Photo Book: Journey of Heifer International’s 20 years of working in Nepal
The Journey

1957/58
First shipment of breeding stock

1993
First project-Baruwa Goat Raising Project

1997
First General Agreement with Social Welfare Council

2000
Values Based Literacy Program

2003
Values Based Education for Youth

2004
Expanded Program in four Regions

2006
Committed to Long-term presence in Nepal

2007
Reached over 15,000 families in 27 districts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Country Program Plan developed to reach 500,000 families in next 10 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>SLVC project started with goal to reach 138,000 families</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Heifer’s board meet in Nepal</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Partnership with IFAD and MoAD</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Post Earthquake relief and recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Partnered with USAID/FtF Livestock System Innovation Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Reached more than 250,000 families in 41 districts</td>
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Photo Book: Journey of Heifer International’s 20 years of working in Nepal
Message from the President and CEO

20 years is generally considered to be the time span of a generation. Heifer Nepal is now indeed a full grown, mature, highly competent “adult”. The Country Office, launched by Dr. Mahendra Nath Lohani with very few resources, is today under his leadership and ably picked up by Dr. Shubh Narayan Mahato one of the jewels of Heifer International’s group of country offices. Today, Heifer Nepal works in 38 districts. The work has moved from small, community centric work to large scale, community led and market oriented. The impact of their work today is potentially national in scale and ambitious enough to shift whole agricultural sectors into the modern economy. The goal is to benefit large numbers of Nepalese farmers as they seek to escape enduring poverty and hunger.

The creativity, adaptability and passion that is a hallmark of Heifer Nepal team from its very birth is well known in the world of Heifer International and beyond. Their is a standard of excellence and commitment to helping the very poor that is not easily matched.

Congratulations to all of our past and present colleagues of Heifer Nepal. You make us proud. May the next 20 years be brilliant and full of joy.

In gratitude,

Pierre Ferrari
President and CEO
Heifer International
In summer of 1991, I visited Little Rock, AR, USA on invitation of Dr. Jim Yazman of Winrock International. He introduced me to Heifer International and its leadership. I learned from Dr. Robert Pelant, Director of Asia/South Pacific Programs about Heifer’s sustainable development model—“Passing on the Gifts”. Instantly, I fell in love with this model, and offered to volunteer should Heifer decide to work in Nepal.

In 1993, Dr. Pelant visited Nepal and met with ‘Namuna Women’s Goat Farming Group’ in Gitanagar, Chitwan. This group had applied for a loan at Agriculture Development Bank to start “their own” goat project. As they did not have collateral to offer, their loan request was rejected. Most women in Nepal did not own fixed assets for collateral, and they decided against asking their spouses for help. They said, I quote “If men provided collateral, then they will own the project, and women will continue to be unpaid labor!” Impressed by this story, Dr. Pelant approved a project to provide goats to 25 women without collateral. In turn, they agreed to ‘pass on the gift’ of first female offspring to other needy families. I volunteered to implement this project. This was the beginning of the new chapter in Heifer’s journey in Nepal.

On September 26, 1997, Heifer International entered into formal agreement with Social Welfare Council and established a country office in Nepal. In this 20 years period, Heifer Nepal directly reached 250,000 resource poor smallholder farm families for their socio-economic transformation. Its impact is much broader—over 100 local non-profit organizations have been trained and empowered, who replicated Heifer’s Values-Based Holistic Community Development Model. They have helped tens of thousands of additional farm families by leveraging resources from other donors.

Heifer’s partnership with the Government of Nepal at national level, district level as well as local level is exceptional. Likewise, partnership with other stakeholders, such as Community Forest Users’ Groups and other community based organizations, private financial institutions, corporate private sector, and other stakeholders have proven to be critical. I take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude for this collaboration and partnership.

