

# VOLUNTEERS INITIATIVE NEPAL (VIN) ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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# ACRONYMS

VIN	Volunteers Initiative Nepal
LMTV	Long-Mid Term Volunteer
WC	Work camp
CD	Children Development
PI	Public Interest
M&A	Management and Administration
WE	Women Empowerment
IJ	International Journalism
PH&MC	Public Health and Medical Care
ECD	Early Childhood Development
YE	Youth Empowerment
E&C	Environment and Conservation
VDC	Village Development Committee
NGO	Non-Government Organization
LRTT	Limited Resource Teacher Training

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN) has been working in three districts in Nepal; Kathmandu, Okhaldhunga and Nuwakot, using a holistic approach since 2007. The project was initiated in 2007 in Jitpurhedi, Kathmandu District. VIN facilitates projects focused on the women and children of marginalized communities against Nepal's challenging situation.

Nepal, as we know has been struggling to bring about all round development and enhancement of livelihoods. People in rural parts have been untouched by urban-centred development activities. They still live with minimal resources barely surviving and fighting for their basic needs. Most of the people in marginalized communities are unaware about important issues like health and sanitation. They do not know of their rights and freedom.



VIN believes that the empowerment of women and children will bring about positive change so desperately needed in Nepal. VIN has developed comprehensive programs to empower all the members of the community, such as Women's Empowerment, Children's Development, Youth Empowerment, Public Health and Medical Care, Environment conservation and Disaster Response and Relief. Over the years of hard work, VIN has earned national and international recognitions for empowering marginalized communities in rural parts of Nepal.

We would like to thank our dedicated staff who contributed their time and energy in different communities. We would also like to thank each of our national and international volunteers who have supported our organisation with their valuable their skills and knowledge. We would also like to thank our partners and volunteers who have rendered tremendous efforts to provide hands on support to the organisation as well as our beneficiaries.

At last but not least, we are very much thankful and offer sincere gratitude to the national and international donors and partners without whom our accomplishments would not have been possible.

# BACKGROUND

VIN is a non-religious, non-political not for profit NGO which was founded in 2005 by a diverse group of development workers, educationalists, social activists and other professionals. VIN takes a holistic approach to development, and runs a wide range of programs which fit into our four pillars of an empowered community: Education, Health and Environment, Economy and basic infrastructure. VIN's working areas are Kathmandu, Nuwakot and Okhaldhunga districts.

VIN's mission is to empower the marginalized communities through enhanced education, health, income generation and basic infrastructure programs basically focusing on women and children by conducting training and research, developing basic infrastructure, mobilizing skilled local and international volunteers to promote equality, economic well-being and basic human rights. The interns and volunteers come from all ages and backgrounds and come as individually, in small groups, or in larger groups.

## Principles of VIN's programs

Volunteers take part in structured programs where they have the opportunity to contribute, along with VIN's onsite team, in creating a long-lasting difference for their target community's shared vision.

Overseas volunteers will form part of an already existing local volunteer network and have the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in Nepali culture and life.

Through VIN's focus on improving educational systems, volunteers have a unique chance to plan, organize and shape the programs, thereby contributing in a meaningful and rewarding manner.

VIN is part of the community and works in partnership with grassroots organizations, which support volunteers and local projects most effectively.

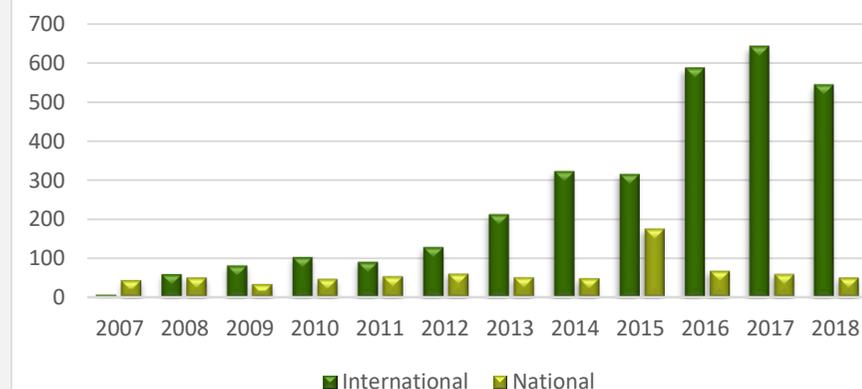


## PARTICIPANTS IN 2018

VIN has welcomed 597 total volunteers in the year 2018. This year VIN received 546 international volunteers from different countries around the world and 51 national volunteers. The volunteers who joined VIN this year were for the various projects such as teaching yoga at community, agro farm, air pollution research, animal care, children home, children's club & child rights, reconstruction of earthquake resistant home, climate change, disaster risk management, ECD, elderly care, film & documentary making, HR advisor, Organizational development & capacity building, photo journalism, print journalism, public health & medical care, SVA research, teaching deaf at school, teaching English at Buddhist monastery, teaching English at community school, waste management, water research, women empowerment, working for street children, youth empowerment, children's winter camp, children's summer camp, library camp, personality development for children, youth personality development, art & crafts with children, school development & education, sports with children, LRTT, and painting, decorating & furnishing. The volunteers are from different countries such as Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Malta, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, USA, and so on.

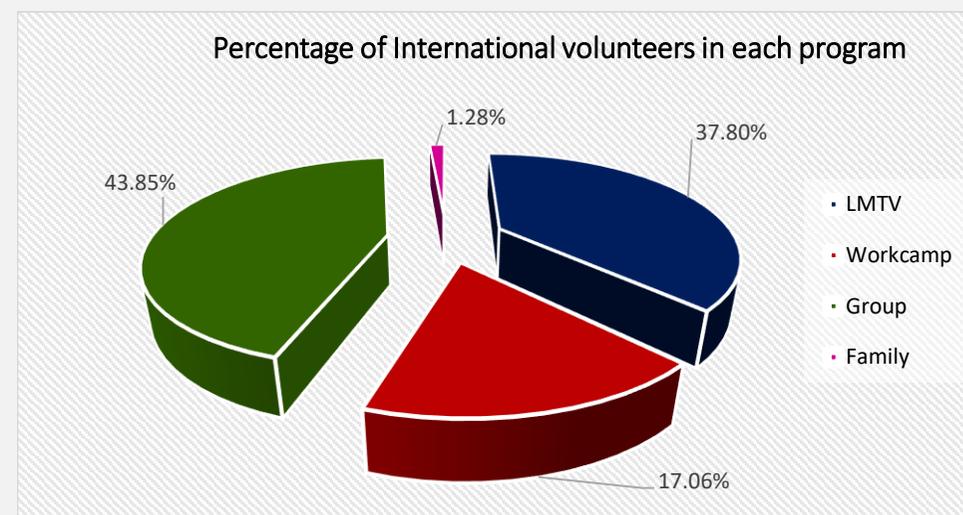


### Total Number of Volunteers each year



Year	Internation	National	Total
2007	8	45	53
2008	60	51	111
2009	83	35	118
2010	104	48	152
2011	92	55	147
2012	130	61	191
2013	214	52	266
2014	324	50	374
2015	317	176	493
2016	588	69	657
2017	643	60	703
2018	545	51	596
<b>Total</b>	<b>3108</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>3861</b>

