

International Nepal Fellowship Ltd [INF International]

ABN: 34 114 162 042



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
2019-20



A farmer transporting rice straw on an ox cart in the early morning in Nepalgunj **Photo:** Rowan Butler

## CHAIR'S REPORT

Two cart tracks on the track. Behind they mark a common and shared journey. Ahead, whatever the shape of the path, the cart wheels will travel together; supporting, pulling the other when one side of the track gets rocky or muddy, but together they will go towards the journey's end.

That was the image of INF in Nepal during the final session of a planning workshop for the members of the INF International and INF Nepal boards. INF/I and INF Nepal travel together, and achieving the mission of INF in Nepal relies on both partners and the strength of their relationship.

The 2019-2020 year ended for INF/I with a series of remotely run planning workshop sessions that strongly affirmed the critical partnership between INF/I and INF Nepal, and also agreed that INF/I will look to carefully and strategically expand and develop its networks internationally and from its Kathmandu base to further strengthen the work of INF.

These workshops were an encouraging end to a period in which the world changed as it responded to COVID-19. Lockdowns in Nepal were, and continue to be, difficult for all of INF's staff and volunteers, and more so for the people whom INF serves and works. I would like to thank INF's donors and supporters who proved to be flexible to enable INF respond in its existing work and projects to the challenges that COVID has brought to remote and marginalised communities. I would also like to thank the volunteers and staff of INF for the way that they have adapted and continued to be committed to the people needing INF's services and projects. For both expatriates and many Nepalis, there have been the challenges of dealing

## OUR PURPOSE

INF International exists to bring about our vision for “life in all its fullness for Nepal’s poor and disadvantaged people.” We do this by:

- Serving the INF family and supporting INF Nepal in carrying out its mission;
- Fulfilling the terms of our agreements with the Government of Nepal;
- Facilitating the recruitment of expatriate workers for INF Nepal and ensuring they are supported and able to thrive; and
- Promoting the work of INF around the world and supporting international fundraising.

This work is carried out in Australia and Nepal.

### INF PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE “SAHAYATRA”

A three-day-long INF Partnership Conference “Sahayatra-Walking Together” was held at the newly inaugurated ‘Multi Purpose Learning Centre’ from 20-22 November 2019. Around thirty representatives from 25+ national and international partners participated in the event. The goal of the event was to build and strengthen the partnership and mutual learning and included three objectives each day; Working Together, Trekking Together and Celebrating Together.



with separation from families in a situation where they could not even plan to be together. Thank you for your perseverance, strength and support of one another during this time.

In November 2019 the Board of INF/I was privileged to meet together for its face to face meetings, and also join in with a very successful INF Partner Conference, organised and hosted by INF Nepal. The partner conference brought together donors and supporters of INF’s work from around the world and it was an informative and encouraging time of mixing with people and organisations who have long had an interest and investment in INF’s work. Well done to the team from INF Nepal who made it such a successful event. We were also able to participate in the annual INF Day celebrations and hear directly from participants in INF’s projects, and how INF, sometimes for decades, has been an important part of their lives in bringing health and transformation.

In the next six months, INF/I will hopefully be signing a new General Agreement with the Government of Nepal, allowing us to continue working for the next five years. Project Agreements will be developed over the course of 2020-2021 to confirm the scale and scope of the work, but they will continue to be focused around community health and development, and health services.

I would like to thank the team in the Nepal Country Office of INF/I for their work and faithful service. At the end of 2020 Phil Morris, our current Nepal Country Director, will be completing his term. On behalf of the Board and all those in INF around the world, I would like to thank him and his family, Elle, Evie, Jude and Isaac for the ways that they have contributed to INF in their current roles, and for many years. We pray for their next steps and the new areas of service that they will find.

**Phil Lindsay**  
*Chair of the INF/I Board*



# THE WORK OF INF

## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT [CHD] PROJECT

INF continues to use an integrated approach to community development, working in remote and disadvantaged parts of Nepal to support and empower the most vulnerable people [particularly persons with disability, women, mothers and young children] so that the whole community will be strengthened. INF has introduced learning and sharing events to make sure that lessons learned are applied across our work.