I would like to congratulate Dr. Shubh Mahato and Heifer Nepal team for their dedication and hard work, and for achieving an extraordinary impact. I feel proud to be a part of Heifer International, an outstanding organization which continues to serve as a shining example in the development field, not only in Nepal but around the world. I am confident you will continue to serve as a model in years to come. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely

Mahendra Nath Lohani
Senior Vice President of Programs
Message from the Country Director

Dear Friends,

It gives me utmost pleasure to be a part of Heifer International Nepal as it enters its 20th year in service. The thought and perseverance of Dan West to end world hunger and poverty began the journey of Heifer all over the world and here we are today. The history of Heifer Nepal can be traced back to 1957 when Heifer International sent shipments of cattle, pigs, sheep and parent stock of poultry at the government’s request in order to produce high yielding livestock into native animal population. In the year of 1993, the first Heifer project - Baruwa Goat Raising Project consisting of 25 women in Gitanagar Village Development Committee of Chitwan district was started. Heifer International Nepal began its official operation as a country office in September the year of 1997 by entering into general agreement with the Social Welfare Council, Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare. Since then we have come a long way, overcoming many obstacles, we have developed, tested and standardized various tools and approaches that has proven to be powerful in transforming the livelihood of the communities we work with.

Heifers program goes beyond distributing livestock and agricultural inputs and technical trainings. In fact, these are just the entry points to reach the community so that we can forge relationships for a holistic transformation. The real stimulus of the Value Based Community Development model lies in the training and reinforcement of 12 cornerstones throughout the project period that can guide participants to look inward, develop positive thought and action, make them realize their potentials. The cornerstones address the interrelated causes of poverty such as social discrimination, illiteracy, superstition, and family/communal conflicts. Heifer International Nepal through agricultural inputs, training and education enables the project participants to take charge of their own development. On the other hand, market – the pull factor, sets off the economic growth to the path of resiliency. As a result, the impact of the program becomes so extensive that it surpasses the initial inputs of Heifer Nepal. In these 20 years we have been able to directly reach 250,000 farming families and facilitated strong farmers’ organizations.

In the pages of this Photo Book: Journey of Heifer international’s 20 years of working in Nepal, we have tried to present photographic glimpses of different aspect of Heifer’s work as it strives to bring lasting changes in the lives of the communities we work with. This journey has been an enlightening one and we remain indebted to all who have joined hands. The government of Nepal, private sector, our staff, implementing partners and our donors, you all have made it possible. We remain committed to our mission of ending hunger and poverty and care for earth in coming years.

Thank You

Shubh N. Mahato
Country Director
About us

Heifer International is a global non profit organization working to end hunger and poverty and care for the Earth by using sustainable practices and engaging small holder farmers in agricultural development. Heifer was founded on the simple belief that ending hunger begins with giving people the means to feed themselves, generate income and achieve sustainable livelihoods. Since 1944, Heifer has helped 30 million households in over 125 countries, through community-based training, appropriate technologies and agricultural resources, enabling communities to lift themselves out of poverty and hunger on to a path of self-reliance and economic prosperity.

Mission: To work with communities to end hunger and poverty while caring for the earth.

Vision: A world of communities living together in peace and equitably sharing the resources of a healthy planet.

Global Impact Goal: From 2015-2020, Heifer International will have helped 4 million families in the places where we work – who currently experience extreme hunger and poverty – secure an annual livable wage to live resilient, self-reliant lives.

Heifer’s association with Nepal began in 1957 with gift of livestock and poultry upon request by the Government of Nepal with the aim to introduce high yielding genetic material to native animal population. Heifer started its work formally in Nepal with its first project in 1993 and second project in 1995, then established a country program office in 1997. As of July 2017, Heifer has assisted more than 250,000 families and transformed their livelihoods through a community-led approach with focus on livestock development programs.

Country Program Goal: The long term country program (2012- 23) aims to bring 500,000 families from a state of poverty and vulnerability to sustainability and resilience through their engagement in competitive, sustainable and inclusive goat and dairy value chain enterprises in a holistic system approach for bringing economic growth, improved livelihoods and food and nutrition security. The program also intends to reduce import by 50% in goats and 25% in dairy sector of Nepal.

