



ANNUAL REPORT

REACH FOR NEPAL FOUNDATION

ABN 30 607 659 657

2023/24

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About us

The REACH for Nepal Foundation (RFN) Australia was established in the wake of the 2015 earthquakes and initially focused on the rebuilding work that was desperately needed to enable continued education and access to water.

Witnessing first-hand the need for humanitarian aid and broader development projects, the foundation increased its scope of assistance, and from 2018, projects were identified and prioritised in the context of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

RFN Australia's in-country advisory and delivery organisation, RFN Nepal has been predominantly focusing on providing aid in the southwest region of Nepal, Gandaki Province.

Requests for assistance come from different villages and regions in the province through the chairman of the villages or from women's groups, and RFN Nepal determines the relative priorities of the projects through consultation with the leaders of the villages and through an advisory group.

The key focus of our work is to assist the most vulnerable and marginalised.

RFN Australia is run entirely by volunteers with all funds donated to the foundation directed to those in most need in the Gandaki Province.

Our Purpose

The purpose and work of the foundation is directly linked and guided by the organisation's objectives, vision and philosophy.

Our Objectives

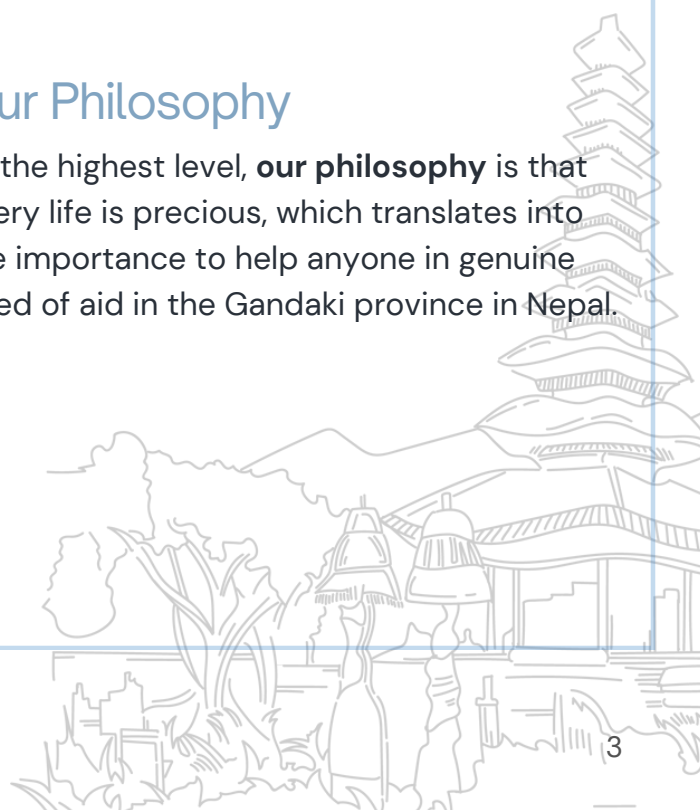
The objectives of the foundation are encapsulated in the acronym of the name of the organisation – Rebuild, Educate, Assist, Children/Communities (giving) Hope for Nepal.

Our Vision

Our vision is to improve the lives of Nepalese people through projects that enable villages to become more self-sustaining and provide children opportunities for quality education, good health and values. This will not only benefit them now, but also provide them the opportunity as future leaders to improve the livelihood of coming generations.

Our Philosophy

At the highest level, **our philosophy** is that every life is precious, which translates into the importance to help anyone in genuine need of aid in the Gandaki province in Nepal.



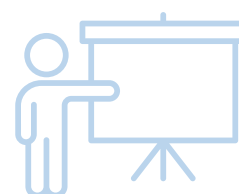
RFN has universal values and principles and has no affiliation with any single political or religious system.

