



Nepal Australia Friendship Association Qld. Inc.
(Established 1989)

30 HIGHLIGHTS IN 30 YEARS 1989-2019

President's Message

30 highlights in 30 years – Including NAFA's responses to the 2015 earthquakes

NAFA has a proven track record (www.nafa.org.au) over 30 years of making a real difference in improving the lives of disadvantaged children, families and communities in Nepal. We are entirely volunteer run – with no paid staff or office expenses. 100% of tax-deductible donations/fundraising goes to NAFA-supported projects in Nepal, a promise that we can keep as a small volunteer run association. Executive officers visit Nepal annually at their own expense to assess and monitor NAFA projects so we can promise donors that their funds are used wisely.

Two devastating earthquakes struck Nepal in April and May 2015. NAFA had to step up even more than it had previously, with at least eight of the villages it had supported across five districts badly affected by the earthquakes. It took a lot of courage and trust to make the commitments we made after the earthquake. At the time we wondered how we would ever raise the funds needed for an initial response to villagers in desperate need and then help them rebuild their community infrastructure destroyed by the earthquakes.

Four years later, as we enter our 30th year of existence, over 95% of those rebuild commitments have been completed. It is time to celebrate and give thanks for what has been achieved. It has taken a huge amount of determination, generosity, hard work and expertise both in Nepal and here in Australia to reach this point. We can ensure everyone that there are many, many very grateful Nepalese villagers who have benefited from our collective efforts and their hard work on the ground. Some told me that they felt it would take at least 20 years to rebuild their schools and other community infrastructure destroyed by the 2015 earthquakes. They would like to thank everyone who has played a role in helping them rebuild their infrastructure and lives.

Unlike our 25th anniversary newsletter, this one will have less text. Instead we would like to simply make reference to 30 highlights since we were established after Expo 1988 and let the photos do the talking. The NAFA management committee and everyone in Nepal who benefits from the projects NAFA supports would like to thank everyone for helping us reach this important anniversary milestone.

**Rod Setterlund OAM
President**



Non-earthquake related one-off projects and ongoing programs

Big picture

1. Since inception, NAFA has allocated over **\$2.2 million** to non-earthquake related projects in **14 districts**, including the Solu Khumbu, Okhaldhunga and Dolarka in eastern Nepal and the Dhading district northwest of Kathmandu.



2. **30 fundraising dinners, 25+ Nepal in the Parks, 300 management committee meetings, 100+ market stalls**, at least that many talks, submissions to philanthropists, government agencies and other funding organisations, monitoring reports too many to count – all done by volunteers, including management committee members and Red Shirts!



3. NAFA has had the honour of partnering with amazing community volunteers in Nepal, including **Phurba Sherpa, Chandra Tamang, Surendra Prajjapati, Govinda Pahari and Kanchha Tamang** as well as an organisation comprising socially-minded businessmen in Kathmandu, Joy Foundation Nepal.

Early days

4. In 1990 NAFA, in partnership with the Mater Hospital and Telstra, air-freighted over a **humidicrib and telephone commander system to Patan Hospital and the Tilganga Eye Centre**.

Water infrastructure

5. NAFA has funded over **twenty water infrastructure and water mill projects** in villages.



Education

6. NAFA has funded the construction of approximately **ten school toilet blocks**.



7. Since **2004 (15 years)** NAFA has provided child education and further education (past Grade 10) sponsorships to 180 students from VSN Thimi, Prisoners Assistance (PA) Nepal children's home in Sankhu and Tawal area school in the Dhading district.



8. Since **2005 (14 years)** NAFA and its like-minded partner, Smile Back to Me, Spain, have sponsored **teacher salaries in a remote school that services 6 villages, enabling it to be extended to Grade 10.**



Health

9. Since **1991 (28 years)** NAFA has contributed funds for **27 remote cataract surgery eye camps** conducted by Tilganga Eye Centre, with approximately **4,500 villagers** having their sight restored.



10. Since 2002 (17 years), NAFA has sponsored health worker salaries in a **remote health post that services 5 villages**, after co-funding its construction in 2000 with Ausaid Kathmandu.



11. Many lives have been saved by the NAFA funded remote health workers both before and immediately after the earthquake. Maternal and infant deaths have also been prevented as two of the health workers have midwife qualifications.