In October 2019, the Social Welfare Council conducted a mid-term evaluation of our CHD project and came to the following conclusions:

- “INF’s works [are] found highly relevant to Government of Nepal plans and strategies for health and development. INF assisted to cover some of the gaps in public services, and builds the capacity of local government services for health, development and education and will contribute to government targets for meeting the sustainable development goals.”
- “INF Nepal has recently gone through a major restructuring. The new structure will increase accountability and effectiveness of project monitoring and INF Nepal now appears to be well prepared to engage well in the GoN’s new structure at all level municipality, provincial and federal level. INF/I has also restructured to reduce its costs and appears to be an effective and efficient INGO.” [SWC CHD MTE Page 9]



FCHV member from Banke

We are grateful for this strong endorsement from the government of Nepal and look forward to ongoing partnership.

This year marked the end of a five-year Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Project with a central focus to reverse the unacceptably high maternal and child mortality rates in Nepal.

Crucial health indicators for the project included antenatal attendance, delivery at a health facility assisted by a skilled birth attendant, post-natal care visits as well as growth assessment for children under two years old. All of these improved as trust and confidence grew within the community of the locally available health services.

Deliveries at home have decreased, women are now meeting regularly to learn and discuss their family’s health, and awareness and support for women and children is growing in the community. Health facilities are now well equipped; staff have been well trained; and health post management committees and local government have been trained and strengthened to continue offering high quality services. In addition, communities are mobilised and determined to advocate for and support vulnerable women and children.

## INF RESPONSES TO COVID-19

Along with much of the world, Nepal went into lockdown in March with schools and business closed and travel banned. Initially, this was effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19, but it also brought hardship to many Nepali people and prevented INF from working.

Community Health Development Project Grant	Amount [NRs]
Community Health and Development	94,007,378
Mother and Child Health	21,807,065
Community Based Rehabilitation	8,646,924
Disaster Response	29,429,098
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>153,890,465</b>

Despite the restrictions, INF/I worked with other INGOs to secure supplies of protective equipment and with partners to enable funds to be re-allocated for COVID-19 response, and with the Social Welfare Council [SWC] to amend our project agreement.

INF supported government initiatives to provide the following:

- Together with 14 other organisation in direct coordination with INGO federation of Nepal and SWC handed over much needed medical equipment worth USD380,000 to the Ministry of Health and Population;
- Food supplies to 2,900 needy families;
- Support for 16 quarantine centres and two isolation centres;
- One hundred and ninety-eight WASH facilities installed in communities and offices;
- Full hygiene kits were given to 625 households and PPE provided to hospitals and provincial health directorates;
- Staff seconded to Provincial Health Directorate to support communications and data management.



## DISASTER RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE

Nepal suffered an extremely damaging monsoon season and INF worked hard to respond to flooding events while helping communities to be resilient and prepare for disasters.

After floods inundated communities in Rautahat, INF provided shelter kits to 300 flood-affected households and 777 people received general health services from four medical camps.

INF conducted 19 disaster drills in communities and schools, formed six school disaster management committees, and trained 51 people in basic first aid and safety. Two municipalities and 16 schools received disaster response kits.



Locals of the Thabang RM receiving disaster preparedness items

## HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT

INF's Green Pastures Hospital in Pokhara and Shining Hospitals in Banke and Surkhet have continued to provide excellent holistic care for poor and disadvantaged people, focussing on the rehabilitation and prevention of disability. GPH now features some of the best-equipped facilities and skilled doctors in western Nepal for the treatment of spinal cord injury, skin and ear disease, while INF has continued to support the people of Nepal by introducing new services not available elsewhere. This year has seen a Palliative Care service introduced to serve people suffering from chronic and life-limiting illnesses.

