USD 12,776,707 and consolidated expenditure was USD 9,955,264. The consolidated accounts of UMN include the full accounts of the Tansen and Okhaldhunga hospitals and the Hospital Services Office and Dhading Disaster Response Programme (DDRP). UMN's accounts have been prepared and guided by the requirements of the U.K. Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) published in March 2005.

INCOME

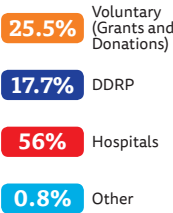
Consolidated Income was USD 12,776,707 an increase of 13.3% on the prior year (USD 11,277,547¹). The hospitals' income was USD 7,160,893 accounting for 56% of overall income. Grants from institutions and donations for UMN's clusters' work and Dhading Disaster Response Programme amounted to USD 5,513,796 including USD 239,412 of expatriate volunteer services.

EXPENDITURE

Consolidated Expenditure was USD 9,955,264, an increase of 9.8% on the prior year (USD 9,064,218¹). The hospitals' expenditure was USD 5,373,628 accounting for 54% of overall expenditure. Thapathali and Clusters' charitable expenditure was USD 4,408,954 accounting for 44.3% of overall expenditure. Charitable expenditure includes the Dhading Disaster Response Programme of USD 1,638,218.

The cost of generating funds (1.1%) are the costs associated with activities to attract donors and individuals to support the work of UMN. Governance costs (0.6%) ensure that there is an adequate governance infrastructure within UMN and cover the costs of the Board, the bi-annual general assembly, financial governance and strategic management.

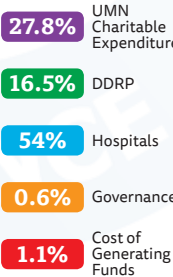
INCOME
2015-16



BREAKDOWN OF GRANT INCOME²:

DONOR	USD	%
Transform Aid International	904,662	17.2%
TEAR Australia	358,868	6.8%
United Methodist Church USA	341,805	6.5%
UMN Support Trust	332,039	6.3%
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	289,379	5.5%
ICCO & Kerk in Actie	276,607	5.2%
Diakonie (DKH)	245,449	4.7%
PMU InterLife	238,516	4.5%
HimalPartner	235,972	4.5%
Tearfund Netherlands	214,129	4.1%
Tearfund UK	206,885	3.9%
InterAct	182,450	3.5%
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission	154,103	2.9%
Bread for the World	101,231	1.9%
Gossner	99,080	1.8%
Others	1,093,209	20.7%
Total Grant Income	5,274,384	100%

EXPENDITURE
2015-16

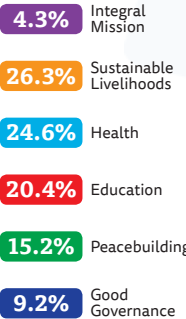


Excluding governance costs and the cost of generating funds, the total expenditure of UMN was USD 9,782,582 (98.3% of total expenditure) including USD 316,022 of support costs allocated in direct proportion to direct costs. No support costs were allocated to the hospitals.

BREAKDOWN OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE³:

	USD	% of TOTAL EXPEND.	% CHARITY EXPEND. ⁴
Hospitals	5,373,628	56.6%	
DDRP	1,638,218	17.3%	
Sustainable Livelihoods	651,946	6.9%	26.3%
Health	610,961	6.4%	24.6%
Education	506,045	5.3%	20.4%
Peacebuilding	376,992	4.0%	15.2%
Good Governance	229,576	2.4%	9.2%
Integral Mission	105,574	1.1%	4.3%
Total	9,492,940	100%	100%

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE⁴
2015-16

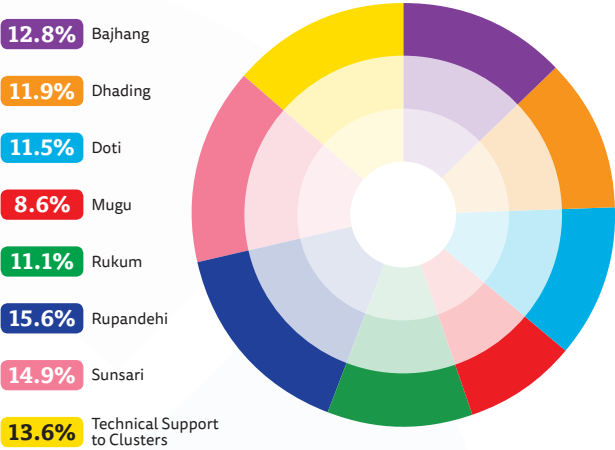


Exchange rate: USD 1 = NRP 106.65
¹ Since all financial reports are denominated in NRP, for comparative reasons we have recalculated last year's figures with this current year's exchange rate
² Excluding Hospitals
³ Including Hospitals
⁴ Figures are given excluding DDRP and hospitals to allow comparison with previous years

Dhading Disaster Response Programme expenditure totalled USD 1,638,218 and represents 17.3% of UMN's total expenditure (including hospitals) this year. UMN's expenditure for its clusters work totalled USD 2,481,094.