Heifer is currently implementing Goat and Dairy Value Chain Program in 38 districts of Nepal. It works with more than 100 local Non governmental organizations as local partners in implementation. The program is being implemented in collaboration with government, civil society and private sector.
Dan West (1893-1971)

Dan West, an American farmer founded Heifer International in 1944. While working as an aid worker in the Spanish Civil War he thought: What if the refugees he was serving had not a cup of milk, but a cow? This philosophy inspires Heifer’s work to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth.
Early years (1957 – 1958)

1957: At the request of the Government of Nepal, the first ever shipment of high-yielding improved breeds of cattle, sheep and pigs for cross-breeding made its way to Nepal. More than half a century later Heifer has become a household name in Nepal reaching out to support more than 250,000 families in 41 districts through a holistic approach to build sustainable and resilient communities.
1958: Heifer made its second shipment of Jersey Bulls, Corriedale Rams and parent stocks of poultry like Black Minorca, Rhode Island Red, New Hampshire Red and White Leghorn to Nepal. The cattle and pigs were maintained at Singh Durbar Livestock Farm. Likewise, the sheep were placed at Chitlang Sheep Farm, Makwanpur.
In 1957-58 Heifer International presented parent stocks of Black Minorca, Rhode Island Red and White Leghorn to Nepal Government, along with kerosene poultry incubator of 100 egg holding capacity. In 1958-59 Heifer provided additional 1700 New Hampshire Red pure lone parent stock. This modest beginning marks the history of modern poultry. The country is self-sufficient in egg and poultry meat today.
Namuna Self-help Group (seated on the floor) is the group from Heifer’s first project Baruwa Goat Raising Project in Chitwan, Nepal who received the gift of goats in 1993. They have formed 15 Pass on Groups till now, passing the gifts of livestock and knowledge. Among them, members of the Jana Kalyan, Srijana, Mahila Kalyan, Jana Jagaran and Uttkrsta Women’s Self-help Groups are in the picture. These project participants have emerged as strong leaders and now run a NGO named Women’s Group Coordination Committee and a cooperative named Bishajari Social Entrepreneurs’ Women Cooperative.
Angora Rabbit Raising Project: In 1996, the offsprings of the 22 pairs of Angora Rabbits gifted by Heifer China to Lumle Agricultural Center was passed on to beneficiaries in Pharping. This marked the beginning of the Angora Rabbit Raising Project.

26th September 1997: Dr. Mahendra Nath Lohani signed the first General Agreement with the Social Welfare Council, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. This marks the official beginning of Heifer International in Nepal. Dr. Lohani is the first Country Director of Heifer Nepal.
The women learn, practice, and reflect together. Trainings and re-enforcement of knowledge is core to the transformation process of Heifer’s Values-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) Model. It helps them unleash the unlimited potential they have.
Scaling up impact (2007 – till date)

2007: Former Minister of Agricultural Development, Mr. Chhabi Lal Biswakarma inaugurating the 10th year Anniversary Celebration program of Heifer International in Nepal. During this decade of Heifer international Nepal, it introduced the country program strategy and investment plan with major focus on livestock support, improved technology, technical training and education for knowledge and awareness.
In a historical event Heifer Board of Directors organized its meeting in Nepal in April 2013. The Board members visited Heifer Nepal project areas, participated in condensed version of Heifer Cornerstones workshop- a tool proven powerful enough to transform lives of community members and met with government and other stakeholders. The impact of Heifer’s work in Nepal was much appreciated.
Mrs. Raj Kumari Tamang is a proud goat entrepreneur. Her improved shed is well maintained and her livestock is happy and healthy with nutritious fodder and forage that she planted in her land.
Improved goat shed, Hupseykot. Good housing is an important part of animal management. A clean well planned shed prevents livestock from adverse climate and many diseases and contributes to proper growth. Heifer has designed different sheds that suit different climate, terrain, scale of production and availability of local materials.
The Magar family, Mrs. Nirmala Magar, husband Mr. Som Bahadur Magar and son Mr. Kushel Magar carry fodder back to their goats. Different trainings from Heifer has provided them with the knowledge to grow and harvest a variety of fodder and forage that contribute to the nutrition and health of their animals. Heifer has promoted more than 40 different species of fodder/forage. All the different aspect - livestock species, micro climate, bio-mass yield, nutrient content is considered while advising the appropriate mix of fodder/forage to the farmers.
Ms. Bishnu Sahi, a Community Agro- Vet Entrepreneur (CAVE) in Kaski, is castrating a goat. Heifer Nepal has trained and mobilized more than 310 CAVEs with the aim to improve veterinary service delivery system at the grassroots level. The presence of CAVEs has made veterinary service and inputs accessible to rural farmers. Their efficient and effective service has substantially contributed to improvement in production and productivity of farms in Heifer project areas.
Back Yard Poultry in small holders garden, not only provides them with fresh high quality eggs to fulfill their nutritional needs but also supplements their income via selling chicken and eggs.
Some Livestock Species Heifer works with
Stepping from Production to Market