Project	Number of volunteers	Percentage
LMTV	206	37.80%
Work camp	93	17.06%
Group	239	43.85%
Family	7	1.28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>100%</b>



## BREAKDOWN OF VOLUNTEERS

Due to its involvement in focused area, a large number of VIN programs are designed to fill the gaps and make lives more prosperous in that community with a focus on Children's Development (CD), Women's Empowerment (WE), Youth Empowerment (YE), Public Health and Medical Care (PHMC), and Environment & Conservation (EC).

VIN has established outside community projects, which come under Public Interest (PI), and Buddhist Monastery (BM) programs. VIN now runs more than 50 projects in total. Working currently in Jitpurphedi and specifically in Kavresthali (since 2016), VIN has also began mobilizing international volunteers in Okhaldhunga (since October 2013) and Okharpauwa (since 2014).

### Number of volunteers received in different projects for 2018

Project	LMTV	Work camp	Group	Family	Total
Teaching	68	14	209	7	298
Children Development	13	53	23	-	89
Women Empowerment	39	-	-	-	39
Public Health and Medical Care	16	-	7	-	23
Environment and Conservation	17	-	-	-	17
Youth Empowerment	3	3	-	-	6
Public Interest	27	23	134	-	190
Management and Administration	3	-	-	-	3
Journalism	15	-	-	-	15

### Division of volunteers according to gender

Gender	LMTV	Work camp	Group	Family
Female	127	70	162	3
Male	79	23	77	4

### Division of volunteers according to country

Name of country	No. of volunteers
Australia	30
Austria	1
Belgium	14
Brazil	3
Canada	7
China	4
Colombia	1
Czech Republic	8
Denmark	3
Finland	2
France	66
Germany	26
Greece	4
Hong Kong	7
Ireland	3
Italy	29
Japan	12
Korea	12
Lithuania	1
Malta	1
Mauritius	1
Netherlands	20
New Zealand	8
Philippines	1
Poland	3
Romania	1
Russia	2
Scotland	2
Singapore	3
South Africa	3
Spain	34
Sweden	2
Switzerland	5
Taiwan	164
UK	57
USA	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>545</b>

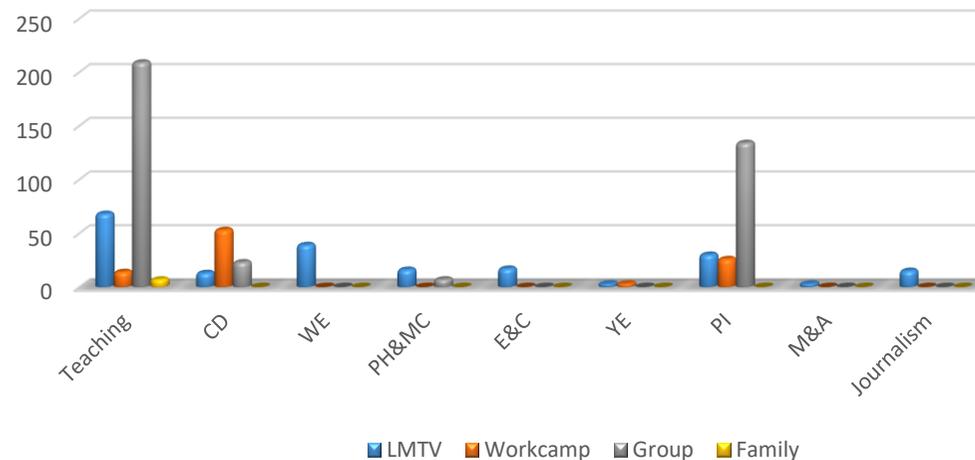
No. of volunteers from different continents



### Division of volunteers according to continent

Continent	No. of volunteers
Asia	158
Africa	4
America	61
Europe	284
Australia	38

Number of volunteers in different projects



# VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMS

## TEACHING PROGRAM

VIN operates a program of work to develop teaching and learning within the Jitpurphedi and Kavresthali community, with volunteers teaching in community schools as well as local Buddhist monasteries and nunneries along with teacher trainings. The program initially focused on teaching English, but has also expanded to include teaching sports, arts and crafts and computer science. This year we received 167 volunteers for teaching in community school project. These volunteers taught English, sports, art & crafts, computer science etc. in different community schools. There were also few volunteers who joined the organization to work with the deaf children. This year, VIN received 8 volunteers for the teaching deaf children and 5 volunteers for teaching yoga program. This year VIN received 75 LRTT volunteers who provided trainings to the teachers of various community and private schools.



### Testimonials of the volunteers of Teaching Program

*“My experience teaching English in the monastery was full of emotions. It is not all about teaching but sharing a day to day life with these children. In a short time, you become part of their life and what you receive in return is priceless. The impact is very strong they have a very hard life, far from their families and the thought that you cannot do more for them is painful. Going there with your open heart and giving them affection is the greatest thing you can do for them!”* – **Lavinia Landa, Italy, Teaching English in a Buddhist Monastery**

*“I really enjoyed my experience at VIN. The information I had before I came was very mind resting. The induction course was quite useful. The local volunteer was excellent helping us fulfill the objective of the project which were to give love and happiness to children. The host family gave us the opportunity to get to know the culture of Nepal in a very realistic way. They were all friendly and helpful for us. The access to the manager of our program was quite easy. I think that I offered Nepal what I could and Nepal through VIN offered me a beautiful, life experience!”* – **Dionysia Nikolopoulou, Greece, Arts & crafts with children**

## CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Children’s Development Program is one of the major activities in our integrated community approach, supported by our full time staff and volunteers. The aim of the program is to protect the rights of all children in the community by: providing access to a basic, quality education; developing their life skills; and providing access to health services (through our Community Health Program). For the overall development of marginalized children, we run four projects for volunteers within our Children’s Development Program: Child Care: Children Home, Child Care: Early Childhood Education, Children’s Life Skills Facilitation, and Working for Street Children. The range of these projects allow volunteers with different strengths and interests to contribute to their fullest ability and satisfaction. The program aims to protect the rights of all children in the community by providing access to a basic but quality education, developing their life skills and providing access to health services.



