

Annual Report 2021

REACH FOR NEPAL FOUNDATION

ABN 30 607 659 657



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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 the most vulnerable and poorest 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 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 to 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 of every encounter we have 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.

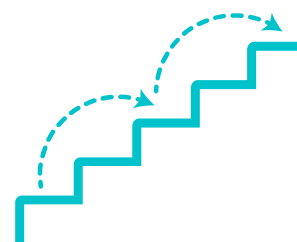


THE GLOBAL GOALS

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

Welcome to our inaugural Annual Report and we are very pleased to be able to share with you not only a little of our history, but also our focus for the future as we aim to expand and sustain our unique and inspirational model of delivering aid in Nepal.

There is little doubt that 2020–21 was one of the most challenging years for the REACH for Nepal Foundation since its inception in 2015, and as a consequence a period of accelerated change for the organisation.

Our model to date in delivering aid to Nepal is primarily based on volunteers raising funds for a project, then travelling to Nepal to assist in the delivery of the project. In the 5 years preceding the pandemic, this model worked well with nearly 150 volunteers travelling to Nepal to actively contribute to projects.

As the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the world including in some of the most vulnerable communities in Nepal, the focus of our projects changed to primarily provide humanitarian aid in the form of medical assistance, livelihood support packages and food supplies.

In addition, COVID-19 also resulted in the cancellation of our major fund-raising event, and together with the travel restrictions, this meant our ability to fund projects was restricted at a time when most required.

We have a wonderful advisory and delivery organisation and on the ground network in Nepal, identifying and delivering projects to the most vulnerable people and villages in the Gandaki Province. This coupled with a highly motivated organisation here in Australia run entirely by volunteers, makes the REACH for Nepal Foundation relatively unique.

In order to sustain the good work we do in Nepal in an ongoing capacity, the Foundation is now looking to position itself for government funding grants and commercial sponsorship, as well as leveraging more innovative fundraising ideas from its support base.

Thank you for your support particularly during these challenging times.

Lou Nulley
Chair

Our Programs

RFN Australia's vision is to improve the lives of Nepalese people in Gandaki Province through projects that enable villages to become more self-sustaining and provide children opportunities for quality education, good health and values to provide them the opportunity as future leaders to improve the livelihood of coming generations.

To this end, our delivery partner in Nepal has continued its program from previous years in delivering health and hygiene education to rural schools, building infrastructure, and working with schools and women's community groups to improve health education while also providing emergency relief materials & financial assistance to the local communities during the second wave of Covid 19.

Some examples of the programs undertaken during this reporting period –

Infrastructure Rebuild and Community Assistance

RFN Nepal 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.

For every project undertaken now, the school also receives teaching resources that help improve the quality of education. In addition, we provide an education program that includes basic hygiene and nutrition information, and if it's not already available in the school, access to clean water and a hand washing station.

In 2020–21, the Shree Janajyoti Basic School in Syangja had its earthquake-damaged classrooms rebuilt and benefitted from the distribution of teacher training materials, school uniforms, school bags, and educational kits for the school's 36 children.





Disaster Response

Monsoon-induced disasters are common in Nepal most years. Nepal has a mountainous topography and dozens of major rivers. In the last wet season, persistent rain triggered flash flooding and landslides. Scores of people lost their lives in floods and landslides which resulted in significant damage to buildings & other infrastructure as well as loss of lives.

After floods inundated communities in Kaski, RFN provided immediate financial assistance and shelter kits to 4 flood-affected households.

Covid-19 Response

Nepal was in lockdown for much of the year with schools and businesses closed and international travel cancelled. Initially, this was effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19, but it also brought hardship to many Nepali people.

In response to this desperate situation, our planning and delivery partner RFN Nepal used its networks on the ground to provide financial assistance to enable some families in communities to have food on the table who otherwise would not be in a position to do so.

The RFN Foundation working together with the Nepal Tactical Advisory Group and community elders/women's group supported the following initiatives –

- **Livelihood Support package** ensured 36 identified families received Rs 5,000 per month for at least six months;
- **Food supplies** to 129 needy families;
- Provided much needed **medical equipment** & items required at the Gandaki Provincial Hospital worth \$1,000; and
- **Medical Pool** of \$3,000 established to enable the poor to access COVID-19 medical treatment

Key Learnings over the last 12 months

The Foundation advocates continuous improvement through evaluating the effectiveness of, and the learning from aid and development projects.

Highlights of key learnings over the last 12 months include:

- Encourage more diverse participation in community consultations to drive future projects (for the community by the community)
- Look for ways to coordinate with local government and other stakeholders to better leverage resources
- Effectively manage community expectations when considering project requests against the project timeline and outcomes, and
- At a program level, look at ways to make the Foundation more sustainable at times when funding raising opportunities are restricted.

