



World Education Nepal Annual Report 2015/2016



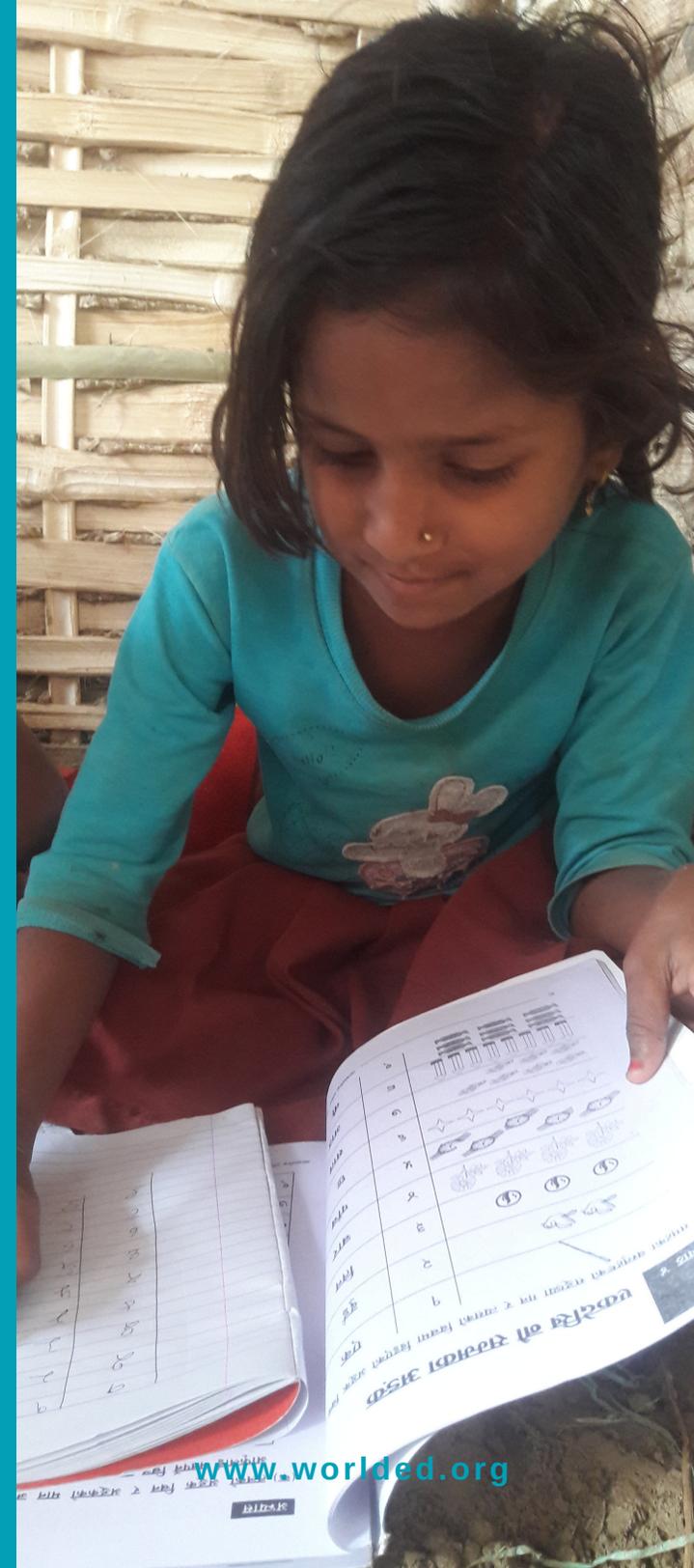
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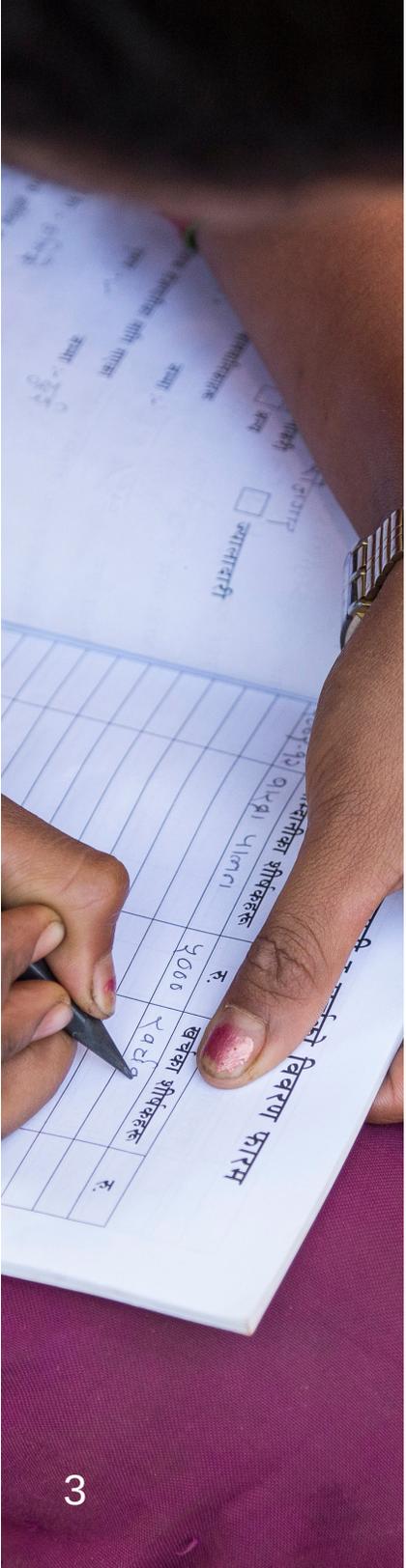
WORLD EDUCATION

