

NUMBER
28
JAN-MAR
2025



Himalayan Trust Nepal

HONORARY LIFE-TIME PATRON

Late June Mulgrew Hillary
Late Zeke O'Connor
Late Richard Charles Blum
Dr. Michael Gill
Larry Witherbee

HONORARY MEMBERS

Norbu Tenzing Norgay
Phurba Sona Sherpa
Reinhold Messner
Prof. Wolfgang Nairz
Fabienne Clauss
Ingrid Versen
Manfred Haupl
Karen O'Connor
Dr. John McKinnon

BOARD MEMBERS

Pasang Dawa Sherpa
Chairman

Tashi Jangbu Sherpa
Vice-chairman

Pasang Sherpa Lama
Treasurer

Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa
Secretary

Yangji Doma Sherpa
Joint Secretary

Pertemba Sherpa
Member

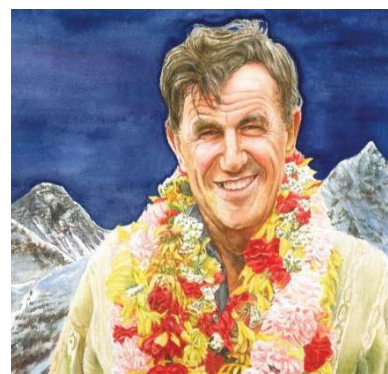
Pasang Dawa Sherpa
Member

Dawa Phuti Sherpa
Member

Dr. Nima Namgyal Sherpa
Member



➤ Mr. Rick Pearson, the visionary architect behind Sir Ed Visitor Centre design.



FOUNDER
Sir Edmund Hillary

JAN – MAR HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION

- Thariting Gumba School Facilities Upgraded
- LIL – Progress Sharing and Review Meeting
- Scholarships Awarded:
 - The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation, Canada Scholarship
 - Louise and Belinda Hillary Memorial Scholarship
 - The Nepal Kinderhilfe Scholarship
 - The Naulekh Foundation Scholarship
- Uniform Distribution in School
- SBTPP– Progress Sharing and Review Meeting
- Solar Home System Installation in Chereme Village
- Training of Trainers on Menstrual Health Management
- Necessities for Different Schools Supported
- Scholarship Interaction Programme
- Small Grant Support
- Computer Lab Installation in Schools
- Teacher's Professional Skill Development Training

HEALTH

- Drugs for Khunde Hospital
- Medical Essential Handed Over
- Menstrual Health in Solukhumbu (MHSK) Project
- Zero TB in Kids and Family

MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

- 17th Death Anniversary of Sir Ed Observed
- Review and Collaboration Meeting with KPLRM
- Guests Visit HTN
- Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) Project Inception Meeting with UNDP
- Monitoring Visit to Solu
- New Recruitments

EDUCATION

Tharting Gumba School Facilities Upgraded

The Himalayan Trust Nepal (HTN) team, led by Chairperson, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa, handed over a two-room child-friendly toilet, a drinking water supply system, and a classroom improvement project to the School Management Committee of Tharting Gumba Basic School, located in Siddhicharan Municipality-6, Nalidanda in Okhaldhunga on 9 February 2025. The improvements included carpeting on the floor, cushions, mattress, and low desks for the ECED room, along with desk and bench sets for the students of grade one and two.

The project was funded by Light for Kids, Germany and implemented by HTN.



➤ Child-friendly tap stands built at the school.



➤ Tharting Gumba Basic School in Nalidanda.



➤ Refurbished ECED classroom.



➤ Project handing over ceremony at Tharting Gumba School, Nalidanda, Okhaldunga.

LIL – Progress Sharing and Review Meeting

A progress sharing and review meeting on the Quality Education Programme in Solukhumbu (QEPS) with the local government, School Management Committee (SMC), chairpersons, and head teachers of 10 schools in Mahakulung Rural Municipality (MRM) was successfully held on 11 February 2025, in Bung. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Surya Bahadur Kulung, chairperson of MRM.

