

Annual Report

2018-19



Fullness of life for all, in a transformed Nepali society



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

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Dear Friends,

As of March 2019, UMN has served in Nepal for 65 years. During this era of social and economic transformation, UMN has contributed to many development milestones, including seminal early work in hydropower development, technical education, biogas, rural health service provision, and non-formal education.

We recently honoured UMN's longest-serving expatriate volunteer, Miriam Krantz, who worked with us for a total of 39 years. Miriam is best known as "sarbottam pitho ko aama," the original developer of the locally produced multi-grain "super flour" that has improved the nutrition and health of countless children and vulnerable adults across Nepal. She visited many other south Asian countries to share learning from Nepal's experience. Both before and after her time serving with UMN, Miriam has been a mentor and supporter to countless Nepali professionals and charitable organisations. She remains an outstanding example of the kind of innovation, learning, and transformative service UMN aspires to carry out in Nepal.

UMN is sometimes asked why it no longer carries out the kinds of "hardware"-intensive development that it did decades ago. Our primary answer is that the situation in Nepal has changed dramatically, with government and private-sector investment in infrastructure that dwarfs anything UMN could offer. Much of our work for the past fifteen years has rather focused on building up the "softer" capacities of Nepali civil society organisations and community members.

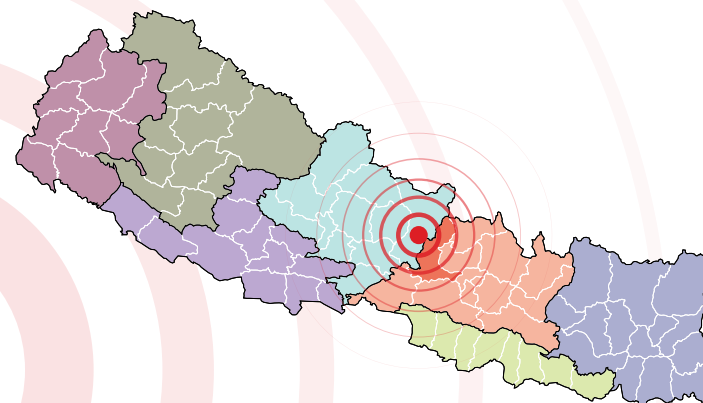
This still leads to concrete and transformative outcomes, as a visit to UMN's working areas would make clear. A visitor would see villages which have been economically transformed by training in cash-crop cultivation or weaving; people living with disability or HIV who have become financially secure and accepted members of the community; women on the verge of being trafficked into slavery whose neighbours saved them; farmers who are resisting climate shocks and disasters. UMN work has improved social harmony between religious and ethnic groups, and positively affected the relationship between people and their government representatives, leading to more effective delivery of all manner of public services.

We look ahead to next year, to the renewal of UMN's agreements with the Government of Nepal, and to continued service to the people of Nepal. We are grateful to God and to everyone in Nepal and around the world who supports the work of the Mission through their time, prayer, and gifts.

JOEL HAFVENSTEIN
Executive Director

DDRP AT A GLANCE

- 572** masons trained on earthquake-resilient building construction techniques.
- 5** demo houses constructed to replicate the earthquake-resilient technology and handed over to local governments.
- 156** new classrooms constructed in **47** schools.
- 37.6** km foot trail repaired in Northern Dhading
- 15.5** km agricultural road constructed in South Dhading.
- 8** trail bridges repaired in Northern Dhading.
- 8** micro hydropower plants repaired from which **132** KW electricity generated.
- 19** community water supply schemes constructed and from which **1,339** households benefited from safe drinking water.
- Access to safe drinking water in **38** schools and **4** health centres.
- 410** toilets constructed, among them **44** in schools, **5** in demo houses, **3** in health posts and **358** toilet supports in individual households.
- 10,097** people benefited from livelihood support and training.
- 16** improved water mills repaired.
- 3** collection centres constructed and developed links to market.
- 126** hectares of land irrigated which has increased productivity.
- 50** youths were given vocational training.
- 347** mothers trained in basic nutrition and preparing nutritious food.
- 243** pregnant mothers received supplementary food.
- 173** classrooms set up in a child-friendly manner.
- 2,076** people were given life skills training.
- 235** primary teachers trained in child-friendly teaching methods.



Four years after Nepal's 2015 earthquake, UMN is now nearing the end of its restoration and reconstruction work (the project finishes in December 2020). The Dhading Disaster Response Programme (DDRP) has 10 projects.

1 Shelter, **2** Community Infrastructures (Schools, Trail & Bridge, Micro Hydropower), **3** WASH, **4** Livelihoods, **5** Health & Nutrition, **6** Disaster Risk Reduction **7** Psychosocial and Trauma Healing, **8** Protection, **9** Good Governance and **10** Organisational Development.

The projects have now tapered down to school construction and Protection and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) projects.

DDRP extended its working area in other wards of North Dhading too as per the request of district government authorities. Currently, UMN is working in Ruby Valley Rural Municipality to construct school buildings and toilets and community water supply schemes.





EDUCATION

AT A GLANCE

- 145** child clubs were formed with more than **3,000** children involved.
- 57** Dalit girls are being financially supported for their education.
- 93** schools from Bajhang, Doti, Mugu, Rukum and Sunsari were trained on child-friendly teaching methods.

Parent's involvement in children's education is crucial in improving the child's learning achievements, building confidence and also in strengthening their relationship with school teachers. This year a total of 27 parents' groups were encouraged to take part in training courses and interaction sessions on child rights, leadership, childcare, importance of education and engagement of parents in school. In Doti, parents have started to send a midday meal to school for their children – earlier, this wasn't the case. In Rukum, parents were given easy-to-read children's books to read to their children whenever they have time. This has further helped to strengthen the bond between parents and children.

Many children in our project areas have been planning and developing community work and extra-curricular activities for their communities. One hundred and forty-five child clubs were formed and mobilised to bring confidence, knowledge and to enhance the learning of more than 3,000 children. The child clubs were given training on child rights, child club management, wall magazine and project work on various grave social issues.

Teachers are essential to creating an effective classroom and learning environment. Therefore, child-friendly teacher-learning training was provided to 106 enthusiastic teachers (73 female and 33 male) who can motivate children to learn with fun and less stress. Teachers now have a clear concept of Child-Friendly Teaching Learning (CFTL) methods, pre-class preparations, material development and micro teaching sessions.

Similarly, School Management Committees (SMC) of 93 schools from Bajhang, Doti, Mugu, Rukum and Sunsari were trained on child-friendly framework, school self-assessment, school improvement plan and school governance and management. Strengthening SMC's and



teachers contributed to improving the quality of teaching and learning in classrooms.

UMN has been running the Multi Lingual Education project in Rukum for four years now. To build strong evidence of the project's outcomes and impacts in Rukum, research on conceptual understanding of children taught in mother tongue in early grades (ECD to grade three) is being carried out. This research will look at the progress and understanding of children for three years.

School Disaster Risk Reduction plans were prepared by five schools in Sunsari. Preparedness and mitigation activities such as maintenance of roofs, doors, windows and floors of school buildings and management of safe drinking water has benefited 205 students.



ALL-ROUND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN THE FAR WEST

When a child gets a good education it can alter their future for the better. Nepal has great educators and UMN is coming alongside them in their work to provide training and teaching materials to enhance the quality of education. One school in western Bajhang District is experiencing the positive impacts of our support.

Kulmastajan Secondary School has 21 teachers and around 700 students in grades 1 to 12. Established in 1962, the Government of Nepal supported the school with the building, toilets, drinking water and desks. The government helped to lay a solid foundation; UMN saw the opportunity to build on that. UMN's Far Western Education Project (FWEP) has helped by providing training and educational materials in the hope of improving the overall quality of education.

FWEP provided child-friendly training to teachers, the School Management Committee (SMC), the parent and teacher association and child-club members. They also gave the school educational materials and new furniture for grades 1 to 3 to create a more child-friendly environment. This included things like tables, carpet, cushions, door mats and shoe racks. FWEP also helped upgrade books in the school library.

Inspired by the training, the school is now applying a child-friendly teaching methodology. The school also started teaching in English medium in grades 1 to 3 in the new academic year. The community was excited about this and it led to an increase in numbers, with 163 new students enrolling. "After FWEP enhanced the capacities of teachers and SMC members and provided teaching materials we decided to start teaching in English medium in our school," says Headteacher Mohan Thapa. "Thank you very much for supporting our schools."



GOOD GOVERNANCE

AT A GLANCE

- 15** public institutions organised public audits and community score cards.
- 100%** UMN partners carried out social audits.
- 54** females and **94** males including elected members were trained on planning and budgeting processes.
- 364** local level plans were approved by local authorities leveraging NPR **84,801,361** (USD **775,858**).

To address the needs of the poorest people, the Good Governance team has been working to strengthen the capacity of rights holders and duty bearers at the local level to enable good governance. With this aim, we have been supporting groups at all levels such as government institutions, UMN partners and local communities. Citizen-led accountability mechanisms like Public Audit, Community Score Card, Social Audit and Participatory Planning Process are key interventions that lead duty bearers to be accountable towards rights holders or the community. A total of 15 public institutions such as health posts, schools, wards and User's Committees carried out public audits and used the Community Score Card, where they disclosed their facts and figures. All local partners of UMN (44 partners) carried out Social Audits with 2,338 community people. All the partners also carried out organisational assessments and made action plans to improve their organisational performance.

Community people were sensitised through civic education sessions on domestic violence, child rights, child marriage, gender roles, accountability promoting tools, planning and budgeting process, and rights and entitlements of citizens. Likewise, a total of 664 rights holders were oriented on right-to-information, good governance, local governance and other prevailing laws of the Nepal government. Through such activities, poor communities are being engaged in the development process and they have started raising their concerns and claiming their rights.

As we work to bring fullness of life for all, we want to prioritise the poorest and most vulnerable groups in the community. We are delighted that women and marginalised people of remote villages in Mugu and Kapilbastu



are the focus of two community development projects, aiming to improve their socio-economic status. Through these projects they have become united and empowered as they engage in self-help groups. The projects have also been instrumental to bridge the gap between communities and duty bearers. A total of 610 community groups with 10,550 members are actively working in project locations, developing their objectives, norms, values and action plans.

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

A total of 148 elected members and local facilitators were trained on planning and budgeting process. These trainees organised 86 village-level meetings to mainstream voiceless people in local planning process, where 3,459 people participated. As a result, 364 plans were approved by local authorities, leveraging NPR 84,801,361 (USD 775,858).



I CAN FINALLY SIGN MY NAME

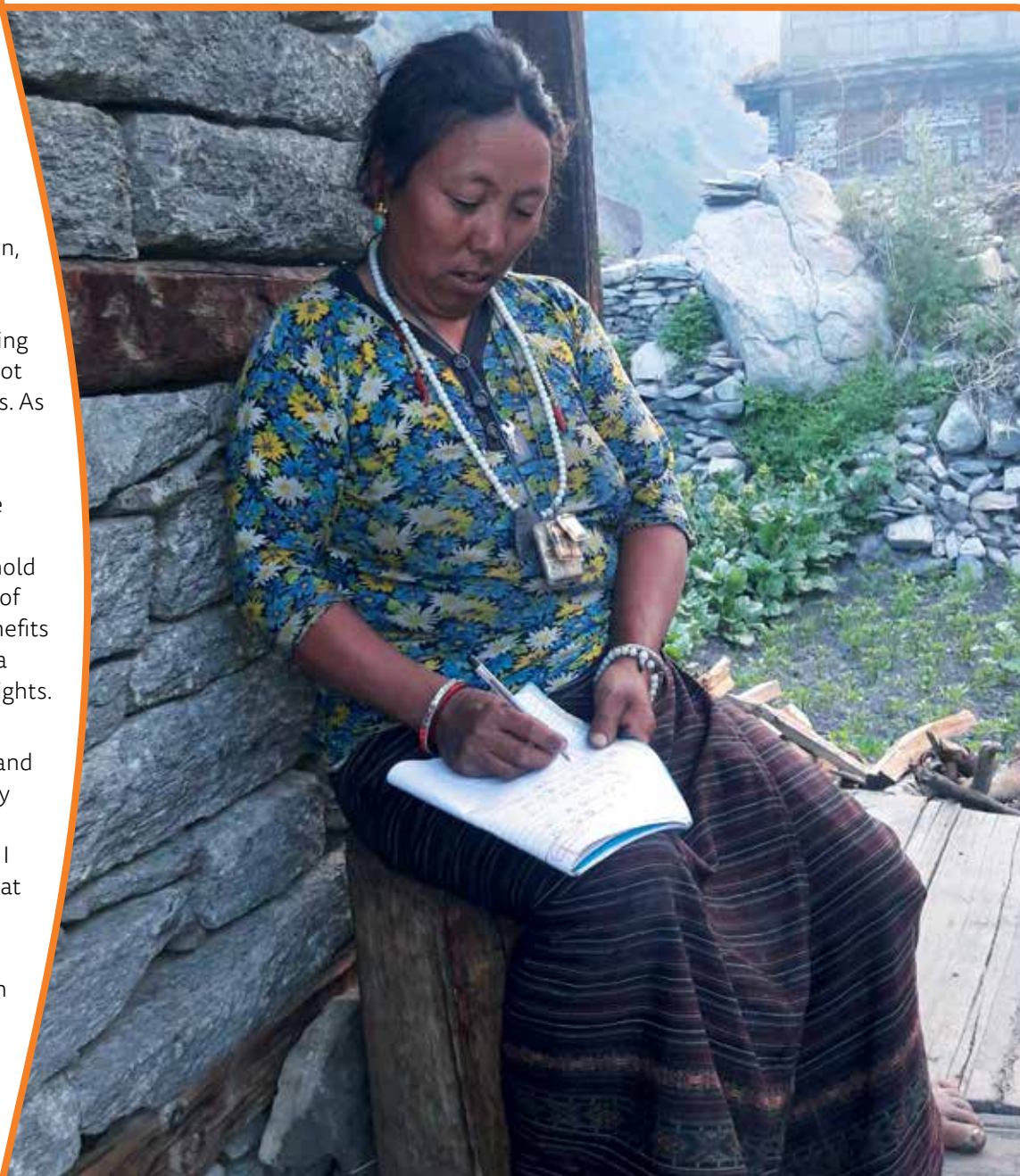
I am Yangjom Lama and I live in Mugum Karmarong Rural Municipality. I am 47 years old. My time at home used to be mostly limited to household chores and farming. Since I hadn't received even a basic education, I could never participate and speak in community-level meetings and workshops.

