

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**  
**For the Nepali academic year 2073**

[www.swannepal.org](http://www.swannepal.org)



**Social Welfare Association of Nepal (SWAN)**



## Acknowledgement

Social Welfare Association of Nepal (SWAN) has been working in the field of Education since its establishment in 1994. The main objective of the education program is to ensure basic quality education to the children of the poor, disadvantaged and marginalized communities of remote villages. The intervention of education program such as scholarship distribution, enhancing quality education in public schools, early education, etc. have made a positive difference in the lives of many children, which has been possible only through our generous donors, patrons and well wishers from Nepal and abroad.

We also would like to take this opportunity to share the big news that our project area, Baglung is declared a "Fully Literate District" of Nepal in 2016.

It is our great pleasure to share the education report of **July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016- July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017** (Nepali academic year 2073) of Social Welfare Association of Nepal (SWAN). We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the invaluable donors across the world, SWAN Deutschland e.V, Clemens Lammers GmbH, Impuls Projekt Fonds e.v, For Family Reisen, SWAN Osterreich and PHASE UK. SWAN also would like to extend its gratitude towards District Education Office, Baglung, Ministry of Education (MoE), communities and its Board Members who have guided us regularly in carrying our quality works effectively.

**Social Welfare Association of Nepal (SWAN)**

## Acronyms

DEO	- District Education Office
DDC	- District Development Committee
ECD	- Early Childhood Development
ECED	- Early Childhood Education Development
SWAN	- Social Welfare Association of Nepal
SWC	- Social Welfare Council
HSS	- Higher Secondary School

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# Education and Child Development

## 1. Introduction:

Nepal's literacy rate stands at 60%, one of the lowest in the world. The rate is lower still in the rural areas, especially among the female population.

Due to the lack of adequate government financial resources, public schools in Nepal lack even the most basic physical infrastructure, materials, and qualified teachers. Private schools, while offering better education, are significantly more expensive, which widens the education gap between the rich and poor in Nepal and furthers the development of the two tier education system. This problem is significantly worse in rural areas.

At SWAN, we believe that every child should have access to education to develop their potential and enjoy their childhood. We have been supporting in the several areas of education for over 20 years to ensure education for the impoverished children in Nepal. For example, early childhood education, school support program, enhancing quality education in public schools, scholarship distribution program etc.



Figure 1 - School Children in the newly built school constructed by SWAN in Parbat

## 2. Objectives:

- To strengthen early childhood education development (ECED) program in Baglung district.
- To capacitate public schools to deliver quality education to its students.
- To provide financial support (scholarship) to underprivileged, differently able and girl students to ensure their rights to basic education.
- To support school infrastructure, teacher support, furniture support and drinking water supply.
- To bring the awareness in the community and the local people the importance of education, health, sanitation and human behavior.

## 3. Major activities performed:

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." #NelsonMandela*

SWAN is committed to ensuring access to education for every child regardless of caste, gender, economic status or any other discrimination. We focused on various programs under **Education and Child Development** in creating the lasting impact in the lives of children for their better future.

*Key activities performed in 2073/2074 under Education and Child Development are as follows:-*

### 3.1 Scholarship Program:

The largest program under Education and Child Development program is **Scholarship** that is provided particularly to the girls, children from marginalized communities and children with disabilities. So far, SWAN has supported over 1,000 students through this program.

For Nepali academic Year, 2073, SWAN supported 139 students through a scholarship program. As we believe that children must not only enroll in school; they must complete it. Therefore, recipients range from Kindergarten to Master's degrees in the university. Districts currently supported include Baglung, Chitwan, Gorkha, Gulmi, Pokhara, Parbat, Nuwakot, Kathmandu, Dang, Doti, Sindhuli, Solukhumbu and Bhaktapur.

"Swan helped me complete my Intermediate education in Civil Engineering from Western Regional Campus (Institute of Engineering) in Pokhara and doing bachelor in the same field of Pokhara engineering college, Pokhara. Providing scholarships to the needy students gives an opportunity to every individual to reach their full potential. I wouldn't be able to pursue my studies without scholarship provided by SWAN."

- Govinda Shrestha (Engineering Student)

### 3.2 Early Childhood Development (ECD) Program:

SWAN continued its support to Early Childhood Development Project in Baglung district mainly in 5 villages; Payunpata, Narayansthan, Amalachaur, Bhakunde and Binamare. SWAN effort to this program created a quality benchmarking and brought significant changes in the behavior and development of children and the community itself.

In 2016, SWAN supported 11 ECD centers of 5 villages benefitting over 200 children under 5 years of age. SWAN continued the awareness about the importance of early education, parenting education, provided 4 facilitators (teachers) support to 3 ECD centers and day meal support to 1 ECD center.



