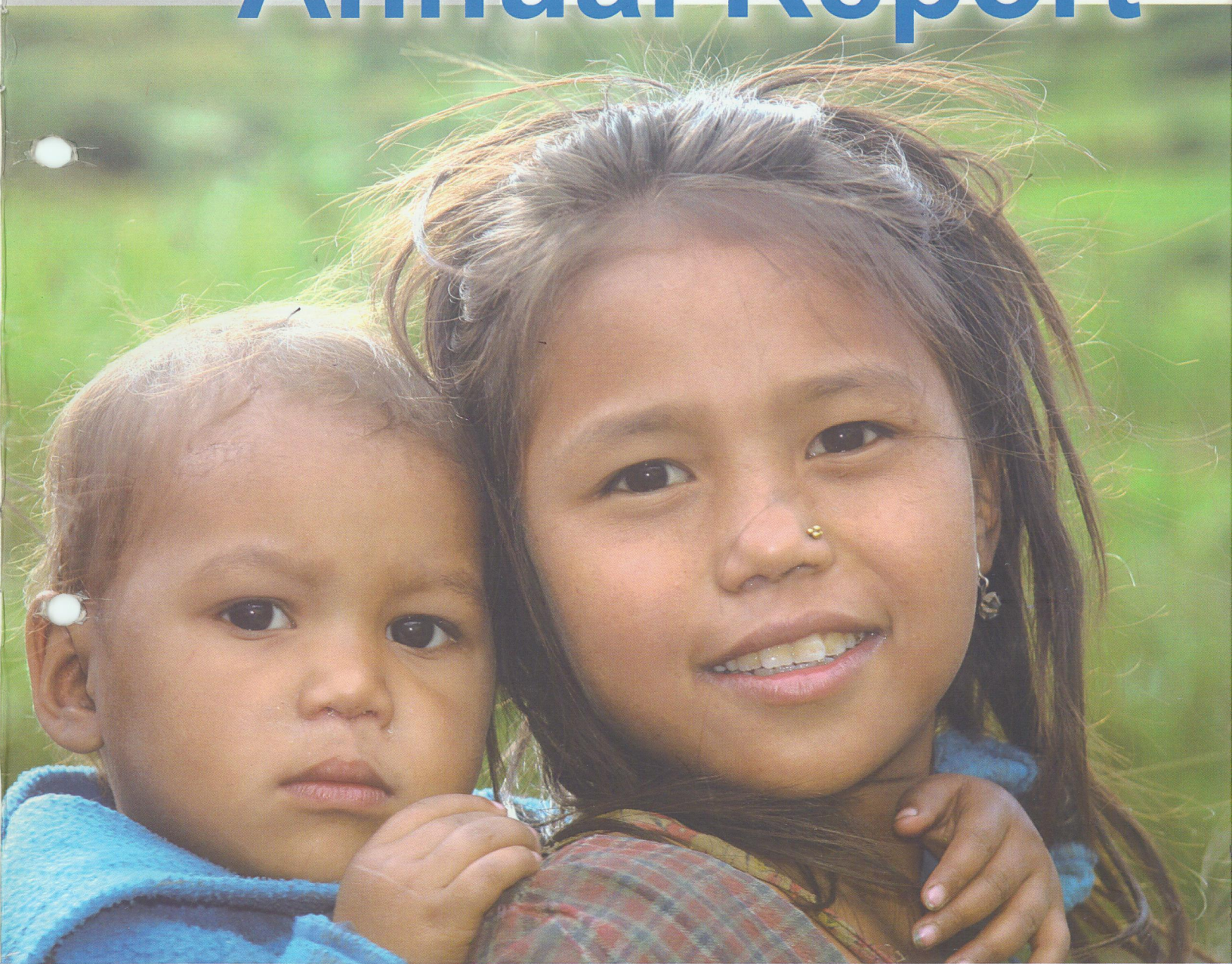




यूनाइटेड मिसन टु नेपाल  
UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

2008 - 2009

# Annual Report



यूनाइटेड मिसन टु नेपाल  
UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

PO Box 126, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Phone (00977 1) 4228 118, 4268 900  
Fax (00977 1) 4225 559  
Email: [marketing@umn.org.np](mailto:marketing@umn.org.np)

[www.umn.org.np](http://www.umn.org.np)

Truth and justice for all

Truth and justice for all



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Thank you to all those who contributed stories and photographs for this Annual Report. In particular, we acknowledge the work of Christine Preston in compiling much of this information.

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## UMN Supporting Partners

### Australia

Church Missionary Society, Australia  
TEAR Australia

### Finland

Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission

### Ireland

Presbyterian Church in Ireland

### Netherlands

Tear Netherlands  
ICCO & Kerk in Actie

### Norway

Normisjon  
Norwegian Himal Asia Mission

### Sweden

InterAct

### United Kingdom

BMS World Mission  
Church Mission Society, Britain  
Church of Scotland  
Methodist Church in Britain  
Tearfund UK

### United States of America

Maryknoll Sisters Congregation  
Mennonite Central Committee  
World Mission Prayer League

### Multi-national Bodies

Interserve

## UMN Associate Organisations

### Canada

Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada  
Presbyterian Church in Canada  
Volunteer International Christian Services

### Finland

Evangelical Free Church of Finland

### Germany

Der Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst  
Gossner Mission

### India

Assemblies of God, India  
Church of North India  
Church of South India  
Methodist Church in India  
Presbyterian Church Synod Mizoram, India  
SIM, India  
United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India

### Ireland

Church Missionary Society

### Japan

United Church of Christ in Japan  
Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service

### Norway

Norwegian Pentecostal Mission

### Singapore

Singapore Baptist Convention

### South Africa

SAawe

### Sweden

Swedish Pentecostal Mission

### Switzerland

Swiss Friends for Mission in Nepal

### United States of America

American Baptist Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Global Ministries  
International Technical Assistance Group  
Mennonite Mission Network  
Navigators  
Presbyterian Church  
Southern Baptist Convention  
United Methodist Church  
Wesleyan World Mission  
World Concern

### Multi-national Bodies

South Asia Group

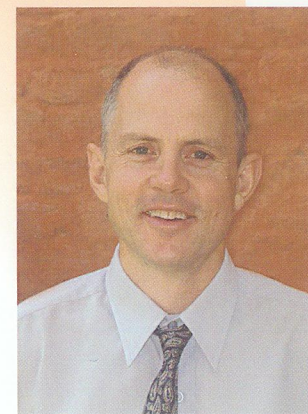


# National and Cluster Partner List

Name of Partner	Type of Organisation
<b>National</b>	
Children at Risk Network (CARNet) Nepal	NGO
Nepal Christian Relief Services (NCRS)	NGO
Dhulikhel Medical Institute (DMI-Physio Therapy)	Institution
Restoration Centre Nepal (RCN)	NGO
<b>Bajhang</b>	
Shanti Higher Secondary School (SHSS)	Institution
Ekikrit Samudayik Ban Tatha Bahu Udeshiya	
Krishak Samuha (ESBBKS)	NGO
Pragatishil Yuwa Samaj (PYS)	NGO
Dalit Sahayog Samaj (DHS)	NGO
Mahila Kalyan Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Samstha Limited (MKBRSSL)	Cooperative
<b>Dhading</b>	
Chandrajoti Integrated Rural Development Society (CIRDS)	NGO
Nari Jagaran Kendra (NJK)	NGO
District Health Office (DHO)	GoN
Dalit Welfare Organisation (DWO)	NGO
Jagat Jyoti Community Development Centre (JCDC)	NGO
Small Farmer Cooperation Federation (SFCF)	Cooperative
Achane Higher Secondary School (AHSS)	Institution
Namaste Yuba Club (NYC)	NGO
Himalaya Samudayik Mukti Karyekram (HSMK)	NGO
Prayatnasil Samudayik Bikas Samaj (PRAYAS Nepal)	NGO
Committed Society For Change (COSOC Nepal)	NGO
<b>Doti</b>	
Rampur Higher Secondary School (RHSS)	Institution
Bar Pipal Saving & Credit Cooperative Ltd. (BPSCC)	Cooperative
Rural Development Center (RDC)	NGO
Apanga Sewa Sangh (ASS)	NGO
Gramin Samudaya Bikash Kendra (RCDC)	NGO
Centre for Equal Access Development (CEAD) Nepal	NGO
<b>Mugu</b>	
Rinimokshya Samaj Sudhar Kendra (RSSK)	NGO
Gramin Samudayik Sanstha (GSS)	NGO
National Dalit Development Forum (NDDF)	NGO
Mahakali Higher Secondary School (MHSS)	Institution
District Health Office (DHO)	GoN
Karani Community Development Centre (KCDC)	NGO
Disabled Rehabilitation & Rural Development Organisation (DARRDO)	NGO

Name of Partner	Type of Organisation
<b>Rukum</b>	
Seto Gurans Bal Bikas Sewa (DGS)	NGO
Nepal Magar Society Service & Information Centre (MIC Nepal)	NGO
Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS)	NGO
Rukmini Higher Secondary School (RHSS)	Institution
Disabled Protection Forum (DPF)	NGO
Christian Society Development Campaign (CSDC)	NGO
Nepal People Awakening Forum (PAF)	NGO
District Public Health Office (DPHO)	GoN
Subtropical Vegetable Seed Production Centre (SVSPC)	GoN
<b>Rupandehi</b>	
Gramin Mahila Uddham Sahakari Sanstha Ltd (GMUSS)	Cooperative
Siddhartha Samudayek Samaj (SSS)	NGO
Sunawal Community Development Centre (SCDC), Nawalparashi	NGO
Nepal Abinash Social Service Organisation (NASSO)	NGO
Sungabha Community Development Centre (SCDC), Rudrapur	NGO
District Public Health Office (DPHO)	GoN
Jana Kalyan Higher Secondary School (JKHSS)	Institution
Bhrikut Community Learning Centre (BCLC)	NGO
Life Development Resource Centre (LDRC)	NGO
Lumbini Christian Society (LCS)	NGO
Sakar Samuha Nepal (SSN)	NGO
Adarbhut Saving and Credit Cooperative (ASCC)	NGO
Bikalpa Sewa Sanstha (BIKALPA)	NGO
Isai Samaj, Nawalparasi (ISAN)	NGO
<b>Sunsari</b>	
Nepal Chelebeti Disabled Women Society (NCDWS)	NGO
Sewa Saving & Credit Coop. Society (SEWA SACCOS)	Cooperative
Naba Jiwan Samaj Sewa (NJSS)	NGO
Participant Mobilisation Centre (PMC)	NGO
Chandra Mukhi Club (CMC)	NGO
Jana Chetana Samuha (JCS)	NGO
Sundar Samaj Nirman Samuha (SSNS)	NGO
Multi Purpose Rural Development Centre (MRDC)	NGO
Purba Anchal Gyanchaksha Bidhalaya (PGB)	Institution
Kirat Yakhang Chumling (KYC)	NGO
Vadgaun Sinuwari Higher Secondary School	Institution
Sharada Higher Secondary School (SHSS)	Institution
Brethren In Community Welfare Society (BIC)	NGO
Community Development Forum (CDF)	NGO
National Community Development Centre (NCDC)	NGO
District Development Committee, Morang (DDC)	GoN

**Mark Galpin**  
Executive Director  
United Mission to Nepal



Dear Friends and Supporters of UMN,

It is a privilege to introduce to you UMN's annual report for the period 2008-09. Having recently joined UMN it has been a great encouragement to discover what UMN and its partners have been able to achieve during this period, and the impact that this is having on poor and marginalised communities across the country of Nepal.

The situation in the country continues to be challenging, with on-going political instability at both the local and national level. The increasing culture of impunity has led to frequent blockades and strikes by different factors, particularly in the Terai. This has often exacerbated the problems and poverty of those we seek to serve, as well as presenting significant challenges to our staff and partners.

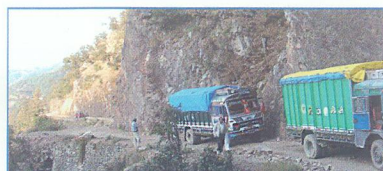
During this period UMN continued to build the technical and organisational capacity of 68 partners across 10 Districts, through its seven cluster offices. We also worked with four national partners. This work has led to significant impact at the community level across a wide range of technical areas, with a number of partners accessing resources from local government and other agencies to sustain their work. Building on its grassroots knowledge and experience, UMN continued to effectively contribute to making positive changes in policy and practice at the national level in a number of areas, including maternal and child health and HIV. We also continued to advocate at the national level on the issue of climate change, and to work with the local church to equip them to reach out and serve their local communities effectively. Okhaldhunga and Tansen Hospitals have continued to serve many thousands of people with high quality compassionate holistic health care.

