



16 out of 27 children, that started school with SAMBHAVA this year

SUMMER 2016

SAMBHAVA celebrates its first birthday!!!

Welcome to the first annual report, covering 4 and a half months of education, training and building in Nepal, with many projects already launched and even more great possibilities for the future...

ON the Way to SCHOOL...

As she gets off the bus, Bina (7 years old) timidly slips her hand into mine. We pass a woman begging, sat on a pile of cardboard boxes, random fabric passing for clothing, one shoe on her feet. The woman looks up at us, surprised, her warm smile revealing her only tooth. "That's my mum" says Bina. She doesn't speak, she can't hear, but she is laughing. She pulls a biscuit out of her clothing and passes it to Bina.

27 children have begun school with Sambhava, thanks to the support of their godparents.

Bina leads us on; we go up a flight of stairs to a Momo stand. Grandmother works there; doing the washing up, on the floor outside the restaurant for 28 euros a month. We wanted to see where they lived together with Bina, the Grandmother reluctantly hands us the key. The tiny room with its low plastic ceiling has one small

bed for the three of them. Bina has no father, no grandfather, a handicapped mother; only a grandmother to look after her. We knew that for Bina, going to school would be the key to her future.

We met many other children in Goldhunga village, also in difficult circumstances. Some had lost their houses, lost one or both of their parents, became victims of neglect or abuse. Many have no access to good schooling, basic healthcare, or enough to eat from day to day. Now each of these children goes to school, supported by godparents on the other side of the planet, knowing that that support will continue until they leave school...

Sambhava Newsletter



Bina and her mum...



3 out of 4 girls of the Ghale-family Purnima, Punam and Pushmi, the three eldest of this family of four children have begun school. Coming from a village high in the mountains, their father left them, disappointed not to have a son, the mother is left without resources to bring up her four daughters.

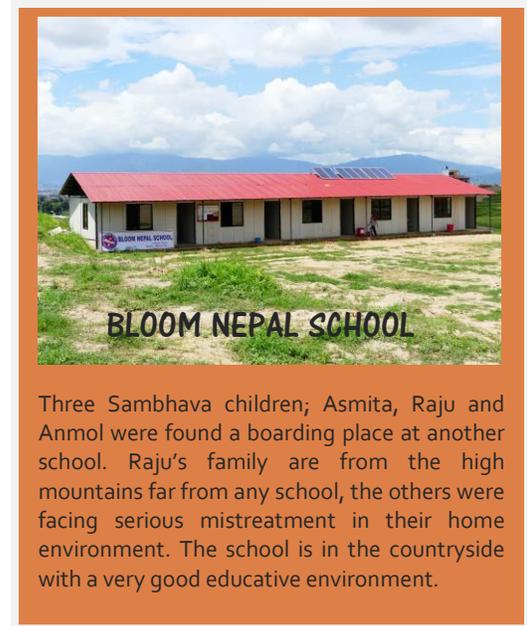
A big thank you to all the godparents!!!

Our partner school

ELEGANT PEARL ENGLISH SCHOOL

In this little school in the village of Goldhunga, near to Kathmandu, between the rice paddies and the fields of corn, we have established a partnership viable until the end of the schooling of the Sambhava children. From the kindergarten up until third class there are 220 students from 2 to 16 years. Raju Khadka and Binita Chhtri have been running the establishment for 16 months. During our stay and the beginning of the project, they became our hosts, our friends. The couple are struggling for education for all, especially for young girls. Our partnership with them doesn't stop with the arrival of the children; we work together to improve the educational environment. Since we arrived we have developed within the school an approach to discipline without any possible recourse to violence. Raju had already been trying to banish corporal punishment, so common in Nepal. The educative team has changed; some teachers left, others arrived, and with them we have been able to build a climate of respect around the child. From this strong foundation we have identified lines of development, which will become key objectives for Sambhava in the coming years. Competent volunteers visit to put in place meaningful projects according to the themes of our development goals; Non-violence, equality (regardless of caste or

religion), equality between man and woman, respect for the environment, knowing one's body, sexuality, children's rights, global citizenship, harmony – through music, art, dance, drama, well-being, meditation. Peace, internal and external, knowledge of the world, play, the joy of learning, reading, discovering... Many volunteers are already inscribed, the calendar is full up until March 2017! Watch this space!



Three Sambhava children; Asmita, Raju and Anmol were found a boarding place at another school. Raju's family are from the high mountains far from any school, the others were facing serious mistreatment in their home environment. The school is in the countryside with a very good educative environment.



**A BIG THANK YOU TO
THE FIRST VOLUNTEERS
OF SAMBHAVA!!**

The first volunteers at Elegant School....