Figure 2 - ECD kids in Jyoti Bal Bikas Kendra

One of the ECD Centers which has been supported in a full fledged is *Jyoti Bal Bikas Kendra* in Binamare village of Baglung. This ECD center has been running with the financial support of SWAN Osteereich.

Founder Chairperson of SWAN Osterreich, Arnold Hoermann visited the project areas in Baglung in the end of January, 20117. He witnessed the firsthand impact made by SWAN through early childhood development project in the Dalit community of Binamare. 13 children under 5 year of age completed their kindergarten in the academy year 2073 and are enrolled in the nearby school in Grade 1.

This ECD center is provided with playing and learning materials, teacher and furniture support. SWAN will construct permanent ECD building with the funding of SWAN Osteereich in 2017.

### 3.3 School Support Program:

One of our aims is to support public schools to improve all aspects of the quality education and ensuring excellence. This year, we supported 1 English teacher to the Dalit Uthan Primary School in Binamare,

Baglung targeting 40 Dalit (so called "Untouchables") students. . The main objective of the teacher support program is to improve the quality education and motivate the enrollment of the Dalit students.

### **3.4 School Health Program**

SWAN conducted "School Health Education Program" in Shree Ganesh Secondary School and Shree Janata Dhan Secondary School of Baglung district in close coordination with the District Education Office (DEO) and District Health Office (DHO).

96 students from Shree Ganesh Secondary School and 68 students from Shree Janata Dhan Secondary School participated in the program. These participants got an opportunity to interact freely about the health problems and challenges faced during adolescent period with the trainers from District Health Office (DHO), Baglung.

### **3.5 School Reconstruction Support Program (Earthquake Response)**

Under the Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Support Program, SWAN reconstructed and handed over the school building of Shree Jalpa Devi Higher Secondary School consisting 12 rooms and Setidevi Primary School consisting 3 rooms in Sindhupalchowk and 2 rooms spaced School building of Shree Jana Prakash Primary School in Parbat district. This project was funded by SWAN Deutschland e.V.



**Figure 3 - Newly built Shree Jalpadevi Secondary School in Sindhupalchowk**

"This community itself falls under very poor, economically disadvantaged and marginalized categories. So we were facing problems in the reconstruction of the new building. Luckily, we found an organization like SWAN that supported us in the building construction. Now, we are able to provide safe learning classes to our small children."

- Madhav Prasad Poudel  
Member, School Management Committee, Shree Jana Prakash Primary School,  
Parbat

"We didn't even have the proper furniture to sit on and there was no learning atmosphere at the damaged school. There was a point where many of us wanted to discontinue studying in the school. Fortunately, SWAN constructed permanent classrooms and provided proper furniture that made us feel comfortable and secure."

- Rama Bhujel, 7th Grader  
Shree Jalpadevi Secondary School, Sindhupalchowk

#### **4. Major Achievements:**

##### **a) Output Level:**

- 11 ECD centers of 5 villages; Narayansthan, Amalachaur, Payunpata, Binamare and Bhakunde benefitting over 200 children through ECD program.
- 139 needy children received scholarship facility to continue their education.
- 3 school buildings consisting 17 classrooms damaged by earthquake 2015 were reconstructed.
- 5 teachers were supported in schools which benefitted over 100 children.
- Over 1,000 earthquake affected children received safe and permanent classrooms.

##### **b) Outcome Level:**

- The scholarship program of SWAN has brought the significant changes in the lives of needy students.
- ECED program has brought the significant changes in the marginalized communities amongst parents on the importance of early childhood education.

- Children aged between 3-5 years goes to ECD centers (kindergartens) and continue to enroll in schools. Children drop out of school is reduced in Baglung.
- All the children from Dalit (Untouchable) community are utilizing the facility of the children's library. Children are regularly attending school and have increased learning outcomes at school.
- Children affected by earthquake 2015 have received the newly built permanent school buildings to continue their education.
- In Narayansthan, approximately 40 children from Dalit (so called untouchables) community are utilizing the facility of children library. These children are regular even in school and have increased learning outcomes at school.

## 5. Conclusion:

In the academic year 2073, SWAN worked closely with the children, schools and communities of earthquake affected districts such as, Parbat and Sindhupalchowk. Children were very happy to get the safe and permanent classrooms which allow them to continue their studies.

We also continued to support rural communities, schools and individuals particularly Baglung district along with the urban based needy children where children were vulnerable to poverty and exploitation without education.s

The most significant impact seen from the educational program of SWAN is the advancement of quality education in rural villages of Baglung and students having a bright future breaking the cycle of poverty through education. For example, most of the scholarships awarded students from SWAN are Doctors, Engineers, Government officials, Enterprenuers and pursuing their higher education across the world.