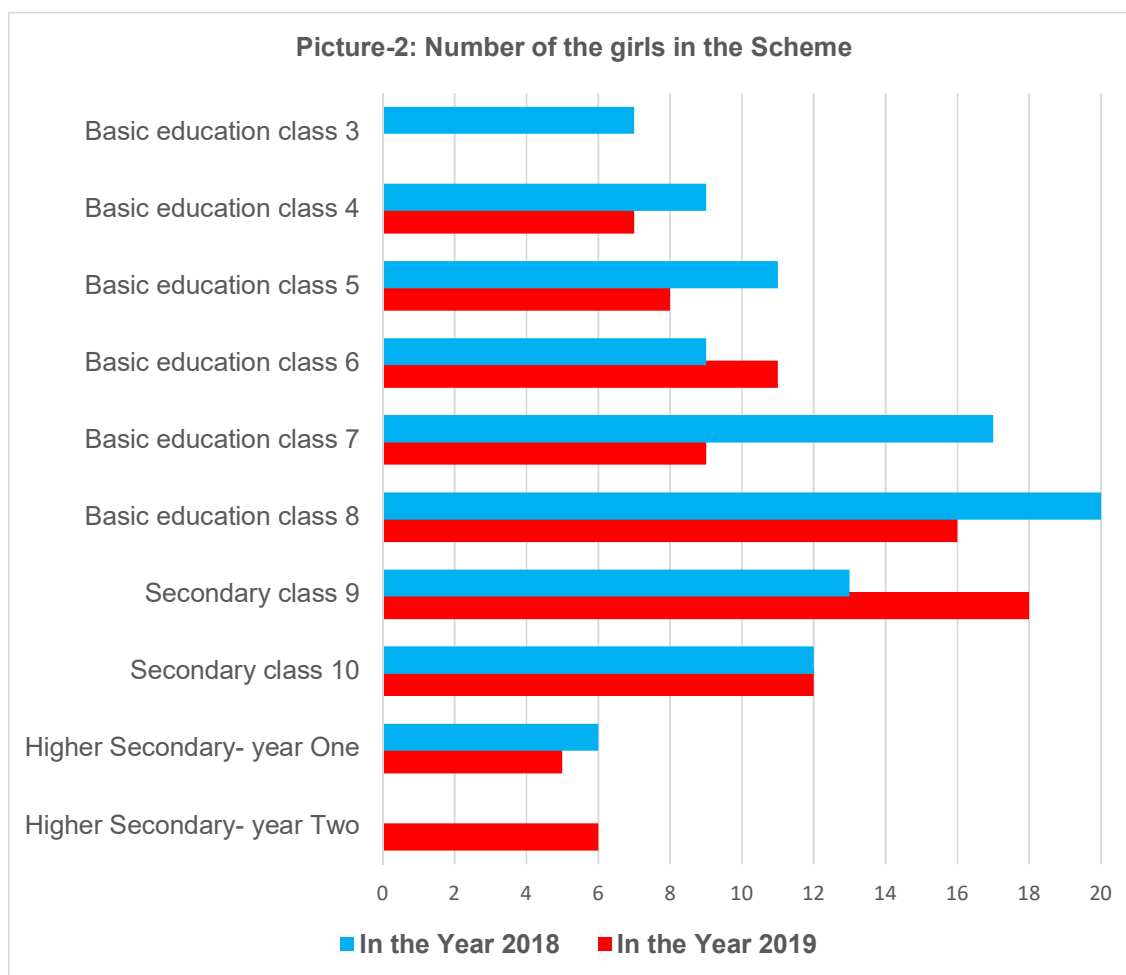


Annual Progress Report, July 2020

Summary of the report: Nepal Village Foundation has supported three major activities in this year through the Girls' Education Project in Nepal. £11,050 was expended on the activities and ninety-seven girls from the poorest of the poor families have benefited. The global corona pandemic has made everyone's life very difficult however the girls and their families are safe. Despite all the challenges we have faced in the year, our total fundraising was £9,615 which is still higher than the last year.