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Table of Contents

Letter from the Country Director	4
Who We Are	5
Serving Out-of-School Children	6
Improving Quality of Education	8
Strengthening Livelihoods	10
Responding Post-Earthquake	12
Preventing Child Labor & Trafficking	14





Letter from the Country Director

It gives me great pleasure to share with you this report on our activities here in Nepal. This past year has seen a great expansion of our efforts, while at the same time we continue to respond to the challenging situation many of our beneficiaries face as a result of the 2015 earthquakes.

A major focus of our work continues to be to support government schools in remote and under-served communities to increase the quality of education and ensure learning outcomes. World Education and its partners work in 12 districts promoting Early Grade Learning, and NGO staff, government partners, teachers, parents and students are encouraged by the rapid improvements in Early Grade Reading outcomes. We have now turned our attention to Early Grade Math and trust that, with the combined efforts of all, we will see similar success.

The numbers of out-of-school children in Nepal continue to decline, with many more children now in school. Those children still out-of-school face multiple barriers. This past year we have scaled up of efforts to reach out-of-school children in the Terai. These children matter to the future of the country, and it is heartwarming to see thousands of bright young girls enthusiastically attending nonformal education classes. The number of girls transitioning to school upon completion of nonformal classes and continuing their education is an impressive testimony to their determination and the newfound commitment of their parents to education.

For the past 15 years, World Education and its NGO partners have been actively identifying trafficking victims and children in exploitative labor. These years of effort have seen many changes with great reductions in the numbers of children in the worst forms of child labor.

The major earthquakes of 2015 created significant setbacks for Nepal. 700,000 families lost their homes and many have seen their livelihoods badly affected. In this context, the false promises of traffickers and labor brokers are especially appealing and dangerous. The need to reconstruct so many homes, businesses, temples and public infrastructure is drawing children to brick factories and other work. World Education and its partners continue to work to reduce the pressure on families through improved livelihoods while also helping rehabilitate children and adults who have been in exploitative labor or trafficked.

Our successes would not be possible without the dedication of our partners, the trust of people in the communities where we work, the collaboration of government and the generosity of our supporters. Thank you. We are heartened by the progress we have made together over the past year and optimistic that we will continue to impact the lives of people in Nepal as we tackle new challenges in the year ahead.



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We will continue to
impact the lives of
people in Nepal

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“World Education programs take a holistic approach to address overlapping needs.”

Who We Are

A committed player in educational innovation and development in Nepal since 1976, World Education's expertise and experience in the country span prevention of child labor and human trafficking, sustainable agriculture, livelihood development, micro-credit, health, nonformal education, and support to educational innovations in the formal education system from the school level to the national policy level.

