

Ekerö in May 2012

Newsletter No 3, 2012

**Hello, Tashi Delek, Namaste**

## **Members of the organization Future Earth**

At the annual meeting of Future Earth in the end of April KMCH was chosen as a member. It gives us among other things the opportunity to participate in meetings with their network in India. As we have mentioned in previous newsletter, we have much to learn from organizations in Ladakh, where the nature and the culture is very similar to the one in Humla. In coming newsletters I will tell more about Future Earth and the importance of our cooperation with them.

## **Homepage and Facebook**

It has been a little quiet on these issues when Caroline has been in Daramsala. She came home in the middle of May so now I hope that we can start the work again. When she has been away we have updated some texts etc. that we will use in the new homepage. Have patience. We will soon have a new homepage and appear on Facebook in some way.

## **KMCH Progress Report for 2011**

I continue to quote from Chembals **Progress Report for 2011**. I have, as in previous newsletter, shortened and changed a bit, but in essence, it is Chembals words. In this newsletter, the text is mainly about the activities beside the children home and the school.

## **Adult education project**

KMCH offers a simple education program for adults, in the villages of Yangar and Tumkot, for those who didn't get a chance to go school when they were young. Every evening, excluding Saturdays, we teach simple math, reading and writing of Nepali, how to communicate with governmental officer and how to clean their home and environment for one hour for around 20 - 25 students. The students are mostly women because very few of them have had the possibility to go to school when they were young.

From 2011 December we collaborate with the Humla District Education Office for the adult education and from that time the Education Office bear the costs but the monitor of the program is our staff member Lakpa Norbu.



## **Namkhyung Charity Clinic**

Humla district is the remotest of the 75 district of Nepal. Because of remoteness there is still no hospital for the people living there. Many people of Humla loss their life because of small cases as like diarrhea, high fever, lack of vitamins etc. Our nurse improved the basic health conditions (immunization, dental, eye, pre and anti natal care, birth control advice, wound care) of local people. We distribute free medicine for the local people. NCC also offers medical awareness, hygiene and nutrition programs to children and adults.

Everyday NCC serves 10-15 patients and during the Buddhist festival in July and November more than 1000 people got treatment and health advice. Our nurse referred some patients to Kathmandu and other city of Nepal for the operation and treatment of the kind that we cannot offer in NCC. This year 3857 persons got general health services from NCC. More than 20 patients were referred to big hospital for further treatment.

## **Handicraft project**

Our Handicraft projects succeeded to employ 27 women from upper Humla region and we produced some Ladies and Gents bags with local traditional handicraft hundred years carried history of Humla. We produced some bags and table mats and sold some in Sweden. Women from Humla got some wages for their survival and daily expenses from our handicraft projects. KMCH bought thread and other material in Kathmandu and sent it up to Humla by air plane, horses and men. Our main aim of this project is to preserve and promote the many hundred history carry traditional handicraft, introduce in inner country and international level and to employ local women for their income generation. Women who worked with us they gained both financial and knowledge about handicraft and in the future our plan is to make women independent.

## **Green House**

KMCH Succeeded to grow tomato, cauliflower, onion, cabbage, carrot, Pumpkin, Green vegetable, green chilly etc. high up on mountain in Humla even at a very low

temperature.

KMCH can now offer green vegetable for children to prevent eye problem and lack of vitamins. This greenhouse was very impressive to local people and they are so

interesting to have more greenhouses.



## **KMCH Hostel building construction**

We have already water and collected some stones, some timber and made flat land for our planned new Hostel building in Yangar. First we hope to get money to be able to build 5 rooms and a kitchen.

On the place we already have built the first Eco sanitation toilet in Humla high up on mountain about 3200 m above sea level. This toilet will be very benefit for our planned new greenhouses to use as compost both the urine and stool to grown up organic vegetable.

## **Replant project**

Humla district is situated top on high mountain hill and it is second largest district in Nepal but it's mostly it's area cover by rock and jungle and for suitable land is only 2% of total land because of that we Humla people can't enough food from our farm production. Humla people they work so hard for six month in farm but they couldn't cover food rest six month production from their own farm. Because of that people exchange timber or furniture with Tibetan or Chinese in Tibet for food (Salt, rice, etc.) and clothes.

