



[Image-1: Girls completed education in 2025, Hamro Samaj Neapl, Mahadewa, Saptari]

Nepal Village Foundation

Trustees' Annual Report 2024/25

Report Summary

Nepal Village Foundation UK aims to improve the well-being of the poor and Dalit families in rural villages of Nepal by enabling access to education and learning. It does this by working in partnership with grassroots organisations in Nepal. Hamro Samaj Nepal has been our partner organisation since 2009. This year, we have worked together on one project in rural Nepal.

In total £10,666 was expended on **the girl's education project** and seventy-eighty girls from the poorest families in Mahadewa Municipality of Saptari district benefited from the project. Thirty-one girls appeared in the final secondary school examination (SEE) in the year, and now they are studying higher secondary (10+2 which is equivalent to A-levels). Nine girls completed their study and left the scheme. We also took twenty new girls in the scheme who are currently at the basic education level.

To support the project, we have fundraised through two main online fundraising platforms – GlobalGiving and Charity Aid Foundation, and in addition raised donations from individuals who directly donated into our bank account. In total, we have fundraised £7,439 in the year, which is slightly less than last year.

The challenges at the ground level remain the same as in previous years. In addition, we have noticed by observing the results of the girls from the last five years that not many girls have been able to achieve a grade that enables them to study higher education and it is because of the poor quality of teaching in their school and they are not getting support at home. Their parents are illiterate and we lack resources to provide an extra tuition class.

This report was prepared by Krit Sharma for Nepal Village Foundation UK and it will be publicly available through our website and Facebook page once it is approved by the trustees. Any feedback about the report should be forwarded to Krit Sharma by emailing at krit.sharma@nvf.org.uk

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

In January 2024, I was on a private visit to Nepal to see family and friends which fortunately coincided with the AGM of Hamro Samaj Nepal where I was asked to be one of the principal speakers. The AGM was attended by many local and regional officials, the families of the girls and young women in the education project, and the members of HSN. Many of the young women gave speeches to the meeting; they were nervous but all of those asked to speak did it. This underlines the importance of the project which leads to the empowerment of women and girls. It was an honour to witness them and to meet their mothers who were clearly very proud of them.

As the representative of NVF, I talked about our continuing support for the project and also commented on some of the problems we had identified during our review in the previous year including the poor condition of school buildings and some problems with teachers' attitudes. This was a useful and informative event.

The Board of NVF has continued to focus on increasing fundraising and our digital presence in the UK and internationally to this end. I commend the hard work of our trustees and coordinators in our two subgroups.

The cost-of-living crisis in the UK is effecting all charities in the UK. NVF continues to promote the importance of girls' education in rural Nepal and is working hard to bring this project to a wider audience. My thanks go to our hard-working board of trustees, our supporters and donors and, our in-country co-ordinator Krit Sharma.

Dr Carole Sharma
27th November 2025



[Image- 2: Photo by Hamro Samaj Nepal- AGM at Mahadewa Municipality, Saptari]

SECTION A: PROJECT UPDATE

THE GIRL'S EDUCATION PROJECT

Girls' education has been ignored in Nepal, particularly in rural areas. The main reasons are cultural traditions, an unsuitable schooling environment, and economic problems. NVF raises awareness about the importance of girls' education through the project and provides sponsorship (financial support) to girls from the poorest 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 exam fees and encouragement support to their families.

IN 2024/25 NVF FUNDED ONE PROJECT:

The girl's education project, ongoing since 2009

We sponsored 78 girls in the year, including 12 new students and 19 in higher secondary education.



