

act:onaid

Supporting Education for Girls in Daharmanagar, Bara, Nepal



Having visited their sponsored child's community in Nepal, Gerry and Trish Kerr now aim to support the community to build two extra classrooms that will provide further education to young girls.

Project Need Around a third of Nepal's people live below the poverty line and so education often takes a back seat to the need for children to help support household income. Since 2010 ActionAid has been involved in improving education in Nepal through advocacy, the right to education programmes as well as literacy, after-school clubs and enrolment campaigns. School dropout rates for girls in Nepal remain higher than boys and in rural areas where there also remains the need to combat early child marriage.

In the rural village of Daharmanagar young Nepalese girls face an additional challenge. To complete their final 3 years of education, girls aged 13 and 14 must make a daily trek of five or six miles to and from the nearest school. Living so close to the border, many parents worry that their daughters may be taken and trafficked out of the country - fearing for their safety many girls are kept at home and so miss out on further education.

The Value of Further Education The construction of two extra classrooms in Dharmanagar will allow teenage girls to avail of three years further education in their local village, this will ensure that:

- Girls have a chance to complete their education in a safe and secure environment with well- resourced teaching materials and supports.
- Further and improved schooling will increase the economic and educational opportunities for when they graduate.
- The longer girls stay in school, the less at risk they will be from early child marriage.



Gerry & Trish saw for themselves the impact quality education can have in this rural community. In a recent interview with ActionAid about their recent visit they had this to say:



"We met a young man who was 20 / 21 from the untouchable caste and he had been pulled out of school when he was 8 or 9 but the children's club got him back into school. And now he is in university, he is a year and a half off becoming a teacher and I think what is even more impressive about all of that is - he has very good English - he is very well educated - he would be an ideal candidate to say

"I'm outta here and to go and have a good life in the west" - all he wants to do is to come back to that village and teach. And you have such admiration for people like that; all he wants to do is go back to his community."

The whole community will benefit from an extended school and building project. A building committee will be formed and local people will be fully involved in the sourcing of materials and in the construction of the building itself.

Furthermore, ActionAid Nepal will run community building groups such as Child's Clubs, Girls Forum and Parent Teachers Associations to support the schools' governance, enrolment and parental involvement in their children's education.

ActionAid and Education:

For ActionAid education is a fundamental human right, hence, we believe that every child has a right to free, compulsory and quality basic education. We believe that education is a necessary precondition for poverty eradication.

Children below 16 years of age account for 41 percent of the population in Nepal and while the Nepalese government is committed to protecting the rights of children it is estimated that around that around 800,000 to over one million school going age children are out of school in Nepal. A large number of children from poor families and historically excluded groups, particularly girls and children with disabilities are still out of school.

Since 1982 ActionAid Nepal has been working to ensure that all children and particularly girls have access to quality education.

ActionAid Nepal's (AAN's) long-term partnership programmes and projects at the field level are currently being implemented in 26 districts including Bara district. ActionAid works at grassroots level with several government and non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, alliances, networks and forums.

The current project to improve education facilities for young girls at Dharmanagar has been developed by the local community and with the full support of ActionAid Nepal. The construction project would be implemented with support and oversight from ActionAid regional staff.

Workings of the Project:

Location of Project: ActionAid Nepal has already engaged in a number of school renovations and expansions in Nepal. These classrooms will be built in Dharmanagar, in the District of Bara in South Eastern Nepal. ActionAid has worked in Bara for a number of years and along with its partners enjoys an excellent standing in the community.



Construction of School Classrooms: ActionAid Nepal, with local partners and the community themselves, will present a project feasibility study and approval for construction will be secured from the relevant local government office.

The committee is responsible for quality control and supervision of the building project, ensuring community involvement throughout the process and coordination with local partners and government bodies.

Costs of Project: The cost to build and equip these classrooms is €16,692 (a full breakdown of the itemised construction costs is provided in this pack).

Timeline: Once we have successfully raised the balance of €16,692 a more detailed monthly timeline can be made available.

How you can play a part

ActionAid Nepal is already deeply integrated in Nepalese education provision at a community level, working in partnership with local partners and local authorities to ensure that all Nepalese children receive adequate education.



By supporting Gerry and Trish Kerr and this ActionAid project, you can play a part giving children, families and communities a brighter future in Nepal. **Help us by making a very kind donation towards Gerry and Trish Kerr supporting ActionAid today.** We would be delighted to report on and acknowledge your

donation in helping to support education in Nepal.

To discuss supporting this project, please contact:

Declan White
Head of Fundraising & Communications
ActionAid Ireland Tel: +353 (1) 878 7911
Email: declan.white@actionaid.org

Greg Merrin
Business Development Executive
ActionAid Ireland Tel: +353 (1) 878 7911
Email: greg.merrin@actionaid.org

Activity-2- Cost for building classrooms

SN	Activity	Cost	
		NPR	EUR
1	Support for Construction of building (incl finishing)	1,200,000.00	12,000.00
2	Furniture cost (Desks, chairs, whiteboard)	300,000.00	3,000.00
3	Partner cost (incl community mobilisation)	60000	600
4	Management cost (7%)	109,200.00	1,092.00
	TOTAL	1,669,200.00	16,692.00