### Testimonials of the volunteers of Child Development Program

*“My experience at VIN was eye opening. I would say that one of my favorite things would be the cultural immersion. I definitely think living in a smaller village such as Nayapati helped with that. For the program I volunteered with, volunteering isn’t for the faint hearted. However, you adapt and grow as a person in ways you never thought you would. Volunteering here in Nepal has made me realize many new things about my own home country – South Africa – and how I can go back and make a difference by implementing the things I learnt here. I got a must needed outside perspective and I can definitely thank VIN for that. – Gabriela Anderson, South Africa, Working with street children*

*“Volunteering at Manang Free Pre School has been a life changing experience. The children are so full of love and life and extremely mature for their ages. Everyone is extremely welcoming and it won’t be long before you are feeling like part of the family. – Stephanie Walsh, Australia, Children Home*

## ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION PROGRAM

This program focuses on promoting community awareness of crucial environmental issues and developing solutions by contributing to major research. VIN allocated the skilled and unskilled volunteers and interns to join on environmental volunteering program to bring about environmental change in Nepal. VIN conducts Water Research, Environment Initiative, Climate Change Research, Agro farm and Agro Forestry projects under Environment and Conservation programs to provide in depth concept of environmental issue of Nepal and to develop analytical skills, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills of its volunteers and interns. VIN has received four volunteers for climate change, four for agro farm, eight for water research and five for air pollution project. Under VIN Water Resourcing program, volunteers conduct major research on water resources and sanitation, and collaborate closely with volunteers from the WASH project to create awareness in the local community. The main role of the volunteers under agro farm project is to help different families in farming, promote organic farming; aware people about the effect of chemical fertilizers. These volunteers have been placed in Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.



### Testimonials of the volunteers for Environment Conservation:

*“My experience at VIN was truly amazing. I have met absolutely incredible people here with whom I share so many good memories now. My host family was so lovely; I am so grateful to them. My project gave me new knowledge and experience and has helped me realize that I will dedicate my future to battling climate change and help in those least protected and responsible for it to adapt and mitigate the impacts of it. I am definitely coming back next summer!”* – **Ekaterina Shilina, Russia, Climate Change research**

*“I stayed in host family for 3 weeks. That is the best way to learn about the culture, I think. My host family was absolute amazing and lovely. They made it easy for me the whole time. My volunteering work was very physically at the beginning, because I worked on a farm. There I pulled up weeds, dug the fields and planted vegetables. Then I did some research about composting for teaching a group. I conducted a presentation to local farmers, together with a local volunteer. In my opinion, the local farmers need more teachings in composting and techniques about organic farming. My experience at VIN was a personal gain.”* – **Martin Leßmann, Germany, Agro farm**

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE PROGRAM

Health and basic infrastructure are two of the main foundations of VIN. It has sought to promote these through support of local health post, staffing it with a dedicated doctor and nurse, providing education in the community and holding health camps in schools to educate the children and screen for dental, parasite and eye problems. Roles and activities of volunteers in the PHMC Programs are:

- Working at the health post and assisting VIN's Doctor;
- Organizing Women's and School Health Camps activities;
- Conducting 'Teaching and Awareness' raising campaigns on reproductive health to girls in schools and women of the community.

It has conducted following projects under this project.

- Health Hygiene and sanitation Education
- Medical Support
- WASH (Water and Sanitation Hygiene)

As part of our Construction and Manual Work Project VIN has helped to construct more than 300 toilets across Jitpurphedi and are committed to a further 300, in order to improve health and hygiene and eradicate open defecation. This year, for the public health and medical care program, VIN received 16 volunteers for LMTV project and 7 volunteers for group project.



### Testimonials of the volunteers for Public Health and Medical Care

*“My experience with VIN has been a personal challenge and a Triumph for me. My placement by VIN as a Public Health intern in the Kavresthali community has been exactly what I wanted, and the experience met all my expectations. I felt so much joy from the hospitality and kindness I received from strangers in the community but also felt sad at the inequities I came across in Kavresthali. But everybody is happy with what they have and trying to make ends meet in the best way possible. I found the people of Nepal to be resilient, and they inspired me every day of my stay with VIN. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. – Lakshmi Muthina, USA, Public Health & Medical Care*

*“My experience at VIN is really good. I enjoyed my time in Nepal. To teach children in schools is great, they are really enthusiastic and motivated. During the project I had the opportunity to learn the Nepali way of living. Overall an amazing experience – Alma Dijkstra, The Netherlands, Public Health & Medical Care*

*"My experience at VIN was very valuable. I have learned how to find your own way, be flexible, to organize, to improve, to work together, so a lot! Especially in a country like Nepal, where things are very disorganized, it can be hard in the beginning. But very quickly you will go with the flow and find your own way and can enjoy this beautiful country! The people, nature, culture, everything is very inspiring. I enjoyed it a lot. – Anna Van't Ende, The Netherlands, Public Health & Medical Care*

## **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

VIN runs this project to boost management and administrative knowledge in Nepalese community with the help of expert and specialized international volunteers as volunteer coordinator, Editor Writer, Marketing Advisor, Fundraising and Grant writing, website and SEO Professional under the management and Administration Under this project. VIN has received three volunteers from different countries for LMTV projects under management and administration. The volunteers also helped in editing the documents and assisting volunteer management team. In 2018, VIN received 1 volunteer as a HR advisor and 2 volunteers for Organizational Development and capacity building.

### **Testimonials of the volunteers of Management & Administration Program**

*“Working at VIN has been one of the greatest personal and professional experiences of my life. I had the pleasure of working for 3 months in the Human Resources area, and can confirm that if you decide to take the decision and courage to come to work in Nepal, you won't be disappointed as it's a massive learning experience. The only thing I would suggest you is that you leave your expectations and preconceptions on “how I have done things in the past” or “how things should be done” or whatever previous expectations you have, just leave them at home, as this is different. Not just culturally, economically or socially; but more specially as you will be volunteering, in the way Nepali people approach and do the work. One of the most important things I have learned is that you can still generate massive impact, even if you take it easy and behave kindly with others. – Sebastian Bueno, Spain, HR Advisor*

## PUBLIC INTEREST

VIN has been operating projects under the Public Interest Program which includes Traffic Management, Research initiatives, Volunteering and hospitality management, construction and manual work, emergency relief and disaster management and animal care. The main objective of the program is to bring the awareness in Nepalese society from voluntary works. Under Public Interest, this year, VIN received volunteers for various projects such as animal care, disaster risk and response and reconstruction & sustainability.