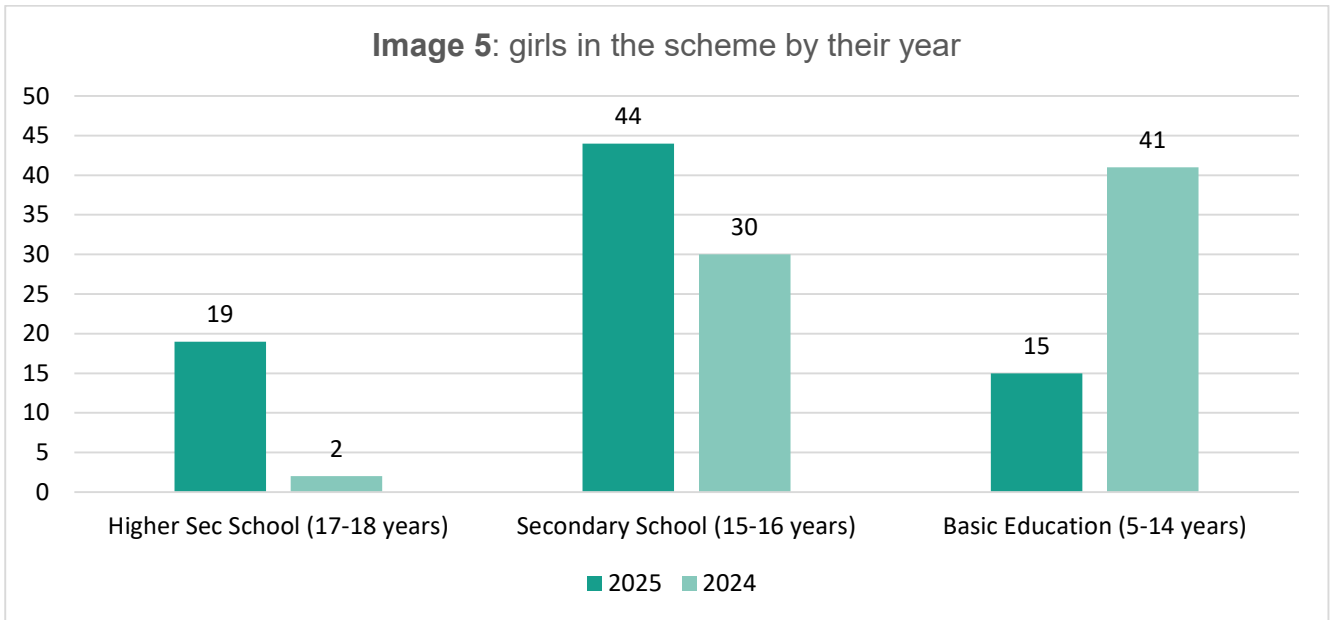
Image 3: 'Then' - Sponsored girls from Mahadewa Municipality, year 2015



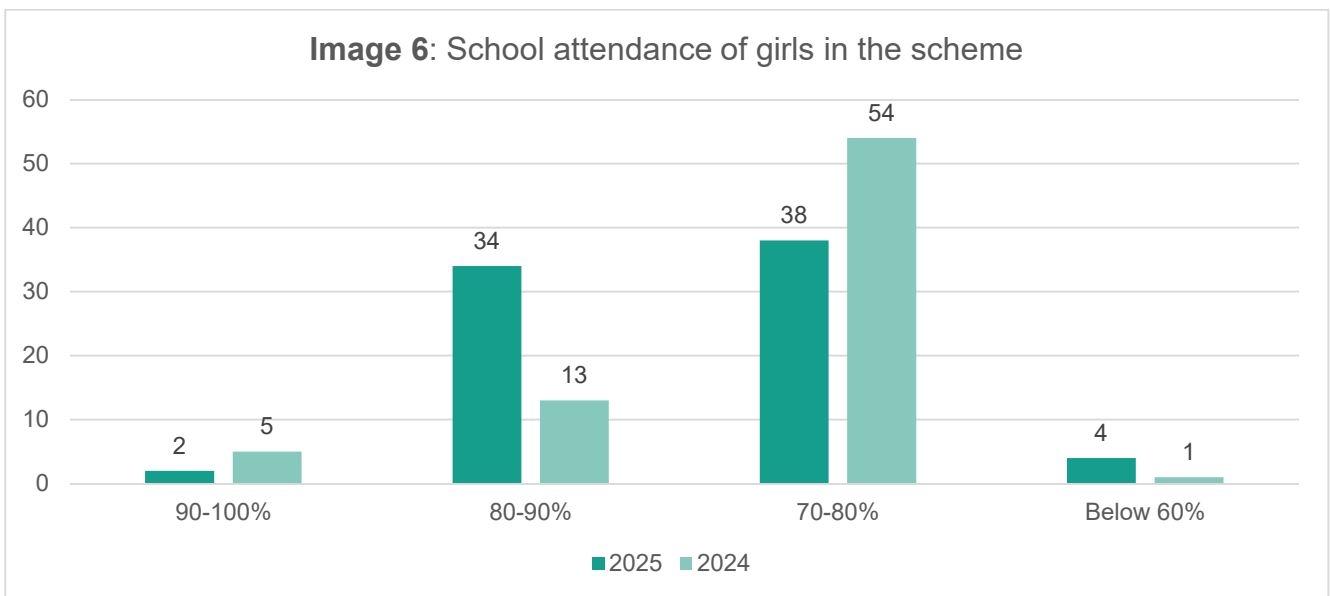
Image 4: 'Now' – 16 to 18 years old sponsored girls from Mahadewa Municipality, year 2025