Hospital & Health Service Project Grant	Amount [NRs]
Leprosy	36,143,194
Ear Project	30,782,750
Spinal Cord Injury	964,531
General Disability	71,671,793
Hospital Services Support	15,924,140
Medical/Surgical Outreach	229,500
Green Pastures Complex Development	12,880,877
Covid-19 Response[Disaster Response]	5,994,999
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>174,591,785</b>



Maya [3, F] during her ten day stay at GPH for medication of very rare skin related issue

# INF's WORKING AREAS AND PROJECTS IN 2019-20 [NEPALI YEAR 2076/77]

INF International works through INF Nepal to bring about sustainable improvement in the health and development of individuals and communities through empowerment and community strengthening, strengthening health care and preparing for disasters.

- Inclusive Development, Empowerment and Livelihood [IDEAL]
- Mugu Integrated Livelihoods Project [MILiP]
- SABALATA





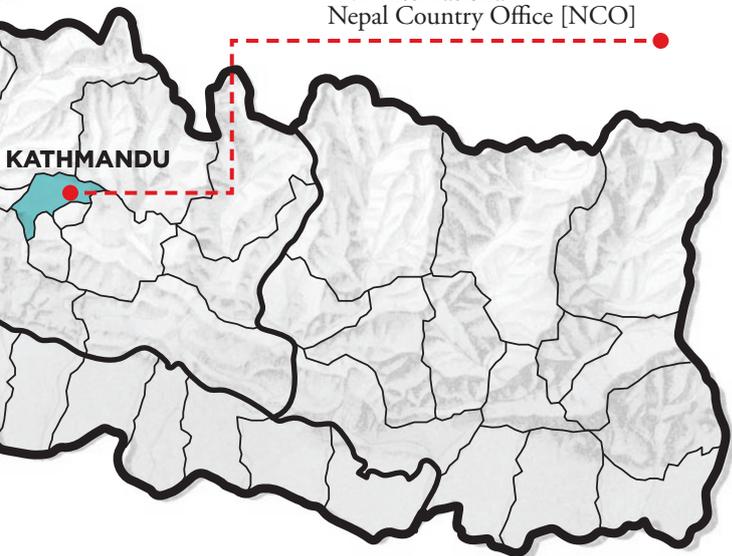
- Green Pastures Hospital [GPH]
- INF Nepal Central Office [ICO]
- INF Initiative for Financial Sustainability [IIFS]



- Community and Disability Inclusive Development [CDID]



- INF International Nepal Country Office [NCO]



## Financial Achievements

	2019-20	2018-19
Funds dispersed to INF Nepal	NPR328.5 million [AU\$ 4.1 million]	NPR340.2 million [AU\$ 4.37 million]

## Health Achievements

	Total number of direct Beneficiaries	
Outpatients [mainly from ear and skin clinics]	64,764	79,202
Leprosy cases detected	279	339
Therapy sessions provided	10,513	19,963
Assistive devices provided	2,318	1,911
Health education and training	23,563	18,587
Surgery [including ear, orthopaedic and plastic surgery]	498	1,169

## Community Development Achievements

Number of Self-Help Groups facilitated	686	969
Skill development training sessions	8,224	1,829
Income generation support	4,528	6,215
Action plans produced and carried out by Self-Help Groups	1,378	1,803



On January 2020, eight months after his accident, Raju stood on his new feet, for the first time. This day brought enormous happiness along with hope for the whole family. Under the close supervision of the hospital's rehab team, Raju underwent rigorous gait training to get familiar with his new limbs. Along with the prosthesis, Raju received a wheelchair and a pair of crutches from the hospital. Naini Rokaha expressed his gratitude towards the hospital for all the support and care provided to his son. Naini is planning to enrol his son in school again as soon as possible.

# EXPATRIATE VOLUNTEERS



Through its history, a feature of INF's work has been the partnership between Nepali staff and expatriate volunteers who serve as an expression of their faith, and bring technical skills and experience to improve the quality of INF's work and compliment and build the skills of Nepali staff.

This approach was found to be very effective in the evaluation undertaken by the Nepal government in October 2019.