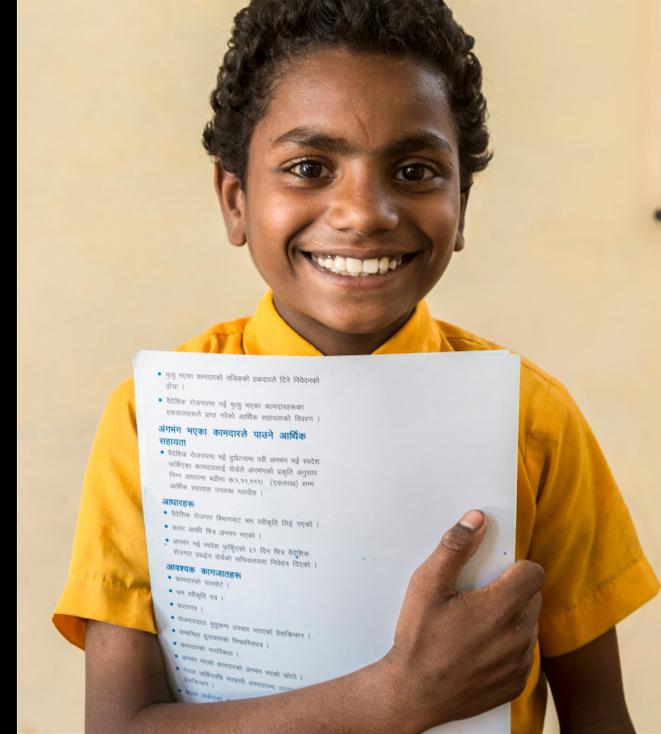
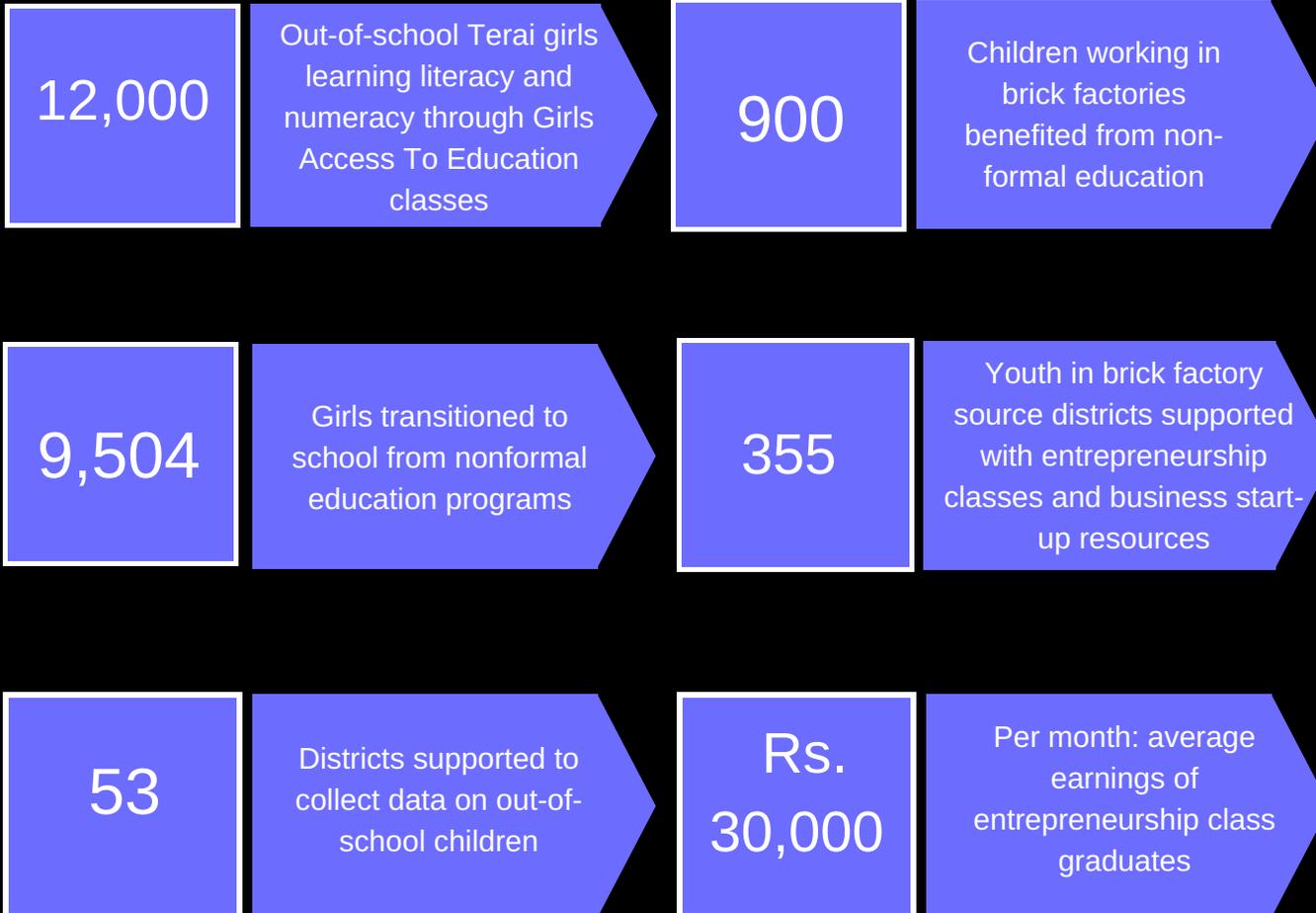
Across all sectors and programs, World Education strives to anchor communities at the center of decision-making by equipping individuals and local partner organizations with the technical, management, and financial skills they need to develop, manage, and evaluate community-driven programs. All World Education programs in Nepal take a holistic approach to address the diverse and overlapping needs of children, youth, and marginalized communities.