In total, we have sponsored seventy-eight girls who study in classes six to twelve this year through the project. They are from the Bhagawatpur, Majhaura, Dhikuli, Mahadewa, Durgapur, Kajoli, Chakala, Ekbarpur, and Bathanaha villages of Mahadeva Municipality of Saptari, Nepal. Eighteen girls appeared in the final secondary school examination (SEE) in the year, and now they are studying higher secondary (10+2, which is equivalent to A-levels). Four girls completed their study and left the scheme. We also took twelve new girls into the scheme who are currently in the basic education.

The government education policy has been changed, and now higher secondary education is being taught by almost all local community schools. We have also lifted our sponsorship commitment, and our current policy is that all the girls in the scheme must study until the final year of higher secondary schooling. The benefit to the girls and their future families is greater if they can remain in school for longer, including the delay of marriage.



Our sponsorship scheme is available from age twelve and above because we have learned that this is when they require the greatest support to continue their education. At age twelve, girls in these areas are the most likely to drop out of school and support the family through housework and agricultural work. Through our support, we have seen a decrease in school drop-out and an increase in attendance. So, we have chosen to use our limited resources most effectively through prioritising the age group that we have learned from experience is working.



School attendance, passing grades, and achieving better results in exams are the key performance indicators of the project to monitor the progress of girls in the scheme. We are delighted to see an increase in school attendance compared to previous years. All the girls in the scheme, except one, have achieved the minimum annual school attendance requirement, which is 75% of the school days. We are pleased with the achievements.

| Image 7: Distribution of study support materials | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Description</u> | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Quantity</u> |
| Notebooks | 1864 | 1925 |
| Pens and pencils | 2045 | 2100 |
| School bags | 80 | 80 |
| Exams and registration fee in Nepalese Rupees | Rs 114,172 | Rs 46,800 |
| Geometry toolbox and Calculator | 78 | 80 |
| Set of Books for the girls in Hi Secondary School | 19 | 13 set |
| New Cycle | 12 | 12 pcs |
| Coaching class for girls in secondary and higher secondary schooling | 2 months | 2 months |

NVF estimates that on average, a girl in basic education requires fifteen notebooks, twenty pens, one school bag and Rs. 500 towards registration and exam fees per year. Girls in secondary and higher secondary require significantly more. On that basis, in the year, they could have consumed around 1170 notebooks and 1580 pens, but the usage is higher than estimated. A higher consumption of notebooks and pens is a good signal that they are doing better in their study. Curriculum books, calculators and geometry boxes are required only for girls in secondary and higher secondary school. NVF also provides a new bicycle when someone joins the scheme. This year, we provided twelve new bicycles to the newcomers.