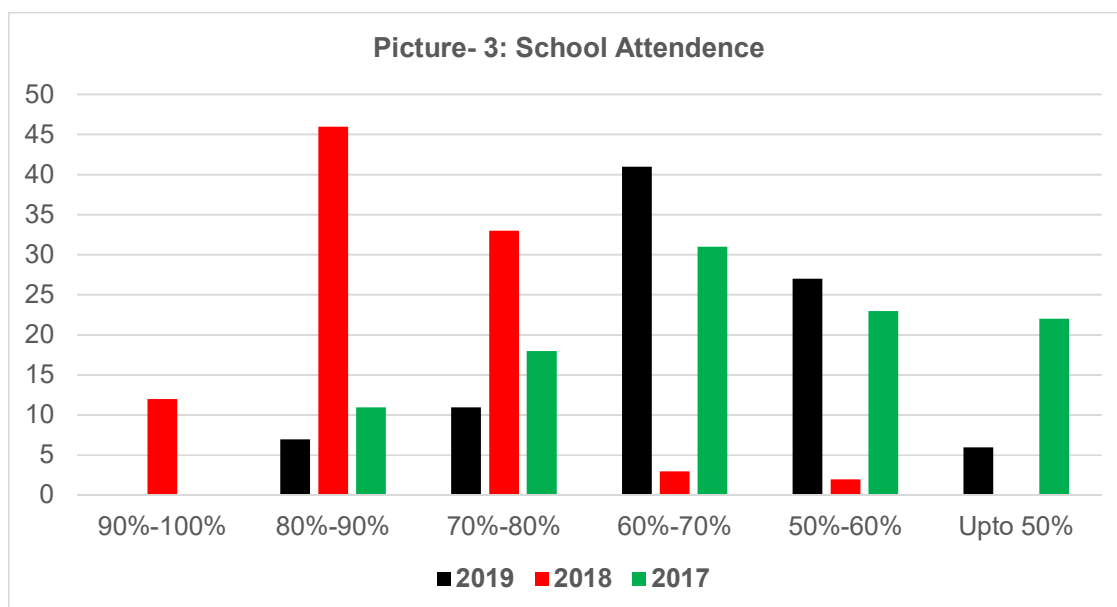


Girls' education has been ignored in Nepal, particularly in rural areas. The main reasons are cultural traditions, an unsuitable schooling environment and financial problems. NVF raises awareness about the importance of girls' education through the project and provides financial support to girls from the poorest of the poor and Dalit families to enable them to receive a formal education. The support includes all the study materials such as books, notebooks, pens, and pencils as well as a bicycle, extra tuition classes and exams fee.



In this year, we have supported ninety-two girls studying in class three to class twelve from Bhagawatpur, Majhaura, Dhikuli, Mahadewa, Durgapur, Kajoli, Chakala, Ekbarpur and Bathanaha villages of Mahadeva Municipality, Saptari Nepal. We wanted to take more girls into the scheme from May 2020 but due to the global corona pandemic, the local schools are still closed so we plan to take more girls into the scheme next year.

The local schools have opened for 238 days in the year and the girls we support have attended 154 days on average. This level of attendance is lower than in the last years. However, considering that the last year we had five staff monitoring the girls in the scheme and this year we had only one, it is not a bad performance. We assumed that as now there is a fully established local authority, the management of the local schools would improve and so would the school attendance. But it didn't happen and it is unlikely that it will happen any time soon. We have learned that at least one monitoring person is required per fifty girls. We are hopeful from this year and onwards that the level of monitoring staff will be maintained.



The support package to the girls in the scheme involves providing sufficient study support materials such as; notebooks, pens and pencils. The study support materials motivate the girls and reduces the financial burden of the parents. The table below provides more details.

