

Prayer Notes

"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks." – Thessalonians 5:16

August 2023

Model villages - Moving toward universal sanitation

"If you can't see it, you can't be it" goes the old saying... it's one of the reasons INF Nepal work hard to develop 'model villages' as part of their projects.

The approach works toward holistic development that includes everything from clean water and sanitation to political empowerment, education and responses to changing climate.

As communities work toward addressing these concerns, they can be designated a 'model village' and other local communities are encouraged to visit to learn and be inspired by their progress.

In Rolpa, where access to clean water is still a significant issue, INF has been supporting one local community to fulfil all seven of the requirements of 'total sanitation' under the definition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Nepal is one of the 193 countries aiming to accomplish the SDGs by 2030.

In some great news from our partners, significant progress has been made in Rolpa's Sunchahari Rural Municipality, Ward No. 4, in collaboration with INF Nepal.



Residents of the village demonstrate their new tap

Among the 412 households in this very remote area, INF Nepal has supported 126 households with safe water taps, 157 households with water filters, 400 households with improved cooking stoves, and 140 households with manure pits and dishwashing stations.

The changes that occur as part of this access are profound – better health, fewer hours spent walking to and collecting water, continuity of education especially for girls. And the village has been delighted to recently receive official status as the first in Rolpa to be moving toward total sanitation.

Please pray for International Nepal Fellowship Nepal

INF Nepal is grateful for a successful community medical outreach project involving a two-day Disability Screening Camp in Myagdi District, Gandaki Province. A total of 555 individuals benefited from orthopedic consultations, and among them, 220 individuals were provided with different types of assistive devices, including crutches, wheelchairs, and lumbar support belts.

Additionally, the team conducted workshops on disability rights and provided orientation on disaster preparedness at Gaumul Rural Municipality in Bajura district. This community is grateful to support received in the earthquake response and relief efforts for 75 affected individuals.

INF are thankful for capacity-building workshops within the community on crucial topics such as Child Rights/protection, Anti-Human Trafficking, livelihood, church and integral mission.

INF is seeking prayers for Shining Hospital Surkhet as the community is requesting full rehabilitation services. Please pray the hospital will be equipped to provide comprehensive services as needed.

Please pray with us

SHANTI Nepal

Shanti Nepal have just completed major impact reviews of their projects, including surveys about the use of new Water and Sanitation facilities in one of the rural municipalities, and a social audit of all working areas to determine the success of projects.

Two areas have been declared “model villages” which means they are considered exemplary in terms of their use of resources, community education and inclusion.

Please pray for the developing relationships between government and other agencies with whom Shanti works in partnership and for the smooth mobilisation of resources as the groups collaborate on projects.

Pray for safe travel of staff to remote project areas during the rainy season.

Shanti continues to seek more funding partners in the Dhading district working on food security, nutrition and WaSH.

WACT - Welfare Association for Children Tikapur

Give thanks for the completion of a very productive 3-day board workshop at which new directions were set and strategy discussed.

Give thanks also for the social audits (review processes) that are taking place in all working areas. WACT are hearing positive feedback from people who have experienced real change because of the project, and received the gratitude of local Government agencies and other stakeholders.

Please continue to pray for training opportunities for staff taking place this month, for wisdom and guidance about where to invest in the communities and how to resource the projects.

ECTC (Elijah Counselling Training Centre)

Give thanks that God has guided ECTC through their strategic planning and the progress being made working with the Government sector.

Give thanks also for the completion of the 3 year Diploma in Counselling and Practical Theology and the graduation ceremony coming up this month for students.

Please continue to pray for more funding partners for the project, and for the health of ECTC's founding member, who has been chronically unwell and unable to offer support and guidance to the team.

Milap

Milap gives thanks for a local self-help group who planted saplings in the nearby schools, surrounding their home to promote and protect the environment and God's creation.

Milap's Chairperson and Pastor of Smyrna Missionary church was elected as a Chairperson of Nepalgunj Christian Society. Milap seeks wisdom and knowledge for him to manage these major new responsibilities.

Please pray for communities in Banke and Lumbini Province who are not receiving the rain they need to cultivate their paddy fields. In this working area, approximately 75% of the land is not planted and this greatly impacts food yields for the local farmers.

SSS

Please pray that SSS staff are able to generate income from local work so that they can continue to support the organisation.

Pray also for staff members who are unwell, as well as patients with whom SSS works. In recent weeks SSS has been supporting Dhanu, who has a disease of the joints, Monica with a wound to her neck, Mohan who is diabetic and facing amputation of his leg, and Moti, who has suffered a miscarriage. Pray that God's love and comfort might be extended to all through the care of SSS staff.

Give thanks for the work of the local churches, who are attracting new believers and sharing the good news of hope and forgiveness.

Caryn and Peter Kneale

Give thanks for a time of leave for Peter and Caryn, and pray that they'll return to their work refreshed and renewed.

Pray also for Caryn as she continues to recover from the impact of her recent bicycle accident.

Ming Poon

Give thanks for new ways of working with her team including mentoring, and for collaboration and ministry with Christian staff at the hospital.

Pray for new pathways to open up to contribute and for fruitful collaboration on the Leprosy Strategy.

Remember that you can join Ben for Prayer and Conversation on the first Monday of each month on zoom from 7.30-8.15 AEST. Email us at the office for the link.