Dedicated to strengthening the capacity of local NGO and government partners, World Education works closely with the Ministry of Education and other government bodies and partners with more than 45 national and local NGOs in 37 districts of Nepal.

SERVING OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND YOUTH

World Education is dedicated to ensuring that all children can claim their right to education. While World Education Nepal incorporates efforts to meet the needs of out-of-school children into many different projects in a variety of sectors, we prioritize and have expertise with two vulnerable groups in particular: out-of-school girls and children at risk of exploitation from child labor or trafficking.

In 2016, we achieved the following results:



“World Education's help has rekindled Bimala's hopes of completing her education”

Extra Help for Bimala to Succeed in School



Bimala, age 11, is from Ramechhap. Her ten-person family faced a shock last year when her father disappeared without a trace. Her mother is a farmer, while three brothers and a sister-in-law migrate from the village for six months each year to work in the brick kilns in the Kathmandu Valley. Despite their hard work, it is difficult for the family to meet their needs. Given the family's struggle for survival, Bimala was forced to work at the brick factories like many children of poor families from her community. As a result, she struggled in school.

After learning about a supplementary coaching class run by World Education to help migrating children keep up with their peers in school, Bimala's mother decided to send her daughter to coaching. From May to October 2016, during brick-making season, Bimala participated in the coaching class and received stationary, a school uniform and a bag. Now, her academic performance has improved, as has her handwriting, math skills, and grammatical knowledge. She now aspires to become a math teacher.

It was not only Bimala who benefited from the program, but also her family. Her mother participated in the financial literacy orientation and is now a member of a saving and credit group. She saves more than Rs. 100 per month (\$1USD), and tracks family expenses and income on a chart to better manage the household finances.

The loss of Bimala's father was and remains a blow to the family, but World Education's support has rekindled Bimala's hopes of completing her education, becoming a math teacher, and avoiding endless trips to work in the brick factories.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

World Education Nepal takes a holistic approach to provide quality learning opportunities across the education spectrum from formal schooling to nonformal education, and along the entire learning continuum from early childhood development (ECD) to vocational trainings and literacy classes for adults. In the formal education sector, World Education has rich experience in Nepal in improving reading and classroom instruction, developing teaching and learning materials (including in under-served languages), and strengthening systems to improve learning outcomes.