I never got engaged in group meetings, interaction, discussion, training and workshops in my community. Even when I went to a group meeting, it was hard to introduce myself and sign up by writing my name. Others used to help me sign by holding my hand. Since I didn't know how to read and write, I could not openly speak up. I used to get frustrated even at minor things. As a result, I could not handle work fearlessly.

The facilitator of UMN's Mugu Community Transformation Project operated by Karani Community Development Centre encouraged me to join their group. I started attending group meetings during leisure time after the completion of household chores. The facilitator highlighted the importance and need of groups to us. Similarly, they helped us to understand the benefits of the group, like house visits, and clarified that the group is a platform to share our thoughts and be informed about our rights. This created enthusiasm and willingness within me.

I gradually participated in capacity building, empowerment and informal literacy class activities. The regular informal literacy class helped me to grow slowly, and I continued to practise writing my name, sign, identify numbers and read and write. I gained enough confidence to start to ask about the things that I didn't know and understand, did homework regularly and started exploring new things in the group.

These days I have experienced happiness in my life. I can sign my name in the minute book. I can do a simple calculation and dial a number on the phone to call people. Like the idiom "where there's a will, there's a way", if we have the will to do something, we'll succeed. My life has been illuminated.



HEALTH AT A GLANCE

- 783** people received mental health services (treatment and psychosocial service) from **16** local health facilities.
- Hand washing campaigns and WASH support benefitted **920** boys and **1,224** girls' students from **40** schools.
- 624** adolescent girls and women of reproductive age were trained on menstrual hygiene.
- 121** malnourished children (**67** females, **54** males) were rehabilitated in **11** PD Health centres in Mugu, Bajhang and Doti.

UMN's health programmes focus on addressing local health needs ranging from maternal and child health, mental health, WASH, and Adolescent and Sexual Reproductive Health.

The health programme in general has taken a twin-pronged approach of increasing communities' awareness levels and strengthening local health systems and service providers. We increase the capacities of communities to better prevent the health problems, identify health issues and increase access to local health services. We focus on capacity building of health workers to increase the quality of health services delivery and engage with local Health Facilities Management Committees (HFOMCs) to improve health management and governance.

In maternal and child health, we have been working to increase the quality of services by equipping health facilities with delivery equipment and diagnostic facilities. We have helped 10 rural local health facilities to initiate haemoglobin and pre-eclampsia testing (for better predicting risks/ complications during pregnancy) which previously were only available in higher level health centres. In addition, emergency obstetric funds have been established in 10 project area wards, with matching funds from respective municipalities, to financially support weak pregnant mothers or ill children who need to be referred to higher level health facilities.

We continue to actively work in stigma reduction and in supporting people living with HIV and AIDS through self-help groups. This year 107 children affected by HIV and AIDS were provided educational support and 97 people living with HIV are being reached through volunteers as part of the



community home-based care programme. Additionally, 204 adolescent peer educators were mobilised to reach 1,656 community members with key behavioural messages on HIV prevention.

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

UMN collaborated with the Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Centre to hold a workshop on "mental health for musicians", where 39 musicians from Kathmandu participated. Similarly, UMN in co-ordination with the National Health Training Centre conducted adolescent-friendly health services training for service providers from 9 health facilities in Rupandehi and Doti. After the training, these health facilities are able to provide services to adolescents and are contributing to the government's National Adolescent Health Strategy 2018.



FROM DISCRIMINATION TO LEADERSHIP

Hardship and hopelessness – that was a big part of Kabita Ale's life story. Diagnosed with HIV 17 years ago, her journey has been challenging. But God wasn't done with her and she didn't give up. Today her story has been rewritten into one of hope and determination. Find out how UMN and partner Chandrajyoti Integrated Rural Development Society (CIRDS) helped support Kabita and have seen her flourish.

Kabita becomes tearful every time she remembers her past. "Even today some people discriminate and stigmatise people living with HIV, especially women," says Kabita. "But imagine how it was for me 17 years ago." Because of her HIV diagnosis she experienced discrimination and stigma from her family, neighbours and community. She was infected by her husband, who frequently travelled to India for work, but her friends accused her of infidelity. They refused to speak to her or even go near her.

In addition to being an outcast in the community, Kabita struggled to fulfil the basic needs for her two children and husband. Due to all these stresses she developed psychosocial issues, including thoughts of self-harm.

A few years ago, an organisation called "Sital Samaj" was bringing People Living with HIV (PLHIV) together across Dhading District and they met Kabita. UMN and CIRDS implemented a Community Health Project and Kabita participated in capacity-building activities organised for the group. Through this experience she received leadership development training and psychosocial counselling.

Eventually, Kabita overcame the stress and psychosocial issues she was facing and she started to rebuild her life and help her family. She received a loan from Sital Samaj for pig rearing and she was able to set up a small shop to sell tea, snack, grocery items and stationery. Today Kabita and her husband are earning around NPR 50,000 (USD 457) monthly. They've even been able to send both of their children to Kathmandu for higher studies.

She's also grown personally and her community has noticed. Due to her good leadership ability, she was offered positions in different consumer committees. And last year she was also elected as a ward member in Tripurasundari Rural Municipality. After being elected, she started advocating and lobbying for the need to work on HIV prevention and for the rights of PLHV to live a healthy and dignified life. She also conducted awareness programmes on HIV for migrant people as well as Dalit villages.

Today Kabita is a role model, a PLHIV activist and a leader in her village. She is an active member in Sital Samaj where she is contributing to strengthening its organisational capacity as well. Kabita has pledged to keep on working for the development of her community including PLHIV and she is clear that as this is a second chance at life for her. She will be forever thankful towards CIRDS, Dhading.



INTEGRAL AT A GLANCE DEVELOPMENT

- 52 local Churches engaged in serving the holistic needs of their communities.
- 557 people trained in transformational mission.
- A total of 19 faith-based groups accessed NPR **5,500,000** (USD **50,320**) government funding for various development projects.
- 2,500 copies of Integral Mission Nepali curriculum published and distributed to theological teachers and institutions.
- 490 people in our project areas received new skills through training in vegetable production and livestock rearing.
- 32 children affected by AIDS continued to receive educational support.
- 1,960 people in 258 poor families were served through the Churches' learning of Sangsangai.

UMN's Integral Development (ID) team works to facilitate a process of building capacities within the local churches in the country for greater mobilisation of their resources, to help poorer communities to transform their social environment. To achieve this, the ID team organises a number of learning activities on transformational mission and empowers the Church in service of those that are most vulnerable in their local area. This is done with a belief that the Church must be inspired and enabled to interact with its community as salt and light, doing good works to bless every level of society.

In seeking to promote the holistic nature of Christian service, UMN's ID runs a number of activities to: help enlarge the vision of the Church and its leadership; upskill the members of the Church in reaching out in service to others; and promote a development model that is founded in the value of every person and the use of local resources. In the last 12 months, we successfully ran the *Sangsangai* process in Dhading to train 225 people in 15 groups. These groups have been taking the lead in solving their problems with their own resources.



Envisioning for greater community engagement of the Christian community continues both at national and local levels. The work with theologians in the theological realm continues to grow and exert greater impact among teachers and students. This effort has resulted in a group of 16 Nepalese theologians producing a curriculum on Integral Mission in the Nepali language which has been in high demand in the country. UMN's Internship programme graduated eight young professionals this year. The graduates are taking the message of transformational mission into their Churches and workplaces.

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

This year marks the completion of the 13th batch of UMN's Internship programme. A total of 107 Christian youths who took part in the programme have gone on to become professional leaders in many sectors in society. They have been using the transformational approach to serve the needs of the poor in their Church and professional engagements. The impact these young people bring to communities will be experienced for many years to come.



RUNNING HER OWN FRUIT SHOP

Empowered and honoured – that's how 35-year-old Roshanti Gurung from Dhading District feels today. Inspired by business training she received from UMN's partner Dhading Christian Society (DCS), today she is successfully managing her own fruit shop.

Three years ago, Roshanti joined Vijaya Women's Group, which was set up by Vijay Church. Yam Bahadur Tamang, the facilitator of the women's group, recommended her to attend a business training course. UMN partner DCS was running a course called "Start and Improve your Business". Roshanti was eager to attend the two-day workshop. Through the training Roshanti learned how to choose the right business, what factors to consider for profit and how to create market links. She was also inspired by stories about people who had been successful in starting their own businesses.

Motivated by what she had learned, Roshanti made a plan to start her own fruit shop in her town. DCS was impressed by her plan and awarded her NPR 3,000 (USD 27) to start her business. From there she started her fruit shop and it's been a success. On average she earns NPR 1,000-2,000 (USD 9-18) each day. She's been able to use this money to pay for the education of her children and help pay for her family's household needs. "I used to ask my husband for the smallest family needs," says Roshanti. "Now I don't have to bother him for petty things."

Even more than this, Roshanti has learned a valuable lesson about her own independence and ability to contribute to her family and community. "Now the ladies in my women's group count on me. They ask me questions and hope to learn from me. I feel empowered and honoured."



LEARNING, POLICY AT A GLANCE & STRATEGY

- 25 partnerships evaluated – 13 by LPS team and 12 by cluster teams with our support.
- 11 projects evaluated – 5 led by LPS team and 6 by external consultants.
- 9 baseline surveys completed.
- 1 external review of UMN's monitoring system completed.
- 1 learning documentation of DDRP completed.
- 1 context paper on urban poverty written.

UMN, in line with its future direction as envisioned by UMN's change process, has started piloting some participatory bottom-up processes. Strategy plans of all UMN Clusters were developed through active participation of the target communities, not only in providing information but also in setting a vision for their community, analysing the local systems of poverty and prioritising the options that would help them move away from life of poverty towards community transformation. UMN's Learning Policy and Strategy (LPS) team has played a leading role in facilitating the process of developing Cluster Strategy Plans. The LPS team has also made a meaningful contribution in the design and implementation of projects which included participation of community people right from the beginning.

One of the key functions of the LPS team is to co-ordinate and conduct surveys, evaluations and research studies. We co-ordinated various external evaluations and conducted internal evaluations of different projects while maintaining a Management Response record to ensure that the learnings and recommendations from such evaluations are implemented. Moreover, the team also carried out learning documentation of UMN's Dhading Disaster Response Project (DDRP) and review of UMN's feedback mechanism. These studies will provide strategic information and practical guidance to similar situations in the future.

The LPS team has co-ordinated and prepared annual beneficiary reports. These reports provide disaggregated information about the number of people reached by UMN projects in terms of geography, gender, caste/ethnicity, age group and other vulnerabilities like Persons with Disability



and single women. These reports not only serve as a useful resource to report to different stakeholders but also help projects to be more effective in targeting the most vulnerable sections of society.

Mainstreaming of gender and environment and climate change issues were also an important part of the LPS team's work. One key highlight of the gender mainstreaming work has been the publication of a booklet entitled "Gender and I – Realisation and Inspiration", a collection of gender experiences gathered from gender workshops. In terms of environment and climate change mainstreaming, UMN projects are required to ensure that they "do no harm" environmentally and some climate-resilient projects have been designed and implemented.



TACKLING CHILD MARRIAGE

'Sikaai Prakriya', which means 'learning process' is an action-research project which is being conducted at UMN's Bajhang Cluster. Learning and improvement are the heart of this process. One of its aims is to introduce and strengthen social accountability mechanisms in the community. The action-research process involves three major cyclic steps to ensure effective learning and improvement: i) reflecting areas of improvement, ii) planning, action and intervention and iii) observing, learning and reviewing.

The community groups during the research process pointed out the issue of child marriage as one of the serious problems in their community which needed to be dealt with immediately. The planning and action points of the process then revolved around i) making the community leaders accountable to fight against child marriage, ii) performing street dramas for community awareness, iii) establishing child marriage complaint boxes in schools and iv) teaching about complications and hazards of child marriage to adolescents in schools by duty bearers.

The learning and reflection meeting after a certain period of intervention resulted in visible positive changes in mitigating child marriage. One of the strong evidences observed was from the Birsati Festival at Chhabis Pathibhera Rural Municipality in Bajhang. Birsati Festival is one of the biggest seven-day public festivals, where according to locals, around 10 child marriages take place every year. Action-research participants carried out major activities before this festival. This year was an exception as the festival had zero occurrence of child marriage.

Along with this first cycle, the action-research team further aims at improving the monitoring system, institutionalise learning and contribute to the local technical knowledge.



PEACEBUILDING AT A GLANCE

- Cross-border lootings were reduced to **27** this year, from **59** last year and **80** in 2016.
- **88%** of UMN partners developed conflict-sensitivity policies as a guideline for mainstreaming conflict-sensitivity.
- **43** disability committees are functioning with regular monthly meetings, advocating for their rights and entitlements.
- **105** children with disability have received medical rehabilitation support.
- **145** children with disability have received Personal Energy Transport carts.
- **783** community people (**317** females), participated in campaigns for reducing child marriage, gender and caste discrimination.
- **67%** of the women from women's groups have started to participate in public meetings in Bajhang following our project interventions.

With increased awareness against human trafficking, through our awareness education and action plan support, community members started to identify human trafficking issues, and collectively approach duty bearers such as the local police force to raise concerns. One girl who was about to be trafficked was rescued on the initiation of a women's group. Another girl went missing from her home. With prompt action of community group members, police, and Maiti Nepal, the girl was rescued from the Nepal-India border.