Sambhava had the honour of welcoming Wilhelme from Quebec, the first volunteer at Elegant school. She transformed the library with her beautiful paintings, and we are committed to filling it with high quality books.

Next, Helene, doctor and Fanny, social worker, trained the education team in first aid, as well as the older children. Everyone found the course very interesting and only one year ago, it might have enabled them to save lives.





PUSHMI
4 YEARS



PRABINA
12 YEARS



PRATICYA
5 YEARS



RAJU
12 YEARS



BINA
7 YEARS



PRATIK
5 YEARS



SUJAL
6 YEARS



BUDDHIMAN
14 YEARS



MENDO
3 YEARS



NIRMALA
7 YEARS



PRATICHYA
9 YEARS



PURNIMA
10 YEARS



ANMOL
6 YEARS



SASITA
16 YEARS



PUNAM
6 YEARS



SUNITA
11 YEARS



ASMITA
11 YEARS



ALISHA
3 YEARS



RENUKA
5 YEARS



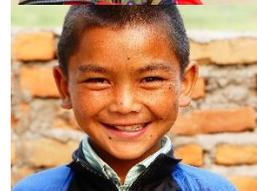
MANISH
5 YEARS



PRIYA
9 YEARS



MANISH
4 YEARS



PRAKASH
12 YEARS



RATNA
9 YEARS



BINOD
10 YEARS



MAHIMA
10 YEARS



PRASHANT
8 YEARS



Before....and after!!



RECIPE FOR 'MASALA SAPANA'

- 1 training with Cal- earth
- 1 will of iron
- 1 month of preparation
- 2700€ of donations and 1500€ of subventions of Annecy-city
- 1 helpful Nepalese friend
- 2 advisory trainers
- 1 amazing host family
- 8 Nepalese employees
- 9 great volunteers (and Biva, of course!)
- 1 cook (Sita, the niece of the couple)
- 3 Dhal Bhat a day (rice, lentils, potatoes!)
- 5 tons of cement
- Lots and lots of earth
- 3 truckloads of river sand
- 1 truckload gravels
- 130kg of tubular construction sacks
- Shovels, buckets, etc.
- Tea house for R and R
- 1 month of work
- 1000 children everywhere, at least!
- Lots of love and TADAMMM



A dome for Biva and Kindra !

The paradise of Gimdi...

The Gimdi jungle has a transcendent beauty; amongst the green hills cut through with rivers and waterfalls... Life is simple, we work the land, raise animals, use water to run the mills. There is a bus every morning linking this little corner of paradise with the capital, but the route is an adventure all of its own; cliffs and landslides mean it can take anywhere between 7 and 26 hours. Many houses fell in the earthquake, some people were able to rebuild using even the same stones and a few sheets of corrugated iron.

Kindra and Biva, the happy elite...

It was in this village that our friend Nawaraj introduced us to Kindra and Biva, a couple without children, about 80 years of age. The earthquake left them nothing but dust where their house had been, so without another solution they moved in with their goat to a shelter made of sticks, old bits of cloth keeping out the worst of the weather. Biva, a small lady with bare feet and workers hands, large smile and force, and Kindra a large man, dazed but happy, never hesitating to climb trees in search of branches for his goat. We decided to build them a dome to live their lives sheltered from the wind, the rain, the cold in a solid house, resistant to earthquakes.

1 month of work

The logistics of this adventure were rather incredible, but more so the luck we had. After a month's work, 1 hard week trying to decide how to deliver 12 tons of primary materials high in the hills with no road access (on our backs, of course...). How to dig the foundation between the three of us, whatever the weather, rain, burning sun, under the amused eyes of the locals. Over the course of the construction a whole group of extraordinary volunteers came to join us, one after the other. They made this project possible, despite the monsoon, the 12 hour working days, the carnivorous flies... Three weeks later the dome was made "Masala sapana" – the 'mixed dream'. Kindra and Biva have a home. We leave, knowing that Gimdi will always welcome us as friends. Our hosts Indra and Debaki who have become our family in Nepal, put up the whole team for free. With Kindra and Biva of course, or their niece Sita, who cooked for us – all those, that lived the whole adventure beside us...

With the warmest thanks to everyone who made this project possible, our volunteers, those who taught us, financed us, hosted us, encouraged us, let us dream the impossible...

They got the job !!!

In the workshop of the training programme you don't find victims anymore, or even apprentices sitting behind the sowing machines, behind the looms... After 9 months of training in arts and crafts 9 of the women from the workshop have been employed. They are true workers, women who have made the choice to work to earn their living, to rebuild little by little. We went to meet them, to hear their news. We were pleased to see that all of them had the funds to send their children to school. Some who had lost their homes had been able to rent rooms for their families, other still lived in the corrugated iron shelters so characteristic now of the Nepali countryside. We think back to the period just after the quake, Narayani, in tears, alone, without resources... who today works her loom dexterously with obvious pleasure. She puts together beautiful carpets from recycled saris, many in a single day. She says it wasn't easy to be accepted as worker by those around her, but that she is confident, that it pleases her, that she has friends, a living wage, a future...

