“...every day children are directly affected by different forms of violence. There are so many challenges: children are exploited and used in political strikes, drug trafficking, as child labour and in many other ways that violate their rights.

Gokul Pandey, Child Advocate, 17 years, Nepal"
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Photographs are for illustrative purposes only. All names of beneficiaries have been changed to protect identities.
Welcome to our Annual Review for the year ending June 2014.

I am very proud to say that, despite severely limited resources, Kidasha continues to ‘punch well above its weight’ thanks to the unrivalled commitment of our staff, volunteers and supporters. Last year, together with our partners, we made a difference to the lives of more than 35,000 women and children. In some cases, this was a small difference and in others, a big difference. Either way, as a small organisation, we can be close to our beneficiaries ensuring that every rupee spent on a child is spent in the best way. At the same time, we work hard to avoid unnecessary costs, so that as much of our income as possible goes to our front line work in Nepal.

During the year, Jon Rosser stepped down as Chairperson, but we are pleased to say that he remains as a Trustee and we therefore retain the benefit of his insight on the Board. Julie Yogasundram, an existing Trustee, was subsequently elected as Chairperson and brings a wealth of experience, including two years previously living and working in Nepal.

For the last three years, I have lead Kidasha as Chief Executive. During that time, my commitment and passion for our work has steadily increased. However, our cause is relatively unknown and I am often asked “Why Nepal?” The answer is simple; during my frequent trips to Nepal, I never fail to be overwhelmed by the abject poverty that so many children endure through no fault of their own. These are not situations resulting from conflict, disease or natural disaster. Sadly, this is everyday life in Nepal.

Children huddled around a fire in the street trying to keep warm, their hands blue with cold; children suffering from acute malnutrition, so small and emaciated that they appear much younger than they actually are; children desperate to learn, but having to compete with up to 100 classmates for their teacher’s attention or, worse still, missing school because they have to go out to work or stay at home to look after their siblings; children living on the streets, rummaging through garbage and sniffing glue to stave off their hunger.

These children are largely forgotten because they don’t make front page headlines, but they need help just as much as those that do. The positive impact we have on the lives of these children is what keeps me and the whole Kidasha team motivated.

I hope that the following pages give you a good insight into our work and achievements over the last year and, even better, perhaps inspire you to increase your support – because with more help, there is so much more we can do!

Finally I just want to say a very big thank you to our staff, donors, supporters, the Government of Nepal and our implementing partners, all of whom are vital to our success and to the difference that Kidasha makes to the lives of some of the poorest and most forgotten children in the world.

Janice Miller, Chief Executive
78% of Nepalis survive on $2 a day or less.

Almost 20% of young people are illiterate.

1 in 3 five - fourteen year olds are engaged in child labour.

Rape was the first sexual experience for almost 1 in 3 Nepali women and girls.

2 in 5 children are stunted.
Kidasha works to reduce the causes and impact of entrenched poverty and social exclusion, stopping exploitation and violence against children in Nepal.
We maintain a balanced diet and fitness routine!
We work hard to remain slim, flexible and agile so that we are cost effective and can readily adapt to changing needs.

We are not afraid to fail!
We thrive on a challenge and are not afraid to risk missing our targets, meaning we are able to focus on tackling the most difficult entrenched problems.

We are not impressed by big numbers!
Our aim is to create lasting change for the most vulnerable children, not to deliver short term ‘material’ benefits to as many children as possible.

We offer superb tailoring!
We excel in creating tailored innovative interventions that closely match the needs of the most vulnerable children and families, those that are invariably excluded from the benefits of a ‘one size fits all’ approach.

We don’t profess to know it all!
We actively encourage and facilitate wider collaboration between different individuals and organisations to ensure the best possible outcomes and avoid unnecessary waste and duplication.

We don’t want to conquer the world!
We want to make a big difference in one country rather than a small difference in lots of different countries; hence we only work in Nepal.

We want to be redundant!
We don’t want to be around for a long time – we want to build lasting local capacity and self-reliance as quickly as possible so we can move on to the next challenge!

We don’t aim to simply ease symptoms!
We put an equal, if not greater, focus on building local capacity to address underlying root causes and break negative cycles, thereby enabling lasting change and ensuring more positive futures.
What we're doing

Each year, nearly 35,000 Nepali children die before their fifth birthday, with almost two-thirds of these deaths occurring in the first month of life. We have mobilised and now facilitate over 600 Women’s and Pregnant Women’s Groups, which are helping reduce child and maternal mortality by giving women the knowledge and access to services they need.

Furthermore, participation in these groups has empowered women within their families and communities. As a result, women are increasingly involved in local decision-making which is helping to improve the provision of maternal, newborn and child health services. In addition, these groups have established self-managed emergency loan funds and one village has independently established a new birthing centre.