RISKS 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 attend a different school and there are fourteen schools in the Municipality (ten villages), which is spread out over a radius of six kilometres. The roads are terrible, so sometimes it can take up to two hours to travel the six kilometres.
2. Teenage marriage remains one of the biggest challenges that we have been facing since the project began in 2009. Despite the national law and gaining the agreement with the girls' parents, some families continue to force their daughters into teenage marriage. Enforcement of the law is not effective in the community, especially in rural villages. Critical reasons for this include the lack of infrastructure and prioritisation from local authorities.
3. All the fourteen schools we currently work with suffer from an inadequate level of infrastructure and funding. They lack basic teaching and learning equipment including desks and seating, adequate classrooms and toilets. The teaching quality is variable and widely acknowledged as insufficient to help the girls pass exams and progress in education. In such circumstances, working with schools to improve the schooling environment for girls as well as for boys is extremely challenging.
4. We have noticed by observing the results of the girls from the last five years that not many girls have been able to achieve a grade that enables them to study higher education and it is because of the poor quality of teaching in their school and they are not getting support at home. Their parents are illiterate and we lack resources to provide an extra tuition class.
5. The role of education for girls and women remains unrecognised for its importance in the communities we are working in. Traditional domestic and agricultural roles for women are usual, meaning neither parent can see the opportunities that educating their girls could provide. Therefore, it can be a huge challenge to motivate girls and their families to work toward a formal education.

OUR FUTURE PLANS

1. Keep exploring ideas to improve the school attendance of girls in the scheme and develop strategic approaches that are better suited to achieve it. By doing so, the performance of girls will improve and keep the girls interested in education which will prevent school dropout and delay the teenage marriage.
2. We have noticed by observing the results of the girls from the last five years that not many girls have been able to achieve a grade that enables them to study higher education and it is because of the poor quality of teaching in their school and they are not getting support at home. Hence, we are exploring and finding financial support to provide extra tuition classes at home for the girls. So, they can achieve a better grade that enables them to pursue higher education of their choice.
3. Develop and strengthen the relationship with all the schools and other organisations working in the municipality to improve the schooling environment for girls and to quality of education.
4. Explore how to minimise the impact of dowry traditions because it has severe consequences in the community, especially for poor families.
5. Explore the opportunity to create additional livelihood opportunities, provide agricultural education and training to improve the subsistence farming practice which will contribute to improving the well-being of the villagers.

SECTION B - GOVERNANCE

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nepal Village Foundation is a UK-registered charity, and it is governed by the constitution adopted on 29th of Dec 2007 and amended on 6th of Sept 2014. All the trustees must act in the interest of the organisation and comply with the governing document and the Charity Acts of England and Wales. This includes obligations under the Charity Act 2011 with regard to the keeping of accounting records for the Charity, the preparation of annual statements of accounts for the Charity, and the preparation of an Annual Report. These accounts must be prepared in accordance with the provisions of any Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Commission to demonstrate transparency and accountability.

To manage the organisation, the board of trustees meets every three months, followed by an AGM at the end of the year. Minutes of all the meetings are recorded and kept for five years. Urgent issues are dealt with via phone and email. We make all our activities, performance, and achievements public and communicate with stakeholders periodically.

CHARITY DETAILS

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Registered name: | Nepal Village Foundation (UK) |
| Reg. Charity No: | 1158504 |
| Reg. Address: | 61 Canon Beck Road, London, SE16 6DF |
| Website: | www.nvf.org.uk |
| Email: | info@nvf.org.uk |
| Phone: | 07954376665/07905906276 |

OBJECTIVES

- **The advancement of education for the public benefit, in particular among girls from low-income families in rural Nepal who would not otherwise receive a formal education.**
- **The prevention or relief of poverty in rural areas of Nepal by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects, and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.**
- **To develop the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities of rural Nepal in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.**

HOW WE WORK

NVF raises funds in the UK and works in partnership with grassroots organisations in rural Nepal by funding their projects to achieve the objectives as set out in the legal document.

WHERE WE WORK

Currently, NVF is working in Bhagawatpur, Majhaura, Dhikuli, Mahadewa, Durgapur, Kajauli, Chakala, Ekbarpur, Pakri, Derha-Diman and Bathanaha villages of Mahadewa Municipality. These villages are in the Saptari District of Nepal in the Eastern Development Region. Roughly, there are 5310 households with an estimated population of 23,800 in the villages. An estimated 9,520 of them are children and teenagers, 1,190 are senior citizens and the remaining are adults.

The livelihoods of 80% of households depend on agriculture and the remaining is on income from overseas employment. The unemployment rate in the villages is as high as 40% hence half of the workforce works in India and the Gulf countries.

TRUSTEES AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

NVF is overseen by a board of trustees. Some of the trustees are elected to act as principal officers at the annual general meeting. The trustees' and principal officers' roles and responsibilities are discussed in the governing document, part two, section 16.