Four other women from the group were not able to finish the training; some went back to their villages during the blockades at the Indian border, Rupa has taken time to prepare for a new baby. We hope that the knowhow they take with them will help them



feel strong and free to continue.

We have not continued the training programme with LWH, as the cooperation with Nasreen - who left to live in the USA leaving responsibility for the training to her brother Majhar, - has become difficult. She now focuses on the creation of an American organisation with the help of her fiancée. We have found ourselves ethically distanced from the path that Nasreen has chosen, and have parted company, mission accomplished. With

a volunteer, we are imagining a training for mothers of our Sambhava-children which should see the light of day next year! More to follow...



Mendo is three years old and was left to the care of her alcohol addicted uncles and grandparents, right after her birth. With no one caring for her and her two half-brothers, her little brother Raj died in May this year, only 7 months old. After a long procedure we could manage to get Mendo safe, in her new host family in Kathmandu. Ever since she has enjoyed every moment of her new life with an incredible joy.

We have a dream...

We are so happy to have been able to introduce you to the 27 Sambhava children. For these children life has made a dramatic change of course. We have had to find a place to live for five of them, to give them security, protect them from mistreatment or abuse. We have needed to find solutions for fulfilling their basic needs of food and shelter. Three are boarding, one is in an orphanage, and the last has been placed with a host family. So for them, and for those for whom the familial situation rests uncertain, and for all the others who will meet on our journey...

For all those children, we have a dream, a wonderful project, a new direction in life...

We are dreaming of building a community, a harmonious place of shared lives, where our children can develop, flourish, with Nepali host

parents and co-workers who care for them, support them, respect their rhythm, personality, wounds and needs. We want to give them this chance to have a "home sweet home" which will allow them to be free to be children, to grow up knowing that one day they will be free to be the adults they chose to be.

And this centre we would like to build ourselves, eco Domes of super adobe, thanks to all the new volunteers, supporters and donors who wish to write their names in this new chapter of the story of Sambhava...

Join us!

Between now and 2018 we plan to buy the land, build the domes and welcome the first children

If you have projects to help us bring in the necessary funds for setting up the project in terms of organisation, the building... contact us!

Sambhava, a real antsiness....

Sambhava is growing; a tissue being weaved between dozens of people, their will power, skills, all that they bring. Those who wish to contribute, invest, support our projects. There are some who talk, or give money and materials or fundraise, those who have become godmothers and fathers for a child, those who make, correct and translate, those with ideas for the future, those who organise events, those who taught us to build domes, those who helped us draw up the plans of the project, those who help with their hands, their advice, those who worked on the first build, those who write projects to bring to the Goldhunga school... In Nepal there are those who welcome us into their families, those who guide us and initiate us into Nepali systems, those who help us bring our projects to life... To all of you; it is you who are writing the story of Sambhava, giving it life, a future, and we thank you all from the bottom of our hearts, for this wonderful tissue of solidarity, love and meaning as it grows... and this is only the beginning!

Respect for our builders!

THAIS

ZANDARA

CYRIL

ADRIEN

RYAN

ANNIKA

OLIVIA

VISHNU

DEBAKI

INDRA

NAWARAJ

HELENE

TIFENN

FANNY

GADEA

LORA



'We learned the technique, put our hands in the earth in joy and high spirits. We put on the last few touches; and the dome looks convincingly good. I'm proud to have participated in such a beautiful project, (despite the clouds of flies bothering us in the tropical heat). But Sita's Dal Bhat, served with a smile, kept us comforted. I feel like I received so much, it affects me deeply. Time went quickly at Gimdi, where we felt so at home, so warm was the reception.'

Hélène, Volunteer

Sambhava in numbers :

- ✓ 1 year old
- ✓ 4 languages (French, English, German and Nepali)
- ✓ 54 godparents for 27 children put into school
- ✓ 21 supporters for the women's training; 13 trained and 9 employed
- ✓ 1 anti-quake dome built
- ✓ 44 members
- ✓ 2 host families on the ground for volunteers
- ✓ 8 conferences
- ✓ 1500 euros of subventions granted by the Mayor of Annecy
- ✓ 20 volunteers from all over the world brought to Nepal
- ✓ 14278 euros of donations
- ✓ 4 volunteers preparing their projects for the school
- ✓ Thousands of hours of volunteering full of dreams and ideas!!

Katrin and Mona

For the Sambhava-Team !