On behalf of UMN I would like to express appreciation for the many groups and individuals without whom our work would be impossible: to the Government of Nepal at both local and national level for their support and assistance; to our partners; to the many organisations and individuals who contribute to our work financially and through prayer; and to the community members we have the privilege of serving. I would also like to express my gratitude to our staff, both expatriate and Nepali for their commitment and dedication.

Finally I give thanks to God, in whom we put our hope and trust. May the offering of our service be acceptable, and bring glory to Him.



# UMN's



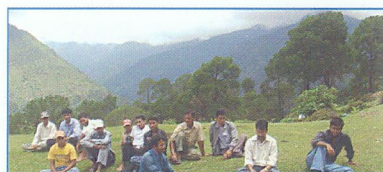
**Bajhang**

UMN work began in November 2008 in this beautiful and remote district with a low socio-economic status. The district is rich in natural resources, especially in non-timber forest products. The team is committed to peace building and is working with five partners to improve food security and access to quality education.



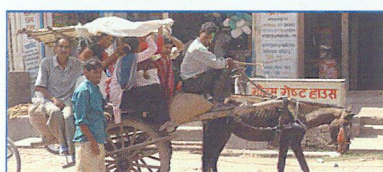
**Mugu**

Mugu, accessible by irregular flights or walking has the lowest Human Development Indicator in the country. A life expectancy of 43 years is being addressed by partners through community and health facility maternal and neonatal health interventions. Steep slopes and infertile land result in low food production. Three partners have introduced new varieties of barley, wheat, beans and vegetables, which are helping to address the chronic hunger situation.



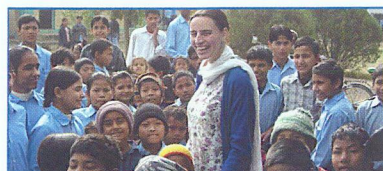
**Doti**

As one of the least developed districts Doti lacks basic infrastructure. Unsafe sexual practices by many who migrate to cities in India have resulted in the district being severely affected by HIV/AIDS. Caste based discrimination; negative cultural practices and violence against women are being addressed by all six partners. Two partners were taught the principles of conflict transformation and are now facilitating forgiveness and reconciliation between communities and individuals.



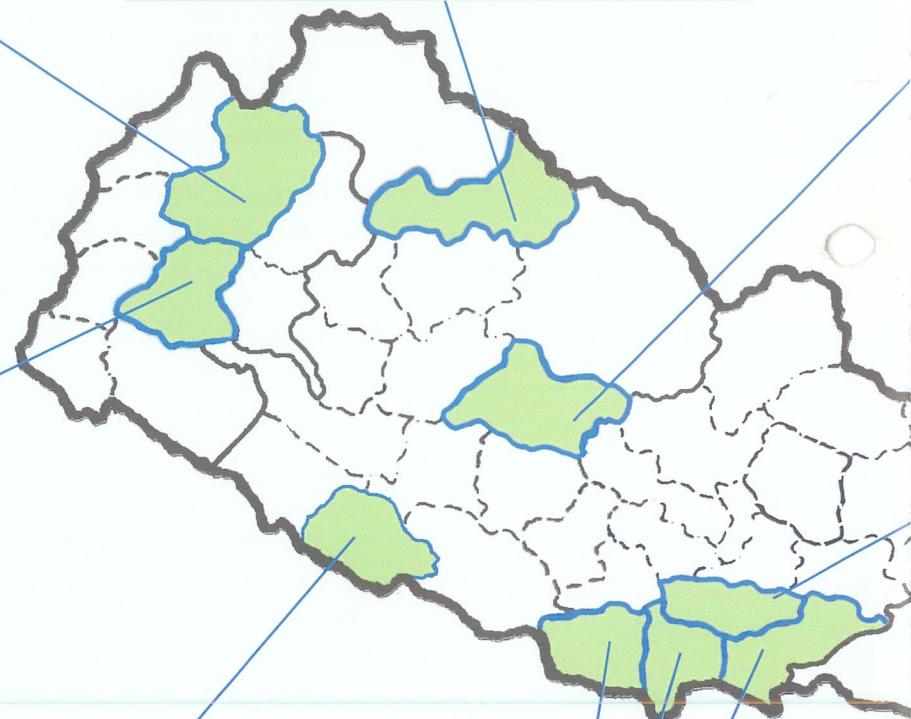
**Banke**

The Nepalganj Support Office was expanded early in 2008. It has facilitated better communication with the western clusters of Doti, Mugu, Bajhang and Rukum. The Assistant Director leads a team of 11 who give management, logistic and technical support to the clusters, staff, partners and visitors.



**Rupandehi**

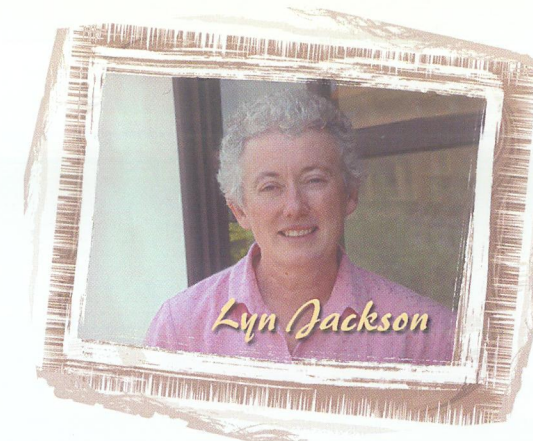
Three partners have written material for formal and non-formal education in Awadhi and Tharu, which has reduced the student drop out rate in classes one to three. Enterprise development has included candle making, fishery, and off-season vegetable farming by women's groups. The Family Life Education programme and the Church and Community Mobilisation Process have been enthusiastically implemented by churches. Christian faith networks were developed in all three districts.



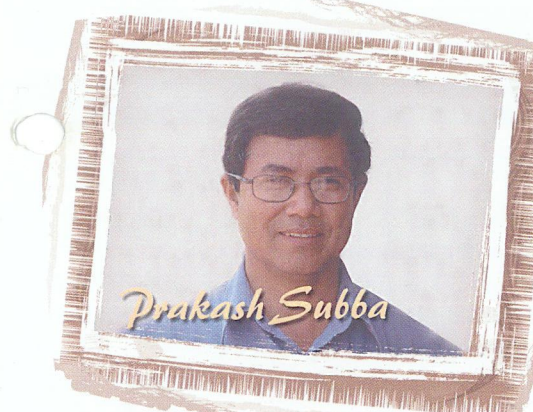
India



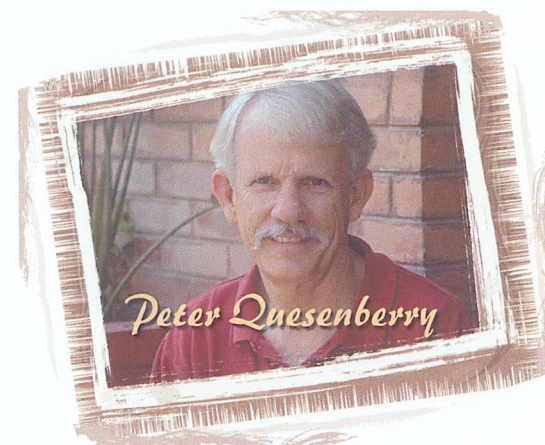
**John Lapp (United States of America):** John is the Mennonite Mission Network's Director for West Asia and the Middle East and has responsibility for their work in several countries. He served on the UMN Board and Executive Committee from 1998 to 2003.



**Lyn Jackson (Australia):** Lyn is working as Australian Programmes Coordinator for Tear Australia. She worked in UMN as its education director for three years over the time of UMN's change process.



**Prakash Subba (Nepal):** Prakash is Assistant Pastor in Patan Koinonia Church in Lalitpur and has been the National Director of the Nepal Campus Crusade for many years. He has a commitment to Integral Mission and seeing Nepali Christians contribute to the development of the new constitution.



**Peter Quesenberry (USA):** Peter is an advisor on a programme developing the next generation of national Christian leaders in Asia. Peter and his family have served in Nepal, Laos and Thailand since 1980 in various roles from village animal doctor to Mission Director.



**Rebecca Sinha (Nepal):** As Campus Chief of the Lalitpur Nursing Campus, Rebecca has played a major role in transitioning the Campus to independence from UMN. She is the Chairperson of Centre for Mental Health and Counselling – Nepal, and chaired the local YWCA for six years.



**Roshan Mendis (Sri Lanka):** Roshan is the Executive Director of the Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service. He has a strong commitment to peace and reconciliation work and is passionate about empowering communities to make a difference.



**Sandy Sneddon (Scotland):** Sandy works as Asia Secretary in the Church of Scotland's World Mission Council. He served in Pakistan for some years and been a UMN member of the Board of Trustees since 2005.



# UMN Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, elected by UMN's Supporting Partners' representatives, are 13 in number including the Executive Director, ex-officio. Six of them completed their term of service and new trustees were elected. The following is a brief description of the current 12 trustees.



**Betsy Osborne (United Kingdom):** Betsy is Head of Human Resource at World Vision UK, involved in policy development and application. She has previously worked in UMN for three years, two of these as Personnel Director.



**Fi McLachlan (United Kingdom):** Fi is the Chief Executive Officer of Mildmay International, London, with a background in social care management for both statutory and non-profit sectors. She has also worked as an organisational development consultant.



**Jeewan Gurung (Nepal):** Jeewan worked in INF for many years and also pastored a church in Pokhara. Currently he is the Pastor of a church in Dang District. He was a UMN Board Member from 2003 to 2007 and is the founder of a non-government organisation in Dang.



**Daniel Subba (Nepal):** A Pastor of the Itahari Baptist Church and President of the Nepal Baptist Church Council, Daniel is involved in social issues of injustice, advocacy and Integral Mission. He is also eager to work for social transformation of communities through a holistic ministry.



**Jane Furniss (Australia):** Jane worked as a lawyer in South East Asia for seven years. She has a longstanding interest and involvement in international development in Asia. She recently handed over her role as International Director of Micah Network.

## Working Locations



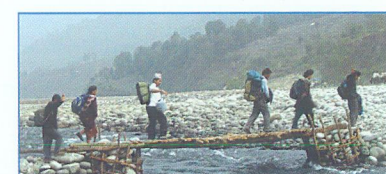
**Rukum**

The Kham Magar people live in the northern high altitude area where one partner is developing mother tongue literacy material. The district was affected by the conflict and one partner is working with those who were widowed. Disaster mitigation focuses on improving food security. A new partnership for vegetable seed production, quality control and market links will ensure farmers get a fair price for their products.



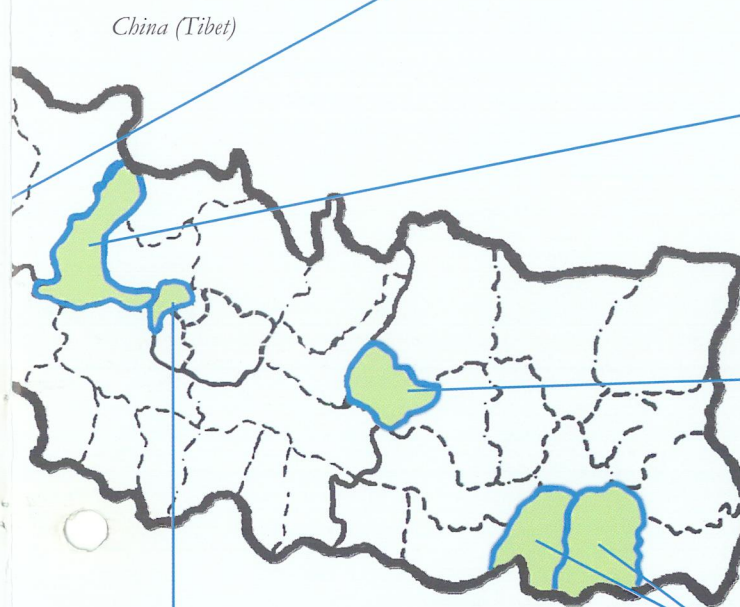
**Palpa**

An ancient hill town Tansen is the administrative headquarters of Palpa district. The Tansen Mission Hospital, established in 1954, serves a catchment area of almost one million people. Tansen Nursing School established in 2000 runs a Proficiency Certificate Level course.