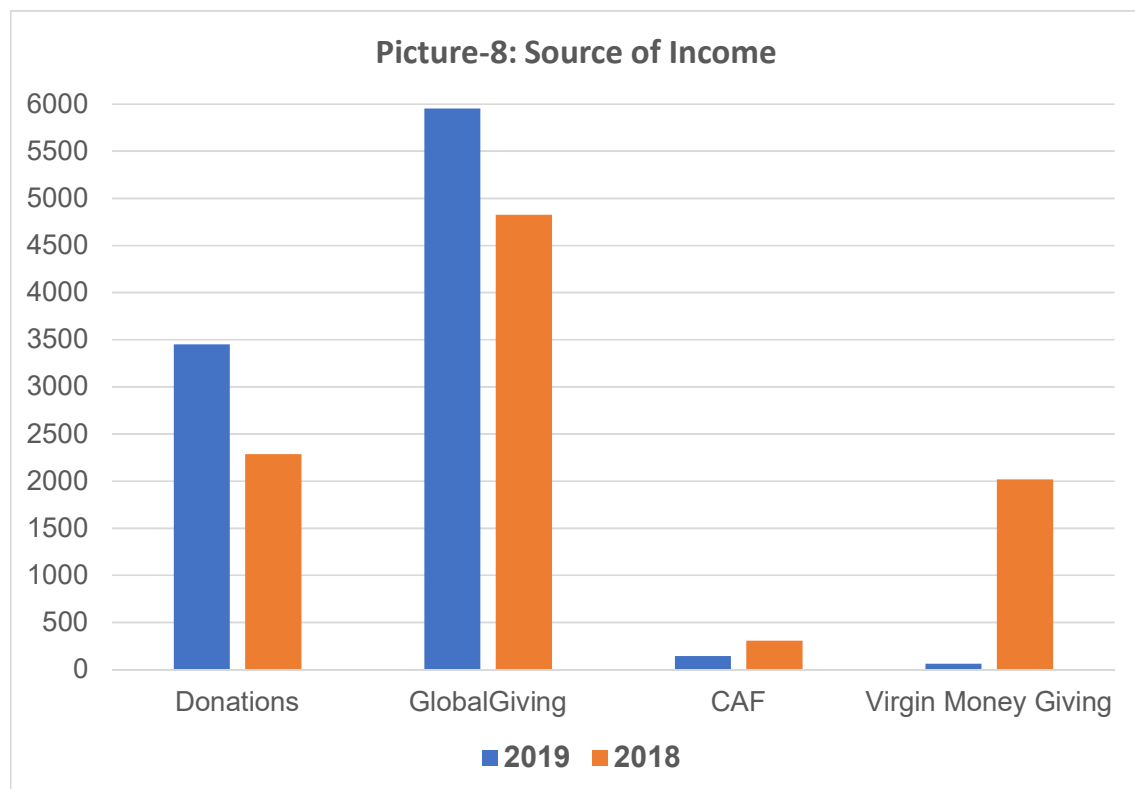
Picture-4: Study support materials	For 2019	For 2018
<u>Details of goods provided</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Notebooks	1832	2,047
Pens and pencils	1061	1,296
School bags	101	104
Exams and registration fee (in Nepalese Rupees 145/£1)	Rs 51,500	Rs 52,500
Geometry toolbox and Calculator	8	31
Books for the girls in Higher Secondary School	77	48
New Cycle	65	55 pcs
Extra tuition classes for all the girls in the scheme	4 months	6 months

RISK AND CHALLENGES

1. We have learned that keeping in touch with the girls and their parents as well as with the local schools regularly, is very effective in improving the school attendance of the girls in the scheme. However, to do that involves an intensive level of monitoring, which is costly. All the girls go to different schools and there are fourteen schools in the Municipality (ten villages) which is spread out over a radius of six kilometres.

2. Dealing with teenage marriage is one of the regular problems that we face every year. Despite the laws and agreement with parents of the girls in the scheme, some parents continue to force their daughters into teenage marriage. Enforcement of the law is not effective in the community, especially in rural villages, because the local authorities are not accountable, do not take their job seriously and have the inadequate infrastructure to do so. This year, four girls from the scheme were forced into teenage marriage. These four girls have abandoned the scheme after their marriage.
3. All the twelve schools we are currently working with have inadequate infrastructure to meet even the most basic needs such as a bench and desks. In such circumstances, working with schools to improve the schooling environment is extremely challenging.
4. The majority of women in the community, especially from poor and Dalit families, never get a real opportunity to understand the need for education. Furthermore, women's role in the community is limited to house-work and farming. So, the importance of education for girls in the community has not been realised. Therefore, it is challenging to motivate girls in the community to receive a formal education.