Another review meeting was successfully completed in Sotang Rural Municipality on 12 February 2025. The meeting was chaired by the Chairperson, Mr. Khilaraj Basnet, and attended by Vice-chairperson Ms. Anju Nachhiring, Ward chairpersons, the Education officer, SMC chairs, head teachers, and HTN education team led by Chairperson, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa.



➤ Progress sharing and review meeting held in Mahakulung Rural Municipality.

The HTN team shared the progress of the three-year LIL activities as the programme is set to conclude in April 2025 and discussed on the priorities and expectations for the next phase of the programme. The QEPS is supported by New Zealand’s International Development Cooperation and Himalayan Trust New Zealand.



➤ Progress sharing and review meeting held in Sotang Rural Municipality.

Scholarships Awarded:



The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation, Canada Scholarship

Three students, **Ms. Phura Chamaji Sherpa**, **Ms. Chhiring Yangji Sherpa**, and **Ms. Sharmila Biswakarma** have been awarded The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation Canada (SEHF), Scholarship to pursue a one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Development (ECED) course at Early Childhood Education Centre Pvt. Ltd. in Kathmandu. The scholarship grant has been generously supported by the SEHF.



Ms. Phura Chamaji Sherpa



Ms. Chhiring Yangji Sherpa



Ms. Sharmila Biswakarma

Louise and Belinda Hillary Memorial Scholarship



Two female students, Ms. Sajina Bastola and Ms. Yeeshi Tshering Sherpa has been awarded The Louise and Belinda Hillary Memorial Scholarship for this year. Ms. Bastola has been awarded the scholarship to pursue her Bachelor degree in Civil Engineering at Hillside College of Engineering, Kathmandu and Ms. Sherpa has been awarded the scholarship to pursue her Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law (BALLB) course at National Law College, Lalitpur.

The grant for the scholarship has been generously funded by the Sir Edmund Hillary Stiftung (SEHS), Germany to young female students in their academic pursuits.



Ms. Sajina Bastola

Ms. Yeeshi Tshering Sherpa

The Nepal Kinderhilfe Scholarship

The **Nepal Kinderhilfe Scholarship** has expanded to include ten new scholarship recipients. The scholarship grant assistance has been generously supported by Nepal Kinderhilfe e.V. The details of the newly selected students are as follows:

| S.N. | Name of Student | Gender | Class |
|------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Tshering Dawa Tamang | M | 1 |
| 2 | Sonam Choekyi Tamang | F | 2 |
| 3 | Hishi Choden Sherpa | F | 3 |
| 4 | Tenzin Hitto Tamang | F | 3 |
| 5 | Rehan Tamang (Lama) | M | 6 |
| 6 | Pasang Chhomo Tamang | F | 6 |
| 7 | Dawa Dolma Tamang | F | 8 |
| 8 | Lari Chhomo Tamang | F | 9 |
| 9 | Kesang Choden Tamang (Lama) | F | 9 |
| 10 | Mingmar Tamang | M | Plus 2 |



The Naulekh Foundation Scholarship

The **Naulekh Foundation Scholarship** has been awarded to seven new students who have completed their SEE from Mahendra Jyoti Secondary School, Chaurikharka to pursue high school and bachelor level studies. The scholarship grant assistance has been generously supported by Naulekh Foundation, Switzerland. The details of the newly selected students are as follows:

| S.N. | Name of Student | Gender | Subject |
|------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| 1 | Sonam Dolma Sherpa | F | Science |
| 2 | Mingma Chechi Sherpa | F | Management |
| 3 | Sonam Sherpa | M | Hotel Management |
| 4 | Chongba Sherpa | M | Hotel Management |
| 5 | Namila Kulung Rai | F | Diploma-Health Science |
| 6 | Dilu Rai | M | Bachelor in Education |
| 7 | Tenzing Tashi Sherpa | M | Bachelor in Business Studies |



Uniform Distribution in School

HTN with funding support from The Greater Himalayas Foundation (TGHF) – *Honoring the Legacy of late Mingma Norbu Sherpa*, distributed school uniform sets to the students and teachers of Pathibhara Basic School, located in ward no. 4 of Sotang Rural Municipality. HTN Chairman, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa, distributed the uniforms at the school on 13 February 2025. A total of 28 students and 6 teachers received the uniform.