Seven schools have been provided with technical and material support to make their schools disability-friendly. The school toilets and drinking water taps were also modified to make them accessible for children with disability. Forty-eight schoolteachers received 10-days training on sign language which has enhanced their skill to teach deaf students. Thirty-two child clubs involving 451 children (70 children with disabilities) are functioning well through the support of various capacity building training sessions.

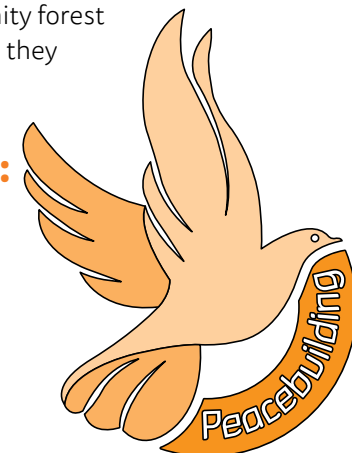
The 'Combatting Traditional Practices that are Harmful to Women and Girls' project has been implemented in Bajhang since 2015. Through a process of group mobilisation and awareness-raising activities, the practice of staying in sheds during menstruation has been reduced in Sunikot village by 30%. In Lekhgaun village, it has been reduced from 21% in 2015, to nil this year. This shows a significant change in the *Chhaupadi** practice in our working areas. Women and girls have taken courageous steps in their villages to change this deep-rooted harmful practice.

By increasing the capacity of Local Peace Committee members, UMN's Integrated Peacebuilding Project has contributed significantly in reducing cross-border lootings in the project areas. Better co-operation among stakeholders between Nepal and India has played a crucial role in reducing the cross-border lootings. With the support of Indian police and civil society members, Nepal police were able to arrest 21 looters/criminals in 2018/2019. Out of 21 looters arrested in this reporting period, three of them are in Indian jail and 15 are in Nepali jail.

Members of the Inter-faith Peace Youth Group in Morang are actively engaged as peacebuilders in their community. The members from five faith groups have resolved 15 community-level conflict cases related to gender justice, human rights violation and community forest issues. They have also developed four proposals which they submitted to the local government this year.

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

An Inter-faith Peace Federation is now registered with the District Administration Office in Kathmandu through the support of UMN. The Federation is committed to enhancing peace and harmony within the community and their congregations.



* 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 house and have to live in a shed.

BRINGING TOGETHER HINDU AND MUSLIM YOUTH

Promoting peace and community between Hindu and Muslim youth is an important part of UMN's work in Kapilbastu District. Today young minds are being transformed and the community is coming together, making changes for the better.

Before the UMN peacebuilding project started, there were no close relationships between Hindu and Muslim youth in Kapilbastu. Both Hindus and Muslims participated in their own religious festivals, but there was no co-ordination or co-operation among them.

That began to change three years ago when UMN's Integrated Peacebuilding Project was implemented in partnership with the Dalit Social Development Centre. They formed two youth groups to foster relationships and encourage mutual support between the Hindu and Muslim communities. The groups met monthly to discuss social issues and gradually they became more aware of the situations and struggles in the community. In addition to this awareness, the youth were given training. They focused on topics like gender discrimination, domestic violence, leadership development, sports competitions and more. They also started campaigns to improve things like school enrolment and cleanliness.

The impacts of these groups have been powerful. The youth have broken down the walls that caste and religion can create and instead embraced a shared humanity. Today they are raising awareness about issues that prevail in their community, like "untouchability" and caste discrimination. They also perform street dramas to raise awareness about social issues. These performances have compelled community members to think more deeply about the reality and issues in their community. They also showed Hindu and Muslim youths coming together, which had never been seen before.

"We didn't work together before," says a youth group member. "But through this project our minds have changed. Whether we are Hindu, Muslim or Dalit, we are the same. Development won't be possible until we uproot the tree of discrimination."



SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AT A GLANCE

- Relief assistance food and non-food items provided to **894** people across the country in various small-scale disasters.
- 231** households constructed pits to collect biodegradable waste and hanging sacks to collect plastic waste
- 33** households constructed new toilets adhering to action plans of self-help groups
- This year, the local government contributed NPR **2,050,000** (USD **18,756**) as matching funds to UMN funded projects
- 4,182** tree saplings of diverse variety were planted for landslide control, pond conservation and economic values.

This year was full of encouraging learning and achievements within the Sustainable Livelihoods strategy 2015-2020. Our involvements ranged from work in rural areas with limited basic services to the global level. We used the opportunity to take local issues to higher levels which resulted in reasonable resources and wider linkages to benefit our work.

We were honoured to be invited to share our technical expertise towards formulating a local plan namely Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Programme for a rural municipality. This gave us a unique opportunity to link our project beneficiaries to the government structure.

Twenty-seven women from our working area received citizenship certificates, which was one of the action plans they had developed in their self-help groups. Ten shallow tube wells were installed in the community, which have supplied an additional 19.5 hectares of the land of 240 farmers for irrigation. Farmers have constructed improved goat and cattle sheds for better animal husbandry. Apart from that, a milk collection centre has also been established in a working area in co-ordination with a private dairy to better market the milk produced by the farmers.

Another highlight in Yasodhara Rural Municipality is the ongoing project of restoring eight degraded ponds based on Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM) approach. This has greatly helped in environmental conservation and promoting social values.



Our exposure to the intricacies of the market system enabled us to make timely adjustments to our work strategy to appreciate the roles of different people in the demand-supply chain. We now feel better positioned to equip our beneficiaries with appropriate inputs and wider linkages.

In Banphikot Rural Municipality we supported their plan to develop a local curriculum book on “Tourism promotion and Environment Conservation” for students of Grade 6-8.

The Sustainable Livelihoods team keenly moves forward to the new strategy 2020-2025 and we look forward to exploring new opportunities and addressing new challenges.

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

We provided technical assistance to Yasodhara Rural Municipality and its three wards to develop their Local Disaster Risk Management Committees and to Hupsekot Rural Municipality to develop Local Disaster Climate Resilient Plan. The District Disaster Risk Management Committee of Kapilvastu updated their Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan with our support and technical advice.



TURMERIC: STIMULATING COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION

Suntali Devi BK is from a Dalit community which is an extremely marginalised group. She lives with her family of five members. Her family used to run their household through earnings from Indian employment where her husband was engaged. She also did tailoring work in her village.

UMN and its partner Rural Community Development Centre (RCDC) launched a year-long Sustainable Economic Enhancement through Appropriate Technology Transfer (SEEATT) project in Badikedar, situated far from development centres. The community joined this programme through farmers' groups or as individuals who were not associated with such groups. The project implemented activities for promoting commercial turmeric cultivation. Farmers were encouraged to start commercial cultivation of turmeric. The project provided seed tuber support to 364 households. Suntali was one of the beneficiaries.

Earlier, Suntali had much less turmeric in her house and she used to cultivate it in a very small area. After the seed tuber support under SEEATT project, she has more than doubled her turmeric acreage compared to last year, from around 68m² to around 169m². Suntali's husband now supports her in household work and the farm. She shares, "If the yield remains good, I will double the turmeric farming area again next year." She thanks UMN and RCDC for stimulating the production of underestimated crops like turmeric. She expects future collaboration to continue to improve her livelihood to a great extent.

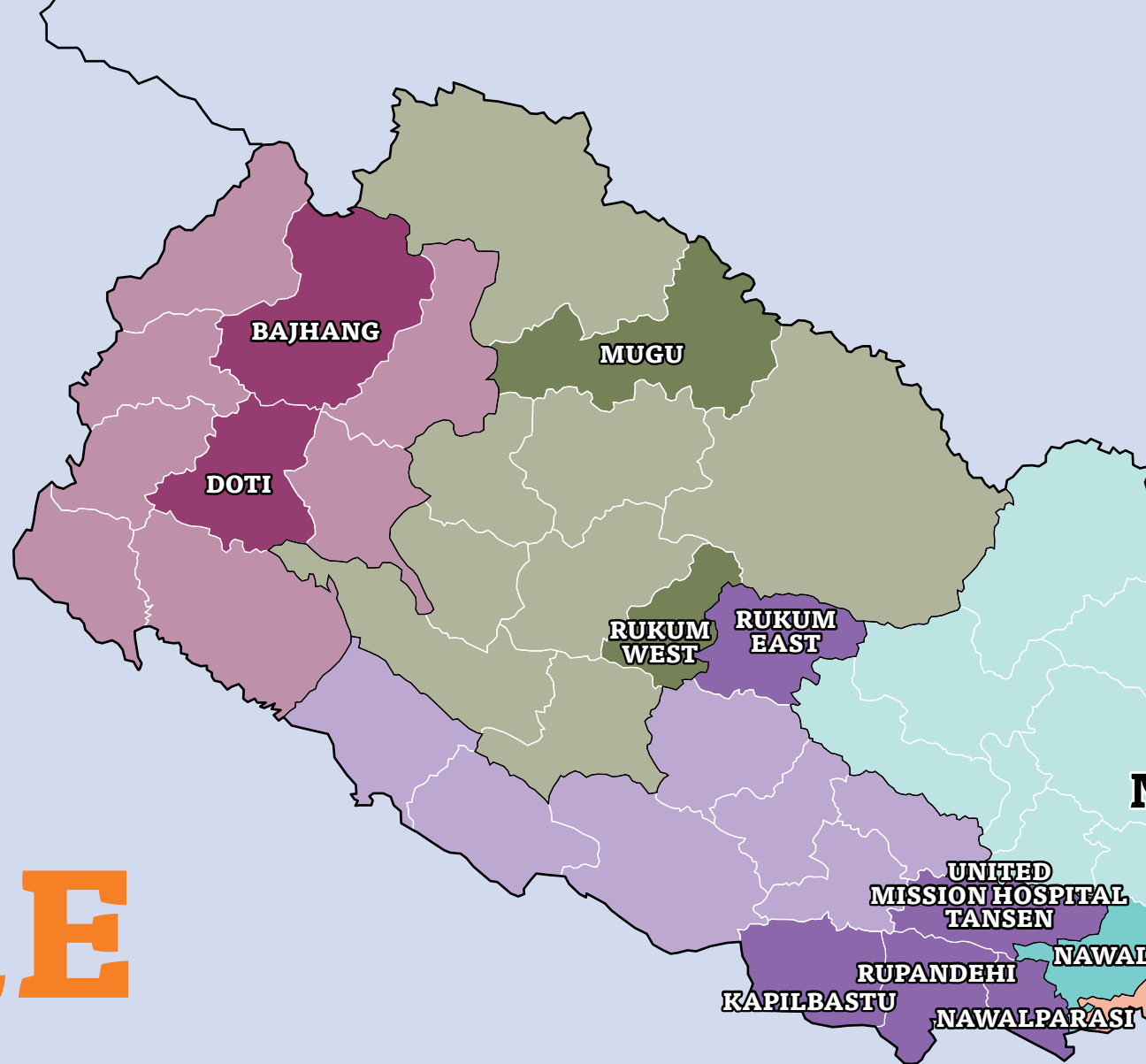
There are many farmers like Suntali who are motivated and see turmeric as a new means of livelihood in this locality.







WHERE WE WORK



(as of July 2019)

UMN'S CLUSTERS AND PARTNERS:

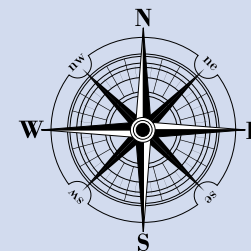
CLUSTER	TOTAL	NGO	CO-OP	AREAS
Bajhang	4	3	1	8
Dhading	8	7	1	12
Doti	5	4	1	5
Kapilbastu	3	3	0	2
Mugu	4	4	0	3
Nawalparasi/Rupandehi	7	7	0	11
Rukum	4	4	0	8
Sunsari	7	7	0	6
National	1	1	0	-
Total	43	40	3	55

NGO = Non-governmental organisation

Co-op = Co-operative

Areas = Number of Municipalities and Rural Municipalities worked

For a full list of partner names, see page 42



- Province 1
- Province 2
- Province 3
- Province 4
- Province 5
- Province 6
- Province 7

CHINA
(TIBET)

NEPAL

DHADING

KATHMANDU

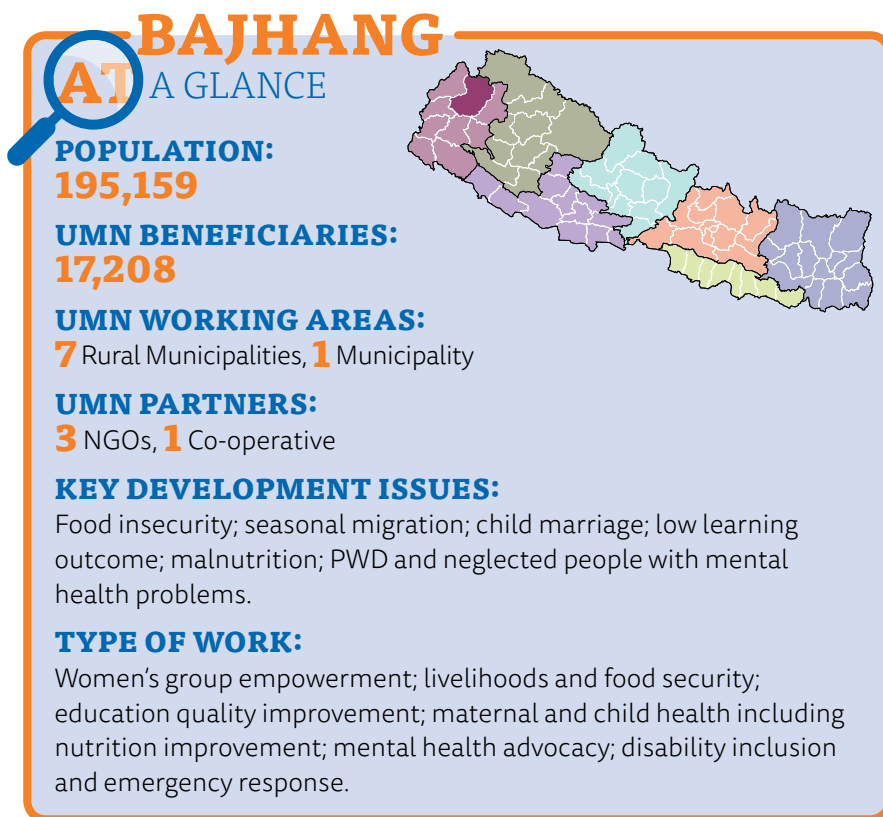
OKHALDHUNGA
COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL

SUNSARI
MORANG

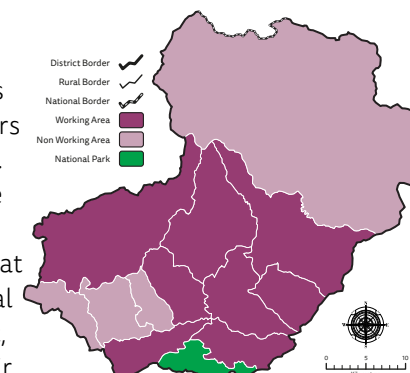
BHUTAN

50 100 150

Kilometres



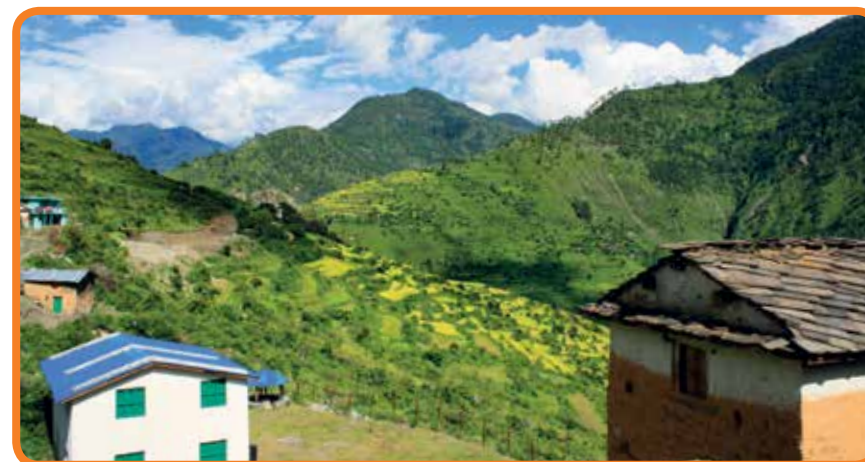
has helped them to provide for their children's education and other important needs. Single women, Dalits (so-called lower caste) and poor farmers are the key beneficiaries of the project. It was particularly encouraging to have the local government provide goat sheds for needy families engaged in goat rearing, using NPR 5,000 from the rural municipality fund. In another project, 12 people with disability increased their earnings to an average monthly income of NPR 4,500 (USD 41). We helped them to start up micro enterprises such as retail shops, goat farming, tailor shops and agribusiness.



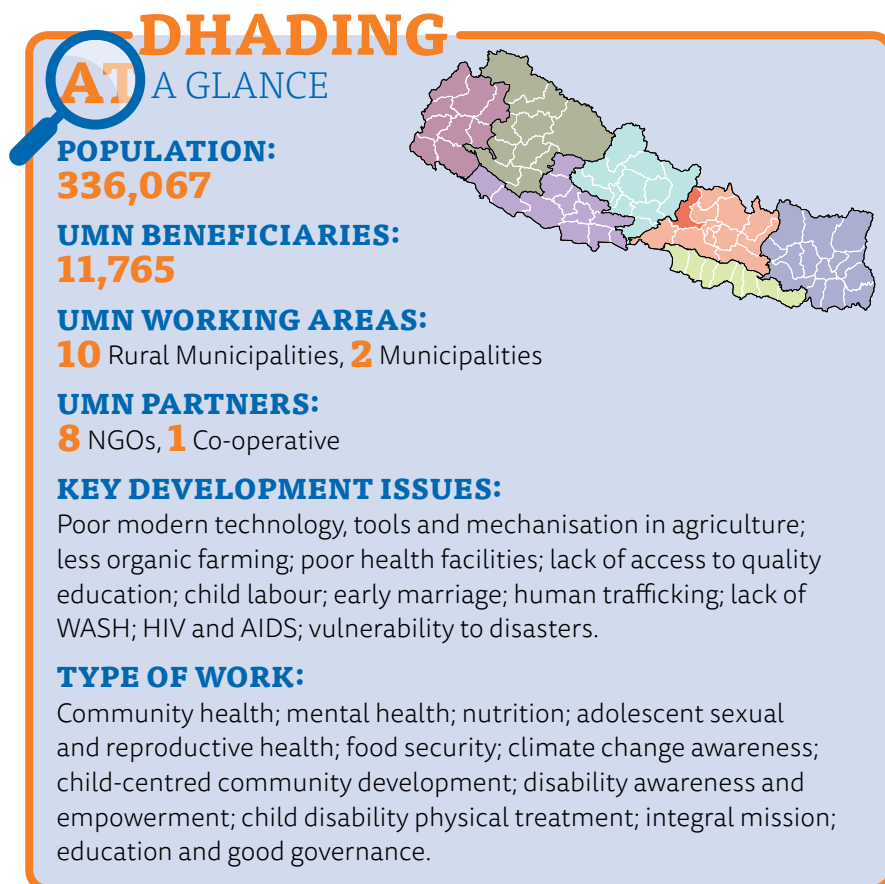
An emergency fund facilitated through the Maternal and Child Health project benefited two pregnant mothers and six under-five children with transportation to birthing centres and the treatment of childhood illnesses. The Community Health project led to increases of 18-22% in the contraceptive prevalence rate in their working areas, compared to the first year of the project. The members of 47 women's groups of three rural municipalities worked as catalysts to alleviate *Chhaupadi**, child marriage and domestic violence. Meanwhile, mental health initiatives led to improved mental health services in three of Bajhang's health posts. A total of 57 people (23 female) with mental illness received treatment and counselling in this period.

Learning has become more enjoyable and effective and schools in our project areas are better prepared for disaster and climate change, thanks to UMN working closely with 16 schools in three wards of Masta Rural Municipality. Teachers and School Management Committees from these schools have learned and applied skills and knowledge through school improvement plans and Child-Friendly Teaching Learning (CFTL) methods. The Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan which was prepared at the local level has been approved by the rural municipality assembly.

A total of 1,059 local farmers in Masta Rural Municipality are excited and working hard to improve their livelihoods through a three-year food security project which was started in January 2019. Farmers who were growing vegetables just in their little kitchen gardens are now producing on a larger scale and some are even catering to market needs. Increased income of farmers, with an average of NPR 5,000 (USD 46) per month,



* 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 house and have to live in a shed.



Dhading cluster is in the process of phasing-out by mid July 2020. This year three projects and three partnerships were phased-out successfully. We want to exit smoothly, ensuring the existing partners will continue to function well to serve needy communities through effective networks and good relationships with stakeholders. We will continue to strengthen our partners' capacity and help them to explore good funding opportunities for the future.

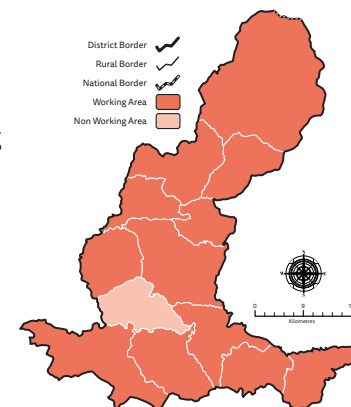
Poor quality of water has become a major concern in some communities of Dhading. Out of 79 water sources tested, 34 were found to be contaminated. To deal with this serious issue, UMN gave guidance on clean drinking water for these communities. This was followed by creating community-led action plans for cleaning the water supply systems, which were later carried out accordingly. The local level government is also

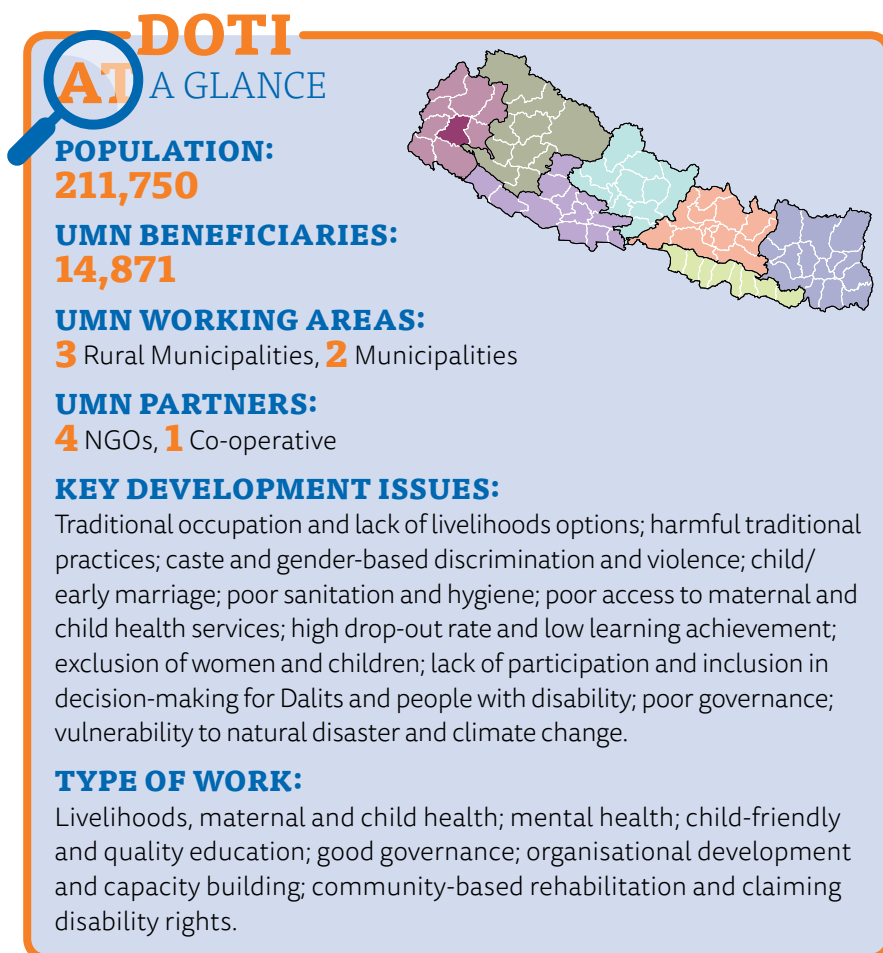
very aware of the poor quality of drinking water and have allocated a budget for improvement in this area.

After 15 women's groups continued lobbying and advocacy, Galchhi Rural Municipality has approved the policy of "Against Gender Violence". This indicates that the local-level government has mainstreamed gender issues and enhanced gender empowerment of the community.

Child rights work in five wards of Thakre Rural Municipality (RM) has gained local government funding and increased children's participation in government thanks to our support of child clubs in the area. UMN has supported and facilitated five wards of Thakre RM for Child Protection and Promotion Committee (WCPPC) formation and strengthening. These five ward-level child clubs continually lobbied and advocated for child fund allocation and children's participation in local-level government. They received an allocation of NPR 1,100,000 (USD 10,064) from Thakre RM for child rights work.

It has been rather challenging to have staff leave and transfer from the cluster because of the UMN change process. However, UMN Dhading cluster has implemented 10 projects along with nine local partners.





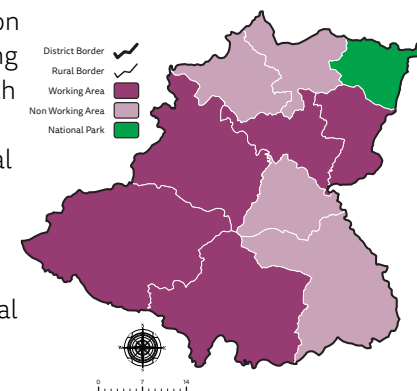
Our passion and commitment is to transform the poorest communities in Doti. This year 14,871 people have directly benefited from 10 projects which we implemented through five local partners; the partnership with two of these (RDC and BPSCCOL) were phased out during this year.

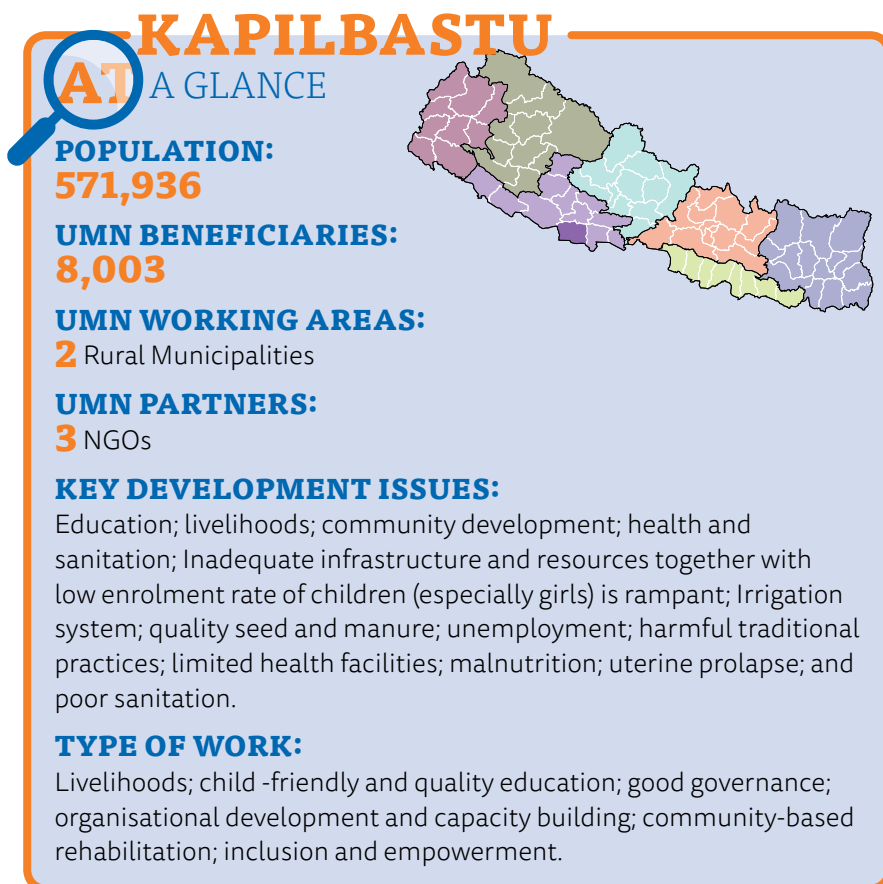
Through the Good Governance project, we help community people to know their rights and duty bearers to carry out their responsibilities. In Jorayal Rural Municipality there were 32 cases registered for issues such as domestic violence, land conflict, harassment, resource sharing of the community forest, etc. The judicial committee solved 22 cases and 10 are still under investigation. UMN's local partner CEAD Nepal helped towards

right decision making and justice execution at the local level through awareness raising and capacity building. In collaboration with the local government, they trained local-level judicial committee members on legal provision, acts, laws and their roles.