Humla is very high and very rich in forest many local peoples dependence on forest or tree for their survival. They just cut tree and sale to Tibet for their survival and they don't have knowledge about foresting. Because of lack of knowledge they are not replanting tree in the area. KMCH Nepal feels it so important to replant and restore the forests in the area for the future and protect from the land slide, flood and die star. If the deforestation speed is moving like now the Humla jungle will be finish within some years and the local people will face big problem with flood and land slide etc.



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Nowadays they are exporting only on animal backs as horse, Yaks, mules but now a road is under construction from Tibet. When the road reach into Humla every villages can export timbers 100 times more on trucks than on animal backs. In July this year the KMCH Nepal's family and KMCH Support Group members started a small replant project in Humla to show the local people that it is possible and important to replant. We succeeded to grow more than 20 green trees on the KMCH land in Yangar. It made the local



people impressed and they began to realize the importance of an overall replant project in Humla. We hope to be able to start a replant project around the village of Yangar next year.

## Conclusion

Around 50 underprivileged adults have got education in simple math, reading and writing. This year 10 women and men have started small business like tea shops for trekkers and travelers in order to get small income that can help them to survive in their villages. 27 women have part time occupation by our handicraft project and they earn some cash from our project for their survival.

This year 3857 local patients received general health treatment for our health clinic NCC. NCC has referred 21 patients to big hospital for further treatment. We save many people life from the health sector and improved health condition in upper Humla compared with previous year.



help in the year to come.

*(So far from Chembals Progress Report for 2011.)*

We are cooperating with a number of NGOs and government office which has strengthened our structures, and with the continuous support of the Sweden based KMCH Support Group and Switzerland based Humla-Switzerland we will be able to widen our range of projects and stretch them out to accommodate for the underprivileged children on even more different levels. We are looking forwards to continue working for those who need our

## Some comments to Chembals Progress Report

It seems that we are doing a lot, it is true, but mostly in a very modest scale so it can more be characterized as wishes and exercises. The money we collect from our sponsors goes in principle only to education and health care. We give priority to the child's living and schooling. That means the children home and our teachers.

In 2012, the Education Office in Humla will pay for our adult education in the villages of Yangar and Tumkot. It is fully in line with our long-term thinking that education is the society's responsibility. There are requests for adult education from many other villages. However we wait to start in other villages until we get money from sources other than our current sponsors and have discussed with the Education Office of their priorities in the future. By being attentive to the wishes of the inhabitants to start education of adults in

two villages KMCH has at least put a pressure on the authorities and shown that you can accommodate adult's desire for education with small funds.

We did not succeed in meeting the economic needs of the health clinic last year. We hoped for assistance from the monastery. This summer Chembal will seek cooperation with another NGO working in Humla. The most important thing is not that it stands KMCH "on the door" of the health clinic, most important is that there is a health clinic and that it is operated in a good manner to the benefit of all inhabitants.

KMCH's small handicraft project has had some income so it has not charged our budget so much. We have applied for funds for our handicraft project, the adult education in more villages, greenhouse cultivation and forest replanting from the Swedish government. These funds can, if our request is approved, be available earliest in 2013. The projects regarding greenhouse cultivation and reforestation will be carried out in cooperation with organizations within and outside Nepal. If the project of reforestation shall be fully effective in Humla it requires cooperation with the authorities and with universities. We can only start, show that it is possible and put a pressure on the authorities. In this work our new network within the framework of Future Earth will be very valuable.

### **The new hostel building**

To our great joy, we have now obtained resources so we can start to build our new children home on the assigned site. When Chembal is back in Kathmandu after the summer, we will know how much of the hostel that has been completed and how much money we still need to complete this first part of this project. We also expect to build one or two new greenhouses in connection to the children home.

### **Summer Greetings**

In Simikot, the capital of Humla, there is now possible to use internet. For us, it took three days to walk from Yangar to Simikot. For Chembal it takes just one day but a very long one. Despite of that we do not expect to have so much contact with Chembal during the summer. Hopefully, we can get some e-mails with information about the progress of the construction etc.

This is the last newsletter before summer. We wish everybody a pleasant summer and we will be back with fresh news from Humla after the summer.

With greetings from the Board of Directors of KMCH Support Group

by

Hans Alm

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