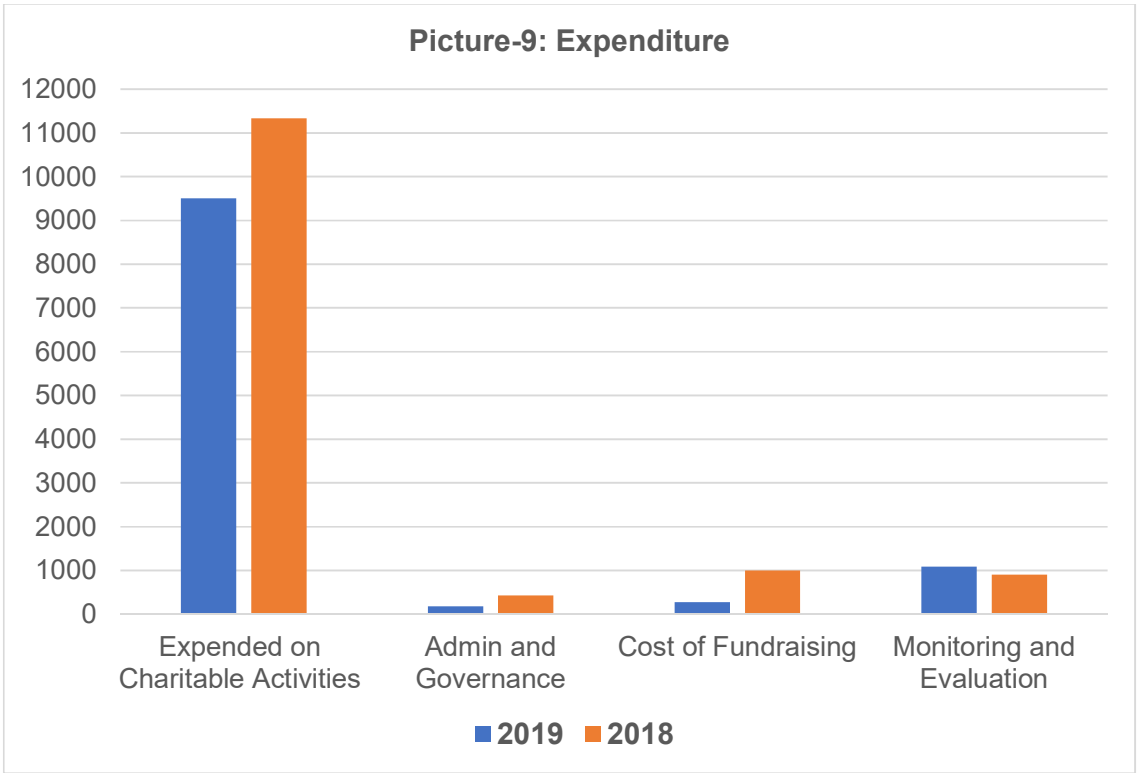
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE EXPLAINED



The current NVF income sources are from individuals, fundraising events and online fundraising partners - GlobalGiving, Charity Aid Foundation and Virgin Money Giving. The

graph below shows how much income came from which source and how we did compare to the last year. The largest income came from GlobalGiving for this year and the last year.

Total fundraising for the year was £9,615, which is just 172 pounds more than last year. Fundraising from the annual events hasn't been as expected, which is the main reason for not making the breakeven. However, the number of people regularly donating to NVF has been increased, which is helpful to plan future projects and fundraising events are being scheduled.



This year's total expenditure was £11,050, and 86% of that was directly expended on the Girls' Education Project. To ensure the project is running smoothly, we expended £1,092 (12% of the total expenditure) on inspecting the project activities. Similarly, 2.5% was expended to generate income and only 1.5% on admin and governance.

The fiscal year of the partner organisation runs from July to July. NVF transfers the agreed sum at the beginning of the year every year. Any over or underspent funds get carried over to the next fiscal year. Roughly, £34 is left in the partner organisation's bank account from this year budget and it will be spent towards the next year.

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End of the Report