



Newsletter Jan-March 2024

Nuwakot (Betini) Education Scholarship Program

Dear Kathmandu Kids,

We are pleased to share the first quarter newsletter of March 2024 with you, containing news and progress of **92 children** in the Nuwakot (Betini) Education Scholarship Program.



Key highlights of this quarter

- 91 Home monitoring visits
- 33 School monitoring visits
- Distribution of scholarship materials
- Child Progress;
 - Second-term exam results
- Livelihood Development for guardians
 - Family progress
 - Goat breeding program
 - Coop Steering Committee Meeting
 - Financial Literacy training
 - Entrepreneurship and Saving Management training
- Community Support Program

- Psychosocial Counselling Training for Community School Teachers
- Training for adolescent
 - Career Counselling Training

Home visits

We conducted **91 home visits** and met children, guardians, their other family members and neighbours where possible, to monitor the overall well-being of the children (physical and emotional). We also communicated with children via **46 phone calls** where the home visit was not possible.



Above: Anita with her mother



Above: Budhi Maya with sister-in-law

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Above: Dolma with her grandmother



Above: Nema Maya with her mother



Above: Gyalmu with her grandmother



Above: Preeti Maya with her mother



Above: Deepak with his grandmother



Above: Ram, Sabina with their father

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Above: Anil during home visit



Above: Binita with Aunt



Above: Bijay with mother at home



Above: Rashmi during the home visit



Above: Bikash during home visit



Above: Sarita during the home visit

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School visits

We conducted **33 school visits** and met sponsored children, class teachers and school principals. Through the school visits, we monitored the overall performance of our sponsored children in terms of their study, school attendance and their participation in extracurricular activities.



Above: Dupcheshwor School visit



Above: Kamalmanik School visit



Above: Kaukeshwori School visit



Above: Mahadev School visit



Above: Sundara School visit

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Above: Udayalpa School visit



Above: Golfubhanjyang School visit



Above: Arjun Basic School visit



Above: Mangala Devi School visit



Above: Rukmani School visit



Above: Kalyan School visit

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Distribution of school materials

This quarter we provided notebooks, pencils, and pens to 63 students out of 92 in Betini. 29 students had already received education materials in the previous quarter.



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Above: School materials distribution



Child Progress;

This quarter **26 students sat their Secondary Education Exams (SEE)**, from the Betini program. Results are expected to be published in July 2024.

School level 2nd Terminal Exam Results
2nd term exam results were published this quarter. The summary of results is below:

Of the 92 students, 57 sat their exams, 53 passed and 4 failed. Of those who passed;

- 1 with Distinction
- 8 in 1st Division
- 17 in 2nd Division
- 27 in 3rd Division

35 N/A yet (1 student did not sit exams and 34 student's exams not held yet)



Above: Dawa Dolmo, Class 6, distinction (87%)

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Above: Aising, Class 7, 1st div (79%)



Above: Ram, Class 9, 1st div (75%)



Above: Ashmita, Class 9, 1st div (77%)



Above: Tshewang, class 9, 1st div, (67%)



Above: Manisha, Class 10, 1st div (76%)



Above: Sujan, class 9, 1st div, (60%)



Above: RamKrishna, class 10, 1st div, (60%)



Above: Sabitra Thapa 1st in RM running

Training for adolescents **Career Counselling Training for Youth**

Career counselling training was organized for the SEE (Secondary Education Exam) and 12-year graduate students this quarter.

A total of 19 youths (13 girls and 6 boys) participated in this training out of which 6 were from Betini program. The training provided career awareness and guidance to the youths attended. Experts from various fields such as IT, Banks, Corporate, Government sector, NGO/INGO, and Government Security personnel attended the sessions and provided information to the youths of their respective sectors.



Above: Sudip, class 10, 1st div, (60%)

Extra-curricular activities

This quarter some youth shone in some sporting competitions organized by the local Rural Municipalities:

- Sabitra Thapa 1st in running
- Sonam Tamang 1st in volleyball
- Rashmi Tamang 2nd in volleyball



Above: Career Counselling Training

Livelihood Development

Family progress

Dupcheshor Krishi Saharkari (cooperative formed by our parents) issued a loan of NPR 40K to one parent this quarter for poultry farming.

Further, the guardians continued to work to improve their livelihood with the loan and business they started previously from the support of this project.



