

Every child has the potential to be anything they want to be.

The Future Village Foundation

supports the education of children in rural Nepal for a sustainable future, both for them and their community.



- Employment Skills
- Environment
- Health/Sanitation
- E-Commerce

The Foundation

The Future Village Foundation was established in 2010 to support the education of impoverished children in rural Nepal.

It was started by 7 volunteers from Barclays to conduct English teaching volunteering in a remote mountain village in Nepal, then co-founded by Peter Hepenstall and Jessie Lai as NGO registered in Australia. The foundation's aims are:

- Provide basic education to children in rural Nepal.
- Provide clean energy and improve infrastructure
- Improve health and sanitation conditions

Key Achievements

- Organized 12 group volunteering trips with more than 100 volunteers from 20+ different countries.
- Supported 3 local projects to make long term life impact
- Conducted English teaching and activities to about 300 students in regular visits
- Provided scholarship to 20 students, each receives 5 year basic education sponsorship
- Provided scholarship to 5 orphans, each receives 3 year education sponsorship
- Funded teacher salary for 5 teachers in 2 projects and provided stationery to schools
- Funded the construction of 2 new classrooms and 4 school toilets, set up library and books donation
- Installed solar panels in local education center and schools to provide lighting and clean energy
- Provided free dental service to 700 children and villagers by collaborating with oversea dentist volunteers and local dental NGO. Sponsored toilet building to 5 local families.
- Sponsored Year 10 Snowland school students to visit home in Himalaya mountains after 10 years not seeing families.
- Commenced Youth Development Program to 50 Junior College students to improve financial skills and employability.
- Raised around SGD 200,000 to support earthquake relief works for 10 local projects.

How can you help?

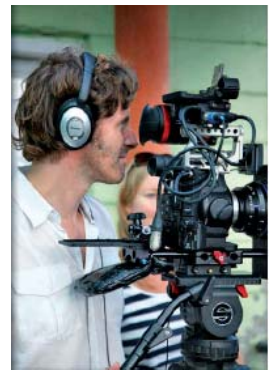
- Sponsorship on education: USD 100 can support a year basic education for one village student. USD 200 can support a year education for one orphanage. USD 250 can supply a teacher's salary for one month.
- Volunteering in the Youth Development Programme: to share career experiences with college students in Nepal in these specific areas: Medical Service, Accounting, IT & Engineering, Hospitality, Teaching, Artists.
- Participating in volunteering trips: volunteers need to attend 5 meeting sessions for visit preparation before one week volunteering trip to Nepal.

For more information, visit our Facebook Group: Nepal Future Village Foundation or website
<http://futurevillagesociety.weebly.com/index.html>

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What has been achieved...



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Earthquake...



Upcoming Projects....



*Class Blog,
Photo Diary &
E-Learning*

Project Refuge

*Fair Trade
Project*

*Documentary
Filming &
Menstrual Cups*

Earthquake Relief & Upcoming Projects

The fund has supported 10 local projects so far.

- Snowland School
- Mount Everest Foundation
- See Change Foundation
- The Ujyalo Foundation
- Health & Development Society Nepal (HDSN)
- World without Suffering Organization
- IGWR & few villages
- Nadira's project (SNV)
- Ideal Women & Child Development Centre
- Kumar's & Dil's villages

- **Project Refuge**

Continuing our prior work of building health post and shelter classrooms made by HDSN in Kumar's village, a bigger project is driven to work with a potential artificial limb sponsor and our local project partners; the Sir Edmund Foundation, HDSN and Gham Power. We are building a field hospital in the Ghoka valley for the ongoing care for people severely injured in the earthquake.

- **Class Blog, Photo Diary & E-Learning**

It aims to let the world hear Nepalese students' own voices – how the earthquake impacts their life as well as their tough stories about home far away in the Himalayas. The Internet supported by green power makes E-learning & E-mentoring possible to provide students more alternative learning sources. Photography training not only adds more vibrancy to convey their observation, but also helped to record the life up in the Himalayas at their home villages.

- **Fair Trade Certification Project**

Generating income is key to recovery and sustainability. Most agriculture products in Nepal are organic, while coffee, tea and spices in Nepal have good quality and produce higher economic potentials. We are in discussion with a US certification company and our local project partners to help local farmers set up a protocol process for obtaining fair trade certification.

- **Long Way Home Project & Menstrual Cups**

After the one hour TV documentary was completed in 2015, a bigger filming project with 25 crew from the UK will trek with the students to the Himalayas to document how precious an education opportunity could be - by scarifying of not seeing family for 10 years! In addition to prior arrangement to teach little kids in extremely remote high mountain villages, these Snowland school students become our young volunteers to distribute menstrual cups and teach local women to improve sanitation conditions.

Going Home – The Long Way Home



The children of the Snowland School come from the Dolpa And Mustang regions of far western Nepal – near the border with Tibet. The Dolpa is a very secluded and isolated part of the country that is of such a high altitude that the mountain slopes are constantly covered in snow. There are no accurate numbers of the occupants of the Dolpa and the upper Dolpa regions however it is estimated that no more than 15,000 people reside there. The sole purpose of the children going to Kathmandu is to get an education.

At the age of 5 or 6 these children are collected together. They are frightened and excited in equal parts. With adult guides they first walk and then ride and then walk again for more than two weeks. This walk involved climbing in some parts over mountains that are more than five and half thousand meters high. There are no roads to follow – only tracks that have been used by shepherds and other villagers for more than a thousand years.



Along the way these children and their adult guides sleep in caves and they carry their own food and their meager possessions. After fourteen days of walking, and as they got closer to Kathmandu - they were able to catch local buses. Finally, after nearly four weeks of travel - these tired and scared children arrive at the Snowland School. Here older children - also from the Dolpa – and all of who had made the same journey when they were the same age, meet them. In some instances the younger children had elder siblings already at Snowland – so there were joyous reunions.

Thus begins what was a ten year stint of education and none of these children visit their home villages again in this period. The journey was simply too far and way beyond the means of their families. So the FV Foundation each year pays for the Year 10 graduates to return to their home villages. We organize and pay for planes, buses and guides and buy winter clothes for them. It is a complex task and very expensive. This is our third year of the program and we intend to run it forever. It is important for the kids to re-connect with their families and see where they have come from.



This year Peter Hepenstall's brother and Jessie's friend Sylar made a part of the journey home with 6 of the kids. They filmed and photographed the journey. In September our professional filmmaker friends Zara and Marcus went to Kathmandu to interview the children who had returned – and the children who are making the journey in 2015. Marcus and Zara intend to return to Nepal in April 2015 with film crews to accompany the groups of children and record the whole emotional journey. We then intend to make and market a documentary called the Long Way Home. Peter Hepenstall is writing the accompanying book – all of the proceeds which will go to the Foundation.

