Our Mission: Educate the Children works with women and children in Nepal to improve health, welfare, and self-sufficiency by building skills that families can pass down to later generations.

Message from the Directors:
When you support ETC, you are really making an investment — and it’s paying off!

You are investing in children’s futures through school improvement and teacher training:

- ETC and local partner Save the Earth work with twelve schools (covering grades pre-kindergarten through 12) and an additional eleven affiliated early childhood education classrooms, with total enrollment of more than 2,000 students.
- All of these schools and classrooms received classroom and recreational materials, furniture, first aid kits, and drinking water filtering equipment, and some have had new toilets and other physical improvements.
- Every early childhood teacher and 20 math and science teachers benefited from multi-day, best-practice-based training opportunities during the last program year alone.
- We provided technical school scholarships to ten students studying to become civil engineers and agricultural specialists.

You are investing in women’s empowerment when they gain skills and resources to help them and their families live healthier, lives:

- Our 44 women’s groups, totaling 1,055 members, managed over US$18,000 in microcredit funds as of June 2022. These funds are loaned to members for income-generating purposes such as buying additional livestock to raise or purchasing stock for a small shop.
- We support agricultural activities for all women’s group members to improve their families’ nutrition and food security, as well as earn more money. Every member grows a kitchen garden year-round, and hundreds also engage in livestock raising or market gardening.
- Some women have already increased their annual household incomes by 25% or more!
- We promote non-agricultural income-generating activities too. Last spring, fifteen women participated in an intensive 2-week training to make baskets to sell at local or regional markets. Such activities are not weather-sensitive and can be done by women unable to engage fully in agricultural work due to age, physical restrictions, or lack of land.

All of this, as useful and impressive as it is, only begins to scratch the surface. In these and so many other ways, you are investing in rural Nepal’s communities by helping thousands of people improve their health, increase their knowledge base and earning capacity, and get and stay out of cyclical poverty!

We are delighted to share the results of another successful year! You can regularly find recent photos of our activities at www.etc-nepal.org/photos-and-publications, and from there you can also access our YouTube channel, where we have a number of short videos about ETC’s projects and life in the villages where we are working.

Once again, we want to express our gratitude to our, friends and supporters, for making it all possible. Please feel free to write to Lisa at director@etc-nepal.org if you have questions or comments about this report.

Sincerely,

Mira Rana, U.S. Director

Highlight: Rishikul Women’s Group is Flourishing

One of our poorest women’s groups, Rishikul, has made real progress in a relatively short amount of time. The women are not able to contribute more than ~US$26 monthly to the group savings. At this point their loans are small (US$22–$54), but meaningful — bicycle parts so their husband can get to work, fertilizer for a rented rice field, or repair of a water pump. ETC has also distributed pigs and goats to some members, who will repay the cost of the livestock to the group fund.

Kitchen gardens are a big challenge for this group, who don’t own any land. Solutions include vegetables planted in plastic containers hung on fences or using common outdoor space for gardens. Some women also grow cauliflower, cabbage, and chilies on market gardening plots. ETC has helped them experiment with different techniques and hybrids to result in a greater crop yield.

We are proud of the creative and resilient ways these women are improving their lives!

I would like to emphasize what it meant to join Lisa for our visit in Nepal last year and observe firsthand the work ETC does, for over a decade, via abundant photos and data and communication. I have appreciated the incredible impact we make in our projects areas. Yet it was nothing less than life-changing to behold the villages and surrounding region, ejected school children in their classrooms, dynamic women’s group meetings, and vibrant and creative kitchen gardens and commercial plots, and to intimately see, hear, and feel the appreciation for ETC in every individual interaction. Mira and the ETC staff in Kathmandu, as well as our incredible local partners in Sunsari, Save the Earth, demonstrated a level of dedication and expertise that goes far beyond profit and work ethic. I am grateful to have been able to see myself the amazing love and commitment that encompasses ETC’s project work.

— Teressa Naylor, Sponsorships & Communications Manager

ETC Recognized for Excellence

Students at Ram Jamali Basic School

Women’s group member selling vegetables at market
ETC continues to invest deeply in our project area – 4 high-needs wards of Ramdhuni Municipality in Sunsari District – and made tremendous progress during the 21-22 fiscal year.

More than 2,200 children and 130 teachers directly benefited from ETC’s program. 70 students from marginalized families received community education scholarships and received a backpack, uniform, stationery supplies, and hygiene items. 568 children of women’s group members were also provided with backpacks filled with stationery items, which encourages students to attend school and minimizes the economic burden on their parents. 10 students were awarded technical school scholarships based upon economic need as well as excellent exam scores. In addition, 43 teachers participated in either pre-primary school or maths/science 4-day trainings.

$18,824 was saved among ETC’s 44 women groups, most of which was reinvested in members as loans for income-generating endeavors. ETC’s investment in these groups – which includes supplies, various informative and skill development trainings (such as Indigenous craft-making, with 15 women participating), seed money for group microcredit savings, kitchen garden start-up materials and training, and more – motivates and inspires the women to invest in themselves and in their families and community. ETC also facilitates the organization of regular group and chairperson meetings; the women’s groups held a total of 528 group meetings last year.

1,025 women’s group members were supported with a variety of winter and rainy season vegetable seeds. 48 market garden farmers produced and sold a total of 1,372 kg vegetables to earn extra income for their families. 76 group members were each provided with one female goat and 74 were given piglets (2 each). 15 women’s groups received poultry support, totaling 1,540 chicks and 1,400 ducklings (20 per member). ETC provided a wide array of trainings and support for kitchen gardening, lead farmer organizing, market garden farming, and goat, pig, and poultry raising.

ETC’s success is made possible by the generosity of friends like you. ETC works side by side with disadvantaged people in Nepal to help transform their lives through education, credit, agriculture, and health programs. Your tax-deductible gift ensures the opportunity for thousands more women in Nepal to improve their lives and feed and educate their families.

Visit www.etc-nepal.org/donate

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