### Testimonials of the volunteers for Public Interest

*“My volunteer experience at VIN was an amazing one. Amazing by the other volunteers that I met throughout the program. Amazing by the Nepali’s culture that I learned to know better, from the inside with the host family. Amazing by the team effort that was put in the working camp, whatever the conditions (rain, heat...). During the whole time of the project, we did all the things together. We spent our night sharing our culture, playing games. We went to Nagarkot and then to Bhaktapur by the local bus during our excursion weekend. We were more than a team of volunteers, we were a group of friends, sharing and laughing together. I have met so many amazing people and I’m sure I will stay in contact with most of them, whether they are the other volunteers, the host family or the Nepalese people. This was a breathtaking out of time experience and I know I will go back home different, even more mature and open to the world than I was before.”* – **Erwan Daubenfeld, France, House Rebuilding Support**

*“The volunteering was hard, it was very demanding both physically and mentally. But I suppose it is what you make it. So for me it was very hard work and I loved it. Otherwise I can't really explain this because putting words on an experience this rich is next to impossible. How can you explain a breathtaking view? How can you describe this feeling of exhaustion you get after the hard sunny day of working that makes you so proud, happy, satisfied and thrilled... It's a huge adventure both inside a new culture and inside yourself. Of course this varies with the amount of time you stay.”* – **Georgi Geshev, Belgium, Rebuilding earthquake resistant infrastructure**

*“My experience was great! It was amazing because we lived like the local people, totally immersed in his culture, house, food and works. We have touched with our hands what is the Nepali life, sharing with them all the different feelings. Concretely we helped to construct in the way that they suggest us, and also this have enriched us. It was perfect also the team work, all of us were different but perfectly on the same vibes. We worked a lot all together without any problem. Thank you for all.”* – **Valentina Strano, Spain, House Rebuilding Support**

## JOURNALISM PROGRAM

VIN's Journalism Program enables interns or volunteers to develop a portfolio of work in an international context. The program is conducted in Nepal in partnership with national daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly publications. This program includes photo journalism, print journalism, and film and documentary making. VIN has received 9 volunteers for Photo journalism, 1 volunteer for print journalism project and five for filming and documentary making.

### Testimonials of the volunteers for Journalism

*“My experience at VIN was life-changing. Becoming immersed in a new culture is an experience unlike any other and VIN helped make the transition easy. The print journalism internship they set me up with not only helped further my career experience, but also taught me about Nepali society in a thorough and unique way.”* – **Jacob ‘Kobi’ Azoulay, USA, Print Journalism**

*“It was one of the best experiences of my life so far. Due to the program I could get much deeper in a culture and traditions of the people. Without VIN it would be impossible to reach as a tourist. We had a very nice group of international and local volunteers. It was really nice to see everybody working, to help the local people. And we had a good time together. Thank you so much for giving this opportunity to the volunteers, to know much about Nepal and to help people who really need this.”* – **Yury Soldatov, USA, Photo Journalism**

*“I really enjoyed my time as an intern with VIN. My host family and living in Kavresthali were definitely the highlights of my time spent with the organization. I did an internship in Documentary & Film Making and enjoyed that a lot as well, though I believe the results might have been better if the program was organized a bit better.”* – **Ville Jokinen, Finland, Film & Documentary Making**

*“My experience at VIN was amazing. I didn't expect to experience so many emotions in a month. I really appreciate everything. From my host family, whom welcomed me as a family person, to my project in which I could invent and put myself and the other volunteers. Great people that I hope to see again soon. The VIN staff also was always ready to listen and help us. Dhanyabad VIN, dhanyabad Kathmandu.”* – **Chiara Ferreti, Italy, Photo Journalism**



## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

This program supports youth of the community and develop the skillful manpower in the community with the help of international volunteers. They encourage the youth to participate in socio-economic activities of the society. Leadership training, team building, capacity build up training are included in the program. VIN received six volunteer for this program where 3 were for the LMTV and other 3 were for the work camp project.

### Testimonial of volunteers for Youth Empowerment

*“The volunteer here made me more confident and learned a lot in Nepal. I liked the idea of sharing ideas and programming with the volunteers. The participants in the program actively helped us perform well on the project. And the host family actively helped me get along and I got a lot of help. It was really good to see Nepalese culture while staying with host family.”* –

**Yuna Choe, Korea, Youth Personality Development**

*“I came to Nepal on the promise of teaching life skills and other areas to the youth of Kavresthali, instead I have learnt more about the human spirit, humbleness and humanity from the Nepalese people. I am grateful for this experience through VIN and I am looking forward for the EBC experience. My time at Nepal has exposed me to a hardworking and happy people rich in culture and humanity and I will treasure this experience for many years and will share with all of my family and friends. VIN provides foreign people for an opportunity to engage with people in the communities first hand and experience the culture. I have made many friends in Nepal with Nepalese people as well as the other volunteers, so is a great way to meet new people as well.”* –

**Niel Dass, South Africa, Youth Empowerment**

*“My experience at VIN was rewarding. Working with the youth empowerment project gave me the opportunity to see the group develop their skills and understanding of what is needed in the world of today. Additionally, I was given the ability to appreciate the fantastic culture of Nepal and the amazing landscape.”* –

**Chris Delaney, USA, Youth Empowerment**



## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

VIN's Women Empowerment Program seeks to improve the quality of life of women living in the underprivileged, rural communities where they run projects aim at providing women with economic tools, a basic education, improved health and a life without violence. This includes facilitating education, rights and Life Skills classes, supporting an agricultural based microcredit Cooperative, assisting with income generation & marketing strategies as well as Women's trafficking and prevention projects. The projects are aimed at women aged 20 to 60, focusing where there is acute poverty, dependence on subsistence farming, poor health and sanitation and evidence of gender discrimination.