Dr Carole Sharma – Chair

Ms Anne Pugh – Vice Chair

Ms Pamella Miller – Treasurer

Ms Jan King - Trustee

Mr David Lines - Trustee

Mr Ewan Newton- Trustee

Ms Chloe Dickinson- Trustee

Ms Pat Warrington – Trustee

Ms Anna Lister - Trustee

Mr Krit Sharma – Director



Image 8: map of project activity location

WHO WE WORK WITH

NVF is currently working in partnership with **Hamro Samaj Nepal** to deliver our projects. Hamro Samaj Nepal is a young and dynamic organisation. Their board of trustees consist of people from various walks of life, and the majority are women from different castes. NVF is currently a sole funder for the organisation, and our partnership has been strengthening since 2007.

OUR IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

Registered name: Hamro Samaj Nepal
Central District Admin Reg. No: 994
Tax Reg. No. 600345882
Social Welfare Council Reg. No. 31800

The following are the primary beneficiaries' group in rural Nepal in our current projects:

- School-age girls from poor and Dalit families in Mahadewa Municipality
- Local community schools and their teachers
- Volunteers and partner organisations.



Image 9: Outdoor class in winter, photo by partner organisation, Mahadewa, Saptari

SECTION C – OUR FINANCES

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNTS



| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| NEPAL VILLAGE FOUNDATION, UK | | NO. 1158504 | | CC16a |
| Receipts and payments accounts | | | | |
| For the period from | 5th April 2024 | To | 4th April 2025 | |

Section A Receipts and Payments

| | Unrestricted funds to the nearest £ | Restricted funds to the nearest £ | Endowment funds to the nearest £ | Total funds to the nearest £ | Last year to the nearest £ |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Donations Received | 2,980 | - | - | 2,980 | 3,998 |
| Funds raised through GlobalGiving | - | 3,836 | - | 3,836 | 4,858 |
| Funds raised through Charity Aid Found | 272 | - | - | 272 | 145 |
| Amazon Prime Europe | - | - | - | - | 26 |
| Fundraising Events | 351 | - | - | 351 | 717 |
| Gift Aid Claimed | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grants Received | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 3,603 | 3,836 | - | 7,439 | 9,744 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 3,603 | 3,836 | - | 7,439 | 9,744 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Expended on Charitable Activities | 4,874 | 3,836 | - | 8,710 | 8,905 |
| Admin and Governance | 306 | - | - | 306 | 178 |
| Cost of Fundraising | - | - | - | - | - |
| Monitoring of the projects | 1,650 | - | - | 1,650 | 2,400 |
| Sub total | 6,830 | 3,836 | - | 10,666 | 11,483 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 6,830 | 3,836 | - | 10,666 | 11,483 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | - 3,227 | - | - | - 3,227 | - 1,739 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 16,602 | - | - | 16,602 | 16,602 |
| Cash funds this year end | 13,375 | - | - | 13,375 | 14,863 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| B1 Cash funds | Cash at Bank as at 4th of April 2025 | 13,375 | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | 13,375 | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK | OK | OK |
| | | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
| B2 Other monetary assets | | - | - | - |
| | | | | |
| | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| B3 Investment assets | | | - | - |
| | | | | |
| | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | | |
| | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
| B5 Liabilities | | | - | |
| | | | | |
| Approved by Chair | Dr Carole Sharma | 27/11/2025 | | |
| Approved by Treasurer | Ms Pam Miller | 27/11/2025 | | |

