



United for Education Project in Nepal

**District coverage:**

Kathmandu, Rupandehi, Kavre and Lalitpur districts

Sector:

Education

Beneficiaries:

Currently 500 from ages 6-18, planning up to 3,000 students

Implementing Partner:

School Management Committee

Donor:

ADRA Network and Private donors

Project Period:

January 2009 - December 2010

Budget:

US\$70 one student/year

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Project Description

ADRA Nepal has been involved in providing scholarships to prevent child labor for many years. This has greatly helped improved educational opportunities and the quality of life for the children. At present, ADRA is providing scholarships for 500 underprivileged students from ages 6 to 18 in four districts in Nepal. Without this regular support, there is little chance that those children will continue their education. Unless they are given the opportunity to complete high school, these children are likely to work for a living or help their mothers with housework and looking after young siblings at home.

ADRA Nepal supports various programs related to children and their education. These programs include construction of school buildings, conducting non-formal classes, providing scholarships to students too poor to commence or continue their studies, establishing and improving school libraries, and providing bicycles for girls to go to school. In addition, ADRA Nepal provides information on child labor and education quality improvement in the public schools to the teachers and parents.

Initiated by the staff's desire to personally help the poorest children in the project districts, ADRA Nepal started sponsoring students in 1998. ADRA Nepal envisions increasing the child sponsorship program from 500 to 3,000 within the next 3 years in 10 districts of Nepal.

Justification for Intervention:

Basic education is strongly linked to improved standards of economic, social and health development in both individuals and communities. However, many children, especially girls and children from low caste groups, do not get the opportunity to attend school in Nepal. Often, poor families send their children to urban areas to work in order to support the family. There are many Nepali children who are unable to attend school because their parents cannot afford to pay for school expenses. This is due to limited funds for education, as well as access and cultural constraints.

ADRA Nepal will provide scholarships and basic materials to underprivileged children of poor families who cannot afford to attend school due to the family's limited income. Students will receive full support for one year. Each student enrolled in this program is provided with the following items:

- Registration fees and regular tuition fees
- Two school uniforms, a pair of shoes, jumper and two pairs of socks
- Education materials such as exercise books, pencils, erasers, pens, ink, textbooks, and a school bag, plus any other items recommended by the school administration
- One bicycle for each child, mainly for girls in the Tarai districts.

Parents in Nepal are very protective towards girls due to the cultural and political situation. Providing bicycles to the girls will help them to continue their education, as well as open a bright future for them, their family and the community. This will also prevent the girl students from walking more than one hour to reach the school.

ADRA Nepal has a Child Protection Policy to prevent child labor and exploitation. ADRA Nepal adheres to all statutory laws in Nepal and international standards regarding child exploitation and has policies in place to protect the rights of children in all programs.

Activities:

- Provide educational support to students by providing scholarships and school supplies
- Provide training to the teachers and parents on child rights
- Provide bicycles for the girl students

Goal: To improve the educational status of the poorest school-age children to prevent child labor

Objectives:

- Provide scholarships to 5,000 underprivileged children from targeted areas
- Provide bicycles to girls from underprivileged and low caste groups in the Tarai area



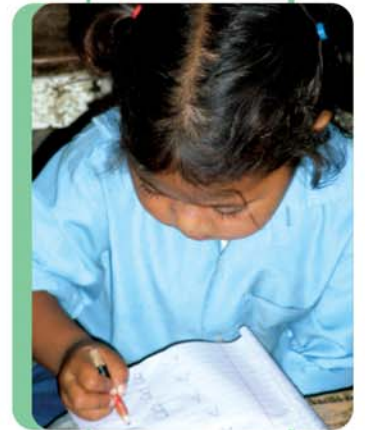
Selection Criteria:

All participants are selected through a process of community dialogue and assessment using the following criteria:

- The poorest of the poor, school-aged children
- Orphaned children (many children in remote areas have lost at least one parent due to sickness or conflict)
- Underprivileged and/or disabled school-age children
- Children from ethnic minorities and indigenous communities
- Children affected by conflict and natural disaster

Sustainability and Linkages:

The project aims to improve the status of children and prevent child labor in ADRA Nepal project districts by increasing their access to formal education. To ensure maximum impact in child protection, training will be provided to the parents and teachers on child labor prevention. These practices are fully accepted by the local parents, teachers, and community. The parents and the teachers will become child right advocates, thus improving the children's school and home environment.



This project is implemented by ADRA Nepal in partnership with School Management Committees

"changing the world, one life at a time"