Training provided to Female Community Health Volunteers on Maternal and Child Health led to increased uptake of antenatal care (ANC), institutional deliveries and postnatal care visits by mothers. We also supported a local health post with materials and equipment needed for a 24-hour birthing service. The first ANC session was attended by 380 pregnant women and the fourth by 246. There were 230 institutional deliveries with postnatal care and no cases of child or maternal death in our working areas. This is very encouraging in a far western district where maternal and child health care was a challenge in the past.

The community-based rehabilitation project has been actively working on strengthening and empowering partners and networks on the rights established in disability acts, helping them mobilise local resources and claim their rights from the local government. Two of our partners were able to access a government budget of NPR 1,005,000 (USD 9,195) from Jorayal Municipality. This has been used to establish a Primary Rehabilitation Therapy centre, to buy assistive devices and to start up other income-generating activities.





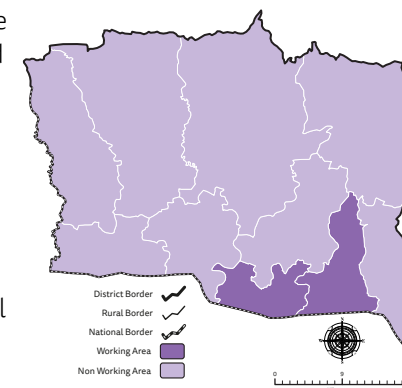
UMN's newest cluster Kapilbastu, started in January 2019, has been helping the needy people of two rural municipalities – Yashodhara and Mayadevi – by promoting good governance, ensuring accountability, rehabilitating people with disabilities, empowering women by fostering a self-help approach, promoting resilient livelihoods options and empowering youth for change. The 10 projects being implemented in this cluster have been making significant changes in the lives of poorer people.

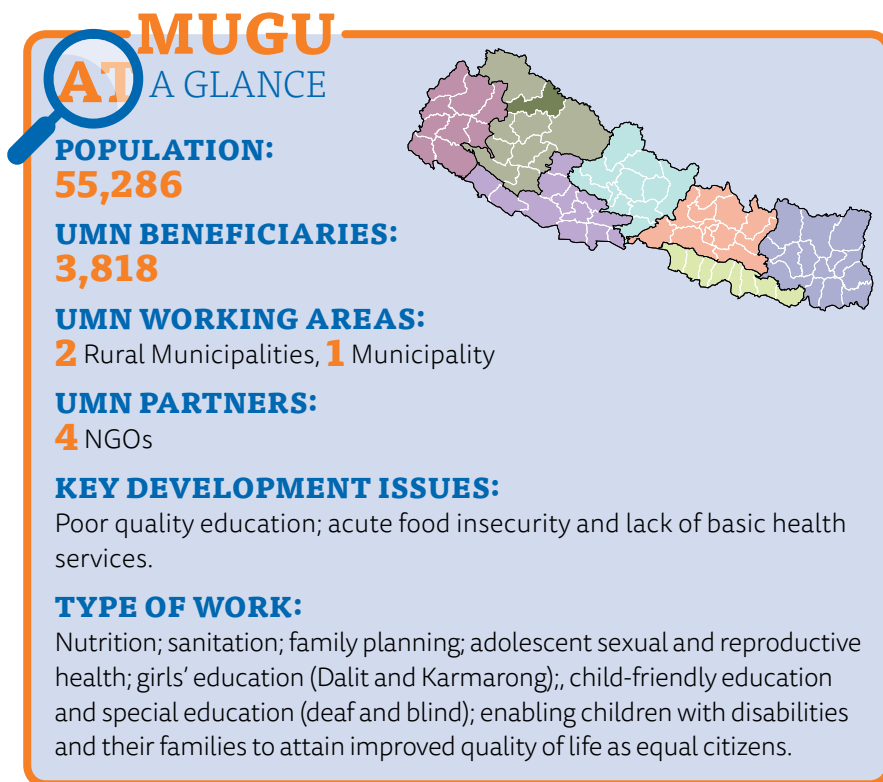
Most notably, the voiceless women involved in self-help groups being mobilised under several projects – SECURE, Hamro Pahunch, AID-CBR, Sushasan, and IDEA – have become successful in spreading awareness on social malpractices, such as caste and gender discrimination, but have also secured their participation in most of the decision-making forums in their

villages. In the patriarchal society of the Terai, this is indeed a great leap forward for these women who have barely stepped out of their houses.

People in communities have started talking about the issues of people with disabilities and taking care of them: parents are encouraging their children with disabilities to go to school and in their mobility. We've also run programmes and training courses to empower people living with disabilities and their family members to strengthen their capacity and understanding on disability concerns, such as inclusive education, disability rights, and legal provision of the government.

The Child and Youth for Community Change (CYCC) project in Mayadevi Rural Municipality is close to completing the major task of conducting a local census. The data which is being generated covers every household of the rural municipality. It will not only benefit CYCC but will also be a useful data set for other plans and development.





The first ever school-based Health Screening Campaign in Mugu was organised in 17 schools of Mugum Karmarong Rural Municipality, aiming to increase the learning achievement of students and access to school-based basic health services. Three hundred and twenty two children including 182 girls at primary level (Grades 1-5) benefited from the campaign. One seven-year-old boy was found to have a serious ear problem. He and his parents were counselled for quick treatment in consultation with the local health facility. He was referred to a hospital in a neighbouring district with more advanced facilities and the treatment has succeeded. Similarly, a low vision boy also got treatment after being referred from his local health service.

Through the work of our partners we have helped many child clubs to register, receive government funds and start new activities which benefit the children and their community. There are 23 child clubs registered in the District Child Welfare Board and Khatyad Rural Municipality. This year alone, six child clubs were registered.

Five child clubs received support from the ward office of Rural Municipalities. Forty six child club members and their guardians were trained on basic nutrition and kitchen garden training; among them 37 have made kitchen gardens and are producing vegetables. Two child clubs planted 650 seedlings in barren community land.

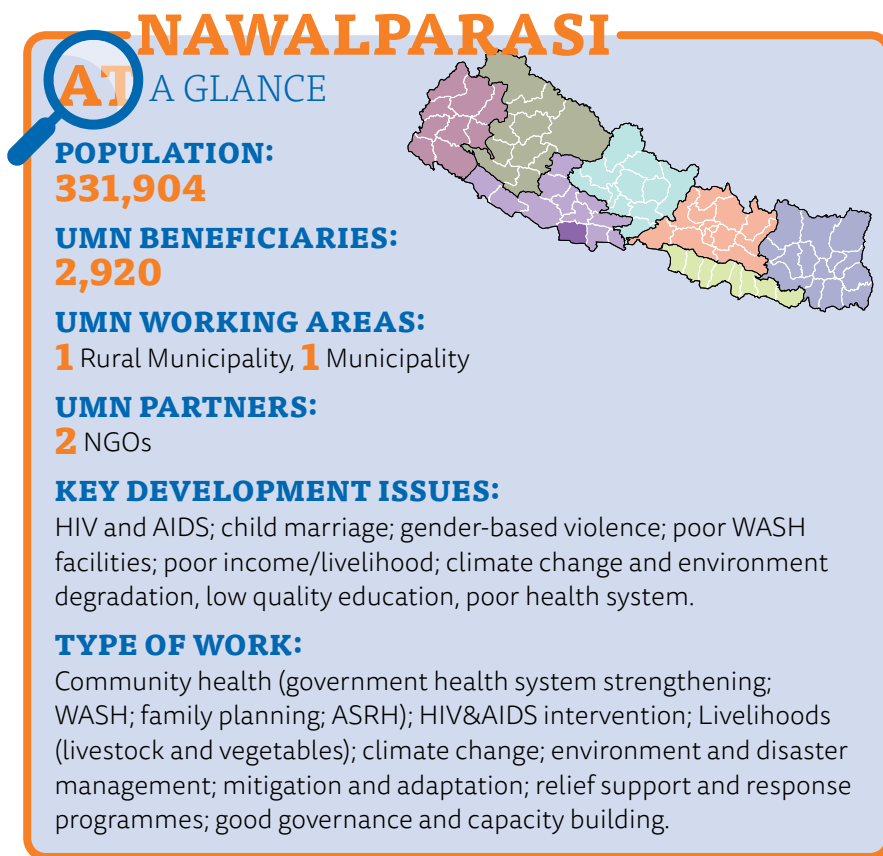


For many adolescent girls, life has become easier and school attendance has become more possible thanks to increased access to Improved Washable Pads (IWPs). This year, 52 girls were trained on making IWPs and three schools have started a pad "bank" concept in their school.

So far eight Dalit girls have completed a technical and vocational course with support from UMN's Dalit Girls Scholarship Programme. In total, 57 girls are being supported for their education from this project, including three girls for technical and vocational education.

Training on 'Participatory Planning Process' and 'Social Audit' to the ward and rural municipality representatives and staff has encouraged them to demonstrate good governance and follow the participatory planning process. Seventeen settlements of nine wards of Mugum Karmarong Rural Municipality developed and submitted 176 concepts or plans, where 52 were approved.





UMN's work in this area has been saving and protecting the lives of many needy groups and communities.

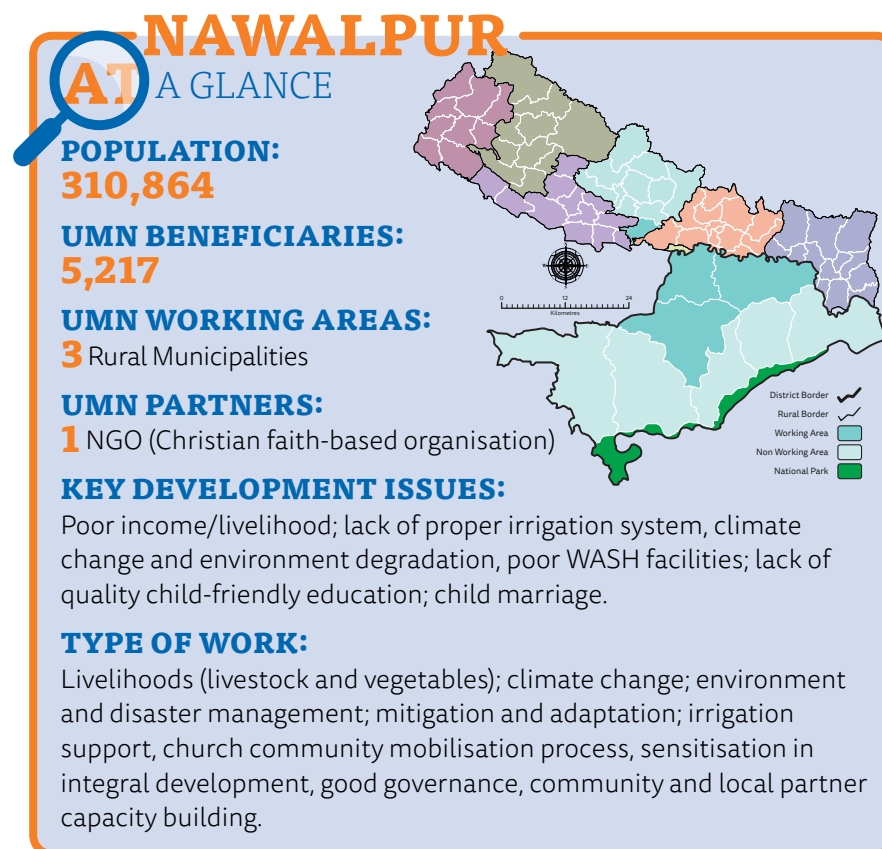
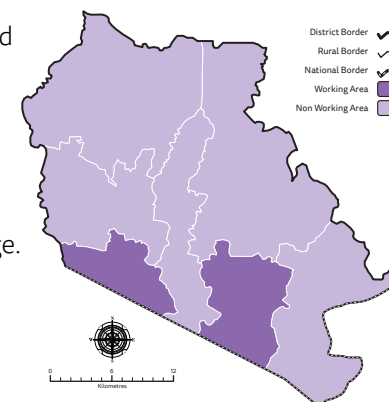
Through one of the projects, UMN provided training to community members to make gabion mesh, which is used to hold rocks and prevent landslides. After the training, community people have actively started making gabion mesh themselves locally in landslide-prone areas. They were able to control five landslides in their communities, protecting many people's lives and crops. In addition, 540 saplings of Lakhuri trees were planted, not only giving greenery but also reducing the risk of soil erosion.

Livestock are an important source of income and food for farmers across Nepal. During an assessment in UMN's project area, the mortality rate in goats, pigs and cows was found to be very high. The closest veterinary service was also several hours of travel away at the market. Village Animal Health

Worker training provided by UMN has helped to minimise these issues and the losses of livestock to some extent. Daumati Phalami Magar has become the first female animal health worker in her village Baseni. She is serving 38 households in Baseni and more than 40 households in another nearby village.

Twelve women's and adolescent groups have been empowered through regular sessions to take action on anti-human trafficking issues in Rupandehi district.