### Testimonial for Women Empowerment

*"My experience at VIN was very positive! The support in the months leading up to the program, the communication with the staff, and the induction process were all very helpful. The actual volunteering was absolutely amazing - I loved the area I was placed in and the experiences I had were once-in-a-lifetime. I definitely recommend VIN to anyone who wants to make a difference for marginalized communities, while being immersed in a new culture and meeting a group of like-minded people from around the world."* – **Subrina Pumford, USA, Women Empowerment**

### Women Empowerment

*"My VIN experience was rewarding and meaningful. The home stay was an enriching experience as my host family was extremely warm and welcomed me as one of their own. Being immersed in Nepali life and culture adds to the experience as you see the women you work with on a day to day basis beyond just the work meetings. From the local food to the local activities, there are so many opportunities to put yourself out there and absorb as much as you can. I also feel that I was truly able to make an impact with the project I was on. I got to spend the first week shadowing another volunteer and observing how everything operated, then was given autonomy to plan my own workshops to how I saw fit. I was able to organize and lead an entrepreneurship workshop with several different groups. The smiles you get at the end of each workshop really say it all."* – **Raymond Shen, USA, Women Empowerment**

*"My experience at VIN was interesting. I am glad that I did it because I got to see first-hand how women in an impoverished country live. I would never have had this glimpse into their world otherwise. I learned a lot about myself and the gratitude that I feel for my life back in Australia. While the volunteering aspect wasn't what I expected I loved talking with the women in the community and finding out how they lived. I learned that they are exceptionally strong, intelligent, and powerful women, that are unfortunately stuck in a society that does not respect them. Overall, I found this experience worthwhile."* – **Amelia McDermott, Australia, Women Empowerment**



## FEATURED PROJECTS

### Work camps

Individual, bi-lateral & multilateral work-camps are designed for volunteers in the 18+ age group. VIN has successfully conducted 18 regular work camp projects.

They are listed below:

### Group volunteering

Group volunteer programs are targeted at university students, corporate organizations, company employees and clubs. There were 10 groups of volunteers participating on group volunteering project this year. These volunteers worked in different projects such as teaching and construction, painting and decorating ECD, teacher training, wall painting of a community school, etc. These volunteers were from various countries such as Belgium, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Taiwan and so on.

S.N.	Project	No. of project
1	Children's winter camp	2
2	Library Camp	3
3	Animal Welfare Camp	1
4	House Rebuilding Support	3
5	Personality Development for Children	2
6	Youth Personality Development	1
7	Children's summer camp	1
8	Art & crafts with Children	2
9	School Development & Education	1
10	Working with deaf children	1
11	Sports with children	1

### Volunteers Overseas

Volunteer Overseas projects are run for Nepali youth (aged 18 to 30) who would like to experience overseas projects through our partners in Europe, Asia, America, Africa and Australia. Participants will learn a foreign language, experience a new culture and way of life, develop international friendships and gain lasting life skills. This year, we send one volunteer to Thailand for the final evaluation meeting for the project called 'LACE for SDGs'.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF VOLUNTEERS ACTIVITIES

### Teaching English in the Buddhist Monastery / Nunnery

This project is one of the popular projects which are based on number of volunteers received every year. They are placed in Monastery and nunnery to teach English to the small monks and nuns. There are recently six monasteries where we send international volunteers on a regular basis.

### Children winter camp

This year VIN has organised two children camps in 2 different community schools. The main objective of the children camp is to provide unique opportunity of overall development, creativity & fun-time for children utilizing their vacation period. During the winter, the community children have vacations and have lots of free time but cannot afford to go for a paid winter camp, so this program supports a lot for the children on their physical, mental and social development. It also encouraged the children to participate and learn different activities. The volunteers have delivered different activities like Physical Exercise, Arts and Crafts, Sports, Singing and dancing. Basically, the camp has been more prioritizing the poor and disadvantaged children who actually have vacation between the ages 6-14.



### Research on Climate change

Research on the impact of climate on agriculture at Kavresthali and Okharpauwa has been conducted by the volunteers. They have researched about the climate change and its impact on agriculture and livelihood of farmers of the community. They studied the area, crops and vegetables, insects, damaged crops and cracks at farm due to earthquake. The survey and data collection was conducted in the community with the support of local volunteers.

### **Teaching English, sports, art and crafts, and computer science in the community school**

The volunteers have been supporting the community school by teaching and providing trainings of sports, English language, art and craft and computer science too. This year as well VIN received volunteers for teaching at community schools for various subjects like English, arts & crafts, sports and computer science.

### **Agro Farm Program**

The volunteers have also involved in the Agro Farming Project. They worked with the family members and helped in the farming. The volunteers did not only support here in the work of the family they also got the experience of working in the way of Nepalese farmer and their techniques of working. The volunteers assisted in planting potatoes, tomatoes, kiwi, cultivating and harvesting wheat, plucking weeds, etc.

### **Women education, women rights and life skills program**

Under the women empowerment program, the women are provided with education on various topics along with life skills for the betterment of the women. The awareness classes for the community women and the children at school have also been conducted by the volunteers. The classes are about the reality of human trafficking and with the hope of eliminating the problem in the future. Various education and life skills classes / trainings were provided to the women such as Microsoft excel training, account keeping, training on mental well-being, training on self-identification, English lessons, education on women trafficking prevention, etc. The women enjoyed interacting and exchanging ideas with the volunteers. The topic of women's rights brought about lengthy discussion on how rights had improved for women over the last few years, but they were concerned that women's trafficking remained a big problem which needed to be addressed. The women were, however, very optimistic that rights would continue to improve and felt that the involvement of VIN had made a great different to the quality of their life in the community.



### **Painting, decorating and furnishing of ECD at Gyanodaya School and Jitpur School**

A group of 15 International ISD volunteers painted, decorated and furnished the ECD class at Gyanodaya School. They painted the whole class and decorated with all the necessary furniture for the ECD kids. Also, 8 International volunteers from Netherlands painted and decorated ECD school of Jitpur School in the month of July.



### **Reconstruction of earthquake damaged houses at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi**

Till 2018 VIN reconstructed 13 earthquake resistant houses each at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi. The selection for the reconstruction of these houses is done on the basis of their poor financial conditions of the earthquake victims where the people do not have enough resources or manpower to reconstruct it.

### **Research on quality of water tested at different communities of Okharpauwa and Okhaldhunga**

The volunteers did a research to test the quality of drinking water at different communities of Okharpauwa and Okhaldhunga. They collected the water from different areas and tested it through various processes.

### **LRTT Teacher Training provided to teachers of various schools of Kathmandu Valley**

3 teacher trainings were conducted by the LRTT for 100 teachers each from different schools. The training was divided into 3 parts: Pre-observation, main training / conference and post-observation. First the trainers go for the pre-observation of the teachers to observe their teaching techniques at their respective schools. Then they conduct main training for those teachers. And finally they did the post-observation by visiting them at their respective schools. More than 300 teachers from various schools of Kathmandu valley were benefitted from this training in 2018.

