



# First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

## Progress Report: November 2018



### Rotary Global Grant

### Early Years Education Support Project, Syangja, Nepal

#### 1.0 Introduction:

1.1 The **purpose** of this report is to update the Rotary Club of Kirriemuir, Scotland and the Rotary Club of Himalayan Gurkhas, Kathmandu, Nepal on the progress of the Early Years Education projects in Syangje District Nepal funded by a Rotary Global Grant from end 2018 to end 2023. The report covers the pre-project period from September to November 2018.

1.2 **Background:** Following the successful implementation of a number of rotary grants in the First Steps Himalaya (FSH) project area from 2010 until 2018, The Rotary Club of Kirriemuir, Scotland requested similar early childhood services in its project area in Syangja, Nepal. First Steps Himalaya has over the years worked closely with Rotary Clubs in District 1010 Scotland and in Kathmandu. The grants including District and global grants supported the improvement of early years classes in government schools in Sindhupalchok Nepal.





# First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

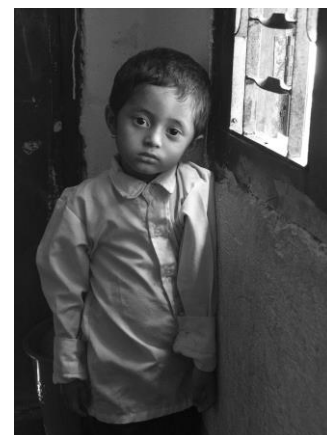
## Progress Report: November 2018

1.3 The project will run at the following schools:

- Shree Janahit Basic School, Paundura Walling-4
- Ranbir Janahit Higher Secondary School in Khahare Walling-1
- Shree Bashpani Basic School in Simalchaur, Walling-2
- Shree Bhumre Secondary School in Bhumre Walling-9
- Shree Jethi Kanya Devi Basic School in Eladi Walling-4
- Shree Talo Kumandung Basic School in Tallothok Walling-4
- Shree Rambachchha Basic School in Rambachha (Chisopani) Walling-1
- Shree Talo Kumandung Basic School in Tallothok Walling-4

These schools were all found to be in need of support during project selection.

Classrooms are extremely basic, teachers lack training and children reported being shouted out or physically punished. There is clearly a need for change.



**1.4 Limitations:** The official start of the project was delayed by the Global Grant process. However, the training in October went ahead as scheduled.

## 2.0 Project Summary

**2.1 Teacher training:** FSH trustee and education expert, Ms Nicola Crawford was out in Nepal in



September/October to support Nepali trainers, Ms Ranjana Giri and Ms Yasoda Giri deliver the 5-day training programme to 24 teachers. Durga Aran of First Steps Himalaya (pictured right) accompanied the group and coordinated the training.





# First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

## Progress Report: November 2018

The training covered the following:

- Your learners, your classroom: Ideas for getting to know your children, establishing classroom rules and behaviour guidelines, managing behaviour, organising groups of children for learning, (pairs, groups, round robin), using the mat and circle time.
- Setting up the classroom: Keeping the classroom organized, using and caring for resources, classroom displays
- Keep moving: Being outside/ physical activity, big and small balls: hands and feet, Jumping/ hopping/ skipping, rolling and crawling
- Literacy: Story-telling, big books, learning through talking, alphabet work, puppets rhymes and songs
- Numeracy: patterns, shapes, fingers and toes, using materials
- Modelling: Writing, reading, art, drawing, cutting, construction and behaviour
- Science: Classification, simple machines, floating and sinking
- Creativity: paint, colour mixing, use of crayons and weaving
- Culture: Responding to our own culture and celebrations, literacy and the arts.
- Reflection of training





# First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

## Progress Report: November 2018



The training was a great success with teachers taking away lots of ideas including ways of teaching maths and literacy, creating their own materials and activities that engage children. Teachers were amazed at what could be done with easily accessible materials. They had never experienced some of the simple concepts including colour mixing, making play dough and creating pictures from shapes.





# First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

## Progress Report: November 2018

**2.2 Classroom fit out:** This is scheduled for March/ April 2019. Durga Aran of FSH and Siri Gurung of the Rotary Club of Himalayan Gurkhas, Kathmandu visited potential furniture suppliers in Kathmandu.

**2.3 Supervisor:** A suitable candidate is still being sought. It is important to get the right person in place by early 2019.

### 3.0 Conclusions and recommendations

3.1 The training was a great success. Teachers and headteachers are willing to learn and are enthusiastic

3.2 The support of Siri Gurung and the Rotary Club of Himalayan Gurkhas, Kathmandu is invaluable to the project success and is much appreciated.

3.3 Once the grant is approved, the project will be able to start properly.