These groups have rescued seven adolescent girls from the traffickers at the Nepal-India border who are now back with their families.



RUPANDEHI

AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:
154,272

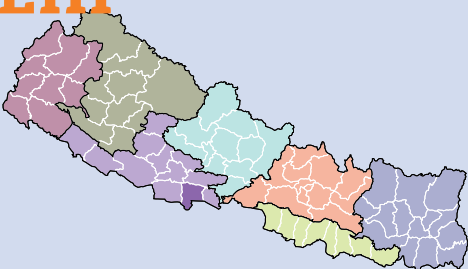
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
9,747

UMN WORKING AREAS:
5 Rural Municipalities, **1** Sub Metropolitan City

UMN PARTNERS:
4 NGOs, (**1** Christian faith-based organisation)

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
HIV and AIDS; human trafficking; child marriage; malnutrition; gender-based violence; poor WASH facilities; poor income/livelihood; climate change and environment degradation.

TYPE OF WORK:
Community health (government health system strengthening; nutrition; WASH; family planning); mental health; adolescent and sexual reproductive health; HIV and AIDS intervention; anti-human trafficking; good governance and capacity building.



RUKUM EAST

AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:
53,018

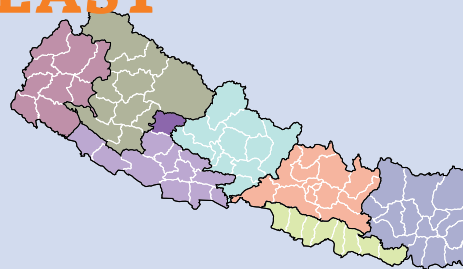
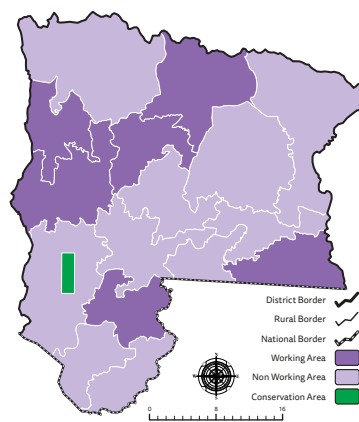
UMN BENEFICIARIES:
12,370

UMN WORKING AREAS:
3 Rural Municipalities

UMN PARTNERS:
4 NGOs

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Food insecurity; unemployment; lack of quality education; poor health services; poor sanitation and hygiene; harmful social practices; child marriage; disability and inadequate physical infrastructure.

TYPE OF WORK:
Community Health; Climate Change Adaptation; Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education; School WASH and Classroom Management Support; Community WASH; Integral Development and Livelihoods.

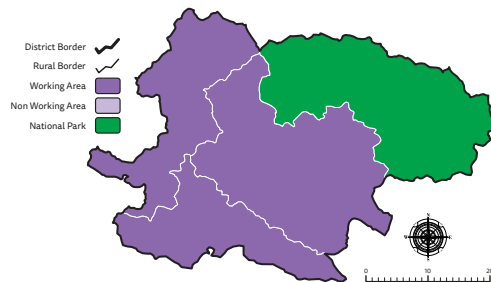
One of the happiest things we see in Rukum East is children learning in their own language and enjoying school. Most of the children of the northern belt of Rukum East speak the local language 'Kham'. That is why language was one of the major barriers for children's learning in schools, but now after the implementation of UMN's mother tongue based multilingual education project, the learning environment has drastically improved. Children of grades 1-3 have textbooks in their own language. In the last three years of the project intervention, the learning achievement of grades 1-3 of 12 schools has increased by 11 per cent. The project has also supported 73 children from marginalised communities, including 25 children with disability, with educational materials to encourage their regular school attendance. Also, 14 children with disability were supported for treatment.

The sanitation and hygiene status of over 1,700 households of Rukum East has improved significantly through our awareness programmes. Most of the

rural community of Rukum East rear pigs, traditionally keeping them on the ground floor of their houses. Many families do not have toilets. The combination of these practices (which include open defecation by humans and pigs) creates many hygiene and sanitation risks for the community. To address this challenge, 625 families selected by the community as being the most needy received financial support to build pig sheds away from their homes, and 15 families received support to build toilets.

We have provided diverse livelihood options to farmers. One hundred and seven families benefited through the on-farm and off-farm micro-enterprise help they received from UMN. A co-operative in Baphikot, Rukum West has given a better life to the community. They have been able to manage a fish farm effectively, earning around NPR 800,000 (USD 7,319) annually. Altogether, 650 families directly benefited through the financial services of the co-operative.

As Rukum was one of the most affected districts by the ten-year civil war (1996-2006), there is still a need to offer support to traumatised families to overcome their hurts and trauma. The Mental Health project is supporting 158 patients for regular treatment and counselling; among them 40 have recovered completely from the illness.



RUKUM WEST

AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:
154,272

UMN BENEFICIARIES:
8,003

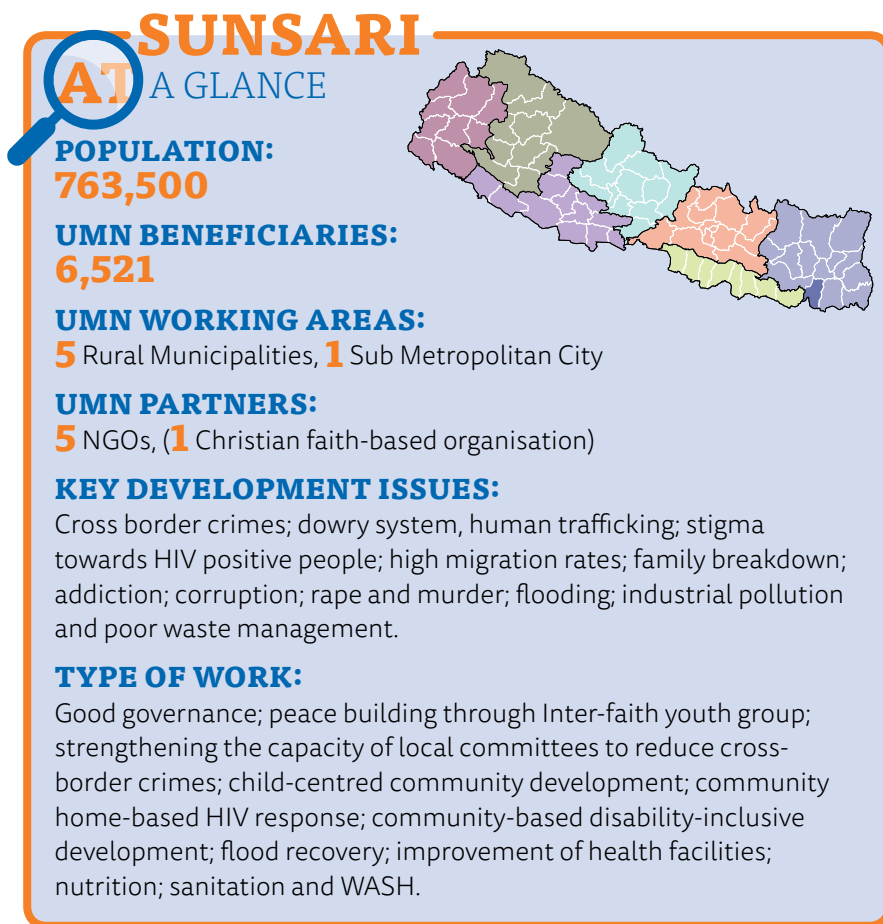
UMN WORKING AREAS:
2 Rural Municipalities, **2** Municipalities

UMN PARTNERS:
4 NGOs

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:
Food insecurity; unemployment; lack of quality education; poor health service; child marriage; disability and inadequate physical infrastructure.

TYPE OF WORK:
Disability; mental health; strengthening school management; water and sanitation; integral mission; & livelihoods.

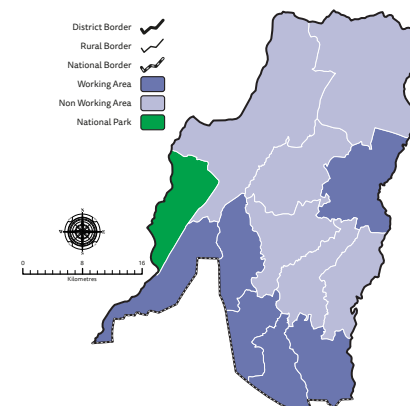




In Sunsari and Morang we are happy that hundreds of children are involved in child clubs and are seeing changes in their schools and communities. Young people are taking initiatives and our partners have also enabled local income-generating activities for them, transforming lives in villages. We have been working hard to ensure these groups will continue after we exit the cluster (end of December 2019).

Fifty nine child clubs are actively contributing to positive changes in schools and in the community. Training and capacity development programmes for children directly or indirectly safeguard them and improve the quality of life of both children and parents. After a series of awareness-raising activities in a Muslim Community of Sundar Haraincha Municipality

of Morang, 100% of Muslim children are enrolled in local public and private schools after Grade 6 this year, where previously the majority of Muslim girls were compelled to marry at an early age after finishing Grade 6, the final grade available in their Muslim-run school.



Several groups have been established with UMN support which can continue to operate after we withdraw from the cluster. This year, two rural municipality-level child club networks and one rural municipality-level child protection committee have been established and are functioning at the desired level, which is a positive sign of sustainability. Similarly, an Inter-faith peace youth group took the initiative to receive a budget for their innovative work from local government. Local governments of the Indian border area of Sunsari district have taken ownership towards cross-border issues where 12 wards out of 15 have been allocated government funds for the local peace committee.

We feel proud that through a small UMN support, a Devi village is now popular and well known as a Dhaka (Nepali traditional fabric) weaving centre. Villagers from 30 households come to weave for their day-to-day income. In Sumantaksar village, after a UMN partner shared technical skills, people developed the idea for irrigation and nursery support to produce akhbar chillies. One farmer is now known as *Akhbare dai* (older brother).

The change process immensely impacted the cluster and partners. It is a challenge to keep up the morale of staff and partners with an uncertain future after mid-July 2020. Two partners and two projects exited in this financial year. The seven local NGO partner organisations devotedly searched for new funding partners. So far four partners have good networking and relationships with local government where they can continue their work in the community. Two other partners have good linkages with INGOs and implementing projects.

MORANG

AT A GLANCE

POPULATION:

965,370

UMN BENEFICIARIES:

15,311

UMN WORKING AREAS:

1 Rural Municipality, **1** Municipality

UMN PARTNERS:

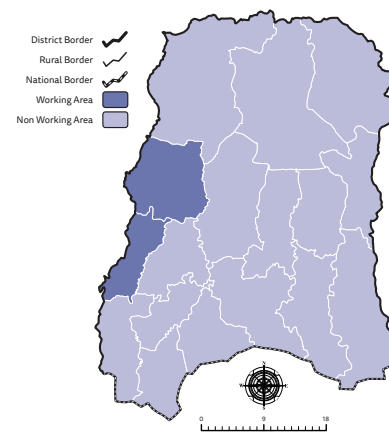
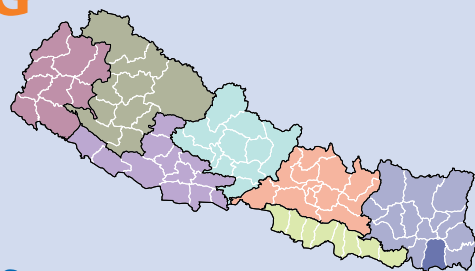
2 NGOs

KEY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

Cross border crimes; dowry system, human trafficking; stigma towards HIV positive people; high migration rates; family breakdown; addiction; corruption; rape and murder; flooding; industrial pollution and poor waste management.

TYPE OF WORK:

Good governance; peace building through Inter-faith youth group; strengthening the capacity of local committees to reduce cross-border crimes; child-centred community development; community home-based HIV response; community-based disability-inclusive development; flood recovery; improvement of health facilities; nutrition; sanitation and WASH.



HOSPITALS AT A GLANCE				
ITEM	TANSEN		OKHALDHUNGA	
	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18
Beds	169	169	50	50
Bed Occupancy	79%	83%	134%	117%
Out-Patient Dept.	113,246	112,071	29,012	28,287
In-Patient Dept.	12,958	13,631	6,318	5,858
Surgery	6,265	7,206	2,492	2,271
Delivery	1,952	2,571	1,367	1,201
Emergency	17,381	17,864	3,903	3,700
Total Income*	537,644,731	409,146,584	253,695,984	276,144,170
Total Expend*	499,484,138	372,736,025	232,700,134	220,820,679
Free Care*	21,388,734	16,956,842	28,188,818	24,480,837

*NPR

HOSPITAL SERVICES OFFICE

After the UMN Board decided to end the hospital transition mandate, there have been some changes to the organisational structure. Now the Leadership Team of Hospitals (LT-H) meets at least three times a year. LT-H also meets with the Leadership Team of Clusters (LT-C) at least once a year. This has established a close relationship between the hospital and cluster work. The current hospital agreement signed between UMN and the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) ends on 15 January 2020. Recently MoHP asked UMN to register as a legal entity in Nepal for when they sign the new hospital agreement. We are exploring options for that.

UNITED MISSION HOSPITAL TANSEN

The highlight of this year was the graduation of the first batch of Certificate Level in Laboratory Technicians (CMLT). The hospital continued to implement the National Health Security Insurance System. As the number of patients using this scheme has grown to over 40%, financial loss will significantly increase for the hospital. We added a CCTV camera security system too. This year the hospital received NPR 3 million (USD 27,447) from the government for infrastructure development. Community demand for a CT Scanner is a high priority and we continue to look for funding. The hospital is being registered as a 200-bed hospital and an Environment

Impact Analysis document is being processed by the relevant ministry of Nepal government.

Our regular pre-service training courses such as Medical Doctorate in General Practice (MDGP) continued. Under the National Academy of Medical Sciences, the hospital also continued a one-year Anaesthetic Assistant Training Course. In addition, they conducted proficiency-level courses for nursing and laboratory technicians. The hospital also held regular in-service courses such as the Skill Birth Attendant Course and Mid-Level Practicum Course under NHTC. The Diploma in Pastoral Healing Ministry course continued during the year too.