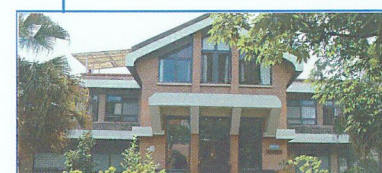
**Dhading**

After four years of working with partners we are beginning to see results. There is increased access to education for marginalised children and growing off-season vegetables has extended food security to seven months for many families. Learning to produce and market organic products is increasing income. Local government officers are impressed with the progress and are making their resources available to partners. Churches are engaging with their local communities.



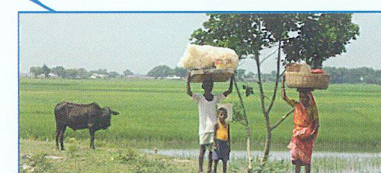
**Okhaldhunga**

Nestling in the foothills of the Himalayas, Okhaldhunga Community Hospital is the only such facility in the district. It serves a total population of 250,000 from local communities and the four surrounding districts.



**Kathmandu**

Kathmandu is where UMN's Thapathali office is situated. The Corporate and Programme Teams support the clusters (UMN's work locations) in their activities.



**Sunsari**

The 17 partners are scattered across Sunsari and Morang districts. Those in the south are addressing the challenges resulting from seasonal migration, looting, robbery, abduction and extortion. The winter harvest was poor and the rice crop is at risk due to insufficient monsoon rain. Political agitation by armed groups has seriously affected employment and industrial production. All partners are working towards sustainable livelihoods for their target communities.





partnerships. The results are encouraging and offer great support to our commitment to partnership and capacity building.

UMN's next strategic plan has been another focus for the team. A wide consultation process was conducted to understand the context for the next plan and collate best practices to be taken forward. A third area of the SP team's contribution to UMN relates to the drafting of our first-ever social accountability report (See page 21-22 for more details).

### Finance

The Finance team continued to effectively support the work of UMN as a whole. They have assisted cluster staff and some partners to improve financial accountability and transparency. A more efficient budget process was developed. Impact from the global financial crisis was mitigated by the hard work of the funding team and implementation of cost cutting measures across the organisation.

### Marketing

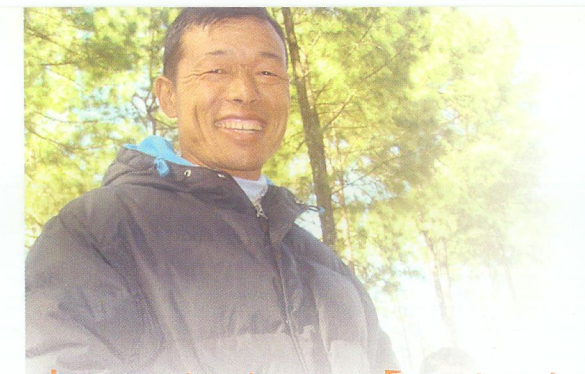
The Marketing team continued to produce quality video and print material, which has been distributed widely to UMN stakeholders. It has supported the hospitals, clusters and some partners with their publicity.

### Staff Matters

This year UMN updated and improved our Advisory Learning Programme, which builds and strengthens the advisory skills of staff. A comprehensive competency framework was developed. A team building training package continued to be used throughout the organisation. The staff survey showed an increased level of employment satisfaction with the majority of staff feeling supported and appreciated.

### Operations

The Operations team has continued working to achieve their objective of ensuring an optimum



**I can read and write in English and am facing less difficulties dealing with English-speaking visitors. UMN has helped me to overcome my English-speaking problems."**

**- Ram Bahadur Sunuwar, a security guard**

working environment. The team members all have a sense of contributing to the fulfilment of UMN's vision. The challenges of increased load-shedding were well managed by the Facilities team. Activities were undertaken to reduce our environmental footprint including changing to CFL bulbs and collecting rainwater. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) team completed the training of Thapathali based staff in the use of Open Office software, and investigated power back up options for the clusters. Additional Open Source software was tested and incorporated into the IT system. ICT team helped to select a database for use by the Social Welfare Council.

### Security

Despite the hopeful signs of the previous year, the security context in the country continued to be challenging. By the end of the year it was estimated that there were 109 armed groups operating across the country. A particular concern was the bombing of the Catholic Church in Kathmandu, which killed three people. Regular security updates to all staff and training of staff continued to be a demanding but important task.







### Board and Governance

Peter Quesenberry, a former UMN appointee and long term supporter took over as Chair of the board, with Jane Furniss as Vice Chair. A major achievement of the board this year was the recruitment of the new Executive Director.

Every second year UMN holds its General Assembly. This year the GA was held from the 6th to 8th May with the theme of 'Partnership for Transformation'. This drew 50 participants from across a wide range of international and national organisations and was well appreciated. The GA included an update on the political situation in Nepal, a programme explaining UMN's approach to partnership, and a supporting partners' business meeting. Participants contributed to UMN's strategic planning process, and interacted with leaders from the Christian Community.

### Executive Director Handover

An emotional farewell and tribute was paid to Jennie Collins, the outgoing Executive Director, by UMN staff and others on the 11 May. Staff creatively paid tribute to Jennie's huge contribution and commitment to UMN over the last 8 years. At this programme, Jennie welcomed and handed over to Mark and Liz Galpin. Mark took over as Executive Director on the 25 May 2009.

### Strategy and Policy

This year, the monitoring and evaluation unit was incorporated into UMN's Strategy and Policy (SP) team. They conducted nine evaluations of three-year



## Children at Risk

Children, including children with disabilities, have peace, security, protection from exploitation and violence, and live with dignity



The Children at Risk staff are supporting 16 cluster-based and two national partners, who share our aim that all children, including children with disabilities, have peace, security, protection from exploitation and violence, and life with dignity.

In Dhading 25 children have been trained by our partner as child rights facilitators. They have been working with 200 children in children's clubs across the district supporting them to communicate the needs and rights of children to their communities.

Our partner in Doti has developed its skills to deliver 'Community Based Rehabilitation' for children with disabilities in three Village Development Committees (VDC's). Through awareness raising and advocacy about the issue of disability, all 50 VDC secretaries in Doti have pledged to allocate funds to benefit children with disabilities.

As part of our 'Rehabilitation Ambassador' programme, 22 children from Mugu, Rukum, Sunsari and Dhading have received surgical treatment. They are now attending school and participating in family and community activities.

A new partner in Bajhang has been supported to design a child-centered community development programme which will address the basic needs of children in this district, including access to food.

In Sunsari, advocating for children's rights and strengthening children's clubs led to nine UMN partners incorporating activities relating to children into their work.

Within UMN and among all our partner organisations we are developing and implementing child protection policies. We work to ensure children participate in planning processes. We advocate for a positive physical environment and positive discipline methods in schools and homes.



The Participatory Mobilisation Centre, a UMN partner in Sunsari has supported and mobilised children's clubs within local schools, having received support and guidance from UMN. The children's club facilitator encouraged the members in one club to think about what they could do to support children who were disadvantaged. The children collected a 'basket fund' but were not sure how to use it. One day they heard of a local child who was ill so called an urgent meeting and decided to give their 'basket fund' money for her medical treatment. This girl is now recovered, and is back in school. The child club members are encouraged, actively supporting their friends, trying to improve the school environment and developing their own capacity. Parents and teachers have started to respect what the children are achieving.



# Conflict Transformation

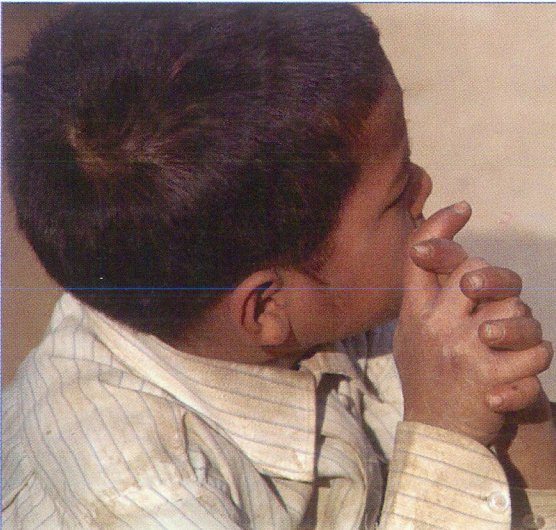
Helping Communities to discover ways that lead to social harmony, improved relationships, and hope



Civil war always leaves hurt, angry and distressed people in its wake. With our Integral Mission advisor we have produced a DVD and discussion material on forgiveness and reconciliation. Many churches and partner NGOs have been using it to support healing and renewal of relationships in the community. Several partners have forged ahead with impressive programmes that address local situations of tension, violence and trauma. We are almost ready to field test a new non-formal education book of conflict

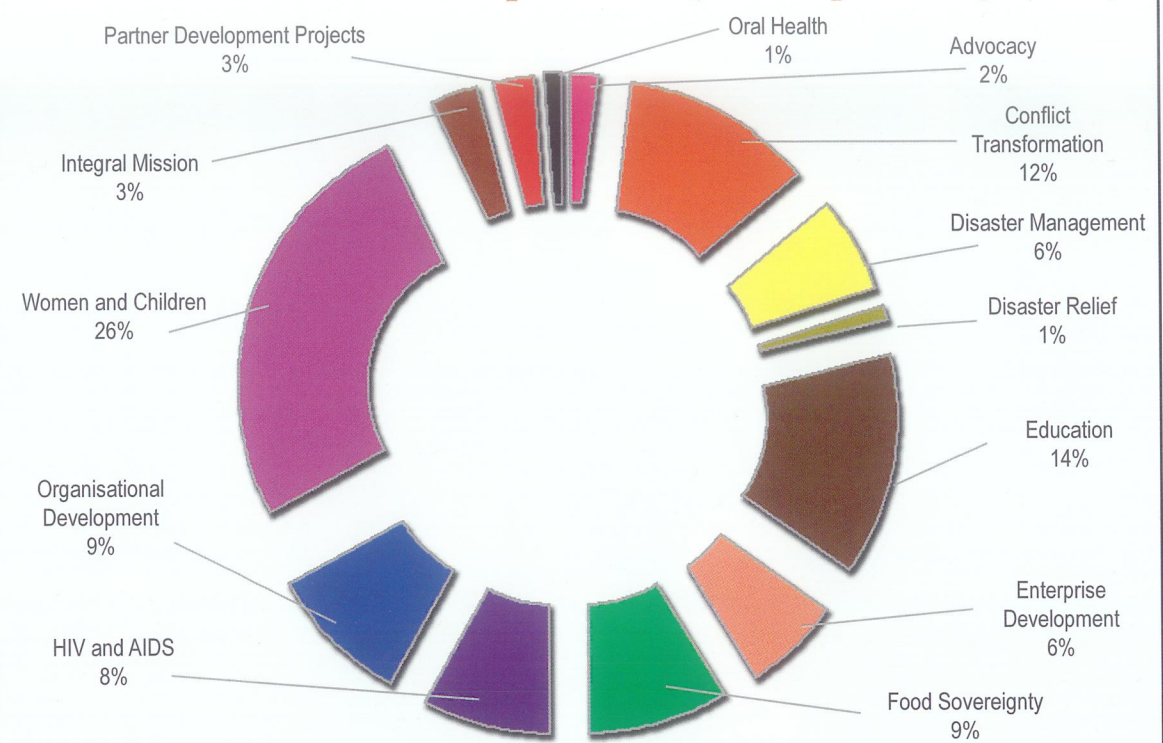
related lessons. All partners receive Do No Harm training and are coached as they apply the principles to their work with beneficiary communities. In Nepal widows are generally despised and ignored by society. In Rukum they are working together to grow and sell mushrooms. The women also have plans for growing herbs for essential oil production. In one of Doti's remote villages where conflict affected people felt forgotten, 30 school scholarships are giving hope that the next generation will have opportunities their parents never had. Along the border with India, a Sunsari

partner is working in their village area to restore relationships and prevent looting and violence which has been a problem for many years. We are active in the Association of INGOs in Nepal, both in their peace working group and more broadly by supporting learning and activity in the promotion of conflict transformation through sensitive development. Through formal and informal contacts we have encouraged major political parties and the Peace Ministry to give clear leadership in the peace process.