➤ Uniform distribution in Pathibhara Basic School.

SBTTP – Progress Sharing and Review Meeting

A progress sharing and review meeting on Quality Education Programme in Solukhumbu (QEPS) with local government representatives of Solududhkunda Municipality, School Management Committee chairs, and head teachers was successfully held in Phaplu on 14 February 2025.

The meeting was chaired by HTN Chairman, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa. It was attended by the local government representatives of ward no. 1 to 7 of Solududhkunda Municipality, the chief of the Education Development and Coordination Unit (EDCU), SMC chairs, head teachers from 16 schools of Solududhkunda

Municipality and HTN education team.

The main agenda of the meeting was to share progress of the current QEPS and collect inputs for the next phase of the programme.



➤ Progress sharing and review meeting held at Phaplu.

Solar Home System Installation in Chereme Village

HTN with funding support from Light for Kids, Germany distributed solar home systems for households in Chereme and Gaikharka villages located in ward no. 1 of Mahakulung Rural Municipality.



➤ Ward No. 1 chairperson handing over solar home systems to the residents of Chereme.

HTN Field Supervisor Mr. Dipu Sherpa, along with the chairperson of Mahakulung Rural Municipality, ward number one, Mr. Parkidhan Rai visited Chereme village and distributed the solar home systems. They installed ten solar home systems – eight for households and two for a monastery.



➤ A Sherpa lady switching on the solar light after installation at her house.

Training of Trainers on Menstrual Health Management

A three-day training of trainers (TOT) on menstrual health management was successfully completed from 23 to 25 February 2025 in Kathmandu. The training was organized by HTN and facilitated by NFCC, with funding support from the New Zealand High Commission, New Delhi and technical support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Nepal, and Himalayan Trust New Zealand.



During the closing session, UNFPA Nepal Country Representative Ms. Won Young Hong handed over menstrual health products to HTN. These products have been distributed to grade eight and nine students in pilot project schools, mothers, and women of the area under the Menstrual Health Solukhumbu (MHSK) Project.



➤ Glimpses of the three-day TOT on menstrual health management held in Kathmandu.

Necessities for Different Schools Supported

HTN procured necessary stationery materials such as white boards, exercise copies, pens, pencils, board markers, glue sticks, A4 papers etc for Thame Basic School and transported to the school. With the new academic session beginning in April 2025, a temporary learning centre has been set up in the community hall located at Thameteng where classes will be conducted until a new school building is constructed.

Likewise, HTN supported a new desktop computer and printer to Debisthan Basic School located in Mapya Dudhkoshi Rural Municipality, a speaker to Balbikas Basic School in Chulemu, and stationery materials including white boards to Kuseswori Basic School in Golanjor Rural Municipality in Sindhuli.



➤ Stationery materials for Thame Basic School



➤ Printer, solar power sets, uniform, stationery materials with white boards ready for dispatch.



➤ The Greater Himalayas Foundation supported students.

Scholarship Interaction Programme

On 27 February 2025, an interaction meeting was held between the scholarship beneficiary students, chairperson of The Greater Himalayas Foundation (TGHF), Mrs. Phurba Sona Sherpa, and HTN representatives in its office. The main objective of the interaction was to introduce TGHF supported students with the chairperson and discuss the usefulness of the scholarship programme, seek student's personal experiences and interests.

Small Grant Support

HTN provided financial support for the procurement of smart boards for Khumjung, Junbesi and Mahendra Jyoti Secondary Schools as well as Himalaya Basic School, Namche and Lukla Basic School. The smart boards of Khumjung, Junbesi, and Namche Schools have been installed in classrooms. Meanwhile, the smart boards of Chaurikharka and Lukla Schools have been transported to Taksindu and awaiting airlift by helicopter to their respective schools.