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Full name: Dr Carole Sharma



Position: Chair of the trustees

Date: 27/11/2025

FUNDRAISING AND EXPENDITURE EXPLAINED

INCOME

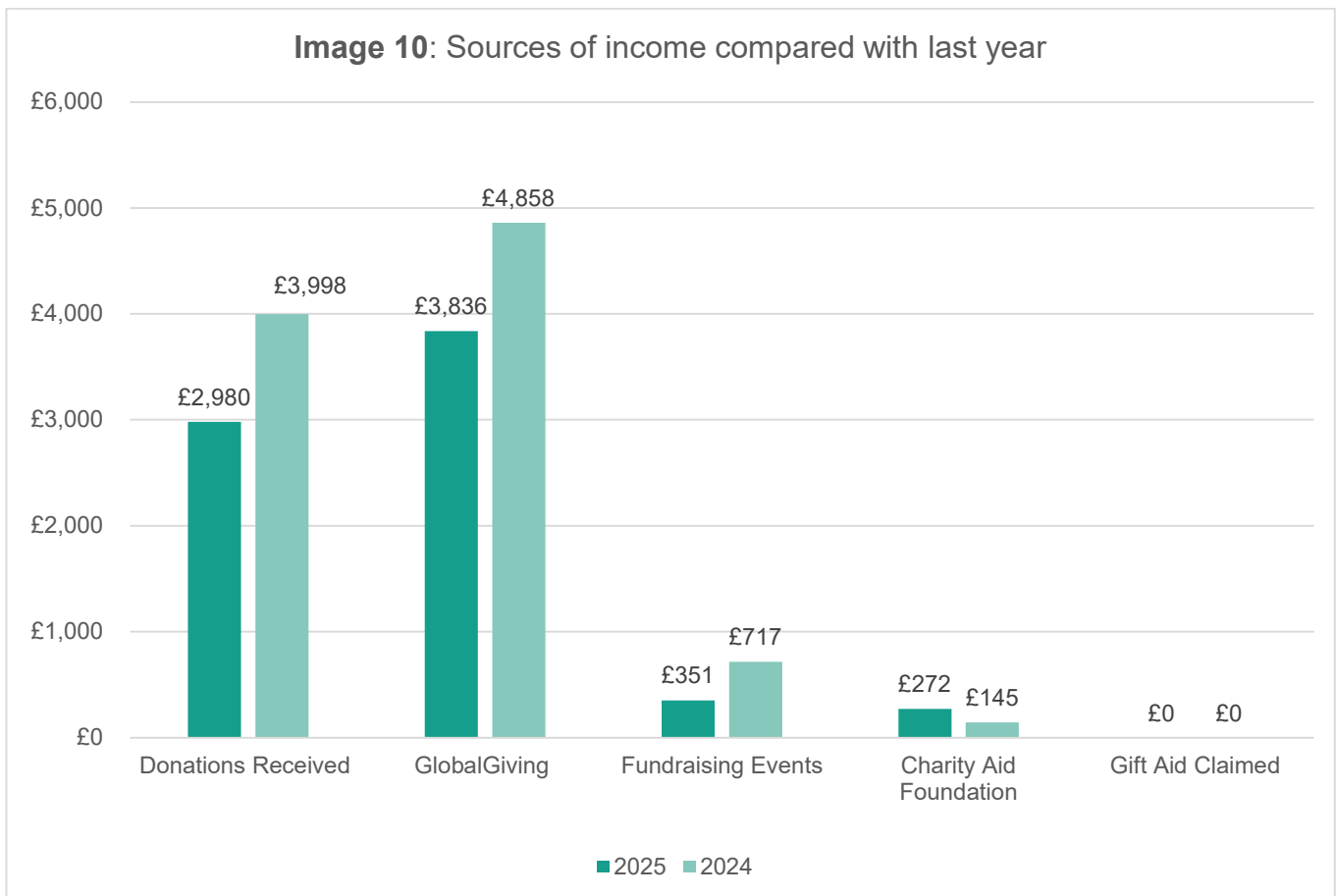
Our income sources are from individuals, fundraising events and online fundraising partners – GlobalGiving and Charity Aid Foundation. The graph below shows how much income came from which source, including in comparison to last year. The largest income source was through one-off and regular donors directly donating to our bank and then from GlobalGiving.

We were able to raise comparatively less funds in 2024-25 than in 2023-24. Even though the number of regular donors has increased through active promotion of NVF’s work, the actual donations gone down.

