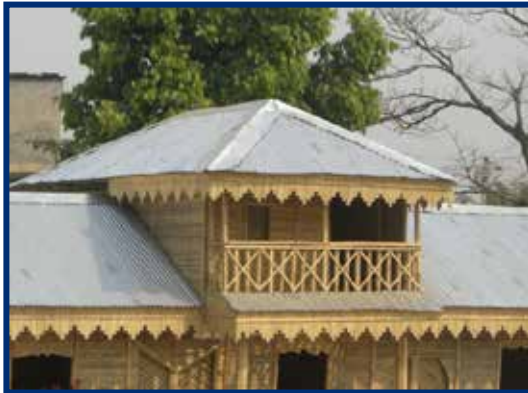


BAMBOO SCHOOLS - NEPAL

Building Schools for Children in Need



LOCAL CONTEXT

Thousands of children across Nepal do not have access to a basic education.

Many children are forced to work or to live in the streets where they often fall victim to violence. Girls, in particular, are rarely sent to school.

Due to a lack of funding and personnel, the government education system is not equipped to address the problem. Private education is expensive and inaccessible for most children.

There are very few schools in operation in the most remote regions of the country.

PROJECT STRATEGY

Promote education for the poorest children:

↘ *Help narrow the gap between rich and poor children.*

Promote the instruction of young girls:

↘ *Help reduce the chasm between education and the status of men and women.*

Promote education for each and every child, regardless of race, caste or religion.

↘ *Help bring Nepal's diverse communities together.*

Project Manager: Karuna-Shechen
Local Partner: Samata Shiksha Niketan (or "Bamboo Schools")
Location: Nepal
Sector: Education
Direct Beneficiaries: at least 1,000 students per school
Cost to Construct One School: \$100,000 USD

PROJECT GOAL

To fund the construction of **new Bamboo Schools**, providing education for at least **1,000 children per school**.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project was initiated by **Samata Shiksha Niketan**, an organization founded by Nepalese humanitarian, Uttam Sanjel.

The organization constructs large schools in **bamboo**, a material that is inexpensive, environmentally friendly, and easily available.

Karuna-Shechen has partnered with Uttam Sanjel to help finance the construction of new schools.

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

- Children forced to work
- Street children,
- Children from families in need

Age: 6-18 years old

On average, 1,000 children will be enrolled per school and 50% will be girls

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES

Teaching Nepal's youth is paramount for the development of the entire country:

Educated children will help their families manage their businesses, introduce modern methods into their work, and contribute to the development of their communities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

For each new school:

- Quality primary and secondary education for 1,000 children,
- Girls to represent at least 50% of student enrolment
- Students to follow the national Nepalese curriculum as well as to receive classes in English
- The values of learning, non-discrimination and personal development to be upheld and respected.

LOCAL PARTNER AND KARUNA-SHECHEN

Karuna-Shechen and Uttam Sanjel share the same vision: **all children have the fundamental right to education** regardless of race, caste, religion or gender.

In 2008, Karuna-Shechen established a partnership with Uttam Sanjel in order to finance the construction of new schools in various districts of Nepal.

Thanks to this partnership in 2008:

- 4 schools were built and are already operational and
- 3 schools are currently under construction
 - ↳ For the education of **7,000 children**

Samata Shiksha Niketan oversees the operating budget of the schools.

BUILDING BAMBOO SCHOOLS

Samata Shiksha Niketan manages the construction of new bamboo schools, and the Karuna-Shechen team in Nepal provides regular supervision of the construction.

Based on the physical and technical specifics of the site, the number of classrooms, and the cooperation of the local authorities, the construction of one Bamboo School takes around 4-7 months.

The blueprints for the schools are designed by Samata Shiksha Niketan's builder and embody architecture that is both friendly and safe for the students.

FUNDS NEEDED

Karuna-Shechen is raising funds for the construction of new schools.

Cost of construction for one bamboo school: \$100,000 USD*

** The construction costs may vary based on challenges related to the specific construction site as well as the number of classrooms to construct.*

To receive more information about this project, contact one of Karuna-Shechen's branches.



PROJECT MANAGER: KARUNA-SHECHEN

Karuna-Shechen is a humanitarian organization that implements health and education projects in the Himalayan region.

Founded and directed by Matthieu Ricard and inspired on the ideal of compassion (*karuna*) in action, the organization is deeply rooted in the traditions and values of the communities it serves.

Since 2001, Karuna-Shechen has initiated and developed 111 projects in India, Nepal and Tibet, driven by the conviction that access to basic health care and education is a right for all.

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