New Life Psychiatry Rehabilitation services continued in partnership with the municipality and Abhiyan Nepal. A new building is being constructed to accommodate more patients.

Apart from implementing the Government of Nepal's National Health Security Insurance System, the hospital provided free care worth NPR 21,388,734 (USD 195,688). Like the previous year, the hospital continued to provide Anti Retro Viral treatment, TB, Leprosy Kalar Azzar medicine and some heart medicine free of cost from the Nepal government. Similarly the hospital provided free food to all in-patient children admitted in the children ward and free implants to the orthopaedic patients.

The Community Health Department (CHD) continued to work in two remote rural municipalities in eastern Palpa District. Equipment with a value of NPR 3.2 million (USD 29,277) was donated to the new birthing unit in Archale and equipment was given to two clinics in Jyamire. Capacity-building training has also been conducted for Female Child Health Volunteers and mothers' groups. CHD also continued to support the satellite clinics in Argali and Darlamdada. The Town clinic run jointly with the District Health Office remained busy. The Nutritional Rehabilitation Service continued and from this year we also started a 'waiting home,' for high-risk pregnant mothers.

OKHALDHUNGA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Okhaldhunga is a 50-bed hospital and has been registered with the municipality. Bed occupancy remained above 100%, despite the hospital being upgraded to 50 beds. We continued our free treatment for children weighing less than 12 kg, the nutritional rehabilitation centre for



malnourished children and the waiting home for high-risk mothers. Through this work we helped many malnourished children and high-risk mothers.

The free treatment policy continued, providing free care for people who could not afford to pay. A total value of NPR 28,188,818 (USD 257,903) was given away in free care over the last year.

The Okhaldhunga Hospital started Okhaldhunga School of Health Science and the first batch of nursing students have enrolled.

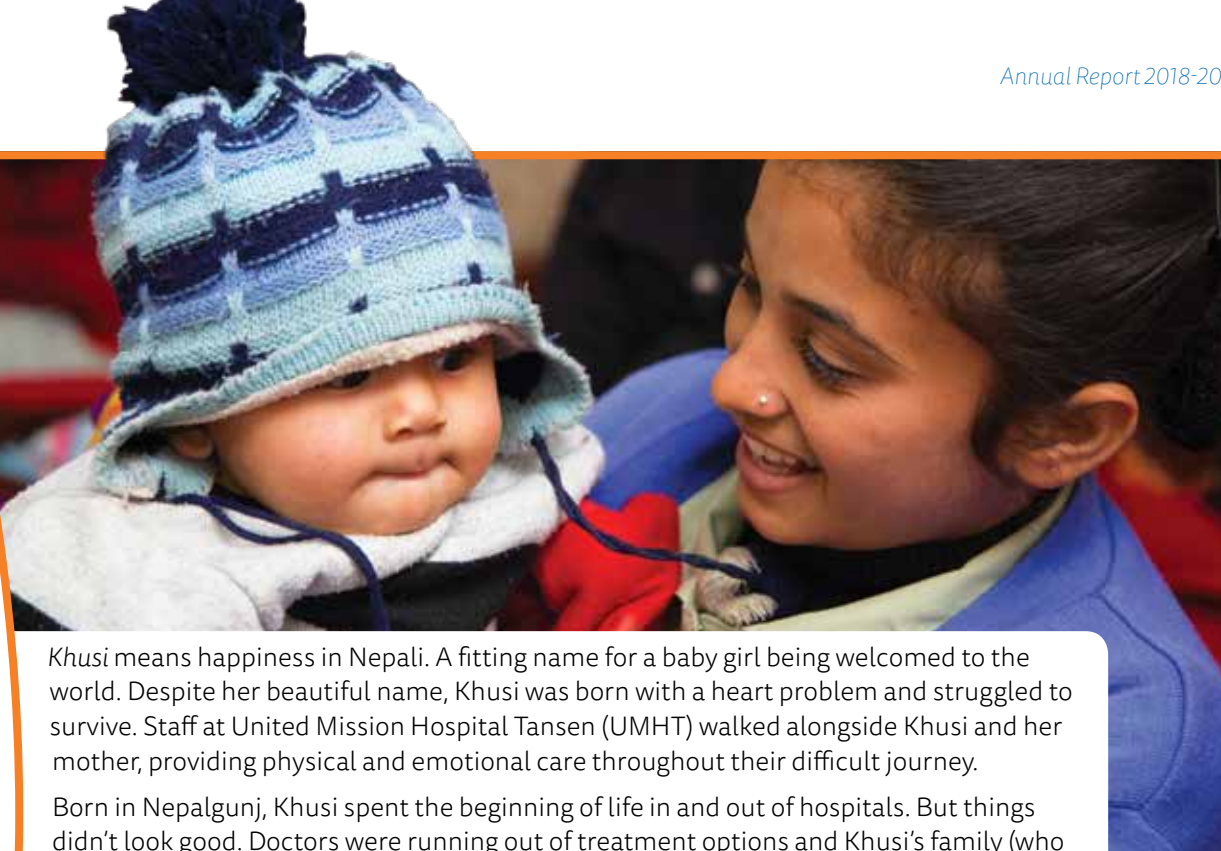
After a long search, the Okhaldhunga Community Hospital (OCH) has found John and Sally Padgett to fill the gap being created by the retirement of long-time serving Erik and Kristin.

OCH continued to be a training site for MDGP residents during their district posting. A mid-level practicum (a refresher course for paramedics) was started in partnership with the Nick Simon Institute.

OCH continues its Multi Drug Resistant TB activities as planned in co-operation with the National Tuberculosis Center of Nepal.

The Public Health Unit continued its activities as planned. Some of the areas have been phased out, while some new areas have been chosen for the next phase. As this project is under NORAD, it will phase out from the end of December 2019. A new Community Based Rehabilitation programme is being planned.

The hospital continued to implement a safer motherhood programme. OCH is planning to implement the National Health Security Insurance System when this programme comes to Okhaldhunga District. Recruitment and retention of the Nepalese at the senior level is still a challenge.



Khusi means happiness in Nepali. A fitting name for a baby girl being welcomed to the world. Despite her beautiful name, Khusi was born with a heart problem and struggled to survive. Staff at United Mission Hospital Tansen (UMHT) walked alongside Khusi and her mother, providing physical and emotional care throughout their difficult journey.

Born in Nepalgunj, Khusi spent the beginning of life in and out of hospitals. But things didn't look good. Doctors were running out of treatment options and Khusi's family (who already struggled financially) didn't have any money.

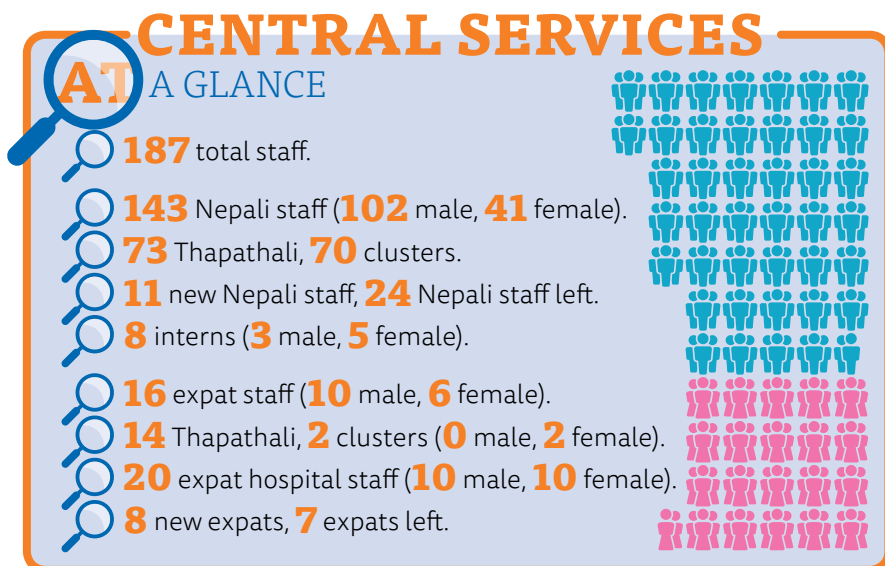
Things looked hopeless until Khusi's mother met Bishnu Bhattarai. A patient advocate working at the hospital in Nepalgunj, Bishnu had an idea. She shared that UMHT had a "child heart fund" set up to help send poor children with heart problems to Kathmandu for treatment.

Khusi and her mother made the journey to Tansen, but Khusi did not cope well without oxygen support. Khusi arrived with a chest infection and during her stay it became clear that she needed to go to Kathmandu for further care.

UMHT helped Khusi and her mother in practical and emotional ways at this time. Financially, the hospital covered NPR 101,922 (USD 932) of Khusi's medical expenses. They also arranged an ambulance with oxygen support to take Khusi to Kathmandu.

In addition to Khusi's physical care, the hospital cared for the mother's emotional well-being. Khusi's mother struggled to care for her sick baby on her own. The hospital's pastoral care staff was there to provide her with as much emotional support as needed.

Sadly, Khusi passed away in Kathmandu. Despite her grief, Khusi's mother was grateful to receive so much love and support from staff at UMHT during a time of great need.



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 skills-based board that sets the top-level policy framework regarding organisational goals and the acceptable parameters on Leadership Team (LT) decision making.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

UMN's LT is led by the Executive Director, Joel Hafvenstein, and consists of 14 members. Ten of these members meet regularly to manage UMN's development work in clusters; similarly, seven members meet regularly to manage UMN's hospitals. The entire LT meets together at least once a year to address common issues that affect all of UMN's work, and to further develop areas of synergy between clusters and hospitals.

FUNDING AND FINANCE

UMN is in the middle of a change process and one of the changes is in the transitioning of multi-cluster projects to a single-cluster project in order to bring more impact and focus to our work. As part of this process, seven out of 17 multi-cluster projects have been successfully transitioned into single-cluster projects. UMN submitted 16 new proposals in addition to over 30 ongoing annual proposals. Seven were accepted, four were declined and five are pending.

ITS

As a planned project to replace an old and outdated server system, the Information Technology Services (ITS) Team purchased and installed a new server system in the Thapathali office. Using server project learnings, ITS also prepared a cluster infrastructure standard.

A SharePoint platform was introduced to UMN's leadership team as UMN mainstream information management systems and has been developed and piloted as a new UMN Intranet application.

UMN Hardware & Software Policy & Guidelines were developed and approved. A revised ITS Framework was developed, including hardware and software standards.

The ITS Team completed six cluster visits this year to support and orient the clusters regarding power, internet services, server management and maintenance of workstations and laptops.

The ITS Service Desk handled 1,236 support calls this year with 501 disruptions, 167 enquiries, 197 requests for changes and 371 standard requests.

COMMUNICATIONS

We were very happy this year again with our sales of UMN calendars and Christmas cards. The Communications Team continues to produce UMN publications and also support other teams, cluster offices and our local partners with communication-related services. This year we were able to produce ten Nepali language materials for use in communities where we work. Another highlight for us was the success of the Happy Feet Christmas Appeal where we were able to raise NPR 1,750,000 (USD 16,010). This will give treatment to children in Rukum with leg deformities.

HUMAN RESOURCES

We successfully developed and implemented impact-focused staff Annual Goals and Performance Review (AGPR) process and system. We also contributed significantly in management and leadership capacity building of senior managers and team leaders by delivering the "Ignite" Leadership Development Programme. We developed HR Team vision and annual goals to bring greater work efficiency and impact. We continue to provide logistics support to cluster teams and Thapathali office.



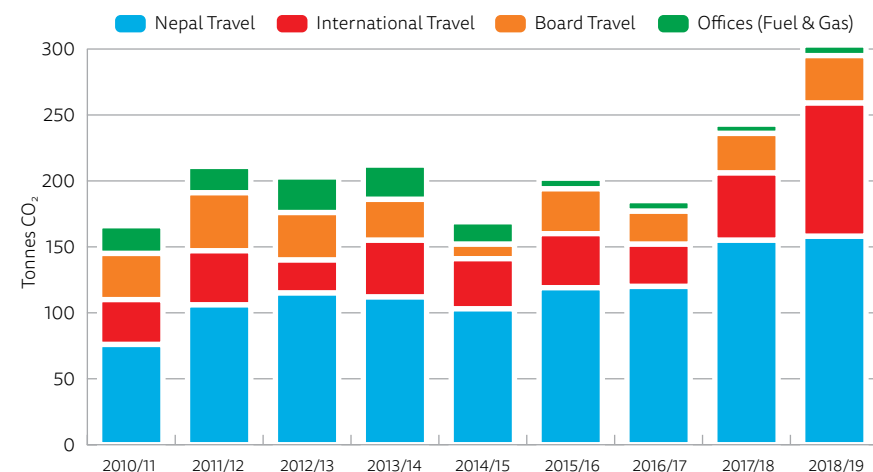
CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

ENVIRONMENT

In order to offset UMN's multi-year carbon emission, 'Moringa-based Carbon Offset Initiative for Greening' UMN project was designed with thorough research and expert and community consultations. In partnership with local partner in Dhading, 350 climate-vulnerable families, living in the Prithvi Highway corridor, have owned and transplanted 12,500 moringa saplings. Moringa is a multi-year crop that possesses environmental, economic and medical values. Pods are used as vegetables, which are a rich source of nutrition. Apart from emission offset, the project aims to strengthen the resilience of the people. They do this by introducing drought-tolerant multi-year Moringa crops in these locations where Moringa pods are high in demand at the local and nearby Kathmandu market.

The climate uncertainty has been rising exponentially with impacts observed in water and agriculture sectors. UMN is increasingly gaining a better competency to identify climate needs and conceptualise, design and develop climate projects with community-based and ecosystem-based adaptations. Beyond ensuring that all UMN projects contribute to development transformation with environmentally 'do no harm' practices, there have been specific projects that have helped climate-vulnerable populations. These projects benefited more than 2,000 climate-vulnerable populations against the weather variables in the region.