The hospitals work in specific geographical locations, whereas the rest of UMN's work is split over a number of geographic locations. The 2015/16 charitable expenditure of UMN⁴ is broken down by location below:

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE
BY LOCATION⁴ 2015-16



Rupandehi, Sunsari and Bajhang were the locations in which the highest proportion of UMN's charitable expenditure was spent. Technical support is provided to clusters from advisory groups based in Kathmandu in order to ensure the quality and effectiveness of UMN's work.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



DHANAN SENATHIRAJAH (Chair)

Dhanan is a qualified accountant and Lawyer from Sri Lanka. After serving as Vice President - Finance and Planning at National Development Bank PLC, he has moved on to become the National Director for World Vision in Sri Lanka. He serves on the Sri Lankan boards of Back To The Bible, Campus Crusade, Vision Fund, Lanka Bible College, and Healthcare Christian Fellowship.



MAHENDRA BHATTARAI

Mahendra has been working as a development consultant for many years. He is Chairperson and leading pastor in a church group in Nepal. He is associated with several Christian organisations and is active in Christian/Non-Christian relations.



HENK BLOM

Henk served with UMN from 1981 until 1990 in Tansen, Palpa. He has fulfilled several leadership posts in different NGOs since then. Henk recently retired from his position of director of the Komensky Consultancy in Pune, India. He lives in Holland.



JIWAN GURUNG

Jiwan worked with International Nepal Fellowship for 10 years and was on its board for nine years before he stepped down at the end of 2013. He also pastored a church in Pokhara. Currently he is one of the pastors of a church in Dang District. He was previously a UMN Board Member from 2003 to 2007. He is also the founder of a non-government organisation in Dang.



SHANTA MAYA GURUNG

Shanta is a public health professional and served for many years through faith-based and bilateral organisations within Nepal. Her experiences have mainly been in community health, development, drug & alcohol addiction and HIV & AIDS prevention in Nepal. For the last five years, she has been leading a team which ministers to girls involved in the sex trade.



GRACE KHALING

Grace is an active member of the Nepali Isai Mandali Lalitpur Church, where she serves as an elder, as well as in several volunteer roles. She has been working with the Asian Development Bank for over 27 years, and has considerable work experience with other international organisations. She also serves as a Board member for other para-church organisations.



LALBIAKHLUI ROKHUM

Kuki, as she is more popularly known, is currently the Director of Training and Mobilisation of EFICOR where she has worked since 2002. Kuki is passionate about issues of justice and is involved in teaching about issues such as HIV and AIDS, creation care and climate change. She has also been involved in the Micah Challenge campaign in India.



JOSEPH SHRESTHA

Joseph Shrestha is the Senior Pastor of Calvary Church, Dhanghadi, Nepal and General Superintendent of Assemblies Of God, Nepal. He also serves as Chairperson of Rescue Nepal. He has a long experience with church and mission, and has a heart for integral mission.



PRAKASH SUBBA

Prakash is Pastor at Koinonia Koteswor Church in Kathmandu and was the National Director of the Nepal Campus Crusade for many years. He has a commitment to integral mission and to developing training materials for family counselling for pastors. He has served as Chairman of the National Churches Fellowship - Nepal for the last four years. At present he is also involved in teaching in Bible colleges and training centres.



ALEX SWARBICK

Alex lives and works in Singapore as Regional Director for leadership development organisation Roffey Park. During the 1990s, Alex worked in Nepal as Personnel Director for the International Nepal Fellowship.



RICHARD SYKES

Richard was a lawyer specialising in international work with a London law firm for 30 years. On retiring in 2000, he worked for a year for International Nepal Fellowship in the Mid-West Region of Nepal. Since then he has returned to Nepal every year, either to work for INF or, more recently, in his capacity as a UMN board member. He was for over 10 years on the Boards of INF UK and the Nepal Leprosy Trust UK.



FELICITY WEVER

Felicity is based in Sydney, Australia, and has a background in international aid and development. She is currently the Head of International Programmes for UNICEF Australia. Felicity previously worked for Baptist World Aid Australia, helping to establish UMN's Child-Centred Community Development programmes.

NATIONAL & CLUSTER PARTNERS



NATIONAL

Micah Network Nepal

NGO

BAJHANG

Dalit Sahayog Samaj (DHS)

NGO

Ekikrit Bikash Manch

NGO

Mahila Kalyan Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Samstha Ltd.