We are committed to the values of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID):

- **Integrity** – We act with honesty and are guided by ethical and moral principles in all that we do.
- **Accountability** – We take responsibility for our actions and are accountable to all our stakeholders, and in particular primary stakeholders, for our performance and integrity.
- **Transparency** – We openly share information about our organisations and our work to all our stakeholders and to the public.
- **Respect** – We recognise the value and diversity of every person and are committed to treating others with due regard for their rights, dignity and integrity.
- **Effectiveness** – We strive to deliver outcomes that bring about positive change in the lives of people living in poverty.
- **Equity** – We are committed to overcoming prejudices and disadvantage and promoting fair and just access to resources and opportunities.
- **Poverty** – We work with and alongside others in a spirit of mutuality, respecting diversity and difference in the pursuit of common goals.



We value the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** and use these to determine the relative priority of projects.



The primary focus of any projects will be to not only to build or restore capacity but also to **build capability and enhance sustainability** in the Nepalese community receiving assistance.



Our planning is based on the organisation's strategy, objectives, vision and values. Our Project Briefs and Evaluation Reports correlate the extent to which the project outcomes contribute to this end.

Chairman's Report



I am pleased to once again to have the opportunity to report to our partners and supporters on the work of the REACH for Nepal Foundation for the 2023 – 24 financial year.

The year was characterised with over 50 people travelling with the Foundation to deliver both infrastructure and humanitarian aid projects. This was a wonderful response after the years when we couldn't travel due to Covid restrictions. Apart from our continued investment in building earthquake resilient classrooms, a leading architectural firm – COX Architecture, partnered with us to develop a design template for the build of earthquake resilient health clinics in remote areas of Nepal.

One of the highlights of the year was a large contingent of 24 students and staff from Canberra Grammar School completing a program of work which began in 2018. Key infrastructure was delivered in 2023 to protect the investment of multiple classroom builds as well as increased hygiene facilities and a water filtration system.



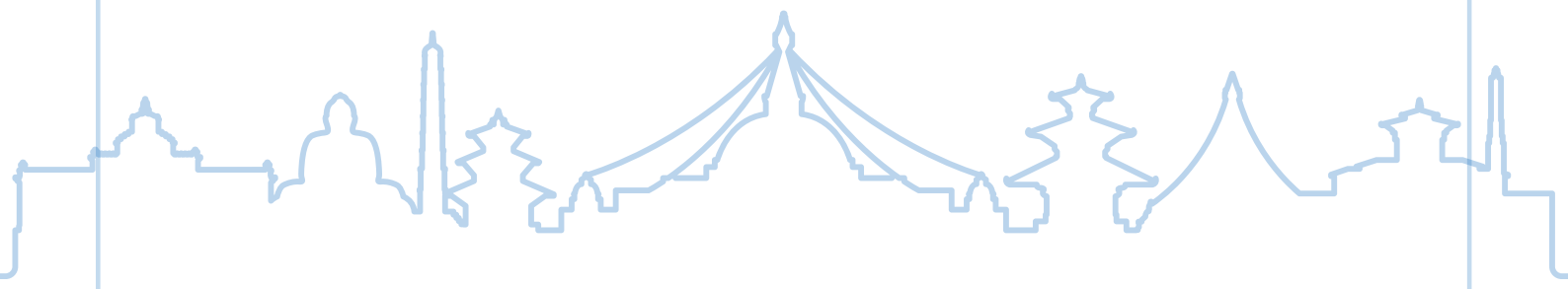


In addition, community groups from Hervey Bay and Melbourne raised funds and partnered with the Foundation to deliver valuable projects close to their hearts. In total, over 350 individuals in remote western Nepal directly benefitted from the work of the foundation during the past financial year.

Critical to the success of the work of the Foundation is the delivery team in Nepal led by Lachhu Thapa. The team's organisational and delivery skills, often in challenging circumstances, cannot be overstated.

On behalf of the Board and volunteer staff, I offer gratitude to every person and every organisation, large and small, that has joined in some way with the Foundation to create positive, meaningful and sustainable change. This Annual Report tells some of the story of your impact.

Thank you,
Lou Nulley, Board Chair



Our Programs

Infrastructure Build

The second type of project is infrastructure projects which generally take the form of rebuilding classrooms that are unsafe or leaking water in times of rain. Typically, when we deliver an infrastructure project, we also provide access to water and install a water filtration system to ensure the water is safe to drink.