Goats sales in Deurali, Nawalparasi. Selling goats by live weight is a practice Heifer has been promoting. The cooperatives bulk the goats produced by its members and negotiates with the buyers. This system ensures that the small holders receive a fair price for their goats and is also a beginning of a formal market. The cooperatives are playing an important role in goat value chain. A total of 108 coops have initiated collective goat marketing till date.
Mr. Resham Shrestha of Kawasoti-14, Tribhuwanantar, Nawalparasi loads goats onto his vehicle. Resham is a local collector and supplier of goat meat. He purchases good quality goats from different co-operatives in live weight basis and supplies them to the nearest market. Bulking of goats by coops have made it easier for meat entrepreneurs like Resham. He does not have to walk through the villages in search of goats, his costs have gone down and volume of transaction has substantially increased and can offer higher price to farmers.
Every morning farmers bring milk to the dairy to sell. The milk analyzer at the dairy helps determine the right price for the different quality of milk. These dairy hubs ensure market for dairy farmers and supplies production inputs. A total of 16 dairies/milk collection center are active in Heifer project area.
Heifer also supports in small scale irrigation which includes Barsha pump and Drip irrigation. Vegetable production has significantly improved with access to water and technology. The impact is increased family income as well as nutrition.
Goat transport vehicle, owned by Social Entrepreneurs Women Cooperative District Union, Banke. This vehicle is designed as per the livestock transportation standards of Nepal Government. Humane treatment to animals at all stages of livestock production system and livestock enterprises is of high priority.
Mrs. Dhan Maya Darlami walks her goats to the hub for selling.
Mrs. Dhan Maya Darlami rejoices as she counts the money she received after selling her goats in the cooperative. The Darlami couple together look after their goat farming and have been expanding their business.
Heifer’s interventions are nutrition sensitive indirectly contributing in improving nutritional outcomes of the family. Nutrition sensitive livestock interventions with explicit nutritional outcomes do improve production, incomes and expenditure and can improve the nutrient intake and diets. Heifer’s livestock interventions are linked with the nutrition education targeting women. The impact is increased dietary diversity and increased consumption of Livestock Derived Foods (LDF).
An old woman in Mulpani, Dhading district learning how to write during Values Based Literacy class. Heifer began to focus on empowering women through Values Based Literacy Program (VBLP) from the year 2000. Till now about 3,750 women, who could not read and write, have benefitted by this program. VBLP is based on reflect methodology and uses Cornerstones and a framework for training people in literacy and numerical skills.
Girl Child Education (GCE) program was initiated by the staff of Heifer Nepal in 2000 to support girls in Heifer project area for families who cannot afford to send their daughters to schools. Till now, more than 1,600 girls have benefitted from one-year scholarships and materials like school bags, books, school uniform, stationery, etc. The families ensure that the girls are able to continue their education with additional income they make with Heifer support. This trend has been replicated by Heifer project partners.
A member of the SEWC giving the details of the latest accounting of their cooperatives. The shareholders are given various training on the knowledge and working of cooperatives, making them more capable and confident at handling their own business.
A woman speaks her mind during one of the many meetings of the cooperative. In these meetings, members discuss their strengths, weaknesses and opportunities on being a successful entrepreneur.
Social Capital Development