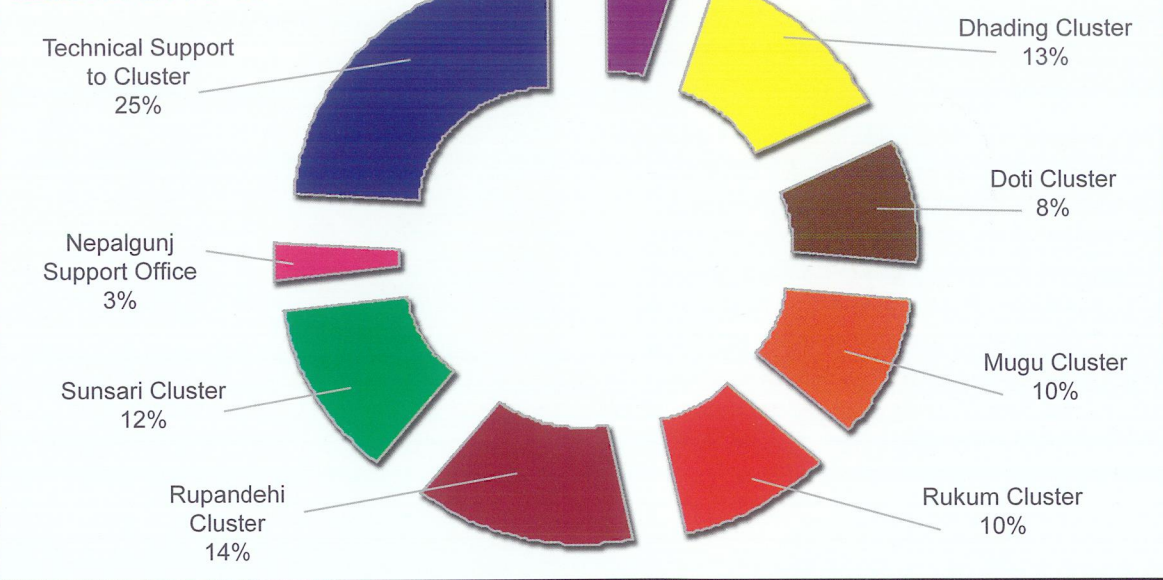
When Manoj was 5 years old his father was killed by the armed forces, his mother remarried and left him with his grandparents in Doti. Five years later he now lives with his uncle who struggles to feed his own children. Manoj knows his relatives consider him unlucky. Although he went to school, he had no bag or exercise books and was often pinched or beaten. UMN partner Gramin Samudayik Sansthan has provided 24 children including Manoj with scholarships which cover a school bag, uniform, geometry case, pens, pencils, exercise books and a pair of sandals. Manoj was very excited, as everything was new rather than second hand, old or broken. He felt valued and is now doing well at school coming second in a class of 35 students in the end of year examination.

Breakdown of Charitable Expenditure (exc hospitals & JIDCO)



The hospitals account for 53% of UMN's expenditure and JIDCO accounts for 2% of UMN's expenditure. The largest areas of work within UMN are Women and Children (26% of UMN charitable expenditure), Education (14%) and Conflict Transformation (12%). The Oral Health programme closed at the end of 2007/08 and the remaining funds were transferred during 2008/09.

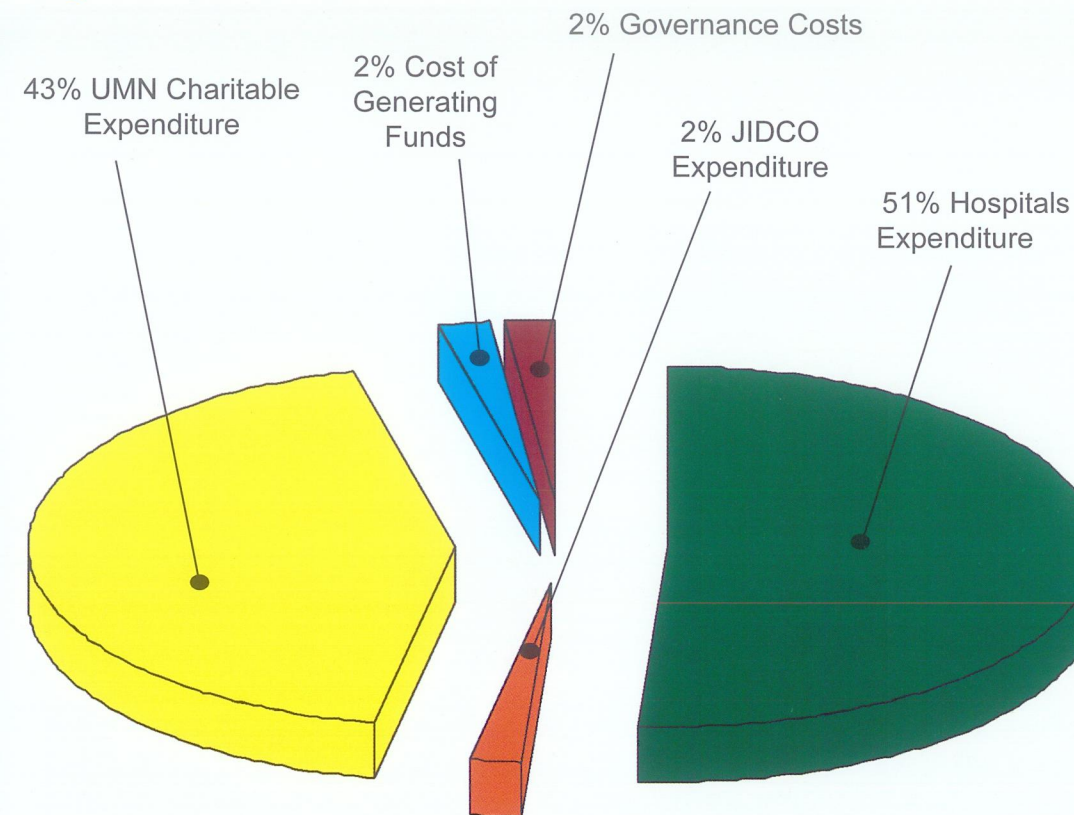
Breakdown of Charitable Cluster 2008-09



The hospitals and JIDCO work in specific geographical locations whereas the rest of UMN's work is split over a number of geographic locations. The 2008/09 charitable expenditure of UMN (excluding the hospitals and JIDCO) is broken down by location above. Rupandehi, Dhading and Sunsari were the locations in which the highest proportion of UMN's charitable expenditure was spent. Technical support is provided to clusters from advisory groups based in Kathmandu and Nepalgunj in order to ensure the quality and effectiveness of UMN's work.



## Expenditure in 2008-09

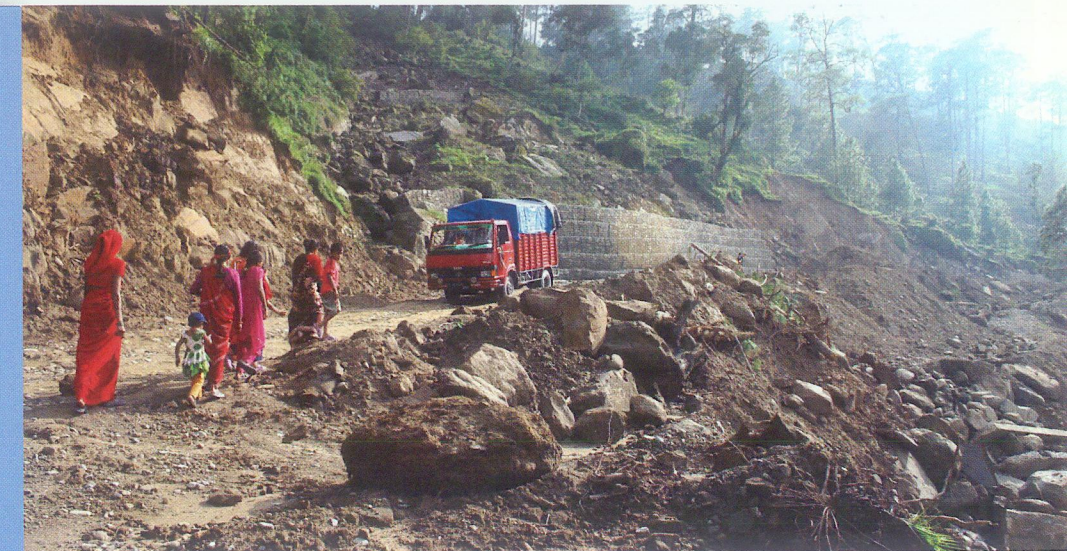


### Breakdown of Charitable Expenditure:

	US \$	% of Total Charitable Expenditure	% of Charitable Expenditure (excluding Hospitals and JIDCO)
Hospitals	2,527,423	53	-
Women and Children	558,617	12	26
Education	297,997	6	14
Conflict Transformation	266,180	6	12
Food Sovereignty	200,597	4	9
Organisational Development	190,894	4	9
HIV and AIDS	164,338	3	8
Enterprise Development	138,820	3	6
Disaster Management	128,594	2.7	6
JIDCO	93,359	2	-
Integral Mission	69,595	1	3
Partner Development Projects	67,913	1	3
Advocacy	40,868	1	2
Disaster Relief	31,306	1	1
Oral Health	14,522	0.3	1
Total	4,791,023		

# Disaster Management

Vulnerability of people in Nepal to potential disasters caused by climatic and non-climatic risk is minimised



In August 2008, severe flooding in eastern Nepal displaced more than 50,000 people. UMN provided emergency food and medicine for some victims of the flood. UMN has also responded to disasters, such as fires and landslides, in other parts of Nepal through the provision of emergency relief materials. In the west of Nepal, UMN has assisted two communities to construct embankments to provide long term protection against floods. During the year over 4,000 people directly benefited from UMN's relief and rehabilitation programme.

In addition to these relief activities, UMN has 10 partners across six clusters working with communities to prepare for, and respond to, disasters. In Dhading and Rukum, comprehensive disaster awareness programmes were conducted involving regular radio broadcasts, establishing disaster management teams and the development of a user-friendly disaster management reference book and associated curriculum in local schools to raise awareness about disasters.

A wide range of capacity building activities were also carried out with partners in various clusters, including training in search and rescue, relief management,

slope stabilisation, road safety, earthquake resistant construction, climate change, and advocacy.

In Rukum, a UMN partner has begun to install improved cooking stoves in around 200 households. This will both reduce deforestation in the area, and result in significant health benefits, particularly for women, through improved indoor air quality.

UMN continues to raise its profile and contribution at national level having had an active role in Nepal's network of disaster management organisations (DPNet) as well as contributing to the up coming national five year strategic plan.

Road accidents on the Prithvi highway kill and injure hundreds of passenger and pedestrians each year in Dhading district. There are 50 schools along the road; so many children risk their lives crossing the road every day.

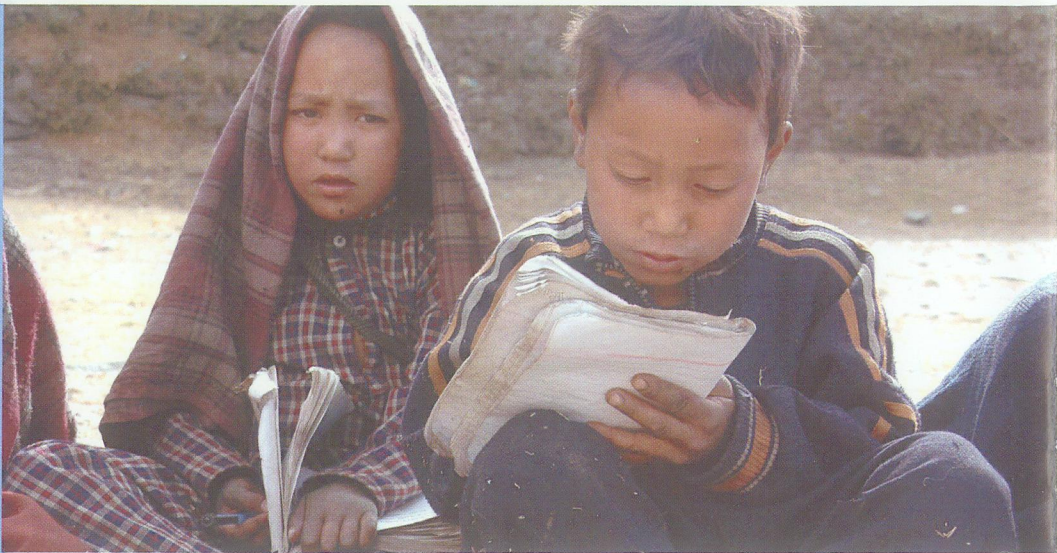
UMN and local partner Committed Society for Change, with input from schools and the local education office developed a text book on road safety. The book is the basis for a local school curriculum focusing on basic road safety measures. At the curriculum evaluation workshop an educational specialist commended the initiative saying, "This is innovative and significant work. We appreciate UMN's input into the curriculum and wish all the schools success in implementing it. It will help save the lives of school children as well as reduce the road accident hazards."