Key achievements

- 6541 women participated in Women’s Groups
- 30% increase in the number of women who delivered their babies at a health institution
- 9000 were children screened for malnutrition
- 74% of newborns were examined by a health worker
- 5 birthing centres were equipped with improved facilities for new born care

Laxmi got married at the age of 14. Shortly afterwards she fell pregnant and had a daughter. Tragically her daughter died from severe malnutrition at 2 and a half. She now has a new baby boy and thanks to a local health worker Laxmi and her son are getting the medical care they need, as well as advice on childhood nutrition and health, so that this child has a better chance of survival.
8 OUT OF 10 CHILDREN ARE SUBJECTED TO VIOLENT DISCIPLINE

Key achievements

- Social workers worked intensively with 554 families to improve their situation
- 243 families regularly participated in monthly Parent Support Group meetings
- 80 families participated in exposure visits to enable them to access mainstream services
- 181 children obtained their legal identity
- 51 families benefited from financial support to improve their situation

What we’re doing

The number of families living in chronic poverty in urban slums and also in some rural communities continues to increase and, as a result, so does the number of children living in high risk and crisis situations. These families invariably remain beyond the reach of other poverty reduction initiatives and over the last year we have increased our efforts to support them.

We have continued to work through women’s groups to establish self-managed loan funds, create cooperatives and other economic strengthening activities. We have actively promoted participation in parent support groups to encourage changes in parenting attitudes and behaviours, as well as facilitating exposure visits to local service providers to increase parents’ confidence and ability to access services.

In addition, we have continued to educate parents about the importance of having a legal identity and registering their children’s births if they are to be able to access mainstream entitlements. Our increasing knowledge and experience in this area has encouraged us to launch a pilot project to provide targeted therapeutic support to families existing in the worst conditions, with the greatest risk of family breakdown.
What we’re doing

Reducing the number of children working in hazardous labour and reintegrating them with their families and into education remains a major area of focus of our work.

Over the last year, we have improved our approach to identifying and monitoring child labourers and, as a result, we are working with 508 new victims. We have also worked closely with local government and community representatives to develop a common objective to eliminate the employment of children below 14 years of age. A key step to achieving this has been helping to introduce a local government rescue and referral committee which enables the forced removal of any child labourer under 12 years old.

We have significantly increased the scale and quality of withdrawal and reintegration practices, such that all identified working children now have personal risk assessments, and transit accommodation has been established for any children rescued from labour situations.

Instead of going to school, Anita spent her days cleaning, washing and cooking, employed by a man who sexually abused her. Anita revealed her story to one of our social workers who visited the house, was reunited with her family and is now safe.

Key Achievements

- Supported 1409 street and working children in need of protection
- 264 children reintegrated with their families
- 11 child victims of abuse supported to prosecute their abusers
- 33% of employers persuaded not to re-employ child labourers to replace those rescued by the project
- 154 children provided with protective shelter
What we’re doing

In addition to our continued focus on protecting vulnerable children from abuse and exploitation, we also continue to work to provide the poorest and most excluded children with opportunities for their personal development. In the last year, we opened an additional drop in centre (making a total of nine) where children can access non-formal education, homework clubs and basic health care/awareness.

We worked with 33 government schools to review child progress, reduce discrimination against children from street, working or poor backgrounds and to advocate for the provision of free education. We also increased our direct support to individual families through home visits by social workers to provide support with their children’s education and other essential counselling and advice. The former includes helping to address any learning, attendance, behavioural or health issues faced by children who are enrolled in school and enabling more children to be enrolled by providing books, uniforms and financial support to the very poorest families.

We have also explored alternative and improved pathways into positive employment for young people, and in the past year we were able to deliver vocational/business training and support to almost 100 young people.

Raju has been working since he was 7, leaving little or no time for school. With support and financial assistance, he was able to prioritise his education and is now studying for his school leaving certificate. He aims to go to university.

Key Achievements

- 2226 children provided with basic services
- 1047 children (58% girls) supported in formal education
- 562 working children taught via non-formal education
- 97 young people provided with vocational/business training and support
- 659 children and young people given life skills training
Our new strategy for 2015-2020 ensures that we apply our strengths and experience to the areas of greatest need. This means increasing targeted prevention and a greater focus on those children, adolescents and families that are beyond the reach of mainstream services, and therefore risk remaining entrenched in long-term poverty.
LOOKING FORWARD

WITH THE RIGHT
SUPPORT, VULNERABLE
CHILDREN CAN
BECOME CONFIDENT
AND HOPEFUL
YOUNG PEOPLE
AND SUCCESSFUL
ADULTS.

OUR GOAL

To improve the resilience, safety and wellbeing of children vulnerable to, or victims of, extreme neglect, violence and exploitation.

We have identified two areas of intervention to achieve this goal:

- Protection of Childhood
- Positive Transitions to Adulthood

Who we will work with

- Children and Families living in Chronic Poverty
- Child Victims of Trafficking, Abuse and Exploitation
- Child Victims of Neglect
- Children and Families at Risk of Crisis
PROTECTION OF CHILDHOOD

NO HEALTHCARE, NO EDUCATION, NO SUPPORT, NO SECURITY. NO CHILD SHOULD HAVE TO GROW UP LIKE THIS.

OUR AIM

Working with local government, service providers, social workers and the community, we will provide targeted support for the most at-risk children and families to ensure that children grow up healthy and in a strong, safe, caring family environment with access to the services they need. We will also work with local stakeholders to improve child protection through better systems and skills.