Co-op

Pragatishil Yuwa Samaj (PYS)

NGO

DHADING

Achane Higher Secondary School

Sch.

Chandrayoti Integrated Rural Development Society

NGO

Committed Society For Change (COSOC Nepal)

NGO

Dalit Welfare Organisation (DWO)

NGO

Dhading Christian Society (DCS)

NGO

Himalaya Community Salvation Society (HIMS)

NGO

Jagat Jyoti Community Development Centre (JCDC)

NGO

Namaste Gramin Bikas Samaj (NRDS)

NGO

Nari Jagaran Kendra (NJK)

NGO

Prayatnasil Samudayik Bikas Samaj (Prayas Nepal)

NGO

Small Farmer Co-operative Federation (SFCF)

Co-op

DOTI

Bar Pipal Saving and Credit Co-operative Ltd. (BPSCCL)

Co-op

Centre for Equal Access Development (CEAD)

NGO

Disabled Service Organisation (DSO)

NGO

Rampur Higher Secondary School

Inst.

Rural Community Development Centre (RCDC)

NGO

Rural Development Centre (RDC)

NGO

MUGU

Buddha Higher Secondary School

Sch.

Disabled Rehabilitation & Rural Development Organisation (DARRDO)

NGO

Gramin Samudayik Sanstha (GSS)

NGO

Karani Community Development Centre (KCDC)

NGO

Rinimokshya Samaj Sudhar Kendra (RSSK)

NGO

RUKUM

Christian Society Development Campaign (CSDC)

NGO

Dalit Welfare Organisation (DWO)

NGO

Disabled Protection Forum (DPF)

NGO

Nepal Magar Society Service

NGO

& Information Centre (MIC Nepal)

NGO

Nepal People Awakening Forum (PAF)

NGO

RUPANDEHI

Bikalpa

NGO

Dalit Social Development Centre (DSDC)

NGO

Isai Samaj Nawalparasi (ISN)

NGO

Jana Kalyan Higher Secondary School (JKHSS)

Sch.

Kapilvastu Institution Development Committee (KIDC)

NGO

Lumbini Christian Society (LCS)

NGO

Nepal Abinash Social Service Organisation (NASSO)

NGO

Sakar Samuha Nepal (SSN)

NGO

Sunawal Community Development Centre (SCDC-S)

NGO

Sungabha Community Development Centre (SCDC-R)

NGO

SUNSARI

Chandra Mukhi Club (CMC)

NGO

Community Development Forum (CDF)

NGO

District Development Committee (DDC), Morang

GoN

Naba Jiwan Samaj Sewa (NJSS)

NGO

National Community Development Centre (NCDC)

NGO

Nepal Chelebeti Disabled Women Society (NCDWS)

NGO

Participant Mobilisation Centre (PMC)

NGO

Sundar Samaj Nirman Samuha (SSNS)

NGO

NGO = Non-governmental organisation
GoN = Government of Nepal
Sch. = School
Co-op = Co-operative

SUPPORTING PARTNERS

AUSTRALIA

Transform Aid International

TEAR Australia

FINLAND

Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission

GERMANY

Gossner Mission

IRELAND

Presbyterian Church in Ireland

THE NETHERLANDS

Tear Netherlands

ICCO & Kerk in Actie

NORWAY

Normisjon

HimalPartner

SWEDEN

InterAct

UNITED KINGDOM

BMS World Mission

Church of Scotland

Tearfund

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

World Mission Prayer League

Evangelical Lutheran Church

in America

MULTI-NATIONAL BODIES

Interserve



UMN is also grateful to the following organisations for their support this year

Bread for the World-Protestant

Development Service, Germany

CEDAR Fund, Hong Kong

Church Missionary Society, UK

Cornerstone Trust, USA

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Germany

The Evangelical Fellowship

of India Commission on Relief

Forum Wiednest, Germany

Medical Teams International, USA

Mennonite Mission Network, USA

Mennonite Central Committee, USA

Methodist Church in Britain

Opportunity Education, USA

PMU Interlife, Sweden

Samaritan's Purse, Canada

SIM

Smyrna Church, Sweden

Tearfund, Belgium

UK Aid

UMN Support Trust, UK

UNICEF

United Methodist Church, USA

United Methodist Committee

on Relief (UMCOR), USA

United Methodist Women, USA

World Relief, USA

Woord en Daad, The Netherlands

ZOA, The Netherlands

UMN is also grateful to many individuals, groups and churches around the world who provide faithful support to UMN.





Fullness of life for all, in a transformed Nepali society

UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

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