Above: Dawa Dolma's grandmother



Above: Mother of Dolma



Above: Mother of Lakpa



Above: Grandmother of Manisha



Above: Mother of Ram Maya

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Above: Mother of Samjhana



Above: Grandmother of Anil



Above: Mother of Sapana



Above: Grandmother of Ashmita



Above: Mother of Tshring



Above: Mother of Prabin

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Above: Father of Rashika



Above: Milan with his goat



Above: Sister of Sonam



Above: Sister of Navaraj



Above: Aunt of Binita



Above: Mother of Sarita



Above: Mother of Sandesh



Above: Mother of Suman

Goat breeding & handover program

SCAI has been running a goat breeding program since 2017. Initially, 18 families from the education scholarship program attended 3-day goat rearing training and were then given two pregnant, vaccinated, insured female goats. When the first two female goats were born from these, they were passed on to another family and the cycle has continued since.

There are now 73 households that received 2 goats from the previous 18 households. Altogether 90 goats have

been passed on to other families so far. There are now almost 66 pregnant goats and 2 goats ready to be passed on to other families.



Above: Recent goat handover

Cooperative Monthly Meetings

Cooperative monthly meetings are still being organized, and members met in their sub-groups (similar to their earlier savings groups) and deposited their monthly savings regularly this quarter.



Above: Cooperative Meeting, Sangini

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Above: Cooperative Meeting, Jimnang



Above: Cooperative Meeting, Golfu



Above: Cooperative Meeting, Kaukeshori

Cooperative Executive Committee meeting

This quarter executive committee members met and planned financial literacy training for board members, subcommittee members and staff. They also **planned Start and Improve Your Business (SYIB)** and different **skill training (such as livestock, agriculture etc.)** training for cooperative members in coordination with SCAI and its NGO partner RUDEC Nepal.



Above: Cooperative Steering Committee Meeting

Financial Literacy (Cooperative Management) training for parents

The Financial Literacy training was organized this quarter with cooperative board members, subcommittee members and staff participating in this training. A total of 15 (6 Men, 9 Women) participants attended the training out of whom **8 were from Betini.**

The training highlighted the sustainability plan, business plan, effective collection of savings from members and loan mobilization for the livelihood promotion of members associated with the cooperative.

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Above: Financial Literacy Training

Entrepreneurship and Saving Management training

The "Entrepreneurship and Saving Management" training was organized this quarter, with Cooperative executive working committee members, subcommittee members and staff participating. A total of 19 (12 Men, 7 Women) participants attended, out of whom **8 were from Betini**.

The training highlighted how to maintain accounts and records of cooperatives and develop entrepreneurship among the cooperative members.



Above: Entrepreneurship and Saving Management Training

Community Support Program

Psychosocial Counselling Training

The Psychosocial counselling training was organized for the community school teachers this quarter. A total of 26 female teachers participated in this training out of which **7 were from Betini program**.

The training oriented teachers on how to identify psychosocial issues among children and help children to address their issues accordingly.



Case stories
Child Progress
Ramesh Thapa



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Ramesh Thapa is studying in class 12 at Sundara Secondary School, Ramesh has 2 parents but he has been separated from both. He has been living with a married sister and brother-in-law since class 5 as his both parents are mentally and physically disabled. He faced many challenges for his study because of his parent's disability and therefore was going to drop out of school.

Then he was selected for the education scholarship provided by SCAI in 2017. Now he is studying hard and secured **1st div in his 1st terminal exam of year 12, management.** He is preparing for the final exam now which is going to be held in 1st week of May 2024.

Family Progress

Minu Tamang



Minu Tamang is 33 years old and is the mother of the sponsor child Sonam Tamang. She has a family of 6 members; 4 sons, herself and her husband.

Her husband works as a daily agriculture labourer. She was also working on daily wages earlier and they did not have other means of income. She and her husband

were facing difficulties in sending their sons to school due to their financial problems. All sons were minors and belonged to school-going age.

She joined Sangini Krishak Samuha cooperative, a group formed by the project, and began saving an amount of 100 NPR every month. Minu had the opportunity to take part in various training programs such as Small Business Training (SIYB) and Skill training - vegetable farming, poultry farming, goat farming, and buffalo rearing, which were instrumental in inspiring her to launch her own business.

After these trainings, she took a loan from the cooperative amounting to 50,000 NPR, which she **invested in buying 50 poultry chicks. With the profit earned from poultry, she also reared 5 goats.** Minu now generates **an annual income of 90,000 NPR** on average now.

Thank you very much for your kind support, and for enabling the students of the Betini Education Scholarship Program to continue their studies and pursue their career goals.

Emma (CEO) and the SCAI Nepal team SCAI Australia/Nepal