Participants of the Passing on the Gift Ceremony held in Rangapur, Maidan in 2016. Passing on the gift is one of the cornerstones of Heifer Internationals working philosophy.
Passing on the Gift ceremony: The original group passes on livestock and knowledge and skill to the pass on group, thereby creating a chain of empowered women entrepreneurs who work together towards the upliftment of their family and community. Passing on the Gifts allows every recipient become a donor.
Members of Sangam Mahila Samuha, Nawalparasi coming together to plant varieties of grass in their community land. The members as a community make use of this space and reap the benefits too, as fodder for goats.
Mrs. Ganga Ghimire, a farmer in Nawalparasi with her bio gas unit. Clean energy is another Heifer priority that contributes to its mission “Working with Communities to End Hunger and Poverty and care for Earth”. Bio gas complements well with livestock production.
During its emergency response after April 2015 earthquake, Heifer in coordination with District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) provided nearly 23,000 families with temporary shelter kit in 13 districts.
Heifer partnered with USAID/OFDA in “HELPING EARTHQUAKE AFFECTED LIVESTOCK IN NEPAL” (HEAL-NEPAL) project that supported 15,145 families in five districts by restoring disrupted livestock services system and protecting valuable livestock asset for revival of rural household economic activities and market linkage.
Heifer Nepal takes active part in the relief process of the August 2017 flood victims. More than 11,000 families benefitted from Heifer’s relief action.
LSIL visit: Prof. Dr. Adegbola Adesogan from University of Florida (UF) along with his team visited Heifer’s project areas in Dhading. Heifer has partnered with UF on USAID/Feed the Future Livestock System Innovation Lab’s livestock research projects with the aim to enhance the production, marketing and consumption of Animal Source Food in order to increase the incomes, livelihoods, nutrition, and health of households, especially those of vulnerable women and children.

Gokarna Bista, Parliamentarian of Government of Nepal handing over gift of breeding buck during Pass on Gift Ceremony in Gulmi
The former Ambassador of the United States of America Peter W. Bodde pays a visit to Animal Health Camp in Kavre, one of the many sites that was affected by the deadly earthquake in the April of 2015.

The former Minister of Livestock Development Ms. Shanta Manavi with the state minister visited Heifer International Nepal, country office.
The former Minister of Agricultural Development – Mr. Hari Parajuli visited Heifer Nepal Country office

Donor visit from USA
Senegal Minister Of Livestock And Animal Products visits Heifer sites: Hon. Minister Madam Aminata Mbengue Epse Ndiaye Visits Heifer Nepal project site. She was accompanied with a team of delegates that included Sall Aliou, National President of Mayors’ Association, Oumar BA Permanent Secretary of Mayors Association and others. Madam Minister visited Heifer communities in Banke and Bardiya where she talked with the goat farmers and project stakeholders.
Fourteen young adults from the Church of Brethren visited Nepal with the motive of serving and giving back to the community. The volunteers helped in the setting the foundation for two schools in Dhadhing, which were destroyed by the earthquake of April 2015.

Justin Chang visits Heifer project sites to distribute educational materials to the recipients of the Girl Child Education Program. Justin at just 17 is a fundraiser, raising regular funds to support programs of Heifer International since he was in the fourth grade.
Our Faces
Members of Jayadurga Womens’ Self-help Group of Parauha, Kusma happy after receiving the Golden Talent Award in 2016. The Golden Talent Award is established to recognize an individual or a family or a group that has taken “a minimum of resources, converted it into a sustaining source of income, while at the same time helping other families and the community at large.” Each year Heifer Nepal awards four such individuals or groups, one from each Heifer region. Jaydurga Womens’ Self-help group has been a shining example of hope and perseverance to many other individuals and families.
Our Working Areas
Heifer Cornerstones for Just & Sustainable Development

- Passing on the Gift
- Improved Animal and Resource Management
- Improving the Environment
- Accountability
- Nutrition & Family Income
- Full Participation
- Sharing & Caring
- Genuine Need & Justice
- Training, Education & Communication
- Sustainability & Self-Reliance
- Gender & Family Focus
- Spirituality
“Together we have power over hunger and poverty”