UMN'S CARBON FOOTPRINT



For further information on UMN's carbon footprint, please visit www.umn.org.np/carbonfootprint

GENDER

During the year, an external evaluation of the past three years' gender mainstreaming capacity-building programme was conducted. It was encouraging to receive a professional third party's affirmation of the programme reflections, adjustments and achievements. Now the next phase has started. One great achievement of the three-year effort was the production of the *Gender and I – Realisation and Inspiration Booklet*. This bilingual booklet is a collection of personal gender experiences that gender workshop participants shared. People have shared that it is very useful to raise awareness and it has been helpful to local facilitators.

There has been encouraging results from designing separate spaces for men and women staff to share input about gender equality and empowerment. Men were able to have more personal reflection and sharing about gender attitudes and behaviours. Women provided feedback to gender-related policies and positive responses were received from the Leadership Team. The first UMN self-defense training workshop for women staff was organised, which was a response to a common concern raised during the forum. This workshop opened up space for the sharing of public-place harassment experiences, which have largely been unspoken. The cultivation of stronger mutual support, solidarity and activism will continue.

CONFLICT SENSITIVITY

UMN reviewed and updated its conflict sensitivity policy. A checklist for ensuring conflict sensitivity in the project cycle is developed and implemented in the new participatory bottom-up project development process and integrated within the cluster strategy plans. Workshops on the conflict sensitivity policy and checklist orientation were conducted for our partners' executive committee members and project co-ordinators in Dhading, Kapilbastu, Nawalparasi and Mugu clusters. They also made action plans to implement the policy, based on their identified gaps after using the checklist.

DISABILITY

Recently UMN's Leadership approved a disability mainstreaming plan to ensure integration and incorporation of disability issues within the organisation. Disability projects have been integrated in the cluster strategic plans and participatory bottom-up project design processes.



FINANCE

In the year ending 16 July 2019, UMN's consolidated income was USD 12,351,564 and consolidated expenditure was USD 12,345,548. The consolidated accounts of UMN include the full accounts of the Tansen and Okhaldhunga hospitals and the Hospital Services Office Dhading Disaster Response Programme (DDRP) and Terai Flood Relief. UMN's accounts have been prepared guided by the requirements of the U.K. Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) published in March 2005.

INCOME

Consolidated Income was USD 12,351,564, an increase of 9.8% on the prior year (USD 11,245,429¹). The hospitals income was USD 7,240,080 accounting for 58.6% of overall income. Grants from institutions and donations for UMN's clusters work, DDRP and Terai Flood Relief amounted to USD 5,111,484 including USD 217,389 of expatriate volunteer services.

In the year 2018/19 the designated fund received from donors for running projects have been recognised as Grant Liability and recorded as income as and when expensed.

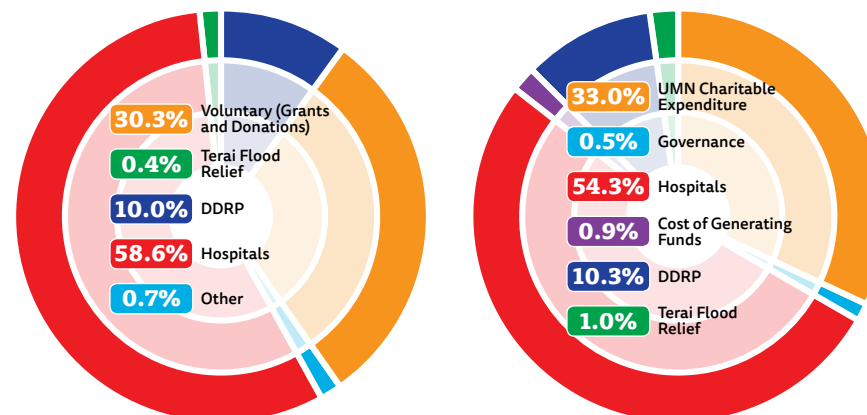
EXPENDITURE

Consolidated Expenditure was USD 12,345,548, an increase of 7.3% on the prior year (USD 11,501,973²). The hospitals expenditure was USD 6,698,850 accounting for 54.3% of overall expenditure. Thapathali and clusters charitable expenditure was USD 5,646,698 accounting for 45.7% of overall expenditure. Charitable expenditure includes Dhading Disaster Response Programme of USD 1,276,764 and Terai Flood Relief for USD 126,247.

The cost of generating funds at 0.9% are the costs associated with activities to attract donors and individuals to support the work of UMN. Governance costs 0.5% ensure that there is an adequate governance infrastructure within UMN and cover the cost of the Board, the bi-annual general assembly, financial governance and strategic management.

Excluding governance cost and the cost of generating funds, the total expenditure of UMN was USD 12,177,478 (98.6% of total expenditure) including USD 601,245 of support costs allocated in direct proportion to direct costs. No support costs were allocated to the hospitals.

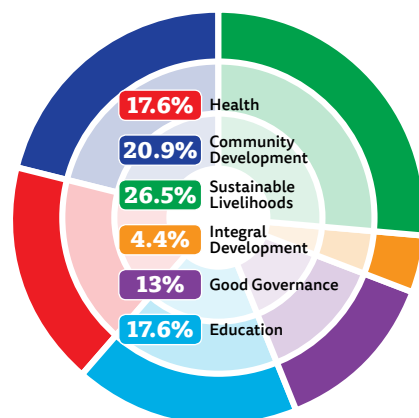
INCOME 2018-19 EXPENDITURE 2018-19



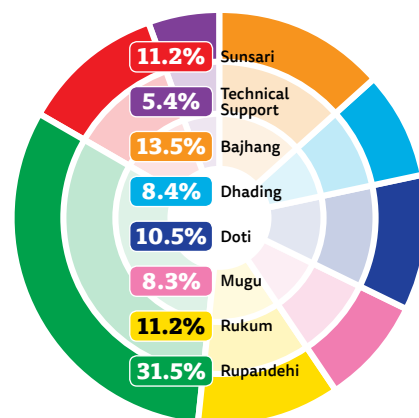
BREAKDOWN OF GRANT INCOME²:

DONOR	USD \$	%
Transform Aid International (TAI)	\$1,440,473	29.9%
Tearfund UK	\$599,459	12.4%
HimalPartner	\$345,713	7.2%
BMS World Mission	\$296,497	6.2%
Bread for the World	\$249,136	5.2%
PMU Interlife	\$232,981	4.8%
Normision	\$208,726	4.3%
Interact	\$201,387	4.2%
Tear Australia	\$178,813	3.7%
Evangelical Luthern Church	\$177,715	3.7%
Church of Scotland	\$162,829	3.4%
United Methodist Church USA	\$109,983	2.3%
Kindernothilfe	\$108,996	2.3%
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission	\$73,858	1.5%
Gossner	\$66,363	1.4%
UMN Support Trust	\$63,137	1.3%
Woord en Daad	\$48,794	1.0%
Others	\$250,129	5.2%
Total Grant Income	\$4,814,988	100%

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE 2018-19



CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE BY LOCATION 2018-19^{3,4}



Dhading Disaster Response Programme expenditure totalling USD 1,276,764 represents 10.3% of UMN's total expenditure³ this year. UMN's expenditure for its clusters' work totalled USD 3,884,093.

The hospitals work in specific geographical locations whereas the rest of UMN's work is split over a number of geographic locations. The 2018/19 charitable expenditure of UMN is broken down by location: (left).^{3,4}

Rupandehi, Bajhang, Sunsari, and Rukum 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.



BREAKDOWN OF CHARITABLE INCOME³:

DONOR	USD \$	% of TOTAL EXPEND.	% of CHARITY EXPEND. ⁴
Hospitals	\$6,698,850	57.5%	
Terai Flood	\$126,247	1.1%	
DDRP	\$1,276,764	11.0%	
Good Governance	\$462,508	4.0%	13.0%
Education	\$623,838	5.4%	17.6%
Health	\$622,433	5.3%	17.6%
Community Development	\$742,006	6.4%	20.9%
Sustainable livelihood	\$938,306	8.1%	26.5%
Integral Development	\$156,301	1.3%	4.4%
Total	\$11,647,252	100%	100%

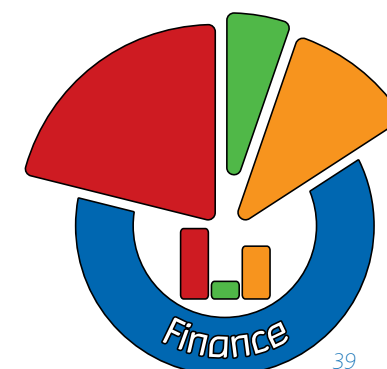
Exchange rate: USD 1 = NPR 109.3

¹ Since all financial reports are denominated in NPR, for comparative reasons we have recalculated last year's figures with this year's exchange rate.

² Excluding Hospitals.

³ Including Hospitals.

⁴ Figures are given excluding Dhading Disaster Response Programme to allow comparison with previous years.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



ALEX SWARBRICK

(Chair)

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.



GRACE KHALING (Vice-Chair)

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 nearly 30 years, and has considerable work experience with other international organisations. She also serves as a Board member for other para-church organisations.



SAMUEL GROSZ

Samuel is a lawyer who is based in the United States. His practice focuses on business, tax, and international law. He also has experience in real estate development and managing small businesses. Samuel spent significant time growing up in Nepal when his parents served with UMN.



HOM KHATRI

Hom worked with World Vision International Nepal as Finance Director, and previously as an Internal Auditor. He also serves as a Board Chairman for Bethel Saving and Credit Co-operative Ltd. As a member of Nepal Isai Mandali, he has been providing support in financial management as a finance committee member. He also previously worked for seven years with Nepal Bible Society as Finance and Admin Officer.



RUPA PRADHAN

Rupa is a psychologist and has worked in direct anti-sex trafficking interventions and aftercare with International Justice Mission, Kolkata. Rupa currently serves as Program Manager for the Justice Ventures International project of Torrent Consulting in Nepal. She also teaches a course in the Masters in Psychology in Crisis Management programme at Tribhuvan University, Nepal.



SUBASH PRADHAN

Subash is an ordained minister who served as the principal of Nepal Baptist Bible College for eight years. He now serves as one of the revisers in the Revision Team at Nepal Bible Society. Currently, he is on the board of the Living Baptist Church, and also serves as a Board member for other NGOs.



DAVID RODGERS

David lives in Northern Ireland where he has recently retired from his roles as an Associate Medical Director in a Health and Social Care Trust and from clinical practice as a General Practitioner. He first visited Nepal in 1986 as a medical student and then met his wife, Sandra, when he was visiting Tansen in 1990. They served together, with UMN, in Amp Pipal from 1995 to 2001. David is also a trustee of UMN Hospitals' Endowment Trust.



LALBIAKHULUI ROKHUM

Kuki, as she is more popularly known, is currently the Director of Training and Mobilisation of EFICOR, India 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.



AJAY SHARMA

Ajay has been working in community development for more than 16 years. He is a Director of WACT, an NGO working in the far western region of Nepal. He has served on the board of different local and national level NGOs in Nepal. He has experience in conducting evaluations of development projects and organisational assessment of NGOs.



NASTU SHARMA

Nastu is a registered physician and has a long history of working with the Nepal government's health system, multilateral and bilateral donor agencies, and non-governmental organisations. Nastu Sharma has served as the hospital director of UMN Okhaldhunga Hospital, administrative director, and as a Chief Executive Officer of Kathmandu University Teaching Hospital.



HEIDI WESTBORG STEEL

Heidi is based in Oslo, Norway, and has a background in organisational development and geography. For the past 10 years she has been the general secretary of HimalPartner, one of UMN's partner organisations. She has previously worked for Blue Cross Norway, working with alcohol and drug related problems in Southern Africa. In addition, she has worked within finance in a health institution in Oslo. Her upbringing has been in Africa and Asia.



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

Chandrajyoti Integrated Rural Development Society **NGO**

Committed Society For Change (COSOC Nepal) **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**

Prayatnasil Samudayik Bikas Samaj (Prayas Nepal) **NGO**

Small Farmers Agriculture Co-operative Federation (SFACF) **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**

Rural Community Development Centre (RCDC) **NGO**

Rural Development Centre (RDC) **NGO**

KAPILBASTU

Dalit Social Development Centre (DSDC) **NGO**

Kapilbastu Institution Development Committee (KIDC) **NGO**

Sunshine Social Development Organisation (SSDO) **NGO**

MUGU

Disabled Rehabilitation & Rural Development Organisation (DARRDO) **NGO**

Gramin Samudayik Sanstha (GSS) **NGO**

Karani Community Development Centre (KCDC) **NGO**

Rinimokshya Samaj Sudhar Kendra (RSSK) **NGO**

NAWALPARASI/RUPANDEHI

Bikalpa **NGO**

Isai Samaj Nawalparasi (ISN) **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**

RUKUM

Christian Society Development Campaign (CSDC) **NGO**

Nepal Disability Protection Forum (NDPF) **NGO**

Nepal Magar Society Service & Information Centre (MIC Nepal) **NGO**

Nepal People Awakening Forum (NPAF) **NGO**

SUNSARI

Community Development Forum (CDF) **NGO**

Chandra Mukhi Club (CMC) **NGO**

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

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
PMU Interlife

UNITED KINGDOM

BMS World Mission
Church of Scotland
Tearfund

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
World Mission Prayer League

MULTI-NATIONAL BODIES

Interserve
Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church

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 of Australia
Church Mission Society, UK
EduTech, Nepal
Forum Wiednest, Germany
Kindernothilfe, Germany
Lloyd George Asia Foundation, UK
Medic Assist International, UK
Mennonite Mission Network, USA
Mennonite Central Committee, USA
Methodist Church in Britain
Mission Alliance, Norway
Opportunity Education, USA
Presbyterian Church of Canada
Presbyterian Church World Mission, USA
Samaritan's Purse, Canada
SIM
Smyrna Church, Sweden
UMN Support Trust, UK
United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), USA
United Methodist Women, USA
ViiV Healthcare, UK
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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