1,467 schools supported to improve
Early Grade Reading and Math
teaching and learning



90,000 students benefitting from
Early Grade Reading and Math
support



13,000 parents involved
in school planning
processes



190,000 parents mobilized and
participating in early learning
activities



3,500 teachers improving their skills
through professional
development activities

Results

In Banke and Dang across 3 VDCs

2012-2016

Increased ECD enrollment to 93%

Improved reading and math
achievement among grade 1-3
students

Reduced overall dropout rate from
22% to 3% for grades 1-8 in 3 VDCs

Increased attendance rates in ECD
and grades 1 to 8

22% gain in learning achievement for
each of grades 4 to 8

Improved SLC pass rate from 7% to 42%

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Chankha

Chankha is a student at Malika Primary School in Chaina, Mugu district—one of the remotest districts of Nepal. When Chankha was in Grade 1 she did not show interest in going to school and often ran to the fields, just to skip school. Her teachers and parents grew tired of convincing her to go to school. She enjoyed playing with mud in the fields rather than sitting quietly in class.

Later, the primary teacher of the school received Early Grade Reading training, where she learned and practiced different techniques for teaching primary students. The school also received learning materials and a book corner.

Teachers, including Chankha have started to use those learning materials in their teaching. Chankha is very curious about the new materials used by her teacher. She loves to play with those materials, and, without trying, she is learning at the same time. Now, Chankha is in grade 3. She goes regularly to her class and now she leads activities as a class monitor. She can read fluently with full comprehension. She loves reading books and she participates actively in her class. All the teachers in the school like her due to her good performance.

“I love playing with friends and books in my school. I have already read five books from the book corner’s bag. I want to finish reading all of those books!” says Chankha.



Early Grade
Reading Inspires
Chankha to Learn

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I have already read five books from the book corner’s bag. I want to finish reading all of those books!

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STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS & MICROFINANCE

Family poverty and insecure livelihoods are a significant issue in Nepal and an underlying cause of problems such as child labor, human trafficking, non-enrollment in schools, and poor learning outcomes. To diversify families' options and open a route out of poverty, World Education Nepal implements livelihood programs with skill training, self-employment support, and financial literacy classes. Additional initiatives strengthen microfinance institutions—especially women's savings and credit groups—to support local business development and increased access to banking services for families. The major earthquakes of 2015 seriously impacted family livelihoods, and World Education is making extra efforts to help earthquake-affected families access credit and technical help to re-establish livelihoods.

RESULTS:

1,773

Mothers in new microfinance groups in 3 VDCs in Banke and Dang

Vulnerable families at risk for trafficking and exploitative labor supported through family financial literacy and planning

2,300

4,750

Women in earthquake affected communities supported to strengthen microfinance groups and for livelihood development

Families working in brick factories have increased their savings rates

450



540

Brick factory workers gained financial literacy skills

Making Dikchhaya's Dreams Come True



Dikchhaya

When Dikchhaya was a girl, she was forced to drop out of school because her parents could not afford her school fees. She entered a life of bonded labor as a Kamlari, and joined the Maoists during the armed conflict in Nepal. After the war, she struggled to earn enough money to feed her family and could not pay for her daughter to go to school. Now grown up, Dikchhaya wants her daughter Liza to have a better life than she did.

World Education works in Dikchhaya's community to improve the overall quality of education, involve mothers in their children's learning, and help mothers start small businesses to support their families. Dikchhaya joined a World Education mothers' group where she learned basic education and entrepreneurship skills. She took out a loan through the program to open her own small shop, selling snacks and supplies near a school, and pays Liza's school fees with the income.

Now that Dikchhaya can afford to send Liza to school regularly, Liza's grades are improving and she is learning to read. What's more, as a result of World Education's additional efforts with teachers, school management, and local government, Liza's overall school experience has improved: teachers use more child-friendly methods and interesting learning materials; schools are open more days and school management is more involved; and the local government dedicates more budget to education.

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RESPONDING POST-EARTHQUAKE

On April 25th, 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated Nepal leaving 8,702 people dead, 22,493 injured, and thousands of livelihoods destroyed. To help suffering communities, especially in the Central Region, World Education Nepal is implementing livelihoods projects that focus on helping vulnerable community members in earthquake-affected areas through vocational training, vegetable and livestock farm training, and self-employment education programs for entrepreneurship (e.g. plumbing, masonry, thanka painting, etc) for marginalized Tamang communities. In addition, the project has helped mobilize mothers' groups and credit organizations to rebuild enterprises and create new, sustainable businesses.

