



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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Friends of VIN is an SDO



Ever since we entered the world of non-governmental, non-religious, non-profit organizations, we decided to not label ourselves with a negative pre-fix, so Friends of Volunteers Initiative Nepal (FoVIN), Netherlands, calls themselves an SDO – a **Social Development Organization**.

FoVIN was founded in March 2011 and our work centers on putting the efforts for change in the hands of local people and we actively encourage local people to volunteer within their communities, aiming to unite all sectors of society in working together to set up and run local projects. We run these programs with our Nepal-based partner, Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN) and once the community is self-sustainable we remove our active presence and move on to a new area. Our goal is to facilitate empowerment and improvement of basic living conditions and to make marginalized communities independent and self-sustainable.

We perform various fundraising activities in Europe, form partnership with private institutions and apart from providing financial support and sending volunteers to Nepal, Friends of VIN also acts as a sounding board for our partner organization in Nepal, VIN.

Happy 2080!



FoVIN NL team would like to wish you all a Happy Nepalese New Year 2080 with the sincere hope that the world will be a safer place this year.

The year just gone was unlike any other year... Due to the pandemic, VIN sent back the few volunteers who were already in Nepal and we saw cancelation after cancelation of volunteers.

This meant that almost all funding for VIN's activities ceased and the nature of their work turned to raising awareness about the Coronavirus – as well as teaching local women's groups how to make their own hand soap.

Towards the end of the year, VIN embarked on their next big project – Sustainable Livelihood and Food Production Project. During the Covid-lockdowns it became increasingly

We thank you deeply for your continued support - without you, none of this would be possible.



OUR APPROACH



Poverty is a complex phenomenon; its causes and symptoms are entangled and there is no one-fits-all solution. **FoVIN's mission is to empower marginalized communities** by holistically co-creating healthy, self-sustainable communities where people have access to adequate sanitation, health care, education and economic opportunity. After a period of several years when the community is self-sustainable, we remove our active presence and we move to the next community and repeat our process.

Our five focus areas are:

- ❖ Women's Empowerment
- ❖ Community Health
- ❖ Youth Empowerment
- ❖ Children's Development
- ❖ Environment and conservation



Women's Empowerment

The Women's Empowerment Program is essential for the social and economic development. We have been working with and for the most marginalised women to improve their quality of life and uplift their social and economic status, through income generation activities, formal and informal education, and social awareness workshops.

FoVIN is supporting the continued work of the microcredit cooperative and helps drive women toward autonomy.

Community Health

Nepal has made impressive progress in health outcomes relative to its income level. Life expectancy has been steadily increasing and Nepal's progress in reducing maternal and child deaths has been lauded internationally, even though the maternal mortality remains the highest in the South-East Asia Region. But challenges remain.

Healthcare is not yet universal: access to quality services at an affordable cost remains a goal rather than an achievement for several groups of Nepalis. The rise in non communicable diseases and the constant threat of natural disasters require new approaches.

FoVIN is striving to build a healthier and more sustainable future for Nepal.





Youth Empowerment

The Youth Empowerment Program aims to empower socially and economically youth aged 16 to 30 by means of educational, life skills and entrepreneurship development projects, and to involve them in community development initiatives through Youth Clubs' formation. We aim to reverse this trend by developing and retaining community youth. We want to inspire and encourage Nepal's youth. Engage them in community development or give them vital social and professional skills.



Children's Development

The primary goal of the Children's Development Program is to enhance the holistic development (physical, cognitive, social and psychological) of children aged 3 to 15 and to support the basic education of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. It aims to promote children's rights through access to both education, and school- or community-based Children's Clubs.



Environment and Conservation

The Environment and Conservation Program aims to conserve, promote and protect the natural environment and the indigenous knowledge, and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution in order to enhance health, safety and welfare of this and future generations of Nepal.

Program Updates



Unfortunately, we don't have program updates from 2020 as the activities we did were largely concerned with COVID-19; such as awareness campaigns, hand soap making and a first step of the grand sustainable livelihood and food production project in Okhaldhunga.



Beehives from the beekeeping training in Okhaldhunga

The CLC also saw various other activities towards the end of the year when the lockdown measures were relaxed; such as bead making, online English class with volunteers from Mahrberg Library, computer training, sewing class and more.

Volunteers 2022



2021 was still impacted by the pandemic, but 2022 saw an uptake of volunteers.

This is a fraction of what we used to see before the pandemic, but we hope it will improve next year.

We still very much rely on volunteers to support our projects in Nepal – both with regards to the contribution of skills and financial means.

2022	Male	Female	Total
LMTV + Work Camp			163



VIN and Friends of VIN Global Meeting



In October 2022, board members from Friends of VINs from the Netherlands, US and Canada had the opportunity to meet in person (!) This was an unprecedented meet-up and had been a wish for a long time. We were finally able to make it happen.

Unfortunately, FoVIN UK was not able to be present, but during a couple of meetings, they were dialed in.

We discussed how we can best pool our strengths together and make the most impact with our limited resources.



Top from l to r: Marina (EU vol), Bhupi (FoVIN NL), Jamie and Ursula (FoVIN CA)
Bottom from l to r: Maddie (FoVIN US), Juna (FoVIN NL), Janelle, Sadie (FOVIN US), Layluh (

Thank you for
your continued
support during
2022!



We look
forward to
seeing you in
2021.



Student who participated in the computer class – we love the text on his shirt
and would like to end our report with this...

THANK YOU!

Friends of VIN team NL