# Education

Bringing  
new hope  
through  
access to  
practical  
education



In Mugu, Dalit girls' scholarships have increased opportunities for talented students who cannot afford to take higher studies. An additional 40 girls came onto the programme this year bringing numbers up to 100. The UMN scholarship programme supports an additional 336 students from the other clusters and 44 students continue from earlier programmes. The first student to pass the School Leaving Certificate from a marginalised group in Sunsari has received a scholarship to study for a diploma in animal health.

The literacy campaign initiated by a Mugu partner in a remote community has brought 121 children who have never attended school and 24 who had previously dropped out into mainstream schools.

As part of the government's initiative to teach the first grades of primary education in their own mother tongue languages, UMN partners have developed materials in Abadhi and Tharu languages. These are being used in class one in several schools and the drop out rate of students between class one and class two has fallen.

UMN's networking with the Opportunity Education Foundation has provided additional classroom material for students

in remote areas to learn through games, music, art and song. The materials are also used in after-school activities.

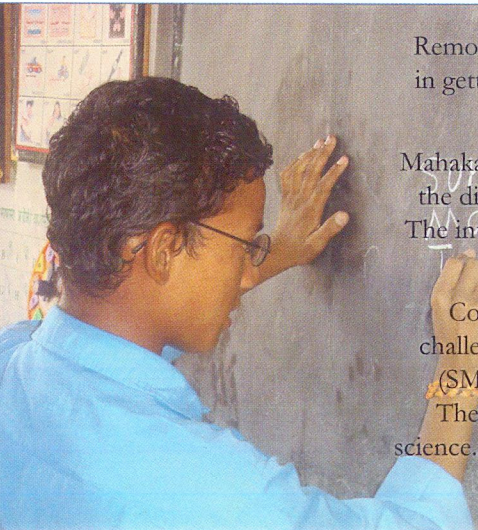
In Rukum, food sovereignty has been integrated into an education programme. At school children learnt kitchen gardening skills and are now making gardens at home.

School Management Committees (SMC) and Parent Teacher Associations have been strengthened with UMN's help which has increased community involvement in the schools. In Sunsari, Rupandehi and Dhading partners are using child friendly teaching methods and maintaining health and hygiene in Early Childhood Development Centers (ECDC).

Remote schools in Mugu, face many challenges including teacher absenteeism, difficulties in getting text books in time, and academic sessions which do not fit the local agricultural pattern. As a result students under achieve.

Mahakali Higher Secondary School, a UMN partner, wanted to encourage other schools in the district by replicating their successful School Leaving Certificate support programme. The intervention was two months of intensive coaching for students and the school's pass rate had increased from 5% to 35% in year two and to 70% by the third year.

Coordinating with the District Education Office (DEO) each participating school was challenged to improve their learning environment. The School Management Committees (SMC) and head teachers of these schools were asked to monitor and supervise classes. There was training for the teachers who then taught extra classes in English, maths and science. The DEO noted less cheating this year. When the SLC board published the results the pass rate of the district was 54%, an increase of 9% over last year.



## Breakdown of Grant Income (excluding Hospitals and JIDCO):

Donor	US \$	%
TEAR Australia	256,806	15
Tearfund UK	215,699	13
Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI)	194,937	12
Norwegian Himal Asia Mission (NHAM)	177,164	11
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM)	163,062	10
Tear Netherlands	109,068	7
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V (EED)	99,993	6
ICCO and Kerk in Actie	97,940	6
Support to Safer Motherhood Programme (SSMP)	81,156	5
InterAct	62,225	4
Others	186,088	11
Total Grant Income	1,644,138	

## EXPENDITURE

Consolidated Expenditure was \$5,000,836, a decrease of 4% on the previous year (\$5,170,101)\*. The hospitals' expenditure was \$2,527,423, accounting for 51% of overall expenditure. UMN charitable expenditure was \$2,170,242 accounting for 43% of overall expenditure.

The cost of generating funds (2%) is the costs associated with activities to attract donors and individuals to support the work of UMN. Governance costs (2%) ensure that there is an adequate governance infrastructure within UMN and covers the cost of the Board, the bi-annual general assembly, financial governance and strategic management.

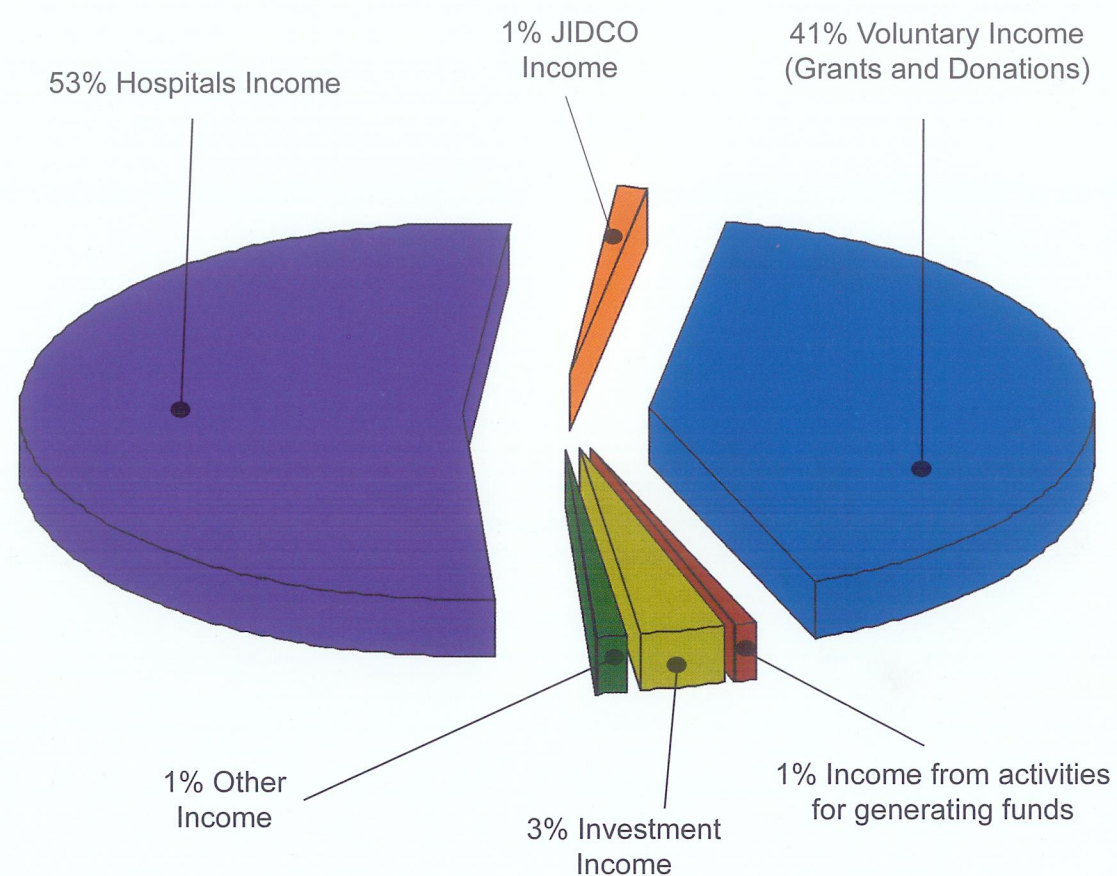
The consolidated charitable expenditure of UMN was \$4,791,023 (96% of total expenditure) including \$413,863 of support costs allocated in direct proportion to direct costs. No support costs were allocated to the hospitals or JIDCO.

\*In Nepali Rupees the expenditure is 388,064,872, an increase of 9% on the previous year (NRs 355,185,962). The decrease in the US dollar expenditure value is due to exchange rate movements.



In the year ending 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009, UMN's consolidated income was \$5,036,740 and consolidated expenditure was \$5,000,836. The consolidated accounts of UMN include the full accounts of the Tansen and Okhaldhunga hospitals, the Hospital Services Office and UMN's portion of the accounts of JIDCO, a company controlled (76% owned) by UMN, carrying out a development project for people adversely affected by an hydro-electric power station. UMN's accounts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the U.K. Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) published in March 2005.

### Income in 2008-09



### INCOME

Consolidated Income was \$5,036,740, a decrease of 3% on the previous year (\$5,169,734)\*. The hospitals' income was \$2,652,936, accounting for 53% of overall income. Grants from institutions and donations from individuals amounted to \$2,077,630, including \$346,798 of expatriate volunteer services.

\*In Nepali Rupees the income is 390,851,013, an increase of 10% on the previous year (NRs 355,160,753). The decrease in the US dollar income value is due to exchange rate movements.

US \$1 = NRs. 77.6

## Enterprise Development

Empowering marginalised communities to access regular cash income through increased opportunities



Over 1600 households benefited directly from enterprise development activities through 16 partners across four clusters. UMN gave partners coaching support as their beneficiaries have started what for them are new and challenging activities. These include asparagus cultivation, coffee and off-season vegetable farming, commercial goat raising and candle production.

In Rupandehi, one women's cooperative continues to rent three fish ponds. In Sunsari, partners and their communities are involved in bamboo stool and kukuri

(knife) making, pig raising, milk production and making treadle pumps for irrigation. As a step towards sustainability in all clusters there has been a special focus is on training partners' staff so they can train communities. They have become motivators for the community, able to give training in entrepreneurship development, cooperative management, veterinary animal health care and income generation through agriculture.

In March 2009 a mid-term evaluation of the enterprise development programme showed that beneficiaries on average now earn an additional 2,200 rupees (US\$ 30)

per month and all who began enterprises have continued. The additional income is used to cover school fees, medical expenses and to begin saving. Partners and target beneficiaries are learning that they need to 'think business'. Other partners, not currently in the 16 focusing on enterprise development, have also started to incorporate income generating activities into their work with target communities. The enterprise development programme is supporting the Government of Nepal's Youth Self-employment Programme through its 'Model Entrepreneur' promotion.

Grahmin Mahila Uddham Sahakari Sanstha Limited (GMUSSL) is a growing women's cooperative in Rupandehi. Most members are illiterate. They work long days in their fields and care for their families. Traditional cropping systems alone have not produced sufficient income to meet their basic needs.

To address the low income of the cooperative members UMN has worked with them to develop individual entrepreneurs. Padma started a cutting and sewing business, Jayanti commercial vegetable farming, Najma and Gayatri each started very profitable meat shops in Dhakdhai. Sita opened a small general store in her own home and another member a fancy goods shop in her village. Each woman took a loan from the cooperative or received a small capital grant from UMN. All are convinced they will now be able to continue to provide for their families in the years ahead. Other cooperative members are thinking they also will become entrepreneurs. GMUSSL and UMN have an important role coaching and mentoring these entrepreneurs for sustainable growth in their businesses.





# Food Sovereignty

Empowering food insecure communities through enhancing their control over food availability, accessibility and better utilisation



There have been critical food shortages over the last year in many parts of Nepal due to low rainfall, particularly last winter. UMN's food sovereignty interventions through 13 partners across five clusters were wide ranging and included improving access to food, promotion of organic agricultural practices as well as increasing the resilience of communities to variable weather conditions.

In Mugu, animal health workers have been able to treat 5,600 goats against scabies. The creation of kitchen gardens has increased local production of vegetables

and contributed to better nutrition. Promotion of high value crops, onions and beans has provided additional income to more than 200 households. The provision of improved wheat seeds has increased production by 100% and a seed bank was initiated which will ensure improved seeds are available for many local farmers in Mugu.

A vegetable seed promotion project in Rukum has begun in collaboration with the Sub-tropical Vegetable Seed Production Centre. More than 1,200 households will benefit from this. Functional education classes conducted by UMN's partner in local communities improved farming practices and veterinary care.

UMN has undertaken a comprehensive social mobilisation campaign on food production in Dhading. A number of local fieldworkers were trained to provide support to communities in animal health, kitchen gardening and growing high value cash crops like coffee and asparagus. This programme has brought sustainable benefits for marginalised communities by increasing their access to food.