### **Library set up and painted in 3 different schools**

Libraries of 3 different schools in Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi were arranged and painted by various group of International volunteers. They painted the whole room and then arranged the books according to its relevant categories.

**Conducted yoga classes to women's group from Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi:** The international volunteers provided yoga classes to the various women's group of Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi. Women in the Nepal are like full time workers who are engaged in household chores as well as in the field / outside work. So in order to make them relieve from their stress, there women are provided yoga classes by the professional international volunteers.

### **Classes on micro-credit conducted at Jitpurphedi**

Women of Jitpurphedi community were provided classes on micro credit by the international volunteers where they learnt about group formation, group saving, cooperative management.

### **Training on various product making as a part of entrepreneurial development to the women's group at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi**

Women's group who are pursuing to start their own business are provided training on various product making which helps them in generating income. These women were provided training on various products such as mushroom farming, doll making, bag making, liquid soap making, soap making, beads making, etc. There are various women's group in Kavresthali as well as in Jitpurphedi who have started doing their own business.



### **Personality Development Training for Youth**

A group of youth from Kalidevi youth club from Kavresthali were provided personality development training. The international volunteers for this project provided various trainings to the youth such as computer lessons, English lessons, yoga classes, leadership trainings, etc.

### **Various health campaigns conducted at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi**

This year VIN conducted various health campaigns in different communities of Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi. The people in these communities are aware about the health issues but do not know its causes and are unaware about its preventive measures. These campaigns are to make people aware about them. The volunteers who joined VIN for public health project conducted health campaigns on menstrual hygiene; food, safety and cardio vascular disease; menstrual hygiene and sanitary pad making; COPD, diabetes and lungs cancer.



### **Photo and video making on various projects**

There were many volunteers who joined VIN for photo and video making project. These volunteers went around the community and took photos and video on various ongoing projects of VIN.

### **Research on air pollution at Okhaldhunga**

A research on air pollution and health impacts from indoor cooking was conducted in Taluwa, Okhaldhunga. This research also included funding opportunities to support installations of metallic improved cooking stoves. Altogether 30 families were face-to-face interviewed on the basis of questionnaires prepared by the volunteer.

### **Monthly meeting for volunteers**

The monthly meeting for the volunteers is organized every month in order to know about their ongoing projects, development, problems and feedbacks. This meeting also helps all the existing volunteers to come together and interact with each other and share their experiences. The meeting also helps the organization to know what needs to be improved and what are volunteers' future expectations.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018

The financial statement 2018 is based on the Nepalese fiscal year that follows the Nepali calendar going from July 2017 to June 2018. The statement is the result of an analysis conducted on our official audit documents.

Currency	NRP, Nepalese Rupee
Total Income	46,190,713.21 NRP
Total Expenditure	46,193,156.60 NRP

## Funds that we have raises and how we spent them

### Total income

External Source	31,041,243.97 NRP
Internal Source	15,149,469.24 NRP
TOTAL	46,190,713.21 NRP

### Where our money comes from

Multiple Donors	31,041,243.97 NRP
Program Fee/Donation	12,452,776.02 NRP
Fund Raising	492,295.27 NRP
Others	43,986,315.26 NRP

## Expenditure by Program

Women's Empowerment	2,537,689.07 NRP
Children's Development	6,466,245.00 NRP
Disaster Risk Reduction	3,415,753.52 NRP
Youth Empowerment	672,570.00 NRP
Public Health & Medical Care	549,098.00 NRP
Environment Conservation	301,355.00 NRP

## Expenditure by Sector

Community Learning Centre	13,468,291.67 NRP
Administration and Overhead Costs	4,780,679.21 NRP
Volunteer Program	12,633,952.84 NRP
Depreciation	1,365,522.29 NRP
TOTAL	32,248,446.01 NRP

## FEEDBACK FROM PAST VOLUNTEERS

The following titles are of the induction evaluation form which was filled by the volunteers after the end of their induction program.

### ➤ **Volunteer's Introduction**

Almost 60% of volunteers rated 5 out of 5 on this section. After this session, the volunteers stated that they had a good overview of the country and VIN. They found it interesting to know about VIN and the energy in the program that the volunteers developed. They informed that it was very informational and was a great start to life in Nepal. Despite of this session being interesting, they thought that it was a bit too long and people were losing attention. Some of them also felt that the information about money was not clear.

### ➤ **Nepali Language**

In this section around 52% of volunteers rated 5 out of 5. As per the volunteers, this was their favourite session. They also stated that the classes were engaging and informative where they learned with fun and also the teacher was enthusiastic. They were also happy that their questions on commonly used phrases were also answered. They also commented that the simple words taught to them were very useful as they will be working in the community which also made them feel more prepared. But the volunteers also felt that it would have been helpful to have actual practice during the session rather than only one person talking.

### ➤ **Cultural Tips**

5 out of 5 rating was given by around 64% volunteers who found it interesting and helpful to function in Nepalese culture. The volunteers felt that the main cultural tips shared were helpful. They thought it was complete and very interesting to know another culture and were enthusiast to know even more. They also stated that it was a good overview of what to do and what not to do. Also the tips helped to be familiar with the habits and what to expect and how to behave.

➤ **Health Tips**

Around 63% of volunteers rated 5 out of 5 during the induction for the health tips. The volunteers stated that the information provided regarding health were very informational and brief. They also commented that the health tips were given in a simple way which were easy to understand and found out lot about what to eat and what not to eat. They were also informed about how to treat and prevent illness. The volunteers were also reassured that if they have any issues they have a doctor on call to contact. But some of the volunteers felt that the information provided were scaring some of them. And they also felt that the tips on vaccination would have been relevant if they had received it before arrival.

➤ **Clear idea about program / role / responsibilities**

Around 41% of volunteers rated 4 out of 5 for this section. The volunteers stated that they gained food information during this session. They were very clear on the project objective and also received direction of how the project is going on and the future development. They also commented that sitting with local volunteers gave them a really nice idea of what to expect and how to act. Most of the volunteers had no precise idea about the schedule. They also commented that without the guidance they were asked to run the groups. They felt that more details about the project in itself would have been useful. They also stated that it would have been useful if more specific tasks were provided before their arrival, they would have been able to prepare beforehand.

