

Quality Education Nepal Inc.

President's report, 2024

After the resumption of teacher training post-Covid in 2022-23, we had another busy year delivering training programs in Myagdi District.

Our activity was interrupted on 24/8/23 when our trainers Khadga Kumar Shrestha and Toya Prasad Ammai were scheduled to travel on the morning bus from Kathmandu to Beni. A late decision by Toya to delay to the evening left Khadga travelling without him. En route the bus plunged into the Trisuli river, killing eight passengers, while another three died subsequently. Khadga suffered severe flesh wounds to his right leg. Thankfully, after four operations, he has fully recovered.

In March 2024 Toya resigned from LEARN having served in the organization for two years as a valued part of the LEARN team. This leaves the team comprising Krishna Pun, CEO; Khadga as Program Specialist and Manista Serbuja as Accountant, with other trainers being recruited on a casual basis as required.

Our programs have recently become more varied, with increasing focus on IT training and Child Club activities as can be seen at the website of [our Nepalese NGO LEARN](#). Associated with these changes we joined with Edutech Nepal (an initiative of Mike Chisholm of New Zealand) in sponsoring the installation of three school computer laboratories. These contributed to the successful delivery by Edutech of more than 250 such laboratories to date, en route to a target of 1,000, thus benefiting a million Nepali students at an average of 1,000 per school. Each will provide 10 or 20 computers. The Edutech system provides a wide range of educational materials, while giving the teacher oversight of each student's computer. This program has proven so successful we expect to contribute to the delivery of another eight laboratories over the next two years. Further details can be found at <https://www.edutechnepal.org/>.

As we less actively pursued donations during the year these have fallen, so we particularly thank our regular donors who have maintained their support. Our activities continue to be funded by income from our capital fund which stood at \$m 1.838 at 30 June 2024 (\$m 1.929 at Dec.).

The QEN Board remains myself with my wife Ronda, Michael Dillon and Simon Cowen. Our attention in recent times has focused on the future as we anticipate our training programs under Krishna's management coming to an end after the further two-year program recently approved by the Social Welfare Council. This will allow Krishna to pursue other interests, supporting his community in other ways, while QEN has the opportunity to direct its support for Nepal in other ways. Our rules allow us to support:

- community-run schools that improve the quality of education for Nepali children;
- local health services that support rural communities in Nepal;
- community projects and other initiatives that bring jobs and opportunities to Nepali villages

Our options are therefore wide open. We look forward to keeping our supporters informed, welcoming any suggestions they may have.

Financial reports to follow.