Children are born and develop safely and healthily to better skilled and confident parents, and child protection systems are responsive and effective in reaching abused, exploited and neglected children.

Sita’s father was an addict and unable to cope, her mother moved in with Sita’s grandmother. With help from our counsellors, the father stopped taking drugs and the family were reunited. Sita now lives in a secure and happy family environment.

CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD HAVE HIGHER RATES OF DEPRESSION, SMOKING, OBESITY, HIGH-RISK SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR, UNINTENDED PREGNANCY AND ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE.
We will increase the self-belief, knowledge and ability of young people to take control of their futures, through training, mentoring, education and support groups. In parallel, we will work with communities to challenge damaging social practices which negatively impact children and young people, such as child marriage and gender-based violence.

Vulnerable children and young people develop into resilient, empowered and productive adults, able to achieve better lives for themselves and their future families.

16 year old Ram was left homeless and unemployed when the restaurant he worked and lived in closed. A colleague let him stay with him for a few days but was unable to support him financially. Our project has supported Ram to find part-time employment so that he can continue to live with his colleague and he has been motivated to continue his studies in higher secondary education.
Nima was born homeless. Thrown out of their village for marrying outside their castes, her parents roamed from city to city begging to survive. When she was 9, her family moved to Pokhara. They were noticed begging and social workers moved in. Nima and her siblings were taken into emergency care as there are currently no facilities to help whole families. Their confidence grew and they began to take non-formal education classes. Though the family wants to be together, this can only be achieved by returning the children to the danger of living on the streets. We are working together so that the family can be reunited in a safe environment.

With your support, we can ensure that children and families like Nima’s get the protection and support they need to build a better future. Whether it’s £5 or £500, each donation goes a long way. Please visit Kidasha.org/donate or contact us on 020 7017 8989 to set up a regular donation.

Where your money could go

£1 Lunch for five street children

£5 Life-saving antibiotics for a child

£8 Primary healthcare for a child for one year

£10 Family Planning advice for 20 young people

£25 Trains 10 families to grow their own nutritious food

£50 Provides Vocational Training for a young person

£100 Enables a street child to go to school for a year

£150 1 month emergency shelter for a girl victim of sexual abuse

£200 Pays for antenatal care for 400 women living in urban slums

£250 Residential camp to facilitate reintegration of 10 street children

£500 Annual rent for a drop-in centre for working children
FUNDRAISING AT KIDASHA

During the year, together with a number of our supporters, we arranged and participated in a variety of fundraising events, both at home and abroad e.g. coffee mornings, pub quizzes, lunches, BBQs and running and cycle challenges. We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who gave their support to these events. Though we cannot name everyone individually, we send special thanks to Leeds University RAG, who trekked to Annapurna basecamp and visited some of our projects in Pokhara, raising a massive £21,000 in sponsorship.

These events have helped raise much needed funds and increased awareness of the needs of so many children in Nepal, but we need to do more. Our resources being very limited, we are seeking volunteers to organise different types of events in their local area - so if you are willing to help, please do get in touch.

Last but not least, we would also like to thank our regular donors, whose ongoing support enables us to plan our work more effectively and make longer term commitments – please contact us if you can spare £8 a month which could enable a child to go to school.

For more information, ideas or a supporter’s pack, contact us on 020 7017 8989 or enquiries@kidasha.org. Or simply visit Kidasha.org to sign up and receive our newsletter and share Facebook and Twitter with your friends.
Income Total - £645,826
Expenditure Total - £562,319

Charitable Spending
- Street-involved Children & Young People 11%
- Working Children 15%
- Child Victims of Sexual Abuse & Exploitation 9%
- Children Living in Urban Poverty 34%
- Safe Motherhood & Early Child Development 31%

For every £1 spent on fundraising £12.26 is raised

For every £1 spent £1 is raised on governance

For every £1 spent
- £84.3p on charitable spending
- £10.7p on fundraising
- £5p on governance

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
This year's achievements simply wouldn’t have been possible without the generosity and commitment of all our supporters and partners. Whether you participated in an event, raised sponsorship money, make a regular donation or support us through a grant, you can be sure that your donations have had a real, positive impact on the lives of children and women in Western Nepal.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

In particular we recognise the support of the following:

St Anthony’s RC Primary School  
The Beatrice Laing Trust  
Big Lottery Fund  
British & Foreign School Society  
Comic Relief  
Devonshire House Preparatory School  
Etihad Airways  
Leeds University RAG  
Michael & Ruth Jacobs Charitable Trust  
R G Hills Charitable Trust  
The Taurus Foundation  
Tonbridge Grammar School

Trustees
Julie Yogasundram (Chair)  
Jon Rosser  
Ajay Mehta  
Leila Billing  
Daniel Paterson

Special Thanks to our Implementing Partners:

Child Welfare Scheme Nepal  
NAMUNA Integrated Development Council  
Pokhara Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Sathi Nepal  
Shakti Samuha
Kidasha has offices in the UK and Nepal. The small London team provides overall governance, management and fundraising support. Our Pokhara office houses our programme staff.

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