- “The contribution of INF's expatriate volunteers was found to be effective, despite delays in visa processing and Home ministry decisions to stop issuing gratis visa [against project agreement]. INF expatriate volunteers have been found to provide complementary skills that support and build the capacity of Nepali staff without cost to the programs”

Expatriate volunteers have played important roles in INF's work in the last year, including the development of palliative care services in Nepal, supporting government hospitals to

provide fistula surgery and rehabilitation, and contributing to one of Nepal's best Occupational Therapy departments.

In the last year we welcomed new expatriate team members and supporting partners from Singapore, the USA, and the Netherlands, bringing the total number of serving expatriates to nineteen, from nine different countries.

The total number of expatriate volunteers serving in INF continues to reduce, as leadership and management roles are filled by Nepali staff, and the skills and experience of our Nepali staff continues to increase.

We are grateful to our expatriate team for their commitment and service, and to the partner organisations who enable them to serve.

## Expatriate volunteer casestudy

### Sarah Riggsbee



**Nationality:** American

*Communicating and sharing meals with others are parts of our daily lives. If you cannot do these things, because of a stroke, brain injury or developmental delay, suddenly life and community are very different. As a speech-language pathologist, I have the privilege of working with people with communication and swallowing disorders and helping them to regain abilities and have hope despite their circumstances.*

*Through working with INF at GPH, I get to provide mentorship and training to a wonderful Nepali speech-language pathologist and provide quality services for individuals and families. Speech therapy is a growing profession in Nepal and as disability inclusion continues to come to the forefront of healthcare, speech therapy will continue to be needed to help give people their voices.*

*We work closely with the Ear Centre to provide services to children who have just had ear surgery or received hearing aids to develop speech and language. We also have a growing list of children with disabilities that we see as outpatient. One of the newer areas we are focusing on at GPH is the inpatient care. GPH is becoming a centre of excellence for people with strokes, and we are able to help these adults who previously were able to do everything independently and now have difficulty communicating. One of our most recent patients was a school principal in the 30s who had a massive stroke, and came to GPH with many deficits. Through the dedicated work of the whole rehabilitation team [Doctors, nurses, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy], he was able to return home with his wife to their young son. We have received a report that his speech and language has improved sufficiently for him to communicate in virtual meetings. It is a true joy to serve with Nepali colleagues and use speech therapy as a way to give life in all its fullness to those who are often overlooked.*

## PRIMARY STUDY CENTRE [PSC]



PSC Christmas play for PSC children and community at the Green Pastures Hospital Multi-Purpose Learning Centre

### **INF/I runs a small 'Primary Study Centre' in Pokhara to provide a western education for the children of INF volunteers.**

PSC continues to provide excellent education for INF children away from their home country. The 2019/20 school year reached a peak of 37 students and stable staffing. Visa issues remained and each term saw a staff member out of action or out of country awaiting a visa renewal, culminating of course with no schooling on campus in term four due to COVID-19. Online learning has built up staff and students' technological skills.

The highlight was surely the Christmas production, the Magical Christmas Jigsaw, presented at the very newly opened Multi-Purpose Learning Centre. It was a pleasure to participate in the INF Christmas presentation and present our finale to a wider audience as well as patients at Green Pastures Hospital. A second highlight was the walk-through Easter Assembly and emotional communion we shared just before our long lockdown: a fitting 'finale' to farewell some families and the end of schooling as we knew it.

The PSC site now has a COLA – a covered outdoor learning area. We await the end of Covid19 days to enjoy this great learning space and extended sandpit. All credit to our teachers, teacher assistants and admin staff for being so flexible in the midst of a pandemic. The families have really appreciated the fact that their children's education has not fallen behind at all. We give thanks to God.