Village Sustainability Projects

Finally, we undertake village sustainability projects that provide opportunities for those most vulnerable in the villages. These projects provide goats (and shelters for the goats) to families who are least able to put food on the table or send their children to school. These families are then able to generate an income through breeding the goats which in turn helps the family to survive and afford education for their children.

Education is a key factor to reduce or eliminate poverty, and we prioritise the allocation of goats to families with daughters as they are typically first to stay at home and help out.

Humanitarian Aid

The first type of project is humanitarian aid which is typically in the form of emergency relief in times of flooding, earthquakes and pandemics as we experienced over the last three years. This is normally in the form of medical assistance, livelihood support packages and food supplies.

Education on Health and Hygiene

Thirdly, we undertake projects that educate mothers groups and school children the basics about hygiene and nutrition.



Our projects in 2023-24 focused on providing village sustainability assistance and rebuilding of earthquake resilient classrooms in Western Nepal



Building of double Earthquake Resilient Classrooms at Janasiddha Basic School in Harpan Village in Kaski District of Nepal.

Our Projects

Some of the projects undertaken during this reporting period –



Infrastructure Build

RFN continued to work on the Foundation's original focus area, that being to rebuild infrastructure in remote communities. The work that the Foundation carries out in remote communities is critical as it ensures children continue to access education in a safe environment.

In 2023–24, RFN Nepal, in collaboration with Engineers and Architects from Australia, constructed award-winning earthquake-resistant classrooms. These classrooms, built with steel construction frames, are not only safer but are also designed to last significantly longer. Additionally, their larger size improves the overall learning experience for the students.

Key accomplishments during this period include:

- Volunteers from Hervey Bay, led by Lars and Carla, constructed double classrooms at Janasiddha Basic School in Harpan Village.
- Canberra Grammar School contributed to key infrastructure projects at Shree Kalika School, Banethok, including the renovation of the water tank, installation of hand basins, and construction of a retaining wall at the School.
- Sponsored by More Than Mortgages, a new roof was installed in a classroom at Shree JanaKalyan Basic School in Astam, ensuring a safer learning environment.
- The amenities block at Shree Sishukalyan Janapriya Basic School was successfully completed, thanks to the generous support of Sarah Johnston and her team from NSW. This project has greatly improved hygiene and sanitation facilities for the students.

Village Sustainability Project

RFN's Village Sustainability Project aims to support the most vulnerable families in rural communities by creating opportunities for them to generate a stable income. These projects empower families to break the cycle of poverty, with improved access to education and better livelihoods.

In 2023-24, four families in Baraha Danda received goat sheds and goats, while another four families in Taksar were provided with goats. The initiative is designed to pave the way for small-scale family businesses. Over time, the goats' yield will not only improve family nutrition but also provide a sustainable income, enabling families to access healthcare and send their children to school.



Humanitarian Aid

RFN remains committed to investing in schools and communities, addressing critical needs where help is most required. In 2023-24, RFN ran a Women's Health and Hygiene Project in the villages of Taksar and Astam, where participants were educated on personal and general hygiene practices.

At Sishukalyan Janapriya School, each student received a school uniform, shoes, stationery pack, and winter clothing. This initiative serves as an incentive for children to attend school, particularly in cases where families are unable to afford even a single set of uniforms each year. In many of the schools we work with, students often attend without uniforms or warm jackets, even on cold winter mornings.



The Impact



338 Students (202 Girls)

accessed improved educational facilities, classroom resources, school uniforms, school bags, and basic stationery materials

8 households (4 girls attending school)

accessed village sustainability project assistance

2 schools

received assistance in training materials, health and hygiene training and also sports kits sent by the RFN supporters in Australia

12 nepalese tradesmen

trained on site by qualified Australian engineer as part of skills transfer and capacity building while building earthquake resistant classrooms build

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers

Acknowledgements



Thanks to our supporters who make it possible for us to do what we do in Nepal. Namaste

HARDWICKES

MORE THAN MORTGAGES

POWER OF PASSION

COX ARCHITECTURE

MONT ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT

ROTARY CLUB OF HALL

CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

YARRH WINES

MARIST COLLEGE

SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB, WODEN

TTW SYDNEY

DAVID FRANCIS ARCHITECTS

Thank you also to our team in Australia and Nepal who volunteer their services to help those less fortunate in Nepal.