UMN is actively involved in the Right to Food Network which advocated for food sovereignty issues to be incorporated into Nepal's new constitution and for food shortages associated with natural disasters to be recognised and addressed by the Government of Nepal.

Gunjaman, in Dhading district learnt about kitchen gardening, organic pesticides and fertiliser from UMN partner Jagat Jyoti Community Development Centre (JCDC); now his kitchen garden is full of vegetables all the year round. He successfully grew seasonal vegetables like cabbage, cauliflower, radish, carrot, bitter gourd and tomato. He was the first man in his village to grow cabbages. He has made a profit and is teaching his neighbours to prepare their own small nurseries and grow vegetables.

Kammar Aaidi in Mugu district listened to a new idea took a risk and planted off-season potatoes. He was supported and encouraged by UMN partner Rinimokshya Samaj Sudhar Kendra (RSSK). He grew enough potatoes to eat, to store for food, to sell, to give away to his neighbours and to keep for the next season's planting. He thanks UMN for helping him feed his family for an extra three months this year.



The Public Health Unit programme continued working in 12 Village Development Committees (VDC). All have functional Health Management Committees (HMC) who have carried out regular activities in the areas of environment/ sanitation, nutrition and school health education. They have continued to mobilise and support Female Community Health Volunteers and women's groups thereby expanding health education programmes. New initiatives have been much appreciated. These include oral health camps, trainings on domestic violence and legal rights as well as safe motherhood training to local Maternal and Child Health Workers (MCHW) and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM). In five of the VDCs a Participatory Rural Appraisal has been conducted as part of an evaluation of impact. Additional cluster surveys covered 33% of the total female population.

## Tansen Nursing School (TNS)

Tansen Nursing School (TNS) began teaching the Proficiency Certificate Level (PCL) course in March 2000 under a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) signed between the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and UMN. The MoU expired on July 2009. The future legal status of TNS is still being discussed.

Along with the academic nursing programme, TNS is also involved in community activities. First and second year students run a children's library for poor children of Tansen municipality. TNS provides financial support to more than 50% of the students. Income for TNS is students' fees, a CTEVT grant, and other gifts and grants in kind. TNS continues to face challenges in its staffing and financial sustainability.

## Hospital Services Office

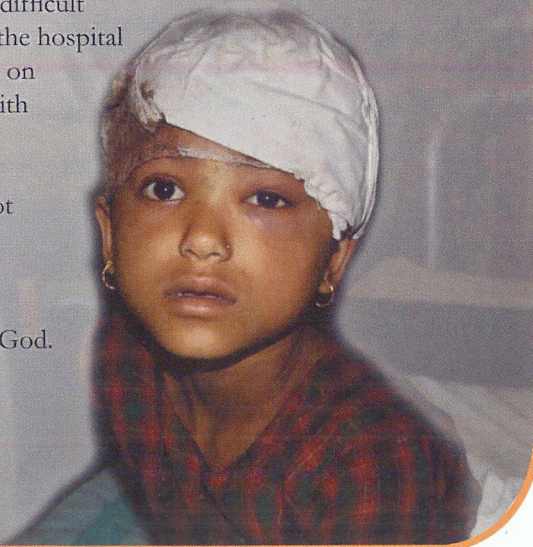
The office was established in July 2008 to provide central logistic support for the two hospitals and as a secretariat for the Hospital Executive Committee whose role is to oversee the transition of the two hospitals to Nepali governance and management. There has been some progress but decisions will be made in the coming year. Support was also given TNS as it makes a similar transition.

## A Miraculous Operation at Okhaldhunga

A 12-year-old girl was saved from a near-fatal experience. She was brought semi-conscious and unresponsive to the hospital after a fall. It was clear that she had internal head injuries. Realistically only immediate transfer to a larger hospital would save her as Okhaldhunga hospital only has minimal facilities and unreliable electricity. That was not possible.

The hospital's resident medical officer had to make a difficult decision; either tell the family that there was nothing the hospital could do and let the girl die a silent death, or operate on her with the resources available. The officer shared with his colleagues, together they prayed and decided to operate. By a miracle, the doctor made an incision in the girl's skull at exactly the place where the blood clot was situated. The blood clot and collected blood was removed and pressure on the brain tissue relieved. By morning, the girl was beginning to wake up. The family witnessed prayer, and the intervention of God.

"We Serve, Jesus Heals" is the motto of Tansen Mission Hospital. Likewise the doctor in Okhaldhunga said, "Indeed, we serve and do our best, Jesus will do the rest."







## Tansen Mission Hospital Okhaldhunga Community Hospital

The past twelve months have a time of growth, activity and overall successful with the hospital ending in a positive financial position. The new Emergency Room has been fully utilised and new training programmes have been added.

Besides routine services, the hospital continued HIV and AIDS counselling and treatment. Every pregnant women coming to the hospital or town clinic was offered an HIV test as part of the programme of prevention of mother to child transmission. Laparoscopy surgery was introduced in October 2008. A new occupational therapy department was opened in July 2009. Renovation of x-ray and minor operating facilities, laboratories and the surgical consulting area continued.

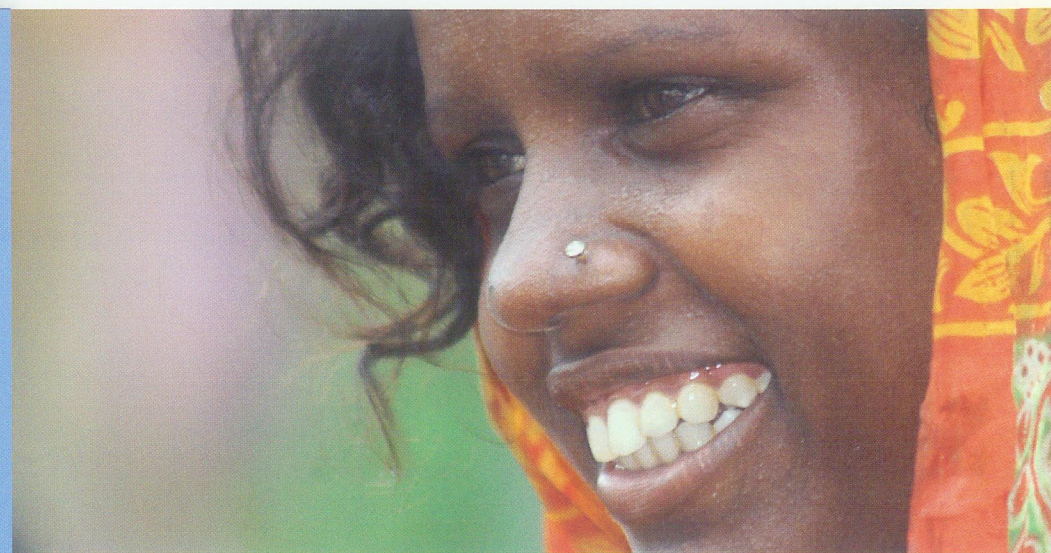
The Community Health Department continued its activities of nutritional support, school health and running the Town Clinic which offers general, ante-natal and post natal services. A safer motherhood programme was started, which including producing programmes for FM radio called "Amaako Jiwan." which focused on the life of a mother.

During the year there was an increase in surgical and diagnostic procedures. The hospital director left in April 2009 and a new hospital director was recruited who started work from July.



## Health and Gender

Improving women and children's quality of life through empowerment and quality services



The health and gender work has seen some major achievements this year. Significant impact at national level has been made in maternal and neonatal health. The 11 staff have concentrated on coaching 29 partners in five clusters in programme design, development and monitoring; supporting some in proposal writing; and all in implementing their organisational plans. The majority of NGO partners are moving towards designing and implementing their own programmes.

Within the Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH) programme, the manual adaptation has been completed and

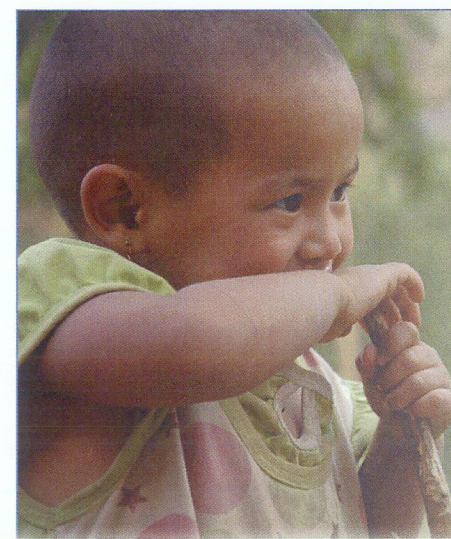
200 youth from churches and schools participated in the Family Life Education programme with active involvement of local church leaders.

In four districts under the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) programme, 2300 Female Community Health Volunteers provided 33% of total diarrhoea and pneumonia treatment within the government health system.

Maternal and Neonatal Health (MNH) programmes in Mugu and Rupandehi currently provide 24 hour delivery services, including the management of complicated deliveries, in 12 rural health facilities. There has been a significant increase

in service utilisation - 170% in Mugu and 250% in Rupandehi from 2007-08 data. This represents more than 90% of delivery care in Mugu. Experiences of the MNH programme in Mugu district have contributed to the development of the national "Remote Area Guidelines" for MNH programmes which has already been integrated into the national plan of MNH 2009-10.

Staff have actively supported nine partner organisations within five districts to implement programmes focusing on community health and gender issues including mobilising over 300 women's groups for empowerment, behaviour change and advocating for access to care.



As part of the community based IMCI programme, UMN supports the Dhading District Public Health Office to build the capacity of Female Volunteer Health Workers. One volunteer is Sangeeta who this year treated 40 pneumonia and 27 diarrhoea cases. Sangeeta says, "Before I used to only counsel and raise awareness on health issues but now after IMCI training I can treat illnesses in under 5s."

One child was Nirajan. He was severely ill with respiratory problems. His mother had taken him to a renowned traditional healer for rituals and treatment. The little boy's health became worse. Nirajan's mother was distressed, "Our god is not happy with our family, he is not showing mercy to us" she said. The local mothers group pressured her to take him to Sangeeta, who diagnosed pneumonia. She gave him antibiotics for three days. At the third day follow-up visit Nirajan's health had improved and his mother's face was glowing with happiness. Now she really trusts Sangeeta and refers other children to her.



# HIV and AIDS

Preventing HIV transmission through education and awareness raising, and improving the quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS through empowerment, care and support



During the year, UMN contributed towards accelerating the effort to fight HIV and AIDS and reduce its impact among infected and affected people. UMN partners provided training on healthy life choices and how to avoid acquiring HIV to 418 young people. Peer educators positively influenced 6,552 youth, migrants, drug users and sex workers.

In every cluster and nationally, UMN partners, government and others celebrated World AIDS Day. UMN supported District AIDS Coordinating Committees in Morang, Kapilvastu and

Nawalparasi to develop their strategic plans. UMN was involved in a national consultation to identify and raise the issues facing children affected by AIDS, especially focusing on areas like access to education.

Through seven UMN partners 520 people living with HIV accessed treatment, nutrition and income generation support. Some of them also received training on care giving and nutrition, and 37 children received education support. Two partners produced radio programmes, which reached an estimated 40,000 people with messages on awareness and prevention.

The Mugu survey of antenatal attendees was completed. All respondents were living

with their husbands and none of the 314 participants were found to be HIV positive.

Church leaders received training on HIV and AIDS and mobilised 40 churches to share love and hope with infected people. Now some congregations are financially supporting families of those who are HIV positive. Wives of migrant workers are communicating HIV messages to their husbands by telephone and letters. Some church members have accompanied infected people to Voluntary, Counselling and Testing centres. Within these churches there is an increased openness to discuss sexual issues and the challenges faced by young people.



Pushpa lives in Bhusnapur in Nawalparasi, a village near the India border. Although her parents are illiterate Pushpa was inspired by her elder brother to study. She responded to an advertisement for a Peer Educator-Volunteer with the Sunwal Community Development Centre, a UMN partner. After basic life skills and HIV and AIDS prevention training, she started to educate young people in her community and walked across the fields to share with other communities. Local people whispered that she was no longer modest because she talked about HIV and AIDS and sex education. She was not deterred. After building rapport with VDC leaders and teachers she facilitated the formation of school and community peer education groups.

One VDC allocated funds for her and her peer-educators to conduct an HIV and AIDS and STI awareness orientation after which 27 people were referred for testing and treatment. Pushpa's parents and the village now appreciate her efforts. Pushpa's life aim has also changed; she wants to be good facilitator in the field of development.