476

Temporary Learning
Centre constructions completed

440

Schools supported to repair
toilets and water supplies

264,052

Students benefiting from
emergency education materials
and teacher training

7

Schools repaired benefitting
1000 students

286

People affected by earthquakes
provided with vocational and
technical training

2,479

Families benefited
from nurseries and
livestock camps

4,750 women in 190 women's groups across 26 VDCs in 3 districts
supported to re-establish their livelihoods and rebuild homes

Gori

A New Livelihood Post-Earthquake



Gori Shrestha used to be a small business owner in Sindhupalchowk and supported her family with her profits. That changed after the earthquake. Her business, house, and livelihood were completely destroyed. As a result, Gori and her family moved to an overcrowded temporary shelter. Through the help of World Education, Gori became involved with the Jagriti Women's Group in Lamosangu.

As the point person, she is helping increase cement block production in her community. She has already sold 2,397 blocks within three months at Rs.52 (\$0.52 USD) per block allowing her to earn about Rs.15,000 (\$150 USD) each month. Now, Gori is enjoying her earnings with her family and is happy to have a source of income again.

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PREVENTING CHILD LABOR AND TRAFFICKING

Over the last 15 years, World Education has led Nepal's largest programs to address child labor and trafficking by providing comprehensive, multi-faceted, and practical solutions to the diverse causes, forms, and detrimental impacts of these injustices. Child laborers in Nepal often work in hazardous conditions, face exposure to extreme environmental conditions and deadly chemicals, and suffer sexual, physical and emotional abuse. As a result, many children are prevented from obtaining quality education and therefore a gateway to a better life. World Education Nepal coordinated with government agencies and NGOs to revise the National Plan on Child Labor. World Education also supported formal child labor inspection program in brick factories in Kathmandu Valley with district level line agencies and stakeholders including DEO, DAO, DDC, WCO, CRO, the police and CDO. 2016 results include:



1,272

participants learned about occupational safety and health and preventing child labor in brick kilns

900

child laborers in brick factories supported to attend nonformal education

460

parents of child laborers supported to develop alternative livelihoods to reduce need for children to work

422

teachers trained to integrate safe migration and trafficking discussions into their teaching and extra-curricular activities

32,362

secondary school students gained knowledge and skills to protect themselves from traffickers

7,275

potential migrants received counselling, informed decision-making orientations, and safe migration information

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Sanumaya Creates A Better Life in Her Own Community



Sanumaya

Sanumaya became a widow when she was 26 years old. After her husband's death she had a tough time living in her community. She was blamed for her husband's death and called "poi tokuwa" ("husband killer"). Traditional beliefs hold a wife responsible for a husband's death if the family or community believe it to be because the wife did some wrong in a previous life. Furthermore, since Sanumaya's husband's medical treatment drained all their savings Sanumaya was forced to take daily wage jobs to support her child's education.

Despite all her efforts it was still difficult to earn enough money so when Sanumaya came in contact with a local labor broker, she was lured to migrate for foreign employment. The local broker told her he was sending her to Malaysia or Korea depending on her preference and told her not to share this information with anybody. Sanumaya approached a Safe Migration Network member and shared her decision to go abroad with the help of the local broker. Knowing how improbable it was that the broker could actually send her to Korea and knowing her financial and family situation, the Safe Migration Network member suggested that she start her own business at home instead.

With the help of the Safe Migration Network, which is supported by World Education Nepal, Sanumaya participated in entrepreneurship and skills training. With this training and equipment provided by the program Sanumaya started a small eatery. Today she is able to make an average of Rs 1,500 per day (\$15 USD) and is depositing Rs 200 (\$2 USD) daily into a microfinance institution. She is also sending her child to a private school. Now that she is no longer vulnerable to trafficking, Sanumaya is happy and thankful to Safe Migration Network for helping her make the right decision.

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World Education, Inc. is dedicated to improving the lives of the poor through education and social and economic development programs. World Education is well known for its work around the globe in education (both formal and nonformal sectors); community development; school governance; girls' and women's education; integrated literacy; maternal and child health; microcredit and small enterprise development; HIV and AIDS education, prevention and care; environmental education; refugee training; and monitoring and evaluation.

World Education also works to strengthen adult literacy and basic education in the United States. Projects are designed to contribute to individual growth, community participation, institutional capacity, and national development.