Additionally, Siddhakali and Janakalyan Basic Schools received grants for classroom improvements, which are currently in progress. Yuba Barsa Basic School in Monjo also received grant to set-up an ECD classroom.

All of these supports are part of a small grant initiative under the Quality Education Programme in Solukhumbu, funded by New Zealand's International Development Cooperation and Himalayan Trust New Zealand.



➤ Khumjung Secondary School, Khumjung.



➤ Junbesi Secondary School, Junbesi.

➤ Himalaya Basic School, Namche.

Computer Lab Installation in Schools

HTN, in partnership with EduTech Nepal, set up computer labs at Pema Chholing Basic School, Ghat and Tengboche Monastery School, Tengboche on 4 and 7 March 2025 respectively. Similarly, the computer lab of Makpa Secondary School located in Aiselukharka Rural Municipality Ward No. 7, Khotang was installed on 27 March 2025.

HTN's Computer Lab Monitoring Officer, Mr. Nava Bahadur Bhujel and Mr. Aman Das from EduTech Nepal facilitated the installation of labs.

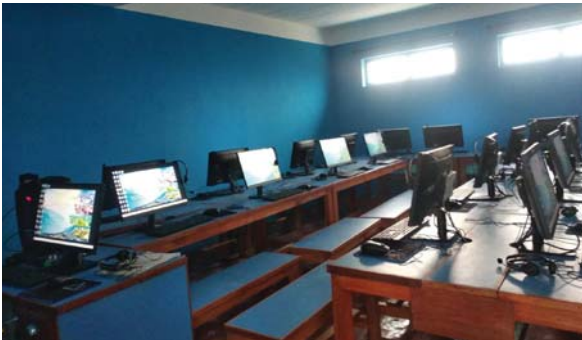
The labs are jointly funded by EduTech Nepal and Himalayan Trust New Zealand in partnership with respective schools.



➤ Computer lab installed in Pema Chholing Basic School, Ghat.



➤ Computer lab installed in Tengboche Monastery School, Tengboche.



➤ Computer lab installed in Makpa Secondary School, Khotang.



Teacher's Professional Skill Development Training

A three-day teacher's professional skill development training for computer teachers of Khumbu Pasanglhamu Rural Municipality was successfully completed from 9 to 11 March 2025 at Mahendra Jyoti Secondary School in Chaurikharka. 15 participants from nine different schools participated in the training. The training was organized by HTN in collaboration with EduTech Nepal and in coordination with KPLRM. The main objective was to strengthen teacher's capacity to operate the computer labs effectively for teaching and learning activities in the community schools.



➤ Three-day teacher's professional skill development training held in Mahendra Jyoti Secondary School.

HEALTH

Drugs for Khunde Hospital

HTN procured essential medicines for Khunde Hospital in January 2025. This support has been made possible through the contributions of the Himalayan Trust New Zealand and the American Himalayan Foundation.

Additionally, Mr. Phurba Tenzing Sherpa from Rolwaling delivered clinical supplies to Himalayan Trust Nepal for Khunde Hospital. The donation was sent from Germany through Dr. Kami Temba's connection.



➤ Drugs for Khunde Hospital.



➤ Left to Right: Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa, Mr. Phurba Tenzing Sherpa and Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa

Medical Essentials Handed Over

HTN team, led by Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa, handed over medicines and medical equipment worth Rs. 300,000 to the Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Salyan, located in Necha-Salyan Rural Municipality-2, Solukhumbu on 11 February 2025.

HTN has been continuing this support annually for more than a decade with the generous funding support of Sir Edmund Hillary Stiftung, Germany.



➤ HTN Chairman, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa handing over the medical necessities to the representative of Salyan Primary Health Centre.

Menstrual Health Solukhumbu Project

The Menstrual Health Solukhumbu (MHSK) Project has kicked-off. As part of the initial phase, Project Coordinator, Ms. Sushma Adhikari, along with Education Training Officer, Ms. Sangita Rai visited Junbesi, Taksindu, and Mahendra Jyoti Secondary Schools from 9 to 19 February 2025. The major objectives of their visit were to conduct an orientation, administer a baseline survey, evaluate menstrual health practices, barriers to accessing sanitary products, and assess menstrual health facilities in the schools.