"The cost effectiveness of working through local partners is good"

- Steve Collins, Tearfund UK

**Economic** means what we do with the resources we have been given.

From the last two year's Annual Accounts we have looked at the level and change in such areas as overall cluster resource utilisation, the percentage directly benefiting poor communities or building the capacity of local organisations to bring change. This additional understanding of the economic impact of our work will contribute to the preparation of the new five year Strategic Plan.

**Environment** is about our impact on the physical world.

For UMN we looked at two areas of this impact: the organisation's production of carbon dioxide, or "carbon footprint," and use of water and electricity, both of which are in short supply in Nepal.

In Nepal, the impact of climate change is very evident, so it is important to know and understand the organisation's carbon footprint. With scattered teams working in 10 districts, staff travel regularly which releases carbon into the atmosphere, and therefore contributes to climate change. Electricity supplies are often cut off for long periods because demand far exceeds supply. The backup generator in the Kathmandu office uses diesel - a fuel with high carbon emissions. Below is a summary of our carbon footprint for the last two years.



The 2008-9 increases in each indicator are due to:

- Expanded geographical locations so increased travel to support teams
- Increased load shedding so increased generator use
- The process of recruiting a new Executive Director significantly increased international travel.

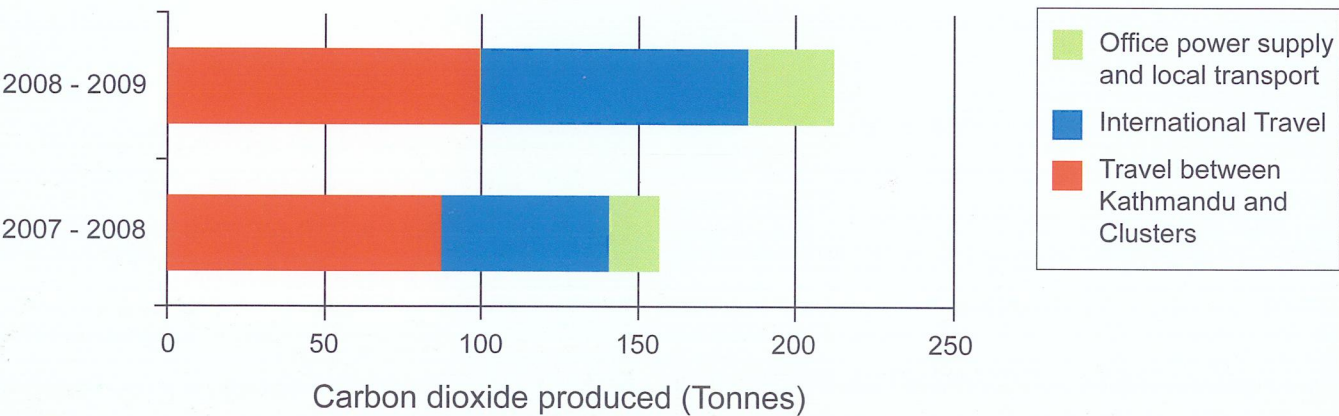
UMN continues to explore ways to use fewer non-renewable resources.

Social Accountability gives UMN a process to objectively monitor the social, economic and environmental impact of its work and informs decision making on how best to be more accountable in these areas.

"UMN is not a donor. It is a partnership organisation and it helps to strengthen our capacity building,"

- Sanjay Shrestha, Executive Committee member of partner in Nawalparasi.

UMN's Carbon Footprint



# Organisational Development

Strengthening partners' organisational capacities to improve their effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability



All of UMN's 72 partners are looking for ways to develop their own organisation. UMN supports them through training and coaching.

At the time of partner selection in Doti and Bajhang inclusion of local government, the NGO networks, political leaders and other key stakeholders' modelled transparency, ensured everyone owned the decision and avoided community conflict.

This year, 15 partners signed a three-year partnership agreement and began to implement community-focused programmes for immediate impact which will lead to programmes with longer sustainable impact.

They have also received trainings to strengthen their organisational processes including identifying vision, mission, goals and values. They learnt to develop policies, began to understand good governance and financial management. Trainings were combined with regular follow-up and coaching of the partner to ensure effective implementation. All partners now practise double-entry bookkeeping and have an annual external audit. Partners are using a transparent recruitment procedure, which is appreciated by beneficiaries.

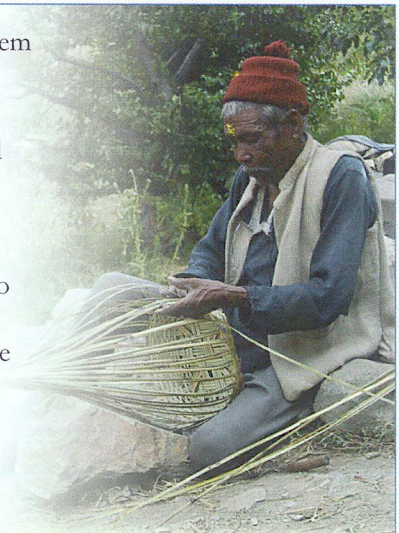
More mature partners have conducted social audits, public hearings and been challenged to address the issues raised by stakeholders. After evaluation of three

year partnerships in Mugu and Sunsari four partners have progressed into a networking non-partner relationship with UMN, two have withdrawn from partnership whilst seven have signed a further agreement. In four clusters twelve partners have designed programmes, submitted proposals and are implementing their own three-year projects more independently with UMN coaching and monitoring.

There was recognition of the need to ensure all cluster-based staff have a basic understanding of organisational development concepts and principles so that they are adequately able to support partners in their technical and organisational growth.

Participatory organisational assessment with new partners in Bajhang challenged three of them to make changes.

- Mahila Kalyan Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Limited realised the lack of policy documents and clear direction was making many members indifferent. Now it is excited and moving forward. Being clearer about what it wants to achieve has made it more attractive to women and many have joined.
- The chairperson of Pragatisil Yuwa Samaj was a busy man, running the NGO and his business. He has a passion to work in the social development sector, but finds it hard to make time. Now he is ready to step aside, become an advisor and give opportunity for the next generation of potential leaders to bring their enthusiasm, gifts and skills into the organisation.
- Shanti Higher Secondary School realised their own lack of initiative had contributed to their problems. There was some space on the school campus so they made a model vegetable garden. The school want to use all their available resources.





# National Contribution



One of UMN's key ways of working is to contribute at national level. In the year 2008-09 this has been through involvement in different fields, in national level policy and strategy development with the Government of Nepal (GoN) and active participation in selected national level forums.

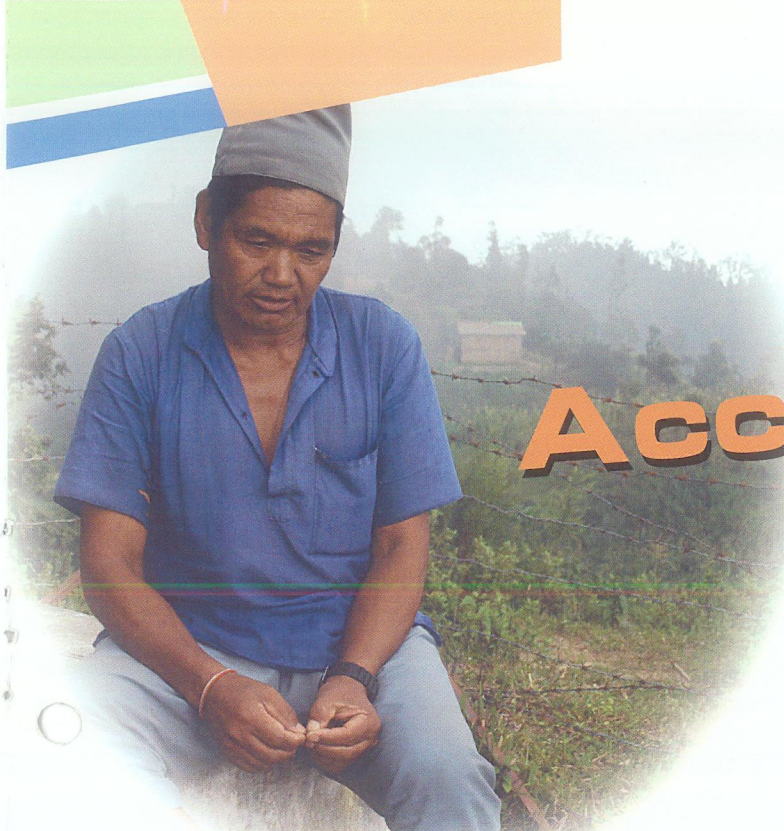
UMN was an active member of the GoN National Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) Sub-Committee, Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) Working Group, National Family Planning Sub-Committee and Adolescent Health Sub-Committee. UMN supported the development of a national action plan on HIV and AIDS (2007-2011) in collaboration with other stakeholders and Government line agencies.

Our experiences and learning through the MNH programme in Mugu District has contributed to the development of a national "Remote Area Guideline for MNH Programme" which has already been integrated into the national plan for MNH 2009-10 by GoN. Similarly, UMN contributed technical expertise to the production of GoN "National Guidelines on Community and Home Based Care and Standard Operating Procedures for HIV and AIDS."

UMN pro-actively contributed to the work of the Association of International NGOs in Nepal (AIN) and initiated the following working groups: Capacity Building, Climate Change, Education, Health, HIV and AIDS, Local Governance and Peace. UMN values these working groups as effective platforms for strengthening collaborative efforts for Nepal's development through sharing experiences and promoting the best practices. Being a member of the Universal

*UMN contributes to the development of national policies, priorities and strategies relevant to our areas of work.*

# UMN and Social Accountability



"This organisation is different from other INGOs.... It has been conducting different activities in a unique approach, which have made it a unique organisation,"

- Government of Nepal, Social Welfare Council mid-term evaluation report, Nov 2008.

Over the last two years, UMN has been looking at how to respond to questions about who we are, how we use resources and the impact we are having. We believe this is an effective measure of organisational integrity and priority. In UMN this process is called "Social Accountability" and this year we produced our first analysis. Using a model developed by the Social Audit Network in the UK, the measurements were in three categories: social, economic and environmental.

**Social** means our relationships with people, their perception of our behaviour and whether we really do the things we say.

Partner organisations have told us we are different from other

INGOs, and treat them as equals. Supporting Partners appreciate UMN's responsiveness but suggest that reporting could be better. With respect to the current Strategic Plan, we are good at working in partnership and building capacity but not so effective at targeting injustice and inequity.

This year we revised our organisational values. Partners were asked if UMN lived up to its existing values. Some responded that UMN does have a special concern for the poor but could do better at being innovative or creative and caring for the environment. This information has given an organisational baseline.

"It is not only that UMN works with local partners, it is the how- not using them as 'sub-contractors' for a package but building capacity that is distinctive,"

- Sandy Sneddon, Asia Secretary, Council for World Mission, Church of Scotland

"UMN works with partner from the grassroots level for development while other organisations work with experienced partners,"

- Mina Thapa, Chairperson of partner in Rupandehi



# Climate Change



- UMN's own greenhouse gas emissions, and seek ways to reduce these;
- The vulnerability of our partners and communities, and seek ways to reduce their risk and support their efforts to adapt to climate change;
- National and international policies on climate change, and seek to influence negotiations in order to achieve good policy outcomes and monitor their effective implementation.

We will build on the work of our 4C (Climate Change Coordination Committee), which has raised awareness within UMN and helped us take practical steps to reduce our environmental footprint.

UMN has taken active leadership in developing national and regional responses to climate change. We have helped lead and support civil society campaigning and lobbying – including national days of action, a South Asian youth summit, direct lobbying of the Prime Minister and Constituent Assembly members, as well as national and district level policy dialogues. In a measure of UMN's effectiveness at lobbying and networking with the Government of Nepal on these issues, we are now part of an advisory panel helping to strengthen Nepal's position in the critical United Nations climate change negotiations, and are contributing to the development of Nepal's National Adaptation Programme of Action on climate change.

Climate change is a grave threat to sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction in Nepal. Seasonal temperatures, rain and snowfall are all changing. This year's monsoon arrived later than ever recorded and has only delivered around 66% of average rainfall. This shows the vulnerability of Nepal to climate change. Food shortages, rates of hunger and malnutrition have increased. Climate change is bringing other risks – melting glaciers, floods and long-term water shortages.