12. From 2000 to 2017 NAFA distributed nearly **12,000 jumpers and 14,000 beanies knitted by Australian volunteers** to children and disadvantaged adults in Nepal.



13. Since 2010 (9 years) NAFA has supported Himalayan Health and Hearing and the Nepalese Association of Hard of Hearing in the provision of **primary ear care and treatment services**.



14. Since 2011 (8 years) NAFA has supported **health clinics for families living in two carpet factories** in Thimi.



15. Since 2017, NAFA and its funding partner **Goldburg Family Foundation** have supported a **five-year oral and general health project** for Tawal and nearby villages.



16. **520 personal hygiene products** have been distributed to women in 7 prisons and school girls in 3 villages.



17. **Three children** attending the Butterfly child care centre at Pokhara have been **supported for medical procedures**, including a cochlear ear implant and two others requiring surgery for an eye condition and a congenital oral abnormality.



Child care

18. Since 2006 NAFA has provided **operational funding to two child care centres in Pokhara** supporting poor families originally from villages in search of casual day labour in Pokhara.



19. Since 2011 (8 years) NAFA has provided operational funding support to a child care creche in Thimi, primarily for families who work in local carpet factories.



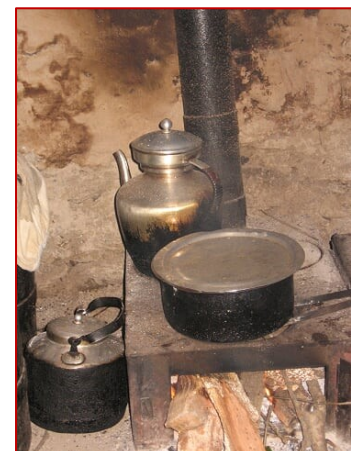
Micro-hydro electricity

20. NAFA has supported the construction of three micro-hydro electricity projects.



Improved cooking stoves

21. NAFA has funded the installation of 243 improved cooking stoves in 8 remote villages, stoves that reduce the consumption of wood by 50% and smoke in houses by over 80%.



Women's skills development

22. Since November 2017, NAFA and its funding partner **Queensford College** has supported the development of a **women's skill development (tailoring) project** that has so far supplied over **1,400 tote bags** for sale in Australia and Spain, all purchased at Fair Trade wage rates.



Agricultural development

23. Since 2016, NAFA and its funding partner **English Family Foundation** have supported the re-establishment (after the 2015 earthquake) and growth of an **agricultural cooperative** in the Dhading district northwest of Kathmandu.

24. **Agricultural cooperative initiatives** have included training in growing of higher value crops such as coffee and cardamom and introducing higher value animals into the area including 'developed' Jamuna goats.



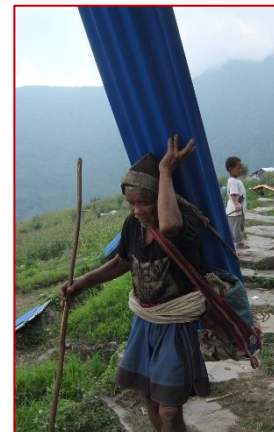
25. A **hi-tech nursery** has been installed for an agricultural cooperative to promote crop diversification and reforestation.

Earthquake-related allocations

Initial response (6 weeks after earthquake)

26. NAFA allocated **\$95,500** in the **initial response to the 2015 earthquakes**, which included the provision of **medical supplies, roofing tin, rice and tents** for earthquake victims.

27. With NAFA and like-minded funding partners and community logistical support, **12 sheets of roofing tin + 60 kgs of rice per family** were uplifted on 75 UN helicopters to provide **1,223 families with shelter and food before the coming monsoon season**. **These 25 villages** are located 20 kms to the east of the Gorkha earthquake epicentre.



Community infrastructure rebuild response to 31 December 2018

28. NAFA has allocated over **\$770,000** towards **earthquake resistant training** for local community builders, the **rebuild** or substantial repair of **8 remote village schools** (including school toilets where required) in five districts of Nepal, as well as other remote community infrastructure such as village and school **water infrastructure, agricultural cooperative infrastructure and gabion walls**.



29. A total of **54 earthquake resistant classrooms** have been rebuilt with NAFA and two small, like-minded funding partners, Smile Back to Me, Spain and NepalEducaid, Austria.

30. Approximately **\$55,000** of earthquake-related allocations by NAFA came from funds raised by the **Nepalese Association of Queensland**.