**Libby Hayes** *Teacher and Principal*



## FINANCE REPORT

This is a summary of INF/I's financial activities for the 2019/20 financial year. A full copy of our audited accounts is available on request from our office in Kathmandu.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 ASHADH 2077 [15 JULY 2020] IN NEPALI RUPEES '000

	2019/20	2018/19
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donor Grants	326,894	338,842
Organisational Members & Seconding Agencies	9,455	6,334
Def Income Released from prior period	2,640	0
Income deferred to future periods	-4,436	-2,640
Other Income	243	7,629
Bank Interest & Other Incomes	5,586	5,006
<b>Total Incoming</b>	<b>340,383</b>	<b>355,170</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>		
Publicity and Fundraising	0	623
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Expat Volunteers Support Costs	4,880	4,422
PSC Operating Expenses	3,250	2,677
Personnel and Member Care	809	631
INF Conference Costs	821	1,095
Language and Orientation Training	0	18
Programme Services	334,038	345,266
Grants to Partner Organisations: INF Nepal	328,482	340,205
Partnership Programme	53	1,076
Operational Expenses	5,503	3,984
Designated funds expenditure	594	981
Staff Development Costs	0	34
Staff Redundancy Expenditure	0	264
Fixed Asset Depreciation Charge	594	682
Governance Costs	1,020	3,563
<b>Total Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>340,532</b>	<b>354,854</b>
Surplus / Deficit	-149	316
<b>Non Operational Activities</b>	<b>-2,962</b>	<b>316</b>
Net incoming/outgoing resources	2,813	0
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>33,937</b>	<b>33,937</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>36,749</b>	<b>33,937</b>

### BALANCE SHEET

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	1,156	1,009
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors and prepayments	3,341	2,039
Cash and Cash Equivalents	125,996	106,788
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>129,338</b>	<b>108,827</b>



Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-23,436	-9,450
Creditors: amounts owing to INF Nepal	-70,308	-66,450
Net Current Assets	35,594	32,928
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>36,749</b>	<b>33,937</b>

## FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds		
General Funds	16,749	12,472
Member Support Funds	1,567	1,709
Designated Funds	17,541	17,223
Restricted Purpose Funds	892	2,533
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>36,749</b>	<b>33,937</b>

## BOARD AND GOVERNANCE

INF/I's accounts are audited annually in Nepal by Sundar and Co Chartered Accountants, and in Australia by Sheddon and Green. INF/I's accounts are submitted to the Social Welfare Council and to the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission [ACNC].

### BOARD OF INF INTERNATIONAL

INF International is governed by a Board of who met six times during the year.

Phil Lindsay	Chair	6/6 meetings
Terry Steven	Treasurer	5/6 meetings
John Reynolds		5/6 meetings
Ravi Underwood		4/6 meetings [plus one in which Ravi was represented by an alternate]
Krishna Adhikari		5/6 meetings
Dhan Maya Gurung		0/1 meetings [Ended her term in September 2019]
Rodger Vickers		6/6 meetings
Madhu Thapa		2/5 [commenced his term in October 2019]
Inge Baumann-May		1/1 [commenced her term in June 2020]
Company Secretary: Jin Lee		

## INF INTERNATIONAL KATHMANDU OFFICE

After 20 years in the same place, INF/I's Kathmandu office moved in December 2019, although it remains in Jawalakhel. We welcomed a new staff member, Kiran Poudel who joined in January 2020 as Liaison Coordinator.



INF/I activities in Pokhara are coordinated by Gordon Russell [Expatriate Team Leader] supported by Lilly Rasaily.

### INF/I KATHMANDU OFFICE TEAM

#### Front left:

Dasami Rai, Helper;  
Binti Pun Tamang, Finance and Admin Assistant;  
Dhan Prasad Gurung, Finance and Admin Manager.

#### Rear from left:

Philip Morris, Country Director;  
Sanam Shrestha, Office Helper;  
Kiran Raj Poudel, Liaison Coordinator

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We are very grateful for our partner organisations who support and sustain INF's work.



INF Australia  
INF Canada  
INF New Zealand



INF UK



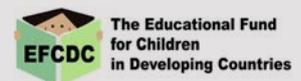
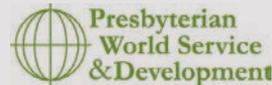
Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development



EMMSInternational  
Health for Today, Hope for Tomorrow



Läkarmissionen



a Christian mission  
serving the physical  
and spiritual needs  
of Nepali people

## INF INTERNATIONAL

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