Following this, Ms. Sushma Adhikari along with Ms. Gita Lama carried out another field visit from 8 to 15 March 2025 and their visit aimed to promote menstrual health awareness, provide training on the use of menstrual cups, panties, and distribute essential menstrual products in schools and communities.

HTN is implementing the project with funding support from the New Zealand High Commission in New Delhi and technical support from Himalayan Trust New Zealand and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Nepal.



➤ Menstrual health orientation and baseline survey conducted in Junbesi Secondary School.



➤ Menstrual health orientation and baseline survey conducted in Taksindu Secondary School.



➤ Menstrual health orientation and baseline survey conducted in Mahendra Jyoti Secondary School, Chaurikharka.



➤ Menstrual health kits packing being done in HTN office.



➤ Project Coordinator, Ms. Sushma Adhikari made a powerpoint presentation on menstruation and menstruation cycle.



➤ Ms. Sushma Adhikari demonstrating the correct use of menstrual cup.



➤ Hands-on demonstration by students on the use of menstrual cup.



➤ Menstrual health awareness campaign organized in Junbesi Secondary School.



➤ Students with the menstrual kit distributed in schools

Zero TB in Kids and Family

HTN is implementing the “Zero TB in Kids and Family” research project, funded by Johns Hopkins University. Over the last quarter, 116 participants were screened for Latent TB Infection (LTBI), including 68 males and 48 females, of whom 103 were kids.

The team initiated Tuberculosis Preventive Treatment (TPT) for 114 new LTBI cases. They completed data entry of 156 new participants. During screenings, they detected three active TB cases and promptly started treatment.

Follow-up investigations were conducted for participants who were already on medication. Two active TB cases successfully completed their treatment. Additionally, 45 participants completed their TPT for LTBI.



➤ Orientation on Latent TB screening being carried out.

MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

17th Death Anniversary of Sir Ed Observed

On 10th January 2025, HTN marked the 17th death anniversary of Sir Edmund Hillary with a heartfelt commemoration in Kathmandu, as 11 January fell on a Saturday. Board members, general members, and staff paid tribute to Sir Ed and his extraordinary legacy.

As part of the event, the HTN board approved a budget of 2 million rupees to support eight petitions submitted by

community schools, monasteries, and other organizations from Solukhumbu. These small grant projects will be implemented in 2025 through the funding support from Himalayan Trust New Zealand and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

The event also included a half-yearly progress review sharing of HTN's ongoing projects.



➤ The 17th death anniversary of Sir Ed commemorated in Kathmandu.

Review and Coordination Meeting with KPLRM

HTN organized a coordination and progress sharing meeting with leaders of the Khumbu Pasanglhamu Rural Municipality (KPLRM) at its office. Chairman of KPLRM, Mr. Mingma Chhiri Sherpa along with Deputy Chair, Ms. Tashi Lhamu Sherpa, Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Jagat Prasad Bhusal, Chair of Ward No. 3 and 5, Mr. Nuru Jangbu Sherpa and Mr. Pasang Gyalzen Sherpa and executive member Mr.



➤ Review and coordination meeting held with KPLRM leaders at the HTN office.

Lhakpa Gyalzen Sherpa were present at the meeting along with HTN representatives.

During the meeting, HTN CEO, Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa shared the progress of ongoing projects including the design of Thame clinic which is set to begin construction in April 2025. The meeting also discussed possible ways of future collaboration and partnership opportunities.



➤ Review and coordination meeting held with KPLRM leaders at the HTN office.

Guests Visit HTN

Mr. Conrad Anker, a board member of the American Himalayan Foundation, along with Ms. Charu Pradhan, visited HTN office on 6 February 2025 as a courtesy call. During their visit, they engaged in discussions with HTN representatives regarding ongoing programs and activities.



➤ Mr. Conrad Anker and Ms. Charu Pradhan at the HTN office.