➤ **Handover notes from previous volunteers received**

In this section, 39% of volunteers rated 4 out of 5. The handover notes provided to the volunteers before their arrival were very clear and informative and the volunteers also felt that it gave a personal touch. These notes were very clear and gave them the ideas. But for some of the projects, the volunteers either did not receive the handover notes or there was not much information about the project by the past volunteers. Furthermore, they also stated that some of the information were outdated and did not correspond with their current project.

### ➤ Good understanding of schedule

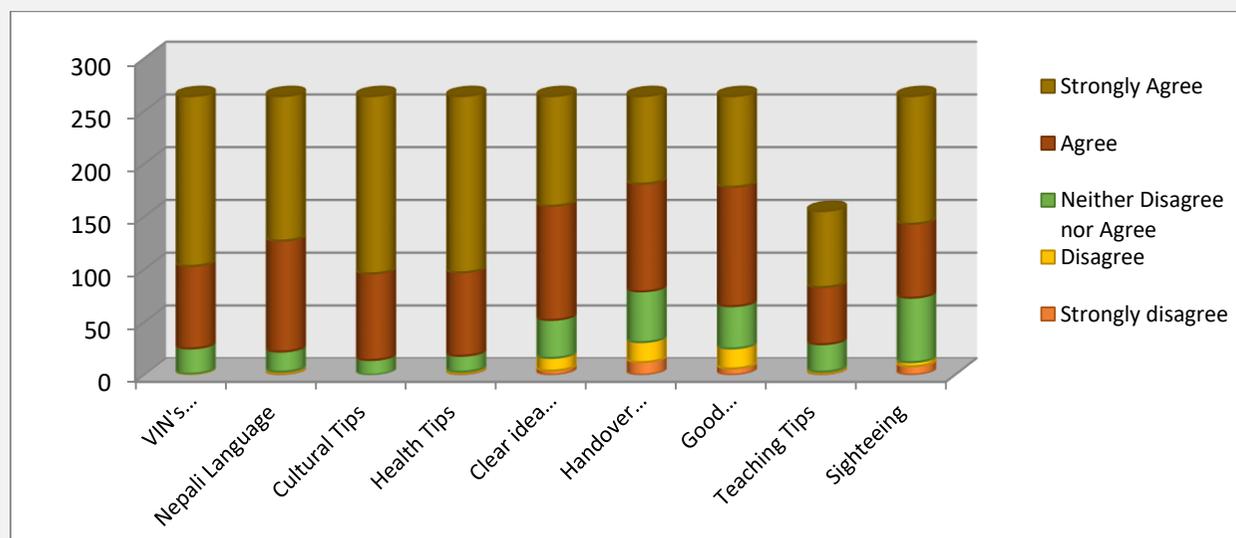
4 out of 5 rating was given by around 43% of volunteers in this section. The volunteers commented that they got their day to day schedule which planned out very well during their volunteering period. They also found it very helpful and gave them the ideas. But some volunteers felt that the daily plan was very vague and they thought that they will be working from 10 – 5 but had to spend lot of idle time. Some also felt that even though they have a schedule they were still unclear about where to go and whom to meet.

### ➤ Teaching Tips

In this section, 46% of volunteers rated 5 out of 5 who had joined VIN for teaching project. They stated that teaching tips were very helpful and the ideas provided were very interesting and fun. The volunteers also felt that it helped them a lot when they do not have experience in teaching. They also found the various suggestions given for games to be helpful as well. But some also felt that better structure of the program would be good.

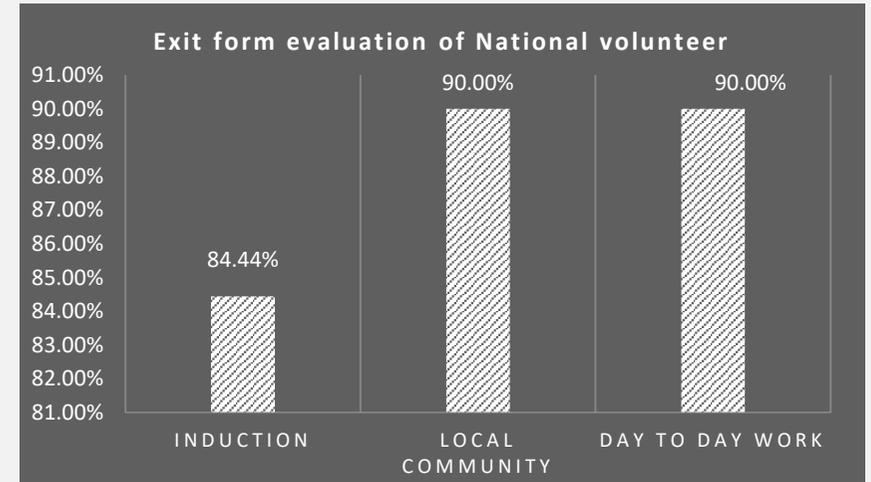
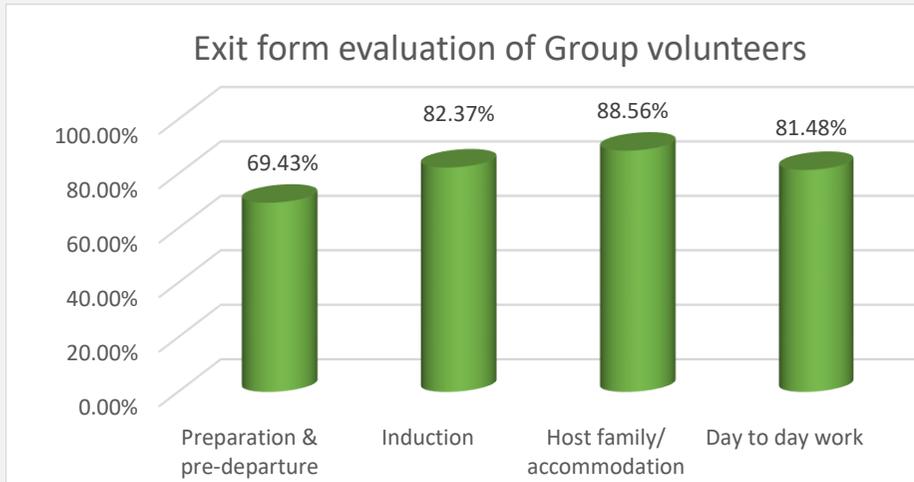
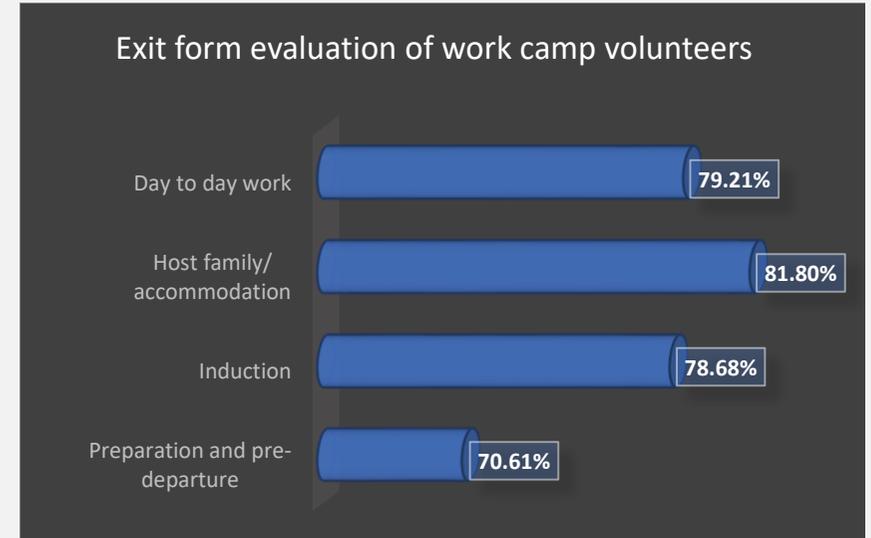
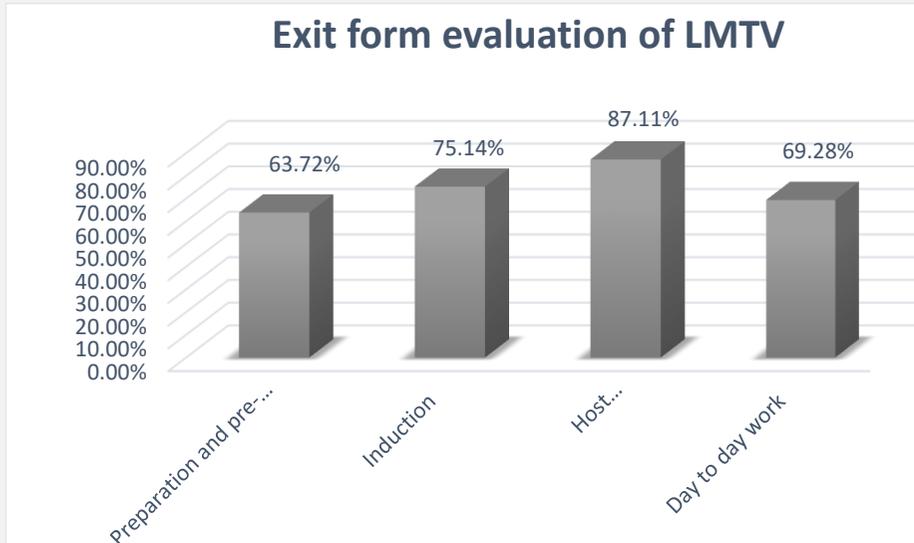
### ➤ Sightseeing