Our Team in Australia

Lou Nulley, CEO

Lachhu Thapa, Manager Finance and Nepal Operations

Madeline Carne, Manager Comms

Sophie Wolfer, Manager Policy and Records Management

Nicholas J-Quinn, Manager HR and Planning

Sarah Hawke, Manager, Compliance and Legal

Raju Thapa, Trek Lead

Our Board in Australia

Lou Nulley, Chair

Lachhu Thapa, Director

Madeline Carne, Company Secretary

Craig Allen, Director

Clea Efstathiadis, Director (Resigned)

Tubi Oyston, Director

Annie Creer, Director

Shiva Thapa, Director

Our Team in Nepal

Shiva Thapa, CEO

Babin Poudel, Program Director

Harka Gurung, Village Co-ordinator

Melina Subedi, Administration

Our Board in Nepal

Laxman Baral, Chair

Gita Thapa, Vice Chair

Pradip Poudel, Secretary

Sujan Baral, Treasurer

Shiva Thapa, Member

Jamuna Poudel, Member

Anjana Timilsina, Member



Financial Information

01

DONATIONS

All money donated to the Foundation's bank account in Australia is transferred to the bank account in Nepal to further the Foundation's objectives

02

STRATEGY

RFN's financial strategy is to be more sustainable to ensure ongoing delivery of projects in the Gandaki Province

03

DIRECTORS BENEFITS

The Chairman and all other directors did not receive payment or benefit of any kind.

All funds donated were sent overseas to directly benefit the people and communities of the Gandaki Province in Nepal. No donations were used to support administrative costs here in Australia.

Financial Statements

REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

ABN: 30 607 659 567

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Donations Received	3	173,427	110,866
Membership Fees		20	-
Non Monetary Donations	2(d),13(b)	26,215	63,881
Administrative expenses		(3,712)	(2,060)
Project Expenses	4	(80,309)	(117,269)
Non Monetary Expenditure	2(d),4,13(b)	(26,215)	(63,881)
Gala or Stall Activity Expenses		(15,688)	(15,206)
ACFID Full Membership Fees		(2,144)	(2,061)
Surplus for the year		71,594	(25,730)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		71,594	(25,730)

REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

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Statement of Financial Position As At 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	102,427	32,883
Trade and other receivables	6	2,500	600
Other assets	7	565	415
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		105,492	33,898
TOTAL ASSETS		105,492	33,898
NET ASSETS		105,492	33,898
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		105,492	33,898
TOTAL EQUITY		105,492	33,898

Our Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at www.acfid.asn.au

A copy of the full statutory financial report for 2023/24 is available on request.

There were no adjustments, transfers, or asset revaluations made in 2023/24.

Independent Audit Report



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Hardwickes Partners Pty Ltd
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Liability limited by a scheme
approved under Professional
Standards Legislation

REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

Independent Audit Report to the members of REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible persons' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is included in director's report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we



REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

Independent Audit Report to the members of REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Responsible Persons for the Financial Report

The responsible persons of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

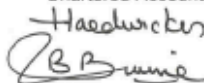
In preparing the financial report, the responsible persons are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible persons either intend to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

Hardwickes
Chartered Accountants



Bhaumik Bumia
Partner

Canberra

25 NOVEMBER 2024

Auditors Independence Declaration



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REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

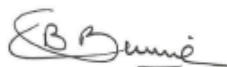
ABN: 30 607 659 587

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 60-40 of the Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to the Responsible Persons of REACH For Nepal Foundation Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.


Hardwickes
Chartered Accountants



Bhaumik Bumia
Partner

Canberra

25 NOVEMBER 2024





www.reachfornepal.org

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