Similarly, on 10 February 2025, Ms Sue Leyden from the UK visited the HTN office. On this day, Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa delivered a presentation on HTN's annual progress, highlighting key achievements and ongoing programs, including the Thame Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) disaster. Dr. Mingma also presented Ms. Leyden with a thanka painting as a token of appreciation for her visit and support through HTUK.



➤ Ms. Sue Leyden at the HTN office.

Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) Project Inception Meeting with UNDP

HTN, with funding support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and KPLRM, is developing a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) – responsive LAPA. This initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of local stakeholders and communities in climate change adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and facilitate policy integration by supporting the local government in endorsing climate adaptation strategies.

The project inception meeting was held on 5 February at the UNDP office. HTN CEO Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa, Programme Manager, Mr. Lhakpa Tenji Lama, and Programme Officer, Mr. Phurba Chheten Pradhan attended the meeting.



➤ Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) Project inception meeting at UNDP office.

Monitoring Visit to Solu

HTN team led by Chairman, Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa, visited several project sites as part of a monitoring trip. They inspected Patle Clinic and Nalidanda school projects in Okhaldhunga district. The team also visited Nechasalyan Primary Health Centre (PHC).



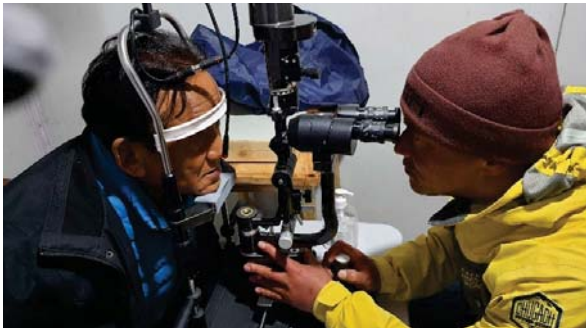
➤ Patle Clinic

In Sotang Rural Municipality, they held a meeting to discuss and initiate the construction of a hostel block at Birendra Jyoti Secondary School. They also visited Panchakanya and Jana Jagriti Basic Schools.

The team also monitored Sagarmatha Basic School in Birkhe, and Hunga Secondary School, where HTN is setting up a computer lab this year. They also visited Ganesthan Secondary School, Bung Clinic, Himchuli Basic School, Phaplu Hospital, and Junbesi School.



➤ Meeting at Sotang Rural Municipality.



➤ Primary eye care service in Patle Clinic.



➤ Himchuli Basic School



➤ Ms. Sanchita Rai, HA of Bung Clinic.



➤ Kuseswori Basic School



➤ Panchakanya Basic School



➤ Phaplu Hospital

New Recruitments

Dr. Sharmila Bishowkarma has been appointed as a new Dentist for Namche Dental Clinic starting 1 March 2025. The salary of the Dentist and Dental Hygienist as well as the essential medicine and operation cost of the clinic has been generously funded by the American Himalayan Foundation.

Likewise, Dr. Pasang Yangjee Sherpa has been contracted as a short-term Consultant to develop a Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) and conduct capacity-building training on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for Khumbu Pasanglhamu Rural Municipality. The grant for these two activities has been funded by UNDP Nepal.

Similarly, Mr. Ram Bahadur Basnet and Ms. Nirmala Badu has been hired as Health Assistants (HA) to work in Phortse Clinic and Khunde Hospital respectively effective from 1 April 2025.



Dr. Sharmila Bishowkarma,
Dentist



Dr. Pasang Yangjee Sherpa,
LAPA Consultant



Mr. Ram Bahadur Basnet,
HA for Phortse



Ms. Nirmala Badu,
HA for Khunde



~ Editorial team: ~

Dr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa, PhD, Mr. Lhakpa Tenji Lama (Sherpa)

~ Prepared by ~

Ms. Pema Diki Sherpa



Dillibazar, Kathmandu, Nepal, Tel: +977 1 4512168, 4514750, P.O.Box: 224
Email: info@himalayantrust.org.np, www.himalayantrust.org.np

Himalayan Trust Nepal Number 28 Jan-Mar 2025