Around 46% of volunteers rated 5 out of 5 in this section as refreshment during the project and to get along with other volunteers from different projects too. The volunteers commented that they had an amazing time. They found that the guide was very interesting and provided lot of information about the sightseeing places. The volunteers also felt that this helped them to socialize.



## VOLUNTEERS EXIT FORM ANALYSIS

The exit form of VIN includes open questions as well as a scoring system. Results have been compiled and summarised in the charts below.



### Some of the feedbacks from the exit form

- More information regarding the project before starting to work.
- Rooms were moist and because of which most of the stuffs were damaged.
- Better communication.
- Volunteers wanted a more detailed data on financial information.
- Women empowerment volunteers had concerns regarding their working hours per day.
- Better communication on the payment regarding volunteering and internship.
- Make contact with the existing volunteers and upcoming volunteers.
- Project was not clear before going to the placement
- Great experience at the host family
- The host family was always there when we needed them, they supported us each and every time.
- No guidelines on how to structure a class or any information on how past volunteers did it or any material for the actually class content.
- Clear idea of what experience level and level of training needed would have been beneficial.
- Specific tasks were not clear even after the orientation.
- No contact with the older monks or any other person responsible to communicate.
- Difficult to communicate with the host family as only son speaks English but is never around.
- Advised to teach English classes without having any experience / qualification of teaching.
- Lack of curriculum and documentation for English classes to women.
- There was no organic farming. All the farmers use pesticides. I tried to propose ideas to VIN, but everything take time here, so it's complicated.
- Difficulty working at school because of no exact time table, lack of computers, books were mostly theoretical.
- Did not get enough supervision as an intern. The role of international and local volunteers was inverse as to what was imagined before.
- Could not be able to contact the project supervisor. No regular plan. Project was not really supervised.

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2018

- Reconstruction of a total of 13 houses for the earthquake victims at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.
- Documentary for the women cooperative and construction project conducted.
- Provided yoga classes to the women of different localities of Kavresthali.
- Research on climate change were done at Kavresthali and Okharpauwa.
- Arranged and painted 2 libraries at Kavresthali School and Saraswati School under the Library camp project at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi respectively.
- Education and life skills classes conducted to the women's group of Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.
- Water research at Okharpauwa and Okhaldhunga is being done.
- Painted, decorated and fully furnished ECD class of Gyanodaya School at Kavresthali.
- Training on various products were provided to the women's group at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.
- Education on women trafficking prevention provided to the children of different schools at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.
- Photos and film making were done for various projects.
- Air pollution research done at Okhaldhunga.
- Campaign on various health issues conducted at Kavresthali and Jitpurphedi.
- Teacher training for more than 300 teachers from different school of Kathmandu.
- Personality Development Training for youth conducted at Thumka, Kavresthali.
- Brochures on human trafficking prevention education made.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Volunteering program this year has been so far positive and volunteers have been equally great, supportive and constructive. VIN has been grown in many aspects, making further contribution in Jitpurhedi and Kavresthali, launching the projects in Okhaldhunga in 2013 and now aiming to start different programs in Okharpauwa where volunteers will now be placed. VIN is grateful to receive so many helping hands to develop the community programs of VIN.

VIN would like to thank with an open heart to all its national and international volunteers as well as each and every staff member, stakeholders and partners for their continuous assistance and support. Without their support, it would not have been possible to run all the programs smoothly this year. Thank you for making this year also a huge success. VIN appreciates all your time and contribution made in this organization.

Cheers!!!



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