The total fundraising for the year: **£7,439**

The total expenditure for the year: **£10,666**

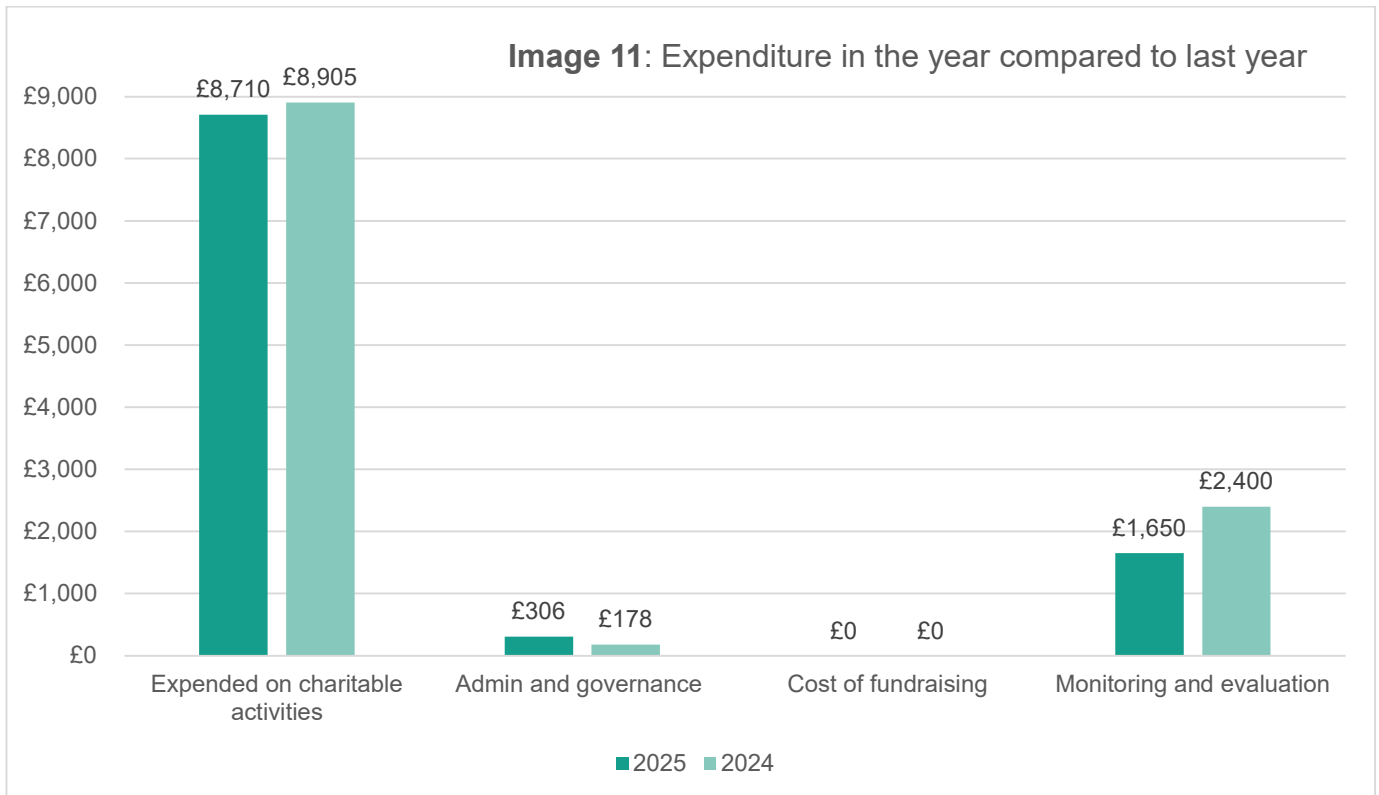
Image 10: Sources of income compared with last year



EXPENDITURE

This year's total expenditure was £10,666. Of this total, £8,710 was directly expended on the Girls' Education Project, £1,650 on monitoring of the project activities, £0 on cost of fundraising and only £306 on admin and governance. NVF is a small organisation, and its trustees are hardworking and generous. So, most administration, fundraising and governance work is done by ourselves, keeping costs very low; and allowing most of the income available to spend directly on projects.

This year's expenditure was lower than last year's and yet more than our income. This is because the cost of sponsoring girls has increased and there were more new girls joined the scheme than in past years. The cost of sponsorship in the first year is higher than in other years because we provide a new bicycle which is a greater expenditure. Spending more than we raised in the year impacts on our reserve funds.



----- End of Report -----