In response to these present realities and future risks, UMN is developing an organisational plan on climate change, which will look at:

Barren land became a community forest after villagers planted trees with the support of Nepal Red Cross Society Rukum in partnership with UMN. Tulsi Ram Budhatholi reflected, "The land of Lampata used to be bare even during monsoon time but now it is so green it looks really nice. We can collect grass for our cattle. We have learnt life without the forest would be very difficult, so we must conserve it and now we are united to achieve this."

To help preserve the forest in Jhang village, MIC-Nepal another Rukum partner, has introduced improved cooking stoves. Nil Kumari KC reflects, "Years ago the jungle was destroyed and timber was not available near our community. To collect wood takes 3 or 4 hours every day so we could not give enough time to our children and family. This new stove is great as it uses much less wood and gives off very little smoke. My clothes are not dirty and cooking is easier. I prepare lentils and rice at the same time."



Access to Children Affected by AIDS in Nepal (UCAAN) network encouraged other NGOs to join and contribute to the support of children in need.

CarNet Nepal, one of UMN's national partners focusing on children at risk related work, has been more involved in enabling Nepali churches to address the needs of children at risk from sexual abuse and trafficking. With UMN's support, it has created five regional networks throughout the country and equipped 90 church leaders to deliver awareness raising sessions on child sexual abuse and how to protect children.

UMN organised two regional workshops outside of Kathmandu to advocate for urgent action on the development of a comprehensive climate change policy for Nepal, and the completion of Nepal's National Adaptation Plan of Action. We have also initiated several policy dialogues and community interactions on climate change. These have brought

together national and local government representatives, NGOs and community groups, to address the profound impact climate change is having on many vulnerable communities in Nepal.

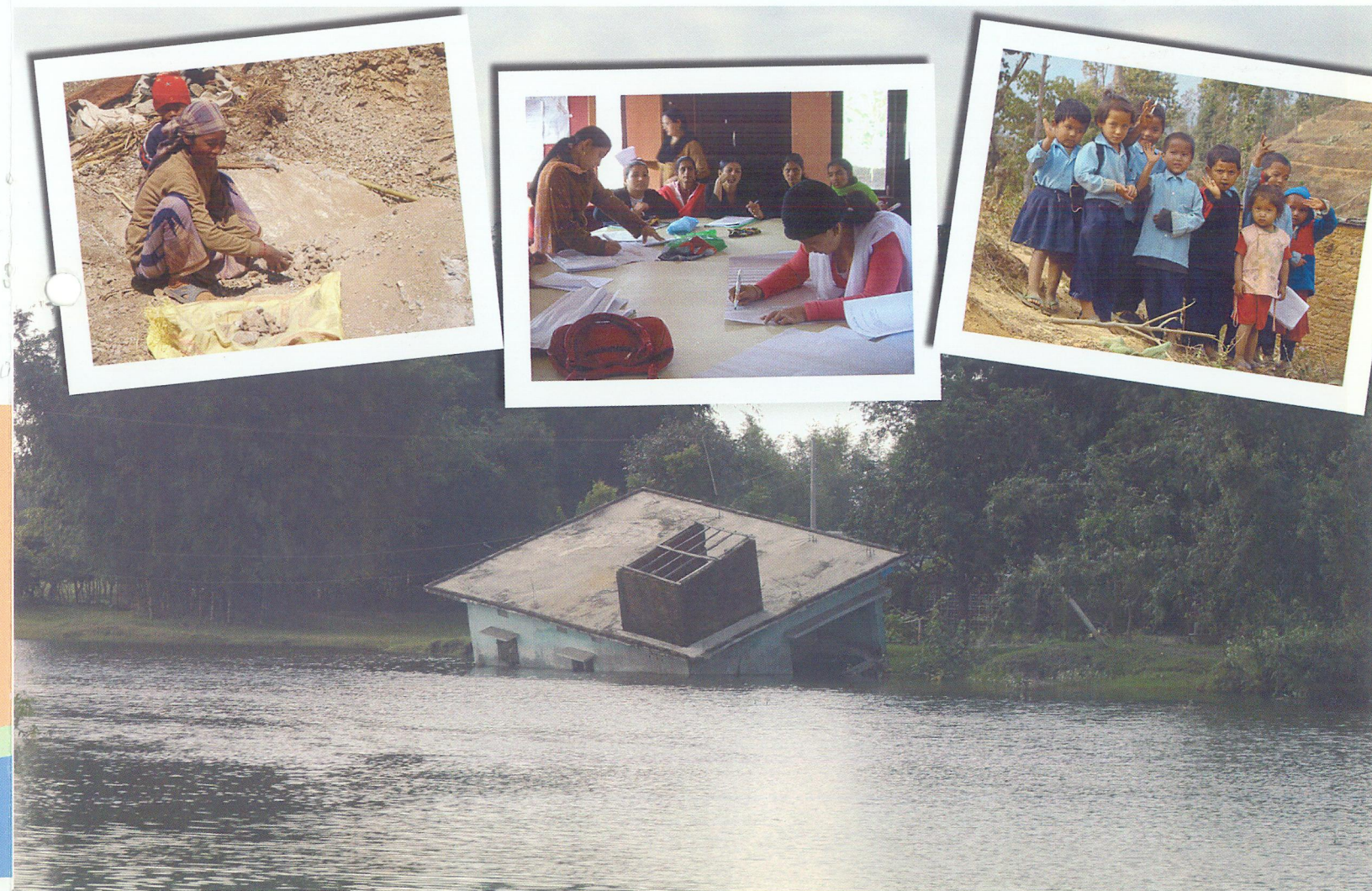
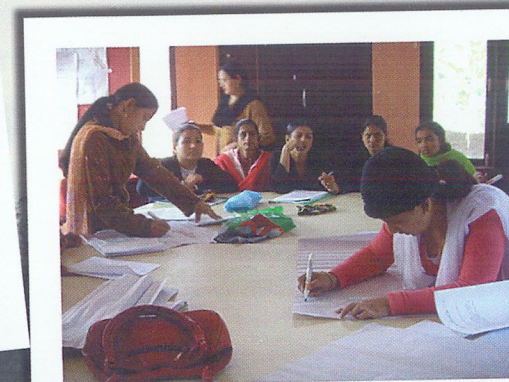
A UMN secondee continued to assist the Nepal Christian Relief Services to facilitate the Christian community's involvement in relief and disaster management at national level. A UMN technical expert assisted the Dhulikhel Medical Institute to develop an international standard curriculum for a Bachelor Degree programme in Physiotherapy. This programme is scheduled to start in late 2009.

In line with the government's initiative of multi lingual education and mother tongue based primary education, UMN together with partner organisations and external facilitators have developed teaching materials for schools and non-formal education groups in several languages. Both story books and school 'big books' were written and published in several

languages including Tharu, Abadhi, Khas Nepali, Kham Magar and Maithili. In all clusters UMN partners actively supported the national literacy campaign, which has improved the overall literacy status.

The introduction of an Integral Mission curriculum in some theological institutions has been a key national contribution of UMN's work in Integral Mission. It is also hoped that the introduction of an HIV and AIDS curriculum in around 40 theological institutions, including those with international accreditation, will equip future church leaders to be pro-active in HIV and AIDS related issues.

We believe that every citizen has a role and responsibility to contribute to peace building locally as well as nationally. Many Christian churches have been promoting forgiveness and reconciliation in the church and community. UMN continues to train and support local inter-faith peace networks to mediate in ethnic conflicts before these escalate into major issues.







# Integral Mission

Mission Officer writes, 'the various trainings have encouraged and motivated the church to understand what it means to love and serve our neighbours.'

UMN initiated the 'Church and Community Mobilisation Process' (CCMP) with the aim of strengthening the local church and wider Christian community in Nepal to act as a catalyst for integral transformation of poor communities. Through 17 leaders from churches in different districts five CCMP pilot programmes are being implemented. Mobilising villages and community groups to begin social action activities and acts of kindness has had a powerful effect towards reconciliation between communities and local ethnic groups.

All UMN staff continue to have a greater understanding about integral mission. The Leadership Development Programme continues through which 12 young people had opportunity to increase their skill and understanding of servant leadership, development principles and practice through the three level programme.

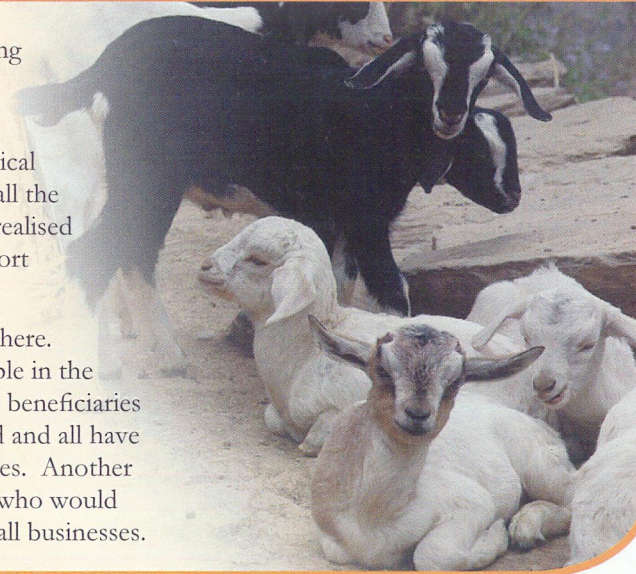
In a wider context UMN works with emerging Christian leaders to increase their understanding of integral mission and with Bible colleges developing curriculum. UMN continues to be actively involved nationally with Vision Network Nepal and Micah Network.

Integral Mission encourages the church and the Christian community to be agents of transformation through holding workshops on 'Integral Mission and the Role of the Church in Development Issues'. These have helped churches in the clusters and elsewhere to understand the concept of integral mission as 'being and doing at the same time as sharing faith' and encouraged them to engage with their communities. Examples of this are provision of school uniform and exercise books, loans for small businesses and clearing litter. In Dhading the Integral

Naba Raj lives in Nawalparasi with his family. He pastors a growing congregation. He attended a CCMP workshop, which completely changed his traditional approach to sharing his faith.

He shared with his church leaders. They were interested but sceptical as they had no resources. Naba Raj challenged everyone to share all the resources they had on them at that time. Immediately the group realised that they had resources and were convicted that they should support the poor in their neighbourhood.

They all contributed money and also sought resources from elsewhere. One Nepali NGO gave 14 goats. The leaders identified poor people in the community and distributed the goats. When the goats got sick the beneficiaries called the Christians who went and prayed. The animals recovered and all have had kids so that a further 14 goats have been given to more families. Another NGO provided tailoring training. The Christians identified those who would benefit and after training have supported the establishment of small businesses.



# Advocacy

Many of UMN's partner organisations are making use of advocacy skills and approaches to bring tangible benefits to their communities.

- In Doti, one of our partners is working to ensure that people with disabilities have ID cards, and full access to the government services and support that they are entitled to.
- In Sunsari, one partner is working to combat cases of discrimination against Dalits, ensure equitable access to education and give a voice in school management to marginalised groups.
- In Dhading, a Kumal community is working with the newly developed "Right to Food Network" to advocate for their right to access and utilise water for irrigation.

UMN sees advocacy as one key way of achieving our aim of addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality in Nepal. We seek to do this by holding institutions accountable for delivering basic social services, and by addressing policies and practices that discriminate against minorities or stop people from fully realising their rights.

Throughout the year partners working to address poverty and injustice at the grassroots have received training and support. We have also have begun developing a budget monitoring, good governance and accountability strategy.

At the national level, UMN has influenced the development and implementation of maternal health policy, promoted child-friendly education policy and practices, contributed to national and district HIV/AIDS plans and responses, and facilitated dialogue on disaster and climate-related risk reduction. We have taken a lead in civil society mobilisation and lobbying to influence the UN climate change negotiations and are working with the Government of Nepal and district authorities to develop effective policies around climate change adaptation.

Apanga Sewa Sangh advocates for the rights of people with disabilities in Doti District. They have been raising these issues in different forums and meetings at all levels in the District. They regularly meet with the Local Development Officer and Village Development Committee (VDC) secretaries to voice their concerns.

Due to the efforts of Apanga Sewa Sangh, three VDCs (Mudagau, Baglek, and Banlek) have each allocated Rs. 25,000 of their annual budget towards the support of people with disabilities. Apanga Sewa Sangh and the VDCs have together developed a committee to ensure that the money is properly utilised – the chairperson of the committee is a person with a disability.

This is the first time the VDCs have allocated funds for people with disabilities. As a result the other 43 VDC secretaries of the District have all made a commitment to allocate budget for people with disabilities.