The Impact



36 students (21 female)

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

452 households

accessed direct COVID-19 assistance (either livelihood support package or in emergency food supplies)

2 schools

received teacher training materials, early grade literacy materials, health and hygiene training package

4 families

4 families received shelter kits and disaster relief payments





Thank you

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

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

BONSELLA

MONT ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

ROTARY CLUB OF HALL

CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MACPAC

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

YARRH WINES

MARIST COLLEGE

SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB, WODEN

MORE THAN MORTGAGES

Our Team in Australia

Lou Nulley, Co-Founder/Director

Lachhu Thapa, Co-Founder/Director

Gabrielle Nulley, Secretary

Sophie Wolfer, Policy and Government Proposals

Advisory Board in Australia

Lou Nulley, Chair

Lachhu Thapa, Director

Craig Allen, RFN Profile and Promotions

Stuart Ritchie, Corporate Sponsorship

Gina O'Brien, Event Management

Annie Creer, Educational Institutions Outreach

Maddi Carne, Secretariat

Our Team in Nepal

Shiva Thapa, Co-Founder, Director/Operations

Laxman Baral, Program Director

Buddhi Thapa, Village Co-ordinator

Rita Kunwar, Administration

Our Board in Nepal

Shiva Thapa, Chair

Lok Kumari Karki, Vice Chair

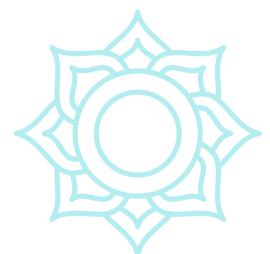
Damodar Baral, Secretary

Muktiram Baral, Vice Secretary

Bhoj Raj Baral, Treasurer

Bishnu Bhugai, Member

Laxmi Tripathi, Member



Financial Information

STRATEGY

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

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

DIRECTORS BENEFITS

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

PLEASE NOTE

100% of the funds raised was through donations. Fundraising Gala Dinner in 2021 did not proceed due to restrictions relating to the Covid Pandemic

All of the funds raised 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.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2021



Revenue

	2021	2020
Donations Received	\$17,476	\$18,747
Gala Dinner Fund Raised	-	\$4,720
Non Monetary Donations	\$30,947	\$18,193
Total Revenue	\$48,423	\$41,660



Expenditure

	2021	2020
Gala Dinner Expenses	-	\$5,857
Project Expenses	\$29,395	\$22,551
Non Monetary Donations	\$30,947	\$18,193
Total Expenditure	\$60,342	\$46,601
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(11,920)	\$(4,941)

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 2020/21 is available on request.

There were no adjustments, transfers or asset revaluations made in 2020/2021.

The gala dinner in 2020 was canceled two days before the event. The gala dinner event in 2021 also couldnt be held because of Covid 19 restrictions.

Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Assets



	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$4,961	\$16,880
Total Current Assets	\$4,961	\$16,880
Total Assets	\$4,961	\$16,880
Net Assets	\$4,961	\$16,880

Members Funds

Member's Funds	\$4,961	\$16,880
Total Member's Funds	\$4,961	\$16,880

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Equity



	2021	2020
Opening Balance	\$16,880	\$21,821
Increases		
Surplus (Deficit) for the period	\$(11,920)	\$(4,941)
Total Increases (Decreases)	\$(11,920)	\$(4,941)
Closing Balance	\$4,961	\$16,880

Represented as

Current Year Earnings	\$(11,920)	\$(4,941)
Retained Earnings	\$16,880	\$21,821
Total Represented As	\$4,961	\$16,880

Independent Auditor's Report



15 October 2021

Independent Auditor's Report Reach for Nepal Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Reach for Nepal Foundation (RFNF) for the year ended 30 June 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reports are special purpose financial reports intended to meet the needs of a specific range of users.

In our opinion, the financial statements fairly present the financial position of RFNF at the reporting date and the results of its operations for the reporting period in accordance with accounting policies in the Notes to the Accounts.

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 statements section of our report. We are independent of RFNF in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters:

- the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the members have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about RFNF's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The members of the company are responsible for the other information in the financial reports. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statement, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

Responsibilities of Members

The members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the members are responsible for assessing RFNF'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 members either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Our procedures are in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Accounting 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 these financial statements.

Use of This Report

This report is made solely to RFNF's members. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to RFNF members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion.

Yours sincerely



Bernard Hardy FCA
Director
Bonsella

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REACH FOR NEPAL

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